Forest Service Northern Region Flathead National Forest

Recreation Program









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 Flathead National Forest:

- Completed regular cleaning and maintenance tasks at all 13 rental cabins: maintained interior furnishings, exterior buildings, and grounds.
- Plowed parking areas to provide access to seven cabins during the winter season.
- Refinished the interior of Chipmunk Cabin.
- · Painted handrails and decking at Mission Lookout.
- Replaced interior electrical wiring and purchased and installed a new electric range at Owl Creek Cabin.
- Repaired septic systems at Old Condon and Swan guard stations.
- Refurbished Old Condon Ranger House: replaced rotting logs and constructed a new deck.
- Landscaped Swan Lake Cabin grounds, painted interior trim, and completed safety improvements.
- Purchased outdoor furniture for the Star Meadow Cabin.
- Replaced trail and trailhead signs on routes used by outfitters.
- Partnered with the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program and Missoula Resource Advisory Committee to leverage funds and hired a ten-person trail crew, which conducted trail maintenance and reconstruction projects on the Swan Lake District.
- Administered and monitored outfitter and guide special use activities in the Bob Marshall Wilderness.
- Processed and administered air delivery services special use permits at Spotted Bear, Meadow Creek and Schafer Meadows.
- Staffed Schafer Meadows Ranger Station and airstrip and contacted and provided education to 300 visitors. Information provided included food storage regulations, river and trail

condition information, and fire and human waste requirements

 Staffed Big Prairie Ranger Station and provided 225 visitors with information about proper food storage, wildland fire information, and trail conditions and damage from spring high water events.



Chipmunk Cabin's renovated interior.

Special Feature

Numerous storms buffeted the Bob Marshall Wilderness in 2011 and their effects required monumental effort to keep trails open. Access to the South Fork of the Flathead River via East Side and West Side trails was cleared of downed trees again and again. Clearing 35 miles of trail once is tough enough, but this particular year the task was completed eight times!



Flathead National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue			
Source	Amount		
Recreation Fees	\$90,082		
Special Uses	\$212,558		
Interagency Pass	\$0		
Total	\$302,640		

Expenditures*	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$163,479
Visitor Services	\$102,479
Cost of Collections	\$24,025
Law Enforcement	\$11,890
Habitat Restoration	\$13,094
Total	\$314,809

*Expenditures can be funded with previous years' revenues.

Flathead National Forest Additional Accomplishments

Wild & Scenic River Management:

- Completed maintenance tasks along 59 miles of the North Fork of the Flathead River and 58 miles of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River.
- Routinely cleaned 13 developed river access sites over a four month time period and monitored and cleaned eight dispersed river access sites over a three month time period.
- Partnered with the Glacier National Park to expand river patrols that provide visitor education and compliance checks, and resource monitoring.
- Partnered with the National Park Service and enhanced employee and volunteer training opportunities in the areas of customer service, and visitor education and safety.



Park Service and Forest Service employee river safety training on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River.



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The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

A fee is charged at 20% of the Developed Recreation Sites in the Northern Region.



Northern Region Recreation Sites						
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Site Type	Total	Sites	Site Type	Total	Sites	
Boat, Swim, Fish	139	11	Day Use Areas	154	0	
Campgrounds	408	157	Picnic Areas	66	4	
Lookouts/Cabins	147	134	Interpretive Sites	85	1	
Camping Areas	1699	0	Visitor Centers	8	3	
Group Campgrounds	11	6	Winter Play Areas	15	2	
Group Picnic Areas	14	11	Trailheads	520	0	
Horse Camps	7	3	Miscellaneous	6	1	

Northern Region Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue			
Source	Amount		
Recreation Fees	\$1,553,414		
Special Uses	\$915,075		
Interagency Pass	\$43,879		
Total	\$2.512.368		

Expenditures*	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,081,885
Visitor Services	\$1,315,487
Cost of Collections	\$146,017
Law Enforcement	\$128,694
Habitat Restoration	\$28,158
Fee Agreements	\$12,010
Total	\$2,712,251

*Expenditures can be funded with previous years' revenues.