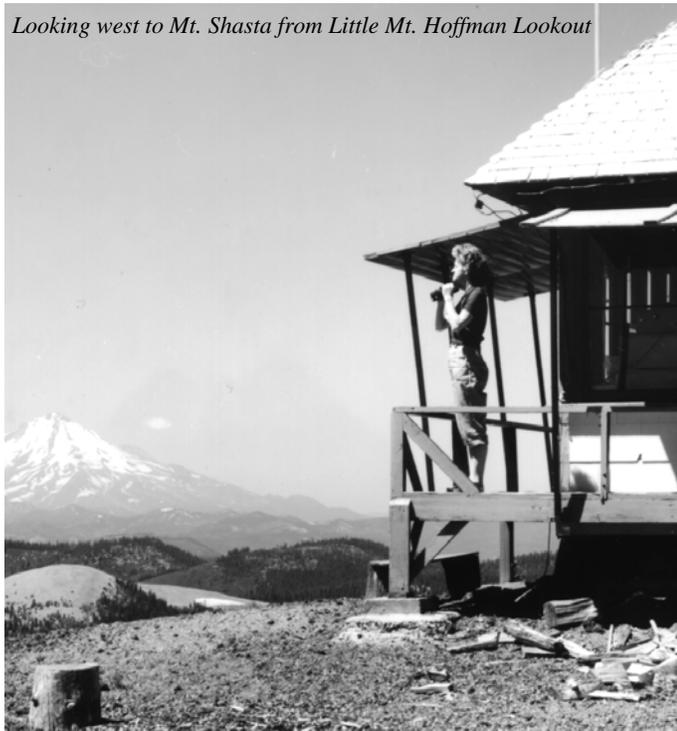


Little Mt. Hoffman Lookout

McCloud Ranger Station - Shasta-Trinity National Forest



Looking west to Mt. Shasta from Little Mt. Hoffman Lookout

The View

From a height of 7,309 feet, Little Mt. Hoffman offers a spectacular view of Mt. Shasta, Mt. Lassen, Mt. McLaughlin, and a variety of other interesting landforms. From the Tulelake Basin and the north to the Fall River Valley in the east, to the Medicine Lake Highlands to the south, the 360° view offers a peek at some of Northern California's most unique and beautiful scenery.

The Lookout

The McCloud Ranger District invites you to share a new and exciting recreation experience on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Located east of majestic Mt. Shasta in the lavaflow areas of Medicine Lake, is the Little Mt. Hoffman Lookout. Restored to its original character, the lookout is now being offered as an overnight retreat for personal recreation use.

The Little Mt. Hoffman Lookout was constructed in the 1920s and was used by the Forest Service on a

regular basis until 1978. It is one of the few remaining historic lookouts on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The lookout is still used by the Forest Service in times of extreme fire danger. The lookout is equipped with a wood stove, firewood, two cots, shovel, bucket, cleaning gear, and a fire extinguisher. Because of vandalism we cannot guarantee the presence of these items.

We ask that you conserve wood as much as possible. The lookout has no water or utilities. There is an outdoor barbecue pit, a picnic table, and sanitary facilities for your use.

Access to Little Mt. Hoffman

You can reach Little Mt. Hoffman by traveling east on Highway 89 to Road 15 (the Harris Springs Road) or Road 49 (the Powder Creek Road) then northeast to the Medicine Lake area. From there, follow signs for approximately 4 miles to Little Mt. Hoffman. These last four miles are not paved and motor homes and vehicles pulling trailers are not recommended.

From approximately October through June, there is no access to the lookout due to the winter weather. You should be alert to changeable weather, road conditions, and possess some knowledge of the hazards of back country travel. Snow depths from a single storm can exceed several feet and roads can become impassable to all vehicles including 4-wheel drives.

Depending on your mode of travel, weather conditions, snow depths, and your physical conditions and ability, the trip to Little Mt. Hoffman can take several hours to complete. During the winter months, this trip is not recommended for beginners. Before you leave home, notify a responsible person of your planned stay and your time of return.

If you are overdue this person should notify the Forest Service or the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department. If you are prepared, the trip to Little Mt.

Hoffman will be very enjoyable and rewarding. The views from this mountain top are breathtaking and well worth your efforts. Enjoy your visit with us.

Geology

The Medicine Lake Highland is the largest identified volcano (in area) within California, extending roughly 15 miles east to west and 25 miles north to south.

Approximately 100,000 years ago, the volcano underwent a series of eruptions which undermined the crater of the mountain. The crest collapsed to create a huge crater or caldera. Medicine Lake now partially fills the crater. Many smaller volcanoes (called rampart volcanoes) then erupted on the flanks of the Medicine Lake Volcano. They took on many forms including glass flows and cinder cones. Little Mt. Hoffman is the latter; and because of its location on the rim of the caldera, it provides a panoramic view of this diverse volcanic landscape.

Permits

The lookout is available for rent on a permit basis from July 1 through October 16 (weather permitting). Permits are issued on a "first come-first served" basis, to anyone 18 years or older. The permit lists the conditions the visitor must agree to. The rental fee is \$75 per night for a party of four or less people. Rental fees are used to maintain the lookout. No refunds allowed. For reservations, please visit www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777.

For information about obtaining the permit or for a full color brochure describing all of the rental opportunities on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, contact the McCloud Ranger Station, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm, (530) 964-2184 or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

McCloud Ranger Station
Shasta-McCloud Management Unit
P.O. Box 1620
McCloud, CA 96057

All Are Welcome

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You can also get information by visiting us on the world wide web at: www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity

Unauthorized use of these facilities is a violation of both state and federal laws and regulations. Violations are subject to a fine of \$500 and/or up to 6 months imprisonment. Violations should be reported immediately to a Forest Officer

Fire Safety

The McCloud Ranger District experience high fire danger during summer and early fall. When the forest is dry and hot, dry winds are common. Escaped campfires, careless smoking, improper disposal of barbecue ashes, and children playing with matches cause many fires each year. Please be careful with fire in the forest.

Remember

Back country travelers may encounter a variety of dangerous conditions. It is your responsibility to inform yourself about these inherent risks and take precautions.

Things to Take Along

- Water
- Toilet paper
- Compass and map
- Tire chains (seasonal)
- Food
- Spare clothing
- Suntan lotion/Sunblock
- Snow shovel (seasonal)
- Matches
- Garbage bags
- Camera
- Lantern
- Sleeping bag/bedding
- Cooking utensils
- Flashlight
- Firewood
- Your permit
- First aid kit