

Observation/Evaluation of SRV Training - Mexico to U.S. June 2001

Panfilo Fernandez Flores, a fire official from the Secretariat of Environment and National Resources (SEMARNAT), went to the Vale, Oregon, June 1-9, 2001, under the SEMARNAT-BLM exchange program. His position within SEMARNAT is State Coordinator of the Program of Protection against Forest Fires in Campeche. The purpose of the exchange was to observe how BLM identifies, organizes, trains, tests, and equips the Snake River Valley (SRV) crews. Panfilo traveled to Vale, Oregon, where he observed SRV crew training first hand, including participation in the one-week field training session. Because of his background in fire suppression and fire training, Panfilo was asked to assist during portions of the training. This activity was a follow up to similar exchanges which occurred in 1999 and 2000.

Recommendations/Follow Up: In the closeout, Panfilo said that he was very impressed with the SRV crew training. He also said that he was pleased that he could assist with the training. Sandy Guches, the Acting Vale District Manager, and the Vale fire management staff were very complimentary of his participation and said he had been an asset to the training. Both the Vale staff and Panfilo felt that this exchange should continue.

SRV Training Camp outside of Vale, Oregon

