



# Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

## Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2015

Pat Di Geronimo, Gifford Pinchot National Forest  
2014 Share the Experience

Forest Service



### 30 Miles of Trail Restored



*New steel hitch rails at the Suiattle Trailhead*

Severe flooding in 2003 destroyed a road that led to the Glacier Peak Wildness. With the road reopening in 2014, the Forest began major maintenance tasks on trails in the Suiattle River drainage to reopen access. The Washington Trails Association (WTA), Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, and the Pacific Crest Trail Association gave over 4500 hours to help the Forest log out and brush over 30 miles of trail, repair trail tread, turnpikes, puncheons, and construct stream fords.

### 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.

### Volunteer Hero

Volunteer Harold Buresh has averaged over 400 volunteer hours per year since 1988. In 2015 he coordinated other volunteers from several organizations to set bridge stringers and install hand rails for a new bridge on the popular Ira Spring Trail.

Volunteers:  
Spring Trust for Trails, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Active Construction, Valley Camp, WA Dept. of Natural Resources, Columbia Helicopters and Washington Trails Assn.



*Drilling Pilot holes for rail posts on the Mason Creek Bridge*

### Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue*             | Amount             |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees      | \$1,228,005        |
| Special Uses         | \$53,180           |
| Interagency Passes   | \$233,629          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$1,514,814</b> |
| Expenditures         | Amount             |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$768,676          |
| Visitor Services     | \$180,340          |
| Law Enforcement      | \$29,210           |
| Habitat Restoration  | \$0                |
| Fee Agreements       | \$0                |
| Cost of Collections  | \$48,684           |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$1,026,909</b> |

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

## Big Snow = Big Work

The Heliotrope Ridge Trail on the north side of Mt. Baker is a popular approach route to this iciest of all the Cascade volcanos. Mt. Baker has the world record for most snowfall recorded in a single season, and while beautiful, it yearly breaks hundreds of tree branches and requires constant repair for creek crossings and muddy sections. s



*The Forest split cedar puncheon deck boards and hauled them via backpack to build this new puncheon with the aid of WTA volunteers*

### Additional Accomplishments:

- Maintained nearly 700 miles of trails.
- Coordinated over \$1 million in trail maintenance work from nearly two dozen volunteer organizations.
- Supported visitor information staff at the Snoqualmie Pass, Verlot, Glacier, and Heather Meadows Public Service Centers.
- Replaced 60' puncheon bridge on the Greenwater Trail and turnpike on Snoqualmie Lake Trail.
- Recruited trained and fielded over 40 volunteer wilderness stewards.
- Supported climbing rangers on Mt. Baker to provide information on climbing conditions, leave No Trace, sanitation and safety to thousands of climbers.



## Contacts

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## Pacific Northwest Region Map



## Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue*             | Amount              |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Recreation Fees      | \$8,937,597         |
| Special Uses         | \$950,614           |
| Interagency Passes   | \$794,329           |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$10,682,540</b> |
| Expenditures         | Amount              |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$4,252,920         |
| Visitor Services     | \$2,322,206         |
| Law Enforcement      | \$335,340           |
| Habitat Restoration  | \$9,517             |
| Fee Agreements       | \$13,011            |
| Cost of Collections  | \$1,046,559         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$7,982,553</b>  |

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