



# Equipment & Technology Working Team 2019 Update

# Accomplishments 2019

- Organize Winter Awareness meeting with Training Working Team
- 9 Vendors / Sponsors
- Silent Auction all proceeds donated to Wildland Firefighter Foundation U.S. & Canada
- \$2,000 was raised



## Accomplishments 2019 cont'd

- Assisted inviting & organizing vendors/exhibitors for 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Cohesive Strategy Workshop
- (2) ETWT members attended
- (9) Vendor/exhibitors attended

# ETWT Newsletter

- Garmin InReach
- Two way text communication via satellites
- Pairs via Bluetooth
- Remote areas



## Equipment & Technology Working Team Newsletter

Winter 2019/2020



The US House and Senate passed *The Wildfire Management Technology Advancement Act* in February 2019 which directed the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to improve the use of technology on wildland fires. In March 2019, President Trump signed the bill as part of a broader package of natural resource bills.

The Act directed DOI and USDA:

*Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretaries, in coordination with State wildland firefighting agencies, shall jointly develop and operate a tracking system to remotely locate the positions of fire resources for use by wildland firefighters, including, at a minimum, any fire resources assigned to Federal Type 1 wildland fire IMTs.*

The Maine Forest Service has used Delorme/Garmin products for several years to keep in contact with Rangers working in remote areas



Garmin products provide two way text communication via satellites.

Users can send custom, pre-planned, or SOS messages to supervisors / dispatchers.

Users work directly off the device or a phone app that pairs via Bluetooth

Supervisors / dispatchers can view users' waypoints, tracks and messages from a web portal (right)



FMI & Pricing: <https://explore.garmin.com/en-US/inreach/>

COMPACT MEMBERS...Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Brunswick, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador, Prince Edward Island, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, US National Park Service, FDNY



# Summer Meeting / Equipment Call-up

- 6 Agencies Participated
- Several New Trucks (Type 3, 4 & 6)
- Maine Helicopter Overview





# Summer Meeting / Equipment Call-up

- CT “Foam Pro” foam inductor
- Summer business meeting to plan for 2020 Winter Meeting & exchange of Chair / Vice Chair position







# Equipment & Technology Working Team 2019

