

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Inventory

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

FEB 22 1988 Page 1 of 3

NAME: Green Mountain Lookout

LOCATION: Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest; Congressional District 2, Darrington Ranger District, Darrington, Washington (53), Snohomish County (061).

ADDRESS: USDA Forest Service  
Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest  
1022 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

CLASSIFICATION/CATEGORY: Building

DESCRIPTION:

Condition

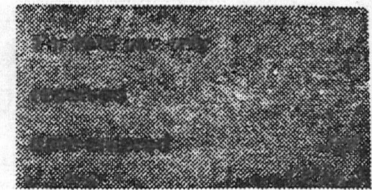
Good/fair       Altered       Original Site

Green Mountain Lookout is situated in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area near the western boundary and north of the Suiattle River. Perched on the northern end of a rocky ridgetop (elevation +5,957 feet), the Lookout is accessed by a four mile long Forest Service trail which steeply transverses stands of dense fir and hemlock, vast alpine meadows and a subalpine basin area. The Lookout commands a panoramic 360 degree view over the Suiattle River Valley toward Glacier Peak to the south and Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan to the north.

This one-story, single room, 14 x 14 feet cabin is wood-frame construction built according to standard Forest Service Lookout House plans from c. 1930. The floor framing system is supported on and anchored to a pinnacle of rock outcroppings and mortared rock. A guy anchorage system is also utilized to provide additional stability against severe wind and snow loads. The standard cabin is surrounded by a reconstructed catwalk and the pyramidal roof is covered entirely by cedar shingles. The roof and some walls were apparently reconstructed "in kind" due to severe storm damage c. 1950. Exterior walls are composed of nine-light inward hinged sash with dropped siding below. Temporary plywood shutters which utilize original hinge and steel rod support hardware are currently in use, although deteriorated original shutters remain on the site. The original panel door with nine-lights above remains in place. The greatest alteration to the original lookout is the current catwalk and supports which were reconstructed (c. 1984) as an emergency measure due to severe winter storm damage. Although similar, the reconstruction was not based on original architectural details. A "user group" is currently being organized with the intention of complete reconstruction of the shutters and catwalk according to original architectural details. Intact interior finishes include dropped siding at walls and beaded board on ceiling and standard 1 x 4 fir flooring. The interior also exhibits typical simply constructed furnishings which include standard firefinder and stand, table, built-in cabinets and shelves, lightning stool and a manufactured cast iron stove.

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**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Specific Dates: 1933 (roof reconstruction, c. 1950)

Builder/Architect: Constructed per standard Forest Service Plan L-4 1930 (revised 1932).  
Builder not known. Roof reconstruction by Rod O'Connor and Dan Beighle.

History

Green Mountain was first used for fire lookout purposes in 1926. At that time, the lookout man, Hubert Wilson, Suiattle-Finney District Assistant, lived out of a tent in the meadow below and would hike up with only a compass to spot lightning strikes. John E. Schwartz served as the lookout during the fire season of 1928. He stated, "There were no permanent improvements at the lookout site. An emergency ground wire telephone line was strung on trees and bushes along the trail to the summit. My living quarters was a small 8 x 10 wall tent with a fly extending out in front. I cooked over a campfire using an old World War I army mess kit. The camp was situated on the ridge among a small group of subalpine firs near the point where the trail leaves the ridge and descends to the basin south of the peak. A small firefinder was positioned on the rock at the summit. There was no shelter here and since I had no material with which to construct even a temporary one it was necessary to spend long hours each day sitting on a rock in the sun."

Green Mountain Lookout was reportedly constructed in 1933 and appears to have been built according to the 1932 revised plan for standard L-4 Lookout Houses. The building exhibits transitional fenestration typical of the earlier gable roof style L-4 plan and may be the oldest remaining lookout on the Forest to have been constructed with the revised hipped-roof configuration. Two other Lookouts were reported to have been constructed that year, one of which is still standing, Sourdough Mountain Lookout, although now under National Park Service jurisdiction. No record remains regarding who specifically constructed Green Mountain, although a Civilian Conservation Corps camp was established at the Darrington Ranger Station that year, and it seems likely that CCC enrollees may have been part of the construction crew.

The Lookout was selected for use during World War II as a U.S. Army aircraft warning site to be staffed year-round, 24-hours-a-day. This proved to be extremely difficult due to weather conditions and the site was not used after the first year. The building was severely damaged by heavy snowfall in 1949-50 and required extensive repair and reconstruction as a result. Rod O'Connor and Dan Beighle of Bellingham were contracted to carry out the work. Mr. O'Connor stated that many roof rafters were twisted and broken and that it was necessary to reconstruct the roof. O'Connor also stated that the new roof was reconstructed to match the original hipped roof. Portions of walls were also dismantled and reconstructed in kind. Windows, shutters and the door were repaired and reinstalled. Since its original construction, the Lookout has continued to be used, although now on a volunteer basis, for visitor information rather than fire detection and suppression purposes. On-going exposure to severe weather conditions, deferred general maintenance and relatively easy accessibility to vandalism are factors related to the present physical condition. A user group is presently being organized and has begun to address deferred maintenance problems with the intention of repairing and restoring deteriorated or missing historic building fabric.



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Statement of Significance

Green Mountain Lookout is an intact example of a somewhat transitional Plan L-4 Lookout House which exhibits both the fenestration typical of the earlier L-4 gable roof ("grange hall") style lookouts and the hipped-roof configuration of the revised 1932 Plan L-4. One of the oldest remaining fire lookouts on the Forest to have been constructed with the revised hipped-roof configuration, it represents an essential part of a fire detection and suppression system which functioned for over 50 years to protect and conserve our timber resources. This Lookout also represents a uniquely functional building type which was specifically designed for construction in such isolated and challenging environments as Green Mountain. Green Mountain Lookout also possesses historical associations with domestic defense during World War II due to its role as part of the U.S. Army Aircraft Warning Service.

GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

UTM Reference:

<u>Point</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
A	10	630740	5350010

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Green Mountain Lookout (Building #4075) is located in a portion of SW1/4 of NE1/4, Section 3, T.32N, R.12E, Willamette Meridian. Proposed nomination to include lookout house, related rock foundations, guy anchorage system, lightning protection system and immediate access trail within a 50 foot radius of the center of the Lookout per Green Trails map CASCADE PASS, WASH - NO 80.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JUN 8 1987

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 171

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name USDA Forest Service Fire Lookouts on Mt. Baker--Snoqualmie National Forest TR  
State Pierce County (and others), WA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

~~Substantive Review~~

~~for~~ Keeper [Signature] 7/19/87

1. Evergreen Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

2. Hidden Lake Peak Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

3. Miners Ridge Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

~~for~~ Keeper [Signature] 7/19/87

4. Park Butte Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

5. Suntop Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

6. Three Fingers Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

7. Winchester Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong 7/14/87

8. Green Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper Patrick Andrews 2/22/88

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest



88000117

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Green Mountain Lookout (USDA Forest Service  
Fire Lookouts on Mt. Baker--Snoqualmie  
National Forest TR)  
Snohomish County  
WASHINGTON

*substantive Review*

JAN 14 1988

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-88  
Date Due: 2/11/88 - 2/28/88  
Action:  ACCEPT 2-22-88  
 RETURN \_\_\_\_\_  
 REJECT \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Agency: USFS

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments: *Architecturally significant as an a representative example of the USFS L-4 firetower type. Also, historically significant for its role in the US Forest Service fire prevention program.*

Recom./Criteria Accept - A, C  
Reviewer Noble  
Discipline Historian  
Date 2/22/88  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location \_\_\_\_\_

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property \_\_\_\_\_

5. Location of Legal Description \_\_\_\_\_

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Green Mountain Lookout  
nr. Darrington, Washington

Chapin K. Krafft  
August 1986  
Katheryn H. Krafft

View east of west elevation

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Green Mountain Lookout  
nr. Darrington, Washington

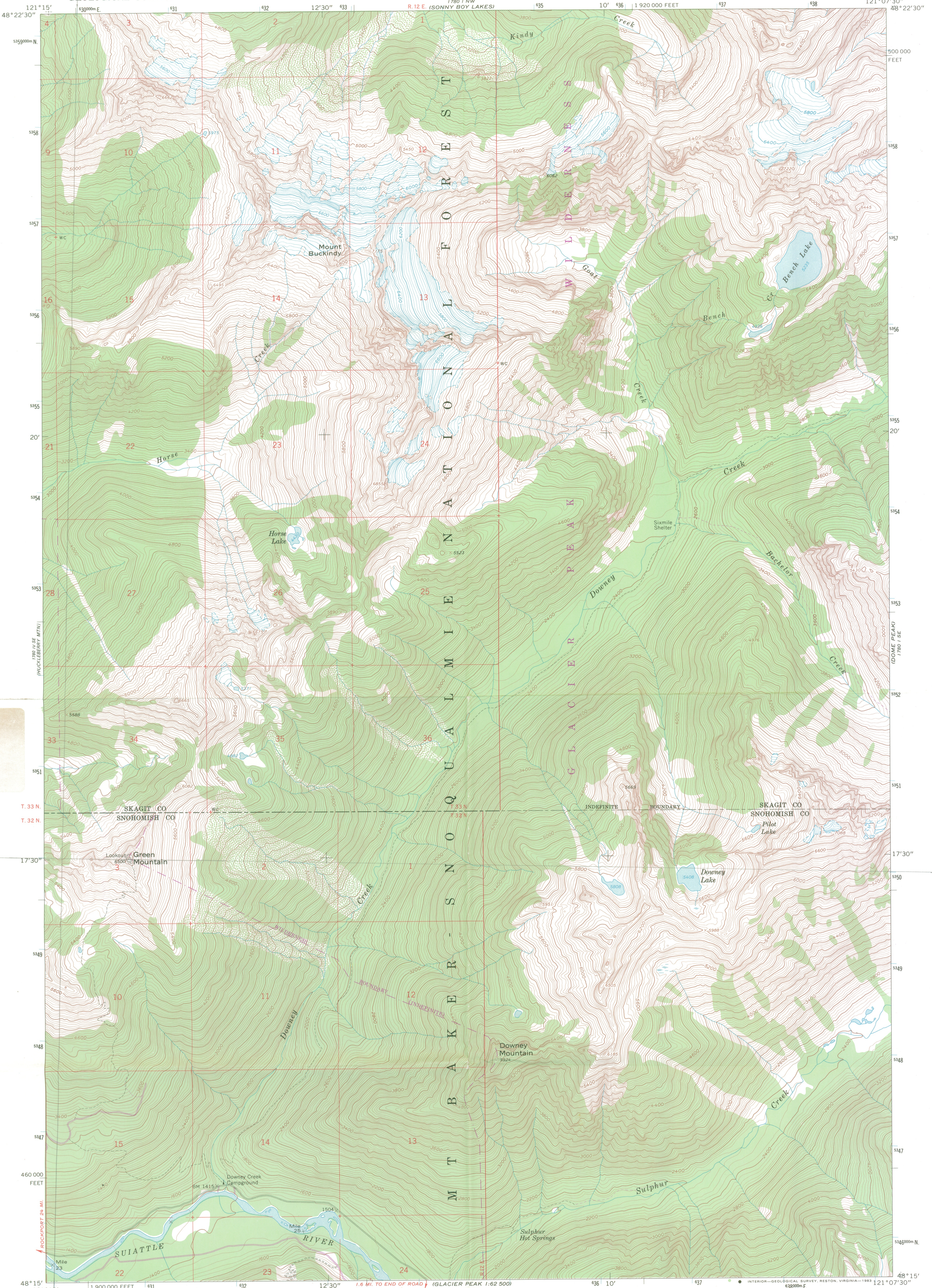
Chapin K. Krafft  
August 1986  
Katheryn H. Krafft

South elevation

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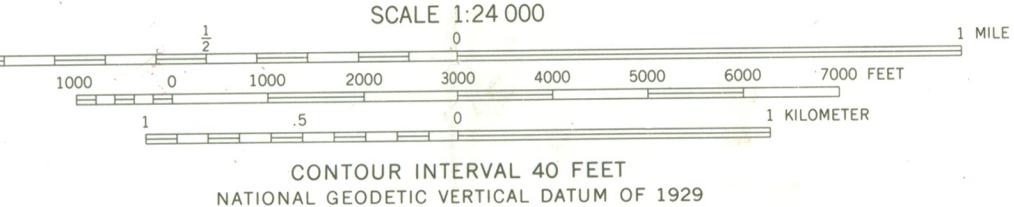
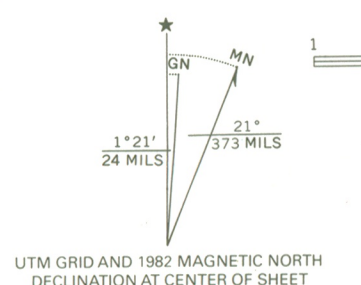






Green Mtn. Lookout  
nr. Darrington, WA.  
UTM References  
Zone 10  
Easting 630740  
Northing 5350010

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1963  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Washington coordinate system,  
north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 10, shown in blue  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 21 meters north and  
90 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Where omitted, land lines have not been established  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Light duty ————— Unimproved dirt - - - - -

DOWNEY MTN., WASH.  
N4815—W12107.5/7.5

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST  
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the U.S. Forest Service  
from aerial photographs taken 1979 and other source data  
This information not field checked. Map edited 1982  
1963  
PHOTOREVISED 1982  
DMA 1780 1 SW—SERIES V891