

FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

Idaho-Southern Chapter

2020 Year End Report

CURRENT SOUTHERN IDAHO OFFICER -Luke Channer, Acting Director

LOCAL FFLA CHAPTERS/Affiliates-none

Introduction: I became the Acting Director mid-summer 2020 and have a lot of catching up to do. I live in MT 10 miles from the Montana-Southern ID border. The heart of Southern ID Chapter is the Frank Church Wilderness which is over 2.3 million acres. Accessing many of these remote lookouts is a major hurdle. I have been fortunate to visit 82 of 85 in the past 13 years and many of my pictures have been used by the FS. The three remaining will require an aerial dropoff/pickup along with a 45 mile hike. Without any FS experience, I need to develop connections within the FS regarding fire lookouts.

Projects

1. Restoration on Arctic Point Lookout ground-quarter cabin started. It is the most remote lookout in the lower 48 requiring over 45 miles of trail to access it
2. Norton Ridge restoration along the Middle fork of the Salmon- status unknown
3. Rush Creek Pt Lookout stewardship established

Membership-38 current members with 2 non-renewals

OBJECTIVES FOR 2021

Develop relationships within each NF regarding lookout projects and status

Document the last three abandoned lookouts along the Middle fork of the Salmon

Promote the addition of lookouts to the rental program ie. Granite Mt and Rice

Find lookout restoration projects and connect with groups that are able to support the projects

Contact the family of the late steward of Butts Creek Pt LO who maintained it for many years

2020 Chapter Tower Statistics:

Total lookout towers in Southern ID	88
Private towers	3
Lookout rentals	2

Dilapidated lookouts	16
Converted to electronic site	3
Emergency lookouts	30
Staffed lookouts	34
Destroyed 2020	0
Lookouts need significant repairs	20ish

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Channer

Director-Southern Idaho