



2010



Needle Fire SJNF

The San Juan Hotshots have been part of the San Juan National Forest since 2002. We are located at the Public Lands Center in Durango, CO. This year SJHHC travelled to New Mexico, Montana, and fought fire in our home state of Colorado. This report will give an overview of our season covering topics such as hiring, assignments, training, safety, and fuels acres treated.



Hiring

The crew experienced just a couple of changes this year in positions. The Superintendent was Jim Cornelius and the Assistant Superintendent was Jay Godson. The Squad Bosses were Lance Martin, Keith Bedonie, and Jake Birdsell. There were two new Lead Crews hired this year, Scott McCreary and Nate Christiansen, both from Region 6. The other Lead Crew was Rian Ream. Midseason, Cornelius took a local FMO detail and bumped Godson up to Supt, Martin into Asst Supt, and Ream into Saw Boss. This year our seasonal force was the same as last season until picking up one new hire in August. SJHC had six detailers to fill behind students and injuries.



4 Mile Canyon Fire, CO



Assignments

The crew started on April 12, 2010 and ended September 23, 2010. We were assembled for a total of 164 days. We were on fires or travelling to/from fires for 70 of those days. 19 days were on official travel giving us 51 days on fire. The 2010 season was considerably slower than previous seasons with 64,393 fires burning 3.7 million acres nationwide. The ten year average is 72,500 fires with 6.6 million acres.



Reservoir Road Fire, CO

The crew travelled a total of 45,000 miles between four vehicles. Just four days were lost with the Superintendent truck and one buggy going down for mechanical issues.



2010 Assignment Summary

Fire Name	State	Operational Shifts	Acres	Complexity Level
Beaver	CO	7	2,641	2
Rio	NM	4	1,356	2
Red Fern	NM	1	103	3
Tecolote	NM	8	812	1
Round Mt	CO	1	150	3
Cow Creek	CO	5	1,101	2
Bark Beetle	CO	7		1
Needle	CO	3	3	4
Echo Lake	CO	3	46	3
Alder Creek	MT	4	726	3
Davis	MT	5	2,015	2
4-Mile Canyon	CO	6	6,181	1
Reservoir Rd	CO	4	750	1



Smoke Column in MT



Training



Storm King Mountain July 6, 2010

Training is an essential part on SJHC in order to ensure the crew has depth for future fire seasons to fill higher qualified positions. This season, one Task Force Leader, one Crew Boss, three FFT1, two IC5, and four Faller B task books were signed off. The four Faller B task books enabled the entire crew to be certified at FALB level. SJHC also put on two training classes this summer: S-200 and S-234 for the crewmembers and local fire resources. Lance Martin, midway through the season took a TFLD (t) assignment in Craig, CO.



Safety

During the 2010 season San Juan did have lost time accidents. We had seven injuries: (three knees, neck, ear, eye, and wrist). Daily briefings are conducted covering weather, fire behavior, LCES, assignments, hazards, and special issues. After the conclusion of shifts, AARs were conducted in order to discuss any issues that may have happened that day.



Burning in Montana



Fuels Treatment

The crew treated 1000 acres between two different units in the Piedre River drainage and prepped 50 chains of line for prescribed fire as well. We also spent seven days on Bark Beetle tree mitigation in the White River National Forest on the Colorado Trail outside Avon and the Tenderfoot Trail near Dillon. One week of falling gave us 2,288 hazard trees on the ground. Locally, we treated approximately 50 acres on local areas such as Animas City Mountain project, and 30 acres in Chicken Creek.



Middle Mountain Sawyers



2010 Crew Roster

Jim Cornelius	Superintendent 4/12-6/4
Jay Godson	Superintendent (d)
Lance Martin	Assistant Superintendent (d)
Rian Ream	Saw Boss (d)
Keith Bedonie	Squad Boss
Jacob Birdsell	Squad Boss
Scott McCreary	Lead Crew
Nate Christiansen	Lead Crew
Sean Snyder	Lead Crew
Michael Ross	Lead Crew
John Cordes	Crewmember
Michael Katen	Crewmember
Nate Giles	Crewmember
Justin McBride	Crewmember
Matt Moomaw	Crewmember
Andy Johnson	Crewmember
Devin Shannon	Crewmember
Scott De Velder	Crewmember
Zane Muhonen	Crewmember
Quito Justice	Crewmember
Matt Rayes	Crewmember

Detailers

Jason Venzara	30 days
Seth Weber	30 days
Ryan Corman	14 days
Chris Robertson	14 days
David Dreyer	14 days
Frank Stuckman	14 days
Grady Hall	14 Days

