

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Eldorado National Forest

Forest Service



Campsites in Wilderness

Campsites within 100 feet of Middle Velma Lake can cause damage to sensitive resources. In 2014, the forest used recreation fee revenue to partner with volunteers, Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns and Backcountry Horsemen and remove and naturalize 60 of these campsites. In addition, revenue funded four Generation Green youth crews for consecutive one-week tours in the Desolation Wilderness. The crews maintained trails and restored campsites in the Grouse, Aloha and Tyler Lake basins.

Generation Green crew and SCA intern prepare a large rock to be moved into a closed campsite.



Repairing Wind Damage

More than 200 trees that came down during a wind storm in November 2013 caused extensive damage to the Wrights Lake Recreation Area. With the help of wildland firefighters, construction and maintenance crews, and local volunteers, recreation fee revenue enabled staff to clear hazards, repair campsites and remove over 110 cords of wood. This effort allowed the area to be opened for the 2014 season.

Fallen trees are cleared at Wrights Lake



Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. They support and enhance:

- Public safety
- Recreation site maintenance and improvements
- Educational experiences
- Informational wayside exhibits
- Youth programs and partnerships
- Interpretive programs

Current and future generations will benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

Forest Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$195,268
Special Uses	\$6,639
Interagency Passes	\$5,853
Total	\$207,760
Expenditures*	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$136,344
Visitor Services	\$51,908
Law Enforcement	\$7,589
Habitat Restoration	\$1,784
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$11,384
Total	\$208,998

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenue.

Additional Highlights

Developed Recreation

- Partnered with CRAGS, a rock climbers volunteer group, to paint tables and clean out fire rings at Lover's Leap Campground.
- Purchased and installed a clothes dryer and boot dryer at the Loon Lake Chalet.
- Provided interpretive and educational programs, nature walks, and amphitheater programs at Wright's Lake Campground.

Wilderness

- Maintained and patrolled trails, and coordinated efforts of 30 volunteers in the Carson Pass area, portal to the Mokelumne Wilderness.
- Supported the Desolation Wilderness by:
 - Hiring two summer interns who patrolled, provided visitor information, cleared trails, responded to emergencies, led youth crews and co-produced a trip planning video.
 - Supporting 43 volunteers who maintained trails, restored campsites and hosted a website.
 - Maintaining trails at Lyons and Twin Lakes for National Trails Day.



Intern leads a discussion on Wilderness Stewardship with Generation Green crew at Grouse Lake.

Contacts

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Pacific Southwest Region Map



Regional Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$6,406,393
Special Uses	\$942,706
Interagency Passes	\$265,449
Total	\$7,614,548
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$3,134,824
Visitor Services	\$1,766,862
Law Enforcement	\$275,511
Habitat Restoration	\$18,359
Fee Agreements	\$18,043
Cost of Collections	\$626,431
Total	\$5,840,030

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