

Dakota Prairie Grasslands

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2016

Watering a New Way



Water bags will help trees overcome the natural precipitation shortfall at Blacktail.

The District planted 35 shade trees at Blacktail Trailhead and Day Use Area on the Grand River National Grassland in 2009. Since then the Forest has watered these trees by hand once a week to support their growth. In 2016, the Forest added water bags to the trees to decrease employee workload and increase survivability of the trees. The project used \$750.00 of recreation fee funds.

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.

Oil Boom Increases Visitation

The oil boom in the Bakken region has caused a rapid increase in visitor use, most prominent on the Little Missouri National Grassland in western North Dakota.

A shortage of housing has resulted in many people residing in both dispersed areas on the Grasslands and in campgrounds. While many visitors are respectful, this increase has also created more vandalism and theft in numerous recreation sites. The Grasslands invested \$250.00 in recreation fee funds to renumber and replace campsite posts, parking barriers, and fire rings at the CCC Campground.

These and other improvements have decreased the deferred maintenance backlog and improved visitor experience and respect at the campground.



Installing new site posts at CCC campground.

New trailhead sign at CCC campground



Other Accomplishments

- Operated and maintained 12 campgrounds, three day use areas, and six trailheads. Completed tasks such as mowing, weed eating, site cleanup, vault toilet pumping, and noxious weed removal.
- Removed downed trees from Buffalo Gap Campground.
- Installed new trailhead sign at the CCC Campground.
- Provided outdoor education class in collaboration with Williston High School.
- Completed special use permit inspections.



French Creek Road Area, Little Missouri Grasslands.



Mountain bike racers line up for the annual Maah Daah Hey 100.

Northern Region



Contacts

Dakota Prairie National Grasslands

Recreation Fee Program Contact

701-227-7837

Email: rpschilling@fs.fed.us

Online: www.fs.usda.gov/dpg/

Regional Contact

406-329-3587

Email: jpward02@fs.fed.us

Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$18,252	\$2,056,813
Special Uses	\$2,989	\$1,151,360
Interagency Passes	\$2,920	\$84,146
Total	\$24,161	\$3,292,320
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$20,896	\$925,542
Visitor Services	\$0	\$720,721
Law Enforcement	\$0	\$76,857
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$45,474
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$12,511
Collections/Overhead	\$0	\$195,806
Total	\$20,896	\$1,976,910