



Recreation fees are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations will benefit as 95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use and value.

Accomplishments provided with recreation fees on the Gallatin National Forest:

The forest's trail system and backcountry is heavily used by outfitters and their clients. The following are examples of projects accomplished with outfitter and guide fees and recreation event fees in areas where outfitters and recreation event participants benefit most:

- Supported Backcountry Horsemen of Gallatin Valley volunteers who transported materials and supplies for trail construction projects.
- Funded backcountry rangers, snow rangers and off-highway vehicle rangers who provided information, education and enforcement of travel plan regulations, maintained hundreds of miles of trail, posted closure boundary and trail signs, and provided a uniformed educational and enforcement presence across the forest.
- Inventoried and sprayed weeds at trailheads in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness.
- Funded employees who cleared over 150 miles of trail, installed 125 water bars, brushed four miles of trailside lodge pole regeneration, and completed short trail reroutes in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness.
- Funded backcountry rangers who cleared over 1,000 downed trees across trails removed stoves and 55 gallon drums from abandoned camps in the Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area.
- Supported volunteers on the Hebgen Lake Ranger District who completed trail maintenance, inventoried non-system trails, pulled weeds, rehabilitated campsites, and provided information to backcountry users on Leave No Trace ethics and food storage compliance.
- Completed maintenance and cleaning tasks, purchased supplies, repaired and pumped toilets, removed garbage and hazardous trees, updated bulletin boards and distributed recreational information at all campgrounds.
- In conjunction with special recreation events, provided winter access to popular trailheads in Gallatin Valley; partnered with Gallatin County to plow the Hyalite Canyon Road and provide access for a community supported ski trail system and guided ice climbing opportunities.

Special Feature

The Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center provides an invaluable resource to winter recreationists in southwest Montana. In 2009 with support of REA funds, Center employees provided daily avalanche advisories, offered over 62 formal avalanche education sessions to 4,300 people, and maintained an informative website to raise people's awareness of avalanche hazards. Last year, the public accessed this website an average of 3200 times a day!



Gallatin National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue	
Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$11,274
Recreation Fees	\$210,431
Special Uses	\$271,372
Total	\$493,077

Expenditures*	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$392,495
Visitor Services	\$139,461
Law Enforcement	\$22,000
Cost of Collections	\$8,000
Total	\$561,956

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.

Gallatin National Forest accomplishments continued:

The following projects provide examples of accomplishments at sites where fees are collected:

- Mowed, re-surfaced, removed downed trees, and thinned understory along Rendezvous Ski Trails during the summer to enhance winter trail conditions.
- Supported staff who were available at winter trailheads and the Rendezvous Ski Trail System to provide visitor information; maintained signs and posts, and prepared and distributed trail maps.
- Printed Trail Passes for Ski Rendezvous and worked with local businesses to make them more readily available.
- Completed maintenance and cleaning tasks at all cabin rentals. Cut and stocked firewood, and identified and removed hazard trees:
 - Treated exterior of Basin Station, Beaver Creek, Cabin Creek, and Wapiti cabins and out buildings. Sanded and treated interior walls, and painted porches, doors, and floors as needed.
 - Constructed a new jack-leg fence around the Bennet Creek Cabin.
 - Finished exteriors and roofs of three new accessible toilets to maintain integrity and match their historic cabins at Porcupine, Bennet and West Boulder cabins.
 - Rebuilt the screened porch and constructed new benches at Porcupine Cabin.
- Coordinated and hosted the activities commemorating the 50th anniversary at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center: planned and offered guided walks and talks, and coordinated performances and ceremonies.
- Removed the deteriorated sign and rock base and installed new interpretive panel and frame near Earthquake Lake.
- Created a new tactile, interactive exhibit in the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center.
- Funded visitor center supervisor, student guides and volunteers.



Restrooms with historically compatible exteriors at West Boulder and Porcupine cabins



Workers finishing the historically compatible exterior of the Bennet Cabin toilet.



New benches on the rebuilt screened porch at Porcupine Cabin.

Gallatin National Forest Planned Projects for 2010

- Support the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center and their programs; through the Avalanche Center continue to provide training and avalanche advisories for use by winter outfitters and guides.
- Continue to provide winter access to trailheads in Gallatin Valley where outfitter guided use and winter recreation events are occurring.
- In cooperation with outfitters and guides, continue heavy trail maintenance projects, and improve trail conditions, signing, brushing, repair and replacement of old trail structures, etc.
- Fund additional backcountry rangers to complete trail maintenance tasks, restore sites, provide visitor education and ensure compliance.
- Continue to administer and monitor outfitter and guide special use permits.
- Replace of roofs, porch boards and sill logs at cabin rentals.
- Support the redesign of exterior interpretive exhibits at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center.
- Fund additional visitor information staff.

Recreation Program



Information:

**Gallatin National Forest
Recreation Fee Program, Contact:**

406-587-6701

Email:

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or

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Online:

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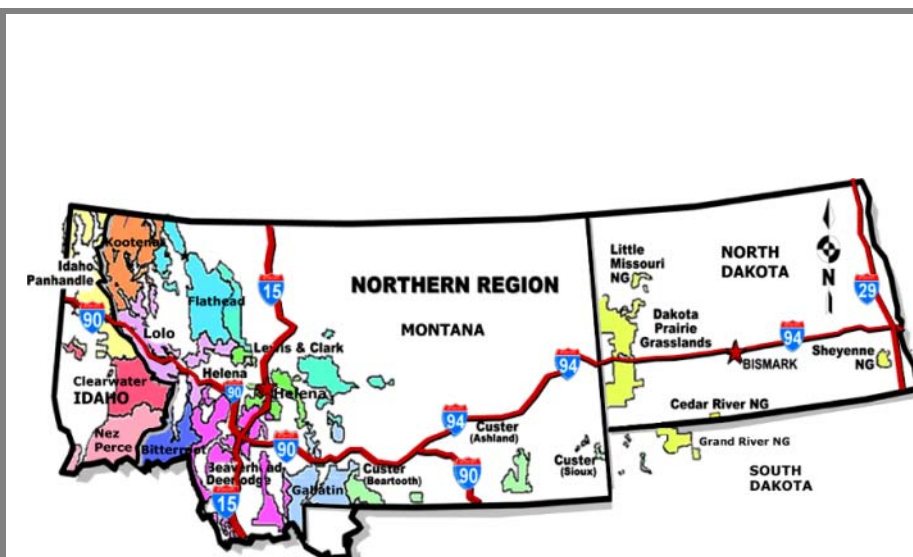
**For information on the
Regional Program, Contact:**

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Northern Region Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue*	
Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$54,941
Recreation Fees	\$1,628,455
Special Uses	\$932,260
Total	\$2,615,656

Expenditures	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,388,770
Visitor Services	\$842,787
Law Enforcement	\$143,390
Cost of Collections	\$182,857
Habitat Restoration	\$27,101
Fee Agreements	\$7,982
Total	\$2,592,885

*Carryover funds will be used for large projects and the following season's startup costs.