

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2016

Bald Mountain Lookout

Lookouts require lightning protection to help make them safer.



Bald Mountain Lookout sits on one of the highest peaks in the Hoodoo Mountain range and offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy unforgettable views and many nearby activities. Built in 1956 and used until 1984, the tower rests on 50-foot stilts.

Over the past three years the lookout roof leaked, resulting in damage to both the roof and lookout interior. The Forest had been relying on temporary fixes, but in 2016 a \$19,000 grant enabled the Forest to replace the roof. In addition \$86,000 of recreation fee funds paid for an upgraded lightning protection system.

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.

Keeping Trails Real

The Forest maintained approximately 60 miles of summer trails and groomed the Lolo Pass Nordic Ski Trail System. Both outfitter/guides and multiple-use visitors use the summer trails. Work included removing downed trees, repairing and/or installing waterbars, repairing eroded trail tread, fixing bridges, and installing signs.



The Forest used funds from outfitter guide permits to keep trails open for all visitors

Riding the Wild & Scenic Rivers

Recreation fee revenue funded the River Ranger Program on the Wild and Scenic Lochsa/Selway and Salmon Rivers. The Rangers provided visitor information, monitored natural resources and maintained the put-in/take-out facilities.

River opportunities benefit from retaining outfitter guide fee receipts.



Other Accomplishments

Campgrounds

- Maintained 25 campgrounds and other sites by mowing, collecting trash, cleaning, pumping toilets and septic tanks, and providing utilities.
- Supported hosts who contributed over 10,000 hours to provide information and assistance, and maintain and clean multiple campgrounds.
- Extended open season in Little Boulder and Elk Creek campgrounds.
- Increased safety by removing hazard trees and limbs, and by testing drinking water.
- Helped provide additional Forest Service patrols for public safety and assistance, including emergency medical services on major weekends.
- Maintained recently installed signs and information boards as well as replacing ones that could not be repaired at numerous sites.

Rental Cabins and Lookouts

- Purchased supplies and completed cleaning and maintenance tasks at nine rental cabins and lookouts.

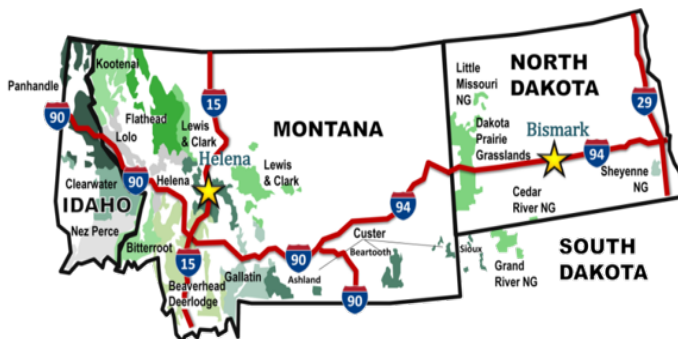
Outfitters and Guides

- Administered permits and funded backcountry and wilderness rangers to provide visitor information to outfitters and clients and monitor resource conditions. This effort helps ensure that the sites or areas used by guides are well-maintained and improved, that guides follow the terms of their permits and that illegal guiding does not occur.



Bald Mountain Lookout has a tremendous view of the Forest's "sea of mountains"

Northern Region



Contacts

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Contact

208-935-4270

Email: cahennessey@fs.fed.us

Online:

www.fs.usda.gov/nezperceclearwater

Regional Contact

406-329-3587

Email: jpward02@fs.fed.us

Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$295,885	\$2,056,813
Special Uses	\$160,461	\$1,151,360
Interagency Passes	\$4,460	\$84,146
Total	\$460,806	\$3,292,320
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$77,229	\$925,542
Visitor Services	\$34,112	\$720,721
Law Enforcement	\$0	\$76,857
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$45,474
Fee Agreements	\$12,511	\$12,511
Collections/Overhead	\$3,826	\$195,806
Total	\$127,679	\$1,976,910