

New Hampshire Chapter report for 2018

2018 was a quiet year for the chapter. At the start of the year there were 20 members, seven Plus and thirteen regular. Philip LaValley joined midyear as a Plus member so at year end there were eight Plus members, thirteen regular for a total of 21 paid members. The Chapter continues to provide the Lookout Network to the NH Forest Protection Service and the White Mountain National Forest. There were no chapter meetings, events or activities. In March the chapter director submitted revisions to the NH Towers page; as yet these have not been incorporated.

There were approximately thirty wild fires during the year in New Hampshire which burned 23 acres, a very quiet year due to higher than normal precipitation. Most of the activity was in late April and May due to a late spring and these two months were likely the only times the tower were staffed. The White Mountain National Forest experienced two improperly extinguished camp fires which did not amount to any size.

The State and the White Mountain National Forest sent a number of crews, two engines and many single resources out of the State to help with fire suppression during the year.

Jack Sargent, former Chief of Fire Protection and subsequently Director of the NH Division of Forests and Lands passed away in September. His obituary is expected to be in the upcoming issue of the Lookout Network, Vol 29 #3, Autumn 2018.

This year was the 100th anniversary of the White Mountain National Forest. This was celebrated with a number of events. NH Chapter member and former WMNF employee Dave Govatski helped create a multi-month exhibit at the Museum of the White Mountains in Plymouth.

Chris Haartz