

Ottawa National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2016

Black River Harbor Projects



HistoriCorps volunteer repairing the historic CCC era Black River Harbor Pavilion inside and out.



The Forest partnered with HistoriCorps to renovate the historic harbor CCC-era pavilion at Black River Harbor Recreation Area. The work included new windows, doors, shutters and siding. Volunteers also repaired, the foundation and the stone masonry.

The Forest also renovated the water and waste water system. Finally another 38 volunteers, including Ottawa Youth Conservation Corps and Tribal youth from Lac Vieux Desert contributed 20 workdays to a variety of other projects at the harbor .

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 benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

The Ultimate Camp Experience

Camp Nesbit is a unique organizational camp run and managed by the Forest. Campers have 'typical' camping experiences with activities like fishing canoeing, kayaking, archery and swimming, but they also learn important skills like map reading, soil analyzing, tree identification, survival skills and Leave No Trace ethics.

In 2016, over 1,200 campers visited Camp Nesbit including a group from Blackwell Job Corp, who did more than camp.

Along with enjoying the camp, these students installed over 1600 square feet of hardwood flooring in the recreation hall and living quarters. This required them to remove all of the old flooring, install new flooring, sand, and finish it with stain.

Later, students put their masonry skills to work and repaired the recreation hall fireplace; repairing cracks and completing necessary finish work to make a seamless transition from the new flooring to the masonry surrounding the fireplace.

For many of these students, it was the first time they had ever spent time in the woods and participated in these recreational activities.



Blackwell Job Corps students refinished a hardwood floor and repaired a chimney at Camp Nesbit.



Managing Sylvania

At over 18,300 acres, Sylvania Wilderness Area hosts 34 lakes in an old growth red and white pine forest. With no surface streams in the wilderness, the lakes are unusually deep and clear.

In 2017, the Forest hired two Wilderness rangers who helped to keep the Wilderness free of trash, made visitor contacts and completed a variety of trail and campsite restoration tasks.

In addition another intern monitored the wilderness for it's ability to provide solitude for visitors.



Wilderness Stewardship Performance Intern portaging a canoe in Sylvania Wilderness.



Black River Harbor. Boats use this site for trips onto Lake Superior

Eastern Region



Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$110,826	\$4,613,127
Special Uses	\$6,299	\$342,022
Interagency Passes	\$2,380	\$120,417
Total	\$119,505	\$5,075,566

Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$29,471	\$2,460,333
Visitor Services	\$16,689	\$979,519
Law Enforcement	\$302	\$281,151
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$54,095
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$0
Collections/Overhead	\$9,586	\$353,073
Total	\$56,048	\$4,128,170