



Forest Fire Lookout Association
Eastern Washington Chapter
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EASTERN WASHINGTON 2012 CHAPTER REPORT

MEMBERSHIP: 52 members. 15 complimentary copies of the Lookout Network sent; 13 by email (PDF) and 2 by postal mail.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Ending Balance of \$2444.03

ACTIVITIES: The Eastern Washington Chapter hosted the 2012 Western Conference at Boyds, Washington in the land of restored, removed and relocated lookouts. Conference attendees had a chance to experience nine lookouts and learn, first hand, staffed lookouts in this neck of the woods went out with 8-track tape players. The importance of local support for lookouts was very evident during the lookout tours, however, which showcased lookouts that otherwise would have been destroyed. The 54 folks participating in the conference and tours hopefully enjoyed the little peeves as well; eating dust, taking a wrong turn, waiting on someone, getting locked in☺
Souvenir coffee cups are available on ZAZZLE that benefit the FFLA general fund.

Members In The News: Ray Kresek's efforts to construct a trail and interpretive signage at Sundance Lookout for the 45th anniversary of the 1967 Sundance Fire, which occurred near Priest Lake, Idaho, became reality.

LOOKOUTS: *Umatilla National Forest* (Washington) Big Butte Lookout suffered structural damage last year caused by a tree falling across one of the guy lines, breaking a tower leg. Repairs costs have been determined and funding sources being sought. *Colville National Forest* South Baldy, staffed by Idaho Panhandle National Forests, had sections of tower legs replaced but still needs lightning protection, that was stolen. North Idaho and Eastern Washington Chapters have offered support. New interest rose, following the 2012 Western Conference, in restoring POV lookouts with Timber Mountain and Salmo Mountain becoming rentals. *Okanogan National Forest* The only CL-100 type lookout built in Washington, Cornell Butte, remained on the mountain this year but not for long. Washington State Parks may be its best hope for survival by becoming a cabin rental at one of its parks. *NE. Region Department of Natural Resources* Flagstaff Lookout has been abandoned for the sake of additional cell towers. The nearby community of Northport is working to move the lookout to the park in town. The lookout remained on the mountain during 2012. *SE. Region Department of Natural Resources* Efforts continue to help determine the future of the Meadow Butte Groundhouse at Glenwood.

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. Hold another bi-annual picnic/campout with the Western Washington and Oregon Chapters on the Umatilla National Forest.

Rod Fosback
Eastern Washington Director