

Forest Fire Lookout Association Idaho/Montana Chapter

32145-A Hwy. 57, Priest River, ID 83856

2003 IDAHO/MONTANA CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT

MEMBERSHIP:

103 Current Paid Members (24 Plus)

Includes: 3 Membership Renewal Past Due 25 Complimentary Memberships (agency personnel, etc.)

Chapter finances remained steady, with an ending balance of \$3568.76, down some fifty dollars from the start of the year (see Treasurers Report for details).

ACTIVITIES:

The chapter's matching funding for the National Forest Foundation grant for the Boulder Point Lookout Restoration and Repair Project on the Bitterroot National Forest (MT) was put to use. The July work party, led by members of the primary partner, the West Fork Ski Club, accomplished many restoration and stabilization tasks.

Several other projects continued, many with FFLA support. Efforts continued at Monument Peak (Lewis & Clark NF, MT) with another Passport in Time project. The Square Mountain restoration project on the Nez Perce NF (ID) was nearly completed. The ID/MT Chapter is a partner in this project, and will provide and install the lightning protection next summer. Work on Conrad Peak (St. Joe NF – ID) remained on hold due to engineering concerns. Engineering inspections resulted in recommendations for many towers, some were closed until repairs and upgrades were fully accomplished, while others remained open and work was accomplished as time and resources permitted. Fire season once again took precedence over restoration activities in many situations. Two lookouts were lost to fires, Silver King and Boulder Lake, both in Montana.

Chapter Director Gary Weber again spent a significant amount of time on fire assignments during the season.

Gary Weber FFLA-Idaho/Montana Chapter Director