

Yosemite-High Sierra Chapter – FY2012 Fire Season Report
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During the Fire Season we acquired 4 new Forest Fire Lookouts. There was a joint training session with the Buck Rock Foundation and Yosemite-High Sierra Chapter with the National Weather Services Basic and Advanced Storm Spotter Training. Miami Forest Fire Lookouts also participated in the Smokey the Bear Run. A new Website and Community Education program is being developed and implemented to attract more volunteers, sponsorships and donations to the chapter.

Miami Forest Fire Lookout Renovations: The interior of the cab and windows were painted. We are awaiting approval from the SNF Fire Archeologist to replaced existing tile flooring with high traffic simulated wood grain flooring, replacement of all cabinets with rustic style cabinets. Tower stairs wood inserts will also be replaced with non-skid strips. A weather station was also installed during FY2012.

Miami, Signal and Shuteye Forest Fire Lookout volunteer staffing hours and days of staffing and current Chapter Treasurer report to be submitted in February or sooner.

Signal Lookout Renovations: Renovations were completed by the SNF, new catwalk and railings were installed. A biodegradable toilet is scheduled for installation in FY2013. The Fire Finder base cabinet will be raised and adjusted to better visibility with new railing. A microwave internet bridge was installed and operational between Signal Lookout and Miami Lookout for internet service at Signal Lookout. This was funded privately.

Shuteye Lookout Renovations: A complete review of current renovations requirements will be conducted in FY2013 prior to Fire Season. This may include replacement of existing water tank, installation of propane heater system and safety issues internal to the cab. A microwave internet bridge will be installed between Shuteye Lookout and Miami Lookout for internet service and is in planning and purchase of products. Microwave internet service may also be provided from Shuteye Lookout to Mt. Tom Lookout in FY2013/FY2014. This is funded privately. A weather station was also installed during FY2012.

Heness Ridge Lookout: A renovation report was provided to the NPS. This included the need to repair the stairs, catwalk railing, and catwalk material and storm shutters. The stairs and catwalk railing are extreme safety hazards as reported. The NPS has planned to repair these safety issues. Garage, living quarters and cab require additional level of general repairs and renovations. The Yosemite National Park Conservancy will be the main volunteer resource for additional renovation funds and volunteers from the chapter

Crane Flat Renovations: There are no renovation requirements noted at this time. A FY2013 inspection will be conducted. This is a visitation Forest Fire Lookout at the NPS Flight Operations Center for Yosemite National Park.