

Site Name: Region: INFRA or Forest Site ID:
 Forest: District:



Amenities- Must have all

- Trash Cans
- Designated Parking
- Permanent Toilet Facilities
- Interpretive Sign, Exhibit, or Kiosk
- Picnic Tables
- Reasonable Visitor Protection (Security)

Site Type:

REA Fee Type:

Change Summary

Action requested:

Proposed fee:

Start date:

Expected annual occupancy (%):

Additional fee structure:

Current Situation

Date of last fee increase:

Current fee:

Current annual occupancy (%):

Additional fee structure:

Financial Information

Annual operations and maintenance (O&M):

Deferred maintenance backlog:

Start-up costs:

Current revenue:

Predicted revenue:

Difference in revenue associated with fee change:

Planned Accomplishments

- Increase hours of operation
- Improve facilities/services
- Reduce deferred maintenance
- Maintain site to standard

Planned accomplishments and methods for informing the public:

Reason for Changing Fee

Align fee to local market

Inflationary increase

Outcome of RFA process

Increase / improve service

Add amenity

Results of Not Implementing Fee Change

Cost of operation and maintenance of the site would not be recouped. Limited appropriations would fund facility operation and maintenance but may be at a reduced level. It would have a ripple effect to other recreation sites including those with no fees. Overall deferred maintenance would continue to increase, resulting in reduced maintenance and services. Volunteers and partnerships are an integral component of the recreation/trail program, but do not entirely sustain these programs without the help of other funding strategies. The Recreation Pass/NWFP program helps maintain those sites with higher level of amenities.

- Reduce season or service
- Eliminate season or service
- Decommission site
- Close site

Public Participation

Have the following tasks been accomplished? Yes

New Fee Minimum Tasks

- Six months advance notice in Federal Register
- Announcement in local media
- Announcements near or in site where fee will be implemented
- Briefing with federal legislators (per WO direction)
- Give people an opportunity to review project plans (if completed) (from Interagency Federal Register Notice)

Fee Change Minimum Tasks

- Announcement in local media
- Announcements near or in site where fee will be implemented
- Briefing with federal legislators (per WO direction)

Other public participation tasks:

Beginning August 2008, announcements for public comment regarding the proposal to add Benson/Scott Lake Complex into the Recreation Fee Program was posted at the Benson Lake trailhead and Scott Lake road, at the McKenzie River Ranger District visitor information center, and on the Willamette National Forest Website. Federal legislators were briefed about RFA and fee program proposals. A Federal Register was published on August 25, 2008 (Volume 73, Number 165). A news release was sent out on August 14, 2008 to the local media resulting with one article published in the River Reflections on 8/21/2008. A legal notice was published in the Eugene Register-Guard Newspaper on 8/19/2008.

Public participation results:

No public comments were received. In addition, the public was accustomed to having a fee at the trailhead until 2004 and was noncontroversial.

Brief description of project area

Benson/Scott Lake Complex is located off of Highway 242, 17 miles east of McKenzie Bridge, Oregon on the McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest and along the McKenzie-Santiam Pass Scenic Byway. The complex consists of the Benson Lake trailhead and Scott Lake a walk-in day use/camping destination which are situated right next to each other and are within 1-2 hour drive of the Willamette Valley and Bend, Oregon. Visitors visiting either Benson Lake trail or Scott Lake utilize the same parking area and facilities. Benson Lake trail is the highest used trail that enters the Mt. Washington Wilderness and meanders through a moderately forested, sub-alpine ecosystem. Scenic Scott Lake is a popular day and overnight destination. Charging a per vehicle fee associated with visitor use of the area will help maintain and improve facilities and services.