



Forest Fire Lookout Association
Eastern Washington Chapter
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EASTERN WASHINGTON 2013 CHAPTER REPORT

MEMBERSHIP: 53 members. 23 complimentary copies of the Lookout Network sent; 21 by email (PDF) and 2 by postal mail.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Ending Balance of \$1,830.63

ACTIVITIES: The Eastern Washington and Oregon Chapters hosted a July social gathering and campout in the Blue Mountains. In thanks for members' incredible support of past conferences in Washington and Oregon, meals were "on the house." House meaning the Tucannon Guard Station where staffers Bev and Charlie Heebner prepared all the meals funded by both Chapters. An excellent turnout of 23 members was a testament of the hard work done by Oregon Director Howard Verschoor in organizing the event.

Member In The News: Ray Kresek has announced his effort to transition over time the Forest Fire Lookout Museum to the Stevens County Historical Society in Colville, WA. Those who attended the 2012 FFLA Western Conference are familiar with the museum in Colville and the relocated Graves Mountain Lookout.

LOOKOUTS: *Umatilla National Forest* (Washington) Big Butte Lookout that suffered structural damage caused by a tree falling across one of the guy lines, breaking a tower leg, has had the cab taken down. Repairs are ongoing with restoration of the cab planned this summer. This will be an excellent volunteer opportunity. Oregon Butte and Table Rock continued to be staffed. *Colville National Forest* Sullivan Mountain Lookout is in the lineup for restoration this summer. Another great volunteer opportunity forthcoming. Indian Mountain continued to be staffed. *Okanogan National Forest* The big news for 2013 was the incredible effort put forth to restore the L5 Mebee Pass Lookout. This also included the chore of brushing out the 8+ miles of trail to the lookout. John Scurlock and crew along with efforts by Bill Moody, cannot be praised enough. Your Chapter made a donation of \$500 to this worthy endeavor which complimented a \$200 grant from the Chuck Butler Memorial Lookout Restoration Fund. Stabilization efforts by Mike Hiler and crew have been successful on Jumpoff Lookout. Goat Peak continued to be staffed while long time regulars like Bonaparte sat idle. *NE. Region Department of Natural Resources* Flagstaff Lookout was taken down for the sake of additional cell towers. The nearby community of Northport adopted the lookout and it is now in town park. Aeneas remained staffed. *SE. Region Department of Natural Resources* Efforts continue to help determine the future of the Meadow Butte Groundhouse at Glenwood. Anyone with news appreciated.

OBJECTIVES: Plans for the year include investigating former lookout sites to document remains. Monitor Forest Service and Department of Natural Resources actions that affect standing lookouts and former lookout sites. Facilitate volunteer opportunities and get the job done.

Rod Fosback
Eastern Washington Director