

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Allegheny National Forest

Stormy Weather

The Ridgeway, Pennsylvania area was on the receiving end of the third worst rain and flood event in its history on May 21, 2014. The motorized trail system sustained serious damage: culverts washed out, tread eroded and reinforcement blocks on a bridge approach exposed. To enable the trails to open for the season on May 23rd, crews had to get to work immediately. With the support of recreation fee funds, crews repaired Timberline trail and, amazingly, reopened 38 miles on May 24th! They repaired and reopened Rocky Gap and Willow Creek trails two weeks later, and finally finished Marienville All-Terrain Vehicle and Bike trail only a month after the devastating rains.



Washed out plastic reinforcement blocks on Warner Run, Marienville ATV Trail.

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.

Motorized Trails

- Funded employees and supported volunteer groups who patrolled, provided visitor information and maintained motorized trails.
- Cleared vegetation and fallen trees, repaired drainage structures and reshaped tread along 106 miles of trail.



- Funded visitor information and services at three district offices from May through October.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$123,063 |
| Special Uses | \$3,750 |
| Interagency Passes | \$4,150 |
| Total | \$130,963 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$133,960 |
| Visitor Services | \$10,116 |
| Law Enforcement | \$0 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$14,926 |
| Total | \$159,001 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenue.

Recreation Events

Administered and monitored special use permits for the following recreation events:

- Kinzua Tango Adventure Race involving running, bicycling, swimming, orienteering, and canoeing.
- Super-Kwik half-marathon.
- More than 15 fishing tournaments on Allegheny Reservoir.
- Running races sponsored by Forest County Snowmobile Club, Elk County Conservation District, Multiple Sclerosis Society, and the United Fund.
- Allegheny 100 Hiking Challenge.
- Pennsylvania Firefly Festival.
- Hunting field trials: Pennsylvania Field Trail Club for hunting dogs and Pennsylvania Game Commission's Youth Field Day.
- Tour de Forest ATV Ride.



Riders take a break during the spring Tour de Forest event.



Hikers in the mountain laurel along North Country Trail.

Contacts

Allegheny National Forest

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Regional Contact

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

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Contacts

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Online: www.fs.usda.gov/allegheny

Regional Contact

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Email: jwilson08@fs.fed.us

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Eastern Region Map



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Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

Forest Service



Round Lake Fishing Pier

Making sure facilities are easily and equally accessible for all visitors is a top priority for the Forest Service. Round Lake fishing pier was upgraded in 2014 to provide better access to the lake. Crews leveled the decking, replaced deck planking, and improved the facility's signage to encourage use by all forest visitors. Round Lake provides numerous recreational opportunities, including camping, hiking, fishing, and boating in Vilas County.



Fishing is a popular pastime on Round Lake.

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Butternut Lake Boat Launch

Visitors who use the Butternut Lake boat launch are sure to appreciate upgrades to the site. In 2014, district crews and a local contractor improved the access road to the boat launch and stabilized the apron into the lake. The bulletin board was also updated with information about the Recreation Enhancement Act, lake,

and aquatic invasive species.



Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$563,253 |
| Special Uses | \$7,820 |
| Interagency Passes | \$7,680 |
| Total | \$578,753 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$490,727 |
| Visitor Services | \$18,777 |
| Law Enforcement | \$35,765 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$35,765 |
| Total | \$581,034 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.

Additional Accomplishments

- Operated and maintained 53 campgrounds and 75 day use sites: Removed hazard trees, repaired plumbing systems, and painted, repaired or replaced bulletin boards, recreation and directional signs, sign posts and picnic tables at campgrounds and recreation sites.
- Re-painted several hand pumps and toilet houses in day use and developed campgrounds.
- Replaced several fire rings to make them accessible to all visitors.
- Improved access at Mineral Lake.
- Installed accessible faucets at five developed recreation facilities and security lighting at Chippewa Campground.
- Placed "caution buoys" at Round Lake Logging Dam.
- Groomed cross-country skiing trails at Anvil, Lauterman, Nicolet North, Valhalla, Drummond, Penokee, Rock Lake, Mukwonago, and Wintergreen ski areas.
- Continued support of weekly naturalist programs at Franklin Lake Campground in partnership with Trees for Tomorrow.



Contacts

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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Eastern Region Map



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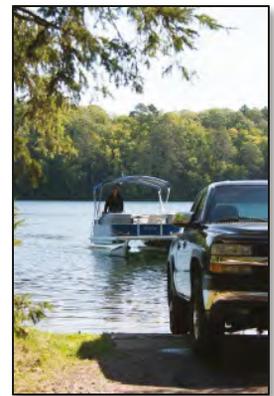
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Contacts

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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Regional Contact

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Email: jwilson08@fs.fed.us

Eastern Region Map



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Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014

Chippewa National Forest

New Boat Docks

It's not surprising that fishing and boating are popular pastimes in Minnesota and most certainly with visitors to the Chippewa National Forest. In 2014, docks at East Seeyle Campground and Norway Beach Recreation Area boat accesses were replaced. Recreation fee revenue in the amount of \$9,000 was used to make access easier for hundreds of boaters who enjoy the "Land of 10,000 Lakes."



A new dock at Cut Foot Sioux Lake.

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Bathroom Remodel

Norway Beach Loop, part of the Norway Beach Recreation Area, is located on the southern shores of beautiful Cass Lake. Visitors who enjoy the excellent boating and fishing opportunities of the area will also appreciate upgrades to the bathroom facilities completed in 2014. All shower and drain valves, and water heaters were replaced and the water lines re-piped. Recreation revenue in the amount of \$7,000 funded this work.



Bathroom in the Chippewa Loop at Norway Beach Recreation Area.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$371,937 |
| Special Uses | \$600 |
| Interagency Passes | \$1,370 |
| Total | \$373,907 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$194,492 |
| Visitor Services | \$15,811 |
| Law Enforcement | \$10,000 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$55,065 |
| Total | \$275,368 |

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

Additional Accomplishments

- Supported 22 campground hosts who greeted visitors, provided information and assistance, and completed cleaning and maintenance tasks.
- Hosted several ornament-making activities at Norway Beach Recreation Area in celebration of the Capital Christmas tree that originated from the forest.
- Installed 23 new picnic tables and 17 new fire rings at East Seeyle, Norway Beach Recreation Area, Stony Point, and Winnie campgrounds.
- Purchased debris blowers for clearing campground sites, roads, and trails.
- Moved dock from Norway Beach Wanaki site to Stony Point site.
- Repaired one dock at and re-opened the Nature Trail Norway Beach site.

A young fisherman tries his luck at Stony Point.



Contacts

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Regional Contact

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

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| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests

Trail Running Events

Running recreation events continue to gain popularity on both forests. For more than 25 years, the Finger Lakes Fifties has drawn as many as 250 participants to the Finger Lakes National Forest to run 25K, 50K or 50-mile race loops on its roads and trails. On the Green Mountain, the Moosalamoo Ultra takes runners through Moosalamoo National Recreation Area on 14 and 36-mile long races. Recreation fee revenue supports administration and monitoring of these and other recreation events.



Finger Lakes Runners Club holds an annual ultramarathon on the Finger Lakes National Forest.

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Youth Conservation Corps



Replacing steps in Moosalamoo Campground.

A Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) crew was instrumental in upgrades at Moosalamoo and Chittenden Brook campgrounds. Supported with recreation fees and

grant funding, the crew assisted with picnic table, and campground sign and facility repairs. They also replaced fire rings with accessible ones, reconstructed wooden stairs and re-set fee collection tubes. The VYCC program provides young people an opportunity to gain valuable natural resource training and education while completing important conservation work.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$29,372 |
| Special Uses | \$55,043 |
| Interagency Passes | \$3,679 |
| Total | \$88,094 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$96,556 |
| Visitor Services | \$46,572 |
| Law Enforcement | \$0 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$9,960 |
| Total | \$153,088 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.

Additional Accomplishments

- Enhanced public safety through hazard tree and hazard limb removal, and drinking and swimming area water tests.
- Completed water system repairs at Hapgood Pond Recreation Area.
- Reviewed sites at Moosalamoo Campground for accessibility, and installed signs indicating which are accessible.
- Updated kiosk information at Moosalamoo and Chittenden Brook campgrounds to ensure emergency contact information, wildlife awareness messages, and inclement weather response information was current and available to the public.
- Supplemented funds and paid for uniforms, safety equipment, training, tools and materials, and reimbursed some small living expenses incurred by volunteers, such as campground hosts, as a direct result of their service.
- Completed routine tasks such as mowing, trash collection, cleaning, and minor building repairs.



Contacts

Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests

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Eastern Region Map



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| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Hiawatha National Forest

Grand Island National Recreation Area



The breathtaking overlooks, pristine beaches, deep hardwood forests and fascinating cultural sites of Grand Island National Recreation Area make it a perfect place to spend a few hours or a few days. Biking and

beachcombing are just two activities that draw hundreds of visitors to this National Recreation Area each year. In 2014, recreation fee revenue paid the salary of an employee who provided visitor services and completed various

maintenance tasks on the island. In addition, fee funds were used to reprint Grand Island booklet so visitors can

learn more about the recreation opportunities and special places the island has to offer.



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Forest Revenue & Expenditures

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|----------------------|-----------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$62,158 |
| Special Uses | \$6,678 |
| Interagency Passes | \$2,475 |
| Total | \$71,311 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$50,392 |
| Visitor Services | \$4,857 |
| Law Enforcement | \$548 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$4,916 |
| Total | \$60,713 |

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



Additional Accomplishments

- Funded three seasonal employees who maintained sites, provided visitor education, checked compliance and assisted with resource protection at 48 dispersed campsites and Tom's Lake Cabin on the Rapid River/Manistique River Ranger District.
- Cut and hauled 10 cords of firewood for Tom's Lake Cabin.
- Continued public education efforts to prevent the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil including maintaining information signs at Steuben Lake boat launch to encourage boat cleaning.
- Partnered with a Youth Conservation Crew and rehabilitated unauthorized All-Terain Vehicle trail at Mowe Lake 1 and 2.



Tom's Lake Cabin



Contacts

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| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Hoosier National Forest

Volunteers Improve Trails

Two trail projects were completed in 2014 utilizing \$10,786 of recreation fee funds on the south end of the Forest. About 1.25 miles of the Oriole West Trail was resurfaced with crushed limestone, seven dips were reconstructed, and three culverts installed. Recreation fees funded employee salaries and some of the supplies for the project.

The second trail project was a volunteer work day on the German Ridge Loop trail. Twelve volunteers and Forest Service personnel completed the reconstruction of two drainage dips by placing 20 tons of crushed limestone, resulting in 50 feet of trail being reshaped. Eight volunteers from the Southern Indiana Horsemen's Club and four volunteers from the Hoosier Backcountry Horsemen also participated.



Reinforced tread surface on the German Ridge Trail on the Tell City Ranger District.

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Hitching Rack Replacement



Horseback riding is a well-loved activity on the Hoosier. The Forest has several primitive horse camps that provide amenities such as

hitching racks. During the summer of 2014, four Forest Service employees and five Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) volunteers replaced eight of these racks and reinforced an additional 15. Located at the Shirley Creek Horse Camp and these racks are heavily used by riders. About \$1,500 in recreation fee funds went towards purchasing supplies, including 6-by-6-by-10 posts, piping, and concrete, and renting an auger.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$61,816 |
| Special Uses | \$3,111 |
| Interagency Passes | \$2,990 |
| Total | \$67,917 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$28,162 |
| Visitor Services | \$32,154 |
| Law Enforcement | \$2,014 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$13,923 |
| Total | \$76,253 |

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

Additional Accomplishments

Trails

- Cleared approximately 112 miles of multiple-use trails and mowed approximately 130 miles.
- Built a retaining wall approximately 150 feet long on the Hays Trail and another 75 feet long on the Cope Hollow Trail in the Charles C. Deam Wilderness.
- Completed a quarter-mile reroute on Trail #18 in the Hickory Ridge trail system.



Special Recreation Permit Administration

- Patrolled multiple-use trails during recreation season and checked compliance of trail rules and regulations.
- Monitored outfitter and guide field operations.

Contacts

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Regional Contact

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Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014

Huron-Manistee National Forest

AuSable Landing Reconstruction

During the high-use summer season, the AuSable National Scenic River access facility was congested and lacked adequate parking. As a result, vehicles parked along the shoulder of the adjacent road and pedestrians would cross the road, which also intersects a horse trail and an ATV trail, creating a safety hazard. Utilizing \$97,906 in recreation fee funds, the Forest reconstructed the 4001 Landing, the last take-out on the designated stretch of the AuSable National Scenic River, to address safety concerns, decrease user conflicts, improve access, and reduce the amount of sediment entering the river. The improved parking area and traffic flow provides recreationists with watercraft a safe, accessible path from the river to the parking lot or staging area.

Improved landing on the AuSable National Scenic River.



Wild & Scenic River Education

Recreation fees helped fund two river interns, two Student Conservation Association volunteers, and one AmeriCorps member, who provided conservation education in the Pine and Pere Marquette Wild and Scenic River Corridors during the 2014 summer season. Personal watercraft permits are required on these rivers to protect them, and reservations for these permits moved online in 2014. Having additional capacity to deliver the conservation message and explain the need for permits has been invaluable. A total of \$19,495 in recreation fee funds was used to leverage \$62,616 in partner contributions.



Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$389,009 |
| Special Uses | \$56,965 |
| Interagency Passes | \$10,436 |
| Total | \$456,410 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$183,630 |
| Visitor Services | \$224,437 |
| Law Enforcement | \$28,880 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$64,932 |
| Total | \$501,879 |

*Expenditures can be funded with previous years' revenues.

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.

Additional Accomplishments

- Completed three-mile connector trail and installed a new trailhead sign at Hungerford Recreation Area.
- Purchased boardwalk for Sand Lake Beach to be installed in the spring of 2015. This boardwalk is designed to lie on the sand and can be used by wheelchairs and other wheeled transportation.
- Supported 10 campground hosts who greeted visitors, answered questions, helped ensure visitor safety, picked up trash around campgrounds, and cleaned facilities.
- Purchased new lawnmower trailer to assist with mowing at fee sites.
- Improved Sand Lake Beach by adding clean beach sand and removing overgrown vegetation.
- Re-dug water bars and drainage dips on the River Trail from Pine River Campground to Pine River to reduce erosion.
- Conducted additional hazard tree work at three campgrounds due to ensure public safety.



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014

Mark Twain National Forest

Sutton Bluff Trail Expansion

Since the establishment of the 24-mile Sutton Bluff Motorcycle and ATV Trail System nearly 50 years ago, visitors wanting to ride more than one trail had to either ride their highway-legal bikes on county roads between trails, or load and haul them between trails. In 2009, Forest personnel applied for matching Recreation Trail Program (RTP) grant funds to add almost 15 miles of connector trails and create half day riding opportunities that don't require traveling on roads. Within a week, plans changed as a major storm flattened much of the timber in the area of the existing and proposed trails, making it impossible to even walk the trails, let alone ride them. Finally in 2013 and 2014, the Forest was able to tackle construction of the connector trails, utilizing fee receipts and appropriated trail funds to leverage almost \$100,000 in RTP funds to complete the task.



Sutton Bluff trail work in progress.

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.

Chadwick Trail Rehabilitation



For decades, motorcycle riders have enjoyed breezing through the rugged hills along the rocky trails of the Chadwick Motorcycle Area. Over the years,

the trails became worn down and compacted. This compaction compounded drainage problems, and run-off from severe storms eroded deep ruts along the trails. In 2014, the Forest continued the trail rehabilitation project started in 2013, utilizing \$5,500 of fee revenue along with appropriated funds to leverage RTP grant funds and a cost-share agreement with AmeriCorps St. Louis.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$157,650 |
| Special Uses | \$21,265 |
| Interagency Passes | \$6,455 |
| Total | \$185,370 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$51,179 |
| Visitor Services | \$105,479 |
| Law Enforcement | \$2,086 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$18,598 |
| Total | \$177,342 |

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

Additional Accomplishments

- Supported volunteer hosts at eight recreation areas. These volunteers greeted and assisted visitors; cleaned toilets and sites; picked up litter; mowed grass to reduce visitor contact with ticks, insects, and venomous snakes; and improved site security through their 24-hour presence.
- Maintained quality recreation experiences across the Forest through routine services such as mowing, trash collection, cleaning, vault toilet and septic tank pumping, minor building repairs, and utility payment.
- Enhanced public safety through hazard tree and hazard limb removal, testing of drinking water, testing of swim water, and purchasing playground inspection equipment.
- Helped provide additional Forest Service law enforcement patrols for public safety and assistance, including emergency medical services on busy weekends.
- Removed fallen trees, repaired and/or installed drainage structures, repaired eroded trail tread, fixed bridges, and installed signs on trails.



Contacts

Mark Twain National Forest

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Monongahela National Forest

Providing Accessible Facilities

By re-locating a vault toilet in Laurel Fork Campground, the Forest was able to save money and increase accessibility for campground visitors. Using a combination of \$8,000 in general recreation funds and \$4,499 in recreation fee funds, the Forest removed an old vault toilet and rehabilitated the site. Next, a newer toilet building from the campground's southern loop was moved and installed in the northern loop. Campers now have a much nicer, accessible vault toilet that is also easier to keep clean. A brand new vault toilet for this site would have cost close to \$25,000. By using the existing toilet, the Forest saved almost \$10,000!

A contractor relocates a vault toilet in Laurel Creek Campground.



Recreation Fee Dollars

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- 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.

New Cabin Roof

Located near the Laurel Fork Wildernesses, Middle Mountain Cabins is a popular destination spot for visitors. This group of cabins, comprised of a main cabin with cooking facilities and two sleeping cabins, is the

only cabin rental on the Forest. About a year ago, the roof on one of the sleeping cabins began to leak. Thankfully, \$11,500 in fee revenue was available to re-roof this cabin before more damage could occur.



Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$185,683 |
| Special Uses | \$18,063 |
| Interagency Passes | \$2,940 |
| Total | \$206,686 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$195,713 |
| Visitor Services | \$56,300 |
| Law Enforcement | \$0 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$57,465 |
| Total | \$309,477 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.

Additional Accomplishments

- Identified, removed, and documented hazards, including trees, limbs, and stumps.
- Purchased gravel to resurface recreation site parking spurs, paths, and tent pads.
- Installed new lantern posts at Red Creek and Bear Heaven campgrounds.
- Re-painted campground signs and site posts.
- Replaced three floats under the fishing pier and boat dock at Summit Lake.
- Improved the trail from the campground loop to lake access trail at Summit Lake.
- Bought lumber and hardware and built a wooden storage shed for the campground host at Summit Lake Campground.
- Purchased and installed an accessible bench in the day use area of Summit Lake.
- Removed invasive species at several recreation sites, including Summit and Sherwood lakes.
- Purchased materials for building kiosks, installing signs, grills, picnic tables, and other components.
- Supplied firewood for visitors renting Middle Mountain Cabins.



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

*Expenditures can be funded with previous years' revenue.

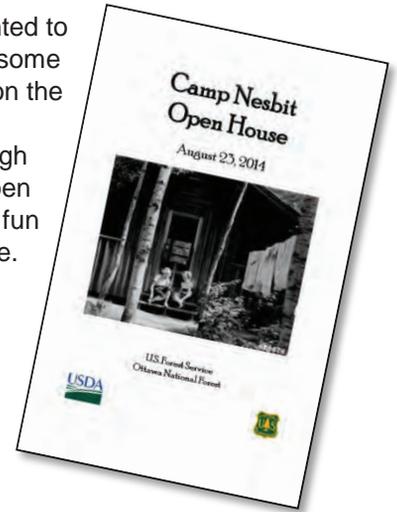
Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Ottawa National Forest

Camp Nesbit Open House



Remember summer camp? In August of 2014, an open house at Camp Nesbit allowed the public to view facility improvements, share memories,

Whether visitors wanted to see the camp, learn some local history, canoe on the lake, or challenge themselves on the high ropes course, this open house offered plenty fun activities for everyone.



and participate in summer camp activities. A variety of funding sources, including more than \$32,500 of recreation fee funds, helped upgrade, maintain, and operate the camp. The guest registry showed that 109 people registered representing five states and 28 different towns and cities.

The 30-acre facility includes twelve cabins, modern restrooms, a kitchen and dining hall, a recreation hall, outdoor pavilion, swimming beach, ball field, archery range, and ropes course. Certified instructors, funded with \$1,500 of fee revenue, were on hand at the ropes course.

Recreation Fee Dollars

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

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- 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 & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$77,257 |
| Special Uses | \$1,925 |
| Interagency Passes | \$1,030 |
| Total | \$80,212 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$96,492 |
| Visitor Services | \$37,493 |
| Law Enforcement | \$994 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$14,992 |
| Total | \$149,971 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.

Additional Accomplishments

Black River Harbor Area:

- Funded a certified wastewater operator and the permit to operate the system.
- Maintained and operated a campground and Civilian Conservation Corps-era pavilion near the harbor from May through October.

Sylvania Wilderness:

- Maintained several miles of wilderness trails and portages with the help of volunteers.
- Supported volunteers and Forest Service staff who removed Eurasian water milfoil in Crooked Lake.
- Funded seasonal employees who staffed the Sylvania Entrance Station daily and greeted a total of 5,467 visitors throughout the season.
- Removed hazard trees at several backcountry campsites.



St. Norbert College Crew assisted with Sylvania Wilderness trail improvements.



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Shawnee National Forest

Pine Ridge Campground

The Shawnee National Forest collects minimal recreation fees each year, so has been saving these funds in order to accomplish more substantial projects. The forest's primary focus in the near future is to increase the level of service at Pine Ridge Campground in the Pounds Hollow Recreation Area and at Johnson Creek Campground by making potable water available and more readily accessible in campground loops.



Electrical service was expanded at Pine Ridge Campground.

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.

Looking to the Future

In 2014, the Shawnee National Forest did expend \$17,900 of recreation fee revenue to pay an electrical contractor for work accomplished in 2013. Electrical service was brought into loop 3 of the Pine Ridge Campground through the joint efforts of the Forest recreation staff, the Golconda Job Corps Center, and contractors.

The Forest expects some expenditures in 2015 in Pine Ridge Campground as Forest staff makes some further adjustments to improve RV access. Water supply improvements are also planned for Pine Ridge Campground and Johnson Creek Campground.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$27,708 |
| Special Uses | \$5,492 |
| Interagency Passes | \$1,130 |
| Total | \$34,330 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$17,900 |
| Visitor Services | \$0 |
| Law Enforcement | \$0 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$0 |
| Total | \$17,900 |

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

Images from the Forest



Garden of the Gods

*Above and
at right:
Pounds
Hollow
Recreation
Area*



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Superior National Forest

Sioux Hustler Trail

In July, the Forest experienced a wind storm that brought hundreds of trees down, mostly on the west side of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). The Sioux Hustler Trail, a 32-mile hiking trail in the BWCAW, was heavily impacted; half the trail was impassable due to fallen trees and branches. Recreation fee revenue funded the clearing of approximately 1,700 trees from the trail during the weeks after the storm. This effort was greatly appreciated by the public, as evidenced by numerous, positive comments on the scale and quality of the clean-up.



Wilderness volunteers spent 560 hours and Forest Service staff another 360 clearing heavy windfall on the La Croix Ranger District.

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,

Bass Lake

Focused on campsites just outside the BWCAW to help disperse visitor use, volunteers supported with recreation fee funds made improvements to primitive camping sites and the trail on Bass Lake. Broken fire grates were replaced, new latrines dug, overgrown brush and vegetation removed, and drainage structures constructed. This work made the area more accessible for campers and hikers while protecting the natural environment.



A refurbished segment of Angle Worm Trail.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$1,284,605 |
| Special Uses | \$42,446 |
| Interagency Passes | \$5,530 |
| Total | \$1,332,581 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$762,245 |
| Visitor Services | \$200,852 |
| Law Enforcement | \$174,668 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$0 |
| Total | \$1,195,986 |

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

Additional Accomplishments

- Inventoried and maintained designated campsites, removed hazard trees, restored canoe landings and tents pads, and maintained and replaced wilderness latrines and fire grates.
- Cleared brush and repaired trail tread, bridges, boardwalk and drainage structures, and rehabilitated illegal campsites.
- Inventoried, treated and provided education on invasive plants and other exotic species.
- Heritage crews conducted archaeological surveys of campsites and portages, and facilitated continued research at the Knife Lake Siltstone Quarry site complex.
- Collaborated with the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute to create the first Forest Service Wilderness Character Map.
- Collaborated with the Heart of the Continent Partnership, land management agencies, local government, local businesses, and others on a National Geographic Tourism Map project.
- Presented educational and interpretive programs at festivals, fairs, schools, and universities; and published newspaper articles and recorded interpretive radio programs and educational videos.



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 Wayne National Forest

Maintaining Trails

More than \$687,000 in grant funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Recreation Trail Program (RTP) was used to leverage recreation fees and maintain 140 miles of motorized trails on the Forest. Much of the work was completed by contractors. Recreation fees in the amount of \$30,000 were also used to leverage volunteer contributions from partners such as the Ohio Horsemen Council, the River Valley Mountain Bike Association, and the Buckeye Trail Association to maintain 80 miles of horse trails and 94 miles of biking and hiking trails, respectively.



A volunteer horse team moves a culvert at a trail near Lake Vesuvius

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.

Campground Improvements

Needed improvements and maintenance work at several recreation sites was made possible thanks to over \$6,000 in recreation fees. In particular, amenities at Burr Oak Cove Campground were upgraded: tent and picnic table pads were reconstructed, drinking fountain valves replaced, kiosks re-roofed, new fire ring grates installed and trash can enclosures constructed. New fire ring grates were also installed at Stone Church Horse Camp.



Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$315,783 |
| Special Uses | \$146 |
| Interagency Passes | \$2,280 |
| Total | \$318,209 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$368,876 |
| Visitor Services | \$9,147 |
| Law Enforcement | \$16,342 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$24,091 |
| Total | \$418,456 |

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenue.

Additional Accomplishments

- Operated and maintained 43 recreation sites: Mowed grass, cleaned and pumped restrooms, picked up trash, removed hazard trees, and provided security patrols at six developed campgrounds, four picnic shelters, and a swim/beach area throughout the recreation season.
- Constructed an information kiosk at Leith Run Campground.
- Funded the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew to help maintain the Buckeye and North Country National Scenic trails. Work included brushing, tread maintenance, and sign installation. At least \$5,000 in recreation fees was leveraged with other federal funds to pay for labor, material, and equipment needed to complete this work.



The YCC crew brushes the Wildcat Hollow Trail.



Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 White Mountain National Forest

Lower Falls Reconstruction



Lower Falls has long been a destination for Forest visitors who come to play in its refreshing waters in the summer and capture colorful photographs of fall foliage. All the love and heavy use over the years had taken its toll; Lower Falls needed a major renovation. In 2014, changes were made to the parking area to reduce sedimentation into Swift River and provide better site entry from the highway. An accessible trail leading to a viewing platform to give the public a safe space to snap photos and take in the scenery was constructed. Other renovations included restoring the pavilion, revamping the restrooms and constructing an information booth. This more than \$500,000 project was possible through partnerships with National Scenic Byways, New Hampshire Department of Transportation and Natural Resources Conservation Services, in addition to recreation fees collected at the site.

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.

Maintaining the Past for the Future

Constructed in 1922, the Mountain Pond Shelter has served as a backcountry refuge for almost a century. The shelter was in dire shape and its remote location made repairs a challenge. Pairing the restoration with cross-cut saw training, the use of \$3,000 of recreation fee funds and the support of volunteers, this project became a reality. Once again the shelter stands ready to serve the next generation of hikers.



Forest Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue* | Amount |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$459,526 |
| Special Uses | \$97,637 |
| Interagency Passes | \$17,875 |
| Total | \$575,038 |
| Expenditures | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$378,9123 |
| Visitor Services | \$187,283 |
| Law Enforcement | \$6,622 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$0 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$42,961 |
| Total | \$618,779 |

*Expenditures can be funded with previous years' revenue.

Additional Accomplishments

Developed Sites

- Funded additional law enforcement patrols for public safety and assistance, including emergency medical services on busy weekends.

Special Recreation Permits

- Offered extended officer hours in November and December in support of Christmas tree tag program.
- Hosted 17 recreation events from triathlons to hiking and bicycling events.

Visitor Information/Conservation Education

- Staffed six visitor centers to ensure that a friendly face was available to greet visitors and answer questions. Made personal contact with over 100,000 visitors at three District Offices, White Mountain Visitor Center, Lincoln Woods Visitor Center, and Brickett Place.
- Presented or facilitated conservation education events attended by over 1,100 attendees.



*New Junior Rangers
at Inter-Lakes
Elementary School.*

Contacts

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Eastern Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

| Revenue | Amount |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Recreation Fees | \$4,108,820 |
| Special Uses | \$320,941 |
| Interagency Passes | \$74,539 |
| Total | \$4,504,300 |
| Expenditures* | Amount |
| Repair & Maintenance | \$3,038,450 |
| Visitor Services | \$981,938 |
| Law Enforcement | \$280,918 |
| Habitat Restoration | \$58,221 |
| Fee Agreements | \$0 |
| Cost of Collections | \$357,594 |
| Total | \$4,717,121 |