



Ozark-St Francis National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

The Power of Camping

The forest continued a multi-year effort to enhance and improve the facilities at Long Pool Recreation Area. In 2017, the forest upgraded electricity from 30 to 50 amps and improved water hydrant access in Long Pool Loop C.

Recreation fees funds of \$16,800 also helped with the initial consultation to evaluate the installation of WiFi and cell coverage for the campground. Other upgrades include the installation of new grills, fire rings, lantern poles and some site refurbishing. An additional \$68,000 is planned to replace the remaining electrical pedestals around Loop C in 2018.



Electrical upgrade at Long Pool

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.



Blanchard Springs Upgrades

Blanchard Springs Recreation Area and Visitor Center, located within the heart of the Ozarks, is undergoing multi-year renovations.



The Forest is using a combination of recreation fee funds (over \$150,000) and facility monies (\$850,000) to improve or repair elevators, heating & air conditioning, and the playground. In addition the forest upgraded the wild cave changing and staging room and installed an emergency generator. Other funds helped to resurface over one mile of road.

Future projects include replacing the heating & air system, which will remove hazardous coolant, and improving plumbing to minimize environmental damage to the caverns.

Pathways for Everyone

The forest replaced the roof and installed accessible pathways to the picnic pavilion in the Moccasin Gap Campground. Recent renovations also include a new water pump, hydrants, separate day-use parking areas for ATV's and horse trailers, new trailhead, picnic areas, and entire campsite re-design and upgrades.

The nearby trail system has over 36 miles of multiple use loop trails.

Picnic pavilion repairs and upgrades



Other Accomplishments

- Cleaned/pumped 28 vault toilets and removed trash weekly at 38 developed recreation sites.
- Supported 11 campground hosts.
- Monitored 18 public water systems, two sewage treatment plants and six swim beaches.
- Inspected and removed hazard trees at all recreation sites.
- Installed new water heaters, sewage monitoring equipment, and chlorinator at Lake Wedington Recreation Area.
- Repaired/replaced one major canoe access pathway to the Mulberry River Wild & Scenic River.
- Repaired/replaced three roofs on buildings at Lake Wedington Recreation Area.
- Repaired water systems at Redding, Moccasin Gap, Horsehead, Gunner Pool, White Rock and Blanchard Recreation Areas.
- Replaced 30 campfire grills at various recreation sites.
- Maintained over 105 miles of motorized and 285 miles of non-motorized trails, which include hazard tree removal, repairing tread, clearing brush, and improving drainage.
- Installed new monitoring equipment on ten trails.
- Began construction and layout of the 35 mile Buckhorn Trail Network and expansion of Mill Creek Trails.
- Inspected three trails and repaired numerous sections of the Ozark Highlands Trail network.
- Administered 82 special use permits.



Mulberry Interpretive Trail located along the Scenic Mulberry Wild & Scenic River tells the story of the geological features and cultural history

Regional Map



Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$916,297	\$7,790,073
Special Uses	\$13,345	\$1,704,464
Interagency Passes	\$11,802	\$528,471
Total	\$941,444	\$10,023,008
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$194,500	\$4,625,554
Visitor Services	\$358,313	\$1,400,284
Law Enforcement	\$39,500	\$180,257
Habitat Restoration	\$2,000	\$304,256
Fee Agreements	\$1,844	\$55,183
Collections/Overhead	\$90,500	\$1,272,180
Total	\$686,657	\$7,837,714