

Great Smoky Mountains Fire Use Module

2005 Year End Report

Summary

This was the eighth year of the Great Smoky Mountains Fire Use Module. Most of the projects were completed in our assigned parks. These were performed with mutual support of the Cumberland Gap Fire Use Module. We were able to start the season with all members attending L-380 Fireline Leadership class in Gatlinburg.

We ran with a six person crew this year. Mark Taylor detailed into the FMO position at GRSM and Susan Ross detailed into the module lead position with Jennifer Ward as the acting assistant. The vacant FUM clerk position was filled in December with Sherry Clopton. All crewmembers are expected to return for '06.

We had two detailers this season, Bob Dellinger, North Cascades NP and Chris Stores, Klamath NF. Bob completed his Firefighter Type 1 taskbook, and Chris was able complete his taskbook for Ignition Specialist.

Continued support for our prescribed fire efforts was given by Leon Konz, former FMO at GRSM, and the GRSM Fire Management staff and equipment, MACA staff and Job Corps students, KIMO staff and equipment.

Many of the GRSM FUM members were able to detail into other positions to develop skills and attain qualifications. Eric Worthington detailed to the CUGA FUM early in the year. Matt Derstine detailed at GRTE and completed his FEMO taskbook. Travis Neppel detailed with the Bitterroot Heli-rappellers. Misty Seagle detailed with Mesa Verde helitack at the end of the season.

The module was regrouped at the beginning of the new fiscal year for 3 pay periods to begin a fall burning season and get a head start on the preparation needs for the small parks in the SER. Travis Neppel was assigned as the assistant lead during this time. Again, the two modules were able to join forces to accomplish more work. There were attempts to accomplish burns at Kings Mountain NMP, Cowpens NB, and Big South Fork NRA. The attempts at burning were minimally successful due to the late fall season, though it is believed with a normal fall season these attempts would have been successful. Preparing burns units allowed for a head start for FY06 projects, making a fall season successful.

This was a learning year. We overcame some adversities and challenges. Our module's members accepted and excelled at new experiences which were put before them. This module has grown stronger by being very adaptive to changes on a professional and personal level.

National Park Service Units Assisted

Little River Canyon National Preserve (LIRI)*
Kings Mountain National Military Park (KIMO)*
Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM)*
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park (CUGA)
Mammoth Cave National Park (MACA)
Congaree Swamp National Park (COSW)

Russell Cave National Monument (RUCA)*
 Big South Fork National Recreation Area (BISO)
 Grand Teton National Park (GRTE)

*Parks assigned to the GRSM FUM in the SER

Prescribed Fires

Prescribed Fires	Location	Acres	Positions Filled
Cades Cove	GRSM	100	RXB2
Wilderness Road	CUGA	50	FFT2, FFT1, Hold Spec, ENGB
Dark Ridge	CUGA	150	RXB2, Hold Spec, FEMO, RXI2(t), FFT1(t), FFT2
Crystal Cave	MACA	587	RXB2
Hatcher	GRSM	2300	RXB2, RXI2, RXI2(t),
Brushy South	KIMO	275	RXB2, RXI2, FFT1, FEMO(t), Hold Spec.
Turkeybeard	KIMO	67	RXB2, RXI2, RXI2(t)
Montague	RUCA	350	RXI2
Brushy South South	KIMO	20	RXB2,
Coneflower	KIMO	190	RXB2,
Kral's Complex	LIRI	280	RXB2,
Aster (FY06)	KIMO	17	RXB2, RXI2(t), FFT1(t), FEMO, RXI2
Mitchell Field (FY06)	BISO	35	RXB2, RXI2(t), FFT1, FFT2, FEMO, Hold Spec
Total Acres		4421	

Suppression

Name	Location	Acres	Positions Filled
Fox Knob	GRSM/BIA	12	ICT4, FFT1, FFT2
East End	GRSM/Private	2	ICT5, FFT1
Worley 05	BISO	10	FFT1
Red Dog	BISO	30	FFT1

Roster

Name	Position	Task Books Completed	Task Books Outstanding
Mark Taylor	(Acting FMO - all season) Module Lead		CRWB, PLDO, FUM2
Susan Ross	(Acting Module Lead - all year) Assistant Lead		TFLD, EDRC

Jennifer Ward	(Acting Assistant Lead -120 days) Module Member 18/8		CRWB, EDRC
Travis Neppl	(Acting Module Lead - 44 days) Module Member 18/8	HRAP	FOBS
Eric Worthington	Module Member 13/13		FFT1
Misty Seagle	Module Member 13/13		FALB
Matt Derstine	Module Member 13/13	FEMO	FFT1, FALB
Bob Dellinger	Detailer (NPS-North Cascades)	FFT1	FALB
Chris Stores	Detailer (USFS-CA-Klamath)	RXI2	FEMO

Fire Qualifications

Name	Qualifications
Mark Taylor	ICT4, RXB2, RXI2, ENGB, HECM, FEMO, FALB, ATVO
Susan Ross	CRWB, ICT4, RXB2, RXI2, ENGB, HECM, FEMO, FALB, PLDO, FOBS, ATVO
Jennifer Ward	ICT5, HECM, FEMO, FALB, ATVO, ENGB
Travis Neppl	CRWB, ICT4, ENGB, FEMO, FALB, ATVO, HRAP
Eric Worthington	FFT2, FEMO, FALB, ATVO
Misty Seagle	FFT1, ICT5, FEMO, FALA, ATVO
Matt Derstine	FFT2, FEMO, FALA, ATVO

Training

Class	Location	Employees Attending
L-380	Gatlinburg, TN	Taylor, Ross, Ward, Neppl, Worthington, Seagle, Derstine
S-580	Tucson, AZ	Taylor, Ross
D-110	Cleveland, TN	Ward, Ross
I-100	Cleveland, TN	Ward, Ross
FPA	Cleveland, TN	Taylor
S-230	Columbus, OH	Seagle
S-215	Pigeon Forge, TN	Derstine

Burn Planning for 2005 season

AGENCY	PARK	UNIT NAME	ACRES	PREP WORK IN OP PERIODS	Rx FIRE DATE	PLANNING
NPS	CUGA	Wilderness Road Campground	60	4	02/2005	Ross
NPS	CUGA	Tiprell	20	1	TBA	Ross
NPS	CUGA	Dark Ridge	140	4	04/2005	Ross
NPS	CUGA	Fern Lake	20	1	TBA	Ross
NPS	GRSM	Hatcher Mountain	2,300	27	04/2005	Ross

NPS	GRSM	Gregory Ridge	1,500	3	TBA	Ross
NPS	GRSM	Mids Branch	480	3	TBA	Ross
NPS	KIMO	Brushy South	295	3	04/2005	Ross
NPS	KIMO	Turkeybeard	67	2	04/2005	Ross
NPS	KIMO	Aster	215	2	10/2005	Ross
NPS	KIMO	Coneflower	190	1	06/2005	Ross
NPS	MACA	Crystal Cave	587	5	04/2005	Contractor
NPS	MACA	Joppa Church	186	2	04/2005	Contractor
NPS	RUCA	Montague	305	6	05/2005	Contractor
NPS	COSW	Red Bluff	194	1	TBA	Ross
NPS	LIRI	Kral's Complex	280	3	05/2005	Taylor
NPS	LIRI	Field School	72	0	TBA	Ross
TOTALS			6,911	68		