



FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION California Central Western Region

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Current Chapter Officers:

Christopher Rivera, Director
James Adams, Chairman

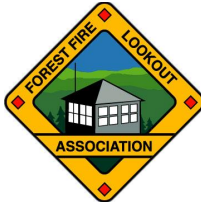
Local Chapter:

“Konocti”

Affiliates:

Copernicus Peak Lookout, Calfire
Volunteers in Prevention, Morgan Hill, California

1. **Konocti Lookout, Wrights Peak, Lake County California(Calfire):** US#1104. In 2019, Calfire and State Engineers conducted a structural inspection on the entire structure and found it to be unsafe for habitation. Therefore, For 2020 fire season as unusual as the year already was, we conducted fire lookout duties and services, “Old School”, from the top of Wright Peak, in the shadow of the tower. We began our Lookout services on June 10, 2020 and concluded on December 10, 2020. For a total of 193 days in-service, and a total of 219 Volunteer hours. Konocti Chapter had a total of 26 members this year, down 13 from 2019. Mostly due to Covid 19 and the displacement from the Lookout Tower. We called in 29 Smoke Reports and we had 1 confirmed, “First Call” and fire. Calfire has no concrete plans, mention of plans, or established budget to repair Konocti at this time. Communications are continuing with Calfire Battalion Chief, Greg Bertelli about additional Calfire responsible Lookouts within the California Pacific Region for consideration.
2. **Anthony Peak Lookout , (Mendocino National Forest) USFS:** US#88, In June 2020, Mendocino National Forest contacted me and requested immediate assistance with Anthony Peak Lookout. Their regularly trained personnel notified the USFS that they would not be Returning to the Lookout. I offered assistance, made a plan to use some Konocti Chapter volunteers in the emergency. As it turned out, Mendocino National Forest found someone to fulfill the duties at Anthony Peak Lookout and FFLA has established a “can do” relationship with them. I have no further information on this lookout. FFLA has on-going talks and communication with Mendocino National Forest Supervisor, Ann Carlson, regarding future Lookout services and the possibility of rebuilding “High Glade” (#) Lookout, which was lost in the 2018 Ranch Fire. Mendocino National Forest reported to me there were no Lookouts lost by the August Fire within the California Pacific Region responsibility.
3. **Argentine Rock Lookout, Plumas National Forest,** US#601 As previously mentioned by Kyle Stetler. Argentine Lookout Cooperative Agreement has been submitted to proper USFS personnel for preparation and writing. Foundational



“Argentine



Chapter” groundwork is moving forward and a volunteer base of name and prospects is being compiled. A method for and acceptance of donations will be established upon the approval of the agreement. Merchandise Artwork is being researched and considered by membership prospects in the Quincy area.

4. **Copernicus Lookout:** US#1342, Copernicus Lookout is a Calfire managed lookout based in Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County, California. Forest Fire Lookout Association, California Pacific Region offers Leadership and Training as needed and requested by the lookout personnel. Lookout fire season and duties began on May 17, 2020 and concluded on December 30, 2020. The Copernicus lookout was staffed a total of 25 days during the 2020 fire season, with a emphasis on weekends. There were 10 Calfire Volunteers in Prevention, providing lookout services during that 25 day period. The volunteer lookouts called in, 10 smoke reports, of which five (5) were called in on August 16, 2020, during the Extreme Weather Lightning Complex Fire Event. On August 18, 2020, The nearby Lick Observatory was evacuated because of a Wildfire. The fire encircled both the Observatory and the Copernicus Lookout. No damage was sustained to the Lookout. Only minor damage reported to the observatory.

*Submitted by
Christopher Rivera
Director, California Pacific
Western Region*