



# 2007



## Overview

The San Juan Hotshots formed in 2002 as one of 93 IHC crews in the nation. We are located in Durango, Colorado on the San Juan National Forest. The 2007 season was busier than average taking the crew to Tennessee, Kansas, New Mexico, South Dakota, Nevada, and Idaho. This report gives an overview of the 2007 season covering topics such as the hiring, assignments, training, safety, and fuels treated.



## Hiring

The crew did not experience many changes with positions in 2007. The Superintendent was Shawna Legarza and the Assistant Superintendent was Jim Cornelius. Squad Leaders were Jay Godson, Patrick Moore and one detailer Lance Martin. The Lead Crewmembers were Jacob Birdsell and Keith Bedonie with Justin Cavasso detailing in the open position. Only two new seasonal crewmembers were hired in 2007.





## Assignments

The crew started April 16, 2007 and ended October 13, 2007. The crew was assembled for a total of 160 days. Of the 160 days, 132 days were committed to incidents including travel; 28 days were in official travel status leaving 104 days on incidents. The 2007 fire season was busier than previous summers with 85,822 fires covering 9.3 million acres nationally. The ten-year average is 78,482 fires and 7.9 million acres.

Early in the summer the crew was dispatched to the Greensburg Kansas Tornado FEMA Assist. Here the crew worked with the Boise National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) team in setting up and running a base camp for the relief efforts. Crewmembers also participated in the incident management process by training and working in IMT positions. Shawna Legarza trained as a type 2 Safety Officer. Rian Ream, Sam Parsons, and Jay Godson worked in the Planning Section. Travis Thiel worked in the Finance Section. Tom Kelsea trained as the Medical Unit Leader. Lance Martin, and Matt Ringer worked for the Logistics Section. Justin Cavasso worked for the Facilities Unit.

Two months were spent in the state of Idaho this summer. Starting July 25 through September 28 the crew worked 48 operational shifts in Idaho. On the East Zone Complex the crew worked on the North Fork, Horton, and Zena-Loon fires. Crewmembers were also put into IMT positions with the Boise NIMO team for the last dispatch on the East Zone Complex. Rian Ream filled in as the Resource Unit Leader and Documentation Unit Leader. Travis Thiel worked within the Finance Section.

In addition, the crew traveled a combined 80,000 miles this past summer with four vehicles. The crew flew four times, once by charter plane and three times commercially.





**Table 1  
2007 Assignment Summary**

<b>FIRE NAME</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL SHIFTS</b>	<b>COMPLEXITY LEVEL</b>
GREENSBURG, KS TORNADO FEMA ASSIST	KS	7	T-1
STAR COMPLEX	TN	8	T-2
PIGEON BRANCH	TN	3	T-3
SELF	NM	2	T-3
CAPOTE	CO	1	T-4
BLACKHORSE	CO	3	T-4
COUNTY ROAD G	CO	1	T-5
4 MILE	SD	3	T-2
ANNIVERSARY	CO	1	T-4
RATTLESNAKE	NM	3	T-3
SOUTH PULPIT	CO	1	T-3
BAMBI	CO	2	T-5
FIRST FORK	CO	3	T-3
FIVE PINES	CO	1	T-3
ANTELOPE COMPLEX	NV	6	T-1
TRANSFORMER	ID	1	T-5
EAST ZONE COMPLEX	ID	32	T-1



## Training

Training on an IHC is important to ensure that the crew has a depth of experience for future seasons and has the ability to move personnel into new positions. This season 9 position task books were completed: 1 Task Force Leader, 1 Strike Team Leader, 2 Crew Boss, 1 Incident Commander Type 4, 1 Incident Commander Type 5 and 3 Fuller C Certifications. Half the crew set up and attended the Battlement Creek Staff Ride on May 1 and 2.





## **Safety**

During the 2007 season San Juan did not have any lost time accidents. We did fill out four CA-1's. Daily briefings before every shift and throughout the day were conducted covering weather, fire behavior, LCES, assignments, hazards, and special issues. After the conclusion of shifts AAR's were conducted to discuss any issues that happened during the day.



## **Fuels Treatment Acres**

The crew treated 30 acres mechanically and completed 500 acres of prescribed fire on the San Juan National Forest. At the Wickenson Mountain and the Devil Creek Prescribed Burns the crew completed 191 chains of fire line. These projects allowed new and old sawyers to get trigger time and allowed some individuals to complete task books for a higher-level certification.



**2007 Crew Roster**

Legarza, Shawna	Superintendent
Cornelius, Jim	Assistant Superintendent
Martin, Lance	Squad Boss
Godson, Jay	Squad Boss
Moore, Patrick	Squad Boss
Birdsell, Jacob	Lead Crew
Bedonie, Keith	Lead Crew
Cavasso, Justin	Lead Crew
Traynham, Matt	Crew Member
Snyder, Sean	Crew Member
Katen, Micheal	Crew Member
Kunisch, Brandon	Crew Member
Ream, Rian	Crew Member
Ross, Michael	Crew Member
Romportl, Pat	Crew Member
Kempton, David	Crew Member
Lucas Brazzle	Crew Member
Thiel, Travis	Crew Member
Kelsea, Tom	Crew Member
Wheeler, Dustin	Crew Member

**2007 Detailers**

Ringer, Matt	14 Days
Parsons, Sam	14 Days
Peck, Joshua	14 Days