

**SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST  
ILLINOIS VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT**

**BOLAN MOUNTAIN LOOKOUT**

**Availability**

The lookout is available for public use from July 3 to October 15. The maximum stay is five (5) consecutive nights. Up to four (4) people can stay at the lookout at any one time. The cost per night is \$40.00. Early summer access is hampered by the late season snow pack.

**Location**

Bolan Mountain Lookout is located at an elevation of 6242 feet along the crest of the Siskiyou Mountains. The lookout includes views of the Red Buttes and Siskiyou Wilderness areas, Preston Peak, and Bolan Lake. To the north are far views of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and the Illinois River Valley. On a clear day you can see Mount Shasta to the southeast.

From the district office travel south on Highway 199 for 6.4 miles to the Happy Camp road. Turn left and travel 17.26 miles on the Happy Camp/Forest Road 48 to the junction with road 4812. Turn left and travel 4.10 miles to the junction of road 4812-040. This is the road to Bolan Lake Campground. Turn left again, and travel 1.09 miles to the junction with road 535. A gate is located on your right at the beginning of the road. After opening the gate travel 1.60 miles to the lookout. You can park directly under the lookout if you wish. A large turn-around is located just below the lookout. The lookout can be accessed by passenger car, but a high clearance vehicle is recommended.

You will be issued a **key** to the gate and the lookout. Lock the gate behind you to insure some level of privacy during your stay. The lookout is accessed by the Bolan Lake trail, #1245, from Bolan Lake Campground, so expect day hikers. Drop the key off at the District Office at the end of your stay.

**Facilities**

The original lookout was constructed in 1917. The present structure was constructed in 1953 and is an L-4 style lookout. The lookout cabin is small, measuring 14 x 14 feet and designed to house only one or two people. It is equipped with a table, 2 chairs, a single person bed, a foot stool, broom, and a fire extinguisher. There is **no water** at the lookout. **PACK IN ENOUGH WATER FOR YOUR STAY.** Provide your own table service and backpacking or camp stove. An outhouse is located just down from the lookout.

## The Lookout Environment

Bolan Mountain Lookout is located in a rugged section of the Siskiyou Mountains. The lookout sits on a high peak with sharp cliffs. Thunder showers can occur at any time during the summer. All of these features can add to your lookout experience, but it's important to realize the dangers that can exist. Use common sense during your stay.

### **DO NOT TAKE DOWN THE LOOKOUT SHUTTERS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

#### Safety and Resource Requirements

- 1) Because of the open exposure around the lookout, children and pets should accompany you at your own risk. If you decide to take them along, do not leave them unattended while outside the cabin. The 30 to 40 steps to the lookout are steep and uneven.
- 2) Bring adequate water supplies. **Remember there is no water at the lookout!**
- 3) The lookout is constructed of wood so please be careful with fire. If a fire should happen, be prepared to put it out. **No campfires are allowed at the lookout at any time.**
- 4) The top of Bolan Mountain contains fragile plant habitat. Many sensitive plants are found in the vicinity. **Plant collecting is not allowed.**
- 5) Port-Orford cedar root disease is a major resource concern in southwest Oregon. The root disease can be transported by vehicles if they carry infected mud. **You must wash your vehicle, including the undercarriage, before you enter National Forest lands.**

#### Provisions

Be prepared for a spartan and primitive experience. We suggest you bring the following:

This information packet	Sleeping bags	Fuel
Food	Toilet articles	Water Filter
<b><u>WATER</u></b>	Camera and film	Small Stove
Flashlight	Dishes, pots, pans, and utensils	Matches
First aid kit	Garbage bags	

#### TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

If you decide to stay at the lookout, call the District office to make a reservation. A permit will be sent to you. Fill out the permit and mail it with your check to the District office within 14 days of the date you made your reservation. The signed permit will be mailed back to you. **Remember that you have to stop by the Illinois Valley Ranger District Office to obtain a key to the gate and the lookout. Special arrangements must be made with the District to obtain a key if the first day of your stay begins on a weekend or holiday.** The District Office is closed Mon-Fri between 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday. Please contact Ann Raines or Yvonne Hults at (541) 592-4000 if you have any questions.