

2025 BMIDC Report



Blue Mountain Interagency Fire Center

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Umatilla National Forest

Oregon Department of Forestry

Umatilla Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs

Southeast Region Washington DNR

Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center



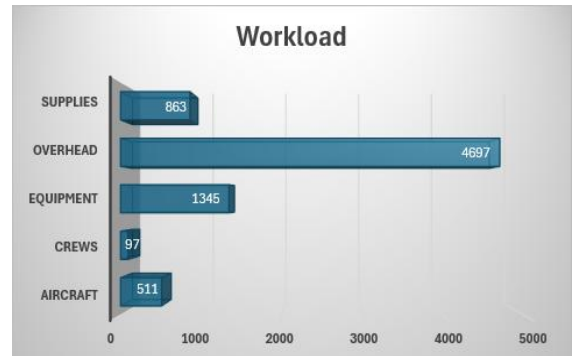
"Our Mission is Your Safety"

Prior to Fire Season 2025 BMIDC's long time Center Manager, Renae Crippen, retired. Renae was not only a leader on the Wallowa Whitman NF and Regionally but also recognized Nationally with the Paul Gleason "Lead by Example" award. Josh Hewitt accepted the job as the new center manager in March 2025. Josh started his career with the La Grande Ranger District in 2001, he spent 4 years with La Grande IHC. In 2007 he moved to Dispatch. Josh has spent the last few years as the Assistant Cache Manager at the Fire Center. We welcome Josh back to Dispatch.

Resources under BMIDC's footprint supported the Southern and Eastern areas throughout the winter and early spring. Then they headed to the Southwest to assist with their fire season. There were also opportunities to help Alaska and Canada.

The season started off much like 2024, however weather and fuel conditions prevented large fires here in NEO. Our footprint ran on many initial attacks with a few extended attack fires. There was great interagency cooperation between the agencies under our footprint. We supported Marley on the La Grande Ranger District as a Type 3 incident.

BMIDC was able to support the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest, Southern area and Alaska by sending out dispatchers on assignment. There were two individuals that completed position task books this summer moving their careers forward in dispatch.



BMIDC Activity	
Wildfire Incidents	277
Search & Rescue	5
Medical Aid	1
Prescribed Fires	353
Smoke Chases	182
Admin Tracking Groups	3073
Night Shifts	22

Logistics

Large Incidents Supported: 391

Total Teams Supported: 1- T3 Team to Marley

Number of days expanded dispatch operated: 0

Total Number of IROC orders processed: 7,513

La Grande Incident Support Cache

The 2025 season at the La Grande Fire Cache got its kick start in May. Annual kit updates and routine preparation for the 2025 season were the primary focus of the crew.

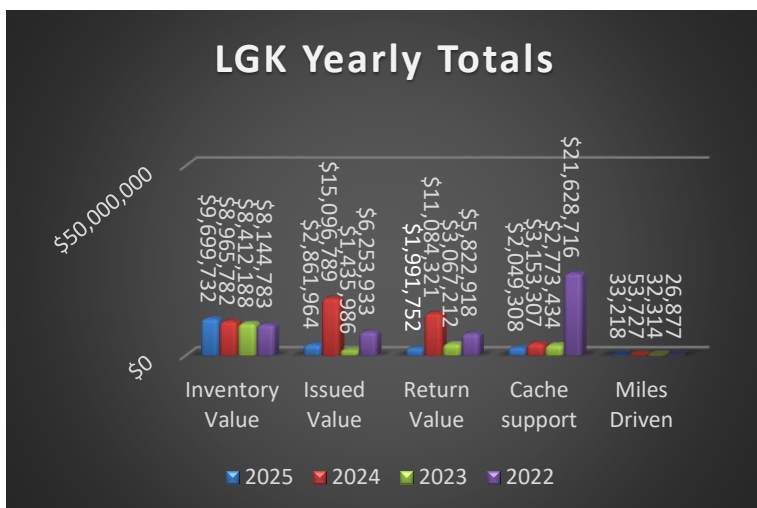
The Cache provided support to 1-CIMT and 2-Type 3 Incident Management Teams to the Oregon Department of Forestry, Malheur NF, Wallowa-Whitman NF.

In addition, resource requests for small initial attack incidents kept the crew busy. Cache personnel also assisted with the local Fire School as well local unit needs for the Oregon Department of Forestry, Washington DNR, local BIA and BLM units. This year the La Grande Fire Cache employed a total of 18 Administratively Determined (AD) employees, to increase our workforce. AD salaries totaled approximately **\$189,254**, helping to boost the local economy. The La Grande Fire Cache

was also able to provide support to other National Caches by sending a total of 1 employee out on 3 fire assignments and brought in 1 detailer to provide additional support for a 21-day assignment.

The cache was able to utilize the Job Corp program this year by bringing in a 6-person crew with 2 crew bosses to the cache for a 14-day assignment to help with refurbishment of items returned from incidents across the National Cache System.

Our overall inventory value for 2025 totaled **\$9,899,732**. The dollar amount issued directly out to incident support for the 2025 fire season was **\$2,861,936**. Cache to Cache Support to both Regional and National Caches totaled **\$2,049,307**. Total dollar amount returned from incidents was **\$1,991,752**. Total miles driven this year in support of incidents, accident free, was **33,218**.

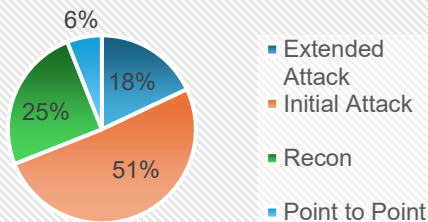


Aviation—Fixed Wing

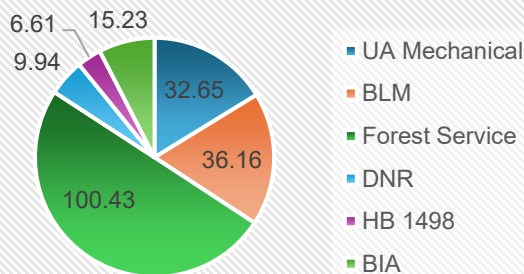
AA-616 N690AR

The La Grande Air Attack Platform began the 2025 fire season on a delayed Forest Service Contract June 4th and was stationed in R6 right away through October 6th totaling 126 days and 187.25 hours. It then got relocated to R5 from 10/7-10/30. La Grande air attack flew a total of 74 missions for 204.33 hours, a decrease of 90.27 hours from 2024. Over the 2025 season there was 1 trainee that flew with the platform for 11.12 hours of trainee flight time.

Flight Time by Mission



Flight Time by Land Ownership



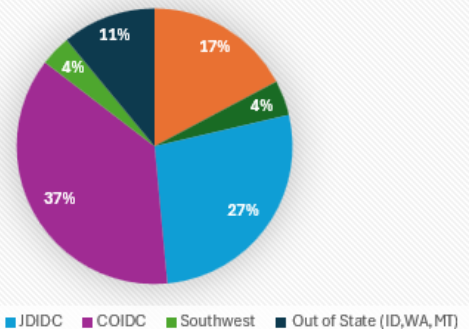
La Grande Tanker Base

This was the La Grande Airtanker Base's 34th fire season. Opening for fire support on May 26th, 2025, the base was active for a 128-day operational period. The first loads of the season left La Grande on the 26th of May in support of the FS incident: Butte Creek on the Prineville R.D. The busiest stretch of the season was September 9/2-9/9 with 94,546 in support of Reeds Mill and Bridge Fire. The single busiest day was the 4th of September, delivering 55,472 to the Bridge Fire. Last loads of the season were sent to the Reeds Mill Fire in Oregon on September 9th, and the base closed for the season on October 1st. In total, 103 missions were flown from the La Grande Airtanker Base with visiting aircraft consisting of 13 Large Airtankers and 7 SEATS, and landing fees totaling \$13,439. The base pumped total 239,685 gallons of retardant, costing fire incidents \$1,157,246.95. The La Grande Airtanker Base is a bulk base, one of few left in the nation that is operated solely by FS employees, that doesn't require a retardant contracted tank farm. The La Grande Airtanker Base sits in a unique, strategic position with proximity to 3 GACC boundaries, providing support across multiple regions.

239,685 gallons pumped for the 2025 Season

AA-2DZ N12DZ

Flight Time by Ownership



This was the first year BMIDC hosted AA-2DZ, an ODF Air Attack. Dustin Gustavaeson was the primary ATGS. Matt Hoehna filled in as relief throughout the summer, and Jana Peterson got signed off as a qualified ATGS. AA2DZ started as an Exclusive Use on July 1st. The aircraft had a total of 46 missions for 157.6 hour of flight time. AA-2DZ had 19.2 hours spent of specifically to recons.

ODF Recon

N65N

Cessna 206/207 Turbine

Fixed-wing Recon 65N flew a total of 187.25 hours, only 6 hours less than the 2024 season. 65N had 42 missions on BMIDC's footprint and assisted John Day Dispatch with a hand full of recons as well.

Baker SEAT Base

T-842 / T-852

This is the second year the ODF SEATs have been stationed in Baker at the SEAT Base. Baker SEAT Base flew 68,735 gallons of mixed retardant in 2025. T-842 flew a total of 79.1 hours. T-852 flew a total of 74.99 hours. The Baker SEAT Base flew 98 loads of retardant from Baker, with support of the BLM SEATs as well.

68,735 gallons pumped for the 2025 Season

Aviation—Rotor Wing



N90HX (Bell 412EPX)

started its contract at the end of May at the National Rappel Academy before returning to base in early June in La Grande. After supporting the Payette NF with initial attack the aircraft moved to the Fremont-Winema for lightning fires before returning to La Grande where the aircraft would remain until mid-August. During that time the crew responded to IAs throughout the home unit and region including fires on the Malheur, Ochoco, Colville, Okanogan-Wenatchee NFs and multiple incidents for the Vale BLM. In August the aircraft was moved to R4 in Utah staffing fires on the Wasatch and Caribou-Targhee NFs. In late August the aircraft was moved to R5 where we would staff fires on the Shasta-Trinity and Rogue-Siskiyou NFs. The aircraft remained in R5 and had its contract extended an additional month before going off contract in mid-October.



Stats	205TK	90HX
Total Flight Time	222.40	219.30
IA responses	45	46
Extended Attack Responses	12	11
Operational Rappels	48	43
Rappel Fires	15	13
Helitack Fires	4	12
Internal/ External pounds delivered	20,100	19,940
Gallons of water	102,650	74,556

N205TK (Bell 205A1++)

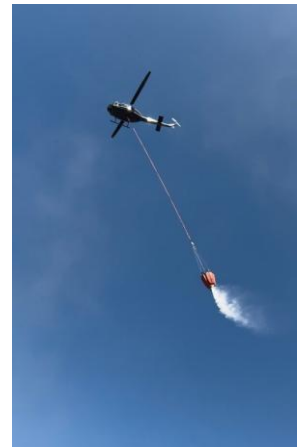
started its contract on 5/15 in La Grande. After completing training, it then prepositioned to Lee Vining, CA for IA and support of the Inn Fire. While assigned for IA in Eastern CA the crew responded to multiple fires on the Inyo NF, San Bernadino District CDF, and Kern Valley Fire. On 6/14 the aircraft was repositioned to assist with the Trout Fire on the Gila NF outside of Silver City, NM. There the aircraft was utilized for Bucket work and IA standby. On 6/28 the aircraft was moved briefly to support the Panhandle National Forest and the Idaho Department of Lands and BLM before being relocated to the Rogue-Siskiyou NF on 7/2. Back in region the Aircraft supported the Rogue Siskiyou NF, the Willamette NF, Umpqua NF, Crater Lake NP, and the Fremont Winema NF by staffing IA fires with rappellers and Helitack, providing bucket support, delivering external cargo, approving helispots, and facilitating repeater missions. On 8/5/25 the aircraft and crew returned to the Tri Forest area for local IA. The crew and aircraft were utilized for IA and delivered a load of rappellers to the Gifford Pinchot NF, as well as assisted the Vale District BLM.

Type 1 Helicopter

720HT an Air-Crane operated by Helicopter Transport Services started the first year of the La Grande contract in early May. With no early season fires in R6 the ship was moved to Arizona shortly after the aircraft became available. Mostly based out of Mesa, AZ the aircraft worked many fires throughout the Region. In mid-July the aircraft moved north to Colorado. The next month was the busiest for the aircraft and crew flying over 100 hours in the next 30 days basing out of Grand Junction and Delta, CO. After a short stint supporting fires in Wyoming on the Bridger-Teton NF and neighboring BLM districts the aircraft moved to the Los Padres NF in R5. The aircraft would remain in South Ops for two months until the end of the contract period in early November.

ODF Helicopter 703NP

Helicopter 3NP started on a CWN contract on July 1st and went through the 13th before starting its season with Oregon Department of Forestry on July 14th. The Helicopter supported both State and Federal incidents, delivering 287,625 gallons of water and a total of 75 flight hours and 25 incidents. The Helicopter ended its contract on September 26th.





Washington Department of Natural Resources
Southeast Region - Washington DNR Snake River Unit

2025 Largest Fires by Acreage

Stat Fire	Total Acres
Vansycle Canyon	1899.8
Evans Rd	566.1
Willow Creek	497.5
Harting Grade	336

2025 Fires	Number of Fires	Acres Burned
Lightning	3	1
Human	16	3,446.8
Totals	19	3,447.8

Umatilla Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs

2025 Largest Fires by Acreage

Stat Fire	Total Acres
Duff	248.3
Tiger	89.6
Spring Creek	11.4



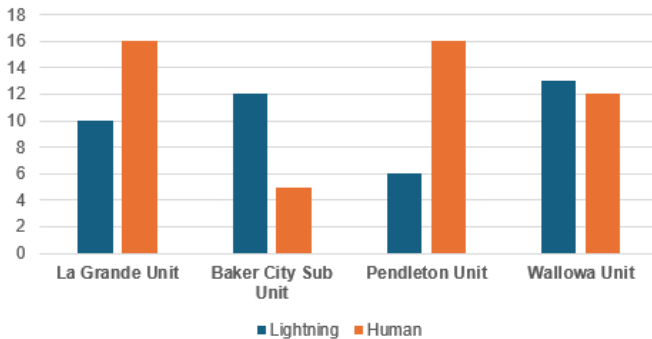
2025 Fires	Number of Fires	Acres Burned
Lightning	2	2.4
Human	17	362
Totals	19	364.4

Oregon Department of Forestry

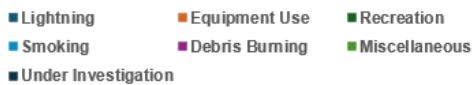
Northeast Oregon District



Fires by Cause



FIRES BY GENERAL CAUSE



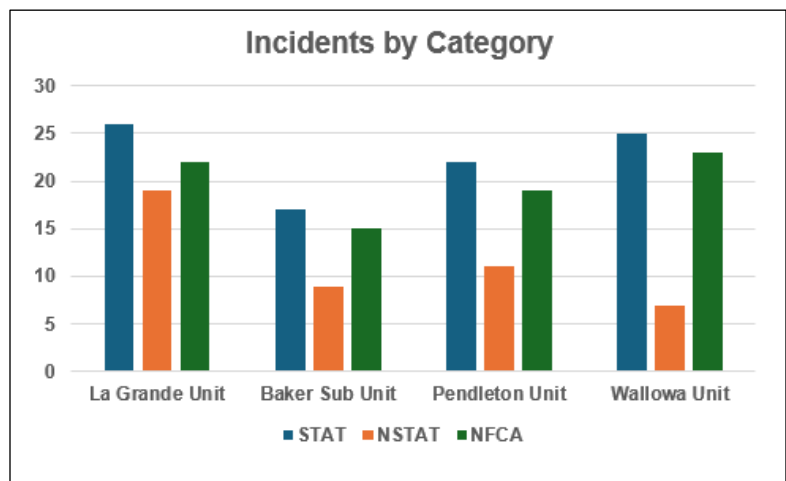
NEO 10 Year Average

Year	# of Fires	Acreage
2025	90	709
2024	95	67,635
2023	59	513
2022	56	11,190
2021	68	18,170
2020	76	337
2019	75	486
2018	78	1,466
2017	59	636
2016	44	874
Average	70	10,201

2025 was above average in number of fires but far below number of acres burned.

- Helicopter 3NP delivered 287,625 gallons of water on ODF and Federal incidents flying for 75 hours total for the 2025 season.
- Fixed-wing Recon 65N flew a total of 187.25 hours, only 6 hours less than the 2024 season
- Baker SEAT Base flew 68,735 gallons of mixed retardant in 2025. T-842 flew a total of 79.1 hours. T-852 flew a total of 74.99 hours. The SEAT Base flew 98 loads of retardant from Baker, with support to some of the BLM SEATs as well.
- AA-2DZ flew 46 missions for a total of 157.6 hours of flight time.
- Detection had a total of 39 detections in 2025. 16 initial, 11 secondary, 12 others. Carney Butte and Weston had 4 detections each, Elk Mt. and Tip Top both had 3 detections.

Incidents by Category



Large Fires by ODF Acreage Burned

Fire	Ignition Date	State Acreage	Unit	Cause
Lake Creek	7/31	476	Pendleton	L
Duff	8/11	141	Pendleton	H
Soaphill	7/18	24	Pendleton	H
East Rock Creek	7/28	15	Baker	L
South Fork	7/4	10	Pendleton	H
Airport Lane	8/20	10	La Grande	H
Robbs Hill	11/1	8	La Grande	H



Umatilla National Forest

Unit	Fires	Acres
Pomeroy	13	2.1
North Fork John Day	19	7.4
Heppner	4	54.8
Walla Walla	7	1
Total	43	65.3

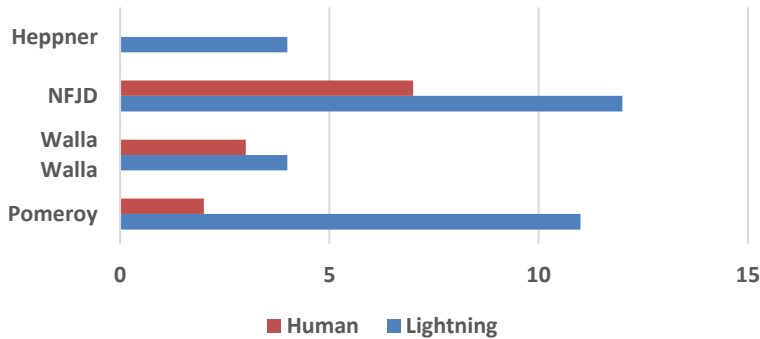
Type 2 Crews

The Umatilla Type 2 IA Crew assembled 4 times: Bear Gulch (WA), Colter (ID), Bridge (OR), Lower Sugarloaf (WA)

The Umatilla Vet Crew completed 4 14-day assignments.

Fuels Program	
Acres Treated	3,940
Number of Units Burned	96

Fires by Cause



Large Incidents

Rocky Flat	9/8	54.5
Granite	10/24	2.5
Bear Wallow	6/24	1.5
Smooth Ridge	6/17	1

Year	Number of Lightning Starts	Lightning Acres	Number of Human Starts	Human Acres	Total Number of Starts	Total Number of Acres
2016	12	205	10	48	22	253
2017	49	134	16	185	65	319
2018	29	1,056	13	414	42	1,470
2019	68	6,190	17	164	85	6,354
2020	79	1,039	7	39	75	1,078
2021	47	98,202	11	58	58	104,401
2022	45	766	10	1	55	767
2023	23	65	12	2	35	67
2024	59	10,395	12	17,884	78	28,279
2025	31	58	12	7	43	65
10 yr. avg.	44	11,811	12	1,877	56	14,305



Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

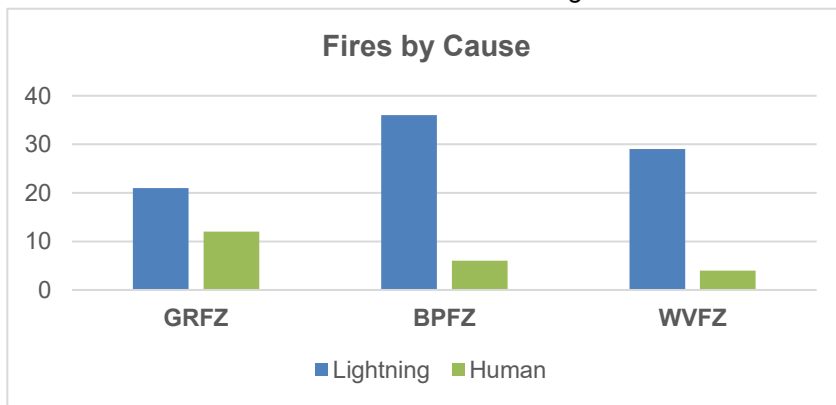
Type 2 Crews

Unit	Fires	Acres
BPFZ	40	5.6
GRFZ	33	57.5
WFZ	33	159.7
Total	106	222.8

The Wallowa-Whitman Type 2 IA Crew was assembled 5 Times: Pomas (WA), WIF PrePo (OR), Elk RX (CO)/ Red Canyon (WY), Moon Complex (OR), Labor Mt (WA)

The Eagle Cap Fire Module completed 5 14-day assignments

Fuels Program	
Acres Treated	10,343
Number of Units Burned	200



Large Incidents

Kirby Creek	7/9	143
Marley	9/2	46
Bobcat Ridge	8/4	6
Pickle	8/30	4.4
Hunter Springs	8/10	3

Year	Number of Lightning Starts	Lightning Acres	Number of Human Starts	Human Acres	Total Number of Starts	Total Number of Acres
2016	33	30	29	28,584	62	28,614
2017	91	4,317	20	182	111	4,498
2018	26	17	13	5	39	22
2019	67	5,706	26	27	93	5,733
2020	60	21	23	12	83	33
2021	44	1,780	25	83	69	1,863
2022	60	197,933	11	1,868	71	199,802
2023	20	481	29	13	49	494
2024	97	10,934	32	107	129	11,041
2025	84	219	22	4	106	223
10 yr. avg.	58	22,144	23	3,089	81	25,232

UNION HOTSHOTS



Union IHC started their season on April 21st with mandatory training. The first assignment was to an RX in Mcall, ID. After four days on that fire, they were re-assigned to Utah where they finished their tour. Next, they were dispatched to the Pomas Fire in Northern WA where they spent 14 days spiked out in the wilderness. Next the crew went to the Burdoin Fire in White Salmon, WA. After a long R&R due to an injury, the crew then headed to Colorado for their next assignment. After Colorado the crew was on local IC4 fires in the Wallowa-Whitman for 4 days before being ordered to North-Eastern WA on the Tacoma Creek fire. After another extended R&R the crew went to the Rogue where we spent 14 long days at the Moon complex going direct and indirect until the rain came. The crew then helped the forest for 6 days locally doing RX burning in Baker.

Total days crew was assembled	182
Start Date	4/21
End Date	10/18
Total number of days assigned to incidents	99
How many days were in official travel status	12
How many 14-day assignments	6
Number of days on project work	4
Total number of days off	38
Days off in pay status	18
Number of days in training	14

LA GRANDE HOTSHOTS



La Grande IHC started the 2025 season April 6th with 8 days of training. They stated our doing 11 days of RX work on forest. The crew started out their season with a grass fire in Central Oregon for a few days before getting an order to Alberta Canada for their first full 2-week assignment. This year was one of the more widely traveled seasons across the country in a long time, going to California in July and Montana in August. The rest of the season in between was spent on smaller IAs on forest as well as about a dozen IAs in Central Oregon. They ended their season on the Bridge fire and Moon Complex on the Malheur NF. The crew ended their season on 10/4 with 168 days assembled.

Total days crew was assembled	168
Start Date	4/6
End Date	10/4
Total number of days assigned to incidents	98
How many days were in official travel status	14
How many 14-day assignments	5
Number of days on project work	6
Total number of days off	29
Days off in pay status	15
Number of days in training	8



Eagle Cap Wildland Fire Module



The Wildland Fire Module started out the season supporting R8 RX. We sent 2 modules in March through April to Tennessee. Critical Training was completed May 23. The modules first wildland fire assignment was to Alaska in June for 21-days, Lake Mansfield and St George Fires. Pomas fire in WA in July. Two weeks of I.A. and then to Stoner Mesa Fire in CO to finish off August and start September. Final assignment the module filled the overhead and leadership roles on the WWF T2IA crew to Moon Complex on the Rogue Siskiyou NF. The module went on 5 large fire assignments and responded to 7 local incidents.

Total days crew was assembled	196
Start Date	5/19
End Date	11/29
Total number of days assigned to incidents	99
How many days were in official travel status	14
How many 14-day assignments	5
Number of days on project work	57
Total number of days off	40
Days off in pay status	10
Days off in non- pay status	30
Number of days in training	10



UMATILLA VETERAN CREW



The Umatilla Veteran Crew started the season on May 5th, 2025. The crew spent May helping with broadcast burning within the BMIFC footprint. After a couple of small local fires, the crew went on the first 14-day assignment to Central Oregon for the Longpoint, Highland, and Cram fires. The second assignment started in August as a preposition assignment that saw a handful of less than 10-acre fires. The second half of this assignment sent the crew to staff a remote wilderness fire. Then assisted in Idaho on the Boise N.F. staffing two more fires within two weeks. The crew then finished being nationally available after a 14-day assignment on the Rogue River-Siskiyou NF assisting with the Moon Complex.

Total days crew was assembled	194
Start Date	5/5
End Date	11/14
Total number of days assigned to incidents	92
How many days were in official travel status	8
How many 14-day assignments	4
Number of days on project	20
Total number of days off	39
Days off in pay status	8
Days off in non- pay status	31
Number of days in training	32