

Colorado / Utah Chapter Report 2011

Membership:

33 current members
4 new members
14 dropped members

Financial Balance:

\$666.43 as of 12/31/2011

Again, 6 lookouts were staffed in 2011. Devils Head on the Pike National Forest, Deadman Lookout on the Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest and Benchmark Lookout on the San Juan National Forest. Zenobia and Round Top Lookouts in Dinosaur National Monument were staffed, as was Park Point Lookout in Mesa Verde National Park.

Unfortunately, Squaw Mountain Lookout did not make it onto the rental system in 2011 as expected. Complications with a new shutter system slowed things down considerably. Thankfully, a solution is at hand. FFLA workdays provided new improvements to the lookout last summer and 2012-13 should be a big year for Squaw. New railings were installed all around the lookout. The rails were all painted as well as the rest of the lookout. The pit toilets were removed. Electricity was run to the original privy and it is ready to accept the incinerator toilet.

Vandals did make their annual appearance so the damaged shutters and broken windows were repaired, again. Plans are in motion to install shatter proof safety glass that will allow for the removal of the shutters altogether in 2012. These improvements will result in a rental lookout that is safer for guests and should require less annual maintenance.

The annual meeting/hike for 2011 did not happen due to scheduling conflicts. I did however make it down to Devils Head lookout to help lookout Bill Ellis close up the lookout for the winter. The Colorado/Utah chapter will be involved in a grant funded renovation of Devils Head in 2012. More details to follow

Kent Argow