



Forest Fire Lookout Association Restoration Grant Program

2012 RESTORATION GRANT ANNUAL REPORT

Four Restoration Grants (\$500 each) were awarded in 2012, for a total of \$2000, and one grant (\$500) from 2010 was returned. One emergency stabilization grant (\$150) was awarded.

- 1) **Reynolds (Henry) Fire Tower, Georgia**
The first FFLA Restoration Grant of 2012 went toward the restoration and relocation of the Henry County Fire Tower. The tower, purchased from the Georgia Forestry Commission, was to be relocated to the Reynolds Nature Preserve, a unit of the Clayton County Parks and Recreation system, near Morrow, in the southern part of greater Atlanta. The 100-foot Aermotor LS-40 was currently located at the abandoned GFC Henry County headquarters site off Highway 42, south of McDonough.
- 2) **Mt. Cammerer Lookout Tower, North Carolina/Tennessee**
The second FFLA Restoration Grant of 2012 was awarded to the Friends of the Smokies for restoration of the Mt. Cammerer Lookout Tower in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The grant is for restoration of recent damage from extreme weather and several bouts of vandalism. This includes replacement of the first story door, doorframe, hinges, lock, etc., paint to cover graffiti, and replacement of a rotten spruce log roof beam. Mt. Cammerer, one of North Carolina and Tennessee's most iconic fire towers, is an impressive two-story octagonal stone structure built in 1937-1939 from materials on the site by the CCC. Located near the Appalachian Trail, it is a popular if strenuous destination for hikers. In spite of stunning views over the Tennessee and North Carolina mountains, it was not used for detection very long and was abandoned in the 1960s. It is listed on the National Historic Lookout Register (US #828, TN #2).
- 3) **Spyglass Lookout, Idaho**
The third FFLA Restoration Grant of 2012 was awarded for the Spyglass Lookout Restoration Project (Coeur d'Alene NF), a partnership between the North Idaho-Montana Chapter of the FFLA, Lutherhaven Ministries, and the Idaho Panhandle NFs. Work began on the 1930's-era ground house and the initial assessment was been made on the 53-foot tower in 2012. Spyglass is listed on the National Historic Lookout Register (US #900, ID #82).
- 4) **Granite Butte Lookout, Montana**
The fourth FFLA Restoration Grant of 2012 was awarded for the restoration of Granite Butte Lookout, near Lincoln on the Helena NF. Volunteers from the Montana Wilderness Association and the National Smokejumper Association began work in September; additional volunteer work remains, as well as structural upgrades, to prepare the 20-foot R-6 lookout for potential addition to the rental program. Granite Butte is listed on the National Historic Lookout Register (US #744, MT #42).
- 5) **Emergency Stabilization Grant - Rich Mountain Lookout Tower, North Carolina**
An emergency stabilization fund was awarded for the purchasing of paint for the Rich Mountain lookout tower, located on the Appalachian Trail. The tower has been subject to significant amounts of graffiti.

Gary Weber
Treasurer