Action

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

| historic name <u>Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District</u>  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| other names/site number <u>Chamberlain Guard Station</u>   |                                |
| 2. Location  |                                |
| street & number Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness   | <u>N/A</u> not for publication |
| city or town Payette National Forest   | N/A_vicinity                   |
| state Idaho code ID county Idaho   | _ code_049 zip code_N/A        |
| 3. State/Federal Agency Certification  |                                |
|  |                                |
| nominationrequest for determination of eligibility meets the National Register of Historic Places and meets the pr | 2                              |

In my opinion, the property dense does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Date USDA-FS INTERMOUNTAIN EGIC

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4. National Park Service Certification

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this property is: \_\_\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet. \_\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet. \_\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register.

\_\_ other, (explain:)\_

### 5. Classification

| Ownership of Property<br>(Check as many boxes as apply) | Category of Property<br>(Check only one box) | Number<br>(Do not inc |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| _ private   | building(s)                                  | Contribut             |
| _ public-local  | X district                                   | 4                     |
| _ public-State  | _ site                                       | 2                     |
| X public-Federal  | structure                                    |                       |
|   | object                                       |                       |
|   |  | 6                     |

#### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

# Number of Resources within Property Do not include previously listed resources in the count.) Contributing

| Contributing | Noncontributing |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 4            | 4 buildings     |
| 2            | sites           |
|              | structures      |
|              | objects         |
| 6            | 4 Total         |

Idaho County, Idaho

County, and State

# Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT

DOMESTIC/camp (seasonal dwelling)

TRANSPORTATION/air-related

AGRICULTURE/animal facility

#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/rustic

GOVERNMENT DOMESTIC/camp (seasonal dwelling)

(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions** 

TRANSPORTATION/air-related

AGRICULTURE/animal facility

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

CONCRETE

WOOD/log

walls WOOD/log

roof WOOD/shingle

other \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

|            | berlain Ranger Station Historic District<br>of Property   | Idaho County, Idaho<br>County, and State                        |  |  |
|------------|---|---|--|--|
| 8. Sta     | tement of Significance  |   |  |  |
| (Mark '    | able National Register Criteria<br>'x" on one or more lines for the criteria<br>ng the property for National Register listing.) | Areas of Significance<br>(Enter categories from instructions)   |  |  |
| <u>X</u> A | Property is associated with events that have  | CONSERVATION  |  |  |
|            | made a significant contribution to the broad  |   |  |  |
|            | patterns of our history.  |   |  |  |
| _В         | Property is associated with the lives of persons  |   |  |  |
|            | significant in our past.  | <u> </u>  |  |  |
| _c         | Property embodies the distinctive characteristics   |   |  |  |
|            | of a type, period, or method of construction, or  | Period of Significance  |  |  |
|            | represents the work of a master, or possesses   | 1921-1954   |  |  |
|            | high artistic values, or represents a   |   |  |  |
|            | significant and distinguishable entity whose  |   |  |  |
|            | components lack individual distinction.   | Significant Dates   |  |  |
| _ D        | Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,  | 1921, 1932, 1938, 1954  |  |  |
|            | information important in prehistory or history.   |   |  |  |
|            | a Considerations<br>"x" on all that apply.)   |   |  |  |
| Proper     | ty is:  | Significant Person<br>(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) |  |  |
| _ A        | owned by a religious institution or used for  | N/A   |  |  |
|            | religious purposes.   | Cultural Affiliation  |  |  |
| <u>Х</u> В | removed from its original location.   |   |  |  |
| _ c        | a birthplace or grave.  |   |  |  |
| _ D        | a cemetery.   |   |  |  |
| E          | a reconstructed building, object, or  | Architect/Builder   |  |  |
|            | structure.  | USFS  |  |  |
| F          | a commemorative property.   |   |  |  |
| G          | less than 50 years of age or achieved   |   |  |  |
|            | significance within the past 50 years.  |   |  |  |
| Narra      | tive Statement of Significance  |   |  |  |

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- \_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested \_ Other State agency
- \_ 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 # \_

### Primary location of additional data:

x State Historic Preservation Office

- \_ Federal agency
- \_\_Local government
- \_ University \_ Other

Name of repository:

Idaho County, Idaho County, and State

### 10. Geographical Data

#### Acreage of property Approx. 100

#### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

|              | <u>6/4/0/7/7/0</u><br>Easting | 5/0/2/6/5/4/0<br>Northing |              | 6/4/1/0/9/0<br>Easting |               |              | 6/4/1/4/8/0<br>Easting | 5/0/2/5/8/5/0<br>Northing |              | 6/4/1/8/3/0<br>Easting | 5/0/2/5/8/3/0<br>Northing |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| E <u>1/1</u> | 6/4/1/8/2/0                   | 5/0/2/5/7/2/0             | F <u>1/1</u> | 6/4/0/4/0/0            | 5/0/2/5/7/2/0 | G <u>1/1</u> | 6/4/0/3/9/0            | 5/0/2/5/8/5/0             | H <u>1/1</u> | 6/4/0/9/2/0            | 5/0/2/5/8/4/0             |

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

**Boundary Justification** 

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

#### 11. Form Prepared By

| name/title Kathleen Prouty Eld, Archeological Technic | ian                             |
|---|---------------------------------|
| organization <u>USFS - Payette NF</u>                 | date July 2003                  |
| street & number 102 Westlake St.                      | telephone <u>208-634-0750</u>   |
| city or town McCall                                   | state_ID zip code <u>_83638</u> |

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Continuation Sheets
- Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and/or properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

- Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.
- Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

#### **Property Owner**

| name Payette National Forest     |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| street & number 102 Westlake St. | telephone_208-634-0750         |
| city or town                     | state ID zip code <u>83638</u> |

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

| Section number _7_ Page_1 | Name of Property <u>Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District</u> |
|---------------------------|--|
|                           | County and State <u>Idaho County, Idaho</u>                          |

The Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District is located in the north central portion of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, in Idaho County in central Idaho. The Station lies in a small mountain valley that is bordered by the meandering Chamberlain Creek. Grassy meadows lie to the north and southeast of the valley. Lodgepole pine generally covers the rest of the valley floor except where it has been cleared away to build the airstrips. Currently a Guard Station, it lies in the center of the valley with an airstrip to the east running northwest to southeast. This connects at the south end to an airstrip running east/west. Ranch Creek borders the Station on the west.

This remote Ranger Station, constructed over a thirty-year period, represents the transition from early 20<sup>th</sup> century Forest Service rustic architecture to more standardized construction. There are six buildings in a cluster west of the landing strip that runs northeast to southwest (referred to from now on as the north–south airstrip), and two buildings to the north. The Ranger's house is farthest to the south with the warehouse adjacent to the north, and woodshed to the west. About 20 yards to the northwest of the woodshed there is a small cabin. To the north, there are two newer bunkhouses. Finally, a tack shed and a fly shed lie 300 yards to the north of the main complex near the north end of the north-south airstrip. The Chamberlain Guard Station is still used as a seasonal administrative site.

### <u>Tack Shed #1620 – Contributing</u> - c. 1906 (POS 1954) (map #7)

The tack shed was originally built circa 1906 as a settlers cabin and became the Guard Station's tack shed in 1954 when it was moved from its original location nearly 300 yards to the southeast to its present location. It is a one-room building with a front-gabled roof. The cabin's orientation and exterior dimensions are 17 feet 6 inches north to south, by 15 feet 8 inches east to west. Logs are of pine that have been squared in the Finnish tradition and vary from 7 to 11 inches in diameter. Log corners are spiked, square lap joins. The log walls are tightly fitted and are chinked with split poles and daubing.

The exterior is stained brown. There is a twelve-lite, fixed-frame window centered on each of the north and west elevations. Both windows are the same size. Windows and door casements are of milled lumber and are painted a dark green. There is a solid wood door on the east elevation, in front of which a low concrete pad has been poured. The floor of the cabin is also poured concrete. The roof is supported with 14 purlins. Sheathing supports 24 rows of green-stained, milled, cedar shingles. At about six feet above the ground, the logs are not chinked, providing ventilation for the building. Interior furnishings consist of hangers for saddles, harnesses and bridles. There is a workbench along the north wall.

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County and State <u>Idaho County, Idaho</u>

This cabin was likely built by a homesteader, Lewis Stephenson, who had filed a homestead in 1906 and constructed a cabin situated on the west end of the area that later become the east-west airstrip. He later abandoned the property. Albert Nixon then filed on the plot, but by 1929 he had not proved up and so lost his claim; thus, it reverted back to the National Forest. This is the oldest building at the guard station and is a good example of early rustic construction. The building is in excellent condition and may be the oldest extant in the Wilderness area.

### Fly Shed - Contributing - c. 1921 (map #8)

A fly shed is a covered corral or livestock shelter used in areas of intensive insect populations. The structure was intended as temporary protection for livestock until a more permanent structure could be built. When in use it would have been covered by a tarp saturated with bug repellant.

Constructed circa 1921, the Chamberlain fly shed is located 130 yards to the northwest of the tack shed in a stand of pine. The fly shed is a rectangular log structure, 45 feet 6 inches, by 23 feet, with eight to nine logs stacked approximately seven feet high. The building is constructed of peeled native pine logs with the sill logs set directly on the ground. The logs are round with saddle notching and pole chinking. A couple of the ceiling joist poles were still present but have collapsed into the structure. There are five-foot-wide door openings on the southwest and northeast ends of the building with split-log board door jams. The logs are half notched and overlapped at the ends to form one long wall. Four logs were placed vertically into the ground, two on each side of the wall where the logs come together, and the vertical logs are wired together at the top. There is an interior log wall at this juncture. The log structure is intact but beginning to deteriorate with time and weather. The Chamberlain fly shed was constructed around the same time another was built at Cold Meadows Guard Station located 15 air miles to the southeast. It represents a unique early Forest Service building type.

### North-South Airstrip - Contributing - 1932 (map #9)

In 1925, the U.S Forest Service developed additional lands adjacent to the Chamberlain Basin Administrative Site for hay and pastureland. This meadowland was gradually improved and served as an emergency airstrip. Additional clearing of small timber was an annual task. By 1932, the Forest Service was using the strip to "fly in" fire fighters. According to inventory records, the first major construction was to build a strip 2,700 feet long.

### Ranger's House #1147 - Contributing - 1938 (map #2)

The Ranger's house was begun in fall of 1937 and finished the summer of 1938. It is a one-and-one-

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half-story, four room, 28 feet by 33 feet, log building based on the Forest Service Standard Plan R-4 # 53-c. The foundation is concrete and rock masonry. The exterior and interior walls are composed of peeled lodgepole pine logs harvested on site. The corners are saddle notched. The exterior walls are finished with regulation brown stain. On the front of the building, facing south from left to right, there are: a door with a bracketed gable roof sheltering the entry, a small six-lite window and a larger six-over-six, double-hung sash window. On the east elevation there is another six-over-six window; and to the right of that is a door built into the enclosed porch. At the back of the building there are two six-over-six sash windows. On the west elevation there are a six-over-six, double-hung sash window to the right. There are one-over-one, double-hung sash windows on each end of the upper-story gable ends. The front-gabled roof has a 1/3 pitch and cedar shingles. The building has four concrete steps at the entrance. In 1954, the porch was enclosed to make an additional room, and the upstairs was finished into a room with a bathroom attached. The Forest Service Heritage Program replaced the sill logs in 1990 and 1991.

### Warehouse #1335 - Contributing - 1938 (map # 1)

The warehouse, built in 1938, is a 20 foot by 24 foot building, constructed of peeled logs with saddlenotched corners. It has a front-gabled roof with wooden shingles. The foundation is made of cinder blocks. It has two six-lite casement windows on both the north and south elevations and a door centered at each end of the east and west elevations. The single-room log building was originally identified as a "commissary," a term used at that time to identify its function as storage for food stuffs (principally nonperishables and dry goods), supplies, tools, and fire-fighting equipment. In later years the building was no longer used to store food and came to be known as the "warehouse." Its function remains the storage of tools and equipment.

### East-West Airstrip - Contributing - 1954 (map #10)

Work began in 1949 on a new, longer, east-west runway to accommodate larger, newer, airplanes. A crew of smokejumpers cleared a path through the lodgepole pine to the east of the existing strip. By 1952, a tractor was put to work leveling and filling and the first aircraft used the new strip in 1954. Since that time, dragging and smoothing has been an annual occurrence. In 1961, the Forest Service installed eight sets of tie downs. The east-west airstrip is 4,100 feet long. The airstrips serve administrative and fire control activities of the Forest Service as well as the State Fish and Game Department. Throughout the summer and fall they receive heavy use by private hunters, fishermen, and outfitters.

The existence for airstrips in the wilderness is unusual. In general, motorized use, including aircraft, is

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prohibited in wilderness. However, the (federal) Wilderness Act and the Central Idaho Wilderness Act include special provisions for the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness that permit the landing of aircraft where this use had been established prior to the date of the laws' enactments. Sixteen public use landing strips are located within the wilderness boundaries, including twelve on federal and four on state lands. The Chamberlain airstrips are used by government, commercial, and private aircraft on a seasonal basis.

### Woodshed #1363 - Non-contributing - 1961 (map #3)

The wood shed was built in 1961. It is a 16 foot by 22 foot, one-room cabin of peeled logs with saddlenotched corners. It has a gabled roof with wooden shingles, a concrete foundation, dirt floor, and a single-light casement window. The roof was replaced in the 1980s.

This building was constructed as a replica on the footprint of an earlier cabin that burned. Despite its newer age, its log construction is compatible with the historic buildings on the site and does not detract from the District.

### Bunkhouses - Non-contributing - 1960s (map #4, 5 & 6)

There are three bunkhouses located at Chamberlain that were built in the 1960s. They are the Packer's Cabin #1148 (21' X 16'), and two identical buildings, #1150 (17' X 15') and #1149 (17' X 15'). They are all made of peeled logs with saddle notching. The buildings are chinked with insulation and caulking. They have front-gabled roofs with 2x6 rafters overlaid with 3/4" plywood sheathing. The floors have floor joists of dimensional lumber. The doors are hollow-core veneer.

The Packer's Cabin has five, aluminum, sliding single-pane 20" x 24" windows. There are two windows on each side of the north and south elevations, and one on the left side of the west elevation; the east elevation includes a door. The two identical bunkhouses also have aluminum, sliding single-pane windows. On the front or east elevation there are a window to the left and a door to the right. On the south elevation there are two windows: a smaller to the right and a larger to the left. On the north elevation there is one window to the left. There are no windows on the west elevation.

All three buildings have propane heat, light, and refrigeration in use. The logs are painted with redwood stain with shellac surface gloss. The interior of the two bunkhouses includes varnished log walls with 2x4 and 3/4" plywood ceilings, and attics. These single-room dwellings include a 3-step stoop, linoleum floors, closets in the southwest corners, a sink and cupboards on the south walls, and wood-burning stoves. The bunkhouses and the Packer's Cabin are still in use for seasonal personnel housing. These log buildings, like the woodshed, are compatible in size, scale, roof-form, and massing and do not detract from the Historic District.

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Name of Property Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District

County and State \_\_\_Idaho County, Idaho

### **Statement of Significance**

The Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level, under Criterion A in the area of Conservation, as a good example of a backcountry Forest Service facility. This site reflects the early establishment and evolution of United States Forest Service facilities, and the reliance upon available craftsmanship and local materials in constructing vernacular, rustic-style buildings. The period of significance starts with the date of construction of the fly shed - the oldest extant structure on the property - and closes with the construction of the 1954, eastwest airstrip.

### **Historical Background**

The historic significance of the Chamberlain Guard Station is related to the development of the United States Forest Service. Envisioned as early as the 1870s by various private forest conservation groups, a system of forest reserves began to be established in 1881 under the Department of the Interior. In 1905, these reserves were moved to the Department of Agriculture and reorganized as the United States Forest Service. In 1907, the reserves were designated National Forests. The Payette National Forest has undergone a series of boundary changes that both decreased and increased its acreage. For example, on July 1, 1908, the Idaho National Forest was created from the Payette National Forest, but then rejoined the Payette on April 1, 1944. In 1931, the Payette National Forest was designated an Idaho Primitive Area. The area was renamed the River of No Return Wilderness in 1980, and then legislatively changed to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in 1984.

The early Payette National Forest encompassed vast forests and rugged mountain landscapes. These large mountain ranges created isolated settlements, and transporting supplies from the valleys to mountain mining communities was a considerable undertaking. Chamberlain Basin lies at the convergence of several pack trails that provided a network of supply lines throughout this backcountry. At the turn of the century, miners who were traveling between the mines of north-central Idaho used the trails and passed through the Basin. One such trail, the Three Blaze Trail, was built in 1900, funded by prospectors, miners, packers, and businessmen for transportation, communication, and supply lines to the mines. It is still used and maintained today as a vital route into the backcountry.

By 1906, rangers were being assigned stations in the reserves to administer the protection of the agency's resources: they provided trail maintenance; fire control; conducted research; and, in the early years, inspected homesteads. In the spring of 1906, Ranger David Laing built the Chamberlain Ranger Station (no longer extant) at the south end of Chamberlain Meadow, on the north side of Ranch Creek. Various rudimentary buildings were used as the Ranger's residences in the early years. In the spring of 1916, Al Stonebreaker, under USFS contract, built a two-room, log ranger station (no longer extant) 2,000 yards southeast of the current Chamberlain Guard Station, for \$350, under direction of Ranger Frank Foster.

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 Name of Property Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District

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In 1925, the USFS cleared lands near the Ranger Station for hay and pastureland. In 1930, an officer in fire control wrote to say, "that the Forest Service was studying the possibilities of opening more airstrips in the backcountry so fire crews could be stationed in the hinterlands during fire season and transported and supplied by air." As a result of this policy, the Chamberlain meadowlands were gradually improved so that by 1932, it also served as an emergency airstrip (prior to that time Forest personnel used an airstrip at Stonebreaker's ranch). Additional clearing of small timber was an annual task and the Chamberlain landing field was continually improved between 1932 and 1940.

In addition to becoming more accessible with the airstrip, communications also became more efficient and reliable when telephone service was provided in 1930. A telephone line ran up Smith Creek along the divide to Chicken Peak Lookout and down Chamberlain Creek to the Ranger Station. Telephone lines were difficult to maintain in the wild terrain and severe weather conditions. By the 1950s, radios were in common use.

The creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933 initiated a major building boom for the Forest Service. In August of 1937, Idaho National Forest Supervisor Henry Shank noted that logs had been procured during the summer of 1936 for a new Chamberlain Ranger's dwelling but had no funds for constructing the building. Shank complained to the Regional Forester, "I honestly think it a disgrace to the Organization to require that a ranger be quartered in such a dwelling as is now available. Is it not possible to obtain sufficient funds to construct this station this fall?" The new ranger's dwelling was begun by the end of the 1937 season. In 1938, the Forest used Emergency Relief Administration (ERA) and Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) funds and CCC workers to complete the ranger's dwelling and build a warehouse. The dwelling housed the District Ranger until 1957. In 1958, as forests consolidated their administrative areas into Districts, many ranger stations - Chamberlain among them - became Guard Stations, where the principal station guard and other forest personnel were stationed, rather than the District Ranger.

In 1949, work began on a new east-west runway. It was a long and difficult task to clear trees and level the new airstrip. In 1952, a tractor was put to work leveling and filling. During this time, a cabin was moved to the north end of the original airstrip and remodeled for a tack shed. The first aircraft used the new landing strip in 1954. With the advent of the new airstrip, which could accommodate larger planes, this area of the backcountry began to be more heavily used. In the 1960s, a woodshed and bunkhouses were added to meet the growing needs of the station.

The role of the Forest changed somewhat when the designation of the land changed. The Idaho Primitive Area was established in 1931, and the government began to eliminate private lands in the forest by purchasing the patented lands and canceling unprofitable mining claims. In 1980, the Primitive Area was designated as the River of No Return Wilderness. The Wilderness contained 2.4 million acres and became the largest congressionally designated wilderness in the lower 48 states. As a result of the wilderness status, the Forest Service began removing extraneous buildings and ceased

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County and State \_\_\_Idaho County, Idaho

construction of any new buildings. Today the Forest Service uses the extant buildings on the site seasonally to house equipment and employees who maintain trails, report fires, protect the wilderness, and provide a contact with the wilderness users.

### Summary:

The Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District is significant as it embodies the early Forest Service approach to backcountry facilities. Their remote locations made construction of new buildings difficult and precluded the use of milled lumber and manufactured materials to a great degree. Personnel at Chamberlain had to rely on their own ingenuity to construct their facilities as supplies had to be packed in via mules, horses, or humans. The early Rangers at the Chamberlain Ranger Station moved buildings from surrounding property, constructed new buildings, and reused old ones in an effort to be as efficient as possible in the remote wilderness. The 1930s saw a boom in USFS building construction thanks to the efforts of the CCC. Like so many Forest facilities around the country, the Chamberlain Ranger Station benefitted from the program when the CCC constructed a new Ranger's dwelling at the site. When the first landing field was constructed in 1932, it did provide easier access, and the 1954 airstrip allowed even larger planes with greater supply capacity to fly into the area. Despite this ability to carry more modern materials, the construction at Chamberlain remained, and still remains, primarily of logs, complying with USFS standards for rustic architecture in the backcountry. The Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District embodies the evolution of USFS remote wilderness facilities from an early 20th century Forest Ranger Station to a 21st century Wilderness area, providing necessary services in the remote backcountry of Idaho.

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Name of Property <u>Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District</u>

County and State <u>Idaho County, Idaho</u>

## **Major Bibliographical References**

Hartmans, Donna. <u>Cold Meadows Guard Station 10IH1557/PY-16: A Property Listed on the National</u> <u>Register of Historic Places.</u> McCall, Idaho: U.S.D.A., F.S., Region 4, July 1992.

Hockaday, James M. <u>History, Payette National Forest</u>. McCall, Idaho: U.S.D.A., F.S., Region 4, January 1968.

IMACS Report PY-467/10IH1551, Heritage Program, Payette National Forest, McCall, ID, 1981-1991.

Muhn, James. <u>A Guide to Describing Historic Buildings Commonly Found on Land Administered by</u> <u>the Bureau of Land Management in North Dakota and South Dakota</u>. Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 1981.

Preston, Peter. <u>History of the Chamberlain Administrative Site 1905-1958</u>. McCall, Idaho: U.S.D.A., F.S., Region 4, October 1999.

Rutledge, R.H. Regional Forester, <u>Building Construction Manual</u>. U.S.D.A, F.S., Region 4, Revised 1935.

Various Records of the Payette National Forest including Land Status Records, Investment and Depreciation Record, Improvement Plan Atlas, Chamberlain AS file, and Real Property: Guard and Ranger Stations, Major Administrative Sites - Big Book 1, located in Historic Archives, Heritage Program, Payette National Forest, McCall, ID.

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County and State <u>Idaho County, Idaho</u>

## **Geographical Data**

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the UTM reference points A B C D E F G H on the Meadow of Doubt, Idaho and Lodgepole Creek USGS quadrangle maps.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the meadow at the historic Ranger Station where primary habitation has occurred. In addition, the two historic airstrips are included in the District, since they have been integral to the life of the remote Station; the T-shaped boundary reflects the two airstrips on the site.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>Photos</u> Page 1 Name of Property <u>Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District</u>

County and State Idaho County, Idaho

### **PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION**

Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District Idaho County, Idaho Photographs taken and processed by Larry Kingsbury September, 2002 Negatives on File at the Supervisor's Office, Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho

| Photo # 1 of 7: | Ranger's House - view looking northwest             |
|-----------------|---|
| Photo # 2 of 7: | Ranger's House - view looking south                 |
| Photo # 3 of 7: | Warehouse - view looking northwest                  |
| Photo # 4 of 7: | Woodshed - view looking west                        |
| Photo # 5 of 7: | Fly Shed - view looking south                       |
| Photo # 6 of 7: | Tack Shed - view looking southwest                  |
| Photo # 7 of 7: | Packer's Cabin (bunkhouse) - view looking northwest |

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Chamberlain Guard Station Idaho County, Idaho



Map by Lawrence A. Kingsbury

Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch = 80 feet

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Chamberlain Guard Station Idaho County, Idaho



Vicinity map taken from <u>Historic Structures Inventory: River of No Return Wilderness, Idaho</u>, USDA Forest Service, Wilderness Planning Team, Salmon National Forest, 1982.