

Southwest Fire Use Training Academy 2002 Annual Report



Southwest Wildland Fire Use Training Academy Annual Report



Spring 2002
and
Fall 2002 Sessions

Fire Use Training Academy
2203 Columbia SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Phone: (505) 842-3312
Fax: (505) 842-3230
Web site: www.nationalfiretraining.net/sw/futa/



SOUTHWEST FIRE USE TRAINING ACADEMY



"Training for the Future"

Vision Statement

To maintain an interagency center of excellence for leadership in wildland fire use and prescribed fire, emphasizing training based on the National Wildfire Coordination Group's **Wildland Training and Prescribed Fire Qualifications System (PMS 310-1), January 2000** and experience based on an immediate connection with the classroom.

FUTA exposes trainees to the full spectrum of interagency programs and fuel types across the Southwest, honing their skills and experience in a focused, accelerated course to prepare them for leadership in future fuels programs.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Southwest Fire Use Training Academy (SW-FUTA) is to develop leadership skills for future fuels managers and provide the opportunities to gain valuable experience and training in prescribed fire and wildland fire.



Introduction

The Southwest Fire Use Training Academy (FUTA) is recognized as a center of excellence uniquely blending formal training and valuable field experience to develop wise fire-use practitioners.

FUTA is funded and supported nationally and regionally by the Department of the Interior—Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service (FS).

The academy uses existing facilities throughout the Southwest and other parts of the country to expose trainees to a variety of fuels management programs. About half of the students' 8-week session is spent completing formal National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) courses. The remainder of the students' time is spent in the field reinforcing and developing skills on various prescribed fire activities, including burning, writing burn plans, wildland fire use support, and exposure to wildland-urban interface fuels treatments throughout the West. In the field, students have opportunities to perform various tasks as they work on completing initiated task books.

The academy is located at 2203 Columbia Drive. FUTA is hosted by the Forest Service's Southwestern Region Aviation and Fire Management staff. The interagency facility houses employees from BIA's Washington Office and the FS's Regional Aviation and Fire Management staff and serves as an interagency training and meeting facility throughout the year.

The academy successfully graduated its eighth and ninth classes in 2002. Following, by session and cumulatively, is a summary of events that occurred during the year.



The FUTA office at 2203 Columbia, SE, in Albuquerque.

Milestones - 2002

In Fiscal Year 2003, the academy is expected to receive national funding from the Forest Service. The program continues to receive support at the national level from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management. Regionally, the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service contribute support.

Futa and the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center

The Southwest Fire Use Training Academy and the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center (PFTC) in Tallahassee, Florida, are the nation's two national training centers for prescribed fire. The two centers work closely together to complement each other's program by sharing resources, information, and experience and continue looking for opportunities to combine efforts.

In the fall of 2002, FUTA partnered with PFTC to host a Burn Boss II Trainee special session. An interagency announcement was networked in fall 2002, recruiting 10 Burn Boss II trainees. This special session provided training assignments for 10 individuals seeking to successfully complete all required course work and individual tasks remaining in their Burn Boss II task books.

FUTA and PFTC participate on each program's steering committee and are working toward a single National Prescribed Fire Training Steering Committee. Both programs are working together to develop a "Fuels Management for Line Officers" curriculum, highlighted by the first session in Florida in November 2002 and two classroom sessions planned for May 2003 in Colorado.

FUTA Staff

FUTA has completed establishment at the Southwestern Regional level with the building and personnel supported from the Forest Service Regional Office, and now participates in training coordination throughout the year. Courses needed for the Fire Use Training Academy sessions were conducted during 20 weeks of the year, servicing students from throughout the country. Wildland fire suppression courses coordinated accounted for an additional 20 weeks of trainings throughout 2002. The program



Jerome Macdonald, FUTA Program Manager



Emily Irwin, Lead Coordinator



Bequi Livingston, Lead Field Coordinator



Charley Luevano, Training Specialist

manager since 1998—Jerome Macdonald—is also the Southwest Area geographic training representative.

During 2002, several academy staff positions were filled. Emily Irwin, Forest Service, accepted the lead coordinator position. Emily started in July and completed her transition with completion of the fall session. Her focus is curriculum development and scheduling.

The lead field coordinator is Bequi Livingston, Forest Service, who started in 2001. Bequi's focus has been coordination of the field portion of FUTA training. She continues to provide leadership and coordination for prevention, fire information, and regional safety and health programs. Bequi is a Southwestern Regional Office employee also.

Charley Luevano, recently (December 2002) accepted the training specialist position at the Fire Use Training Academy and is a welcome addition to the staff and support from BLM's national office. Charley will be busy with logistical support for the sessions, overseeing remodeling efforts in 2003, and supporting New Mexico training coordination for suppression courses.

Kim Osborn, Fish and Wildlife Service training specialist, has worked part time at the academy during past sessions. As a new, full-time FWS employee, she serves as FUTA training specialist when the academy is in session and works as a dispatcher in the Southwest Coordination Center during fire season.

Glenda Womack coordinated FUTA courses and logistics for the past several sessions and all NWCG training courses sponsored by the Southwest Area that are outside the academy curriculum. She just began a new position as intelligence specialist for the Southwest Coordination Center.

Use of the FUTA Web site increases each year. The Web site (www.nationalfiretraining.net/sw/futa/) describes the academy's program and session information, the application process for academy training and agencies' fuels projects, the FUTA Steering Committee, and prescribed fire safety. The site includes links to Southwest Area and national training as well as the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Center. Jerome Macdonald is the site's webmaster. Mary Zabinski serves as part-time



Kim Osborn, Training Specialist



Glenda Womack, Training Specialist



Mary Zabinski, Public Affairs Support



Charley Luevano in BLM crew buggy.

webmaster and offers public affairs support to the academy.

FUTA relocated to 2203 Columbia SE just north of the Albuquerque airport and has completed phase one remodeling of the training facility.

The academy received several additions to their fleet, including a 10-person crew buggy and sport utility vehicle from the BLM.



Lead Field Coordinator Bequi Livingston speaks to FUTA participants at the fall 2002 orientation session.

Spring 2002

During the spring 2002 session, students worked with multiple land management agencies, including the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service (NPS). Students worked on a variety of fuels management projects, including prescribed burning, burn plan writing, and fuels inventories. Students successfully participated in treating 21,571 acres with prescribed fire (Table 1).



Graduates of the spring 2002 session.



A prescribed fire on Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge in southern Arizona used by the students as part of their training.

Two additional NWCG courses were coordinated and offered outside the 8-week academy: *RX-310, Introduction to Fire Effects* and *S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations* (Table 3). These two courses complement the spring curriculum, and S-390 is an academy prerequisite.

During the spring 2002 session, several short courses were offered (Table 4). Short courses reinforce, expand, and complement students' fuels management background and leadership skills.

Table 2 is a summary of training accomplishments during the spring 2002 session. Successful completion of all NWCG courses is required for academy graduation. Four NWCG courses were offered during the spring session. A total of 123 trainees successfully completed these courses, resulting in 4,216 person hours of training.



Prescribed burning in Texas.

Table 1. Southwest Fire Use Training Academy Spring 2002 Session Project Participation

Project Name	Location	Agency	Date	Acres	Fire Behavior Fuel Model	Persons Assigned	Person Hours	Complexity
Big Eddy	Ozark NF, Boston Mountain RD	FS	3/23	2,463	9	9	99	High
Big Sands/ Lance Rosier	Big Thicket National Preserve	NPS	4/1-2	Burn Plans only	5, 10	8	124	Low
Blue Creek RX	Zion National Park	NPS	4/6-7, 4/12	484	2, 6, 10	13	600	Medium
Bordo, Wagon Canyon, Cibola Draw	Socorro Field Office	BLM	2/20-22	202	3	5	174	Low
Brogden/Lick Hollows RX	Ozark-St. Francis NFs, Bayou RD	FS	3/13-23	4,380	9	9	1,035	Medium
Buenos Aires	Buenos Aires NWR	FWS	3/18-29	90	1, 3	9	122	Medium
Buenos Aires	Buenos Aires NWR	FWS	4/1-12	90	1, 3	10	1,695	Medium
Coal Creek 1, 2	Albuquerque Field Office	BLM	3/5, 3/11	600	3, 5, 6	8	94	Low
Cross Bar	Amarillo Field Office	BLM	3/26-27, 4/4-5	11,500	1, 5, 6	8	66	Medium
Elk/Lee RX	Kaibab NF, Williams RD	FS	3/5-6	300	11	6	129	Medium
Gila Photo Plots	Gila NF, Wilderness RD	FS	3/18-22	250	2, 5	3	186	Medium
Hidden Valley	Klamath Falls RA	BLM	4/12-14	120	10	10	315	Low
Kingston Firebreak	Gila NF, Black Range RD	FS	3/19, 3/21	10	5, 6	5	34	Low
Mahogany Bench	Dixie NF, Pine Valley RD	FS	3/12-15	Burn postponed	3, 5	8	64	High
Mesita RX	Carson NF, El Rito RD	FS	3/11-12	135	8	6	48	Low
Milk Ranch Point	Manti-LaSal NFs, Monticello RD	FS	4/11-13	500	9	4	340	Medium
Scott RX	Kaibab NF, Tusayan RD	FS	3/5	210	9	3	24	Medium
Swan Lake	Klamath Falls RA	BLM	4/16	20	10	7	77	Low
The Loop, Unit 1, 8	Bryce Canyon NP	NPS	4/2-6	150	3, 9	9	283	Medium
Tower	Klamath Falls RA	BLM	4/15, 2002	17	10	10	145	Low
Wicked Creek	Ozark NF, Mt. Magazine RD	FS	3/22, 2002	50	9	9	99	Low
TOTALS				21,571		159	5,753	

Table 2. Spring 2002 NWCG Core Curriculum Training Accomplishments

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
RX-300, Prescribed Fire Burn Boss	40	36	8	44	1,760
S-244, Field Observer	32	28	8	36	1,152
S-301, Leadership and Organizational Development	32	28	6	34	1,088
S-234, Ignition Operations	24	8	1	9	216
TOTAL	128	100	23	123	4,216

Table 3. Additional NWCG Courses Offered and Coordinated Outside the 8-week Spring Academy

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours	Course Location
RX-310 Introduction to Fire Effects	36	4	22	26	936	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations	40	29	13	42	1,680	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
TOTAL	76	33	35	68	2,616	

Table 4. Spring 2002 Short Courses

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
Fire Management Leadership for Agency Administrators	32	32	0	35	1,120
Data-Ram Smoke Monitoring	4	26	0	26	104
LCES Workshop - Fire Refresher	8	6	14	20	160
Fireline Fitness	4	6	64	70	280
TOTAL	48	70	78	151	1,654

Spring 2002 Graduates

Field Coordinators	Agency/Unit	State
Ahshapanek, Brian (Rocky)	FS, Nez Perce NF	ID
Campbell, Todd	FS, Lewis & Clark NFs	MT
Carpenter, Beau	FS, Cibola NF, Mountainair RD	NM
Erickson, Josh	NPS, Bandelier NM	NM
Garcia, Leonard	FS, Manti-LaSal NFs, Santee RD	UT
Holguin, Albert (Leroy)	FS, Idaho Panhandle NFs, St. Joe RD	ID
King, Bill	FS, Cibola NF, Magdalena RD	NM
Vanis, Jeff	FS, Coconino NF, Sedona RD	AZ

Students	Agency/Unit	State
Baca, David	FS, Carson NF, Tres Piedras RD	NM
Banuchie, John	BIA, Baraga Field Office	MI
Belinda, Kate Thornton	BLM, Carlsbad Field Office	NM
Brandom, Roger	BIA, Spokane Agency	WA
Chavez, Arnold	BIA, Southwestern Regional Office	NM
Croft, Jennifer	FS, Kootenai NF, Rexford RD	MT
Dejong, Joe	BLM, Miles City Field Office	MT
Delmerico, Paul	FS, Carson NF, El Rito RD	NM
Dimke, Jeff	BLM, Klamath Falls Field Office	OR
Lewis, Chad	BLM, Battle Mountain Field Office	NV
Lightner, Dorsey	FS, Deschutes NF, Redmond SJ	OR
Monday, Beale	FS, Coconino NF, Peaks RD	AZ
Morris, William	FS, Apache-Sitgreaves NFs, Black Mesa RD	AZ
Nelson, Dave	BLM, Burns Field Office	OR
Ortiz, Juan	FS, Gila NF, Glenwood RD	NM
Pellman, Kevin	FS, Deschutes NF, Redmond SJ	OR
Phillips, Rose	BIA, San Carlos Agency	AZ
Pope, Micheal	BLM, Elko Field Office	NV
Powskey, Richard	BIA, Truxton Cañon Agency	AZ
Ramaekers, Steven	FS, Bridger-Teton NFs, Teton RD	WY
Romero, Eddy	FS, Carson NF, Questa RD	NM
Schlenger, William	BLM, Upper Snake River Field Office	ID
Soto, David	FS, Coronado NF, Sierra Vista RD	AZ
Tenijeth, Roger	BIA, Fort Apache Agency	AZ
Thorne, Amos	BIA, San Carlos Agency	AZ
Weber, Ernest	FS, Dixie NF, Cedar City RD	UT
Willeto, Viola	BIA, Navajo Region	NM
Wilson, Darryl	BIA, Navajo Region	NM
Woods, Ramon	FS, Gila NF, Quemado RD	NM

Fall 2002

The fall 2002 session was 6 weeks, shortened by 2 weeks due to Forest Service direction to curtail spending during the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2002. The 6-week session started October 6 and ended November 14, 2002.

During the fall session, students worked with multiple land management agencies on projects including prescribed burning, burn plan writing, and fuels inventories. Students successfully treated 13,492



Graduates of the fall 2002 session.



Preparing for Lochsa Prescribed Burn, Clearwater National Forest, Idaho.

acres with prescribed fire. Table 5 lists the fuels management projects in which FUTA trainees participated during the fall session.

Table 6 highlights training accomplishments for the fall academy. Four NWCG courses were offered and 136 trainees completed a total 4,012 person hours of training.

Two additional NWCG courses were coordinated by FUTA outside the 6-week session (Table 7): *RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques* and *S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations*.

During the fall session, four workshops were available to students (Table 8). Santa Fe National Forest employees hosted and coordinated the Aerial Ignition Workshop. The Forest Service Regional Office coordinated and offered Fireline Leadership several times during the session and eight FUTA students attended.



Lochsa Prescribed Burn, Clearwater National Forest, Idaho.

Table 5. Southwest Fire Use Training Academy Fall 2002 Session Project Participation

Project Name	Location	Agency	Date	Acres	Fire Behavior Fuel Model	Persons Assigned	Person Hours	Complexity
Cherry Road RX	Verde RD, Prescott NF	FS	10/8-11/02	8100	5/9	3	143	Type I (WUI)
Hartman II RX	Pecos-Las Vegas RDs, Santa Fe NF	FS	10/9-11/02	640	8/9/11	4	181	Type II
Rio Salado Restoration RX	Sevilleta NWR	FWS	10/8-9/02	100	13	1	16	Type II
Arroyo RX	Albuquerque BLM	BLM	10/10-11/02	50	10	1	8	Type II
Lochsa RX	Kooskia RD, Clearwater NF	FS	10/14-19/02	106	12/13	5	430	Type II
Maestas RX	Pecos-Las Vegas RDs, Santa Fe NF	FS	10/15-18/02	240	9/11	5	180	Type I (WUI)
Benton RX	Mountainair RD, Cibola NF	FS	10/20-21/02, Out of prescription	9	4	104	Type II	
Eagle Fuel Project	Smokey Bear RD, Lincoln NF	FS	10/28-1/02	658 (Fuels Inventory)	2/9/11	6	240	WUI
Kaley Cottages Pile Burn	Rocky Mountain NP	NPS	10/27-2/02	15	Piles (170)	8	600	Type II (WUI)
Emerald Mtn. Pile Burn	Rocky Mountain NP	NPS	11/5-7/02	5	Piles (325)	8	425	Type II (WUI)
Hole RX	Mount Lassen NP	NPS	10/30-4/02	500	2/8/9/10	7	1232	Type II
Red Fir - Lick Creek RX	Umatilla NF	FS	10/23-28/02	165	2/9/11	4	300	Type II
Gin Flat RX	Yosemite NP	NPS	10/30-4/02	500	8/9/10	6	646	Type II
Son of Spot	Yosemite NP	NPS	11/02-4/02	10	8	6	291	Type II
Maple Syrup	Medford Field Office	BLM	10/19-1/02	N/A	N/A	4	130	N/A
Little Walnut Piles	Silver City RD, Gila NF	FS	11/5-6/02	5	Piles	2	43	Type II (WUI)
Show Low BC	Lakeside RD, Apache-Sitgreaves NFs	FS	11/4-5/02	90	9/11	1	31	Type II(WUI)
Bonito Park	Peaks RD, Coconino NF	FS	11/6-8/02	400		6	180	Type II
Kyle Harrison/DogTown/Peach Tree/Santa Rita RX	Smokey Bear RD, Lincoln NF	FS	11/11-13/02	154	8/10	5	180	Type II
Hance RX	Grand Canyon NP	NPS	11/6/02	382	9	7	73.5	Type I
Watson RX	Grand Canyon NP	NPS	11/7/02	1830	9	7	70	Type I
Maraposa Grove	Yosemite NP	NPS	10/28-30/02	200	8	8	292	Type II
Pickett Snake T-Bridge Burn Plan	Medford Field Office	BLM	11/4-8/02	97 (Burn Plan Writing Only)	2/6/8/9/10	2	80	Meadow Restoration
TOTALS				14,247		112	5875.5	

Table 6. Fall 2002 NWCG Core Curriculum Training Accomplishments

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
RX-310, Introduction to Fire Effects	36	29	10	39	1,404
S-234, Ignition Operations	18	15	21	36	648
RX-300, Prescribed Fire Burn Boss	40	33	4	37	1,480
S-301, Leadership and Organizational Development	20	16	8	24	480
TOTAL	114	93	43	136	4,012

Table 7. Additional NWCG Courses Sponsored Outside the 6-week Fall Session

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques	32	12	13	25	800
S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations	22	13	15	28	616
TOTAL	54	25	28	53	1,416

Table 8. Fall 2002 Additional Workshops/Training Attended

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques	32	12	13	25	800
Inventory, Monitoring, and Analysis	2.5	8	1	9	22.5
Fireline Leadership	40	8	Unknown	Unknown	320
BEHAVE	8	13	5	18	144
Aerial Ignition Workshop	16	2	Unknown	Unknown	32
TOTAL	66.5	31	6	27	518.5

Fall 2002 Graduates

Field Coordinators	Agency/Unit	State
Duck, Tim	BLM, Arizona Strip Field Office	UT
Gesser, Dave	FS, Bradshaw RD, Prescott NF	AZ
Holguin, Gabe	FS, Nez Perce NF	ID
Juan, Lemuel	BIA, San Carlos Agency	AZ
Lovato, Sam	BIA, Southern Pueblos Agency	NM
Lyons, John	BLM, Alaska Fire Service	AK
McPhee, Kevin	FS, Gila NF, Reserve RD	NM
Newton, Lonnie	FS, Idaho Panhandle NF	ID
Students	Agency/Unit	State
Altaha, Edwin	BIA, Fort Apache	AZ
Amato, Sam	FS, Gila NF, Wilderness RD	NM
Arguello, Alexander	FS, Cibola NF, Kiowa Rita Blanca National Grasslands	NM
Baca, Michael	FS, Apache-Sitgreaves NFs, Lakeside RD	AZ
Bagnoli, Dana	FS, Apache-Sitgreaves NFs, Springerville RD	AZ
Bearden, Lyman	NPS, Lake Meredith NRA	TX
Benallie, Jay	FS, Kaibab NF, Tusayan RD	AZ
Clairmont, Darrell	BIA, Salish and Kootenai Agency	MT
Conrad, Justin	FS, Kaibab NF, North Kaibab RD	AZ
Esquibel, Ronald	BLM, Taos Field Office	NM
Fiore, Dennis	BLM, Lakeview District	OR
Flesch, Bob	BLM, Lewistown District	MT
Garcia, Nick	BIA, Mescalero Agency	NM
Hird, Rebecca	FS, Lincoln NF, Smokey Bear RD	NM
Johnson, Ryan	BLM, Arizona Strip Field Office	UT
Little, Chris	BIA, Mescalero Agency	NM
Long, Jere	BLM, Lewistown District	MT
Martinez, Anthony	FS, Carson NF, El Rito RD	NM
Martinez, Claren	FS, Carson NF, Tres Piedras RD	NM
McWilliams, Tony	FS, Lincoln NF, Sacramento RD	NM
Rader, Dylan	BLM, Elko Field Office	NV
Sahd, Kyle	BLM, Taos Field Office	NM
Sanchez, Michael	BIA, Southwest Regional Office	NM
Sponhotz, Craig	FS, Prescott NF	AZ
Swenson, Paul	FS, Lincoln NF, Smokey Bear RD	NM
Tarbell, Blaine	BIA, Uintah and Ouray Agency	UT
Teel, Kyle	BLM, Ely District	NV
Thayer, Mark	FS, Cibola NF, Kiowa Rita Blanca National Grasslands	NM
Valdez, Andrew	FS, Santa Fe NF, Pecos/Las Vegas RDs	NM
Weekooty, Heath	BIA, Southwest Regional Office	NM
Zaharis, Eric	FS, Santa Fe NF, Pecos/Las Vegas RDs	NM

Summary 2002

Training 2002

Graduates from the 2002 training sessions totaled 76 (Table 9). The academy offered five core curriculum courses during 2002. Table 10 shows courses offered, hours of training, number of students, and total number of training hours. Table 11 summarizes the remaining NWCG courses coordinated by FUTA. Table 12 lists the short topics attended during 2002 and Table 13 displays the total number of person hours spent participating in and completing training.

Figure 1. Total Participation by Agency in 2002

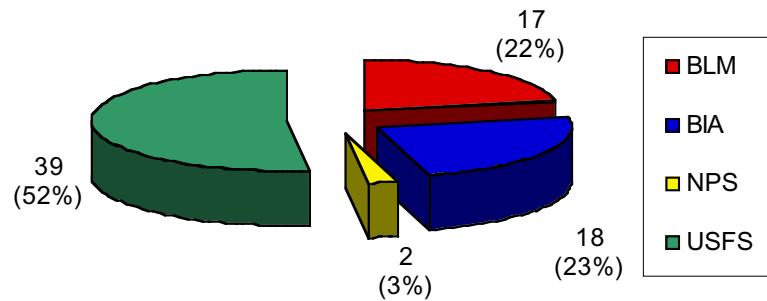


Figure 2. Project Participation by Agency in 2002

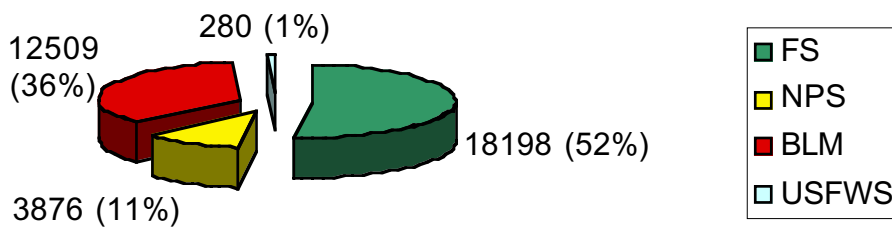


Table 9. Graduates by Session and Agency for 2002

Session	Dates	Coordinators	Students	BIA	BLM	NPS	FS	Total Trainees
Spring 2002	February 17 - April 18	8	29	9	7	1	20	37
Fall 2002	October 6 - November 14	8	31	9	10	1	19	39
TOTAL		16	60	18	17	2	39	76

Table 10. NWCG Core Curriculum for 2002

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
RX-300, Prescribed Fire Burn Boss	40	36	8	44	1,760
RX-310 Introduction to Fire Effects	36	33	32	65	2,340
RX-300, Prescribed Fire Burn Boss	40	69	12	81	3,240
S-244, Field Observer	32	28	8	36	1,152
S-301 Leadership & Organizational Development	20	44	14	58	1,160
S-234, Ignition Operations	24	23	22	45	1,080
TOTAL	152	197	88	285	8,972

Table 11. Additional NWCG Courses Offered and Coordinated Outside the Academy in 2002

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours	Course Location
S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations	26	42	28	70	1,820	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques	32	12	13	25	800	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
TOTAL	58	54	41	105	2,620	

Table 12: Short Topics Successfully Completed in 2002

Course Title	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours	Course Location
BEHAVE	8	13	5	18	144	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
Fireline Leadership	40	8	Unknown	8	320	Albuquerque, NM (Regionally sponsored)
Inventory, Monitoring, and Analysis	2.5	8	1	9	22.5	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
Aerial Ignition Workshop	16	2	Unknown	Unknown	32	Santa Fe, NM (Santa Fe Zone sponsored)
LCES Workshop - Fire Refresher	8	6	14	20	160	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
Fireline Fitness	4	6	64	70	280	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
Data-Ram Smoke Monitoring	4	26	0	26	104	SW Wildland Fire Use Training Academy - Albuquerque, NM
TOTAL	82.5	69	84	151	1,062.5	

Table 13: Total Person Hours Participating In and Completing Training

	Course Hours	FUTA Trainees	Other Trainees	Total Trainees	Total Trainee Hours
TOTAL	292.5	320	213	541	12,654.5

Program Summary

The Southwest Fire Use Training Academy (FUTA) successfully graduated its eighth and ninth classes in 2002 (fall 1998 through fall 2002). The academy is located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As a national interagency program, FUTA combines both classroom training and field experience in prescribed and wildland fire use, integrating different agencies' fuels programs throughout the Southwest and other geographic areas (Table 14).

FUTA offers six courses developed by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group as core curriculum and offers four per session. Core curriculum differs with each session, depending on program and trainee

needs. Practical training, in the form of short topics, is developed in conjunction with prescribed fire managers throughout the Southwest and other geographic areas. The academy also conducts other NWCG courses outside the 8-week session to help students complete prerequisites.

FUTA is designed to develop leadership skills, experience, and diversity in future fuels program managers. Shown in Table 15 are key academy accomplishments following its first nine sessions, September 1998 through November 2002.

Table 14. Fire Use Training Academy Project Accomplishments—Fall 1998 through Fall 2002

Session	Students	Acres	Projects	Person Hours	Personnel Assisting
Fall 1998	24	24,450	8	3,525.5	89
Spring 1999	22	8,960	9	5,282	118
Fall 1999	36	18,284	20	3,480	157
Spring 2000	37	31,710	18	5,399.5	157
Fall 2000	35	4,830	14	4,366	115
Spring 2001	27	5,148	13	4,872	106
Fall 2001	45	26,785	19	5,367	106
Spring 2002	37	21,571	21	5,753	159
Fall 2002	39	14,247	23	5,875.5	112
TOTAL	302	155,985	145	43,920.5	1,119

Table 15. Fire Use Training Academy Accomplishments—Fall 1998 through Fall 2002

Session	FUTA Sponsored NWCG Course Hours	FUTA Sponsored NWCG Course Trainees	Short Topic Hrs.	Short Topic Trainees
Fall 1998/Spring 1999	296	300	146	806
Fall 1999	176	117	38	142
Spring 2000	208	200	38.5	212
Fall 2000	148	145	29	70
Spring 2001	208	224	—	—
Fall 2001	220	201	56	18
Spring 2002	204	191	48	151
Fall 2002	198	189	10.5	21
TOTAL	1,658	1,567	366	1,420

Fire Use Training Academy Program Totals . . .

. . . FUTA Graduates: 302 (about 54 percent workforce diversity)

. . . NWCG Course Hours: 1,658

. . . NWCG Course Trainees: 1,567

. . . Short Topic Hours: 366

. . . Short Topic Trainees: 1,420

. . . Trainee Hours: 5,047,590

. . . Projects: 145

. . . Number of states: 9

. . . **ACRES BURNED: 155,985**

For a full description of the Southwest Fire Use Training Academy, including applications for the spring 2003 session, access the FUTA Web site at:
www.nationalfiretraining.net/sw/futa/