

# Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2019

*Cary Miller, Custer-Gallatin National Forest, Share the Experience Photo Contest 2017*

## Park City Trailhead Improved



*Crews work in the parking lot at the Park City Trailhead*

The popular Park City Trailhead is a drop-off point for two outfitters who provide services for hikers and bicyclists. The City of Helena improved the trailhead using grant funds from the Missouri River Resource Advisory Committee and the forest spent \$350 in outfitter guide permit funds to replace parking stops and perimeter fencing. The installed parking stops were constructed and installed by a Youth Conservation Corps/Montana Conservation Corps team and the fencing was installed by forest staff.

## 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.

## Puncheon Bridge Replaced



*Completed new puncheon bridge*

The forest invested \$8,000 in recreation fee dollars to replace 120 feet of rotten and hazardous puncheon bridges with turnpike. The Montana Conservation Corps helped with this project. An outfitter volunteered to pack gravel to the turnpike location in concert with the Forest Service pack string.

## Boulder/Baldy Basin Area

In this remote yet popular high elevation recreation area in the mountains above Townsend. An outfitter offers year-round yurt rental that is most popular in winter despite only non-motorized access. The forest invested \$225 of outfitter permit fees for trail and travel management signs, while the permittee invested \$450 worth of in-kind work to install the signs and perform over 15 miles of area trail clearing and maintenance.



*Visitors enjoy staying in remote locations*

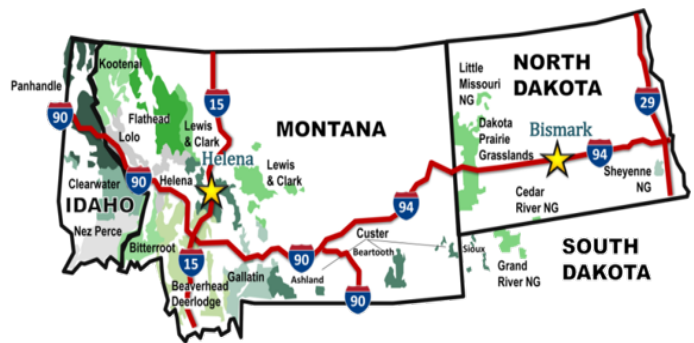
## Other Accomplishments

- Conducted visitor contacts, cleaning, maintenance and repairs at campgrounds, picnic areas, boat launches, rental cabins and interpretive sites.
- Conducted trail maintenance and cleared 50 miles of trail in the Big Belt Mountains.
- Cleared over 300 miles of trail in the Elkhorn Mountains and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.
- Funded over 450 days of seasonal employee pay with fee collections from outfitter and guide receipts.
- Funded over 600 days of seasonal employee pay with recreation fee dollars.
- Maintained 37 campgrounds, eight picnic areas, four boat launches, 17 rental cabins and eight interpretive sites.
- Recreation fee funds paid for pest control, light fixture and bulb replacement, trail bridge repair, emergency systems upkeep and supplies such as toilet paper, soap and hand towels for restrooms.
- Recreation fees funded employee salary expenses, a robust volunteer corps and allowed the interpretive center to host many special events and programs.
- The 60-member Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center volunteer corps contributed approximately 10,000 volunteer hours.



*The Chinese Wall in the Bob Marshall Wilderness*

## Northern Region



## Contacts

### Helena Lewis and Clark National Forest

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## Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$333,810	\$2,309,376
Special Uses	\$171,564	\$1,252,856
Interagency Passes	\$29,720	\$122,160
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$535,094</b>	<b>\$3,684,392</b>
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$158,814	\$1,810,965
Visitor Services	\$177,058	\$898,833
Law Enforcement	\$23,272	\$73,214
Habitat Restoration	\$7,288	\$107,037
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$14,720
Collections/Overhead	\$7,262	\$279,237
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$373,694</b>	<b>\$3,184,006</b>