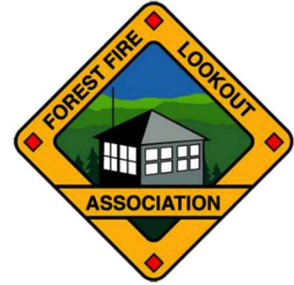


FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION
California-Northern Chapter



2020 Year-End Report

CURRENT CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Kyle Stetler, Acting Director

LOCAL FFLA CHAPTERS:

None at the time

AFFILIATES:

None at this time

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. **Orleans Mountain LO (Six River's NF) #458** - Momentum was severely blunted on this project due to COVID and R5 fires but informal tribal consultation was completed and formal consultation with the Karuk tribe is expected to be completed in February 2021. There are a few local volunteers who are hopefully going to undertake the initial stabilization and rehabilitation work while a formal plan is developed.

Project Status: PENDING



2. **Argentine Rock LO (Plumas NF) #601** – Chris Rivera, a central California area resident, is taking the lead on this project and visited the lookout in October 2020 with District staff. All involved tentatively agreed to come to develop a MOU/MOA and undertake a major rehabilitation of the project. We are also tentatively looking at light work on Red Rock LO after gaining concurrence with the district staff.

Project Status: PENDING

3. **Grouse Ridge LO (Tahoe NF) #283** – The lookout has almost all the work completed with the eventual goal of turning it into a rental. The work that was expected to be completed in 2020 was postponed due to COVID. A local group of volunteers has been coordinating with the local ranger district recreation staff person to get this finished.

Overall, the Tahoe has four lookouts they would like to get into the rental program. One, Sardine LO, is already being used by friends of district employees and the public can all the office to reserve it. The other two, Martis LO and Verdi LO are still in very good shape and would need minimal work. A meeting is being scheduled for early 2021 to talk over the future of these lookouts with Tahoe NF staff.

Due to the lapse in approval of a standing Recreation Resource Advisory Committees, no new recreation rental facilities can be approved or modified. In conversations with the R5 Public Services Director, the paperwork was submitted in early 2020 to USDA, but that is as far as it has

gone as of December 2020. All the Tahoe lookouts then are effectively embargoed till that situation changes.

Project Status: Near Completion

The following pictures from left to right, top to bottom: Verdi Peak, Martis Peak, Sardine, Grouse Ridge.



4. **Harkness LO (Lava Beds Nat. Mon.) #516** – Successful second season of restoration work was carried out by HistoriCorps and the National Park Service. We are kept in the loop on this project vis-à-vis the park archeologist.

Project Status: Ongoing



5. **Harvey and Antelope Mountains LOs (Lassen NF) #517** – FFLA provided two small grants for the Lassen to perform work on both Harvey Mountain and Antelope lookouts. Due to COVID, the work was done by Forest Service staff only at Antelope, with new shutters being installed. Harvey Mountain will have the work completed in 2021.

Harvey Mountain



Antelope Mountain



6. **Ball Mountain LO (Klamath NF) #1383** – Any momentum stalled out in 2020 due to COVID and the large and long duration campaign fires that took place in R5. The district ranger on the Goosenest is still interested in pursuing some type of restoration work for Ball Mt. LO. I recently coordinated with the district archaeologist, and she indicated while the project is still on hold, she has a decent idea of the work needed. One potential problem is that there is a large fly infestation in the tower. The Baldy Mountain LO is still a backup project.
Project Status: PENDING



FINANCIAL ACTIVITY:

No major activity.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2020:

- Continue project development on ongoing coordination with agency staff.
- Support additional information and new entries to NHLR.
- Pursue restoration and reactivation projects with small grants to two of the forests.
- Continue email the 36 NorCal members to keep them apprised of volunteer opportunities.
- We have been approached by a few people proactively looking for volunteer opportunities and the goal will be to connect those people to actual projects this upcoming summer.

2020 Chapter Tower Statistics:

Total lookout towers in chapter:	110
Towers in active service:	51
Towers in rental program	4
Towers needing significant repairs	43
Towers hopelessly dilapidated	5
Towers converted to alternate function	4
Towers schedule to be removed	3
Complete new tower under construction	0

This is a reduction of one tower as Kettenpom Peak tower on the Six River's NF was destroyed during the August Complex fires.



Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Stetler

Director – California-Northern Chapter