



Forest Fire Lookout Association Restoration Grant Program

2021 RESTORATION GRANT ANNUAL REPORT

Three Restoration Grant applications were received in 2021; awards were made to all three. Additional grants were made by chapters out of their funds. No requests were made for grants from the Matt Walter Fund. In Washington, one grant was awarded from the Chuck Butler Fund.

1) **Orr Mountain Lookout, California**

The first FFLA Restoration Grant of 2021 was awarded to the Klamath National Forest for repairs of Orr Mountain Lookout. The grant funds were used to purchase materials and supplies to replace a broken window in the lookout cab and secure and weather proof the other windows. Orr Mountain Lookout is a CCC-era lookout; a thirty-foot tall K-braced steel tower topped with a BC-3 live-in cab. It was determined Eligible for the NRHP in 2009. The lookout is operational and staffed every year.

Coordination for the grant was handled by Acting Northern California Director Kyle Stetler and Goosenest District Archaeologist Karen Bucher before her retirement. Due to the fire season, very little of the work was able to be completed; District Prevention Patrolman Ken Maidl is providing the project coordination.

2) **Kane Mountain Fire Tower Observer's Cabin, California**

The second FFLA Restoration Grant of 2021 was awarded to the New York State FFLA Chapter, who holds the Volunteer Service Agreement with the NYSDEC, for repairs to the Observer's Cabin at the Kane Mountain Fire Tower site. The cabin received a new roof and a new porch and all of the siding was stained in 2021. NYSDEC provided funding and personnel did the majority of the work on the roof and porch, with FFLA volunteers stepping in to stain the cabin, using the grant funds for materials and supplies. Now that the facility has been saved, the chapter hopes to be able to begin a Steward program at the site, which averages over 7500 visitors annually. FFLA New York Director Laurie Rankin has been involved in the project.

3) **North Twentymile Lookout, Washington**

The third FFLA Restoration Grant of 2021 was awarded to a local Methow Valley group headed up by FFLA member Christine Estrada and retired Methow District Ranger Mike Liu for supplies and materials for the restoration of North Twentymile's 30-foot L-4 lookout. The Forest Service has allocated partial funding for the project, which focused on roofing and painting. The plan was for the group to do the painting and the North Cascades Smokejumpers to do the roof replacement. However, the fire season caused those plans to be put on hold until next year.

Butler Fund Grant

Lookout Mountain Lookout, Washington

Unable to work on North Twentymile, the Methow Valley group turned their attention across the valley to Lookout Mountain, where a grant from the Chuck Butler Memorial Fund provided for materials and supplies to give the 20-foot L-4 a badly needed paint job.

Gary Weber
Treasurer