



FireFTP Site to NIFC File Share Changes

Bottom Line Up Front:

On Monday, May 4th, 2026, access to FireFTP / NIFC File Share (<https://ftp.wildfire.gov>) will be broken into two distinct areas:

- **Authenticated** – Files that may contain controlled unclassified information (CUI), sensitive incident information, non-public information, or any type of personally identifiable information (PII), or data or map products that could compromise firefighter or public safety. For example, Incident Action Plans (IAPs), Critical infrastructure maps.
- **Un-authenticated or “public”** – Files that do *NOT* contain controlled unclassified information (CUI), sensitive information, non-public information. For example, Infrared (IR) maps, fuels and lightning strike maps, non-sensitive incident maps, and public information maps.

What's Changing?

For the **Authenticated** folder section of the NIFC File Share site, users will be required to use Login.gov or eAuth to login via FAMAuth (<https://famauth.wildfire.gov>).

Clicking on the Authenticated file folder section on the NIFC File Share site, or attempting to access a link that directs users to a file that is located under this section will automatically route users to the FAMAuth page where they will select a method of authentication through either **Login.gov** or **eAuth** before accessing the NIFC File Share site. Once authenticated, the user will be routed to their folder or file.

The [FAMAuth User Guide](#) contains more details about accessing applications via the FAMAuth portal.

To login to your Wildland Fire Application please select one of the two tiles, Login.gov or eAuthentication:

Public partners  **LOGIN.GOV**

Login.gov is a service that offers secure and private online access to government programs through a Private Non-Federal account.



Government



eAuthentication is the system that allows users access to Wildland Fire Apps and Services using government clearance.



* **Note:** Upon login via FAMAuth, access to the Authenticated FireFTP folders and files is automatic. You do **not** need to request access.

For the **Un-authenticated** folder section of the NIFC File Share site, there is no authentication required. Scanning a QR code, accessing a link to a file or folder located in the un-authenticated section of the NIFC File Share site, users will be routed directly there.

Why This Is Necessary?

This change is required to meet **Federal NIST security standards, policies, and regulations** for protecting sensitive information and systems. Federal cybersecurity access control policies require strong identity verification to protect government systems and data. Open, unauthenticated access to potentially sensitive non-public data no longer meets these standards. This step ensures compliance with:

- **NIST 800-53** security controls
- DOI and USDA IT security policies
- Federal mandates for safeguarding sensitive operational data

Impact on Fire Operations:

- QR codes will still work, however, if it is linked to a file or folder located in the Authenticated section of the NIFC File Share site, users will be redirected to the FAMAuth login page to choose an authentication method. Once authenticated, users will land on the correct file or folder.
- Accessing the authenticated section should have **minimal impact on users' ability to access incident folders on FTP**. Authentication adds only a brief step and does not change the availability of incident maps, documents, or other critical resources.
- Users can access the NIFC File Share site from the FAMAuth Portal page as well as continue to use bookmarked URLs.

Please plan ahead and ensure you have a **Login.gov** or **eAuth** account set up and are able to login to (<https://famauth.wildfire.gov>) before Monday, May 4th, 2026. This will ensure minimal impact when accessing files or folders on within the authenticated section of NIFC File Share site.

The FAMAAuth User Guide can be found here (<https://www.wildfire.gov/page/famauth-user-guides>) if you need assistance. No further action is needed once you can login to [FAMAAuth](#).

*** Note:** Once you are able to login to [FAMAAuth](#), access to the Authenticated NIFC File Share site folders and files is automatic. You do not need to request access unless you have need to upload.

Please share this information as appropriate to your teams and those who utilize FireFTP / NIFC File Share site.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will QR codes still work?

Yes. If the QR code directs you to the authenticated section of NIFC File Share site, users will be directed to the FAMAAuth login page. After authenticating, you'll be taken directly to the intended folder. If a QR code links a user to the un-authenticated section, you will be taken directly to the file or folder, no authentication necessary.

Q: Why is this change happening?

To comply with Federal Government security policies and federal regulations (including NIST standards) that require identity verification for system access.

Q: Will this slow down access during incidents?

No significant delays are expected. Authentication is a quick process and does not affect the availability of critical resources.

Q: What do I need to do now?

Set up a **Login.gov** or **eAuth** account before Monday, May 4th, 2026. Instructions can be found at <https://www.wildfire.gov/page/famauth-user-guides>.

Q: Who can I contact for help?

Reach out to:

IIA Helpdesk

(866) 224-7677 or (616) 323-1667

IIA Helpdesk via their IIA-Helpdesk Contact us web page (<https://iaahelpdesk.nwcg.gov/>)

(click the "contact us" link)

Q: Will all my data be retained?

No data will be removed when this change occurs. However, this NIFC Fire Share service is intended for short-term interagency sharing, NOT as a file archive or records repository.

Generally, there should not be data stored in this location that is not already stored in a safer, longer term archive location.

Q: Will the (<https://ftp.wildfire.gov/>) URL change?

The domain name (wildfire.gov) and subdomain (ftp) (www.ftp.wildfire.gov) URL will not change in this phase of the update. However, because there is now an **Authenticated** and **Non-authenticated** location, the URL paths of the files and folders will be as follows:

- **Authenticated:** [https://ftp.wildfire.gov/protected/...](https://ftp.wildfire.gov/protected/)
- **Un-authenticated:** [https://ftp.wildfire.gov/public/...](https://ftp.wildfire.gov/public/)

Q: Will there be a FAMAuth application tile to access the NIFC File Share site/service?

Yes, there will be an application tile that you can click on and access the NIFC File Share folders from the Wildland Fire Application Portal- FAMAuth tile page.