

Incident Name: Biscuit Support and Shelly Fire

Assignment Dates: 7/29-8/3/02

Unit or Jurisdiction: Six Rivers N.F.

Geographic Area: Gasquet, CA

Phone: 530-333-4312

Most Notable Success: The Team took immediate action on the 111 acre Shelly Fire that had been unstaffed since it started on 7/28 and immediately started to plan a contingency line for the Sour Biscuit fire in California. The Team did not wait to get orders from Area Command, but took safe, effective action. Immediately CDF joined in to form Unified Command. The Type II Team settled the communications down by setting up two town meetings with the Incident Commander and Operations being able to answer their questions.

Most Difficult Challenges: #1 Having a Type 1 Team come into the incident and take over both fires and the Type II Team become a branch of the fire. The Type II Team contained the smaller fire and was released. This whole situation was very difficult to work through.

#2 Air operations was controlled by Oregon Area Command, this hindered the use of air support on the Biscuit. It delayed putting water on the incident for three days. Many phone calls were made to have the air show turned over to California. Area Command would not release frequencies for the air operations. We had 5 ships and could not fly them.

Recommended Changes:

N/A

Unresolved Issues: Having a Type II Team who had been on the fires for 3 days and making a difference, become a branch for a Type I Team. Never put 2 teams in a situation like this. Type II team should have been allowed to run the 800 acre fire and the Type I Team take the Type I incident. No matter how much cooperation is put forth, too much friction exists.