

February 11, 2007

JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTRA EFFORT AWARD FOR MIKE McNEIL

This is an "above and beyond the call of duty" award to Mike for his extra efforts to help the San Jacinto Ranger District meet its goal of a safe and healthy work environment for employees and visitors during the period of October 1, 2005 through July 31, 2006.

The San Jacinto Ranger District had several unresolved hazardous materials issues. There were sites that needed cleanup and long-standing requests for cleanup were not moving forward. There were too few individuals trained in hazardous materials. There were working sites where MSDs, appropriate storage, and information signs were out of date or missing, etc. As a result, "Mike stepped up" to see what he could do help.

Mike made outstanding contributions to the cleanup of existing hazardous material sites and the prevention of new problems involving hazardous materials. Although outside his position description, he made it his responsibility to get management support and then do whatever he could to get existing sites cleaned up as quickly as possible. To this end, Mike coordinated with District employees, Forest safety officials, and County safety representatives. Mike identified and posted hazardous material signs at District work sites where employees use and/or store hazardous materials. Due to his efforts, the District is upgrading storage lockers for hazardous materials. Mike set up hazardous material safety data information boards and right to know information stations where needed. Mike checked the District employee's records for current training on hazardous materials in the workplace and encouraged the appropriate personnel to initiate or upgrade their training.

This work was an add-on to Mike's normal fire prevention duties. Mike's initiative to work on these problems, willingness to take the lead, dedication to getting work done the right way, and overall extra effort regarding hazardous material management resulted in a much safer work environment for all. In response to Mike's exemplary efforts outlined above, I propose an Extra Effort Cash Award.

GREG CASSELBERRY

Deputy District Ranger

