

# National Fire Plan

## Cleveland National Forest, 2002

### Pacific Southwest Region



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## Palomar Handcrew

On May 19, 2002, as part of implementing its National Fire Plan “Most Efficient Level” Firefighting Organization, the Cleveland N.F. proudly staffed a new Handcrew on the Palomar Ranger District. When the crew gains the necessary training and experience, they will become a Type I Handcrew.

After completing their required safety training this year, the crew became a valuable addition to the Forest Service’s firefighting force; by the end of Fiscal Year 2002, they had worked a total of 67 days on 17 fire assignments. On the “Rodeo-Chedeski” fire in Region 3, the crew completed a burnout operation along Highway 260 that helped protect the town of Show-Low, Arizona. On the 150,000 acre “McNally” fire in the Sequoia National Forest, the crew burned-out over 13 miles of handline, roads, and dozer-line.

At home on the Cleveland N.F., on the “Bobcat” fire the crew teamed with a CDF dozer and air support to stop the fire’s spread as it burned out of the Forest towards the community of Lake Morena. In between fire assignments, the crew helped complete the “Palomar Fuelbreak” and “Rocky” Hazardous Fuels Reduction projects.

When the CNF’s Fire Season ends and the crew’s temporary firefighters are laid-off, they will be replaced by Apprentices and 13-13s, and the crew will continue working as a Fuels crew, to assist the CNF in accomplishing its Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program.



The crew on a training exercise.  
(Photo by Jacob Gipson)