

**S**ince shortly after the turn of the century, government personnel have stood guard over western lands. In Klamath, Lake, and Modoc Country, fire lookouts open to the public offer breathtaking views from the top of the world as well as a chance to visit history.

**E**arly fire lookouts were simply scaffolds, attached precariously to trees and offering little shelter to early fire observers.

**M**ost surviving fire lookout towers, built in the 20's and 30's, are 14' by 14' structures assembled from pre-manufactured kits and packed up to mountain peaks by truck or even mule train. Windows offered a 360-degree view of the area for the occupant. All the comforts of home were available: wood stove, bed and lantern.

**L**ookout towers are not only pieces of living history, some continue to serve an important function in today's fire protection efforts. You are welcome to visit towers still used during fire season, but please keep in mind that personnel may be busy.

**V**isitors are encouraged to use extreme caution around lookout towers, especially with children. Be sure to inquire locally about road conditions. Some lookouts are accessible only on foot or with high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles.

### *Suggestions or New Ideas:*

*Please contact Klamath County Dept. of Tourism  
1-800-445-6728*

VISIT THE SOUTHERN OREGON VISITOR ASSOCIATION  
HOME PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE REGION AND UPCOMING EVENTS:  
[www.sova.org/klm/](http://www.sova.org/klm/)

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This project is funded in part with a grant from the Oregon State Lottery through the Regional Strategies Fund administered by the State of Oregon Economic Development Department.

## Bonus Points

**W**ant to spend more time in one of the area's historic fire lookouts? The view and the solitude can't be beat.

- **Bald Butte Lookout Rental** - Many historic area lookouts are being made available as rustic vacation rentals. Reservations are required. For Bald Butte Lookout Rental, and outdoor recreation activities including skiing and snowmobiling, contact the **Paisley Ranger District, 541-943-3114**. Bald Butte Lookout is available year-round.
- **Hager Mountain Lookout Rental** - While a little more difficult to get to, this lookout offers the adventurous a breathtaking view year-round from over 7,000 feet. On a clear day you might see as far north as Mt. Hood, and south to Mt. Shasta. Contact the **Silver Lake Ranger District, 541-576-2107**, for information and reservations. Reservations also can be made for the Fremont Point Cabin perched on the edge of the massive escarpment west of Summer Lake.
- Fremont National Forest is adding two more lookouts to their rental program, for information call **541-947-3334**.

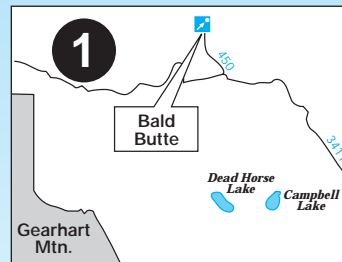
*Sponsor*

## Klamath National Forest

*We would like to thank Klamath National Forest  
for assisting in sponsoring this brochure.*

### Bald Butte

From Bly, OR, E on Hwy. 140 for 1/2 mi., N on Campbell Rd for 1 mi., turn right on Forest Service Rd. 34 for 19 mi. to Rd. 3372. Turn left and go 10 mi. to Forest Service Rd. 3411, then turn right. Take Rd. 450, 1 1/2 mi. to summit.



This lookout, atop the 7536 foot summit of Bald Butte, was used by Forest Service personnel to keep watch over Gearhart Mountain, Lee Thomas Meadow, and the surrounding area. Deadhorse and Campbell Lakes are nearby. Built in 1931, this lookout is available for overnight stays year-round.

**Information: Paisley Ranger District, 541-943-3114.**

# HISTORIC FIRE LOOKOUTS

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## Klamath, Lake, & Modoc Country

Southern Oregon & Northeastern California

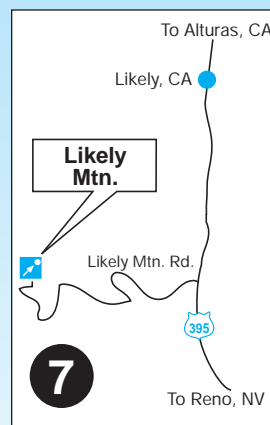
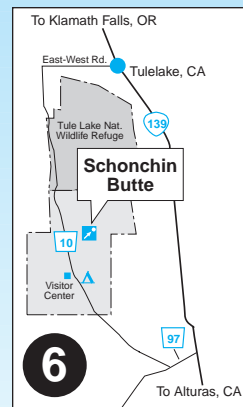
# Historic Fire Lookouts

## Schonchin Butte

From Tulelake, CA, W 5 mi. on East-West Rd., S 9.5 mi. on Hill Rd., to Monument, then 7.3 mi. to Schonchin Butte Rd.

This easily accessible site offers a wonderful view of Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge as well as the unforgiving terrain of surrounding Lava Beds National Monument, site of the Modoc War of 1872-73. Short walk to lookout.

Information: Lava Beds National Monument, 530-667-2282.

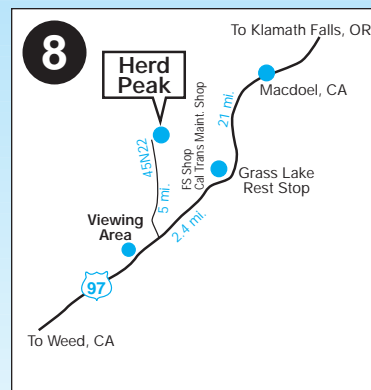


## Likely Mountain

From Likely, CA, S on Hwy. 395 approx. 6.5 mi., W on Likely Mtn. Rd., 4 mi. to summit.

Just off Hwy 395, this lookout is easily accessible in most vehicles and gives visitors a crystal-clear view of the geologically unique Modoc Plateau, and Warner Mtns.; still utilized by BLM, USFS, and CDF for fire detection. The base of this historic lookout was a surplus radar platform.

Information: Big Valley Ranger District, 530-299-3215.

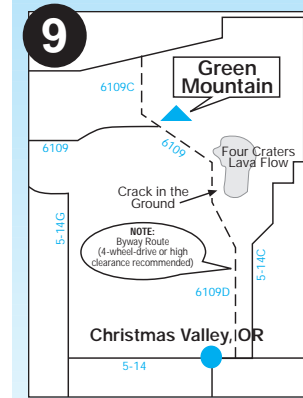


## Herd Peak

17 mi. S of Macdoel, CA, on Hwy. 97, W on Forest Service Rd. 45N22 for approximately 5 mi. to summit.

This lookout just off Hwy. 97 offers an unobstructed view of snow-covered Mt. Shasta and the surrounding area to the south. The gravel road to the summit is passable in most vehicles.

Information: Gooseneck Ranger District, 530-398-4391.



## Green Mountain

15 mi. N of Christmas Valley, OR. At 5,190 feet in elevation, Green Mountain Lookout gives visitors a panoramic view of lava flows, cinder cones, and the desert landscape of the Fort Rock and Christmas Valley area. This lookout is located along the Christmas Valley Back Country Byway. A brochure is available for this scenic route from BLM.

Information: Bureau Of Land Management, Lakeview District, 541-947-2177.

## Fremont Point Cabin

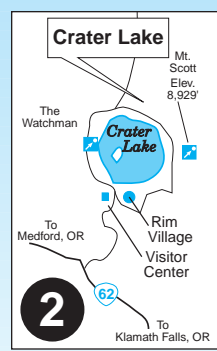
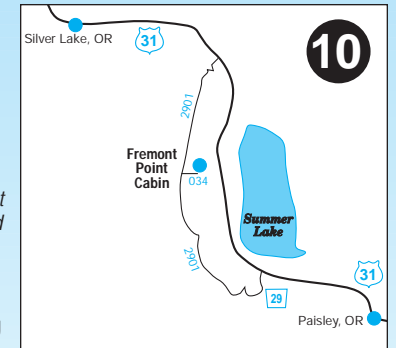
From Silver Lake, OR, S on Hwy 31 for 16 mi., and right on Forest Service Rd. 2901.

Proceed 16 mi. to Forest Service Rd. 034, left and then 2 mi. to the cabin.

This cabin stands perched on the edge of Winter Rim, overlooking the Summer Lake Basin some 3,000 feet below.

Ski in for a truly beautiful winter experience, and relive the adventures of wilderness explorer John C. Fremont, whose adventures helped form the colorful history of this region. This cabin is available for rental year round.

Information: Silver Lake Ranger District 541-576-2107.



## Crater Lake National Park

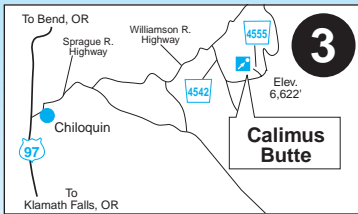
60 miles N of Klamath Falls, OR on Hwy 97 & 62.

Two lookouts in this park offer visitors a birds-eye view of Wizard's Island and the crystal blue waters of the lake. Stop at The Watchman first, just a short one-mile hike, and then, if you have the energy, go on to the 2.5 mile hike up Mt. Scott from Rim Drive.

Information: Crater Lake National Park Service, 541-594-2211

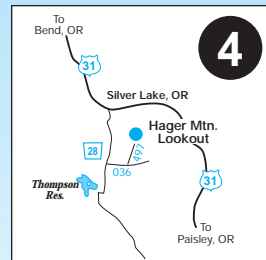
## Calimus Butte

From Chiloquin, OR, E 5.5 mi. on Sprague River Hwy., left on Williamson River Rd. for 11 mi., right on Forest Service Rd. 4542 for 2 mi., left on Forest Service Rd. 4555 to summit.



Beautiful and historic cupola-style lookout built by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1920. Overlooks scene of huge 1992 Lone Pine fire.

Information: Chiloquin Ranger District, 541-783-4001.

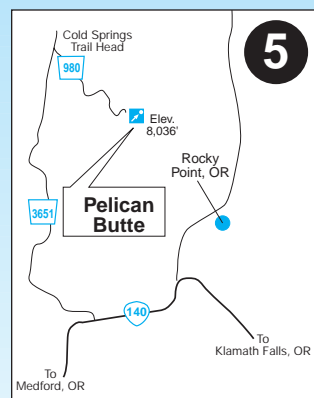


## Hager Mountain

From Silver Lake, OR: travel S. 11 mi. on Forest Service Rd. 28, E on Forest Service Rd. 036 for 2 mi., N on Forest Service Rd. 497 to summit.

Road conditions might demand a short hike to this lookout which has served the Forest Service since the 1920's. Overlooks Sycan Marsh, offers views to the distant Cascades. Part of the growing Forest Service Rental program.

Inquire about renting the lookout for an overnight stay from Nov. thru April. Information: Silver Lake Ranger District, 541-576-2107.



## Pelican Butte

From Klamath Falls, OR, W 25 mi. on Hwy. 140 to Forest Service Rd. 3651, N 9 mi. to Forest Service Rd. 980, E 3 mi. to lookout.

Just an hour's drive from Klamath Falls, this lookout offers a stunning view of Upper Klamath Lake and the Sky Lakes Wilderness. Four-wheel drive is recommended. This now privately owned tower is currently used as a communication antenna mast.

Information: Klamath Ranger District, 541-885-3400.

## Sugar Hill Lookout

From Hwy. 395, 11 mi. N of Davis Creek, or 9 mi. S. of New Pine Creek, CA, E on Forest Service Rd. 30 for about 5 mi., across bridge. Turn southerly on 46N06 for about 3 mi., go W on 46N06A for about 2 mi. to lookout.

The original lookout was a wooden platform in a large pine tree, circa 1920. Present lookout tower was built in 1931. Tower is still used at times during fire season. Great vistas of the "undiscovered" Warner Mtns., rugged volcanic landscape of Devils Garden, and Goose Lake. Dirt road access. Usable by most passenger vehicles during summer months.

Information: Warner Mountain Ranger District, 530-279-6116.

