

New Hampshire Chapter Report 2007

The New Hampshire Chapter gained several new members this year. One of our members became an "Area Representative" for Florida.

At year end we had 22 members: Nine "Plus" members, Eleven "regular" members and Two "complimentary" memberships.

For 2008 we are honoring Ken Jordan with a complimentary lifetime membership in recognition of his many years staffing Mt. Prospect for the State of New Hampshire.

During the year two towers were listed on the National Historic Lookout Register: Stratham Hill in the town of the same name, and Great Hill located in Tamworth, NH. Dedication ceremonies are expected to take place in 2008.

The State operated 15 towers during the year and the Town of Moultonborough operated Red Hill for a total of 16 towers operated. A new State budget for 7/1/2007 - 6/30/2009 was passed this year which funds the State towers during this period.

New Hampshire experienced some dry weather during the spring season and again in the late summer which allowed some wild land fire activity. The chart below compares the previous years and with activity in Vermont.

	Human caused # fires/ acres	Lightning # / acres	Total # / acres
New Hampshire 2005			517 / 172
New Hampshire 2006			495 / 472
New Hampshire 2007	412 / 210	7 / 2	419 / 212
Vermont 2007	93 / 220	2 / 6	95 / 226
White Mountain Nat'l Forest 2007	1 / 0	1 / 1/2	2 / 1/2

The State achieved a substantial reduction in acres burned compared to the previous year.

Both the State of New Hampshire and the White Mountain National Forest sent fire crews and single resource personnel to fight out of state fires this year. Crews went to Minnesota to help fight the Ham Lake fire in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in May and crews assisted in firefighting in the west during July and August. The White Mountain National Forest sent three successive 10 person "modules" to help the Missoula District of the Lolo National Forest with Initial Attack from mid-July to the end of August.

I am pleased to report that the FFLA membership brochure is now available at two locations on the White Mountain National Forest and I hope to add two more locations in 2008.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Haartz, NH Chapter Director