# Cherokee National Forest Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

#### **New Reservoir**

The Forest replaced the two damaged reservoirs Chilhowee Recreation Area with a single new reservoir.

The work required laying over 2,000 feet of reservoir supply lines and 500 feet of distribution line, and replacing all well house plumbing.

In addition the forest relocated a faucet in the day use area and plans to install an exterior shower near the swimming area. The project used over \$40,000 in recreation fee revenues as well as \$160,000 in other funds.



20,000 gallon water tank installation as part of the water system replacement

### **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.



#### Forest Service

#### Secluded Site Receives Repairs



Round Mountain Campground, located near Max Patch on the Tennessee/North Carolina border, is a secluded 16 site campground enjoyed by those seeking a quiet high-country camping experience.

The forest invested over \$40,000 in recreation fee revenues to address needed repairs, including rebuilding a creek crossing, adding new culverts and paving and patching the campground road. In addition the forest built a concrete ramp to the restroom facility making it more accessible.

#### **Carts for Hosts**

The forest purchased nine golf carts to be used by campground hosts to support maintenance activities in recreation areas. The forest invested over \$70,000 for the carts, which will improve

the ability for hosts to maintain site in a timely way as well as save both fleet costs and volunteer training time.



#### **Other Accomplishments**

- Removed hazard trees, mowed, trimmed, cleared brush and leaves, picked up litter, removed trash, pumped vault toilets, updated visitor information boards, and provided visitor assistance at developed recreation sites.
- Resurfaced campsites with gravel, installed signs, and maintained bathhouses, gates, culverts, RV sanitation stations and water systems in campgrounds.
- Removed debris from boat ramp areas, maintained security lighting, stabilized shoreline and repaired courtesy docks at boat launches.
- Tested water, removed debris from developed swim areas and beaches, stabilized shoreline, repaired swim lines and buoys and replenished sand as needed at developed swim areas.
- Cleaned shooting range sites, replaced posts and wire used to hold targets and repaired vandalism.
- Supported several recreation special use events based at the Ocoee Whitewater Center and supported seasonal staff to deliver a popular snorkeling program.



Dudley Falls parking area rock repair and new bumper guards

2017 solar eclipse crowd Indian Boundary Recreation Area

## **Regional Map**



#### **Revenue & Expenditures**

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Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$903,444	\$7,790,073
Special Uses	\$14,678	\$1,704,464
Interagency Passes	\$32,830	\$528,471
Total	\$950,952	\$10,023,008
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$666,244	\$4,625,554
Visitor Services	\$88,207	\$1,400,284
Law Enforcement	\$0	\$180,257
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$304,256
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$55,183
Collections/Overhead	\$165,859	\$1,272,180
Total	\$920,310	\$7,837,714

#### Contacts

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\*Carryover funds will be used for large projects and upcoming startup costs.