

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ Page 1

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: MP100002044


Date Listed: 1/25/2018

Property Name: Boulder Point Lookout

County: Ravalli

State: MT

This Property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation


Signature of the Keeper

1/25/2018
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Location:

The Street Address is revised to read: 2 mi. NW of West Fork Ranger Station, Boulder Point, Bitterroot National Forest.

[Nominations for federal property should all contain the name of the federal park, forest, district, or other organizational division under "location."]

The Montana SHPO and FS FPO were notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MP-2044

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Boulder Point Lookout
Other names/site number: 24RA0173
Name of related multiple property listing:
L-4 Fire Lookouts in the USFS Northern Region (Region 1) 1932-1967
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: _____
City or town: Darby State: Montana County: Ravalli
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national X statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

Jane Clark Regional Archaeologist 12/5/2017
Signature of certifying official/Title: _____ Date
USDA Forest Service, Northern Region (Region 1)
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
Mark F. Sauber 11/16/2018
Signature of commenting official: _____ Date
Title: Montana State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

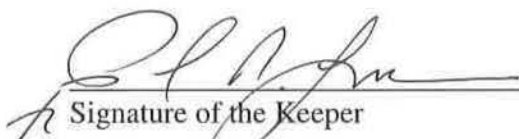
Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain:) _____


Signature of the Keeper

1/25/2018
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
Public – Local
Public – State
Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
District
Site
Structure
Object

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Government
- Other: fire lookout
-
-
-
-

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Vacant (not in use)
-
-
-
-

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: "Readicut" L-4 Lookout House (1931-pattern)

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation: N/A

Walls: WOOD / Weatherboard; GLASS

Roof: WOOD / Shingle

Other: WOOD / Log (tower) CONCRETE (tower footings)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Boulder Point Lookout is an excellent example of the 1931-pattern L-4 Lookout House, originally designed by Clyde Fickes. It is located roughly two miles northwest of the West Fork Ranger Station—the administrative headquarters of the West Fork District. The only access to the lookout is from a two-mile-long pack trail. The lookout structure is located atop a narrow rocky prominence known as Boulder Point (elevation 7,753 ft.) on the ridge that extends southeastward from Boulder Peak, about two and a half miles to the northwest. This ridge line serves as the boundary of the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Area. Boulder Point itself is a rocky prominence, with a nearly vertical drop-off on its north side into the Boulder Creek drainage. Vegetation in and around the lookout consists of mixed stands of Douglas fir, subalpine fir, and lodge pole pine. The lookout commands a view of the Boulder Creek drainage to the north (including the south side of Trapper Peak) and the Nez Perce / West Fork Bitterroot River confluence to the south.

The property possesses integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling and association. The lookout itself is in good to fair condition, with a few missing/damaged glass panes in its west wall windows. While the shutters have been removed from some of the windows (the west wall and half of the north wall), they appear to remain on site. Besides the lookout the site area contains a wood frame outhouse, which is in fair condition. The outhouse door has been repaired with plywood.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

Narrative Description

The Boulder Point Lookout is a 14 ft. by 14 ft. wood frame building with a pyramidal roof built atop a 10-foot high, log tower. Simple drop wood siding covers the lower portion of the exterior walls, and the roof is covered with sawn cedar shingles with metal ridge caps. A new stainless steel stove pipe extends above the north slope of the roof. The entry into the lookout house is located at the north end of the east wall, and contains its original six-light wood door; a board-and-batten storm door has been added over the door. Four nine-light windows are located in the wall south of the entry. The remaining three walls each contain five, nine-light, wood windows, two of which slide sideways allowing ventilation. Several panes of glass are missing from the west wall windows—the openings filled with cardboard and/or wood. The window shutters on the west wall and the east half of the north wall have been removed, but remain on site. The struts to hold the shutters remain fixed to the lower rail in the catwalk safety railing. The building retains its lightning protection.

The four legs of the cross-braced tower have cast-in-place concrete footings. A single-flight stairway leads from the northwest corner of the tower base to the catwalk. The trapdoor that would have originally been lowered to secure the tower is missing. The stairs have log stringers and board treads.

In the one-room interior, the original maple floor is intact and in fair condition. The space is fitted with a small wood-burning stove, a platform bed with drawers beneath for storage and several tables, storage benches, and a wood box.

The outhouse is located about 200 feet east of the lookout. This one-story front-gable building measures 3.5 ft. by 4 ft. Stones are piled around the base of the building, which is also guy-wired to the ground. The exterior walls are covered with simple drop wood siding with vertical corner board trim and a diagonal brace on the rear (north) wall. The wood shingle roof appears to be new. The front (south) wall has a five-panel wood door. Although the door appears to be original, its original wood panels have been replaced with plywood.

Integrity

The Boulder Point Lookout retains all seven aspects of historical integrity. The lookout is in its original location, in a remote area only accessible by trail. Its remoteness in turn contributes to its exceptional integrity of setting, feeling and association. With a few exceptions, the lookout and its associated outhouse retain integrity of materials, workmanship and design. The lookout stands as an exceptional example of the once-common 1931-pattern L-4 Lookouts once included in the Bitterroot National Forest's fire detection system.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Politics / Government

Conservation

Engineering

Architecture

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

Period of Significance

1937- 1967

Significant Dates

1937 (year built)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Clyde Fickes (designer)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Boulder Point Lookout is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C, at the local and state level of significance. Under Criterion A, it is significantly associated with the US Forest Service's early fire detection program, which relied on a series of fixed lookout points from which to locate forest fires. Under Criterion C, Boulder Point Lookout is an excellent example of a 1931-pattern L-4 Lookout House displaying the engineering and architecture of the period.

The Boulder Point Lookout meets the Registration Requirements set forth in the *L-4 Fire Lookouts in the USFS Northern Region (Region 1), 1932-1967 Multiple Property Document* under the contexts *The Role of the L-4 Lookout House in the Development of the US Forest Service Region 1's Fire Detection System* and *Fire Lookout Development on the Bitterroot National Forest*, and the *L-4 Lookout* property type. The period of significance identified for this property extends from its construction in 1937 through 1967, the end of the historical period; it conforms to the MPD cover context period. Boulder Point Lookout was added to the West Fork District's presuppression program in 1937. It appears to have functioned principally as a secondary or emergency lookout point, i.e., operated during critical fire seasons from its construction in 1937 through the end of the period of significance (1967).

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The West Fork District of the Bitterroot National Forest added Boulder Point Lookout to its system of fixed fire detection points in 1937. Earlier that year, the district counted seven primary lookout points and three secondary or emergency points in its system.¹ Elers Koch's reference to the lookout tower under construction on the West Fork District during the summer of 1937 likely refers to Boulder Point Lookout, making it the eleventh manned lookout point in the district. Although it has been suggested that CCC crews built Boulder Point Lookout, that task probably fell to district employees.²

During the 1950s lookout replacement program, the forest conducted an inspection of Boulder Point Lookout—a prerequisite for consideration for obtaining a new lookout structure. The inspection form indicates that the forest used it as an “emergency” or secondary lookout, i.e., it was occupied only during extreme fire seasons. While only a secondary lookout point, it was important enough for the district to want to replace the 1937 structure with a new one.³ However, as a secondary lookout point, Boulder Point did not rise to the priority list for replacement. The district continued to use it during emergency fire seasons through the early 1980s.⁴

Between 2005 and 2007, volunteers from the West Fork Ski Club and forest employees stabilized the lookout. Work included replacing the tower cross beams and legs, re-shingling the roof, repairing and painting the shutters, and installing a new stove pipe.⁵

¹ Elers Koch, Assistant Regional Forester, “August 19, 1937 Memorandum for Supervisor and Regional Office D (s) Supervision – Bitterroot Inspection.” Folder Bitterroot National Forest Inspection Reports, 1938-1935, 1 of 3, Box 2 Bitterroot – Cabinet, RG 95 Regional Office Inspection Reports 1906-1938, NARA, Seattle.

² In September of 1937, Regional Forest Evan Kelley suggested to the Bitterroot Forest Supervisor that CCC crews could be used to help the forest catch up with lookout improvement work, indicating that the forest had yet to take advantage of the labor and money available through the New Deal programs. Evan Kelley to Bitterroot Forest Supervisor, G. M. Brandborg, September 29, 1937. Folder Bitterroot National Forest Inspection Reports, 1938-1935, 1 of 3, Box 2 Bitterroot – Cabinet, RG 95 Regional Office Inspection Reports 1906-1938, NARA, Seattle.

³ Undated Structural Assessment Form for Boulder Point Lookout. Folder E- Improvements – Bitterroot 1957 Lookout Replacement, Box 6, RG 95 Records of the Forest Service Bitterroot National Forest Forest Supervisor's Files Alpha Files E –Improvements, NARA Seattle.

⁴ It is included in a 1967 list of sixteen lookouts in use forest-wide. “List of Lookouts in Region 1,” 1967. Folder 5100 Lookouts Historical 2 of 2, Box 45, RG 95 Records of the Forest Service Region 1, Missoula, Montana Historical Collection 1903-1990, NARA Seattle.

⁵ “Group Rescuing Old Fire Lookout.” *Billing Gazette*, August 12, 2006.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Kresek, Ray
1984 *Fire Lookouts of the Northwest*. Fairfield Washington: Ye Galleon Press.

RG 95 Records of the US Forest Service, National Archives and Records Administration,
Seattle, Washington.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: National Archives & Records Administration, Seattle, WA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 24RA0173

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property about one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 45.837770 Longitude: --114.289230

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: 11 Easting: 710513 Northing: 5079596

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of this property is an arbitrary line drawn to encompass the top of the rocky knob containing the lookout and its associated outhouse, roughly corresponding to the 7720' contour interval.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encloses the primary improvements at this location, which include the lookout and its associated outhouse

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Janene Caywood

organization: CRCS

street & number: 1002 South 6th St. West

city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59801

[e-mail: crcs@montana.com](mailto:crcs@montana.com)

telephone: 406 728-9190

date: November 2, 2017

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

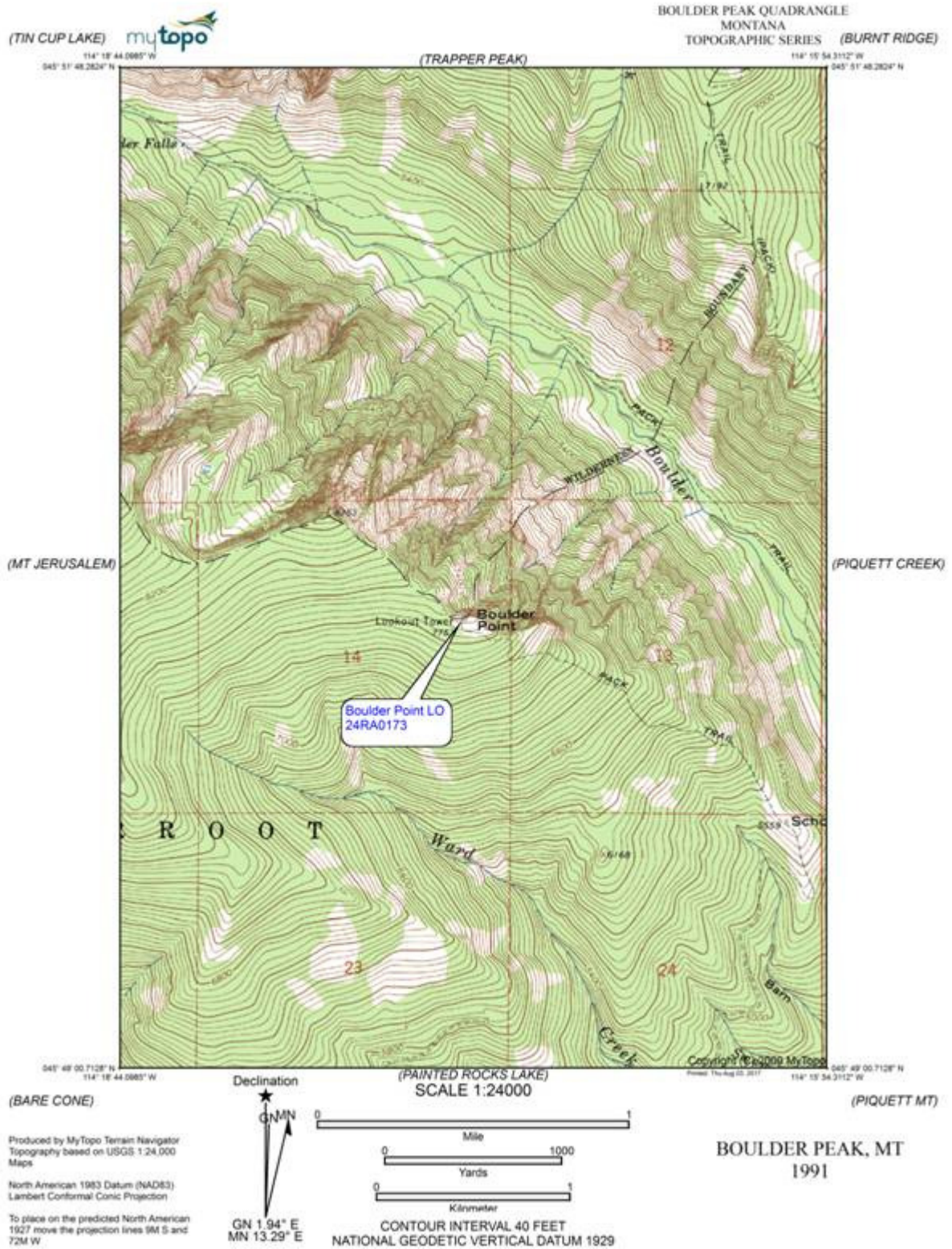
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

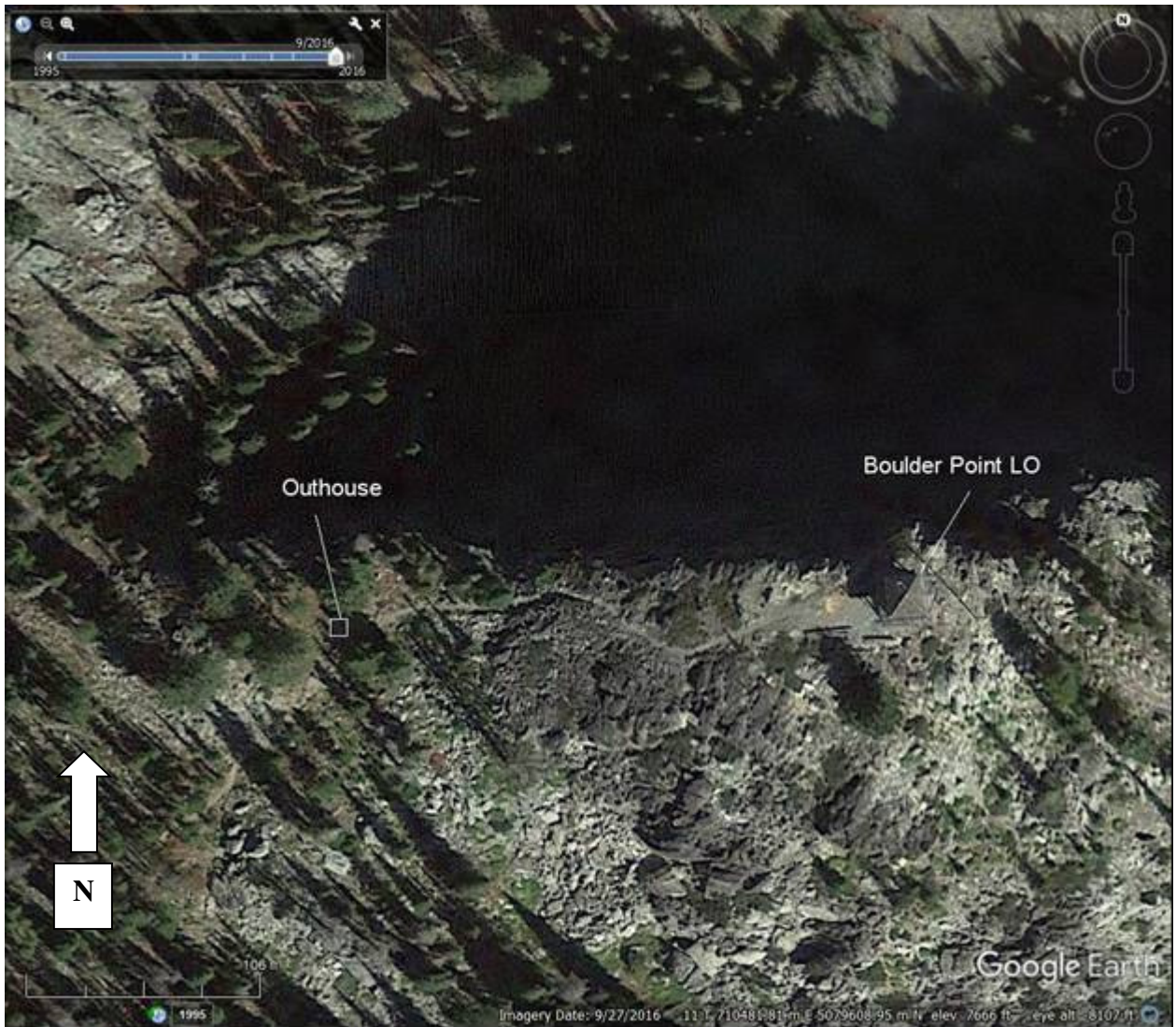
Boulder Point Lookout
 Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
 County and State



Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



2016 Google Earth aerial photograph of the Boulder Point Lookout site.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600 x 1200 pixels (minimum), 3000 x 2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

All Photographs

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity: Darby vicinity

County: Ravalli State: Montana

Photographer: Janene Caywood

Date Photographed: July 28, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of ____.

See Below

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0001. Looking east to the west wall of the lookout.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0002. Looking west to the east (front) wall of the lookout.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0003. Looking north along the west side of the catwalk over the Boulder Creek Drainage to Trapper Peak.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0004. Detail of 2007 concrete footing work done by volunteers.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0005. Interior view of the cab. Note the original door at the north end of the east wall.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0006. Looking northeast to the west and south (front) walls of the outhouse.

Boulder Point Lookout
Name of Property

Ravalli County, Montana
County and State



MT_RavalliCounty_BoulderPointLookout_0007. Looking southwest to the east and north (rear) wall of the outhouse

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.







2007
WFSKI



BOULDER POINT LOOKOUT





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Boulder Point Lookout

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: MONTANA, Ravalli

Date Received: 12/11/2017 Date of Pending List: _____ Date of 16th Day: _____ Date of 45th Day: 1/25/2018 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: MP100002044

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 1/25/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Boulder Point Lookout is of state level significance under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Conservation, Politics/Government, Architecture and Engineering. The modest, 14' x 14', wood and glass building represents an excellent example of a 1931-pattern, L-4 type Forest Service lookout, in this case set atop a 10' high log tower. Designed by Clyde Fickes, the 1937 lookout is associated with the Forest Service's early twentieth century fire detection and regional conservation programs. The property meets the Registration Requirements of the associated MPS.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept NR Criteria A and C

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date 1/25/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



File Code: 2360
Date: December 5, 2017



J. Paul Loether, Keeper, National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C St., NW - Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Loether,

Enclosed please find the following Multiple Property Document and associated nominations for your consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

L-4 Fire Lookouts in the USFS Northern Region (Region 1), 1932-1967, Multiple Property Document (MPD),

- Boulder Point Lookout** in Ravalli County, Montana
- Double Arrow Lookout** in Missoula County, Montana
- Mineral Peak Lookout** in Missoula County, Montana
- West Fork Butte Lookout** in Missoula County, Montana

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the National Register Multiple Property Document *L-4 Fire Lookouts in the USFS Northern Region (Region 1), 1932-1967*.

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the National Register nominations for the Boulder Point Lookout, the Double Arrow Lookout, the Mineral Peak Lookout, and the West Fork Butte Lookout for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Please be advised that the Montana State Historic Preservation Office notified owners in excess of 45 days prior to the Preservation Review Board meeting and public officials in excess of 30 days prior to the Preservation Review Board meeting. The Review Board unanimously recommended that these properties be nominated and I concur with its recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jorie Clark
Regional Archaeologist, Delegated Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Forest Service, Northern Region

Enclosure

