

# Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

Forest Service



## Celebrating Wilderness

As part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, wilderness staff held multiple events and activities to share information about the Desolation Wilderness. Recreation fee revenue of \$5,000 leveraged a \$7,500 grant to fund Wilderness education at popular trailheads and community events. In addition, revenue helped support a youth conservation program called "Generation Green" where youth provided Wilderness ethics and conservation education information and contributed to a feature film entitled "Desolation Wilderness Trip Planning."



*Generation Green crew at Twin Lake Trailhead assisting Wilderness staff*

## 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.

## Hosting Historical Hikes

Some hikers into the Desolation Wilderness had a special treat in 2014 with interpreter-led hikes that focused on the history of the area. In addition, a display shared how rangers patrolled the Wilderness in the 1950s and 60s, and featured a rangers saddle, pack bags and a well-worn cross-cut saw. The display also shared how visitors support the Desolation today through recreation fees.

*Wilderness anniversary and Forest history display in the lobby at the Lake Tahoe office*



## Forest Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$230,969
Special Uses	\$68,477
Interagency Passes	\$7,260
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$306,706</b>
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$35,084
Visitor Services	\$159,512
Law Enforcement	\$4,874
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$11,833
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$211,753</b>

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

## Additional Accomplishments

- Supported the Sierra Avalanche Center, which provides avalanche forecasting reports and advisories for the Central Sierras, via a website that was accessed over 500,000 times in 2014.
- Funded Wilderness rangers and interns to patrol, contact visitors, and maintain 150 miles of trail. Maintenance included clearing downed trees, repairing and cleaning waterbars and brushing trails.
- Organized, trained and supervised 25 volunteers who provided assistance at popular Wilderness trailheads and offered Wilderness ethics information at the Taylor Creek Visitor Center.
- Restored some habitat inside the Desolation Wilderness for the endangered Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog.
- Processed and administered 14 outfitter and guide and 21 recreation event special use permits.

Clearing hazard trees



## Contacts

### Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

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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
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,614,548</b>
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,840,030</b>

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