



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:

Rendezvous Ski Trails

- Partnered with West Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation (WYSEF) and West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce and completed heavy maintenance projects on several key Nordic ski trail loops to accommodate U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association sanctioned 5km race events. Also funded regular trail grooming completed by these groups and assisted them with touch up grooming as needed.
- Sponsored a National Public Lands Day project and supported 22 volunteers who updated signs, repaired fences, maintained trails and improved trailhead facilities.
- Leveraged grant funds and installed new trail signs and route markers.



FS employees built and staffed a themed food and water station at the Rendezvous Ski Race

Recreation Rentals

- Complete regular maintenance tasks on all 24 rental cabins and their associated outbuildings and grounds: cleaned, repainted, stocked firewood, serviced woodstoves and chimneys and repaired windows and doors.
- Continued restoration work on historic Basin Station Barn and cabin; added a new woodshed, cleaned and oiled logs and re-glazed windows.
- Replaced corrals at Big Creek and Windy Pass cabins and installed new hitch rails at Deer Creek Cabin.
- Installed new railing, floor joists and upgraded lightning protection system on Garnet Mount Lookout.
- Replaced wood stoves in several cabins.

Campgrounds

- Funded trash collection, cleaned and maintained vault toilets, refurbished furniture, checked compliance and provided visitor information and assistance at 11 fee campgrounds.

Special Feature

The Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center is an incredible resource for winter recreationists in southwest Montana: their avalanche advisories are accessed by more than 4,500 people daily. In 2012, recreation fees leveraged grants totaling over \$50,000 that supported the Center. Education of all user groups is the center's focus; staff presented 80 courses to over 4,400 attendees and posted 55 YouTube videos.



Gallatin National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*

Source	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$219,052
Special Uses	\$268,062
Interagency Pass	\$9,140
Total	\$496,255

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$57,000
Visitor Services	\$264,047
Cost of Collections	\$33,500
Law Enforcement	\$10,000
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Total	\$364,547

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

Gallatin Accomplishments Continued

Trails

- Constructed numerous new structures, such as boardwalks and bridges, and completed regular maintenance on over 700 miles of trail.
- Completed multiple trail improvement projects in Hyalite Canyon winter recreation area and partnered with Bridger Ski Foundation to provide over 30 miles of groomed Nordic trails in this very popular area.

Winter Recreation

- Leveraged grant monies and funded Snow Rangers who assisted thousands of skiers and snowmobilers on the nearly 700 miles of marked and groomed winter trails. Rangers maintained and groomed trails, provided avalanche education to visitors and plowed snow at trailheads.
- Administered numerous winter recreation events, including snowmobile rides, Nordic ski races, Junior Olympic Nordic fall training camps, and dog sled races.
- Leveraged funds and removed snow from Hyalite Canyon's primary road to provide safe access to Nordic ski trails, ice fishing and ice climbing opportunities and rental cabins.



Snow Rangers in the backcountry



A mudhole on the Hellroaring Trail before and after puncheon construction.

Information:

Gallatin National Forest
Recreation Fee Program Contact

504-587-6743

Email:

kschlenker@fs.fed.us

Online:

www.fs.usda.gov/gallatin

Regional Contact

Margaret Gorski

406-329-3587

Email: mgorski@fs.fed.us

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

Site Type	Total	# Fee Sites	Site Type	Total	# Fee 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	\$1,671,968
Special Uses	\$917,859
Interagency Pass	\$60,499
Total	\$2,650,325

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$859,415
Visitor Services	\$1,042,756
Cost of Collections	\$176,179
Law Enforcement	\$102,357
Habitat Restoration	\$62,414
Fee Agreements	\$6,644
Total	\$2,249,765

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