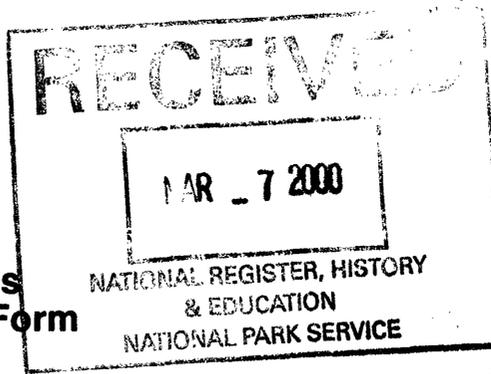


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form**



Cover

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

New Submission Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Early Forest Service Administration and Natural Resource Management on the
Rogue River National Forest;
Fire Suppression on the Rogue River National Forest 1907-1932;
BAE/SCS Snow-Survey on the Rogue River National Forest 1935-1943;
CCC/FERA Recreation Development on the Rogue River National Forest 1933-1942.

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Katherine C. Atwood
organization (for) USDA Forest Service date November 28, 1999
street & number 365 Holly Street telephone 541-482-8714
city or town Ashland state Oregon zip code 97520

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael J. Kucyo FPO 1/21/2000
Signature and title of certifying official Date
USDA Forest Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

[Signature] 5/19/2000
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Name of Multiple Property Listing

State

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

	Page Numbers
E. Statement of Historic Contexts (If more than one historic context is documented, present them in sequential order.)	1-42
F. Associated Property Types (Provide description, significance, and registration requirements.)	11-42
G. Geographical Data	42
H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods (Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.)	42
I. Major Bibliographical References (List major written works and primary location of additional documentation: State Historic Preservation Office, other State agency, Federal agency, local government, university, or other, specifying repository.)	45

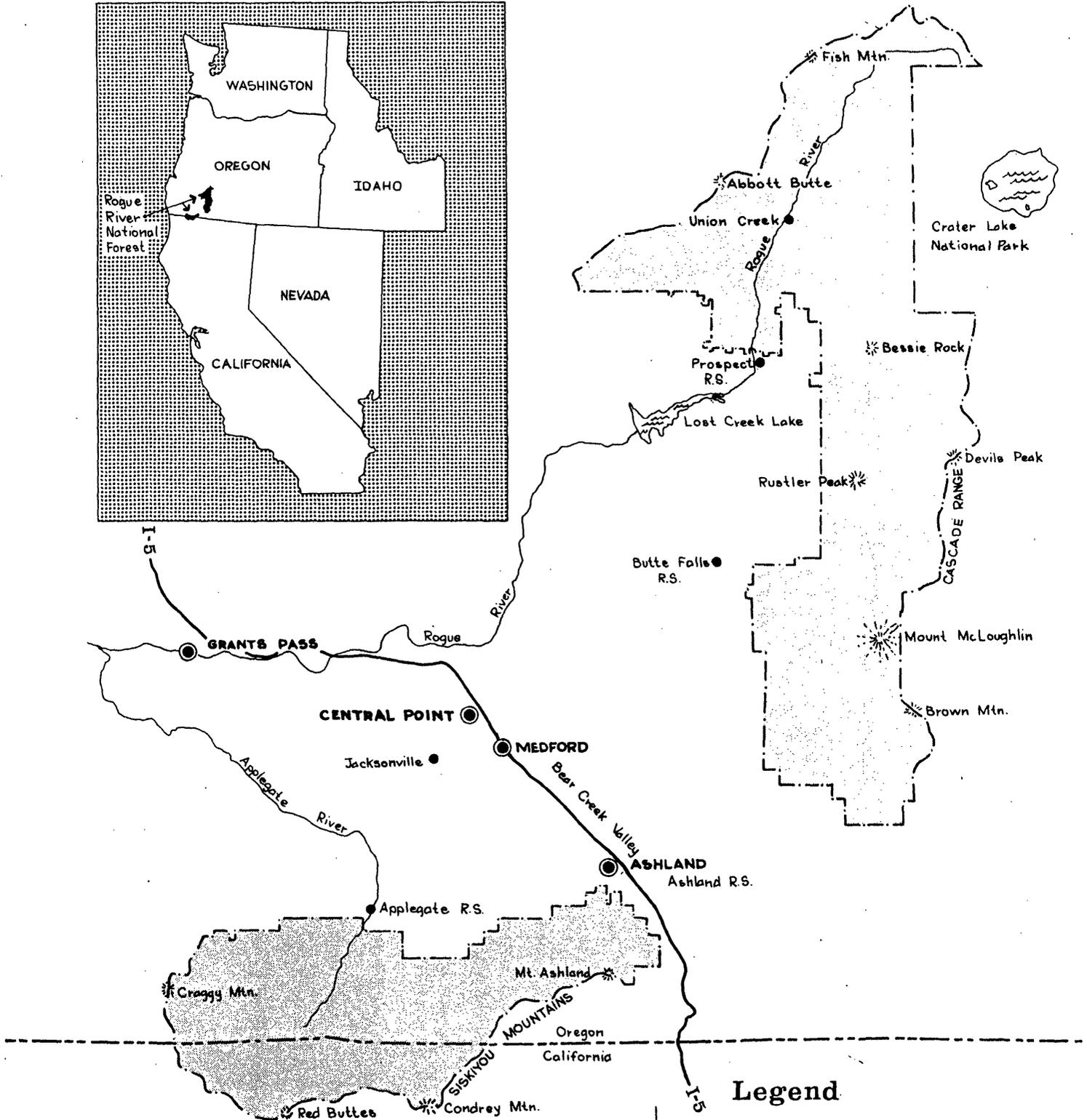
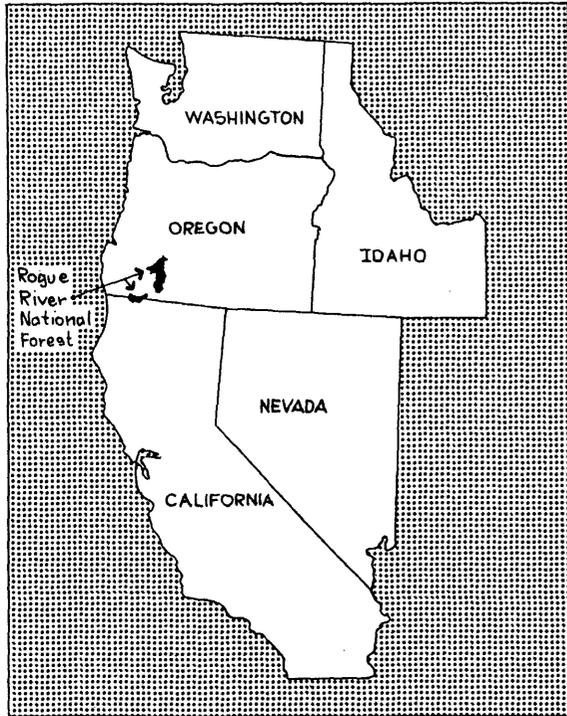
Additional documentation available at Rogue River National Forest,
Medford, Oregon

Please see Continuation Sheet for Bibliography

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

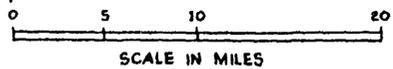
Location Maps



Rogue River National Forest

Legend

- Rogue River National Forest Boundary
- ... Rogue River National Forest



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number D Page 1

U.S. FOREST SERVICE HISTORIC STRUCTURES ON THE
ROGUE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST (1907-1943)
Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, and Klamath Counties, Oregon

COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria.

 Deputy SHPO
Signature of certifying official/Title

March 10, 2000
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and bureau

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 1

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

The following historic context is a narrative of major events, activities, and associations that shaped the development of the Rogue River National Forest between the years 1907 and 1943, with particular emphasis on administration, natural resource management, fire suppression, and recreation on the Forest.

Introduction

The multiple property submission presented under the title "U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest" includes fourteen eligible resources that are associated with the development of the Crater/Rogue River National Forest in southwest Oregon. (Known as the Crater National Forest from 1907 to 1932, the Forest was renamed the Rogue River National Forest in 1932). The resources, which range in date from 1911 to 1943, encompass administrative buildings, fire lookouts, snow-survey cabins, a campground, and shelters. These fourteen structures were selected for their quality, integrity, and significance and because they constitute the total amount of resources of their types known to qualify at this time. Ten of the properties have been previously declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Each is individually eligible under Criteria A and C for historic associations and architectural merit. In nominating these fourteen historic structures, the Rogue River National Forest is pursuing action that will assist and support its efforts to plan for and protect the resources within its jurisdiction.

Three of the nominated properties are associated with administrative activities: Star Ranger Station Building (1911), Willow Prairie Cabin (1924), and Big Elk Guard Station (1929). Star Ranger Station Building, a modest vernacular wood-frame building that housed early administrative activities on the Applegate Ranger District, is the oldest of the Rogue River National Forest's remaining resources and is also one of the oldest extant National Forest buildings in the nation. Willow Prairie Cabin, a "rustic"-style, peeled-log structure on the Butte Falls Ranger District, represents early Forest administration and natural resource management activities in southwest Oregon. The Big Elk Guard Station, situated on the Ashland Ranger District and dominated by a peeled-log office/dwelling crafted of native materials, is significant as a Forest Service seasonal administrative headquarters.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E.F Page 2

Four fire lookouts are included in the multiple property documentation form as individual nominations. These include Hershberger Mountain Lookout (1925) on the Prospect Ranger District; Dutchman Peak Lookout (1927) on the Applegate Ranger District; Mt. Stella Lookout (1933) on the Prospect Ranger District; and Squaw Peak Lookout (1943) on the Applegate Ranger District. The two oldest stations, Hershberger Mountain and Dutchman Peak, are standard "D-6" cupola-style lookout structures of the type commonly built by the Forest Service during the 1920s in Oregon and Washington (Region Six). These cupola-style lookouts represent the Forest Service's initial efforts to standardize and centralize planning in fire detection. The two structures are among very few of their style remaining in the Pacific Northwest and California regions. Mt. Stella and Squaw Peak Lookouts are standard hipped-roof "L-4"-style lookout cabins exemplifying the type developed by the Forest Service during the 1930s to the 1950s when fire detection practice advocated viewing mountainous timbered areas from at least two vantage points.

Two snow-survey cabins are included in this nomination: Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937) on the Prospect Ranger District, and Honeymoon Creek Snow-Survey Cabin (1943) on the Butte Falls Ranger District. Both of these small log structures are significant for their associations with the pioneering development of a snow-survey program in southwest Oregon between 1937 and 1943 by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering/Soil Conservation Service (BAE/SCS). Through the establishment of a series of snow courses, surveyors were able to measure snow depth and water content. Both cabins are located in remote backcountry settings and are simply constructed of native materials.

Five properties are associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps/Federal Emergency Relief Administration (CCC/FERA) recreation facilities on the Rogue River National Forest. These include McKee Bridge Campground (1936) and Wrangle Gap Shelter (1936) on the Applegate Ranger District; Dead Indian Soda Springs Shelter (1936) and Fish Lake Shelter (1936) on the Ashland Ranger District, and Parker Meadows Shelter (1936) on the Butte Falls Ranger District. McKee Bridge Campground contains several historic components, including a "community kitchen" shelter, an extensive native-rock retaining wall, barbecue pits, and campstoves. The facility is an excellent representative of CCC/FERA-built recreational campgrounds on the Rogue River National Forest and embodies characteristics of the "rustic" style. Wrangle Gap Shelter, Dead Indian Soda Springs Shelter and the Fish Lake Shelter are individual "community kitchen" shelters directly associated with the CCC/FERA organizations,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 3

both important programs in the federal government's response to the economic difficulties of the Great Depression. These shelters embody the rustic characteristics of their type through design and materials. The Adirondack-style Parker Meadows Shelter, built of native materials, is representative of several similar structures once existing on National Forest lands. Constructed by the CCC, the structure exemplifies the rustic style employed for Depression-era Forest Service trail shelters and it evokes direct association with the work programs established during the Depression decade.

Because the Multiple Property Submission contains four historic contexts, each with several representative property types, this document is organized to review each historic context along with its associated property types, before progressing to the next historic context and property type.

Temporal Context: 1907-1943

Temporal boundaries of the study begin in 1907 with the creation and early development of the Crater National Forest (the Rogue River National Forest after 1932), in southwest Oregon. The period closes in 1943, when World War II ended the Depression-era work programs of the CCC/FERA and terminated the "custodial" period of National Forest stewardship of federal lands.

Geographic Context

The geographic area of the historic context comprises Rogue River National Forest land in southwest Oregon. Although precise boundaries have shifted throughout the years, the current Forest contains two major noncontiguous components. The first unit lies south and west of the Bear Creek Valley; it encompasses parts of Jackson and Josephine Counties. This unit includes the Applegate Ranger District and the westerly portion of the Ashland Ranger District and includes a small area lying within California. The crest of the deeply dissected Siskiyou Mountains, a sub-range of the Klamath Mountain Geologic Province, is the area's dominant natural feature. In the westerly confines of the unit, the crest divides the area into two major drainages. Streams that originate on the south slope of the Siskiyou crest flow into the Klamath River, and those on the north slope feed the Rogue River. The Siskiyou National Forest bounds the unit on the west, and the Klamath National Forest borders it on the south. Among the major streams in the unit are the Applegate River, Squaw Creek, Elliott Creek and the Little Applegate River (LaLande 1980: 9-10; 51-52).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 4

The second and largest unit of the Rogue River National Forest encompasses portions of Jackson, Klamath and Douglas Counties and contains the easterly environs of the Ashland Ranger District, as well as the Butte Falls and Prospect Ranger Districts. The unit is bounded on the north by the Rogue-Umpqua Divide and in part, on the east, by Crater Lake National Park. (The Rogue-Umpqua Divide elevation within the unit varies between 4,000 feet on the southwest to approximately 6,800 feet on the northeast). The Rogue River forms a natural boundary between two major geological provinces of the northerly portion of the unit. To the west are the deeply dissected Western Cascades. The crest of these mountains divides the upper drainages of the Rogue and south Umpqua Rivers. The High Cascades rise to the east of the Rogue River and form the western shoulder of Mount Mazama (the Crater Lake caldera.) Major streams in the northerly area of the unit include several tributaries of the Rogue River (LaLande 1980:161).

The remainder of the unit extends south of Crater Lake National Park about forty miles to the heavily-forested plateau south of Mount McLoughlin and Little Butte Creek. The crest of the High Cascades forms the unit's eastern boundary. The southeastern area encompasses a rolling plateau that extends over much of the unit west of the summit of the Cascades. Here most of the boundary follows the Range and Section lines of the legal land survey due to the lack of prominent topographic features. This area of the unit drains west to the Rogue River except for a few intermittent streams that flow into the Klamath River. Mount McLoughlin, at 9,495 feet in elevation and the highest point in the Cascade Range between Three Sisters and Mount Shasta, visually dominates the area. To the west lies the broad expanse of the Bear Creek Valley (Lalande 1980:109-110). The Cascades unit of the Forest is bound on the east by Crater Lake National Park and the Winema National Forest, and on the north by the Umpqua National Forest.

Historical Overview of the Rogue River National Forest 1907-1943

Settlement to Forest Beginnings

Prior to Euro-American settlement much of the present Rogue River National Forest included territory claimed originally by the Upland Takelma and the River Takelma, two of several native populations that inhabited the area. The Takelma probably shared the Siskiyou Mountains with the Shasta of the middle Klamath River and the upper Bear Creek Valley, and with the Dakubetede who inhabited the Applegate River valley. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 5

Southern Molala occupied lands in the upper drainage of the Rogue River. Seasonal visitors to the area included the Klamath who lived east across the Cascade Range, the Upper Umpqua along the Rogue-Umpqua divide, and the Karok on the slopes of the Siskiyou crest (LaLande 1980: 203).

The earliest known groups of Euro-American travelers visited southwest Oregon between 1827 and 1850. Groups of Hudson's Bay Company trappers, government explorers, entrepreneurs and gold miners all crossed through the Rogue country. Hudson's Bay Company leader Peter Skene Ogden brought the first known fur-seeking expedition through the area in 1827. Subsequent journeys by trappers Alexander McLeod in 1829, Michel LaFramboise in 1832, and John Work in 1833, forced additional contact with native peoples. Ewing Young's stock-driving companies herded cattle through the area in 1834 and 1837. In September 1841, George F. Emmons led a detachment of the U.S. South Seas Surveying and Exploring Expedition through the Bear Creek Valley, and in 1845 adventurer James Clyman traversed the area while approaching the Siskiyou. Beginning in 1846, a seasonal progression of travelers passed through the area. That year Jesse and Lindsay Applegate, Levi Scott and others, established the Applegate Trail by forging a wagon route through the Cascades from the Bear Creek Valley toward Klamath Lake. The following year settlers bound for the Willamette Valley took the new route.

The discovery of gold in California in 1848 brought Gold Rush-bound prospectors through southwest Oregon. No permanent settlers arrived until a gold discovery on a Jackson Creek tributary in the winter of 1851-1852 brought a flood of miners into southern Oregon. In 1853 large numbers of farmers entered the southwestern Oregon valleys to claim land under the federal Donation Land Claim Act of 1850. The resulting loss of their long-established hunting and fishing territories devastated native peoples. Disease, starvation, and displacement fostered bitter clashes between the Indians and the intruders between 1851 and 1856. Most native residents of southwest Oregon were killed or removed to reservations in the north part of the state.

Communities quickly sprang up in the Bear Creek Valley. Flour mills and sawmills were constructed on area streams. Between the mid-1850s and the 1880s, settlers concentrated in lower elevation areas along streams that held both mineral wealth and agricultural opportunity. The valley floor and low foothills provided the supply of timber necessary to construct improvements. Trail development allowed access to areas of the foothills as isolated residents sought connection to neighbors and community centers.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 6

Lack of access to the high mountainous country precluded extensive use of its resources, with the exception of chosen hunting areas.

In 1887 the tracks of the Southern Pacific Railroad joined from the north and south in at Ashland. The railroad's completion linked the raw materials of southwest Oregon to major Pacific Coast markets, and the high country in the Cascades and Siskiyou Mountains gradually became "less of a 'pioneer fringe' of the Rogue River Valley" (Lalande 1980: 178). Local people utilized the Forest in increasingly diverse ways. Trapping and hunting continued, settlers grazed livestock on the high-country meadows, and they built wagon roads to adjacent areas. Crater Lake attracted visitors to the upper Rogue country. Lakes, mineral springs, and huckleberry fields attracted visitors. Around the turn of the century many people attempted to settle in the mountainous, deeply forested portions of the National Forest. As historian Jeff LaLande explains, "Much of this short-lived homesteading activity was undertaken with the goal of gaining title to valuable timberlands" (LaLande 1980: 137; 204).

Crater National Forest 1907-1932

A nationwide conservation movement gained momentum late in the nineteenth century. In 1893 President Grover Cleveland created the Cascade Forest Reserve, extending along the Cascades the length of the state and encompassing 4,883,588 acres. At the same time, a much smaller amount of land (918,650 acres) was set aside in southwest Oregon as the Ashland Forest Reserve, a designation made primarily to protect the watershed of the City of Ashland (Williams 1992: 319). In 1905, the Bureau of Forestry of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reorganized as the U.S. Forest Service. In 1907 the Ashland Forest Reserve was expanded and the U.S. Forest Service took over its administration and that of the Cascade Forest Reserve. Both were renamed as National Forests (LaLande 1980 266-267).

In 1907, portions of these two reserves, plus adjacent lands from the Klamath and Siskiyou Forest Reserves were consolidated into what soon became officially known as the Crater National Forest, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service. To the east, the original boundaries of the Forest extended east over the Cascades, including the present Klamath Ranger District (transferred to the Winema National Forest in 1961 (LaLande 1980: 89; 204-205). Early Forest Service rangers' activities across all districts of the Forest focused on surveying boundaries, making field examinations of homestead entries, constructing trails, fighting fires, and laying telephone lines.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 7

Annual burning (both human, and nature-caused) of vast forest acreages was extensive in the early years of the twentieth century. In the summer of 1910, immense areas of timber and almost 100 lives were lost in devastating fires across the western United States. Public distress over the deaths, loss of property, and valuable timber increased demands for efficient fire suppression. The newly created U.S. Forest Service responded by initiating controlled resource management in the forests of southwest Oregon. The year 1910 also marked the peak of the Forest timber homestead boom.

During the first quarter of the twentieth century, small sawmills operated on the edges of the Forest's timbered areas, supplying homesteaders, ranchers, and other local resident. Lack of access to the heavily timbered high country however, delayed major development of a lumber industry. In 1911, the completion of the Pacific and Eastern Railroad between Butte Falls and the Southern Pacific Railroad's main line in Medford, allowed access to National Forest timber. By the 1920's consolidation of thousands of acres of Cascades timberland under common ownership provided the capital and equipment to successfully exploit the vast, timbered acreages (LaLande 1980:138-139). The first significant timber harvests within the present boundaries of the Forest east of Butte Falls began when Owen-Oregon Lumber Company started logging operations there in 1924 (LaLande 1980:140; 205).

By the 1920s growing interest in recreation and a rapidly improving highway system enhanced tourism within remote areas. Crater Lake Highway and the Green Springs Highway took travelers farther into the high country. Residents and visitors used an extensive trail system to explore the backcountry. By the early 1930s, emphasis on road-building on the National Forest created more convenient access to remote areas. Karl Janouch, Rogue River National Forest supervisor noted the "fast-growing demands of the public who are turning to the forested areas of the Pacific Coast for summer outings and vacations" (Ashland Daily Tidings, April 16, 1936, 1:1; 4:3-4).

Rogue River National Forest: 1932-1943

By presidential order, on July 9, 1932 the name Crater National Forest was changed to Rogue River National Forest to lessen public confusion with Crater Lake National Park (LaLande 1980:204). In 1933, with the Great Depression threatening the economic well-being of millions of citizens, President Franklin Roosevelt developed the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), and other "New Deal" programs as important components of the federal government's

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 8

response to the emergency. Between 1933 and 1942, young men from urban areas joined the Corps to work on improvement and conservation projects, throughout the nation. The U.S. Forest Service managed most of the projects and enrollees assisted Forest managers with fire suppression, road construction, communication development, and administrative and recreation site construction. The effect of the CCC throughout the northwest was dramatic. As historian Elizabeth Gail Throop explains:

The immediate benefits of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other Depression - era programs and work projects to the Pacific Northwest were employment for individual local residents, both young men and experienced craftsmen, financial relief for families through this opportunity for useful work, and economic stimulæ for communities through purchase of supplies and materials (Throop 1979: 29).

During the Depression decade of the 1930s, young men of the CCC and older workers associated with the FERA worked with the National Forests on a variety of resource conservation, construction, and recreation development projects. Two major CCC encampments were developed on the Rogue River National Forest: Camp Applegate F-41 was situated in the Applegate watershed, and Camp South Fork F-104 was located in the western Cascades. Smaller, temporary camps were established at several locations throughout the Forest. Between 1933 and 1941, when World War II ended the work program, young men from both CCC camps built lookouts, administrative buildings, recreational structures, fought fire, and constructed many miles of trails and roads (LaLande 1980: 95; 204).

World War II ended the "custodial era" of the U.S. Forest Service. When the war was over, the increased demand for lumber and other wood products throughout the nation helped establish the timber industry as a dominant factor in the local economy. A steadily growing pressure for National Forest timber accelerated the development of roads and timber sales throughout southwest Oregon. In subsequent years, while continuing to oversee timber management, the Rogue River National Forest employees spent increasing energy managing other forest resources, particularly those associated with wildfire, fisheries and recreation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 9

Historic Context: Early Forest Service Administration and Natural Resource Management on the Rogue National Forest 1907-1932

The temporal boundaries of this historic context begin in 1907, when the Crater National Forest was created and when it began administering the Forest's resources. The period ends in 1932, the year preceding the extensive improvements program initiated by the Forest through the Civilian Conservation Corps. Geographically, early Forest administrative activities connected with resource management occurred throughout all districts under the agency's jurisdiction. As an early Forester's report noted:

In general there is a group of permanent rangers... employed during the entire year. The force of rangers is kept down to the smallest number compatible with a permanent organization. During the summer additional rangers are appointed for from three to six months of service... Temporary forest guards are also appointed during the summer for fire patrol, the construction of trails, and other temporary work (Brown 1960:118).

During the first few years of the Forest's operation there were two Forest Rangers: one on the Applegate Division and one stationed at Odessa in Klamath County. Eleven assistant rangers were stationed on individual Forest districts, including Prospect, Butte Falls, Dead Indian, Clover Creek, Odessa, Ashland, Big Applegate, Trail, Hutton, Bessie Rock, and Seven Mile. In 1916 restructuring resulted in a total of eight districts on the Forest (Brown: 60: 125).

Supervised from headquarters at Medford, Oregon, early Forest Service Rangers' duties varied according to location, but generally focused on monitoring range use by stockmen, overseeing homestead entries, managing some small-scale timber sales, fighting fire, building roads, trails, as well as constructing both year-round and seasonal administrative buildings. These structures provided centers for overseeing natural resource protection throughout vast areas. Rather than being placed according to an overall plan, these administrative structures were constructed at locations where they were most needed at the time. Style and method of construction varied, with native materials used in areas less accessible by road, and milled lumber, nails and glass employed at sites nearer supply points. At lower elevations more accessible by road, the Forest Service established year-round "ranger stations." In more remote, high-elevation areas, seasonal cabins or guard stations provided the necessary facilities.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 10

The first Forest Service-built ranger station on the Crater National Forest was erected at Big Elk Meadow in 1907. This double-pen log cabin served the agency's needs until its replacement by the present Big Elk building in 1929 (LaLande 1980: 141). In some instances, already-existing structures offered the necessary shelter. In the Applegate Valley, for example, Forest Service personnel used an abandoned log mining cabin on Star Gulch as administrative headquarters until 1911 when carpenters constructed a wood-frame building to serve as office and living quarters at Star Ranger Station (LaLande 1979). A similar structure was also erected in 1911 at the Ashland Creek Ranger Station.

Seasonal guard stations, typically constructed of logs readily available from timber at the site, were constructed throughout the Forest. Cabins in the Siskiyou Mountains stood at Perk's Pasture and at Cold Springs. In the southerly portion of the Forest's Cascades unit, cabins were built at Dead Indian Soda Springs, Skeeter Swamp, and Lodgepole Prairie. Specifications for the ranger cabin at Skeeter Swamp, for example, called for "142 logs erected in place... 1300 shakes cut and laid... chinking... 6 windows and 6 doors at a total of \$258.35" (Brown 1960:83). Guard stations were also built at Lucky Springs, Wickiup Meadow, Willow Prairie and several other locations. In the Upper Rogue area the Forest Service built a number of "ranger stations" at places like Union Creek, Mill Creek, and Woodruff Meadow (LaLande 1980:141;184). During the late 1920s and early 1930s, the agency constructed several pole-and-shake camp shelters. These structures predated the arrival of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the area and the extensive building program made possible by additional labor. As historian Throop explains:

Prior to the Depression, the Forest Service building program was limited. Buildings were erected when and where they were needed, with little advance planning and minimal consideration of future needs or expansion of facilities (Throop: 28-29).

From these modest and hard-won structures, Forest Service personnel oversaw grazing regulations, monitored homestead entries, built roads and trails, and fought fire. At both year-round administrative buildings such as the Star Gulch Ranger Station Building and more isolated locations such as Big Elk Guard Station, assistant rangers devised plans, oversaw personnel, produced correspondence and reports, and stored records. In many cases the ranger also used the station as his residence.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 11

Although the Forest's inaccessible timber resources would not become marketable for several decades, locating and fighting fire consumed much of the Forest Service employees' time. In the Applegate region for example, between 1910 and 1925 at least fourteen major fires burned thousands of acres. 1910 was a particularly devastating fire year throughout the Pacific Northwest. In the Siskiyou Mountains the fires were doubly dangerous because those above Ashland threatened the city's water supply. Following the 1910 fires, the Forest Service initiated an extensive program of fire lookout construction on prominent peaks throughout the Forest.

Forest Service workers built a number of roads and trails to provide access for firefighting crews into remote areas. While primarily used to combat fire, these roads and trails also allowed increasing recreational use of Forest lands. Work by the Forest Service on the Prospect-Fourmile Lake Trail, the Crater Lake Road, and the Diamond Lake Road led to additional use of the backcountry by local residents (LaLande 1980:141; 186). During the 1910's and 1920s as automobile availability increased, overseeing recreation uses of the forest increasingly took the rangers' time. In the Cascades locations such as McCallister Soda Springs and Dead Indian Soda Springs, popular since the nineteenth century, saw regular use during the summer season. Huckleberry Mountain continued to be a popular camping spot for residents of both the Rogue River Valley and the Klamath Basin. The Forest Service encouraged this trend by developing campgrounds along the Rogue River (LaLande 1980:186). Before 1917, the Forest Service developed a primitive campground at Union Creek on the Upper Rogue. Union creek eventually evolved into a large complex of recreation, service and administrative structures (LaLande 1980:187).

The years 1907 to 1932 saw the establishment of the Crater National Forest, its organization into districts on both the Siskiyou Mountains and Cascades units, and the construction of early administrative buildings where rangers oversaw protection of natural resources. Over a quarter-century period of Forest management centered in buildings like the Star Ranger Station Building (1911), Willow Prairie Cabin (1924) and the Big Elk Guard Station (1929).

F. Associated Property Types

Name of Associated Property Type: Administrative/Natural Resource Management Buildings

Subtype: Vernacular: Administrative Buildings
Subtype: "Rustic" Style Guard Stations

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 12

Description:

The historic context "Early Forest Service Administration and Natural Resource Management on the Rogue River National Forest, 1907-1932" is represented by three eligible properties associated with the development of the Forest and with natural resource management. Each property is individually eligible as a distinct representative of its type associated with this theme. The structures are of sufficient age and scope to represent the patterns and events pertaining to Forest development and natural resource conservation and date from an early period within the overall historic context.

A brief discussion of physical characteristics (including location, setting, size, materials, and workmanship) for typical administrative structures provides a framework for evaluating the presently nominated resources and any future submittal. The administrative resources have common characteristics that link them including their locations, settings, and functions, and they have points of contrast that arise from their differing design, materials, and historical associations.

Subtype: Vernacular: Administrative Building

Characteristics that distinguish the vernacular early Forest Service administrative buildings and qualify them for listing are related to location and period of use, design, materials, and size. These structures are located on districts of the Forest where early Forest Rangers established administrative sites for overseeing activities within their area of jurisdiction. The buildings may have replaced earlier log structures. The use of milled lumber in their construction suggests accessibility by road. Historically, the early vernacular structures were built and saw their primary period of use between 1907 and 1929, before the Great Depression brought federal "New Deal" programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps and construction of new standardized facilities to the Forest.

The vernacular wood-frame administrative structure is relatively small in size, measuring from about 12' x 20' to 16' x 24' in plan. It rests on a rock foundation, rock footings or wood piers and has a gable roof with wood shingles. The exterior walls are typically clad with horizontal shiplap siding. Walls contain multi-light double-hung sash windows with plain trim. One or two entrances are present, often containing four-panel wood doors. Interior walls typically are sheathed in sawn-lumber wood plank walls; the floor is typically fashioned of wood planking. Overall integrity of the structure has not been adversely affected by the substantial addition of modern materials. Introduction of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 13

replacement materials has been accomplished with sensitivity toward the building's original appearance and enhances the structures overall character.

Vernacular wood-frame administrative structures on the Forest are associated with the early years of the historic period, between 1907, when the Forest was established in southwestern Oregon, and 1929, the beginning of the Great Depression. They are closely associated with the development of the USDA Forest Service and the agency's initial attempts at establishing administrative sites throughout the rural environs of its jurisdiction. The vernacular administrative building has historic associations that are evoked by the distinct physical characteristics described above – characteristics that determined the buildings appearance and function during the period of primary use.

Subtype: "Rustic"- Style Guard Stations

Characteristics that distinguish the "rustic" style guard station and qualify them for listing are also related to location and period of use, design, and materials. The rustic-style guard stations are located in isolated areas of the Forest where isolation prompted the use of native materials for their construction. Establishment of these rural guard stations provided the Forest Service with rural administrative headquarters from which to manage natural resources during the historic period 1907 to 1932.

The rustic-style guard station is rectangular or square in shape, measures approximately from 16'x 20' to 18'x 24' feet in size and rests on a rock foundation or on rock footings. The structure has a gabled roof covered in shingles or wood shakes and has exposed rafter ends. Exterior walls are composed of peeled logs that are V-notched at the corners and chinked with mortar. Gable ends are typically either shingled or built of peeled logs. Multi-light windows of varying number may be present in the structure and are either of fixed or casement style. Entrance doors are typically built of wood planks. The interior of the station is arranged either in a single open plan or with interior partitions. Interior walls may be of the peeled logs or be sheathed with horizontal boards. The flooring is typically of wood planks

The rustic-style guard stations are closely associated with the early period of development of the USDA Forest Service between 1907 and 1932 and that agency's continued attempts to establish a presence at isolated districts throughout the Forest. Here staff oversaw natural resource management activities, including fire suppression, trail construction, monitoring stock grazing, and homestead entries.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 14

Significance

The historic administrative structures on the Rogue River National Forest are locally significant under Criteria A and C as representative structures associated with Forest development between 1907 and 1932. During these years, their construction and use, and associations with Forest development and administrative activities in isolated areas, were firmly established.

Both vernacular administrative buildings and rustic-style guard stations are significant in the area of government, specifically the federal government's presence in Oregon through the establishment and development of the USDA Forest Service. These structures have strong associations with the historical development of natural resource conservation. They exist as tangible evidence of the early establishment of the Forest Service as a major government agency. The vernacular administrative building and the rustic-style guard stations represent the Forest Service's presence in southwest Oregon prior to the Great Depression, when labor, available through the Civilian Conservation Corps, made possible a new era of standardized planning and extensive facility construction on the Forest.

Constructed between 1907 and 1932, the vernacular wood-frame administrative structure are locally significant for their associations with the fledgling USDA Forest Service's initial efforts to oversee natural resources management activities. From these small but conveniently placed buildings, assistant Forest Rangers monitored range management, small timber sales, homestead entries, road and trail construction, and fire suppression activities. Typically constructed of milled lumber, nails and other standard materials, the vernacular administrative building was usually situated near roads over which building materials could be hauled. These buildings embody the distinctive style, location, appearance, and construction methods of the Forest Service between 1907 and 1932. Extant administrative headquarters, of sufficient age and physical integrity, are distinctively characteristic examples of the structures widely used for natural resource management on the Crater/Rogue River National Forest. Although the precise number of vernacular administrative structures remaining in Forest Service use in Oregon is unknown, their numbers are few. Due to relocation, destruction by the elements, or replacement, early vernacular Forest Service administrative buildings have largely disappeared from the landscape.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 15

Constructed during the late 1910s and the 1920s, the rustic-style guard station is locally significant for its associations with the USDA Forest Service's efforts to establish a presence in remote mountainous areas. Located in isolated settings, and used primarily to oversee fire regulation activities, these guard stations were typically constructed of native materials and built by Forest Service personnel. The structures preceded the agency's development of standardized building plans and the availability of CCC labor. Built during the later years of the historic period these administrative buildings embody the distinctive style, location, appearance, and construction methods of the Forest Service for isolated guard stations. Extant rustic-style guard stations, of sufficient age and physical integrity, are distinctively characteristic examples of the structures widely used for natural resource management on isolated districts on the Rogue River National Forest.

Registration Requirements

In order to qualify for listing, the administrative/natural resource management resources must have been used for management purposes by the Crater National Forest during the historic period 1907 to 1932. The buildings must be intact examples of one of the identified subtypes: vernacular or "rustic"-style buildings. They should retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, design, and materials to evoke the period of their construction and historic use. Their integrity should not be compromised by major relocation, reconstruction, or by substantial replacement materials. The administrative/natural resource management structures should embody distinctive characteristics of their type and they should retain their associations with the historic context. Essentially, the administrative/natural resource management resources proposed for nomination under this multiple property submission must meet the following criteria as set forth in the registration requirements:

Subtype: Vernacular Administrative Building

1. A vernacular administrative/and or natural resource management structure on the Rogue River National Forest is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and conservation if it was constructed and used by the Crater/Rogue River National Forest as office and/or residential space during the early years of Forest development between 1907 and 1932.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E:F Page 16

2. The vernacular administrative/natural resource management structure must have retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, to evoke its associations with the historic period, 1907 to 1932. If it is a component of a compound, the structure retains a highly visible location, in a position congruent with its original relation to the site. If it is rural, the structure retains its isolated forest setting and location.

3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, a vernacular administrative/natural resource management building on the Rogue River National Forest embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type--it is relatively small in size, wood frame with wood siding, wood shingled roof, simple fenestration, with modest, plain details.

4. The vernacular administrative/natural resource management building should be clearly associated with the government and conservation activities of the Rogue River National Forest during the historic period, 1907 to 1932.

Subtype: "Rustic style" Guard Station

1. A rustic style administrative/and or natural resource management structure on the Rogue River National Forest is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and conservation if it was constructed and used by the Rogue River National Forest as office and/or residential space during the early years of Forest development between 1920 and 1932.

2. The rustic style administrative/natural resource management structure must have retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, to evoke its associations with the historic period, 1907 to 1932. If it is a component of a compound, the structure retains a highly visible location, in a position congruent with its original relation to the site. If it is rural, the structure retains its isolated forest setting and location.

3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, a rustic style administrative/natural resource management building on the Rogue River National Forest embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type--it exemplifies the "rustic" style and is constructed of native materials, with a foundation or footings that incorporates native rocks, hewn or pole wall members cut from nearby timber with notched joinery, and a wood-shingled roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 17

4. The rustic-style administrative/natural resource management building should be clearly associated with the government and conservation activities of the Crater/Rogue River National Forest during the historic period, 1907 to 1932.

Historic Context: Fire Suppression on the Rogue River National Forest 1918-1943

When the National Forests of the Pacific Northwest were first established in the opening years of the twentieth century, protection of the forests from the "waste and ravages" of fire was a major management goal – well in keeping with the conservation tenets of the Progressive Era. Between 1905 and 1909, the earliest rangers spent considerable time "chasing smokes" and battling blazes with shovel and ax. The National Forests had few roads and rangers spent much of their time building pack trails to link the remote "guard stations," which served as shelters for seasonal fire guards. There was little systematic organization for fire detection other than the random efforts of individual Forest Service employees. The labor supply was often inadequate. In January 1909, Crater National Forest Supervisor Erickson requested that the District Office supply funds for additional help:

Last year the inadequacy of patrol on this Forest was convincingly demonstrated at a cost of about \$25,390 and the damage to standing timber was placed at \$22,431... I strongly recommend that the patrol force of this Forest be doubled during the fire season. This will mean a summer force of 16 men instead of 8 last year (Brown 1960: p.99).

The Pacific Northwest's catastrophic fire season of 1910 changed the Forest Service's methods of fire protection. Immense areas of land were scorched throughout the region; lives were lost and dwellings burned. On the Crater National Forest that year over 6,000 acres burned in the Applegate area; in the southern Cascades two large burns, the South Fork fire and the Cat Hill fire, burned over 40,000 acres. Thousands more acres burned in the Upper Rogue area (LaLande 1980: 90; 141; 185). Following the conflagration, Congress and the public demanded a more aggressive and effective forest-fire suppression organization. One result of the 1910 fire season was the Forest Service's commitment to develop a "fixed-point detection" system that would entail a network of fire observation, or "lookout," stations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 18

After 1910 the agency established a number of such stations at mountain tops throughout the region. In many cases, the lookoutman stayed at a tent "rag camp" at the nearest spring and hiked each day up to the summit. The Forest Service linked these places to district Ranger Stations by means of telephone. Some of these first lookouts simply consisted of a barren rock "knob," with no structure. Others involved construction of a crude "crow's nest" in the tallest tree on the peak, a viewpoint usually reached by a rickety ladder nailed to the tree's trunk. In 1910, assistant Ranger J.J. Simmerville, Crater National Forest assistant Ranger headquartered at Dead Indian Soda Springs, wrote:

I wish that I might have 200 ten-or twelve-inch spikes to drive into trees on high points so as to be able to climb them. At every lookout one's view is more or less obstructed by surrounding trees. Ofttimes a fellow can climb a tree and does, but it's a touchy piece of business to be risking one's frame on brittle limbs in a lone forest several miles from anybody....(Brown 1960:106)

Although some early lookouts were log or lumber structures, there was no standard design until the mid-1910s. The Crater National Forest stationed fire lookouts early on Mount Ashland, Wagner Butte, Yellowjacket Ridge, and Palmer Peak (LaLande 1980:38; 91). In 1915, the first "D-6" cupola lookout was built on Mt. Hood designed and constructed by local guide Lige Coalman assisted by Forest Service packer Dee Wright). The Mt. Hood cupola lookout, slightly modified by the manufacturer, became the standard lookout design for the region over the next decade (LaLande 1998:11).

In 1917, a D-6 lookout was erected on the summit of Mt. McLoughlin on the Crater National Forest. Between 1915 and the early 1920s, lookouts were placed at the summits of Devil's Peak, Rustler Peak, and Old Baldy in the Cascades (LaLande 1980:142). During the 1920s, the Forest Service constructed D-6 cupola lookouts on Hershberger Mountain and Huckleberry Mountain in the Upper Rogue Drainage, and on Dutchman Peak, Windy Peak and Wagner Butte in the Siskiyou Mountains (LaLande 1980 91;185).

It is estimated that by the late 1920s (when the D-6 style went out of production), over 200 standard cupola lookouts had been built in the Pacific Northwest (including Idaho and western Montana). The D-6 kit was relatively easy to pack and build, and when completed it was efficient and sturdy. Although other styles of lookouts were built in the 1920s, for example the steep hipped-roof "Supervisor Halls' special," and the unusual

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 19

Cathedral-style lookout, cupola lookouts far outnumbered the rest. A few D-6 structures were built atop low towers, but most of them were ground cabins (LaLande 1998:11).

The 1920s saw greatly increased recreational use of the National Forests, and hikes to lookouts became popular. As a standardized structure that was relatively common during this period, the D-6 stations became the first lookouts distinctively associated with the Forest Service. The structures became something of a signature structure of the Forest Service by the late 1920s. In 1929, however, the agency sought less cumbersome lookout kits by dispensing with the second-story and incorporating both living quarters and observatory within a single floor. In 1929, the Forest Service switched to the new single-story "L-4" style, with a gabled roof. A two-pitched gabled roof, requiring fewer pieces and easier to build than a hipped roof, was viewed as an increase in efficiency. The gable-roofed L-4s were built from 1929 until about 1932. However, the increased strength of a hipped roof in comparison to the gable form, particularly under the heavy snowloads on Northwest mountain tops, soon caused a redesign of the L-4. The hipped-roof L-4 version was built from about 1932 through the 1940s with a few apparently still being built as late as 1954 (LaLande 1998:12).

The pre-cut hipped-roof L-4s, whether tower or ground cabin lookouts, soon became the most numerous kind built in the Pacific Northwest. The bulk of these lookouts were built during the 1930s. The Civilian Conservation Corps provided the personnel and funding to erect over 220 L-4 structures in Oregon alone. The CCC's assistance permitted the Forest Service to achieve one of its ultimate goals in fixed-point fire detection: double coverage of most seen-areas. In this plan, two reporting lookouts would provide their own fire locations, which could be triangulated at the Ranger Station to give a more accurate map location (LaLande 1998:12-13).

Many L-4 style lookouts were built on the Rogue River National Forest. Mount Stella, the earliest of its type on the Forest, was completed in 1933. Others L-4 lookouts included those on Whisky Peak, Blue Rock, Abbott Butte, Bessie Rock, Robinson Butte, Rustler Peak, Halls Point, and other locations (Kressek 1984: 61-65).

Following the national trauma of Pearl Harbor, the fear of enemy aircraft attack led to establishment of the War Department's Aircraft Warning Service (AWS) in 1942, with substantial Forest Service support and cooperation in the Pacific Coast area. AWS lookouts were concentrated in coastal and adjacent mountainous sections of the Northwest. Two-person teams staffed the AWS lookouts on a 24-hour basis, reporting

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 20

any aircraft sighted or heard. Not all lookouts within the AWS "filter" area were pressed into year-round service; only those able to be supplied in the winter were used. Several garages (many constructed by CCC crews) associated with lookouts on the Rogue River National Forest were converted into modest residences for use by AWS personnel. (Examples of these can be seen at Dutchman Peak and Hershberger Mountain lookout.

After the war, the rate of lookout construction slowed considerably. Most post-war structures were replacements of older lookouts. With the arrival of the next and "final" lookout design, the "R-6 flat top" in the 1950s, the effect of improved roads (and helicopter) access became apparent. Designed to alleviate the costs of re-shingling the L-4 lookout buildings, the R-6 lookout was built of large-sized materials that could not be packed in. The structures were 15' x 15' square with flat, tarred roofs. The model typically had no shutters and the window coverings and exterior walls were typically constructed of T-111 siding. R-6 model lookouts were eventually supplanted by modern fire detection and suppression methods (Atwood 1994:9).

The 1950s and 1960s witnessed the ebb of the active fire lookout era in Oregon and elsewhere. Proliferating roads associated with increased timber harvest levels from the National Forests, provided better access and brought more people into the Forest who could report fires. Aerial patrol and improved radio communication in both aircraft and vehicles further lessened the need for fixed-point detection. Numerous lookouts were either abandoned or used only intermittently during this period. Maintenance schedules were reduced or ended, and many of the structures deteriorated. A number of Northwest lookout towers were blown down by the 1962 Columbus Day storm and were not replaced. Congressional action in 1965, which made federal agencies liable for personal injury accidents occurring at abandoned government facilities, further affected the fate of many lookouts. District fire crews burned a number of lookout structures on the Rogue River National Forest and weather and vandalism took a severe toll. (LaLande 1998:12).

With the increased interest in historic preservation during the 1970s, aided by the Forest Service's legally mandated cultural resource management program, Oregon's remaining lookouts gained appreciation. Scattered rehabilitation efforts, often along with adaptive use of a lookout as a recreational rental, took place during the 1970s and 1980s. The Forest Fire Lookout Association, a nation-wide preservation-oriented group formed in the late 1980s, as did the Sand Mountain Society. The establishment of the privately supported "National Historic Lookout Register" gave further attention to preservation of lookouts.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 21

F. Associated Property Types

Name of Associated Property Type: Fire Lookouts

- Subtype a: D-6 cupola style lookout
- Subtype b: L-4 style lookout

Description

The historic context "Fire Suppression on the Rogue River National Forest 1918-1943," represents four of the eligible (and potentially eligible) fire lookouts associated with the development of the Forest Service in Oregon and with natural resource conservation, particularly in the area of fire protection. Each lookout is individually eligible as a distinct representative of its type associated with these themes. The lookouts are of sufficient age and scope to represent the patterns and events pertaining to Forest development and fire detection/suppression activities described within the historic context.

A brief discussion of physical characteristics, (including location, setting, size, materials and workmanship) for both D-6 and L-4 style lookouts provides a framework for evaluating the presently nominated resources and any future submittal. The two lookout types have common characteristics that link them, including their location, setting, function, and standardization, but they also have points of contrast -- arising from their differing design, materials, size and historic associations.

Subtype a. D-6 cupola-style lookout

Characteristics that distinguish the D-6 cupola-style lookout cabin and qualify them for listing are related to location and to period of use, design, materials, and size. These lookouts, like the various structures that preceded them, are located on prominent mountain peaks particularly suitable for fire surveillance. The site is either free of substantial vegetation, or has been cleared to provide the wide view necessary for the fire detection. Historically, the lookout was built and saw its primary period of use between 1918 and 1929 when its type was replaced by the gable-roofed "grange hall" type used by the Forest Service between 1929 and 1932.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 22

The two-story D-6 cupola lookout, a standardized design and fashioned from a pre-cut kit, is usually a ground cabin, of wood frame construction and approximately 12' by 12' feet in plan. The structure rests on a mortared rock and concrete foundation, is encased in top-hinged windows on the lower elevations, and covered with a shingled, hipped roof. Exterior walls are sheathed in horizontal, shiplap siding. The structure has a single entry door. The ground floor that served as living quarters and the second-story cupola are intact. The cupola, with side-hinged windows on all elevations and reached by a ceiling-hinged ladder from the lower floor, may still house the Osborne firefinder alidade. Interior components are characterized by flush shutters, which fit into window frames, and double-V tongue-in-groove paneling on the walls and floor (LaLande 1991;1998; Kresek1984:11). Overall integrity has not been adversely affected by the substantial addition of modern materials. If a later material covers the original siding, the earlier siding should remain intact underneath. Introduction of replacement materials has been accomplished with sensitivity toward the lookout's original appearance and enhances the structure's overall character.

The D-6 cupola lookouts are associated with the early years of the historic period, built from about World War I until the beginning of the Great Depression. They are closely associated with the development of the USDA Forest Service and that agency's initial attempts at standardization in the fields of fire detection and suppression. The cupola lookout represents the agency's "early day" fire suppression efforts in the forests of the Pacific Northwest – of the "lonely vigil" of a fire observer stationed on the summit of a remote peak. The D-6 cupola lookout's historic associations are clearly evoked by its defining physical characteristics described above – characteristics that determined its appearance and function during the period of its primary use.

Subtype b. L-4 style lookout

Characteristics that distinguish the L-4-style lookout cabin and make them eligible for listing are also related to location and to period of use, design, materials, and size. The L-4-style lookouts were located on prominent mountain peaks overlooking areas of the forest most critically in need of surveillance for fire. In many instances, the L-4 lookout, with its hipped roof that could support a heavy snow-load, was placed in a location that had formerly held a cupola-style structure. Typically the site remained free of substantial vegetation or was cleared to provide the wide view necessary for the lookout's function as a site for fire detection.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 23

The L-4 lookout is built according to a standardized plan and from a pre-cut kit. Either positioned as a ground cabin, or raised on a wood or metal tower, the wood-frame cabin is square in plan, measures approximately 14' x 14', and has a wood-shingled, hipped roof, two-over-two light windows on all sides and a single door. A variant of the L-4 lookout style has extended ceiling joists that protrude two feet beyond the cabin to support the awning-type shutters when the structure is in use. Typical exterior siding material is composed of 1"x 6" wood siding. Interior materials include 1"x 4" tongue-and-groove wood ceilings, siding, and floor.

The L-4 hipped roof-style lookouts are associated with the later years of the historic period, between 1932 and 1943. They are closely associated with the development of the USDA Forest Service and that agency's continued attempts at standardization in the areas of fire detection and suppression. Built in more extensive numbers than any previous type, many L-4 lookouts were constructed by the New Deal's Civilian Conservation Corps program. Part of the national response to the Great Depression, the CCC's assistance permitted the Forest Service to achieve double coverage of surveillance areas.

Significance

The historic fire lookouts on the Rogue River National Forest are locally significant under Criteria A and C as representative structures associated with fire detection and suppression during segments of the historic period that extended between 1918 and 1929 and between 1932 and 1943. The lookout's period of significance comprises the years 1925 to 1943, when their associations with fire detection and suppression practices were firmly established.

Both D-6 cupola lookouts and L-4 style lookouts are significant in the area of government, specifically the federal government's presence in Oregon through the USDA Forest Service. These structures have strong associations with the historical development of the agency's fire protection programs. The D-6 cupola lookouts represent the agency's initial attempts at standardization in fire detection and suppression between World War I until the 1929, when their type was replaced. Constructed between 1932 and the mid 1950s the L-4 style lookout retains historic associations with the USDA Forest Service's expanded lookout construction program. This program was substantially enhanced by construction accomplished by the CCC on National Forest system lands. Additionally the lookouts served as locations for the security measures taken during World War II by the Aircraft Warning Service.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 24

Built from standardized plans and pre-cut kits; these two lookout types embody the style, location, and construction of fire lookouts built from the 1910s to the 1940s. Of sufficient physical integrity, these structures are characteristic of the types widely used for fire suppression on the Rogue River National Forest and throughout the west. Extant examples of both D-6 cupola and L-4 style lookouts are historically significant in Oregon as rare examples of their types. Between 1915 and 1929, over 200 D-6 style cupola lookouts were built in the Pacific Northwest. Although the precise number built in Oregon is not known, historians place the number at about 85. Forest historian Gerald Williams placed the total number of D-6 (or very similar cupola style) lookouts within western Oregon at about 45. (This figure includes all National Forest, National Park, BLM, state and local fire-protection district lookouts from the crest of the Cascades west to the coast (LaLande 1998:13). The number of extant original cupola lookouts in western Oregon is six, and the total number in Oregon is believed to be about eight.

Although far more L-4 hipped-roof lookouts were built than previous or later styles, they have suffered removal or severe alteration. Estimates place the total number of L-4 lookouts built in Oregon at 305. Williams' estimates suggest an approximate total of 180 hipped-roof L-4 lookouts built in western Oregon. For the entire state, estimates suggest that at least 240 hipped-roof structures were constructed. Other sources indicate that only about 40 of these remain standing with at least minimum integrity. Only about thirteen ground-cabin L-4 lookouts remain in Oregon. The once plentiful L-4 hipped roof lookouts popularized during the CCC era are also now uncommon (LaLande 1998:12).

Registration Requirements

In order to qualify for listing, the Rogue River National Forest must have used the lookouts for fire detection during the historic period 1918 to 1943. The fire lookouts must be intact examples of either D-6 cupola lookouts or L-4 style lookouts. They should retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, design, and materials to evoke the period of their construction and historic use. Their integrity should not be compromised by relocation, reconstruction, or by substantial replacement materials. The fire lookouts should embody craftsmanship and materials, and they should retain their historic associations. The fire lookouts proposed for nomination must meet the following criteria as set forth in the registration requirements:

Subtype: D-6 Cupola Lookouts

1. A D-6 cupola lookout on the Rogue River National Forest is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and conservation if it was constructed and used by the U.S.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 25

Forest Service's during the agency's early period of fire suppression practices between 1918 and 1932.

2. The D-6 cupola lookout must have retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, to evoke its associations with the historic period, 1918 to 1932. It retains its mountaintop setting and location, primary design characteristics, and a substantial proportion of its original materials.

3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, the D-6 Cupola Lookout embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type -- made from a pre-cut kit of wood frame construction; a square floor plan of approximately 12' x 12' dimensions; a main story with a wood shingled, hipped roof cupola; double "v" rustic, or clapboard siding; top-hinged, wood windows on elevations of the main story; and wooden shutters on the main and cupola stories. Interior components should include wood, tongue-in-groove wall covering and flooring, or wallboard covering of Celotex or a like material..

4. The D-6 cupola lookout should be clearly associated with the government and conservation activities of the Rogue River National Forest exemplified by fire detection and suppression.

Subtype: L-4 Lookout

1. An L-4 lookout on the Rogue River National Forest is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and conservation if it was constructed and used by the U.S. Forest Service's during the agency's early period of fire suppression practices between 1932 and 1943.

2. The L-4 lookout must have retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, to evoke its associations with the historic period, 1932 to 1943. It retains its mountaintop setting and location, primary design characteristics and a substantial proportion of its original materials.

3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, the L-4 Lookout embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type -- built according to standardized plans and from pre-cut kits; a square floor plan, approximately 14 x 14 feet, a hipped roof, two-over-two light windows, and door and "awning" type window shutters. A variant of the L-4 lookout style has extended ceiling joists that form external attachments for the "awning" type

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 26

window shutters when the structure is in use. Typical construction materials included a wood-shingled roof, tongue-in-groove ceilings, interior siding and floor.

4. The L-4 lookout should be clearly associated with the government and conservation activities of the U.S. Forest Service exemplified by fire detection and suppression on the Rogue River National Forest during the historic period.

Historic Context: BAE/SCS Snow Survey on the Rogue River National Forest 1937-1943

The temporal boundaries of this historic context begin in 1935 with the establishment of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering/Soil Conservation Service (BAE/SCS) snow-survey program on the Rogue River National Forest. The period ends in 1943, toward the end of the early period of snow course construction on the Forest and the year when headquarters for the operations moved from Medford, Oregon to Portland, Oregon.

The concept of scientific snow surveying for the purpose of measuring the water content of the winter snow pack apparently first began in the United States. Around the turn of the century, a New England engineer named Charles Mixer began determining and recording annual moisture content of snow in order to predict the availability of water for the spring-time pulp-log drives on the region's rivers. The use of snow-survey data, which had obvious and important application for predicting the seasonal availability of irrigation water, soon began to be used in the arid and semi-arid western United States. Large-scale irrigation developments both private and government-supported, had begun to transform the region's economy shortly after 1900. However, the annual supply of water--which was subject to ongoing, intense legal and extra-legal conflict over "water rights"-- continued to be largely determined by weather and guesswork. The vagaries of weather were unavoidable, but the guesswork could be replaced by empirical knowledge through the use of a program of annual snow surveys (LaLande 1993: 4)

In 1904, J.E. Church initiated the West's first documented snow survey with experiments in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Other western states began independent efforts during the 1910s and 1920s. Some of these programs were supervised by the respective State Engineers while others developed as part of State Watermaster duties. Still others may have begun as programs initiated by land-grant universities and their associated experiment stations.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E:F Page 27

In 1934 the Rogue River Valley of southwestern Oregon experienced a severe drought. As in much of the West that year, irrigation supplies ran out in early July. This situation had devastating consequences on the valley's fruit crop. Mr. R.A. "Arch" Work, a 1927 University of California graduate in the field of irrigation engineering, had come to Medford, Oregon in 1929 as an irrigation specialist for the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering (later incorporated into the new Soil Conservation Service). The B.A.E. established an experiment station in the orchard lands a short distance south of Medford in 1931. The station's primary purpose was to develop improvements in irrigation drainage, but within a few years the office became the national field headquarters for the Department of Agriculture's new Western snow-survey program (LaLande 1993:4).

R.A. Work initiated the first snow surveys in southwestern Oregon in early 1935; laying out an experimental "snow course" in Crater Lake National Park, followed by a second permanent one in the Seven Lakes Basin of the High Cascades. These first snow courses measured the snowpack in the headwaters of the Rogue River. Work and other B.A.E. employees skied into Seven Lake Basin and identified a practical permanent location for snow measurement. (The Seven Lakes Basin snow-course was the main snow-survey point in the High Cascades of southern Oregon and became the longest continually used snow course in the national program). Work and his colleagues established other snow courses in the Cascades and the Siskiyou Mountains, (including Whaleback Mountain) between 1936-1938 (LaLande 1993:4).

With the West's drought emergency of the mid-1930s, some senators from various Western states advocated that a region-wide snow survey program become a federal responsibility. This move came about after a July 1935 agreement between the heads of three federal agencies (the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, and the U.S. Weather Bureau), that the B.A.E. (soon to become the SCS) would take the main responsibility in this endeavor.

Because of its direct experience in snow survey, the Rogue River Valley unit of the BAE/SCS became the field headquarters for the entire national program in 1937. In 1939 the Soil Conservation service became the agency primarily responsible for federal and state cooperative snow surveys. Work and other SCS snow surveyors operated out of Medford during their agency's pioneer effort to establish permanent snow courses in Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah and other states of the intermountain West. In 1943,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number _____ Page ^{E; F} 28 _____

the program's headquarters moved to Portland, Oregon in order to facilitate better communication and transportation throughout the region.

During the years that the program was based in southwest Oregon, many of the SCS snow survey's technical procedures, field practices, and "historical lore" were developed during annual winter forays into snow courses. Packing in the equipment and supplies on skis or snowshoes (occasionally sled dog teams were used) entailed strenuous days in the field. The actual snow survey involved taking measurements at predetermined intervals along a permanent snow course. Measurement was by means of a snow-tube device. After measuring the depth of the snow at a point along the snow course, the snow tube (a stainless steel instrument with a very precise inner diameter and known weight) was jammed down into the snow, and the resulting "core sample" weighed (enabling the derivation of the snow's moisture content). This procedure was repeated at each interval along the source. Over the period of years, as the snow-course data was studied and compared with actual stream flows later in the season, quite accurate forecasts of annual irrigation supplies could be estimated from the accumulated data (LaLande 1993:5)

Skiing in to a snow course for an average trip of sixteen miles in a day necessitated that shelter and provisions be available at some of the more remote locations. The SCS built its prototype snow-survey cabin at South Lake in Seven Lakes Basin in 1935. The first snow-course in Seven Lakes Basin, located in the meadow terrain above South Lake, was very nearby; another snow-course, located northeast of Cliff Lake, provided additional data.

The simple log cabin at South Lake became the "template" for many other snow-survey cabins built later in the 1930s and 1940s. After the South Lake Cabin (or first Seven Lakes Basin Cabin) had been erected, construction drawings of it were made and used to guide the building of cabins elsewhere in the West. A brief article on the SCS snow-survey program in the 1939 "Transactions of the American Geophysical Union" illustrated a number of SCS cabins. Most of them, including the Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937) and the Honeymoon Creek Snow-Survey Cabin (1943) on the Rogue River National Forest, were obviously modeled closely on the South Lake log structure; others, for use in areas with lower snowpacks, were of frame construction, covered with shakes. Forest Service employees cooperated with the SCS snow-surveys, eventually undertaking the annual measurements themselves and reporting the data to SCS engineers in Portland.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E: F Page 29

The original log structure in Seven Lakes Basin included a small snow-door in the gable end, but the first winter of use (1935-1936) brought an especially deep snowpack. This required R.A. Work and his assistant to spend many hours probing the snow for the location of the cabin. Their "sounding" efforts eventually revealed the location of the cabin's roof, and they were able to dig down to the snow-door. Work described their difficulty:

... We couldn't find the log cabin. We knew where the cabin was supposed to be and we feared that maybe some hunters had burned it down... we got our snow-tubes out, went to the place where we believed the cabin to be and started "sounding." Sure enough we hit wood. We kept sounding until we came over the ridgepole of the cabin roof. Then we started digging, with our skis and with our hand-axe... We dug a hole down eleven feet to get into that cabin...(Work:4)

During the summer of 1936, Work had a snow tower (also known as a "Santa Claus chimney") added to the cabin. This feature, extending well above the highest likely snow depth, was an enclosed tower with a door near the top and a ladder leading down the interior of the tower into the main cabin. The SCS used snow towers at a few other locations where deep snowpacks could totally conceal the snow-survey cabin.

R.A. Work and other SCS engineers associated with the development of the snow-survey program went on to help spread this particular technology to other arid/semi-arid parts of the world—the Middle East and elsewhere – as part of American foreign aid programs during the 1950s to 1970s. The original SCS procedures developed in part during the first SCS snow surveys in Seven Lakes Basin during the 1930s were refined and then implemented in irrigation-dependent societies at many places on the globe.

During the 1950s, the agency began developing electronic snow-survey methods (the sites are called "sno-tels") that eliminated the need for wintertime visits to the snow courses. A sno-tel site at Sevenmile Marsh replaced the two courses in Seven Lakes Basin sometime in the late 1960s. During the 1960s and 1970s the SCS transferred formal ownership of its snow-survey cabins to the Forest Service.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 30

F. Associated Property Types

Name of Associated Property Types: Snow-Survey Cabins

Description:

The historic context "BAE/SCS Snow Survey on the Rogue River National Forest 1935-1943 is represented by two eligible properties that are associated with the development of the snow-survey program in the American West and the role of the federal government (specifically the Rogue River National Forest in Oregon) in natural resource management. These snow-survey cabins are individually eligible as a distinct representatives of their type associated with these themes. Extant structures of sufficient age and integrity to represent the events pertaining to snow-survey program development and the Forest's cooperation in establishing this program, provide important tangible evidence of their associations.

A brief discussion of physical characteristics (including location, setting, size, materials and workmanship) for snow-survey cabins provides a framework for evaluating these nominated resources. Snow-survey cabins have common characteristics that link them, including location, setting, function, design, materials, and historical associations.

Characteristics that distinguish the cabins that supported BAE/SCS snow-survey programs on the Rogue River National Forest and that qualify them for listing are related to location, period of use, design, materials, and size. These structures are located on high-elevation areas of the Forest where snow depth and content could predictably give snow-surveyors an accurate measurement. Situated in isolated, forested mountain areas, the snow-survey cabins are constructed of native materials that could be obtained at the site. Foundations, walls, and roofs are fashioned from timber found nearby.

The snow-survey cabin possesses the essential design attributes of the typical SCS snow-survey cabin. It is small in size, allowing it to be quickly and easily heated during the winter months. The cabin is simply constructed of native materials, including peeled logs for the walls and split shakes for the roof covering, and contains a gable-end snow door for wintertime entry and may include a snow tower, or "Santa Claus" chimney, to allow access during extreme snow conditions. The interior is simple in plan and incorporates the fixed furnishings (bed, cabinetry and stove) established in the prototype cabin first constructed at South Lake in 1935 (LaLande 1993: 7-8).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 31

Snow-survey cabins on the Rogue River National Forest are built during the historic period between 1937 and 1943, when the BAE/SCS snow-survey program was established and flourished in southwest Oregon. They are closely associated with the founding of snow-survey activities in the American West and with the federal government's establishment (through the USDA Forest Service) of a cooperative plan with other federal agencies. The vernacular log snow-survey cabins have historic associations that are clearly defined by the distinctive physical characteristics described above – characteristics that determined their appearance and function during the period of primary use.

Significance:

Snow-survey cabins on the Rogue River National Forest are locally significant in the area of government, specifically the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering/Soil Conservation Service's establishment of snow-survey courses in the American West and with the federal government's cooperation in the snow-survey program in southwest Oregon. These structures have strong associations with the historical development of snow survey programs on high-elevation, isolate areas of the Forest. They exist as evidence of the period of early natural resource management as developed through the efforts of the BAE/SCS with assistance from the Forest Service. The small, simply crafted snow-survey cabins represent the agency's involvement in establishing a critical component of natural resource conservation prior to the development of electronic snow-survey methods. In these sheltering cabins, the rugged snow-surveyor found shelter and food during rigorous outings, as well as a place to study data.

Constructed during the historic period 1937 to 1943, snow-survey cabins embody the distinctive style, location, appearance, and construction methods of their type. These extant structures, of sufficient age and physical integrity, are distinctively characteristic examples of the structures widely used for natural resource management on isolated districts on the Rogue River National Forest and other Forests throughout the west.

There is no comprehensive data-base that records how many of the more than one dozen snow-survey cabins in Oregon remain standing, nor is information available for the larger number of such structures throughout the West. However, all of these cabins were either built by the SCS in the 1930s to the 1940s or were abandoned structures that the SCS utilized for snow-survey purposes. It is believed, based on an informal survey of Oregon National Forests, that fewer than half of the SCS-built cabins remain standing,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 32

and most of those are in generally poor condition. The Blue Mountain Spring SCS snow-survey cabin, a log structure on the Prairie City Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest, remains standing in relatively good condition, but it is substantially smaller and different from the South Lake structure. Another SCS cabin at Waldo Lake on the Willamette National Forest remains standing but is evidently in relatively poor condition.

Four snow-survey cabins remain standing on the Rogue River National Forest, but two of these (one at Wrangle Camp and one on Grayback Mountain in the Applegate area) are shake-over-lumber construction and have experienced severe deterioration or substantial modifications. The Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937) and the Honeymoon Creek Snow-Survey Cabin in the Sky Lakes Wilderness (1943) remain standing in good condition and are the subjects of this National Register nomination.

Registration Requirements

1. A SCS snow-survey cabin on the Rogue River National Forest is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and conservation if it was constructed and used by snow survey crews during the Rogue River National Forest's early years of assisting development of the BAE/SCS snow survey program in southwest Oregon between 1937 and 1943.
2. The SCS snow-survey cabin must have retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, to evoke its associations with the historic period, 1937 to 1943. It retains its isolated forest setting and location, its primary design characteristics, and a substantial proportion of its original materials.
3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, the SCS snow-survey cabin on the Rogue River National Forest embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type – small size convenient for fast and easy heating during the winter, simple construction of native materials, such as a foundation incorporating native rocks, peeled-log wall members from timber cut in the nearby area, or of shake or wood-frame, a gable-end snow door for winter time entry and/or a tower, or “Santa Claus” chimney, and a floor-plan similar to that of the first prototype cabin at South Lake in the Sky Lakes Wilderness area, including placement of furniture, stove and cabinetry.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E;F Page 33

4. The SCS snow-survey cabin should be clearly associated with the government and conservation activities of the Rogue River National Forest, exemplified by their cooperation in developing the snow-survey program in southwest Oregon.

Historic Context: CCC/FERA Recreation Development on the Rogue River National Forest 1933-1942.

The temporal boundaries of this historic context begin in 1933 when the Civilian Conservation Corps began its association and work with the Rogue River National Forest, initiating an extensive improvements program as part of the national response to the Great Depression. The period ends in 1942, when the nation's involvement in World War II brought an end to the "New Deal" programs. Geographically, CCC projects occurred through all districts on the Rogue River National Forest.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt developed the Civilian Conservation Corps as part of his "New Deal" program to combat a national economic crisis. Between 1933 and 1941, young men from urban areas joined the Corps to complete improvement and conservation projects throughout the nation. Most of the projects were initiated in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service. This agency's managers oversaw work in the areas of fire suppression, road construction, communication development, and administrative and recreation site construction (Throop 1979: 20). The effect of the Civilian Conservation Corps was dramatic. As historian Throop explains:

The fire prevention and suppression and timber stand improvement projects assured a continuing source of timber supply... the range improvement and soil conservation projects stabilized a vital forage for the stockraising industries; the construction of CCC camps and the forest improvement projects required incalculable quantities of milled lumber and wood products which bolstered the seriously depressed lumber industry... (Throop 1979: 3).

As part of his effort to assist the millions of citizens who were out of work, President Roosevelt also induced Congress to establish the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), a program that would grant some \$500 million to the states for relief programs (Kelley 1990: 613). Although some states were slow to establish relief

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 34

programs, FERA crews were active in southwest Oregon by the mid-Depression. In general, the local men who signed up for the FERA projects were older than those enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The first CCC camp in Forest Service Region Six was Camp Applegate F-41, erected at Seattle Bar in 1933. Within a short time additional CCC camps were located on the margins of the Applegate area at Seiad Valley and Grayback Creek. Two CCC camps were established in the Upper Rogue area: Camp Elk F-37 at the mouth of Sugarpine Creek and Camp Upper Rogue F-38 at Union Creek. Civilian Conservation Corps crews were also stationed at "Camp South Fork F-104," former site of the Owen-Oregon Lumber Company's Camp Two (LaLande 1980: 95;146-147;189). Commenting on the CCC program's positive effect on the Forest and southwest Oregon, Forest Supervisor Karl Janouch stated:

[The CCC] program has not only meant unemployment relief and large case expenditures locally for commodities at a time when business conditions were at a low ebb, but it made feasible the development of the forest for protection and utilization which will ... affect the wealth of this community for many years to come (Ashland Daily Tidings, April 16, 1936 1:1; 4:3-4).

Crews from Camp South Fork developed many miles of road and trail on the Forest, erected new lookouts at Rustler Peak, Blue Rock, and Bessie Rock, and built administrative/residential structures at Butte Falls Ranger Station and Lodgepole and Imnaha Guard Stations (Lalande 1980: 147). Camp Applegate crews worked on Star Ranger Station compound, Little Applegate Road, and the Middle Fork Road. Men from camps on the Upper Rogue completed several projects between 1934 and 1941 including miles of road construction along much of the Rogue-Umpqua Divide, a new ranger station compound at Union Creek, guard stations at Hamaker Meadows and Huckleberry Mountain, and fire lookouts at Mount Stella and Abbott Butte (LaLande 1980: 146-147;188-189). CCC crews also constructed a truck trail along much of the Rogue - Umpqua divide, providing the first road access into this high elevation area. Supervisor Janouch summarized the work:

A wide variety of work has been performed, all of which is in accordance with the national forest improvement program which provides for the development, protection and conservation of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number Page 35

natural resources, with the ultimate objective of securing the greatest possible use by the public...

The completion of 300 miles of the forest road system, the construction of 348 miles of telephone lines, and the construction of 14 lookout houses and towers is a great step forward in the protection of both public and privately owned timber resources of this locality... Ashland Daily Tidings, April 16, 1936 1:1, 4:3-4).

Among the most important aspects of the CCC program on the Rogue River National Forest was its extensive work on recreation facilities. These projects enhanced a long history of recreational use of the high country in southwest Oregon. Lengthy summer camping to escape the intense heat on the valley floor at numerous sites in the mountains had been popular since the late nineteenth century. Each summer large numbers of individuals planned their summers around extended visits to small campgrounds throughout the area. Soda or mineral spring-based locations were particularly popular with local residents. Places such as McAllister Soda Springs and Dead Indian Soda Springs offered pleasant diversions for several generations of Jackson County residents (Kramer and Clay 1991).

With recreation interest growing rapidly during the mid-1930s, CCC crews built campground facilities, "rustic"- style community kitchen shelters, and trail shelters throughout the Forest. Recreational improvements constructed in the Applegate area included Hutton, Cook-and-Green, Beaver-Sulphur, and McKee Bridge Campgrounds. The latter campground became known as "one of the most important and best equipped camps on the Rogue River National Forest" (Rogue River NF 1939:8). Other accomplishments in this area were Wrangle Gap Shelter and a small shelter at the Trail Camp Ski area (Otis, Honey, Hogg, Lakin 1986:45). Among recreational structures erected by CCC Camp South Fork, were a shelter at Fish Lake and an "Adirondack" style trail shelter at Parker Meadows (LaLande 1980:40; 146-147). FERA crews erected a "community kitchen" shelter at Dead Indian Soda Springs in the Cascades. In the Upper Rogue region, CCC crews developed campgrounds at Gypsy Springs, Whiskey Spring, and Snowshoe Camp. Recreation facilities were also developed at Union Creek, Natural Bridge, and other places along the Rogue River corridor. Trail shelters were constructed along the crest of the Cascades at places such as Bessie Rock and Grass Lake. Completion of the Beaver Creek-Mount Ashland Loop Road contributed to recreational opportunities on the Forest's Siskiyou Mountains unit. Built primarily for fire and timber

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E;F Page 36

harvest access, the seventy-five mile long road also allowed entry to areas previously available to only a few people (LaLande 1980:95). Supervisor Janouch described this road as "giving one of the most picturesque mountain views that can be found anywhere in the state of Oregon" (Ashland Daily Tidings, April 16, 1936 1:1; 4:3-4). He continued:

Recreational development has received special consideration in the work program to meet the fast-growing demands of the public who are turning to the forested areas of the pacific coast for summer outings and vacations. A total of 136 acres of public campgrounds have been cleared and improvements consisting of community shelters, individual camp stoves and tables and sanitation facilities have been installed.

Those interested in picnicking and camping in the woods are invited to investigate the facilities offered by the forest service at Union Creek and Dead Indian Soda Springs. Both these areas provide community kitchens, tables, shelters, and other facilities for large picnic groups...rustic design is emphasized in all the construction at these recreational areas (Ashland Daily Tidings, April 16, 1936, 1:1, 4:3-4).

After seven years of productive work on National Forests, the onset of World War II brought the end of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other work-relief programs. In 1942, with rising employment rates and a growing enrollment in military service, Congress voted to terminate the CCC. Historian Throop explains the program's lasting value:

... The trees planted or protected, the acres saved from soil erosion... and the recreation areas developed are a permanent testimony to the success of the Corps work. The CCC also had a lasting effect on its enrollees, tangible benefits to the health, educational level, and employment expectancies, as well as giving immediate financial aid to their families. The enrollees derived intangible benefits also, such as a new understanding of their country and a faith in its future (Throop 1979:82).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E;F Page 37

F. Associated Property Types

Name of Associated Property Type: CCC/FERA Recreation Facilities

Subtype: Campground facilities and "community kitchen" shelters

Subtype: "Adirondack" style shelters

Description

The historic context "CCC/FERA Recreation Development on the Rogue River National Forest 1933-1942" is represented by five eligible properties associated with recreation facility development of the Rogue River National Forest in Oregon. Each property is individually eligible as a distinct representative of its type associated with this theme. These structures are of sufficient age and scope to represent the patterns and events pertaining to CCC/FERA-built recreational structures on the Forest, and are encompassed by the temporal boundaries of the historic context. A brief discussion of physical characteristics (including location, setting, size, materials and workmanship) for these property types provides a framework for evaluating the nominated resources.

Subtype: Campground Facilities and "Community Kitchen" Shelters

Characteristics that distinguish the CCC-built rustic style-campgrounds and shelters and qualify them for listing include location, setting, design, materials, and historic associations. These properties are located on all districts of the Forest where development of campground facilities could offer recreational opportunities to visitors. In addition, these sites concentrated recreational use of the forests to minimize fire risk. While some campgrounds saw entirely new construction, others had been informal sites for many years and were merely enlarged and improved (Throop 1979:50;54). The rustic-style of architecture employed in Forest Service recreational structures built by the CCC during the Depression had been employed in National Park Service facilities during the first two decades of the twentieth century. As Gail Throop explains:

This uniquely American architectural style evolved slowly, a natural outgrowth of (late) nineteenth century romanticism about nature and the western frontier. As accessories of nature, these

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E; F Page 38

structures employed the use of native materials to blend with the environment and the use of early pioneer and regional building techniques; architecture was closely integrated with the landscape (Throop 1979: 31).

The CCC-built recreational campground setting ideally provides scenic views, pleasant surroundings, ample water, and accessibility by road. Landscape development that preserved sufficient trees for shade and beauty have been retained. Rustic style predominates throughout the campground. Built improvements are often stained or painted in natural colors to make them blend with the surroundings. Campstoves and fireplaces, situated for cooking and warming, are designed appropriately, usually rectangular in shape, with an incorporated massive chimney, and employing native stone as the preferred building material. Other stone features may include rock retaining walls, campfire circles and benches (Throop 1979:52).

Community kitchen shelters were approved for areas where recreational use was likely to be frequent, or in areas where community groups such as civic, service, or social organizations would be likely to use facilities. The shelters were planned to reflect in their design the character and climate of the forest. Although employing logs, poles, and masonry in construction, community kitchen shelters were designed to provide variety in appearance and thus no two shelters were designed exactly alike. They appeared in several forms; square, rectangular and octagonal (Throop 1979:59; 61).

Community kitchen shelters are constructed to give the appearance of having been built by "master craftsmen with limited hand tools" (Throop 1979:59). Characteristic features of the shelters include massive peeled logs that approximate nearby timber in size, poles rafters, native stone masonry for chimneys and stoves, and concrete slab floors (often with a scored design). Roofs are pitched to support snow loads and are covered with hand-split shakes. Countersunk bolts with wooden plugs; connecting pole to post, give the appearance of pegs or mortise/tenon work.

Subtype: Campground "Adirondack" Trail Shelter

Trail shelters were constructed in remote locations as a convenience to back country travelers. The primary design used in Region Six was the Adirondack-type shelter; a "salt box" of study construction that could withstand harsh climatic conditions. They were simple, durable, and functional (Throop 1979:62).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number E;F Page 39

Adirondack-type trail shelters constructed by the CCC on the Rogue River National Forest and throughout Region Six are relatively small in size, constructed of native materials, and have two unequal gabled pitches, with three elevations enclosed and the fourth, the entrance, open. They incorporate pole or log construction with shake-covered roofs and various wood exterior wall materials, including half-round poles (either horizontal or vertical) vertical planking, or wall shakes. The floor is often earthen; rustic furniture may be present.

Recreational campground facilities, individual community kitchen shelters, and trail shelters on the Rogue River National Forest are associated with the historic period, 1933 to 1942 when the Great Depression brought federal "New Deal" programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Federal Emergency Relief Act to the Forest. Through these programs new standardized facilities were constructed throughout Region Six of the Forest Service. These trail shelters are closely associated with both the CCC/FERA and the efforts of the USDA Forest Service to meet the increasing demand for recreational development on lands under its jurisdiction. The CCC-built recreational facilities evoke historic associations that are clearly defined by the distinct physical characteristics described above – characteristics that determined their appearance and function.

Significance:

The historic CCC/FERA-built recreational facilities and individual structures on the Rogue River National Forest are locally significant under Criteria A and C as representative structures associated with Forest development between 1933 and 1942. In addition to the embodying aesthetic goals of the rustic style, the CCC/FERA put unemployed skilled and unskilled men to work on projects that improved the community and encouraged families during the difficult Depression decade. According to historian Throop, many examples of the Pacific Northwest's CCC architecture possess a "rare and distinctive beauty, " or at least "the sturdy qualities of design and construction typical of that day...an expression largely confined to the Depression era..." (Throop 1979: 83).

Rustic-style campgrounds, community kitchen shelters, and trail shelters are significant in the area of government, specifically the federal government's response to the economic ravages of the Great Depression. Through "New Deal" programs such as the Civilian Conservation Corps, a new era of standardized planning and extensive

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E; F Page 40

facility construction was introduced on the National Forests. Built during the later years of the historic period 1933 to 1942, these recreational structures embody the distinctive style, location, appearance, and construction methods of CCC/FERA crews on the Forests. Extant resources of sufficient age and physical integrity are distinctively characteristic examples of the structures widely used for recreation during bleak years. As Gail Throop notes:

The Depression of the 1930s had an extraordinary impact on the economic, political, and social makeup of the nation, and the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corp represented an important federal response to the Depression. In this context the constructions of the CCC have exceptional importance.

Collectively they represent unique architecture in that the building programs and the times that motivate them no longer exist (Throop 1979: 67).

Of the many campgrounds constructed during the 1930s for public enjoyment, very few of these retain their historic character (Throop 1981:7). Following World War II, National Forest recreational use patterns and public tastes changed, and as a result many campgrounds and community kitchens began to fall into disrepair. Although the total number of existing CCC-era community kitchens on National Forests within Oregon is uncertain, the number is approximately twenty. Inclusion of non-National Forest shelters built by New Deal-program crews might result in a count as high as twenty-five. These historic structures, as well as the campgrounds that held them, are a dwindling resource (LaLande 1998: 6).

Registration Requirements

In order to qualify for listing the CCC/FERA Recreation Facilities must have been developed for recreation purposes on the Rogue River National Forest during the historic period 1933 to 1942. The facilities must be intact examples of one of the identified subtypes: campgrounds and "community kitchen" shelters, or "Adirondack"- style shelters. They should retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, design, and materials to evoke the period of their construction and historic use. Their integrity should not be compromised by major relocation, or by substantial replacement materials. The recreation facilities should embody distinctive examples of craftsmanship and materials, and they should retain their associations with the historic context. Essentially the features

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number E:F Page 41

proposed for nomination under this multiple property submission must meet the following criteria as set forth in the registration requirements:

Subtype: Campgrounds/"Community Kitchen" Shelters

1. Campgrounds and "community kitchen" shelter recreation facilities on the Rogue River National Forest are eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and recreation if they were constructed by CCC/FERA crews during the Forest's years of association with these federal relief organizations between 1933 and 1942.
2. The CCC/FERA-built campground/"community kitchen" shelter is essentially intact and retains a high degree of integrity of rural setting and location, primary design characteristics, and a substantial portion of its original materials, to evoke its associations with the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps or Emergency Relief Act employees during the historic period 1933 to 1942, in southwest Oregon
3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, the CCC/FERA-built campground/"community kitchen" shelter recreation facilities on the Rogue River National Forest embody the distinctive characteristics of their type. Campground facilities reveal their original plan and exhibit a substantial number of features constructed of native material. These features include shelters made from local timber, masonry walls, picnic facilities, and campstoves fashioned of native rock. Individually, shelters exhibit the tenets of rustic design and give the appearance of work by skilled craftsmen. They employ peeled logs and poles, native stone masonry, hand-split shake roofs, and may contain countersunk bolts with wooden plugs that resemble pegs or mortise/tenon work.
4. The campground/ "community kitchen" shelter recreation facilities should be clearly associated with the work of these government relief programs on the Rogue River National Forest during the years of collaboration between the agencies in southwest Oregon.

Subtype: "Adirondack"- style shelter

1. The "Adirondack"-style shelters on the Rogue River National Forest are eligible under Criterion A in the areas of government and recreation if they were constructed by CCC/FERA crews during the Forest's years of association with these federal relief organizations between 1933 and 1942.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number F;G;H Page 42;1;1

2. The CCC/FERA-built "Adirondack" shelter is essentially intact and retains a high degree of integrity of rural setting and location, primary design characteristics, and a substantial portion of its original materials, to evoke its associations with the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps or Emergency Relief Act employees during historic period, 1933 to 1942 in southwest Oregon

3. In order to be eligible under Criterion C, the CCC/FERA-built "Adirondack" shelters on the Rogue River National Forest embody the distinctive characteristics of their type – rustic design, construction of peeled and notched poles, native stone masonry in foundation materials, and hand-split shake roof and walls.

4. The "Adirondack"-style shelter recreation facilities should be clearly associated with the work of these government relief programs on the Rogue River National Forest during the years of collaboration between the agencies in southwest Oregon.

G. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

The geographical area encompasses the four ranger districts (Applegate, Ashland, Butte Falls, and Prospect) of the Rogue River National Forest in the Pacific Northwest Region (Region Six) located in Oregon.

H. SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION METHODS

The multiple property submission of historic structures on the Rogue River National Forest was developed following work accomplished during past two decades on the Rogue River National Forest by Forest Archaeologist Jeffrey LaLande with assistance from staff. Identification of eligible resources was accomplished primarily through project-specific examinations conducted to fulfill federal Section 106 compliance requirements. Inventories were completed for projects such as facility modification and upgrades, preliminary review for timber sales, and proposed restoration projects. The fourteen pertinent properties were selected because of their quality, integrity, and significance, and because they constitute the total amount of resources of their types known to qualify at this time. In nominating these fourteen historic properties, the Rogue River National Forest is pursuing action that will assist and support its efforts to plan for and protect the resources within its jurisdiction.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number H Page 2 (43)

Locations of the resources were noted on USGS topographical maps, photographs taken, and documentation completed. Research included review of Rogue River National Forest archives, oral sources, photographs, newspapers, and maps, as well as various appropriate secondary sources. Field visits were made to each of the sites to record location, topography, setting, vegetation, and architectural description and to assess integrity. These fourteen properties, ten of which have previously been declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, represent all extant Rogue River National Forest structures fifty years or older, that retain physical integrity and have not previously been nominated and listed in the National Register. Those resources not included were omitted because of conditions or alterations that compromise their integrity.

The resources are grouped under historic contexts that conform with the themes that best define the Rogue River National Forest and its resources during the historic period, 1907-1943: (1) the early period of Forest Service administration and natural resource management between the creation of the Forest in 1907 and the initiation of projects by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933; (2) the initial period of fire suppression activities on the Rogue River National Forest between 1918, when the first permanent lookout structures were erected, and 1943, when World War II and technological change altered fire prevention programs on the Forest; (3) the early years of development of snow-survey programs by the Soil Conservation Service with assistance from the Rogue National Forest between 1937 and 1943; and (4) the establishment of recreational facilities on the Forest in conjunction with the Civilian Conservation Corps and Emergency Relief Act between 1933 and 1942, activity that contributed significantly to development on the Forest and in southern Oregon.

The historic period, encompassing the years 1907 to 1943, comprises the years of early development on the Rogue River National Forest, from the year of its creation to World War II, a period known as the "custodial era" of the U.S. Forest Service. With the World War came sociological and technological changes that instigated new priorities for the agency in an age referred to as "the commodity era." The appropriateness of the overall historic context was determined by the linked functions, linked physical features, and linked associative characteristics of the fourteen Rogue River National Forest resources. The property types are organized by function and style, and are generally considered chronologically within their type.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number H Page 3 (44)

National Register Registration Forms

Nomination forms in this multiple property submission encompass offices/workrooms, guard stations, fire lookouts, snow-survey cabins, a campground, and recreational shelters.

Administrative Structures

Star Ranger Station Building (1911)
Willow Prairie Cabin (1924)
Big Elk Guard Station (1929)

Fire Lookouts

Hershberger Mountain Lookout (1924)
Dutchman Peak Lookout (1927)
Mt. Stella Lookout (1933)
Squaw Peak Lookout (1943)

Snow Survey Cabins

Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937)
Honeymoon Creek Snow-Survey Cabin (1943)

CCC/ERA Recreation Facilities

McKee Bridge Campground (1935-1936)
Wrangle Shelter (1935-1936)
Dead Indian Soda Springs Shelter (1936)
Fish Lake Shelter (1936)
Parker Meadows Shelter (1936)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number I Page 1 (45)

I. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atwood, Katherine C.

1994 "Historic Fire Lookouts on the Siskiyou National Forest: A Cultural Property Inventory and Determination of Eligibility" USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Siskiyou National Forest. Grants Pass, Oregon.

Brown, Carroll

1960 History of the Rogue River National Forest, Volume I. USDA Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest, Medford., Oregon.

Brown, Carroll

1971 History of the Rogue River National Forest, Volume II. USDA Forest Service, Medford., Oregon.

Kelley, Robert

1990 The Shaping of the American Past Volume II, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey

Kramer, George; Clay, Scott.

1991 Latgawa/Dead Indian Soda Springs Development: An Assessment of Historic and Cultural Significance.

Kresek, Ray

1984 Fire Lookouts of the Northwest. Ye Galleon Press, Fairfield, Washington.

LaLande, Jeff

1979 A Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Existing Structures at Star Ranger Station, C.R. Job RR-11, Applegate Ranger District, Rogue River National Forest.

LaLande, Jeff

1993 Heritage Resource Evaluation and Project Description for Honeymoon Creek Cabin (C.R. Job RR-1013). USDA Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest

Section number I Page 2 (46)

LaLande, Jeff

1998 Dutchman Peak Lookout (CR Job RR-446) and Squaw Peak Lookout (C.R. Job RR-1134) Heritage Resource Evaluation and Rehabilitation Project Report, U.S. Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest.

LaLande, Jeffrey M.

1980 Prehistory and History of the Rogue River National Forest: A Cultural Resource Overview, U.S. Forest Service, Rogue River National Forest, Medford, Oregon.

Mergen, Bernard,

1997 Snow In America, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington D.C.

Otis, Alison T.; Honey, William D.; Honey, Hogg, Thomas C. Hogg; and Laken, Kimberly K.

1986 The Forest Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps: 1933-1942, Pacific Crest Research and Services Corp. Corvallis, Oregon, U.S. Forest Service.

Steen, Harold K.

1976 The U.S. Forest Service: A History, University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington .

Throop, Elizabeth Gail.

1979 "Utterly Visionary and Chimerical:" A Federal Response to the Depression: An Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest, (M.A. Thesis, Portland State University).

Williams, Gerald W.

1991 "An Inventory of Known Lookout Locations in Western Oregon." USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Willamette National Forest. Eugene, Oregon.

Williams, Gerald W.

1992 John B. Waldo and William G. Steel: Forest Reserve Advocates for the Cascade Range of Oregon. In The Origins of the National Forests, ed. Harold K. Steen, 314-330, Durham, North Carolina, Forest History Society.