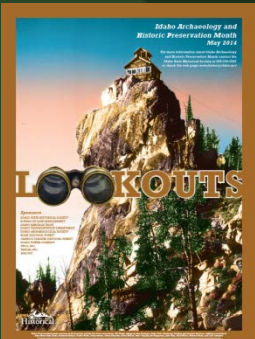


Solitude and Splendid Views Lookouts on the Boise National Forest



Blue Point Lookout, 1937, Cascade RD

A presentation by Susie Osgood
Boise National Forest Archeologist



Lookouts

Boise NF Lookouts

- Bear Valley Mountain
- Danskin Peak - staffed by BLM
- Deadwood - recreation rental
- Dry Buck - removed 1973
- East Mountain - SITPA, burned
- Gold Fork Rock
- Gold Fork - removed 1984
- Hawley
- House Mountain - removed (nd)
- Jackson Peak
- Lava Mountain - removed 1949 (?)
- Meadow Creek
- Pilot Peak
- Red Mountain - removed 1983
- Rice Peak
- Scott Mountain - staffed
- Shafer Butte, SITPA removed
- Silver Creek - staffed
- Sunset Mountain - formerly SITPA, staffed by FS
- Swanholm
- Thorn Creek Butte
- Thunderbolt - staffed
- Trinity Mountain - staffed
- Tripod Peak - staffed
- Whitehawk Mountain - staffed



Dry Buck LO



Gold Fork



Blue Point Lookout, Cascade RD



1917



1920



Blue Point Lookout was later renamed Rice Peak Lookout

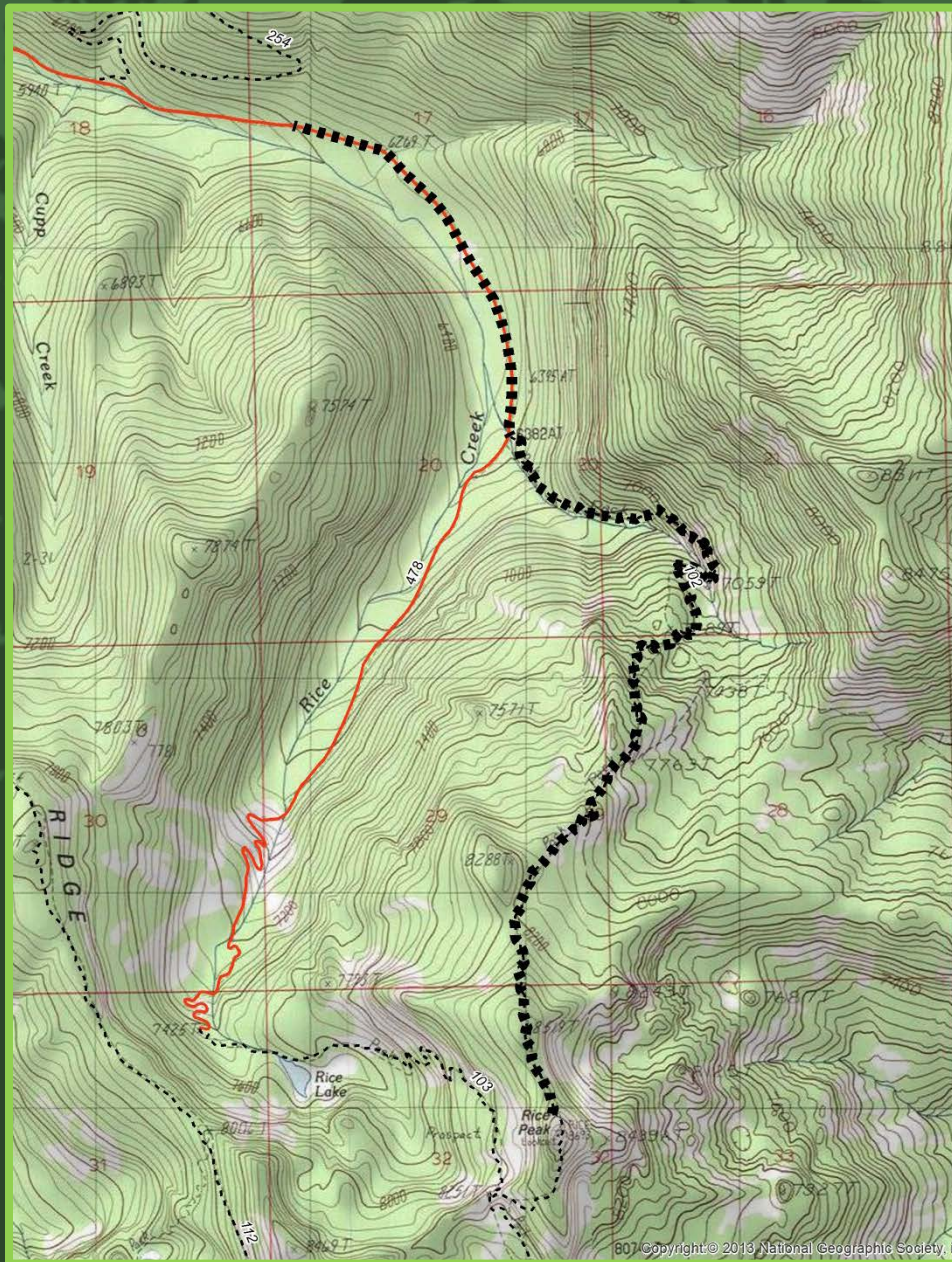


William B. Rice,
Payette NF Supervisor 1925-1937
Regional Forester 1943-1950

1937



Rice Peak, Cascade RD



- 8.5 Miles round trip (4.25 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 2798/618 (each way)
- Park where the 478 road washes out and hike to the 102 trail



Bear Valley Lookout, 1936, Lowman RD



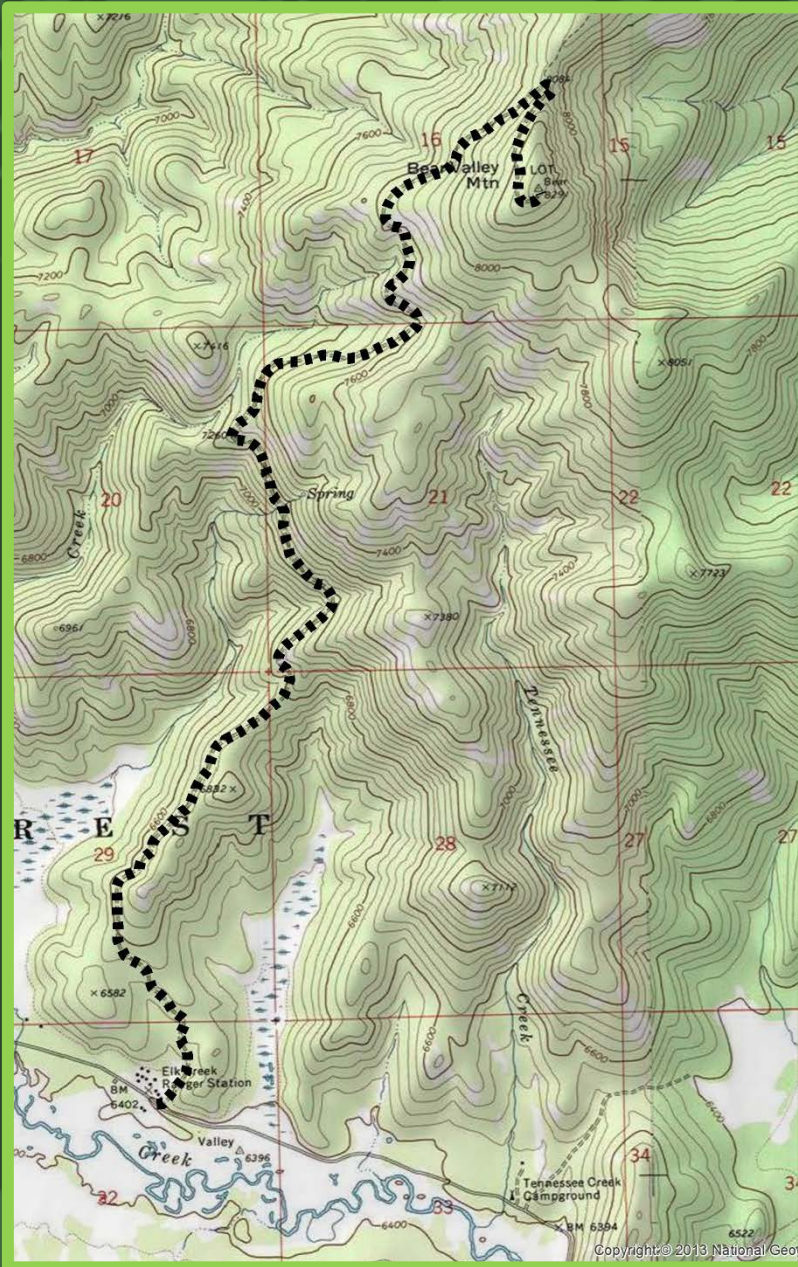
The only 7' x 7' Aermotor Co. steel cab lookout tower on the Boise NF



Bear Valley Lookout, Lowman RD



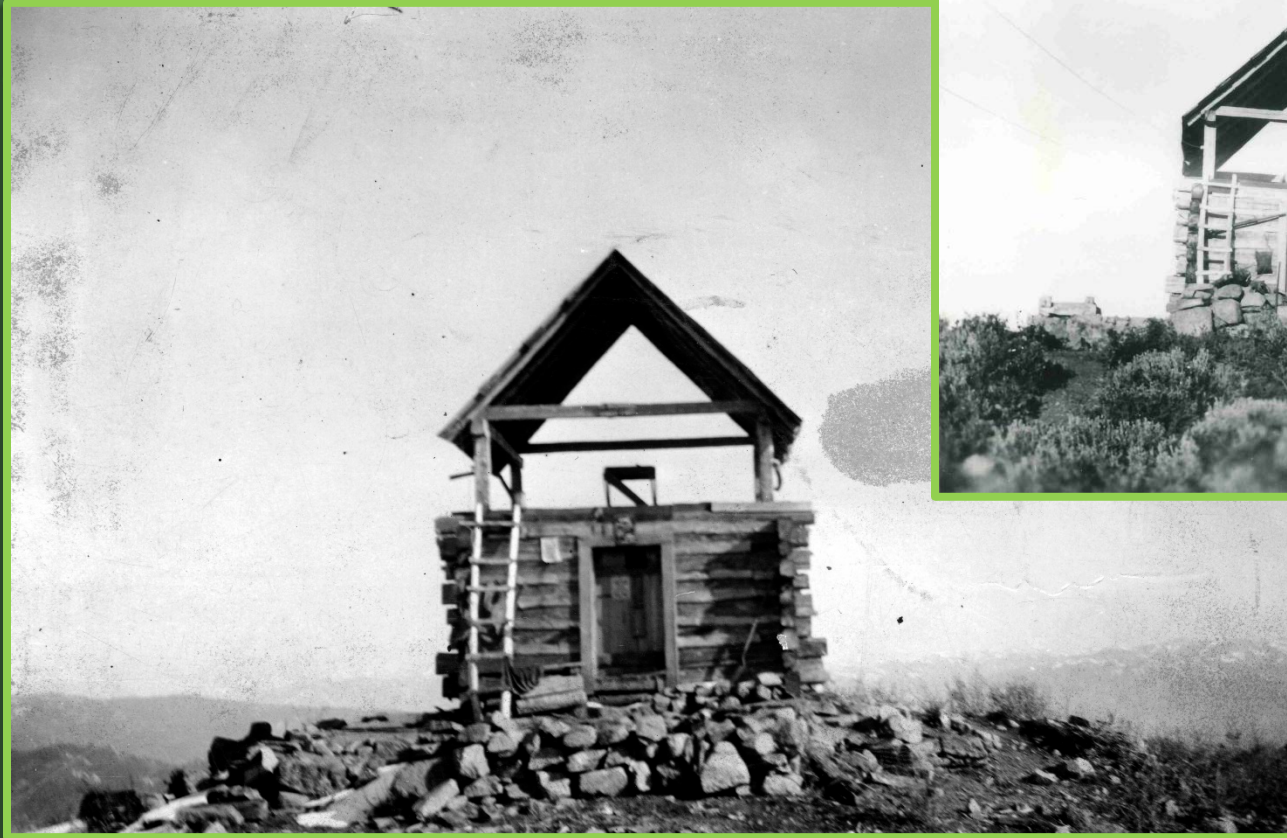
Bear Valley, Lowman RD



- 9.4 Miles round trip (4.7 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 2025/139 (each way)
- Park at the Elk Creek Ranger Station and hike the 583 road to the north.



Deadwood Lookout, 1917, Emmett RD



Deadwood Lookout, Emmett RD



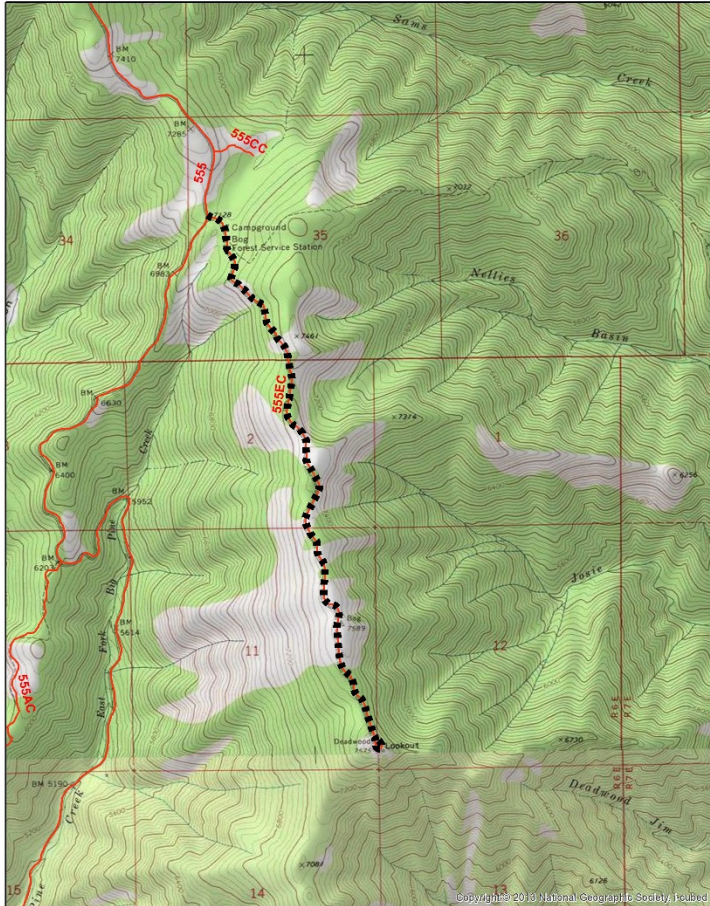
1923



1937



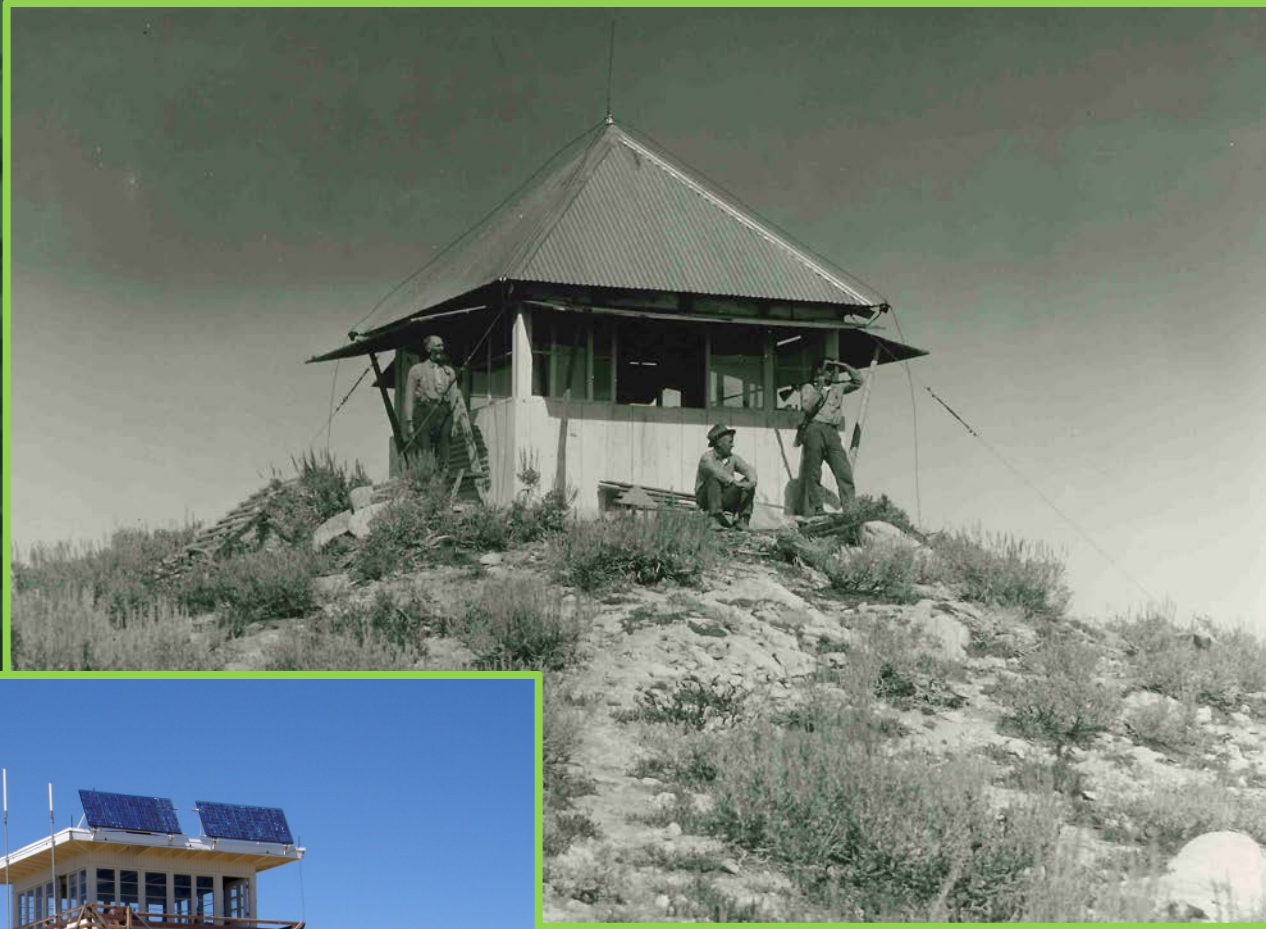
Deadwood, Emmett RD



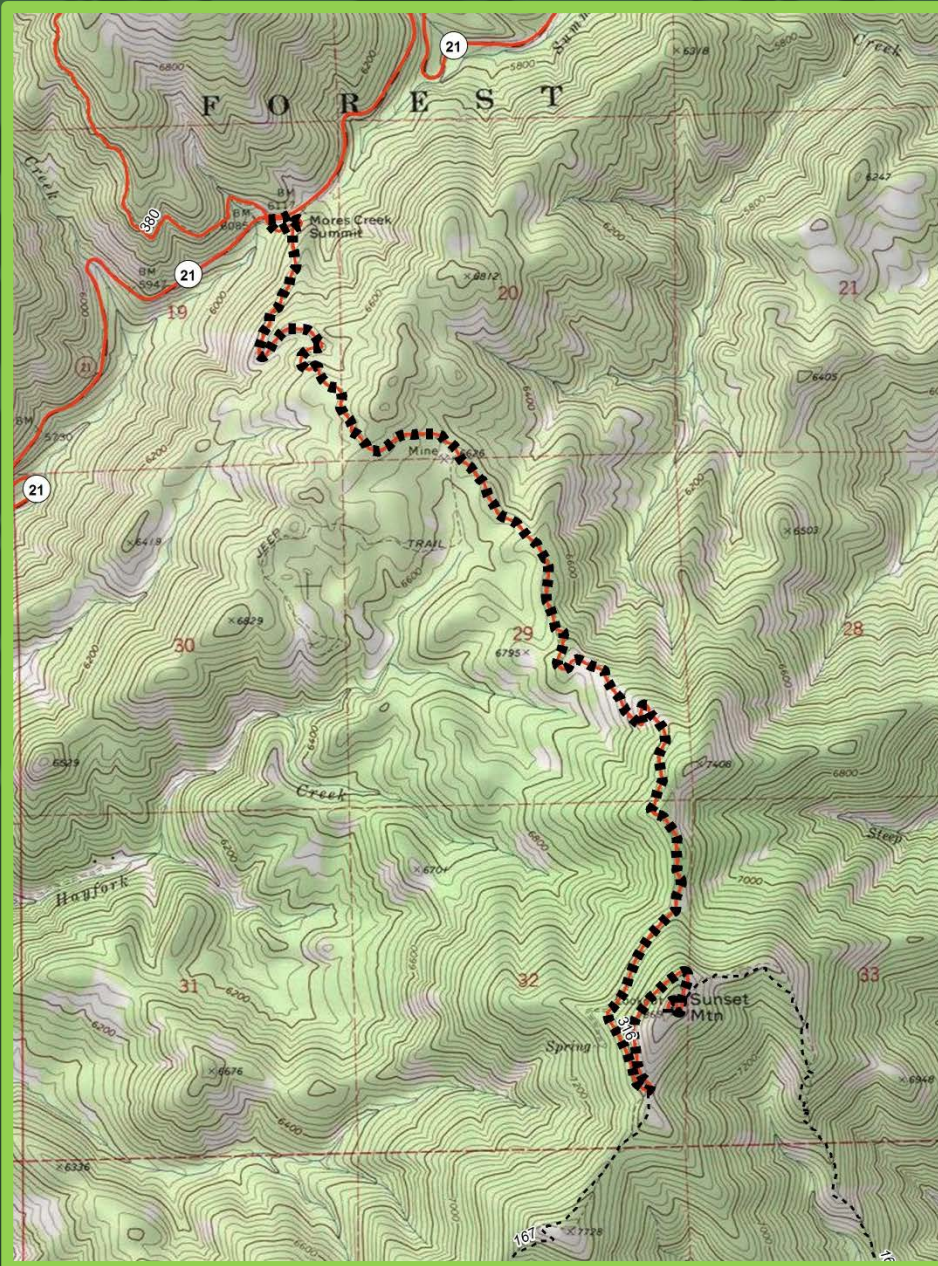
- 2.6 Miles round trip (5.2 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 635/227 (each way)
- Park at the intersection of the 555 and 555EC roads and hike the 555EC road to the south.
- The Deadwood LO is available to rent through recreation.gov



Sunset Mountain Lookout, 1924, Idaho City RD



Sunset Mountain, Idaho City RD



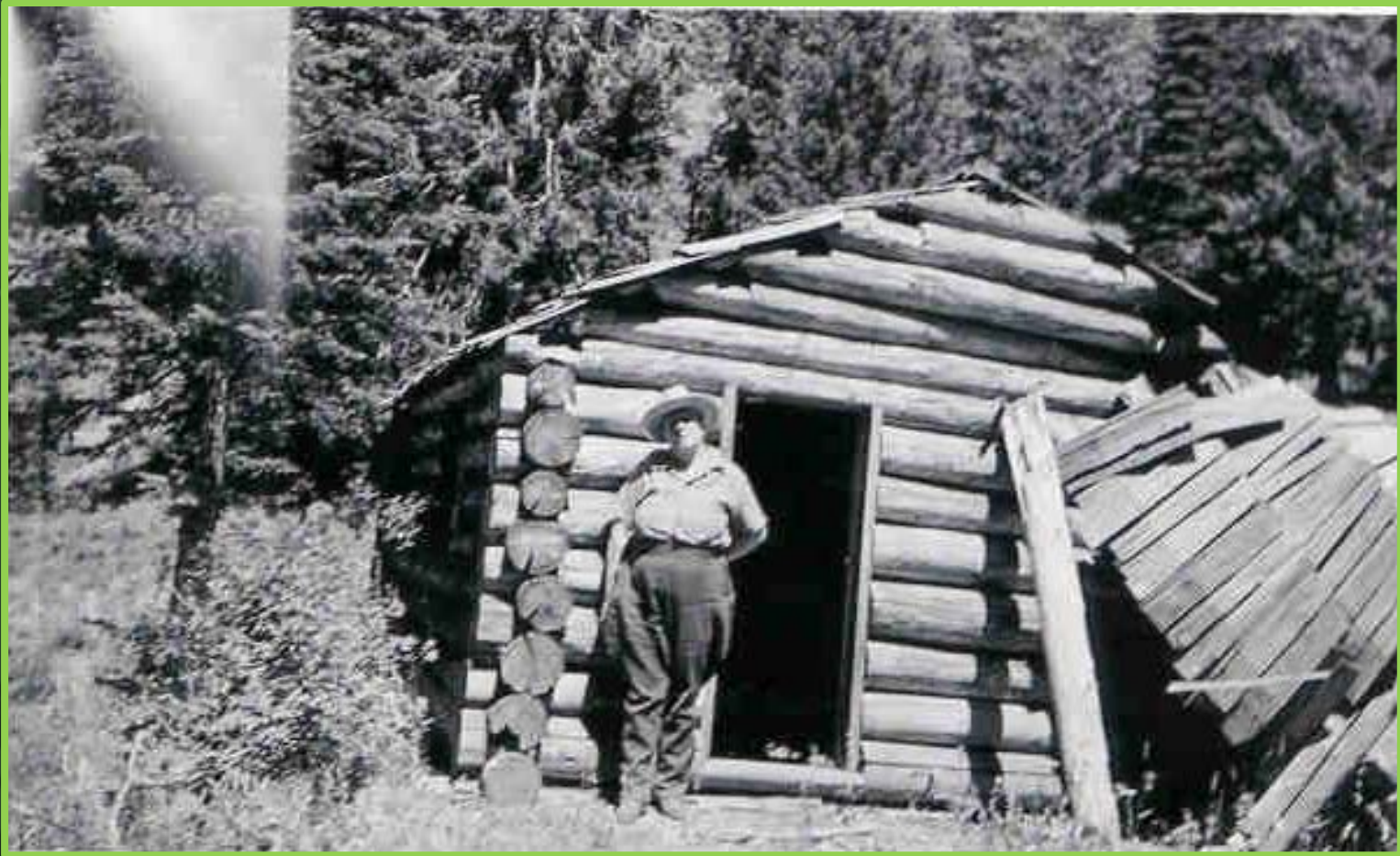
- 9.4 Miles round trip (4.7 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 2166/431 (each way)
- Park at Mores Creek Summit and hike the 316 road to the south.
- Featured in Stuebner's Boise Trail Guide



Swanholm Lookout, 1926, Idaho City RD



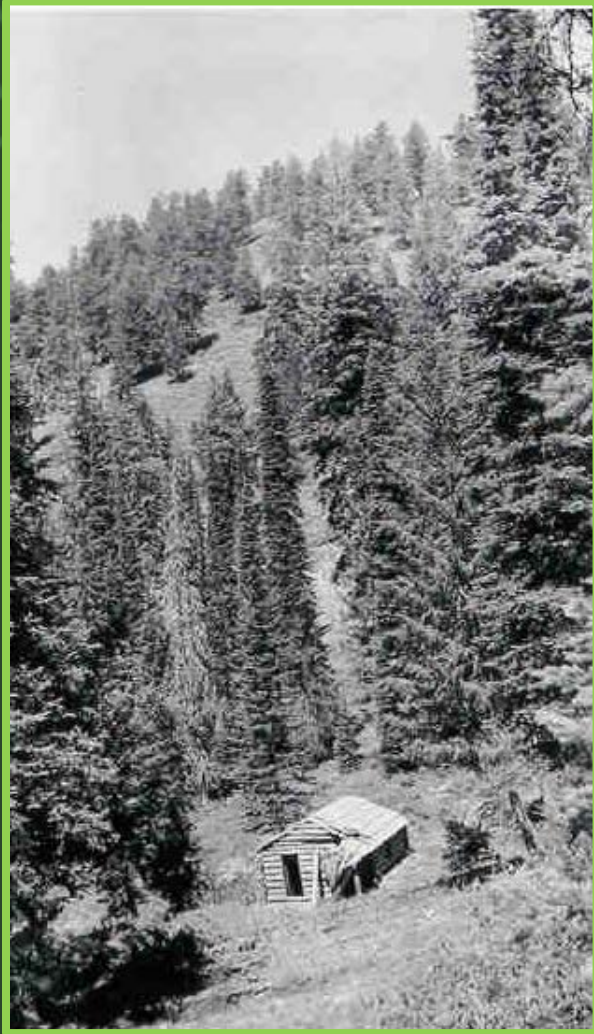
Swanholm Lookout Cabin, 1940, Idaho City RD



Evla (?) Bibo, hired in 1921 as first female
lookout on the Boise NF



Swanholm Lookout Cabin, 1940, Idaho City RD



"The main Swanholm Peak which has been used for some time as a lookout will not be used during the present season. The Supervisor decided to use a lower, more easily accessible peak for the present year. This was doubtless largely due to the fact that a lady lookout has been employed for Swanholm... The telephone has, of course, been removed to the lower peak for the season. The only reason for a woman lookout rather than a man on the Boise that I have heard is a matter of publicity and whether that will amount to anything remains to be seen. Certainly there are a number of ways in which a man lookout is preferable to a woman.... I understand there were no shortage of applications for the job of lookout and suitable men could have been secured. However, this is an experiment which may be worthwhile. The matter is merely being mentioned at this time for consideration in the future."

In the words of Assistant Regional Forester
C.N. Woods...1921



Swanholm Lookout, 2009, Idaho City RD



YCC Crews



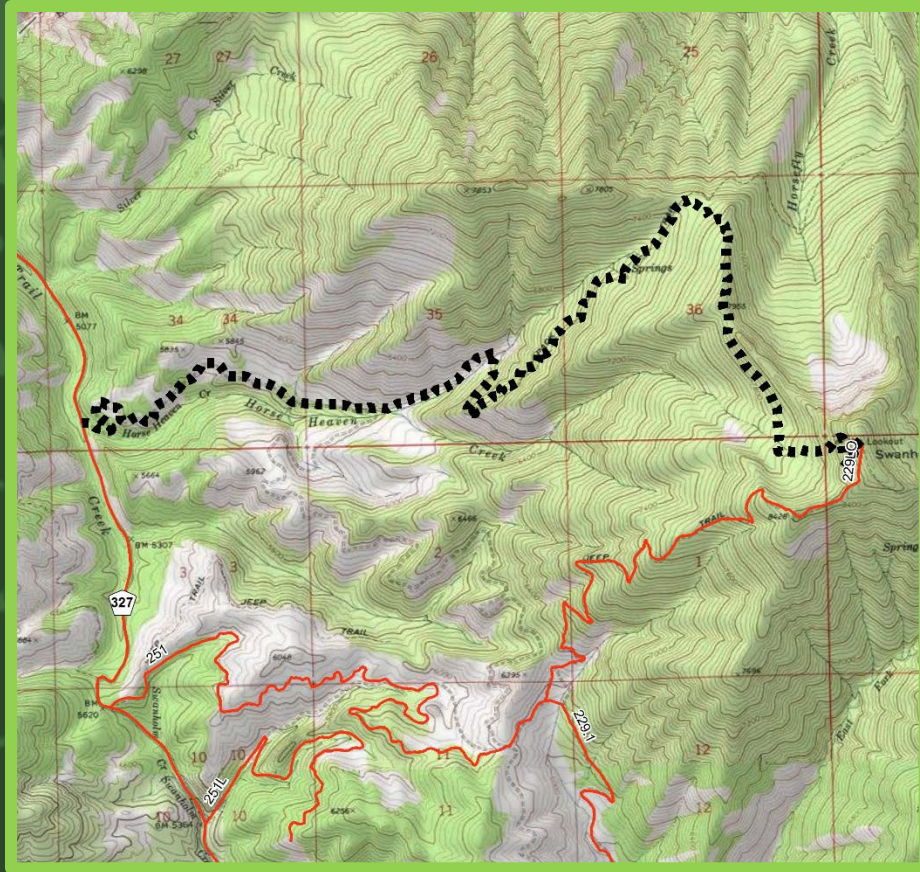
Swanholm Lookout, 2009, Idaho City RD



YCC Crews



Swanholm Mountain, Idaho City RD



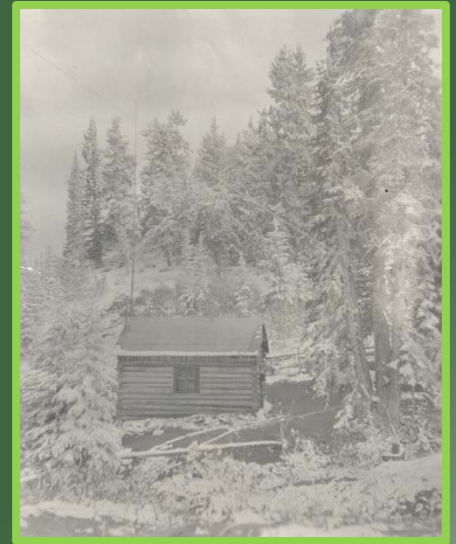
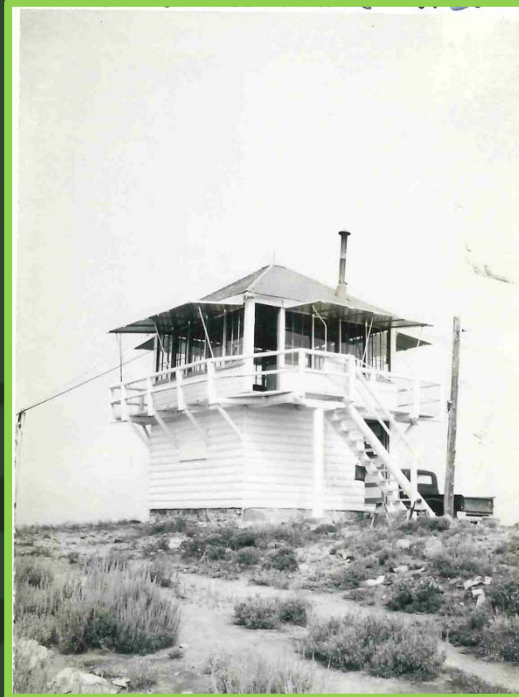
- 10.6 Miles round trip (5.3 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 3927/411 (each way)
- Park at the Horse Haven trailhead on Forest Road 327 roads and hike the Horse Haven trail east to its junction with the West Warrior Trail. Hike the West Warrior South, along the ridge to the LO
- Featured in Stuebner's Boise Trail Guide
- Huge view shed into Graham and the Sawtooths



Thorn Creek Butte, Idaho City RD



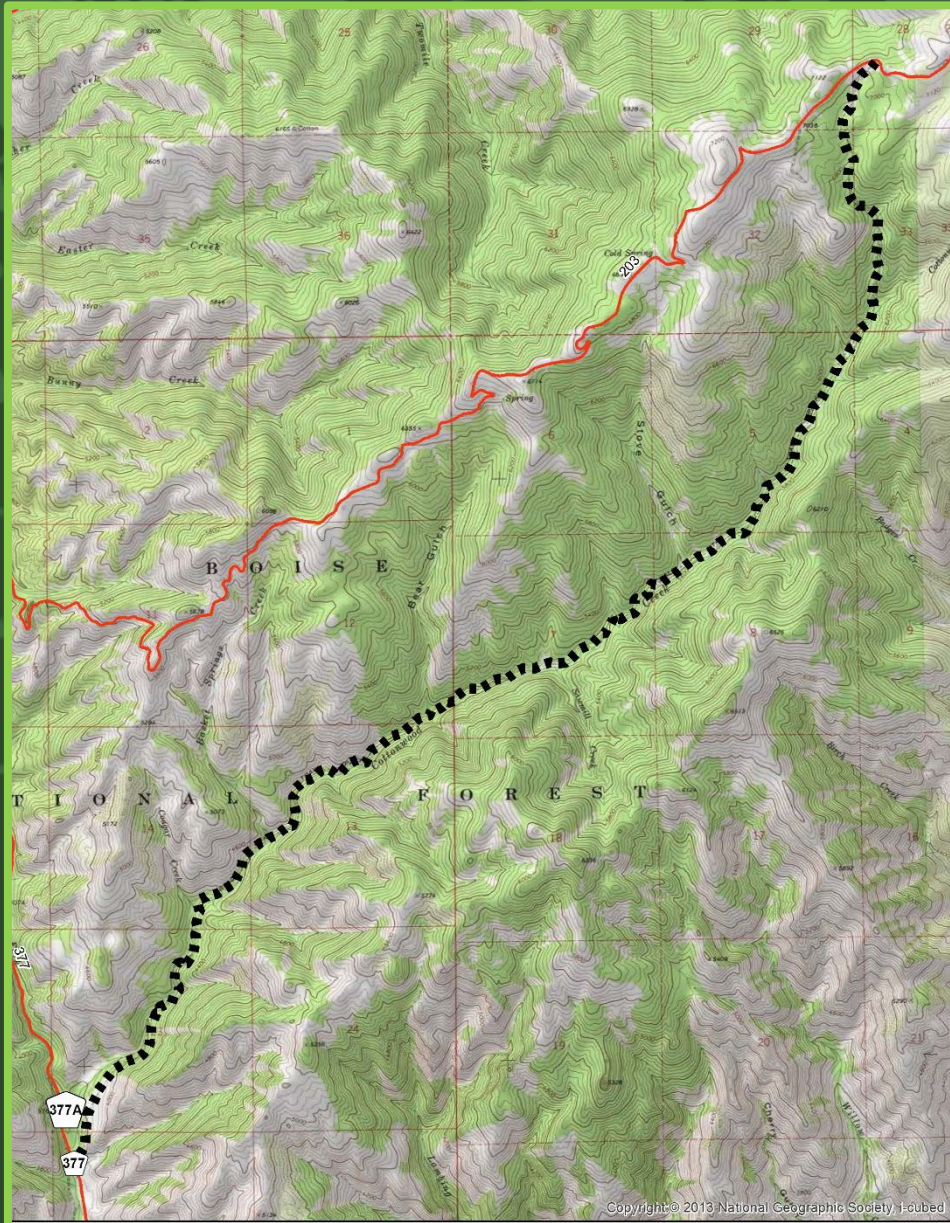
1924



Lookout Cabin, 1916



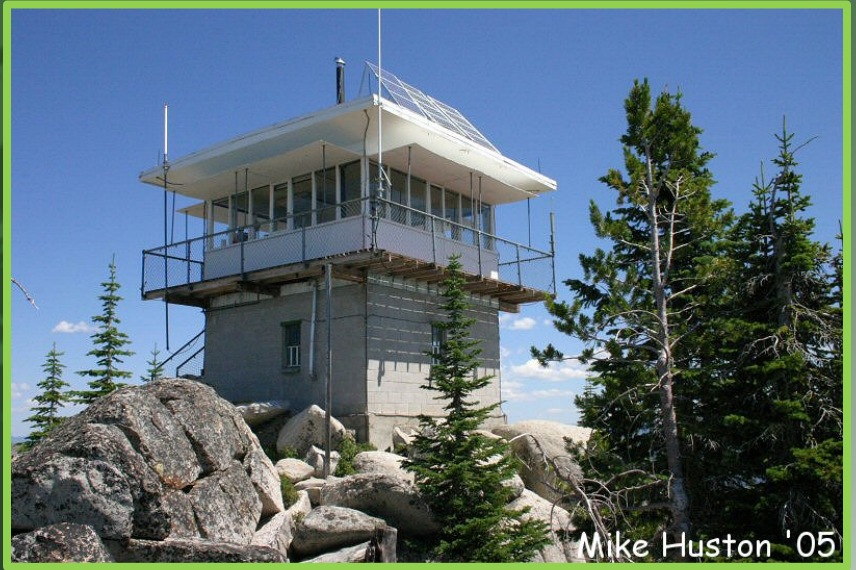
Thorn Creek Butte, Idaho City RD



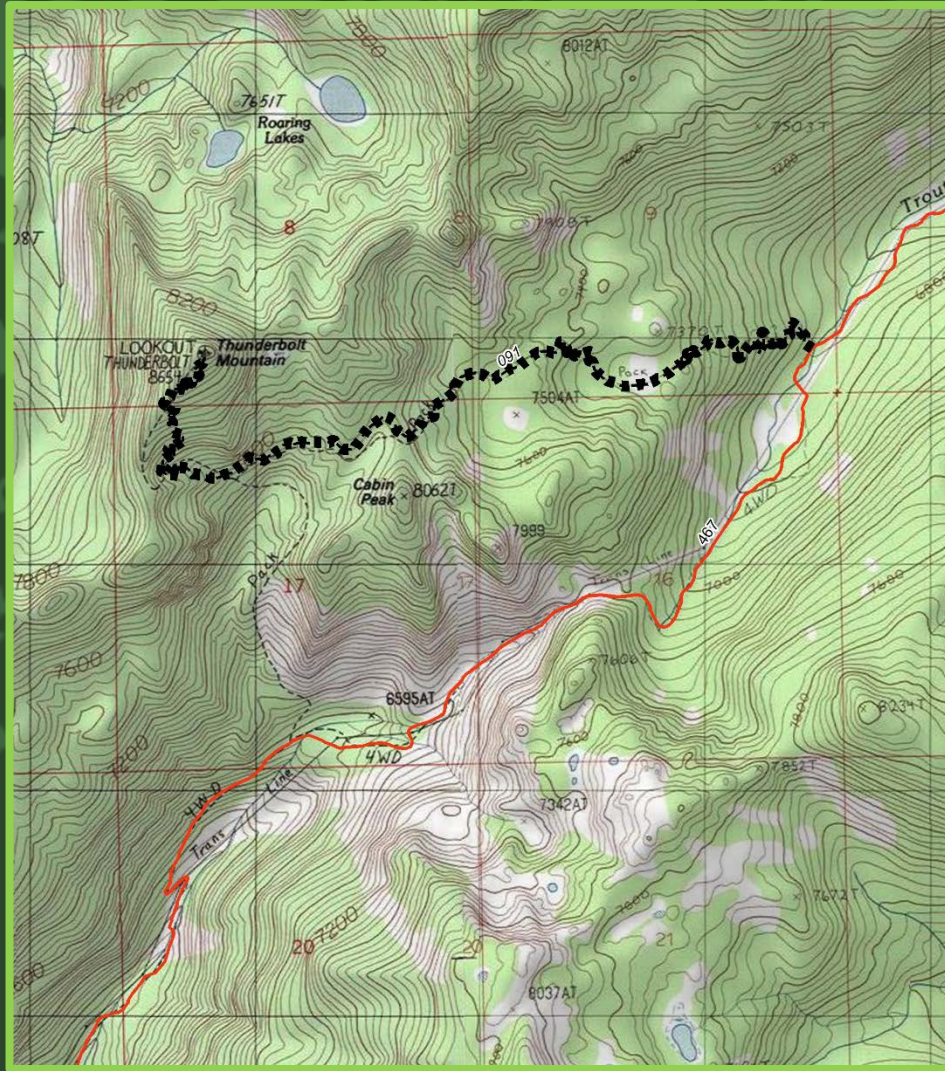
- 16 Miles round trip (8 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 3740/388 (each way)
- Park at the trailhead on the 377 road, just north of the Cottonwood Guard Station and Arrowrock Reservoir.



Thunderbolt Lookout, Casade RD



Thunderbolt, Cascade RD



- 6.2 Miles round trip (3.1 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 2210/308 (each way)
- Park at the trailhead on the 467 road, and hike east to the lookout.



Tripod Lookout, 1921, Emmett RD



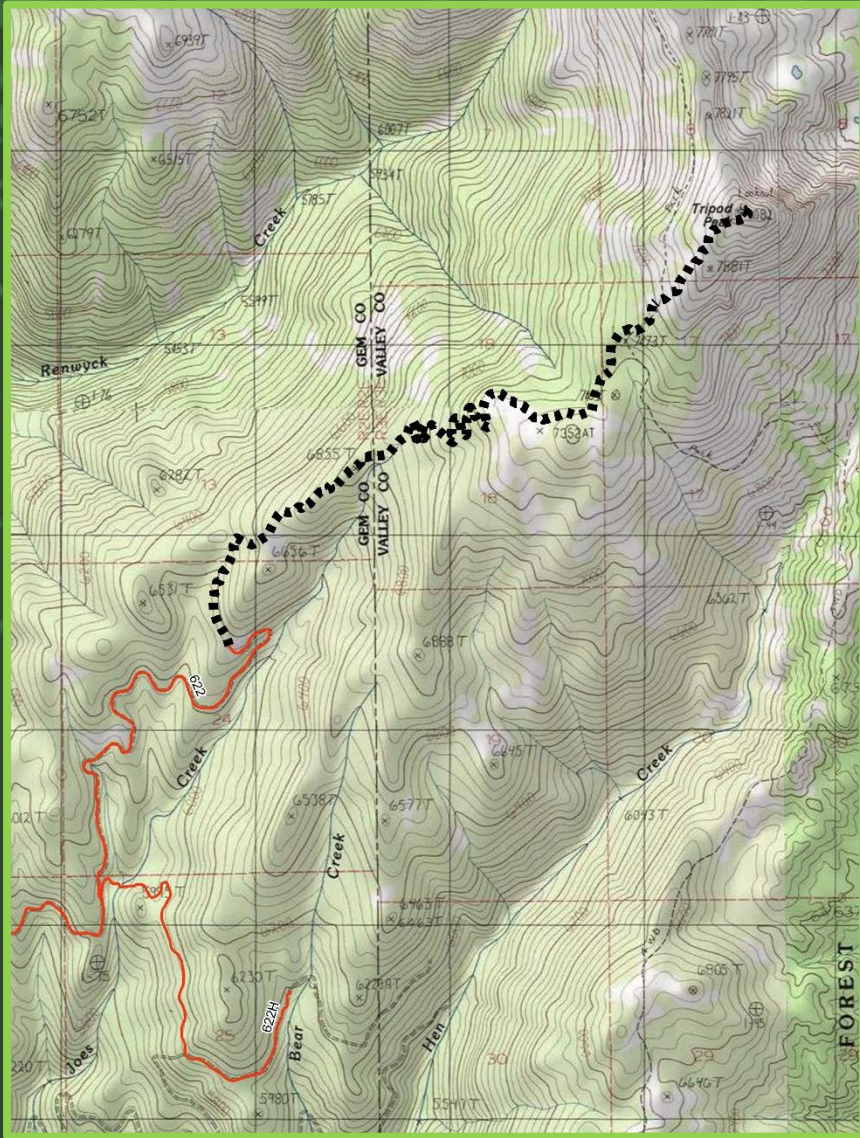
Tripod Ranger Station 1921



Tripod Lookout today, Emmett RD



Tripod, Emmett RD



- 6.4 Miles round trip (3.2 each way)
- Elevation Gain/Loss 1809/801 (each way)
- Park at the trailhead on the 622 road, and hike north to the lookout.



Lookout Preservation Projects on the Boise NF

Deadwood and Scott Mountain Lookouts, Emmett RD



Lookout Preservation Projects on the Boise NF

Deadwood and Scott Mountain Lookouts, Emmett RD



Lookout Preservation Projects on the Boise NF

Deadwood and Scott Mountain Lookouts, Emmett RD



Lookout Preservation Projects on the Boise NF

Deadwood and Scott Mountain Lookouts, Emmett RD



Lookout Preservation Projects on the Boise NF



Silver Creek and Scott Mountain Lookouts,
Emmett Ranger District, Rattlesnake Fire, 2006



Other Resources

- Steve Stuebner's Blog:
 - <http://stuebysoutdoorjournal.blogspot.com/2013/08/idaho-fire-lookouts-are-great-place-to.html>
 - Idaho Public Television's Outdoor Idaho "Eyes of the Forest"
 - <http://idahoptv.org/outdoors/shows/eyesoftheforest/index.cfm>
 - Boise Trail Guide: 90 Hiking and Running Routes Close to Home, Steve Stuebner
 - Make sure to call the district ahead of time for updated road/ trail conditions or contact: Joe Bergstrom (208) 373-4230 jbergstrom@fs.fed.us

