

Colville National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2015

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

Forest Service



Summer of Fires



Deer Creek Forest Camp after the Stickpin Fire burned through the area

Five major fires dominated the summer of 2015 with employees spending hundreds of hours assisting with recreation site evacuations, and helping visitors and residents be safe and informed. At one point, two campgrounds and a single boat launch remained opened as fire

threatened all other sites. However, after the smoke finally cleared, only Deer Creek Forest Camp was completely lost, and just four recreation sites received minor fire damage. Effort has since been spent to open all campgrounds, except Deer Creek, for 2016.

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.

Hard Working Volunteers

Host volunteers from as far away as Indiana provided visitor services at four campgrounds, two picnic areas, a group campsite, and four boat launches across the Forest. These five volunteers accumulated over 2,880 hours, or \$66,400, of work towards making visitor stays at recreation sites more enjoyable. They not only completed routine tasks, but they hand pulled noxious weeds, painted new stripes in parking

areas and repaired fences. Recreation fee revenue helps pay for uniforms, tools and equipment.



Painting the information board at Bead Lake

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$38,508
Special Uses	\$408
Interagency Passes	\$8,350
Total	\$47,266
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$17,567
Visitor Services	\$5,321
Law Enforcement	\$2,466
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$2,880
Total	\$28,234

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

Additional Accomplishments

- Completed maintenance tasks at seven campgrounds, two swim/picnic sites, six boating sites, one backcountry cabin rental, and a group campsite.
- Partnered with Curlew Job Corps Forestry Program to remove hazard trees, prune tree limbs and brush along recreation site roads, paths, and campsites.
- Removed over 500 hazard trees from six recreation sites through an agreement with the Northwest Youth Corps. Firewood produced by this project was supplied to campers and offered to the elderly and disabled.
- Tested drinking water each month.
- Extended the operational season at several sites into fall for hunting/fishing.
- Reconstructed Snow Peak Cabin's outhouse with the support of Backcountry Horsemen. Also purchased solar lights for this cabin.
- Hand-pulled approximately 1/2 acre of noxious weeds.
- Hosted three permitted recreational events: Colville Driftriders Gold Rush Fun Run, a snowmobile event that attracted 120 people; Backcountry Horsemen Steak Ride where 85 people rode the backcountry, then ended with steak and music; and the Kaniksu 50 Ultra and Emory Corwine Memorial Ruck Race where 75 people either ran 50 miles on trails and roads or participated in a relay race with weighted backpacks.



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.