USDA

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2020

New SCAT Machine



Scat Machine at Hells Canyon Visitor Center, Riggins, Idaho

The SCAT machine provides a user friendly, sanitary means to properly dispose of human waste. The system is a portable toilet dumping station designed for waste disposal at

river take-out points. All river users, including jet boat and float boat users are required to carry out all human waste in an improved human waste carryout system and dispose of properly at an approved disposal site when recreating on the Main Salmon River. When the city of Riggins could no longer support the waste into the city system, Forest Service units crossed boundaries to provide the needed services with user recreation fees. The Salmon Challis and Nez Perce National Forests invested over \$200,000 of user recreation fees to provide the SCAT machine and associated building and the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area provided the land at their visitor center in Riggins, Idaho.

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.



Lolo Pass Visitor Center

The Lolo Pass Visitor Center experienced one of the busiest winters in 2020. Staff provided daily assistance to recreationists while operating under COVID-19 protocols. The forest leveraged approximately \$17,000 in recreation fee revenue for this year's grooming. Grooming is accomplished through cooperation and partnerships with the Missoula Snowgoers and the Nordic Club.

In addition, recreation fee revenue was used to:

- Create a kid's corner at the Visitor Center for the interpretive program.
- Provide a large computer monitor to make an interactive map available for the public.
- Provide funds to maintain and acquire snowmobiles, snowblower, and trailer.





Lolo Pass Visitor Center upgrades funded with fee revenues

Water Line Repair

The system providing the Kelly Forks Campground water is decades old and fed by a spring miles away which runs through a pipe that traverses under the road bridge. This main water line under the bridge was broken due to winter damage. Recreation fee revenue funded approximately \$2,000 in parts and a week of maintenance crew labor. Campers were able to have water to the sites for most of the summer.



Kelly Forks Campground on the North Fork of the Clearwater River provides spring fed water to campsites

Other Accomplishments

- Operated under COVID-19 protocols, keeping open 30 campgrounds, nine cabin/lookout rentals, and other sites by mowing, collecting trash, cleaning, pumping toilets and septic tanks, and providing utilities.
- Supported volunteer hosts who provided information, assistance, maintenance, and cleaning at campgrounds.
- Identified and removed hazard trees and limbs and tested drinking water.
- Funded pumping of vault toilets, garbage removal, and regular maintenance at campgrounds.
- Provided additional public safety patrols and emergency medical services on major weekends.
- Maintained signs and information boards at campgrounds.
- Purchased supplies and cleaned and maintained rental cabins/lookouts.
- Groomed and maintained ski trails at Palouse Divide and Lolo Pass winter sports areas.
- Staff aided winter recreationists, maintained facility access, and performed traffic control on weekends and holidays.



Preserving and promoting history, wild lands and wild experiences. Connecting with communities, building and restoring resilient landscapes, relationships and workforce.

Northern Region



Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*

Revenue	101031	rtegion
Recreation Fees	\$326,841	\$2,609,509
Special Uses	\$41,985	\$647,951
Interagency Passes	\$2,220	\$94,980
Total	\$371,046	\$3,352,440
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$164,108	\$1,598,853
Visitor Services	\$46,985	\$794,329
Law Enforcement	\$1,761	\$68,824
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$107,098
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$0
Collections/Overhead	\$10,328	\$275,233
Total	\$223,182	\$2,844,337
*Carryover funds will be used for large projects and uncoming startup costs		

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