

Eldorado National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2015

Forest Service



Loving the Desolation Wilderness

Despite its bleak name, the 63,500-acre Desolation Wilderness is filled with a breathtaking granite landscape dotted with alpine lakes and waterfalls. Recreation fee revenue funded numerous activities and leveraged about 4,400 in volunteer hours to keep the Wilderness accessible, and yet ensure

its backcountry qualities. Maintenance items included brushing and repairing 91 miles of trail, construction a 100-foot log turnpike crossing, restoring designated campsites and removing 55 illegal fire rings, providing information at trailheads, and conducting backcountry patrols.

Partners like Desolation Wilderness volunteers, Backcountry Horsemen, Wilderness Volunteers, Generation Green, and Student Conservation Association helped to clear trail and perform light maintenance in the Desolation Wilderness.



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.

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$291,344
Special Uses	\$12,630
Interagency Passes	\$9,600
Total	\$313,574
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$72,965
Visitor Services	\$26,882
Law Enforcement	\$4,062
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$6,092
Total	\$110,955

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

Additional Accomplishments

- Operated and maintained family and group campgrounds in Hell Hole, Crystal Basin and Wrights Lake areas, and Lovers Leap, Middle Fork and Dru Barner campgrounds.
- Operated and maintained Robbs Hut, Loon Lake Challet, Van Vleck Bunkhouse, Harvey West Cabin, and Sly Guard Cabin.
- Conducted interpretive campfire programs at Wrights Lake serving approximately 100 visitors.
- Developed and implemented Wright's Lake Junior Ranger Program, serving 200 children.
- Provided information such as maps and trip-planning to 6,600 on-site visitors and 350 callers at Crystal Basin Information Station.
- Provided patrols, maintained trails, and presented information in the Mokelumne Wilderness. This included with 40 volunteers who gave over 9,200 hours.
- Painted bathrooms at Carson Pass.
- Installed new bear proof trash receptacles at Woods Lake day use area.
- Operated and maintained Carson Pass, Meiss and Woods Lake and Pyramid Creek trailhead areas, and Woods Lake picnic area.



Student Conservation Association Intern assists with campground maintenance.

Contacts

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Pacific Southwest Region Map



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$7,494,538
Special Uses	\$831,597
Interagency Passes	\$325,341
Total	\$8,651,475
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$3,252,710
Visitor Services	\$1,768,295
Law Enforcement	\$166,246
Habitat Restoration	\$12,587
Fee Agreements	\$2,174
Cost of Collections	\$460,826
Total	\$5,662,838

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