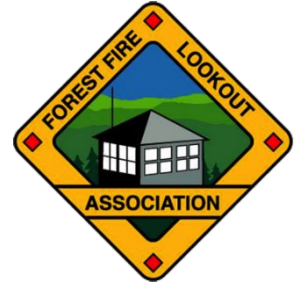


FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION
California-Northern Chapter



2021 Year-End Report

CURRENT CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Kyle Stetler, Acting Director

LOCAL FFLA CHAPTERS:

None at the time

AFFILIATES:

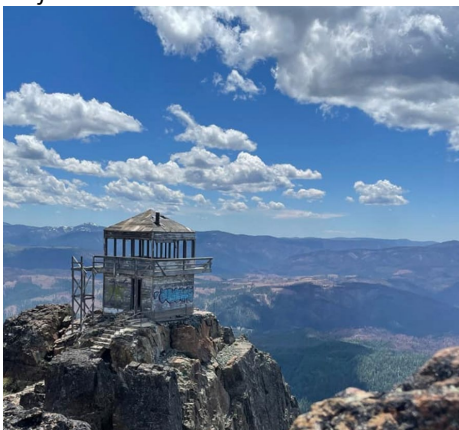
Argentine Rock Restoration Group – Chris Rivera

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. **Orleans Mountain LO (Six River's NF) #458** – Yet again, momentum was severely blunted on this project due to COVID and R5 fires but formal tribal consultation with the Karuk tribe was completed in spring 2021. There are a few local volunteers who are hopefully going to undertake the initial stabilization and rehabilitation work while a formal plan is developed. Ongoing conversations with forest staff to iron out process is underway.
Project Status: PENDING



2. **Argentine Rock LO (Plumas NF) #601** – Chris Rivera, a central California area resident, is taking the lead on this project and visited the lookout multiple times in 2021 to develop the restoration plan. A MOU/MOA was signed and barring more fires (read Dixie Fire) the rehabilitation work will commence. We are also still tentatively looking at light work on Red Rock LO after gaining concurrence with the district staff.
Project Status: ONGOING



3. **Grouse Ridge LO (Tahoe NF) #283** – Again in 2021 work was postponed due to COVID. A local group of volunteers has been coordinating with the local ranger district recreation staff person to get this finished and the hope is that it will be done in 2022.

A productive meeting was held in January 2021 where the future of these lookouts on the Tahoe NF was discussed. All participants agreed that it would be excellent to either volunteer staff or use the lookouts for other adaptive uses. Overall, the Tahoe has four lookouts they would like to use again. One, Sardine LO, is already being used by friends of district employees and the public can all the office to reserve it. The other two, Martis LO and Verdi LO are still in very good shape and would need minimal work.

Due to the lapse in approval of a standing Recreation Resource Advisory Committees, no new recreation rental facilities can be approved or modified. In conversations with the R5 Public Services Director, the paperwork was submitted in early 2020 to USDA, but as of mid-June 2021 no approval had occurred. All the Tahoe lookouts then are effectively embargoed till that situation changes.

Project Status: Near Completion

The following pictures from left to right, top to bottom: Verdi Peak, Martis Peak, Sardine, Grouse Ridge.



4. **Harkness LO (Lava Beds Nat. Mon.) #516** – One of the more unfortunate stories out of the 2021 fire season was, after 3 successful seasons of restoration work carried out by HistoriCorps and the National Park Service, Harkness LO was destroyed by the Dixie Fire. Current communications with the Lava Beds staff have been limited and given its location within a designated Wilderness area it is unclear if a rebuild will be attempted.

Project Status: Completed --- Lookout Destroyed



5. **Ironside Mountain Lookout (Shasta-Trinity NF) #1057** – On August 13, 2021 the Monument Fire located in northern California burned down Ironside Mountain lookout. Local efforts have requested that the tower be rebuilt but no word from the Shasta-Trinity NF Archeologist on what the future holds have been revealed.



6. **Ball Mountain LO (Klamath NF) #1383** – Yet again, any momentum stalled out in 2021 due to COVID and the large and long duration campaign fires that took place in R5. The district ranger on the Goosenest is still interested in pursuing some type of restoration work for Ball Mt. LO. The Baldy Mountain LO is still a backup project. During the summer, additional coordination took place with Klamath NF staff on potential work to other staffed lookouts including Slater Butte and Collins Baldy.
Project Status: PENDING



FINANCIAL ACTIVITY:

No major activity.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2022:

- **Shasta-Trinity had two projects funded under the Forest Service's Great American Outdoors Act effort and other forests are also submitting proposals to be included for supplemental funding.**
- Continue project development on ongoing coordination with agency staff.
- Support additional information and new entries to NHLR.
- Pursue restoration and reactivation projects with small grants to two of the forests.
- Continue email the 36 NorCal members to keep them apprised of volunteer opportunities.
- We have been approached by a few people proactively looking for volunteer opportunities and the goal will be to connect those people to actual projects this upcoming summer.

2020 Chapter Tower Statistics:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Total lookout towers in chapter: | 108 |
| Towers in active service: | 49 |
| Towers in rental program | 4 |
| Towers needing significant repairs | 43 |
| Towers hopelessly dilapidated | 5 |
| Towers converted to alternate function | 4 |
| Towers schedule to be removed | 3 |
| Complete new tower under construction | 0 |

This is a reduction of two towers as noted above.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Stetler

Director – California-Northern Chapter