

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2015

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

Forest Service



Theater in the Woods



Amphitheater at Lost Lake Campground amidst the tree shadows

Campground amphitheatres are a great way for campers to learn a little about the area and their temporary neighbors; however, the one at Lost Lake had begun to lose its appeal. Using over \$4,000 in recreation fee revenue and appropriated funds, the Forest put in new benches, new steps and a graveled walkway to help the amphitheater look and function like its old self. Visitors can now enjoy a group campfire, nature lecture, or a Friday night movie put on by the camp host.

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.

Keeping it Enchanting

Enchantment Lakes is an otherworldly spot, so special and unique that only a limited number may visit at any one time. In 2015, the Forest removed, via helicopter, 17 fiberglass backcountry pit toilets containing about 4,000 lbs. of human waste.

Recreation fee funds also support wilderness rangers who rehabilitated campsites and maintained trails.



Helicopter flying fiberglass toilets out.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$982,207
Special Uses	\$107,139
Interagency Passes	\$72,728
Total	\$1,162,074
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$513,318
Visitor Services	\$365,309
Law Enforcement	\$68,723
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$91,631
Total	\$1,038,982

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

Additional Accomplishments

Developed Sites

- Maintained quality recreation experiences at approximately 85 campgrounds and 85 trailheads and picnic areas across the forest.
- Maintained and installed new information boards, picnic tables and fire rings at campgrounds and trailheads.
- Removed hazardous trees from campgrounds, trailheads, and picnic areas.
- Updated interpretive signs at trailhead.
- Cleaned, maintained, completed minor repairs and pumped vault toilets at three rental cabins.
- Administered 94 special use permits, including 47 new permits, for outfitter and guide/recreation events.

Partnerships

- Leveraged about \$260,000 of grant funding to complete campground and 670 miles of trail maintenance work.



Trail crew cuts out large tree



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
Total	\$10,682,540
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
Total	\$7,982,553

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