



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

Accomplishments provided with recreation fees on the Lewis and Clark National Forest:

Campgrounds and Day Use Sites:

- Provided subsistence and propane for four campground hosts, one each at Dry Wolf, Crystal Lake, Mortimer, and Summit campgrounds/Marias Pass Interpretive Site.
- Funded three employees who cleaned and maintained campgrounds and provided visitor information, education, and security.
- Contracted replacement of old wooden picnic tables with concrete uprights in Summit Campground.
- Installed "period sensitive" siding to the outhouse, and new wood stove, triple walled stove pipe, and new light-fan fixture at historic Kings Hill Cabin.
- Installed new screen door and new linoleum flooring, and painted the exterior and interior of the Hunter Springs Cabin.
- Provided firewood and/or propane at all cabins across the forest.
- Funded a river ranger who conducted outfitter and guide inspections along the Smith River corridor and provided visitor assistance and information.
- Inventoried backcountry campsites, including sites popular with outfitters and guides.



Kenck Cabin refinished exterior and interior



Special Feature

The Interpretive Center opened a new exhibit, *The Blackfeet Painted Tipi: Enduring Art, Spiritual Symbol*, in January 2009. The exhibit, supported by REA funds, features interpretive panels, serigraphs, and cultural items that relate to the painting of Indian lodges. The interpretive theme focuses on the cultural importance and responsibility that comes with owning or transferring ownership of a traditional painted tipi.



Lewis and Clark National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	
Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$25,795
Recreation Fees	\$183,869
Special Uses	\$73,287
Total	\$282,951

Expenditures	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$110,922
Visitor Services	\$102,765
Law Enforcement	\$6,894
Cost of Collections	\$31,079
Total	\$251,660

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

Lewis and Clark National Forest accomplishments continued:

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center

- Funded eight interpreters and the Center Director who designed and presented programs to 56,152 visitors and nearly 5,000 school children. Programs included:
 - *Voices in the Shadows* provided first person delivery of short vignettes as visitors were led through the halls by candlelight.
 - *Capital Christmas Tree* offered by forest employees, Great Falls fire department and Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.
 - *Star Party Extravaganza* events in cooperation with the Central Montana Astronomy Society
 - December *Drop and Shop* program and *Winter Warmup* activities.
 - *Winter Wildlife Film Series* on Thursdays evenings in January and February.
 - Professor James Loewen from Washington, D.C. and author of "Lies My Teacher Told Me" as a lecturer in honor of Black History Month.
 - *Sunday Sampler Programs* featured programs and activities for children linked to the Center's Pollinator Garden project.
 - *International Migratory Bird Day* offered special programs for visitors and a live bird demonstration.
 - *National Get Outdoors Day* with a weed-pull in partnership with the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, City of Great Falls, and PPL-MT.
 - *Annual Lewis and Clark Festival* included a day camp for children, Native American art show, Master Craft Show, a nature scavenger hunt, concerts, a living history performance by David Jolles, traditional Indian dancing demonstrations, and a nature hike to Sulphur Springs.
 - *River Camp along the Missouri River* offered visitors the opportunity to participate in traditional activities such as pitching a tipi, working with a map and compass, and making fire with flint and steel.
 - *Dugout Summer Day Camps* for youth where they learned about the natural history discoveries of the explorers and experienced life along the trail.
 - *Lawn Chair* programs on Friday evenings in the summer.
 - *Indian Voices* programs on Saturday evenings in the summer featuring guest Native American speakers focused on the Blackfeet culture.
 - *Butterfly Count* with naturalist Byron Weber with a presentation on butterflies and their roles in pollination.
 - *Native American Commemoration Week* hosted the Two Medicine Dancers and Singers who performed and described different traditional Indian dances.



Children's Camp participants



Butterfly Count



Two Medicine Dancers

Lewis and Clark National Forest accomplishments continued:

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center

- Partnership and volunteer highlights:
 - 15,205 hours contributed by over 100 volunteers.
 - Portage Route Chapter sponsored Dr. James Loewen programs.
 - Missouri River Audubon Society sponsored the official Butterfly Count with Byron Weber.
 - Collaborated with the Great Falls Indian Education Parent Participation Organization, Lewis and Clark Honor Guard, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, and Great Fall Native American Art Association on exhibits, demonstrations, children's camps, and activities for the annual Lewis and Clark Festival.
 - Partnered and collaborated with Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Foundation, the Museum of the Rockies, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, the History Museum, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, and members of the Blackfeet Tribe to fund, design, and fabricate *The Blackfeet Painted Tipi* exhibit.
 - Partnered with the *Great Falls Girl Scouting* organization to provide an evening of activities that focused on the natural history badge for Junior Girl Scouts and the Museum Studies badge for Cadet Girl Scouts.
 - Partnered with the Great Falls Public Schools Environmental Education Department to implement the *"More Kids in the Woods"* programs and offered the opportunity to learn winter ecology and snowshoeing on the forest. Other partners included the Montana Wilderness Association, volunteers from the LC Interpretive Center, and volunteers from Get Fit Great Falls.



Blackfeet Cultural Interpretive Events



Calf Creek Cabin



Horseback riders and guide near South Fork Teton Falls

Lewis and Clark National Forest Planned Projects for 2010

- Continue to complete improvements at Kings Hill, Hunter Springs and Crystal Lake cabins.
- Improve overall accessibility at all of our campgrounds and cabin rentals.
- The Interpretive Center will continue to offer excellent programming, youth camps and school group visits.
- Plan, design, fabricate and install a new exhibit that examines the railroad survey of Montana, Idaho and Washington, entitled *On the Brink of Change*.
- Complete the Pollinator Garden project and create interpretive signs for the native landscaping around the building.
- Implement the new program, *Field Investigations*, for seventh and eighth grade students in Great Falls Public Schools. This program will hone their observation and scientific recording skills while they participate in field studies of native plants, migratory birds, macro invertebrates, and fire ecology.

Recreation Program



Information:

**Lewis and Clark National Forest
Recreation Fee Program, Contact:**
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Email:

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Online:

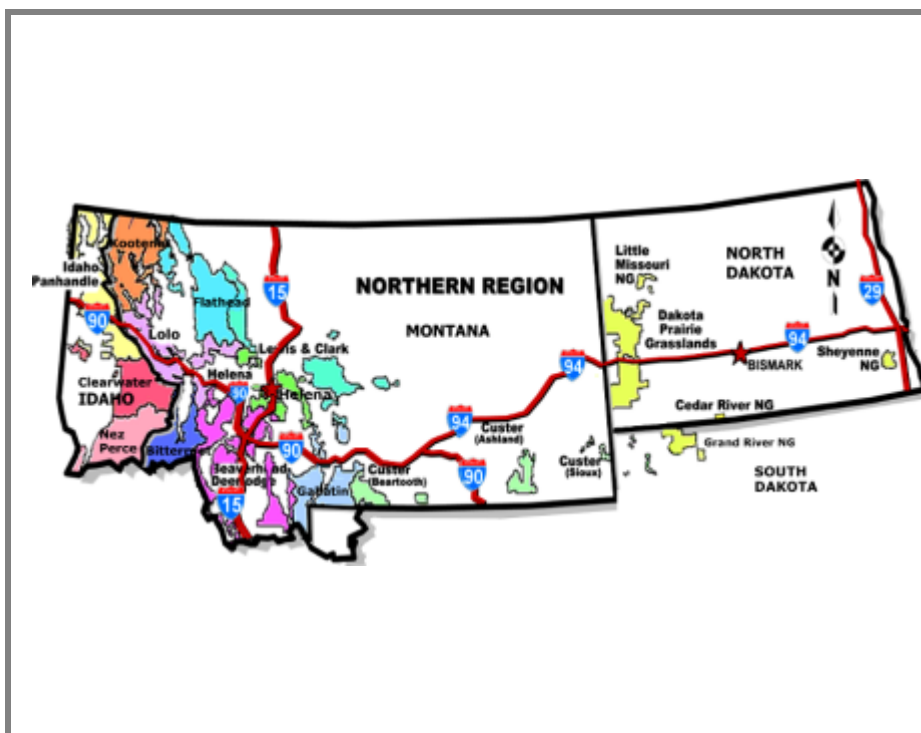
www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/

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The USDA is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.



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.