

National Forests in Alabama

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2018

Refreshing Open Pond



New Metal roof installed on the Open Pond Campground bathhouse.

Open Pond Recreation Area includes a day-use picnic area, campground, and 30-acre lake for boating and fishing. The forest completed three large projects in the area in 2018. First, the campground bathhouse had significant wear to the asphalt shingle roof that caused water to leak around the skylights. This eventually led to rotten and decayed wood along the ceiling. The forest installed a new metal roof, removed the skylights, and replaced all rotten and decayed wood.

Second, the forest replaced several signs in the area to help share the types of recreational activities available at the area and to guide visitors to those activities.



New Entrance sign at the Open Pond Recreational Area

Finally, the forest demolished a bathhouse built in 1968 located in the old swim area. The forest had closed the swim area in 1984, so the bathhouse is no longer in use. Demolition included the removal of the bathhouse, septic system, sidewalks, and other features in order to restore the site to its natural condition.



The old bathhouse before it was demolished.

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.



Sharp Shooter

With cooperation from Alabama Department of Natural Resource Conservation, the Forest installed a new shooting range roof structure, 12 new concrete shooting benches, and two large target frames at the South Sandy Shooting Range.

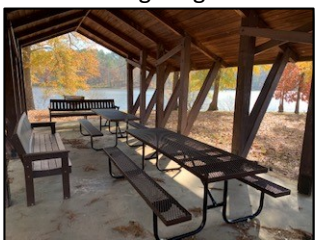


Other Accomplishments

- Maintained all fee sites including toilet/bath cleaning, mowing, litter and trash pickup and disposal.
- Purchased cleaning supplies, paint and sand for the beaches at Blue Pond and Payne Lake Day Use Areas.
- Repaired the on-demand hot water system at the Loop D Bathhouse at Open Pond Campground.
- Purchased two zero turn mowers for lawn maintenance on Talladega and Tuskegee Ranger Districts.
- Treated approximately 20 acres of shoreline along Payne Lake with herbicide to reduce vegetation growth. This will provide more opportunities for fishing at Payne Lake by increasing available access points.
- Conducted law enforcement operations and compliance checks at Uchee, Hurricane, South Sandy, Vick, Shepard Branch and Henry shooting ranges.



Payne Lake shoreline vegetation reduction

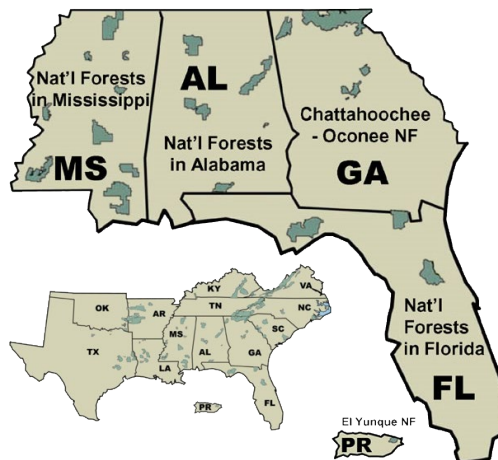


West Camp Loop Pavilion, Payne Lake Recreation Area



High Falls Waterfall, Talladega National Forest

Regional Map



Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$273,052	\$6,854,330
Special Uses	\$4,770	\$1,210,993
Interagency Passes	\$12,060	\$248,638
Total	\$289,882	\$8,313,961
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$217,713	\$5,346,472
Visitor Services	\$18,563	\$2,390,812
Law Enforcement	\$10,347	\$231,504
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$211,682
Fee Agreements	\$8,437	\$69,907
Collections/Overhead	\$10,509	\$1,354,533
Total	\$265,569	\$9,604,908

Contacts

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