



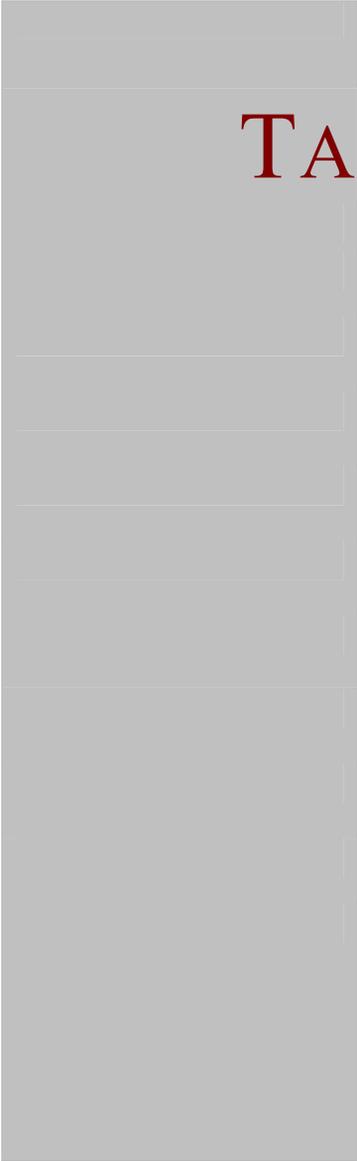
# 2004 SEASON REPORT

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THE CRAIG INTERAGENCY HOTSHOT CREW

NORTHWEST COLORADO FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT ▲ DOI ▲ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
455 EMERSON ST. ▲ CRAIG, CO 81625  
PHONE: 970.826.5110 ▲ FAX: 970.826.2689

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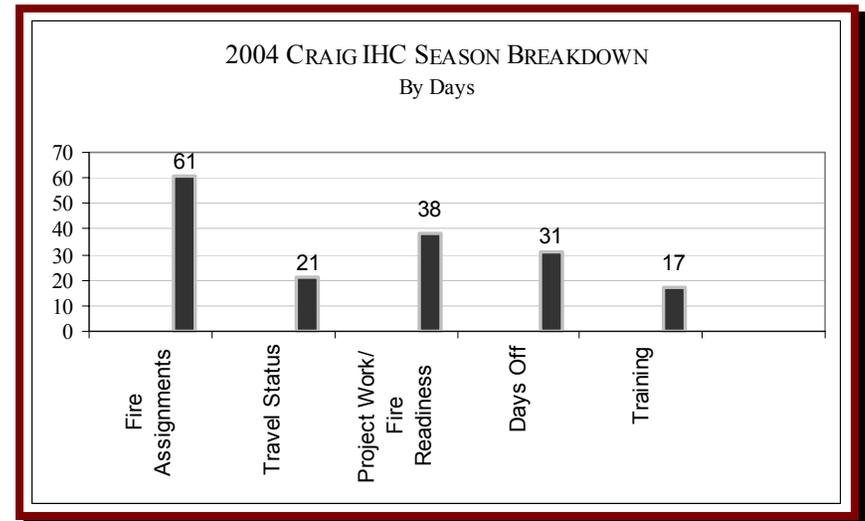
## 2004 SEASON OVERVIEW



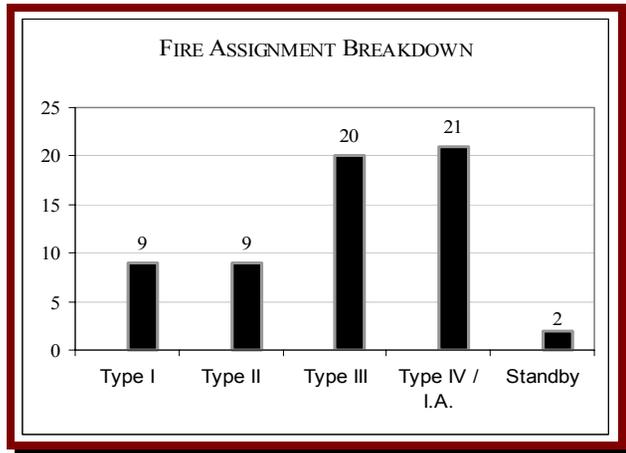
We were able to balance our suppression activities by performing project work, putting on training exercises and conducting Fire Readiness activities. The following Chart illustrates our season's breakdown by days. It indicates time well spent but a moderately slow fire season for us. Please refer to the following pages for additional information regarding fire assignments and project work.

The Craig Interagency Hotshot Crew is part of the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Program, and is based at the Bureau of Land Management's Little Snake Field Office in Craig, Colorado. We are primarily utilized for wildfire suppression, available nationally, though we often operated this year at a local and regional level. This season, though seemingly a slow fire season, provided consistent suppression work. We did not complete a 14-day assignment this season, getting demobed just shy of rolling a full tour on several dispatches. We did, however, respond to 17 wildland fire incidents.

We initially had trouble bringing a crew together due to students arriving late, the Superintendent's position becoming open and a crewmember getting called up to serve in Iraq. Fortunately, things fell into place and we began our season with a dispatch to the Osceola National Forest in Florida.



# FIRE ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY



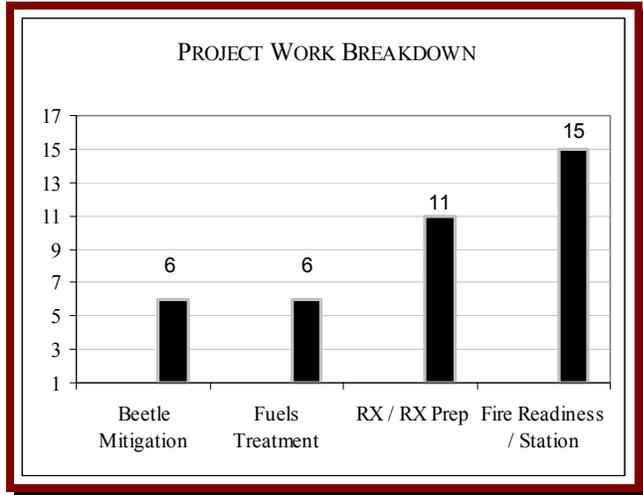
We began our critical training on April 18<sup>th</sup> with our first local fire dispatch on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. We became available nationally later in May and began our season with a dispatch to Florida.

Most of our assignments were local I.A. in the PJ. We did, however, get out to timber fires in Region 6 and Region 4. Work ranged from burn out operations, direct/indirect line construction and cold trailing/mop-up endeavors. Again, though it was a slow season for us, the crew utilized training opportunities and witnessed a wide range of fire activity.

Incident Dates	State	Mgmt Type	Fuel Type	Fire Size	Incident Name
08/05-10/05	CO	3	4	C	Lower South Fork
05/29-06/12	FL	3	3	D	Mailbox
06/17-06/18	CO	4	3	B	Tomahawk
06/20-06/23	CO	3	3	C	Bull Hill-
06/28-06/30	UT	2	3	G	Square
07/01	NV				Verdi (Cancelled)
07/02-07/04	CO	3	2/3	D	Long Point
07/08-07/10	CO	3	3	C	Bay Fire
07/12-07/14	CO	3	3	C	Devil Mountain
7/21-07/23	CO	3/4	3	B	Quad
7/27-8/5	WA	1	3	E	Sisi
7/27-8/5	WA	1	3	F	Deep Harbor
8/6	CO	4	3	B	Baking powder
8/12-8/15	UT	3	3	E	Middle Ridge
8/16-8/23	ID	2	4	E	Bear Springs
8/30-9/3	CO	3	2	F	Well
9/3-9/4	CO	4	2	E	Sheep Ranch
9/17-9/19	CO	3	3	C	Eldorado Springs



# PROJECT WORK SUMMARY



At the start of the season, we worked with the Routt National Forest Beetle Mitigation Crew to combine our S-212 Saw training with some Spruce beetle mitigation work. In return for easily accessible ‘Beetle Hit’ “B” & “C” DBH trees, we debarked the boles of adjacent infested trees in and around the Hinman campground.

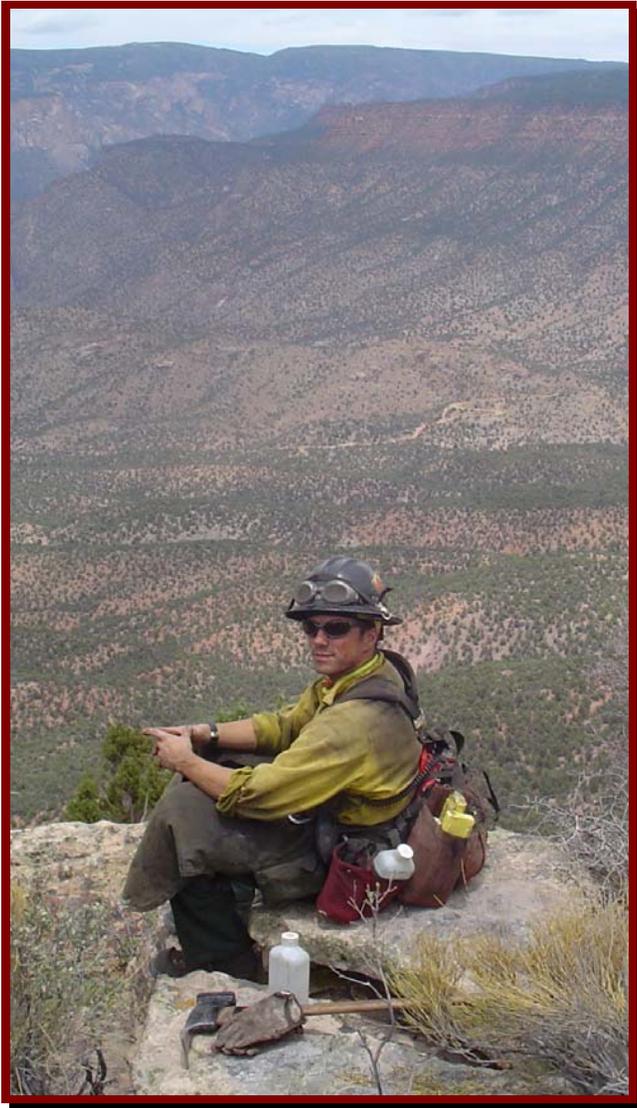
We participated in a few RX burns, both locally and in the San Juan National Forest. On district, we participated in the Middle Mountain Burn prep work, and Big Creek Burn line cut.

Post season, we worked on the restoration of a sage flat by cutting encroaching Pinon/Juniper and hazard fuels reduction in several Pinon/Juniper stands. We also work a hazard fuels reduction project around the community of Gould.



# SAFETY

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## VEHICLES:

A total of 65,448 miles were driven by crew vehicles over the season. This included a round trip to Florida. Only one vehicle accident occurred, a fender bender in traffic with damage less \$500.00.

## PERSONNEL:

Overall safety was excellent throughout the season. No loss-of-time injuries were recorded. Five employees were placed on light duty during the season but returned to the crew to finish out the season. There were two knee injuries, one wrist injury; two heat related injuries, and one back injury.

A lesson was learned about hydration. During a shift of cold trailing in high heat, several crew members reported severe leg cramps. Two crew members required a hospital stay. What had happened was over the course of the shift the crew members had consumed enough water but essentially over-hydrated because of an imbalance of salt in their bodies. We were reminded that though hydrating with water is important, it must be accompanied by the proper electrolyte balance. This bout with dehydration could have resulted in serious kidney damage. To help mitigate this in the future we have made commercial sport drink powders available to the crew. This will allow crewmembers to monitor and replenish lost potassium, salt, and other vitamins at their discretion.

## DETAIL PROGRAM

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A total of 25 detailers/ fill-in's worked with the crew during the 2004 season - for a contribution of 339 days worked.

NAME	HOME UNIT	DATES WITH CREW
Eric Pazdalski	Routt N.F.	5/29-6/13
Steve Eakin	Routt N.F.	5/29-6/13
Ryan Rodgers	Cour'd Alene BLM	6/16-7/10
Ben Holdridge	Routt N.F	6/27-7/05
Matt McGlone	Dinosaur N.M	7/21-7/24
Luke Mayfield	Uncompahgre N.F	7/20-8/07
Justin Law	Dinosaur N.M	7/21-7/24, 8/12-8/25
Aaron Alpe	Routt N.F	7/26-8/07
Drew Dingmann	Sulfur R.D. , A/R N.F	7/26-8/07
Bill Ross	Sulfur R.D. A/R N.F	7/26-8/07
Sage Decker	Worland BLM	8/08-8/25
Jason Saari	Lander BLM	8/08-10/01
Norville Taylor	Coronado N.F	8/08-8/28
Deana Harms	Craig BLM	8/12-8/25, 8/30-9/04
Nick Benke	Routt N.F.	7/12-7/16, 8/30-9/04
Mac Zimmerman	Craig BLM	7/12-7/16
Hank Gale	Craig BLM	8/12-8/25
Jenna Beckerman	Craig BLM	7/12-7/16
Kyle Fray	Craig BLM	7/12-7/16
Alan Curtis	Routt N.F.	8/30-9/04
Brandon Bonenberger	Medicine Bow N.F	8/30-9/04
Beau Cartwright	Routt N.F	8/30/9/04
Ben Speakman	Littleton, CO Fire Dept	8/26-9/06
Cole Irwin	Yellowstone N.P	9/11-10/02
Chris Freeman	Lander BLM	9/07-10/02

# TRAINING SUMMARY

Course	# of Hours
Human Factors (PMS-492)	16
Look Up, Look Around (S-131)	4
Power Saws (S-212)	24
Saw Field Day	8
Annual Fire Refresher	8
Firing Methods (S-234)	20
Fatality Case Studies (4)	4
Line Construction Field Day	16
First Aid/ CPR	8
Blood Borne Pathogens	1
LCES	2
Entrapment Avoidance	2
Common Denominators	2
Downhill Checklist	2
Crew SOP	2
Agency Ethics/ EEO	2
IA Size Up	2
Strategy/ Tactics	2
Conduct for Wildland Fire Community	2
HazMat	1
Tactical Decision Games	4
Sand Table Exercises	6
<b>Total Training Provided</b>	<b>136 hours</b>



#### ADDITIONAL TRAINING TAKEN:

- S-212 Helicopter Crewmember
- S-217 Air Operations
- C-Faller Certifier
- STEX Train the Trainer
- MCU Leadership Workshop

## SEASON DATA SURVEY

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Total number of days the crew was available: 168  
Total number of days committed to incidents: 82  
    Total number of days in travel status: 21  
        Number of 14-day assignments: 0  
Total number of extensions to 14-day incidents: 0  
    Total Number of days of R & R: 4  
Total number of days off in non-pay status: 27  
    Total number of days in staging: 2  
Total number of days on Type I/II incidents: 18  
    Number of vehicle accidents: 1  
    Total miles driven (4 vehicles): 65,448  
Number of lost time days for vehicle failure or repairs: 2  
    How many times did crew fly: 1 Charter  
    Hours of in-house training (fire): 112  
    Hours of in-house training (non-fire): 24  
    Number of personnel on crew (average): 19  
        Number of career personnel: 6  
        Number of apprentices: 0  
    Total number of funded personnel on crew: 19  
Number of career positions that remained vacant: 1  
    Number of days on project work:  
        ▪ Beetle Mitigation 5  
        ▪ Mechanical Treatment 6  
            ▪ Rx/Rx Prep 11  
    Number of treated acres on project: 1805  
Number of personnel retiring in five years: 0  
    Number of 0401 qualified: 0