

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2016

Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway



Repaired scenic byway signs that invite people to come and explore.

The gently curving Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway accesses campsites, trails, day use areas, and wayside interpretive exhibits. Other attractions include Maverick Mountain Ski Area, Coolidge Ghost

Town, Elkhorn silver mine and Elkhorn Hotsprings Resort. The motto of the Byway is "the West the Way it Used to Be" and each constructed feature was designed in color and rustic patterns to best evoke that feeling.

In recent years, the prominent signs, cantilevered on heavy timber posts, had begun to rot and lean. The Forest installed additional posts to provide greater support and counter-balance to the cantilevers.

Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. They support and enhance:

- Public safety
- Recreation site maintenance and improvements
- Educational experiences
- Informational wayside exhibits
- Youth programs and partnerships
- Interpretive programs

Current and future generations benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

A Better Bridge



AmeriCorps St. Louis and the Mile High ATV Club helped to replace the old bridge on South Indian Creek Trail with the aid of recreation fee revenue.



The Pursuit of Crystals

Crystal Park, also located on the Pioneer Scenic Byway, offers day-use quartz crystal digging, picnicking and interpretative opportunities. Decades of recreational digging has caused the area to be deeply excavated and in need of rehabilitation. Additionally, the Park had many hazard trees that had been weakened by the undermining that comes from digging as well as by mountain pine beetles. Recreation fee revenue was used to remove hazard trees and contour the hillside, to improve the safety and visitor experience at Crystal Park.



Other Accomplishments

- Partnered with Montana Conservation Corps, AmeriCorps, the National Smokejumper Association, the Student Conservation Association, and the Back Country Horsemen on projects such as installing new furnishings, bear-proof food storage lockers and garbage receptacles in campgrounds, maintaining trails and transporting materials.
- Replaced a roof on a rental cabin, rebuilt a porch and installed new floors on others.
- Inspected and repaired the lift station at the Vigilante Guard Station.
- Refurbished and repaired hand pumps.
- Pumped numerous vault toilets across the Forest.
- Tested water at fee campgrounds to meet health and safety requirements.
- Painted and replaced picnic tables planks at several campgrounds and rental cabins
- Replaced several information kiosks and signs at fee sites.
- Caulked and painted the floors and doors of toilets.
- Removed hazard trees throughout the Forest.
- Cleared vegetation at fee sites and trails, maintained tread and installed new signs along trails.
- Installed signs informing visitors about proper food storage and bear safety, as part of the Be Bear Aware campaign.



View from the Grand Vista scenic overlook on the Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway, located between Dillon and Wise River in southwestern Montana.

Northern Region



Contacts

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Contact

406-683-3932

Email: nmeier@fs.fed.us

Online: www.fs.usda.gov/bdnf

Regional Contact

406-329-3587

Email: jpward02@fs.fed.us

Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$171,123	\$2,056,813
Special Uses	\$54,133	\$1,151,360
Interagency Passes	\$2,920	\$84,146
Total	\$228,176	\$3,292,320
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$129,899	\$925,542
Visitor Services	\$15,779	\$720,721
Law Enforcement	\$6,073	\$76,857
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$45,474
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$12,511
Collections/Overhead	\$6,073	\$195,806
Total	\$157,823	\$1,976,910