

Dromedary Peak Handcrew

2020 Season Report



Dromedary Peak 2020

The 2020 field season was a successful season for The Dromedary Peak Handcrew. Despite the challenges brought by Covid-19, it was a very safe season with minimal near-miss or injuries. We pushed record breaking fire experience for the Dromedary short season with 3 full rolls and 43 total days on fire. We fought fire in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, and lastly, Utah. Dromedary held true to its standard of training new firefighters and supporting the center as a whole.

The Dromedary Peak Handcrew officially began the 2020 season on May 12th, with a modified 40 hour critical training. Most of this time was spent in the classroom preparing the crew for what they would see in the field. We participated in the RT-130 and RT-212 refresher courses. With the help from the overhead staff at LPCC, we held S-212 course for new firefighters. Dromedary also reviewed crew SOGs. Hands-on training at the center also consisted of chipper operations, helicopter flight preparation, medical scenarios/incident within an incident, crew transportation, a pt test, and other physical fitness training.

Typically, in the past, Dromedary traveled to Johnson's Pass to perform more field related skills and training as part of its critical training. In its place Dromedary gained experience closer to the LPCC. Coordinating with the Utah State Prison, Dromedary cut and chipped trees and brush that obscured the vision of the guard station in front of the prison. This provided opportunity for felling training and FAL3 certification for all new Dromedary crewmembers. On May 18th, the final step of critical training began with the annual base review by LPCC overhead. During this time, the crew's administrative, logistical, and staff readiness were evaluated through scenarios, interviews, and discussion. The crew was made available for national assignment on the morning of May 18th through the Northern Utah Interagency Fire Center.

Dromedary continued to work on the area in front of the prison, later to be referred to as "the green monster", for two more weeks. On June 2nd, the crew began its first project assignment near Kamas, UT. The Upper Provo Phase 3 project consisted of eliminating juniper trees from the area, providing space for the ponderosa species to thrive. This project gave more practice to sawyers and helped with crew cohesion. Dromedary was assigned the following week to work a project near Scofield Reservoir. After roughly 2 hours on site, the crew received its first fire call as a preposition in Arizona.

Dromedary traveled to Arizona, following Covid guidelines to do so safely. R3 Regional Support was short lived. Dromedary tied in with the FMO at Camp Verde and was quickly assigned to the Deep Creek Fire on the San Carlos Reservation. Dromedary was reassigned to the Dry Lake Fire. It was a smaller incident outside of, but still managed by, the Deep Creek

Incident Team. The crew spent 6 days spiked out securing/mopping up the line and removing hazard trees at roughly 6500 feet elevation. Following the Dry Lake Fire, Region 3 still wanted the crew for support. Dromedary spent 4 days prepositioned in Globe. On the afternoon of the 2nd day, June 18th, Dromedary was requested for assistance by the Bush Fire. The Bush Fire was conducting a large burn out on the highway. Dromedary assisted by scouting, holding the line for the burn, and gridding the green until 2200 hours.

The morning of the 4th day prepositioned in Globe, June 20th, Dromedary was called to an IA assignment on the Central Fire, north of Phoenix. The crew battled extreme heat throughout the duration. Hydration was vital to our success. In addition to suppressing the fire, the crew also located important archeological sites. As the Central Fire was winding down, Dromedary assisted with another local IA, constructing line and protecting homes in a suburb of northern Phoenix. The crew finished its 14 day assignment in Arizona and returned home June 26th.

With a brief lull in the fire season, Dromedary worked on the Canyon Communities Project near Ephraim, UT. Working on private land, overhead coordinated with Richfield area managers and the land owner. In 2 days of work the crew completed an impressive fuel break through thick oak and regen. While on the project, the crew experienced its first (and last) chapping incident. Dromedary shut down saw operation and held a great After Action Review to go over the incident. It was a powerful learning experience for everyone. As a means of mitigating any further injury, only primary sawyers cut through the remainder of the project.

July 2nd, Dromedary was called to the Howe Peak Fire in Idaho, west of Idaho Falls. It was in BLM country outside of Atomic City. The fire was primarily wind driven. The crew put in direct line; cold trailed, and mopped up the fire. The fire also consisted of a series long fingers running uphill 1000 feet plus, stretching across miles of sage and juniper. Dromedary worked well with adjoining resources to cover the ground and meet objectives.

July 14th, the crew was called to Nevada on the Big Summit Fire, north of Caliente. Again, it was high elevation. It was primarily a timber and brush component. The crew spent 9 days spiked out. We secured miles of line, spiking peak to peak, pushing north along the western flank. Spiking out facilitated a lot of coordination with helicopters to sling our personal gear along as we progressed. After the Big Summit assignment, Dromedary was again requested to remain in the area for support. The crew staged in Ely, NV for 3 days. July 25th, the crew was assigned to initial attack on the Rock Fire, northeast of Ely. A smaller, 200 acre fire, the crew wrapped quickly with additional resources. This fire provided training for a crewmember to run the fire as ICT5. Dromedary returned to LPCC July 28th and completed its second 14-day fire assignment.

On the afternoon of August 1st, Dromedary was assigned to the Upper Provo fire up Mirror Lake Highway above Kamas, UT. This was the first fire where the timber was the primary carrier of fire. The crew put in direct line and cut down hazard trees. Dromedary also utilized hose lays to suppress the fire. We set up pump operators and coordinated with helicopters in suppression efforts. Dromedary also provided lookout for the division. Dromedary coordinated with other resources to tie the fire into a cliff band. Dromedary was one of the last crews to remain on the fire due to our diligence on the assignment.

Arriving home from the Upper Provo assignment, the crew completed its shutdown August 18th. As is tradition, Dromedary supported other resources at the center. Dromedary is committed to provide details to support our crew mission of providing well trained young fire fighters to sister programs.

Dromedary staff supported:

- Lone Peak IHC with 5 firefighter (Stilson, Rogge, Evans, Wilkins, Felts).
- Alta IHC with 1 firefighter (Andregg).
- Twin Peaks IA with 5 firefighters (Bledsoe, Quintana, Bryan, Sayre, Anderson).
- Engine 1668 with 1 firefighter (Ibrahim).

Overhead staff (Bogdanoff, White) went available as helicopter crewmembers, supporting fires in California and the western US. Other crewmembers found opportunity to work at other resources (Peterson-OR, Jimenez-CA) or returned to school.

Training is a big part of our program throughout the entire season. Some of the PTBs we were able to complete over the 2020 season include:

- 1 FFT1, 2 ICT5, 1 FAL2, and 10 FAL3.

Thank you to all who helped by contributing to Dromedary Peak's success!

2020 LPCC CREW SEASON DATA

Crew Name: Dromedary Peak Handcrew

QUESTIONS		RESPONSE
AVAILABILITY		
1	Total days crew was assembled?	99
1a	Start Date	May 12 th
1b	End Date	Aug 18 th
2	Total number of days assigned to incidents? (Includes travel)	46
2a	How many days were in official travel status?	6
2b	How many 14 day assignments were completed during total number of days assigned?	3
2bb	How many assignment extensions?	0
2c	Number of days on project work while assigned? (list specific type: e.g.. Trails, fuels etc.)	0
2d	Number of days on project work while not assigned?	14
3	Total number of days off?	29
3a	Days off in pay status?	4
3b	Days off in non- pay status?	25
3c	Number of days in station or otherwise and not accounted for above?	0
TRAINING		
4	Number of days in training?	99
5	Number of days of non fire mandatory training?	4
6	Number of instructor hours dedicated to non-crew training courses?	0
6a	Number of task books initiated?	6
6b	Number of task books completed?	3
TRANSPORTATION		
7	Total miles driven? (Total of all vehicles)	24,468
8	How many vehicles do you have?	6
9	Number of vehicle accidents? (Vehicle down for repair due to accident)	0
9a	Number of injury vehicle accidents?	0
9b	Vehicle accidents above where fault was Government Driver?	0
10	Number of days vehicle down for failure or repairs? (Non-accident, total all vehicles)	1
11	How many times did your crew fly? (Count each leg as a flight)	0
11a	Commercial	0
11b	Charter	0
PERSONNEL		
12	Total number of funded personnel on crew?	20
13	On average how many personnel did you have on incidents?	20
13a	Number of day's crew leadership fulfilled incident leadership positions?	8
14	Total number of career appointments? (excluding apprentices)	5
15	Number of UFRA interns on crew?	0
16	Number of career positions that were vacant?	0
17	Number of career employee's on the crews that are eligible for retirement in the next 5 years?	0
ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES		
18	Number of non-injury incidents? (bee stings, poison oak, etc)	1
19	Number of injury accidents?	2
20	Number of injury accidents that required medical attention? (no lost time)	1

