

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL BUSINESS CENTER  
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October 31, 1997

Information Bulletin No. BC-98-15

To: All WO and Field Officials  
Attention: Uniform Program Coordinators

From: Group Administrator, Denver Center Support Services Group

Subject: FY98 Uniform Supplies and Prices

Lion Apparel, the contractor for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) National Uniform Program, will soon be distributing a new uniform order form for FY98. It is important to note that the FY98 prices are the same as FY97 and that this order form contains several items that are discounted by as much as 30 percent. These steps, although positive for BLM and for employees ordering uniforms, are necessary to reduce the current inventory and prepare for a new contract. The current uniform contract with Lion Apparel expires on February 22, 1998.

In preparation for a new contract, the following preliminary steps have also been taken:

1. At the request of the Field Committee, to revitalize and streamline the uniform program, the number of components in the program has been reduced from an initial 120 items to 60 items. This should make the program more viable and more attractive to prospective bidders.
2. Lion Apparel has "discounted" items that will not be continued in a new contract. Although these items will be discontinued, uniformed employees are authorized to wear them until they show wear and tear.
3. A "stop production order" has been issued to Lion Apparel to avoid a build up of inventories which BLM, or a subsequent contractor, would be compelled to purchase in the event that Lion Apparel is not the successful bidder of the new contract. Components will be provided until stock is depleted.
4. The "stop production order" will result in a number of components, or sizes of components, being "out of stock." Out of stock items will not be back ordered (note: orders from FY97, if unable to be filled, will be canceled). Since items will not be back ordered, it is strongly suggested that employees telephone their orders into Lion Apparel's Customer Service Department at (800)445-4352. In that way, availability can be determined immediately and the order will be "locked in" if the components are available. Substitutions can also be made for items or sizes if the first request is unavailable.

5. It is not guaranteed that a new contract will be in place on February 23, 1998. For that reason, uniformed employees needing new components for the 1998 field season are urged to place orders now. This will also allow employees to take advantage of the price hold/reduction which will not be available under the new contract.

Your understanding and cooperation during this transition will be greatly appreciated. Questions may be referred to Bob Pinkney, via E-mail or at (303) 236-9420.

Signed by:  
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Denver Center Support Services Group

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