



Wayne Firefighter goes to the Modoc National Forest

Wayne National Forest firefighter Jennifer Brown participated on a fire assignment at the Modoc National Forest-Lava Beds National Monument. During her detail she experienced several different fire jobs while stationed at the monument in Tulelake, California.



Jennifer Brown in her lookout station.

Jennifer Brown is a STEP student who has worked on the Wayne National Forest the past few summers. This year she was able to participate in a fire assignment on the Modoc National Forest-Lava Beds National Monument. Brown was assigned to the type 3 Interagency Engine 64 which was stationed at the monument in Tulelake, California.

Brown considers herself fortunate to have been allowed to go on the detail. District Ranger Gloria Chrismer notes that when their local firefighters are detailed on assignments it benefits everyone, "We consider our district and Forest fortunate that she was able to go and get this valuable experience."

Brown was exposed to a variety of experiences. She served as lookout ranger in the CCC built Schonchin Butte Lookout. She also went on two off-forest assignments. The first assignment was with Engine 64. This assignment was to the 8,423 acre Ralston Fire on the Tahoe National Forest. Here she worked on the same division as another Wayne firefighter Zac Allen. He was also on an off forest assignment with the Ukonom Hand Crew. She was later reassigned to the 100,164 acre Bar Complex. The second assignment was to 162,702 acre Day Fire which was on the Los Padres National Forest. She filled in on Big Valley Engine 44 the same engine in which Wayne firefighter Jason Simms was assigned to. Here her engine served on a strike team with BLM and other Forest Service engines. They were called to do structure protection, hose lays, and mop up.

The Battalion Chief Scott Orr said both Jennifer and Jason "did the Wayne NF proud." He also stated: "They adapted, learned, produced, and fit right in. They were a pleasure to work with and to know." Orr also stated that he also had heard about other Wayne detailers and that everything he heard was good, "Your folks are exactly what we want as firefighters and Forest Service employees."

Jennifer considers herself fortunate to have the opportunity to participate on this assignment and hopes that it will give her the experience needed to receive a permanent job with the Forest Service in the near future.

Story written by Jennifer Brown

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