



The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), signed into law in 2004, authorizes the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to establish, modify, charge, collect and retain recreation fees at Federal recreation lands and waters as provided for in the Act. Ninety-five percent of all fees collected on Forest Service sites stay at the local forest/grasslands and are reinvested in operations, maintenance and other visitor services.

Accomplishments provided with recreation fees on the Gallatin National Forest:

- Outfitters and Guides
 - ✓ Funded additional Wilderness and OHV Rangers who provided visitor information, education and enforcement of new travel management regulations, performed trail maintenance, installed hundreds of new signs and trail markers, and inspected outfitter and guide operations.
 - ✓ Funded additional employees who completed trail maintenance tasks: removed drowned trees on hundreds of miles of trail, installed new or replacement drainage structures, restored eroding tread segments on heavily used trails, and rehabilitated social trails.
 - ✓ Rangers and volunteers completed backcountry site restoration projects, and monitored the spread of weeds, user created trails, and campsites.
 - ✓ Replaced a foot bridge on the West Baldy Basin Trail.
 - ✓ Improved trailhead facilities at critical boat launches along the Yellowstone River.
 - ✓ Sprayed weeds at trailheads, river accesses and in the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness.
 - ✓ Funded volunteers at the Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area who completed trail, weed and campsite inventories, educated visitors about new travel plan regulations, and restored campsites and user created trails.
 - ✓ Replaced a toilet at a busy trailhead in the Taylor Fork area.
 - ✓ Plowed snow at popular winter trailheads in the Bozeman vicinity to provide winter access.
 - ✓ Supported the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center:
 - Provided approximately 100 avalanche education courses or lectures to nearly 4,000 people.
 - Published 125 avalanche advisories on the web, and via email, pod casts, and telephone hotline; advisories were accessed 3,000 times a day on average.
 - Provided avalanche message video clips on You Tube: one clip was viewed 36,000 times.

Special Feature

The Gallatin National Forest's Rendezvous Ski Trails offer a gorgeous setting for cross country skiing. The trailhead starts right in West Yellowstone where skiers can select from over 30 km of trails. In 2008, fee funds provided daily trail grooming for skating and classic skiing. New signs and maps were also installed and the trails were cleared of brush.



Gallatin National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue	
Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$13,035
Recreation Fees	\$178,204
Special Uses	\$346,269
Total	\$537,508

Expenditures*	
Source	Amount
Cost of Collection	\$0
Law Enforcement	\$42,434
Maintenance & Repair	\$384,603
Visitor Services	\$128,902
Total	\$555,939

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.



2008 Accomplishments Continued:

- Campgrounds

- ✓ Installed new wood campsite posts, funded one volunteer host, planted 50 cottonwood trees to enhance camper privacy and shade, replaced damaged bulletin board, and sprayed weeds at Eagle Creek Campground.
- ✓ Replaced site signs, removed hazard trees, painted outhouse interiors, removed trash along the highway, and improved traffic flow at Canyon Campground.
- ✓ Painted all picnic tables and wheel stops, maintained petrified forest interpretive trail and installed waterbars with Montana Yellowstone Expeditions volunteer crew, painted upper toilet interior, moved a bulletin board, installed campsite posts, replaced water system hand pump and increased the length of the casing at Tom Miner Campground
- ✓ Completed hazard tree removal, replaced damaged bear proof trash enclosure, and funded two volunteer hosts to manage the campground Soda Butte Campground.
- ✓ Replaced the well hand pump, removed half of the hazard trees, and painted picnic tables Chief Joseph Campground.
- ✓ Funded two volunteers to manage campground, remove hazard trees and paint picnic tables at Colter Campground.
- ✓ Pumped toilets, provided garbage service, painted picnic tables and outhouse interior at Clarks Fork site.



- Recreation Rentals

- ✓ Installed wood siding on the new Maxey Cabin toilet so that its appearance is compatible with the historic character of the cabin and associated buildings.
- ✓ Built a woodshed at Beaver Creek Cabin.
- ✓ Surfaced the accessible pathway with gravel at the new West Boulder Cabin toilet.
- ✓ Oiled or sealed the exterior logs at Deer Creek, Fourmile Cabin, Ibx Cabin and Mill Creek Cabin.
- ✓ Replaced fences and installed a new wood stove at West Bridger Cabin.
- ✓ Cut and stacked 15 cords of firewood, replaced east side fence and oiled the porch at Big Creek Cabin.
- ✓ Repaired cabin and stock fences around the cabin and repaired the front steps Ibx Cabin.
- ✓ Reinforced and installed new porch screening, painted the soffits and window moldings, oiled the porch, and painted the fire ring benches and the new fence Porcupine Cabin.
- ✓ Repaired the front steps, oiled the porch, and painted the benches Trail Creek Cabin.
- ✓ Installed a fence to increase renter privacy at Garnet Mountain Lookout.



- Earthquake Lake Visitor Center

- ✓ Replaced one of the large Madison Canyon Earthquake Area signs that had deteriorated.
- ✓ Partially funded personnel to staff the information desk, present interpretive programs and direct interpretive group walks in the Earthquake Area.
- ✓ Provided winter snowshoe and ski interpretive tours to the overlook of Quake Lake from Refuge Point.
- ✓ Fabricated and installed a winter orientation map for skiers and snowshoers of the Refuge Point area of the Madison River Canyon Earthquake Area.





Gallatin National Forest Planned Projects for 2009

- Continue to provide cabin and campground visitor assistance and information, compliance patrols, and complete maintenance and cleaning tasks.
- Install siding and roofing on new West Boulder Cabin and Porcupine Cabin accessible toilets, and finish the West Boulder Cabin accessible pathway.
- Install bear resistant containers for recycling and post recycling information.
- Replace two vandalized interpretive signs along the Petrified Forest Trail next to Tom Miner Campground.
- Complete trailhead improvements: upgrade stock facilities, signs, parking areas, replace outhouses.
- Build one or two small trailside shelters for skiers to use to get out of the wind or snow.
- Fund backcountry and wilderness rangers.
- Remove old site and interpretive signs and rock bases; install new signs at Earthquake Lake Visitor Center.
- Plan and prepare activities in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center.
- Continue to support Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center operations including travel plan implementation projects and training for winter recreationalists.
- Continue to provide plowed winter access for skiers and snowmobilers at key winter trailheads.



Information:

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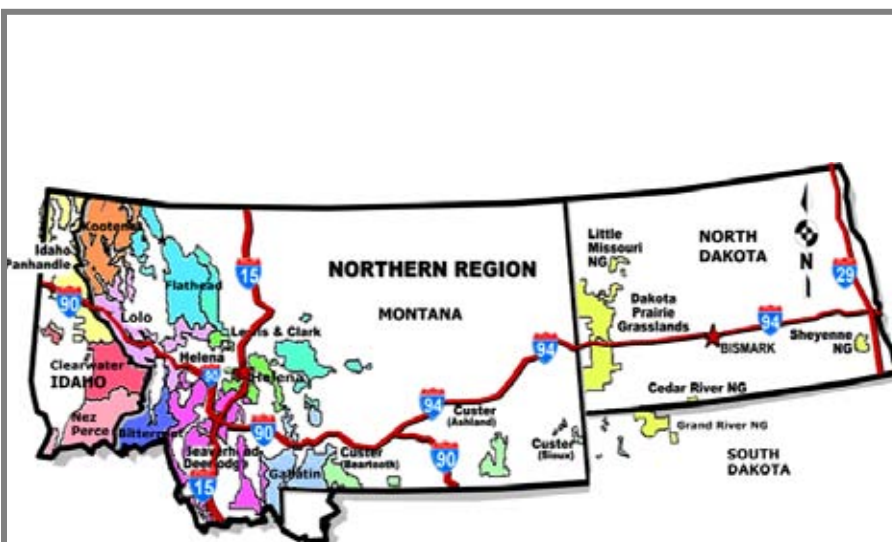
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Northern Region Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue*	
Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$49,439
Recreation Fees	\$1,461,675
Special Uses	\$1,126,284
Total	\$2,637,397

Expenditures	
Source	Amount
Cost of Collection	\$212,618
Law Enforcement	\$116,840
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,207,250
Visitor Services	\$660,152
Habitat Restoration	\$10,678
Fee Agreements	\$13,706
Total	\$2,221,244

* Remaining funds will be used for large projects and next year's startup season costs.