

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2020

A Safe Place to Sit



Before and after of benches replaced with lumber planks at Willow Creek Campground.

The forest has steadily been repairing and replacing picnic tables and picnic table benches in the developed campgrounds. Many concrete tables have deteriorated beyond repair. Seasonal staff spent countless hours sanding, painting, and replacing heavy duty planks with newly purchased 3-inch-thick lumber. Over \$17,500 of recreation fee revenue covered the cost of salary and supplies for the project.

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.

Safer Travel for All

The Ross Creek Trail and Bridge are used by many recreationists including a permitted outfitter to access an assigned camp. Outfitter and guide fee revenue in the amount of \$15,000 covered the cost of supplies and seasonal crew salaries to reconstruct the bridge. Crews reduced the steep pitch for pack strings to travel on. Seasonal trail crews spent 5 days camping in the area and cleared 10 miles of the Ross Fork trail, which included cutting over 300 trees, primarily dead and down trees.



Newly rebuilt Ross Fork Bridge.

Remediating for the Public

The forest purchased paint and lumber for two campground hosts to complete fencing repair projects at Sheepshead Recreation Area, Freedom Point Recreation Area, and Beaverdam Campground. The hosts also painted picnic tables and interior walls of 30 restrooms. The most notable project was the restoration of a restroom located in Pigeon Creek Campground. It was previously used as a shelter by some individuals stranded in a snowstorm in 2019.



The hosts, with the help of a seasonal employee, cleaned the walls and repainted the restroom. A total of \$7,600 in recreation fee dollars covered the cost of the materials and campground host reimbursement for all the hard work.

Other Accomplishments

- Maintained campground and day use toilets with caulk, paint, and other supplies.
- Reconstructed entrance fence at Boulder Creek Campground.
- Repaired pedestrian gate at Mono Creek Campground.
- Placed a new kiosk at the Birch Creek Entrance Kiosk.
- Removed hazard trees at Crystal Park Day Use Area. Employees felled approximately 100 trees in 2 days, cleared mud and debris from trails, diverted spring water from walking paths, posted new signs, and reinforced trail rails to prevent erosion.
- Repainted the Moose Lake Cabin.
- Repainted picnic tables at all Pintler Ranger District rental cabins.
- Addressed site-specific needs at West Fork of Rock Creek Cabin (fencing, windows, couch) and at Douglas rental cabin (removed mouse infestations and rebuilt shelving and interior).
- Maintained cabins across the forest during a heavy use year in 2020 due to COVID-19. Items purchased included outhouse handles, padlocks, paint, caulk, smoke alarms, drill bits, saw blades, and cleaning supplies.
- Replenished firewood shed at May Creek Cabin and Lupine Shelter. Repaired stove pipe in Lupine Shelter.
- Painted bulletin boards and registration boxes at LaMarche and Pintler Trailheads.
- Painted registration box at Mystic Trailhead.
- Replaced the Mono Creek Trailhead sign and cleared 3 miles of Mono/Jacobsen Creek trail.
- Cleared May Creek Trail (3 times in 2020) which accesses May Creek Cabin.



A view of Black Butte in the Gravelly Range on the Madison Ranger District.

Northern Region



Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$253,409	\$2,609,509
Special Uses	\$42,480	\$647,951
Interagency Passes	\$4,060	\$94,980
Total	\$299,949	\$3,352,440
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$147,491	\$1,598,853
Visitor Services	\$19,560	\$794,329
Law Enforcement	\$6,407	\$68,824
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$107,098
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$0
Collections/Overhead	\$6,407	\$275,233
Total	\$179,865	\$2,844,337

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