

EASTERN AREA PRIORITY TRAINEE PROGRAM SUMMARY 2008

- The 2008 Priority Trainee list was comprised of 136 individuals representing individual agency needs for 44 separate resource positions.
- 99 trainees went out on an assignment during the year. A number of them went out more than once.
- Of those that took an assignment, 16 of them only went out in an assignment other than their PT listed position. (It was noted that several of these were available in their PT position for some time, and then went out in another position when not requested in their PT role)
- 5 individuals were removed from the list by management, owing to changing priorities at home
- 35 Position Task Books were reported as being completed.

Miscellaneous Trainee Issues

- At peak demand for resources in August 2008, over 50% of the total PT list was deployed to incidents. Of those remaining, it was common for only 5-6 individuals to be available, and of those only 1-2 to be available “nationally”. A survey of those listed in on the various IMT’s in EA for which rosters have been offered showed over 200 trainees being carried by the teams. A “secondary” trainee listing was created from this list of names, and used at EACC after contact with the approved PT list was exhausted. In several instances, the individuals were available, and matches were made for assignments. It was interesting to note that of the 205 names on the IMT Trainee list, only 15 were also on the regular PT list, which was “marketed” at all dispatch centers in EA, and routed to California and Northern Rockies GACC’s.
- When first created in February 2008, the list included over a dozen names of individuals who were not listed in ROSS in the PT position for which they were nominated to the list. Delays in resolving posting issues, prevented some of these individuals from being accessible for dispatch until well into the summer fire season.
- The 136 names on the original list represented 6% of the total number of trainees showing in ROSS within EA. (136 of a total of 2400)
- EATWT and EAOPSWT identified 8 positions in Logistics and Finance as critical shortages for our IMT’s. Per the table below, ROSS data shows a total of 42 trainees in these positions, but only 3 names were offered for the PT list. Where ever possible in establishing future PT targets, we encourage consideration of plans to fully qualify individuals in these shortage positions.

IDENTIFIED POSITION SHORTAGES ON EA TYPE 2 TEAMS			
Shortage Positions	EA Trainee Total in ROSS	2008 “Priority Trainees”	PT Task Books Completed
LSC1	1		
LSC2	3	Dodge-NH	
FACL	5		
GSUL	7	Baldwin-USFS	1
SPUL	4		
FSC1	1		
FSC2	2		
COST	10	Rohrbach-PA	
PROC	1		
TIME	8		

- Of the 20 top UTF positions showing as of August 15, 2008 ROSS records for EA show 629 individuals carrying “trainee” qualifications for these shortage positions. The 2008 PT list contained 43 individuals seeking qualification in these critical positions. Where possible to do so, more names in these key areas would serve critical needs in the national workforce.
- **DISCLAIMER** – Given that EA has approximately 10,700 individuals listed in ROSS, carrying a total of over 48,000 qualifications, or an average of 4.5 quals per person - - an order filled with an available resource may commonly take several other positions with them, that come to be UTF’d. Advice offered in this report only encourages consideration of what may be possible to do, to improve our ability to serve needs at the local level, -- as well as those within the Geo Area and nationally. It’s understood that is a local decision.

TOP 20 NATIONAL “UNABLE-TO-FILL REQUEST” POSITIONS - 2008				
Position	UTF Requests (national)	EA Trainee Total in ROSS	2008 Priority Trainees	PT Task Books Completed
DIVS	501	33	10; from MI, MN, WI, MO, and USFS	2 PTBS done, 3 names removed by mgmt.
DOZB	276	47	5 from USFS and MI	none
FOBS	251	40	2; from MI and MD	none
STEN	185	59	4; from IN and MI	1 PTB done
FELB	166	14	0	
SOF2	153	18	0	
TFLD	140	62	15; from USFS, WI, PA, MI, CT, FWS, MN, ME	5 PTBs done, 1 name removed by mgmt
STCR	132	54	0	
SEC2	125	26	0	
BCMG	106	33	0	
OPBD	105	0	0	
SOFR	96	23	1	
SEC1	95	19	0	
HMGB	90	0	0	
RADO	90	70	0	
SMKJ	83	0	0	
ORDM	66	17	1; from USFS	1 PTB done
EQPM	62	87	4; from MN, ME, PA	2 PTBs done
SITL	54	10	2	
STAM	54	17	0	