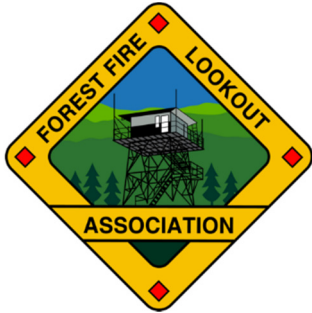


Forest Fire Lookout Association

CA-Pacific Area Chapter

30021 McKenna Heights Court, Valley Center CA 92082



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The California Pacific Chapter includes Forest Fire Lookouts from the Los Padres National Forest to the south, Mendocino National Forest to the North and all other areas west of Interstate 5. A breakdown of these areas are:

Los Padres N/F has 65 towers listed with peakbagging.com of which ten have been destroyed, nine are on the National Historical Lookout Register (NHLR) and less than a dozen are currently being staffed. Only five belong to Cal Fire, three owned by BLM, ten owned by State Parks or Private, and twenty three owned by the Forest Service.

Mendocino N/F has 26 towers listed with peakbagging.com, Cal Fire owns four and the Forest Service owned nineteen of which twelve have been destroyed. Four are on the NHLR and only three are currently being staffed.

My research of Ca-Pacific Tower is on-going, but due to lack of internet data it is my opinion that many of these towers have been removed or destroyed. The search is not over.

Membership: No record of any previous members, towers being staffed by FFLA or financial documents. However, a new subchapter has been formed within the Mendocino N/F. In August 2015, Cal Fire and I reached an agreement to re-open & staff the Konocti Lookout Tower on Wright Peak in Lake County, CA. The search was on and within two weeks we had 44 new volunteers signed up and classroom training was completed by September 12th. Currently twenty nine (29) new members and have completed their in-tower training and ready for the 2016 fire season. A total of 450 volunteer hours for Konocti Lookout (Classroom and in-tower training).

(Membership cont.)

Met with Cal Fire in August 2015 to discuss two towers in Santa Clara Ranger Unit in Morgan Hill, CA.

- 1) Copermicus Lookout Tower - Cal Fire Volunteers currently staff the tower (as required – five times during 2015), but interested in having FFLA Volunteers to staff on a regular basis.
- 2) Mount Oso Lookout Tower – Tower is in need of roof repair, but Cal Fire is willing to complete the repairs if FFLA will staff the Lookout on a regular basis.

Financial: A total of \$1,712.50 was collected for National & Chapter dues and misc. uniform items. Current year-end balance is \$398.04.

A website & Facebook page has been established with the assistance of Don Piller, San Diego Riverside Chapter. Still in the infancy stage, but continues to be updated as new data is discovered. (www.ffla-ccwr.org) Please review and advise if updates or additions are needed or if you have data that would be applicable.

Additional plans & challenges for 2016:

- Additional meetings are scheduled for January and February 2016 with the Santa Clara Ranger Unit to prepare for staffing Copermicus and Mt Oso Towers.
- Advertise for additional perspective volunteers for the 2016 fire season.
- Set-up training classes for new volunteers.
- Fundraising to cover cost of replacing floor in Konocti Tower and other maintenance items.
- Establish field trips and other activities for group unity.
- Add additional towers to the NHLR list.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Ulmer

Director, FFLA CA-Pacific Chapter