

Great Smoky Mountains Fire Use Module

2002 Year End Report

Summary

This was the fifth year of existence for the Great Smoky Mountains Fire Use Module and we had a successful season (Jan 6 – Jul 6). Projects were completed in our assigned parks and in support of the Cumberland Gap Fire Use Module. Our interagency assists tailed off this year in the effort to attain NPS targets, but we were able to start the season at Eglin Air Force Base in northern Florida. Also, going to Planning Level V so early we were not able to make a trip to the Everglades this year.

We ran short on one crewmember position for the season, but the FUM clerk position was filled with Jim Phillips and he was able to get red-carded and come burning with us. The lapse money afforded us the opportunity to extend the 13/13 crewmembers to complete taskbooks on western assignments. All crewmembers are expected to return for '03, but turnover is eminent.

We had four detailers this past season. Two were able to complete taskbooks for Ignition Specialist. All were able to get good experience burning in a variety of fuels. Two of the detailers assisted with burn plan writing. It was good to have an outside perspective of the way we run our shop.

Continued support for SER prescribed fire was given by Leon Konz and the GRSM Fire Management staff. Kings Mountain provided an engine and personnel to many of our burns as well. The MWR graciously sent over the BUFF FUM to assist us at Little River once again. SER Prescribed Specialist, Kevin Walsh supported us on many fires and especially finishing the LIRI burns in June when there was no HEMG's available in the SER due to the western suppression efforts.

Following our core season FUM members took various assignments to develop skills and attain qualifications. One member detailed to MEVE for 3 weeks. She performed IA on 10 fires and completed her HECM taskbook. The GRSM and CUGA FUMs combined to staff confine-and-contain fires in Colorado. Western Fire Use Fires were slim this year. Outside of the Wolf Complex in YOSE we were assigned to suppression efforts near existing Fire Use events. Unfortunately, the Smokies did not have any Fire Use this year either.

In late August, Susan Ross and Mark Taylor were sent to Medford, OR to serve as liaisons between the NPS and Carly Pearson and her family. Many of you know that Carly is a HEMG dispatched out of GRSM who was severely injured on the Tiller Complex. Ross remains in this role.

National Park Service Units Assisted

Gulf Islands National Seashore (GUIS)*

Little River Canyon National Preserve (LIRI)*

Kings Mountain National Military Park (KIMO)*

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM)

Mammoth Cave National Park (MACA)

Congaree Swamp National Monument (COSW)

New River Gorge National River (NERI)

*Parks assigned to the GRSM FUM

Interagency Assists

Department of Defense, Eglin Air Force Base (FL)

Wildland Fire Use

Wildland Fire Use	Location	Acres	Positions Filled
Wolf Complex	YOSE	580	CRWB, FEMO

Prescribed Fires

Prescribed Fires	Location	Acres	Positions Filled
1002	Eglin AFB	100	FFT2
101A	Eglin AFB	118	RXB2(T), ENGB, FEMO, RXI2, FFT2
905A	Eglin AFB	148	ENGB, FFT1, FFT2, FEMO,
104B	Eglin AFB	1300	ENGB, FEMO, FFT1 and 2
Gopher Tortoise	GUIS	19.2	Hldg Spec, ENGB, FEMO, FFT1, FFT2
South Savanna	GUIS	7	RXB2(T), RXI2, FEMO, ENGB, FFT2
NLO-6	GUIS	64	Hldg Spec, RXI2(T), ENGB, FEMO, FFT1(T)
Battlefield	KIMO	193	RXB2, RXI2, RXI2(T), FFT2
Howser House	KIMO	95	RXB2, RXI2(T), RXI2, FEMO(T), FFT2
South Y-S Road	KIMO	58	RXB2(T), RXI2, RXI2(T), FFT2
Coneflower	KIMO	190	RXB2, RXB2(T), RXI2, FFT2, FEMO

01 – 103	LIRI	363	RXB2, RXI2, FFT2, PLDO
Brooks Branch	LIRI	34	RXB2, RXI2, FFT2
07-08	LIRI	333	RXB2, RXI2, FFT2,
RCW 1,2,3,4	COSW	575	FEMO, FFT2, ENGB, Hldg Spec,
Job Corps	MACA	80	Hldg Spec, FFT1 and 2
Temple Hill	MACA	30	Hldg Spec, FFT2
Cades Cove Fields	GRSM	805 (6 shifts)	RXB2(T), RXB2, FEMO, RXI2, RXI2(T), FFT2, ENGB
Total Acres		4512	

Suppression

Name	Location	Acres	Positions Filled
B75	Eglin AFB	25	ENGB, FFT1

Burn Plans

Burn plans were written or updated for 9 units at Gulf Islands, Little River, Kings Mountain, and New River. Detailers contributed to 3 plans. Kings Mountain contributed by “roughing out” most of their plans.

Roster

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Mark Taylor	Leader
Susan Ross	Assistant
Lisa Kurtzhals	Module Member
Tara Picken	Module Member
Bryan Swope	Module Member
Jen Ward	Module Member
James Phillips	‘Da GEE Man (FUM clerk)
John Cataldo	Detailer (NPS-Alaska)
Brian Hatfield	Detailer (NPS-Alaska)
Cole Irvin	Detailer (YELL FUM)
Travis Nepl	Detailer (YELL FUM)

Fire Qualifications

<u>Name</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>
Mark Taylor	RXB2 , RXI2, ENGB, HECM, ICT4, FALB, FEMO
Susan Ross	RXB2, FOBS , RXI2, ICT4, FALB, CRWB, ENGB, PLDO
Lisa Kurtzhals	FFT1, FEMO , HECM, FALA
Tara Picken	RXI2 , CRWB, ENGB(T), FALC, HECM, FEMO, ICT
Bryan Swope	HECM(T), FEMO(T) , FALA
Jennifer Ward	HECM, FFT1, FEMO, FALB, ICT5
James Phillips	FFT2

*all quals in **bold** were attained this season

Cataldo and Hatfield completed their RXI2 taskbooks.

Neppl worked on his RXI2.

Hatfield also worked towards completion of his ENGB taskbook.