FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION California-South Region



2019 Year-End Report

CURRENT REGION OFFICERS:

Scott McClintock, Director

LOCAL FFLA CHAPTERS:

San Diego-Riverside Monterey

AFFILIATES:

Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association (Angeles NF) Southern California Mountains Foundation (San Bernardino NF) Hi Mountain Condor Lookout (Los Padres NF)

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- 1. MONTEREY CHAPTER CHEWS RIDGE LO (751) On 5/23/19, I received approval from the Los Padres National Forest to restore and staff Chews Ridge Lookout. Volunteer recruiting, training and restoration commenced soon after. 36 volunteers were trained. After classroom and in-tower training, the first operational shift was on 8/25/19, followed by 64 days of staffing. The tower was shuttered for the winter on 11/25/19. Recruiting for additional volunteers continues in the off-season. During the 2020 season, I will attempt to draft officers and make the chapter self-sustaining. Project Status: PENDING
- 2. CONE PEAK LOOKOUT (1288) This facility (18 miles from Chews Ridge LO) currently houses radio repeater gear, but the Los Padres National Forest radio technicians are talking about removing the radio components to a different location. I am monitoring the situation and will ask to restore it if/when this happens. It would provide splendid triangulation with Chews Ridge LO.

Project Status: PENDING

3. 6/6/19 to 6/10/19 - Attended the FFLA Eastern Conference in Catskills, New York.

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4. 10/11/19-10/13/19 – Hosted, with assistance from the San Diego-Riverside Chapter, the FFLA Western Conference in Escondido, Ca. Preparation for this project began on 10/26/18.

Project Status: COMPLETE

5. CALANDRA LOOKOUT (395) – Conducted site visit on 10/2/19. Corresponding with Cal Fire to get an EMF radiation reading to evaluate for safety.

Project Status: PENDING

6. SMITH MOUNTAIN LO (884) –Corresponding with Cal Fire to get access for a site visit scheduled.

Project Status: PENDING

7. LYONS PEAK LOOKOUT (754) – Access continues to be denied to Forest radio technicians. Window coverings have been purchased, but we cannot get access to install them. Continuing to monitor access.

Project Status: PENDING

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY:

Drew \$800 from the California-South Region account for equipment and building supplies for the Chews Ridge restoration.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2020:

- Render the Monterey Chapter autonomous
- Continue correspondence with all parties in the pending projects above, with emphasis on Cone Peak LO.
- Submit visit reports to the NHLR.

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2019 Region Tower Statistics:

Total lookout towers in chapter:	36
Counties in Chapter	10
Towers in active service:	12
Towers needing significant repairs	6
Towers hopelessly dilapidated	9
Towers converted to alternate function	7
Towers needing research/visit for status	2
Complete new tower under construction	1

Respectfully submitted,

Scott McClintock, Director California-South Region

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