

## LEMMON ROCK FIRE LOOKOUT

A fire lookout has been located on Mount Lemmon since shortly after the establishment of the Santa Catalina Forest Reserve under the Department of the Interior in 1902. Management of the Forest Reserves was transferred to the Department of Agriculture in 1907 and the Santa Catalina Forest Reserve became a component of the Coronado National Forest. Early lookouts were rather rudimentary but a wood lookout was constructed near the summit of Mount Lemmon (at an elevation of 9140 feet) on a 30-foot wood tower in 1913.

This lookout tower was replaced in 1928 and the new lookout was located on Lemmon Rock since that location resulted in a much better viewing area. The Lemmon Rock Lookout is a ground mounted, standard L-4 structure. The L-4 is a 14-foot by 14-foot frame pre-cut lookout house. It has a peaked roof and wooden panels that are mounted horizontally over the windows to provide shade. The panels can be lowered when the lookout is not in use. The lookout is a single room and contains a work area, kitchen, sleeping area and a fire finder. The Lemmon Rock Fire Lookout is the only fire lookout in the Catalina Mountains that is still in active use during the high fire danger period.



Lemmon Rock Lookout



Lemmon Rock Lookout  
View from Below



Lookout Sleep/Work Areas



Lookout Sleeping Area



Lookout Kitchen Area



Fire Finder with  
Ranger on Duty

Summary prepared by T. Johnson in June 2012 from various web sites. All pictures are by T. Johnson.