Hirz Mountain Lookout
Shasta & Trinity Units • Whiskeytown - Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area
Shasta-Trinity National Forest

Perched on a rocky outcrop high above the McCloud River Arm of Shasta Lake, the historic Hirz Mountain Lookout offers spectacular views in all directions. From an elevation of 3,540 feet, the lookout overlooks the snow-laced peak of Mt. Shasta to the north, Mt. Lassen to the southeast, and the gray limestone exposures of Hirz Mountain itself. The narrow blue-green ribbon of the McCloud River Arm winds past the east side of Hirz Mountain, extending north and south as far as the eye can see.

The McCloud River Wintu tribe held Hirz Mountain in reverence and had a name for it in their own language. But it was a white miner, Henry Hirz, who gave the mountain its modern name. Hirz was a gold miner who lived on Hirz Creek in the 1860’s and was one of the earliest white men in the McCloud River country.

Rental Information: Temporarily Closed
Lookout reservations can be made up to 6 months in advance of arrival through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) by calling 1-877-444-6777 or through the web at www.recreation.gov.

The lookout is available for rent to the public seasonally, by reservation only, to anyone 18 years of age or older. Seasons normally run from May 1st through October 15th (weather and snow permitting). Small pets are allowed. Dogs must be kept on a leash. Pet owner must clean up after their pet. This is a “Pack-In, Pack-Out” facility.

There is a maximum capacity of 4 people. Rental fee is $75.00 per night with a maximum four day stay per group/ per year. Check in time is 2:00 p.m. Check out time is 11:00 a.m.

Safety:
Vehicle Travel: High clearance passenger vehicles are recommended on road 35N04.

Foot Travel: The last 1/4 mile is a walk-in only trail that is extremely steep, rocky and slippery terrain. Footwear that is appropriate is recommended.

Restrictions: No wood or charcoal fires allowed. A California campfire permit is required for the use of a portable gas stove, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel for cooking. Smoking is not allowed in the lookout. Fireworks are prohibited.

Rattlesnakes: In areas with rocky outcroppings, such as the Hirz Mountain Lookout, it is not unusual to see a rattlesnake. Please use caution.

Bears: The Shasta Lake area IS bear country! Potential for encounters with bears can be reduced if visitors follow some very specific do’s and don'ts. A brochure called “Bear Precautions” can be obtained at the Shasta Lake Ranger Station or through our website.
Items that are provided by Shasta Recreation Company for the lookout

- Lookout building
- Two twin beds and two additional mattresses
- Picnic table
- Vault toilet
- Cleaning supplies
*Please note that the lookout does NOT have running water, showers or cooking facilities.

Some suggestions on things you may want to take along
(In addition to your reservation confirmation, California Campfire permit, and combination to the lookout)

- Appropriate footwear
- Cell phone
- Water
- Food
- Cooking stove
- Matches
- Spare clothing
- First aid kit
- Garbage bags
- Flashlight
- Lantern
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Bedding/ sleeping bags
- Sunglasses

Directions:
From Redding, take Interstate 5 north 20 miles to Gilman Road, exit #698.

Turn right (east), and follow Gilman road approximately five (5) miles to road 35N04.
High clearance passenger vehicles are recommended on this steep, rocky, dirt road.

On road 35N04, travel five (5) miles to the locked gate/parking area. Beyond the gate, you will need to hike in the last 1/4 mile. The trail is extremely steep, rocky and slippery. Footwear that is appropriate is recommended.

All Are Welcome
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