

Sierra National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2015

Forest Service



Partners Make a Difference in Three Wilderness Areas

Forest wilderness staff worked with five partner organizations (Outward Bound, Friends of the Inyo, Pacific Crest Trail Association, Sierra Club and Wilderness Corps) to restore lakeshore and riparian areas at five destinations in three wildernesses.

Many of these locations are popular destinations for commercial pack stock and backpacking outfitter operations as well as general visitors. Years of high-intensity use have created lakeshore trampling, tree root exposure from stock holding, stripping of riparian vegetation, consumption of downed woody debris, and social trail development.

Recreation fee revenue of \$15,500 leveraged \$15,742 in volunteer labor and \$7,250 in programed funds and resulted in closing and restoring 88 campsites within 100 feet of water and improving ten lakeshore acres for protecting mountain yellow-legged frog habitat.



Packers removed old barbed wire out of Rock Meadow in the John Muir Wilderness.



School group with outfitter guides in the Ansel Adams 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	\$45,271
Special Uses	\$4,840
Interagency Passes	\$23,700
Total	\$73,812
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$5,772
Visitor Services	\$29,252
Law Enforcement	\$0
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$1,226
Total	\$26,290

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

Wilderness Accomplishments

- Removed 44 pounds of trash.
- Removed all campsite improvements, de-compacted soils, flush-cut stumps, soil de-compaction, placed barrier rocks and logs, improved trail drainage and replaced the organic duff layer where feasible.
- 719 wilderness and 465 campfire permits issued
- Used pack stock to haul garbage, pack in tools used by volunteers, resupply Wilderness rangers and interns, and monitor outfitters and guides.



Packing in the Wilderness

The Sierra Club, one of the many volunteer groups that worked in the Sierra's wilderness areas, improve trail drainage.



Pacific Southwest Region Map



Contacts

Sierra National Forest
Recreation Fee Program Contact

559-297-0706 x4987

Email: cesarsanchez@fs.fed.us

Online: www.fs.usda.gov/sierra

Regional Contact

435-884-0106

Email: jwilson08@fs.fed.us

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Regional Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$7,494,538
Special Uses	\$831,597
Interagency Passes	\$325,597
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.