

2015

Centennial JOB CORPS

Fire Program

End of Year Report

Centennial Job Corps Fire Program is a partnership of Centennial Job Corps Center and the Boise National Forest. The objectives are to provide on-the-job training for students to work and learn the fire suppression and support functions used within the Incident Command System. This could lead to future career opportunities for students in the field of Fire Management.





Fire Crew 8

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Opportunities for Success

The success of a crew depends on management support, quality crew leadership and the teamwork of crewmembers. This year all were in place.

Our vision for this program was to help provide each student with enhanced character traits that would give them a gain in personal development.

Management support was outstanding and crew leadership was top notch. But, what impressed me the most were the students. I observed a group of men and women that were from different backgrounds, with different life experiences. Some had never stepped foot off of concrete and others had spent their lives in the country. The students were eager to learn and to prove themselves in a new environment of fire.

The successes that I observed from the students this fire season were many including:

- Development of each student towards learning personal accountability
- Team work
- Mental and physical toughness
- How to encourage and support one another
- Confidence to succeed
- How to manage stress in serious conditions
- How to adjust in a changing environment
- Pride in doing the job right the first time

Each student gained some or all of these characteristics. Clearly they will serve as a road map for the student's future success, not only in Fire Management

but in whatever future career opportunities they may pursue.

The Centennial Fire program continues to grow each year and its success is noted by the other students on the Centennial JCC campus, and in the national fire organization. This year the

number and days of assignments increased and those involved in the program are proud of the dedication, success and commitment made in 2015.

*Bob Shindelar, Forest Fire Chief,
Boise National Forest*





Student Recruitment

On February 2nd, student recruitments started. The recruitment day began with Mike Towers, Boise National Forest/Centennial Job Corps Assistant Fire Management Officer, Preston Glaisyer Boise National Forest Fire Crew 8 Assistant Crew Supervisor, and Brian Theiler Fire Crew 8 Senior Firefighter speaking on their past experiences and how their careers began as Wildland Firefighters. Student fire crew members involved in the program last year also spoke to the recruits sharing their experiences and what the expectations are as crew members of Fire Crew 8. Three military Veterans were hired as part of the crew to provide leadership and on-the-ground experience coming from their military assignments.



Preparation

From the first day of recruitment the Centennial Job Corps Fire Program started preparing. The goal was for Fire Crew 8 to be ready both mentally and physically. Physical fitness was a tool used for student development towards their path of becoming Wildland Firefighters. The students ran through a rigorous P.T. program that included Cross Fit style workouts and cardiovascular training. Through this regiment the students learned mental toughness, self-accountability, leadership, and team work. This was important for the transition from a recruit to a Wildland Firefighter.



Training

The Crew overhead conducted weekend training to develop relationships and provide personal experience guidance to the students. Every weekend, starting in mid-June, Crew 8 traveled to the Lucky Peak Helibase for weekend training. There the students received training for engine and helicopter operations. In addition, the students received S-212 (Wildland Fire Chainsaws) training.

This year five students finished their A Faller Task Books, and were awarded the Faller A qualification.





Fire Crew 8

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Assignments

Crew 8 had a busy season in 2015, working on 14 fires in the West for a total of 54 days on fire assignments. The fire season started June 13th with a Boise District BLM fire, called the Poison Fire in Marsing, Idaho. They finished the season in September taking suppression actions on the Tepee Springs Fire within the Payette National Forest. The Boise Interagency Hotshot Crew (IHC) rostered two of the students on September 28th for an assignment on the Crooked Fire in the Shoshone National Forest.

This season the students competently faced rough and steep terrain with temperatures at times reaching over 100 degrees. They gained experience as Type 2 IA and hot shot crew members working fire hot line construction and firing operations, and in air operations, mop-up, and gridding.

2015 Fire Crew 8 Training

COMPLETED TRAINING

May Training 2015

- S-130 Firefighter Training
- S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
- I-100 Introduction to ICS
- L-180 Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service
- IS-700 NIMS an Introduction
- PMS 475 Basic Land Navigation
- Mutual Respect
- Conducts and Ethics
- Hazmat/ Hazwoper
- Blood Borne Pathogens

July Training 2015

- S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaws
- S-211 Portable Pumps and Water Use



Veterans

A total of six military Veterans were hired in 2015 with three hired under the Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA). One was hired as a Wildland Fire Apprentice, and two as 1039 seasonal firefighters. Veterans are selected for the Centennial Job Corps Fire Program, due to their skills with leadership, work ethic, and mentoring.





Positions

Fire Crew 8 is designed to offer the students leadership, training, and mentorship from experienced crew overhead. This positive exposure is a foundation for student placement into Federal fire careers.

Crew 8 Overhead positions included:

- 1-Crew Supervisor
- 1-Asst. Crew Supervisor
- 2-Squad Bosses
- 2-Senior Firefighter
- 1-Wildland Fire Apprentice
- 6-1039 Seasonal Employees



Job Shadow Day

The Boise National Forest Fire Management staff provided opportunities for 25 Centennial Job Corps students to learn about different programs within the Forest fire program. The students were introduced to the Idaho City Hot Shots, Dispatch, Engine Operations, and the Fire Cache.





Career Development

- Resume Building
- Federal employment application process
- Overview of Wildland Fire Apprenticeship Program
- Job Corps advanced fire program application process
- Introductions and networking with other Federal resources and hiring officials (hotshot superintendents, engine captains, helitack foreman, FMOs and AFMOs)

Safety

- Proper use of all PPE
- Conducted appropriate JHA and tailgate safety sessions
- Reviewed Facilitative Learning
- Analyses and Lessons Learned
- Discussed mitigation for heat-related injuries



Medical Response

- Scenarios and medical equipment use (SKED, backboard, Kendrick Traction Device, trauma kit, oxygen, 10-man first aid kit, etc.)
- Cross training with Lucky Peak Rappel Crew, equipment, and personnel



Engine and Pump Operations

- Progressive hose lays
- Hose, accessory identification and use
- Fold-a-tank installation
- Type 4 engine orientation with BOF E-421

Fire-line Construction

- Direct and Indirect
- Progressive and Leapfrog
- Tool Selection

Maps, Compasses and GPS

- Latitude and longitude
- Township, range, and section
- Maps, Compasses
- GPS
- Pace count and cross-country travel

Helicopter Operations

- Briefings and emergency procedures
- Loading and unloading of personnel
- Fire and personal equipment preparation for flight
- Cargo net building and sling load operations
- Aircraft typing
- Type 2 helicopter orientation with Lucky Peak Rappel Crew





2015 Fire Camp Crew Training

COMPLETED TRAINING

May Training 2015

- Logistics Workshop
- Mutual Respect
- Conducts and Ethics
- Hazmat/ Hazwoper
- Blood Borne Pathogens

June Training 2015

- I-100 Introduction to ICS
- Fire Refresher
- Shelter Deployment
- IS-700 NIMS An Introduction

Fire Camp Crew Mobilization

The Fire Camp Crew also had a busy season, responding to 10 incidents totaling 73 days on assignment. The Centennial Fire Camp Crew was initially mobilized in May to support the Boise County Simulation Exercises and assist with mobilizing the Australian and New Zealand firefighters at NIFC. Over 100 emergency responders attended the simulation. They finished the season in September supporting the Australian/New Zealand close out banquet at the National Interagency Fire Center. While on that assignment they were recognized by Kim Christensen, Assistant National Director of Operations, for their mission achievements within the Job Corps program, the ability to get training and experience for future professional positions, and how fire personnel rely on the support of the Camp Crew.

Dispatch

Centennial Job Corps and the Boise National Forest offered opportunities for students to work in a fire support function other than with Fire Crew 8 and the Fire Camp Crew. Students worked at the Interagency Dispatch Center in Boise where they gained dispatch knowledge and experience. This exposure may interest students to pursue dispatch careers within the Federal Fire Service. As part of the training, students attended D-110.



2015 Dispatch Training

October 2015 D-110 Dispatch





Boise National Forest Crew 3/ Boise IHC Experience

Opportunities developed for Centennial Job Corps fire fighters to work as crewmembers on the Boise National Forest Type 2 IA Crew 3 and the Boise Hotshots.

Opportunists demonstrated their fire line abilities, work ethic, and pride while working with a highly experienced fire crew.

Culinary Trade

Throughout the 2015 fire season, the Centennial Job Culinary Trade supported fire operations. They provided sack lunches in support of incidents throughout the Boise National Forest, catered a banquet style dinner for the outgoing Australian/ New Zealand Firefighters, and catered the programs end of season awards banquet in October.



Logistics Workshop

The Boise National Forest provided leadership and training opportunities for the logistics side of fire management. Job Corps students were exposed to a Type 3 Incident Management Team environment and the logistical support necessary to set up an Incident Command Post (ICP) for the Readiness Review. The Centennial Job Corps Camp Crew gained pre-fire experience to correctly establish and setup an ICP.



Boise National Forest Readiness Review

On June 2nd Centennial Job Corps Fire Program students attended the Boise National Forest Readiness Review. The day began with Intermountain Regional Forester Nora Rasure addressing the audience on a variety of Forest Service topics. Students attended a variety of training sessions throughout the day to learn different Fire Management functions such as Engine Operations, Prevention, Air Operations, and Hand Crew Operations. They also observed a Smoke Jumping demonstration by the McCall Smoke Jumper Unit. This provided Firefighting and Camp Crew students a pathway towards their career opportunities towards Fire management.



Centennial Job Corps Fire Program Red Carded Students

Firefighters	24
Fire Camp Crew	38
TOTAL	62

Centennial Job Corps Fire Program Saw Certification

TASK BOOK	POSITION TRAINEES	BOOKS COMPLETED
Faller A	22	5

Centennial Job Corps Fire Assignments

ELEMENT	NUMBER OF FIRES	DAYS ON ASSIGNMENTS
Crew 8	14	54
Crew 3	6	34
Boise IHC	1	4
Fire Camp Crew	10	73
Dispatch	5 Students	44
Fire Programs		
Total Number of Fires		36
Fire Programs		
Total Days on Assignment		209

Centennial Job Corps Fire Program 5 Year Average

YEAR	NUMBER OF FIRES	DAYS ON ASSIGNMENTS
2011	13	68
2012	11	65
2013	10	69
2014	22	216
2015	31	209



Future Fire Hire Skills Gained

Centennial Job Corps and the Boise National Forest are fully engaged developing Job Corps students in the career field of fire management. The Centennial Job Corps Fire Program offers an excellent learning experience for students to build their knowledge skills and abilities. Students gain knowledge of multiple fire functions through hand crew, engine operation, fire business, and camp crew. These exposures and experiences have added to the excellent potential for the employability of job corps student seeking positions into federal agencies fire management programs.

Seven students from the 2013/2014 Centennial Job Corps Fire Program accepted positions as 1039 Seasonal Employees.

- (2) Smith River IHC, Six Rivers National Forest (R5)
- (1) Idaho City Ranger District, Boise National Forest Service (R4)
- (1) Mt. Home Ranger District, Boise National Forest (R4)
- (1) Vale District BLM (R6)
- (1) Detroit Ranger District, Willamette National Forest (R6)
- (1) Idaho National Guard Fire Program, Boise, Idaho





Students On the Right Track For a Future in Fire Management

2015 was a successful and rewarding year. Students worked as firefighters in an organized 20 person fire crew, in an organized camp crew module, and in dispatch. Each function provided them with experiences that may lead to future fire positions.

This year was a very busy fire season which began on the Poison Fire, Boise District BLM and ended on the Tepee Fire, Payette National Forest. The unique opportunity for the students to work as crewmembers on other professional crews, such as with Crew 3 and Boise IHC, added to the experience gained. The new Camp Crew structure, which included the hiring of three Camp Crew Bosses provided the Camp Crew students improved learning opportunities and exposure from exceptional crew leadership.

In addition, seven firefighters from the 2013/2014 fire program were hired as seasonal firefighters, for three different agencies in three different Regions. We are

extremely proud of these firefighters. They are living proof of what hard work, dedication, and how a willingness to succeed can lead them to excellent and fulfilling career ambitions.

The Centennial Job Corps Fire Program is on the right track for students to gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities in a variety of different fire management elements. This has clearly led to opportunities for them to build their resumes for future career opportunities in fire management. I am very proud of their work, and the program accomplishments this year!

Mike Towers
Centennial Job Corps AFMO /
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