

Glacier National Park & Northwest Montana Forest Fire Lookout Association Form Cooperative Agreement



Porcupine Lookout - GNP Archives

The Northwest Montana Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association (NWMT-FFLA) and Glacier National Park (GNP) have signed a cooperative agreement. Under this agreement, the NWMT-FFLA will assist the Park with the maintenance of its nine fire lookouts and help with monitoring the condition of four lookouts through on-site assessments. These structures are exposed to extreme weather conditions, and the Park's grizzly bears often try to gain access. The NWMT-FFLA is a non-profit organization operating through the North Idaho/Montana Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association dedicated to supporting federal and state agencies in the restoration, maintenance, and staffing of fire lookouts and other historical support structures on public lands.

The Park's nine fire lookouts are perched on remote mountain tops and ridges throughout its boundaries. From Porcupine Lookout resting on a ridge far above the Waterton River drainage to Apgar Lookout watching over Lake McDonald, all of these historic structures play an important role in GNP's fire management.

The NWMT-FFLA emerged three years ago when fire managers on the Hungry Horse-Glacier View Ranger District on the Flathead National Forest started the restoration process on two lookouts. In 2012, the district chose to staff these lookouts with volunteers. These volunteers not only staffed these lookouts but also participated in restoration work. Preservation efforts inspired a small group of lookout enthusiasts to form the Northwest Montana Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association (NWMT-FFLA).

During the summer of 2015, the NWMT-FFLA will participate in a maintenance project on Huckleberry Lookout and the condition assessments on Apgar and Mount Brown Lookouts in GNP. Other restoration and maintenance projects across Northwest Montana will consist of Jumbo and Mud Lake Lookouts within the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex on the Flathead National Forest, Little Napa Lookout on the Swan Unit of the MT-Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), and Sex Peak Lookout on the Kootenai National Forest.

For more information on the MWNT-FFLA go to their [website](#) or follow them on [Facebook](#) .