



# Bitterroot National Forest

## Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2018

### Medicine Point Lookout

Medicine Point Lookout is a historic tower that offers a unique opportunity for visitors to camp on a mountain peak in a rustic setting, while enjoying the spectacular views of the surrounding western Montana wilderness. Sitting at an elevation of 8,400 feet, it is exposed to all elements of weather. The lookout was in dire need of additional maintenance to preserve and protect the infrastructure. The Forest worked with the Bitterroot Backcountry Horsemen to pack project supplies 3.5 miles up to the lookout. Supplies included lumber, generator, ladder, 20+ gallons of paint, tools, overnight gear, water, and safety equipment. The Forest sanded, scraped, and painted the exterior and interior of the lookout. Approximately \$7,500 of recreation funding covered the cost of the project. The Bitterroot Backcountry Horsemen contributed 60 volunteer hours.



*Recreation crew members prep Medicine Point Lookout for repairs and exterior and interior paint.*

### Refinished Wood's



Lake Como Recreation Area provides year-round opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreational activities including renting the historic Wood's Cabin on the shore of Lake Como. This very large cabin receives a lot of use and continuously requires maintenance. The Forest completed projects during the 2018 summer season with the help of Trapper Creek Job Corps, who contributed 630 volunteer hours. Crews stripped and refinished the hardwood floors at Wood's Cabin and repaired the back deck and window screens. The Forest installed a new recreation site sign at the Rock Creek Horse Camp; stained picnic tables, and sandblasted away graffiti on the spillway and boulders around the lake. Approximately \$7,000 in recreation fee funds covered the cost of the projects.

### 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.



## Other Accomplishments

- Supported 13 volunteer campground hosts who helped maintain sites, visited with the public, and provided public health and safety.
- Repaired damage and cleaned up debris caused by spring time flooding in 2 campgrounds.
- Cleared trails to 4 backcountry rental facilities.
- Painted floors of 5 concrete vault toilets.
- Improved tent pads at 16 camp sites.
- Installed new site reservation sign displays in 2 campgrounds.
- Repaired potable water systems in 2 recreation sites.
- Removed vegetation and pruned trees around campsites, roadways, and access paths at 3 campgrounds.
- Sanded and re-stained interpretive signs in 2 campgrounds.
- Constructed an outhouse at a backcountry rental lookout.
- Repaired doors and locks on 2 rental facilities.
- Repaired shower at a rental facility.
- Maintained 363 miles of trails used by outfitters and guides.
- Administered 81 outfitter and guide permits and inspected 29 camps.
- Inspected and removed hazard trees at 17 recreation sites.
- Pumped and maintained toilet facilities at 18 recreation sites.
- Maintained potable water systems and conducted monthly water tests at 10 sites.
- Cleaned out fire rings within day use sites and campgrounds.
- Supported Law Enforcement by providing additional patrols/presence on weekends, holidays, and during fire restrictions.



*The Bitterroot Backcountry Horsemen packed in project supplies to support a restoration project at a historic backcountry rental lookout.*

## Northern Region



## Contacts

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## Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$187,573	\$2,117,599
Special Uses	\$66,474	\$1,174,340
Interagency Passes	\$8,674	\$138,219
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$262,721</b>	<b>\$3,430,158</b>
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$151,356	\$1,728,460
Visitor Services	\$63,612	\$750,600
Law Enforcement	\$9,022	\$71,503
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$71,072
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$0
Collections/Overhead	\$28,483	\$363,714
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$252,473</b>	<b>\$2,985,349</b>

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