

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report



Archuleta County
Dolores County
Hinsdale County
La Plata County
Mineral County
Montezuma County
San Juan County



Trimble Point Prescribed Fire, May 5, 2008 - Photos by Eric LaPrice

The DRC Annual Report Contents:

- Section 1: Narrative Summary
- Section 2: DRC Fire Activity
- Section 3: Resources
- Section 4: Aviation (Helicopters; Durango Air Tanker Base.)
- Section 5: San Juan IHC Annual Activity
- Section 6: Fuel Graphs

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

SECTION 1 – Narrative Summary

Activity Narrative (See Section 2 and 3 for details)

The 2008 fire season was fairly slow for Durango Dispatch (DRC) area units, having only 204 fires this season, compared to the 350 fires we normally average in a fire season. Out of the 204 fires our area initial attacked, only two went as large as a type 3 incident; they were the Little Cahone fire on Dolores BLM land that burned 202 areas and the Maverick fire on Ute Mountain Ute land which burned 227 areas. The remaining fires were contained during initial attack or within a few days after. Internally, DRC mobilized 1,833 personnel, and 1,316 of our personnel actively supported incidents across the nation from South Carolina in the spring to California this fall. Due to the staffing shortages on the federal units within Southwest Colorado, these units brought in an additional 487 personnel to assure seven day initial attack coverage for our area. In total, the Durango Dispatch Center mobilized 1,695 resources (overhead, aircraft, crews, and equipment) for a total of 3,636 personnel. Detailed information about Durango Dispatch Area prescribed fire accomplishments, fire suppression activity and resources mobilized can be found within this report.

Weather Summary (Also see Section 6 for fuel data information) Southwest Colorado began 2008 with higher than normal snow pack in most basins and this was maintained through January by periodic light snowfall. A significant snow storm hit the area in February, but the last 3 weeks of the month were relatively dry with only a dusting of precipitation on a handful of days and slightly warmer than normal temperatures. These dry conditions continues through March, April and May. Snow pack steadily declined and local flooding problems arose due to higher than normal runoff. Significantly warmer than normal conditions continued through June and only a slight increase in rainfall across the area. July brought three distinct monsoonal surges that produced near normal precipitation for the month. August brought two monsoonal periods, at the beginning and especially the end of the month, that produced higher than normal monthly precipitation totals to most areas. September closed out the active fire season with drier and warmer than normal conditions.

(Chris Cuoco, Grand Junction Nat'l Weather Service Office)

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 2 – Fire Activity – Five Year Averages

2003 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2006 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
MVP	28	448	0	0	28	448	MVP	22	22.1	0	0.0	22	22.1
SJD	94	20	0	0	94	20	SJD	85	46.3	4	0.4	89	46.7
SJF	179	2233	1	2	180	2235	SJF	96	20.8	9	5.0	105	25.8
SUA	96	2208	1	1	97	2209	SUA	72	572.5	1	0.5	73	573.0
UMA	67	2314	1	0	68	2314	UMA	80	731.4	12	18.2	92	749.6
TOTALS	464	7223	3	3	467	7226	TOTALS	355	1393.1	26	24.1	381	1417.2
2004 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2007 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
MVP	26	4	0	0	26	4	MVP	12	3.0	0	0.0	12	3.0
SJD	42	83	1	0	43	83	SJD	48	165.8	1	0.1	49	165.9
SJF	97	29	11	62	108	91	SJF	80	98.3	18	4.1	98	102.4
SUA	64	226	2	0	66	226	SUA	23	278.0	2	0.2	25	278.2
UMA	85	1111	2	1	87	1112	UMA	1	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.2
TOTALS	314	1453	16	63	330	1516	TOTALS	164	545.2	22	4.5	186	549.7
2005 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2008 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
MVP	7	7	0	0	7	7	MVP	12	13.0	0	0.0	12	13.0
SJD	37	276	0	71	37	347	SJD	23	278.0	2	0.2	25	278.2
SJF	69	2353	8	1	77	2354	SJF	38	53.8	27	5.0	65	58.8
SUA	59	1217	1	26	60	1243	SUA	35	48.0	3	17.0	38	65.0
UMA	12	1560	77	190	89	1750	UMA	37	245.5	27	13.5	64	259.0
TOTALS	184	5413	86	287	270	5700	TOTALS	145	638.3	59	35.7	204	674.0
5 year average Federal Agencies (2003-2007)							Fire and Acres, Colorado State Forest Service, Durango District						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
MVP	19	97	0	0	19	97	2003	126	34.9	38	57.6	164	92.5
SJD	61	118	1	14	62	132	2004	81	73.0	51	113.0	132	186.0
SJF	104	947	9	15	114	962	2005	63	116.0	31	50.0	94	166.0
SUA	63	900	1	5	64	906	2006	105	57.7	35	76.4	140	134.1
UMA	49	1143	19	42	68	1185	2007	86	1793.5	27	337.0	113	2130.5
TOTALS	296	3205	31	76	327	3282	2008	29	120.2	33	15.7	62	135.9

Reports from Upper Pine, Ft Lewis, Durango, San Juan/Silverton.

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 2 – Fire Activity – Agency Breakdown

2008 FEDERAL AGENCY/UNIT FIRE ACTIVITY

UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	12	13.0	0	0.0	12	13.0
<i>SJD</i>	23	278.0	2	0.2	25	278.2
<i>SJD-COL</i>	1	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.2
<i>SJD-DOL</i>	1	0.1	22	277.9	23	278.0
<i>SJD-PAG</i>	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<i>SJF</i>	38	53.8	27	5.0	65	58.8
<i>SJF-COL</i>	1	0.1	13	1.9	14	2.0
<i>SJF-DOL</i>	5	0.9	9	14.3	14	15.2
<i>SJF-PAG</i>	21	4.0	16	37.6	37	41.6
<i>SUA</i>	35	48.0	3	17.0	38	65.0
<i>UMA</i>	37	245.5	27	13.5	64	259.0
Total Federal	145	638.3	59	35.7	204	674.0



Photo's by Pam Wilson.
Horn Canyon Fire, 2002.



2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 2 – Prescribed Fire and Fuel Reduction Activity for FY08

PRESCRIBED FIRES				Mechanical Fuel Reduction	Unit	Acres	Method
Fuel Burning Projects	Unit	Acres	Method	Electra Lake	SJF-COL	1438	Thining
Hermosa	SJF-COL	12,152	Aerial	Junction Creek	SJF-COL	471	Thining
Little Bear	SJF-COL	181	Broadcast	Pagosa Campgrounds	SJF-PAG	40	Thining
Shamrock	SJF-COL	188	Broadcast	Lowery Ruins	SJD/CANM	94	Thining
McPhee	SJF-DOL	1	Piles	Rabbit Mountain	SJD-COL	791	Mowing
North Jackson	SJF-DOL	36	Piles	Dry Wild	SJD-DOL	455	Mowing
Rocky Draw	SJF-DOL	30	Piles	Rustic Ridge	SJD-DOL	10	Thining
Fennis East	SJF-DOL	48	Piles	South Spud	SJD-DOL	300	Mowing
Trail Canyon	SJF-DOL	220	Piles	Broken Off Point	SJD-PAG	147	Mowing
Trail Canyon	SJF-DOL	150	Broadcast	White House Loop Thining	MVP	24	Thining
Rim House	SJF-DOL	81	Broadcast	Research Loop Thining	MVP	6	Thining
Misc. Piles	SJF-DOL	60	Piles	HQ Loop Thining	MVP	25	Thining
Campgrounds	SJF-PAG	20	Piles	Green to Watertank Fuel Break	MVP	56	Thining
Lower Middle Mountain	SJF-PAG	285	Broadcast	Entrance Area Fuel Reduction	MVP	38	Thining
Piedra	SJF-PAG	2,000	Broadcast	Chapin Helispot Fuel Reduction	MVP	2	Thining
Doe Canyon	SJF-DOL	220	Broadcast	Sheep Canyon	SUA	102	Mowing
House Creek Rim	SJF-DOL	355	Broadcast	Cherry Creek	SUA	30	Mowing
South Carver	SJF-DOL	190	Broadcast	Weasel Skin	SUA	27	Mowing
Dolores Rim #8	SJD-DOL	360	Broadcast	Roadside/Dogleg	SUA	32	Thining
Vigil Abeyta #3	SJD-PAG	150	Broadcast	Stinky Well	UMA	100	Mowing
Chapin Piles	MVP	57	Piles	Stinky Well	UMA	60	Thining
Morfield	MVP	80	Broadcast	Pool Canyon	UMA	12	Thining
Johnson Canyon	UMA	8	Piles	Total		4,260	
		16,872					

DRC AREA SUMMARY		
Unit	Prescribed Fire Acres	Mechanical Acres
San Juan Forest	16,217	2,229
Columbine	12,521	1909
Dolores	1,391	280
Pagosa	2,305	40
San Juan Field Office	510	1,797
Columbine	0	791
Dolores	360	859

DRC AREA SUMMARY		
Unit	Prescribed Fire Acres	Mechanical Acres
Mesa Verde Park	137	151
Southern Ute Agency	0	191
Ute Mountain Agency	8	172
Totals	16,872	4,540

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 2 – Fire Activity – Incident Responses

INCIDENT RESPONSE ACTION BY DURANGO DISPATCH

This table shows all incidents in which Durango Dispatch was involved.
Information taken from WildCAD Computer Aided Dispatching System.

<u>Unit</u>	Fires, Wild & Prescribed	Smoke Checks/ False Alarms	Misc. Includes SARs, Law Enforcement
Archuleta County	6	0	1
Dolores County	7	0	0
La Plata County	19	3	3
Montezuma County	8	2	4
Mesa Verde National Park	13	2	0
Southern Ute Agency	39	13	0
Ute Mountain Ute Agency	64	16	0
Columbine Public Lands (BLM/FS)	17	8	0
Dolores Public Lands (BLM/FS)	47	21	2
Pagosa Public Lands (BLM/FS)	43	18	2
DRC (Misc out of DRC Area direct responses)	1	9	16
Total	264	92	28

Grand Total of Incidents:384

2008 Large Fires with Incident Management Teams Assigned

FIRE NAME	STATE	AGENCY	START DATE	CAUSE	ACRES
MAVERICK	CO	BIA-UMA	7/26/2008	LIGHTNING	227
LITTLE CAHONE	CO	BLM-DOL	7/30/2008	LIGHTNING	202

Confinement Strategy	Unit	Acres
COOPER	SJF-PAG	0.10
SNAG	SJF-PAG	23.00
HORSE CREEK	SJF-PAG	6.40
SOARING	SJF-COL	0.10
FIRST NOTCH	SJF-COL	0.20
POLE CANYON	SJF-DOL	10.00
TOTAL		39.80

No WFU Fires in 2008

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 3 - Resources

The Durango Dispatch zone has approximately 382 interagency red carded individuals to draw from for incident assignments. Out of these, approximately 52% percent actively participated in fire during 2008.

As of November 2008, Durango Dispatch processed 1,695 requests resulting in the mobilization of 3,636 personnel.

UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT	RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO THE UNITS IDENTIFIED	
DRC	0	0	0	0	3	FAR LEFT COLUMN FROM OUTSIDE OUR ZONE. This includes resources ordered to support any fires, prescribed or wildfire. Total requests received were 97 for a total of 487 personnel.	
DRS	0	0	2	0	3		
MVP	0	0	0	0	0		
SJD	2	0	7	0	7		
SJF	44	2	4	0	1		
SUA	0	0	2	0	2		
UMA	9	4	4	0	1		
Total	55	6	19	0	17		
UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT		RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO SUPPORT ROCKY MTN. AND NATIONAL EVENTS. This list does include Contract Equipment under the unit marked Private (PVT).
DRC	1	0	6	0	0		Total requests received were 685 for a total of 1,316 personnel.
DRS	89	11	0	0	0		
MVP	32	2	0	0	7		
SJD	24	0	0	0	0		
SJF	401	4	20	0	13		
SUA	19	0	0	0	0		
UMA	16	1	1	0	7		
PVT	0	21	0	0	10		
Total	582	39	27	0	37		
UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT	RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO SUPPORT INITIAL ATTACK ACTION IN OUR ZONE.	
DRC	0	0	0	0	0	These includes Federal, Cooperators, and Contact Equipment. Total resources dispatched for IA were 699 for a total of 1,458 personnel. (Additional 214 Resource Orders for 375 personnel to support Prescribed fires)	
DRS	39	38	1	1	7		
MVP	9	11	0	0	11		
SJD	16	34	3	2	15		
SJF	169	62	0	0	10		
SUA	58	70	0	0	6		
UMA	45	60	3	2	27		
Total	336	275	7	5	76		

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 4 – Aviation Activity - Helicopters

Home Unit	TAIL #	Hours	Passengers	Water	Cargo
		Flown	Delivered	Delivered	Delivered
CO-MVP	2LM (T3)	216.5	508	104,844	44,450
CO-UMA	9EV (T3)	217.3	455	165,700	80,749
CO-SJF	73H (T1)	215.2	264	803,950	535,000

Aviation Statistics: Provides a detailed breakdown of aviation assets utilized by type, and location.

	HELICOPTER TYPE 1	HELICOPTER TYPE 3	SMOKE JUMPERS	RECON	HEAVY AIR TANKERS	SEATs	LEAD PLANE	AIR ATTACK	AIR SUPER MODULE
LOCAL AREA	12	100	32	2	5	11	2	6	1
NATIONAL	7	10	1						
RMA AREA	3	6	1						



Helicopters used on the Missionary Ridge Fire, 2002
Photos by Pam Wilson

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report
Section 4 – Aviation Activity – Durango Tanker Base

2008 Durango Airtanker Base Annual Report

Durango Airtanker Base Info

- Flew 44 Missions
- Flew on 5 Fires
- 49,545 Gallons of retardant pumped

Cortez Seat Base Info

Flew 18 Missions
 Flew on 3 Fires
 13,679 Gallons of retardant pumped

Airtanker Info Tanker 55

Contract Duration 3/26-10/26/2008

- 1,449 Hrs. Availability
- 7.82 Hrs. Unavailability
- **99.4 % Available**
- 267.82 Hrs Flight Time
- 563 Hrs. Ext. Standby
- 274 Missions Flown
- Flew on 63 fires

510,170 Gallons of Retardant Delivered

	Missions	Retardant
Years	Flown	Pumped
2008	44	49,545.0
2007	64	78,667.0
2006	101	196,777.0
2005	113	213,140.0
2004	66	74,521.0
2003	145	335,998.0
2002	230	1,225,148.0
2001	68	161,326.0
8 year	103.9	291,890.3
average	Missions	Gals.

2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 5 – San Juan IHC Activity Summary



The San Juan Interagency Hotshot Crew was assembled from April 28th to October 10th for the 2008 season. The following is a breakdown of our stats:

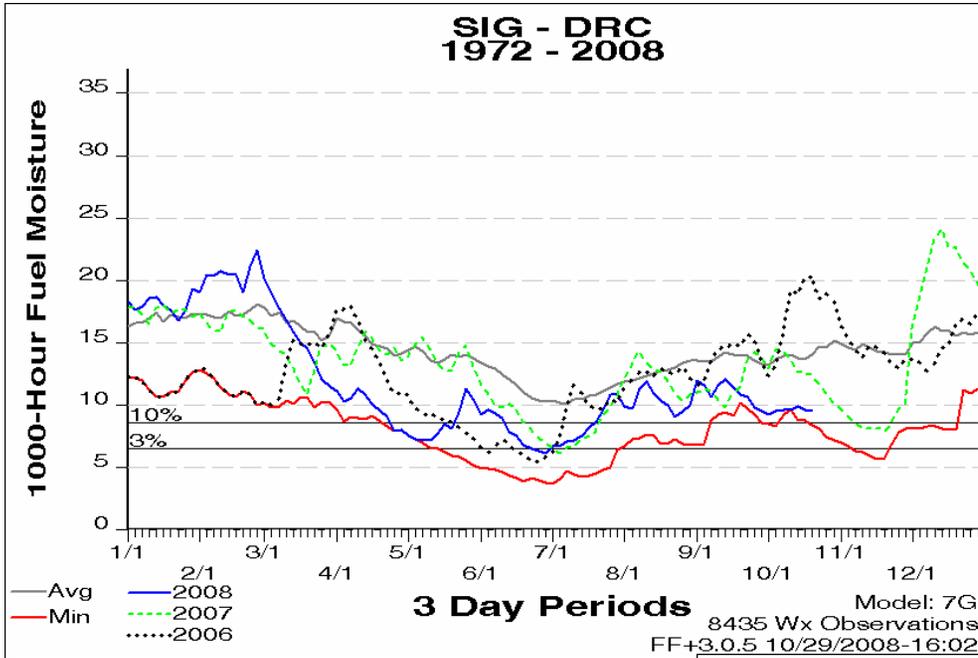
Committed to fire assignments:	81 Days
Committed to Regional Bark Beetle Assignment:	16 Days
	8
Committed to prescribed fire:	Days
Committed to training:	10 Days
Committed to projects on home unit:	20 Days
Time off:	31 Days

The crew was assigned to fires in California, Colorado, Oregon and Wyoming. Over the season we drove an average of 18,500 miles per vehicle. Through project work we treated approximately 90 acres mechanically and 1800 acres through prescribed fire.



2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

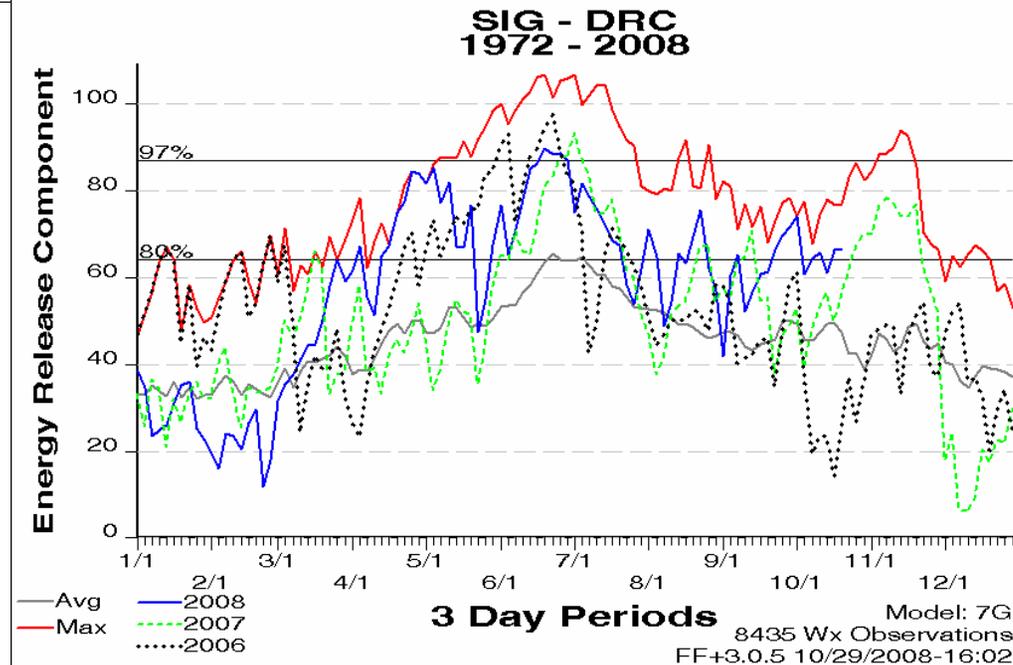
Section 6 - Fuels



1000 Hour dead time lag fuel - 3 to 8 inches in diameter dead fuel.



Energy Release Component (ERC) - The total heat released per unit area within the flaming front at the head of a moving fire, measured in BTUs.



2008 Durango Interagency Dispatch Center Annual Report

Section 3 – Resources - Report Requested by RMACC

5 YEAR AVERAGE - 2003 THRU 2007

RESOURCES TO NATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS										Total People	INCOMING FIVE YEAR AVERAGE							
DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People		DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA		
O/H	0	60	26	20	286	17	10	0	419	x1	419	O/H	1.2	15.0	20.0	61.0	3.6	12.0
Eng/WT	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	20	31	x3	93	Eng/WT	0.6	2.6	9.6	9.0	4.0	10.0
CRWS	6	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	14	x20	280	CRWS	0.8	0.8	4.0	11.0	3.4	6.4
DOZ/TP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	DOZ/TP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
A/C	0	0	3	0	9	0	6	4	22	x2	44	A/C	1.2	15.0	20.0	61.0	3.6	12.0

RESOURCES TO RMA ZONE ASSIGNMENTS										Total People	OUT GOING FIVE YEAR AVERAGE							
DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People		DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA		
O/H	0	29	6	4	116	2	6	0	163	x1	163	O/H	6.4	6.8	21.0	79.0	5.4	6.4
Eng/WT	0	3	2	0	1	0	1	1	8	x3	24	Eng/WT	3.0	0.8	0.2	2.0	2.0	2.2
CRWS	0	0	0	0	12	0	1	0	13	x20	260	CRWS	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.8	0.0	3.0
DOZ/TP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	DOZ/TP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
A/C	0	0	7	0	5	0	2	1	15	x2	30	A/C	0.6	4.2	1.2	5.6	0.0	4.6

RESOURCES TO INITIAL ATTACK ASSIGNMENTS										Total People	IA FIVE YEAR AVERAGE							
DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People		DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA		
O/H	0	39	9	16	169	58	45	0	336	x1	336	O/H	62.0	28.0	51.0	276.0	105.0	77.0
Eng/WT	0	33	11	34	62	68	59	0	267	x3	801	Eng/WT	49.2	16.6	51.6	75.8	68.6	118.2
CRWS	0	1	0	3	0	0	3	0	7	x20	140	CRWS	3.6	3.6	5.0	13.0	10.8	6.0
DOZ/TP	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	5	x2	10	DOZ/TP	4.0	0.2	0.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
A/C	0	7	11	15	10	6	27	0	76	x2	152	A/C	14.6	11.0	18.6	43.6	23.6	28.2

CREWS UTILIZATION			
	DRC	RMC	NIC
CRW-1	6	12	8
CRW-2	0	0	6

INCOMING RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	55	102.8
Eng/WT	6	27.5
CRWS	19	21.1
DOZ/TP	0	0.0
A/C	17	102.8

OUTGOING RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	582	119.7
Eng/WT	39	8.4
CRWS	27	13.3
DOZ/TP	0	0.0
A/C	37	12.4

IA RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	336	534.8
Eng/WT	267	281.5
CRWS	7	37.0
DOZ/TP	5	6.8
A/C	76	116.1