

'Hot Shot' Forest Fire Crews Formed

Two men from Los Padres National Forest have been selected as members of a special firefighting "Hot Shot" crew which will be trained as a unit for supplementing regular forces in any fire in the Southland.

Gilbert Hutchinson of Santa Barbara and George Spinney of Monterey will go to the Mill Creek Ranger Station in the San Bernardino Forest for intensive training. The 40-man crew will function as a high-speed, first reinforcement crew and will attack all fires within a 150-mile radius from Mill Creek.

Harold Kenyon, fire control officer for Los Padres, reported that he is continuing efforts to line up ranchers and other interested men in this area as a volunteer "Hot Shot" crew for fires on Los Padres. These men would go to the scene of a fire without any notice other than the knowledge of the fire, and would be paid per diem while engaged in the fire suppression.

“Hot Shot” Crew At Del Rosa

A “hot shot” crew of 20 hand-picked and experienced fire fighters will be stationed at the Del Rosa ranger station Sunday for the remainder of the forest fire season.

This makes the fourth summer that a specially trained crew is being employed.

Supervisor Norman J. Farrell, of the San Bernardino National forest has observed that the additional cost of the crew is more than offset by the efficiency it displays in putting out fires.