



Eldorado National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

The Forgotten Trail

The Tahoe – Yosemite trail, which runs parallel to the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), saw hundreds of people walking its path before the PCT came into prominence. This all but forgotten trail lies between the junction of Horse Canyon trail and Camp Irene along Summit City Creek. It has not seen maintenance or trail work for decades.

This changed in 2017 when forest staff, nine Wilderness volunteers, and four horse riders reopened the trail to within 1.3 miles of Camp Irene, which is the terminus of a 15.6 mile trail that splits from the PCT south of Carson Pass.



The workers used primitive tools and had to live 'self-contained' for up to a week at a time. They cut out sections of 67 trees that crossed the trail; they lopped enough brush to fill a 100 yard dumpster; and they placed hundreds of rocks to shore up trail tread and prevent erosion. Two pack animals hauled out the trash and the discarded items from past visitors. All of this amazing work required only \$1,500 of recreation fee funds.

Wilderness volunteers contributed 163 hours and many nights away from home.



Generation Green Youth



Generation Green Youth Conservation crews contributed over 1,040 hours to restore campsites at Rubicon Reservoir, Rockbound Lake, and Maud Lake and improve trails within the Desolation Wilderness. The work involved clearing trails, dismantling fire rings, improving stream crossings on Twin Lakes Trail, and maintaining the Rubicon Trail.

Supporting Forest Events

Sound meter calibration check at a motorcycle event.



Teaching cross-cut saw skills at the "Visions of the Wild" event held in Vallejo, CA.

Other Accomplishments

- Hosted two motorcycle enduros, three equestrian rides, two mountain bike events, one trail running, and two outdoor education events.
- Administered eight outfitter and guide permits for rock climbing.
- Replaced campground signs, unit markers, removed hazard trees, and reduced fuels.
- Repaired Wrights Lake water system damaged from winter storms.
- Repaired culverts, water system, and painted facilities at the Pyramid Creek Trailhead.
- Repainted and striped the parking lots at Woods Lake, Carson Pass and Meiss Trailheads.
- Replaced picnic tables at Lovers Leap, Woods Lake, and Carson Pass Trailheads.
- Held four interpretive campfire programs at Wrights Lake reaching about 100 visitors.
- Operated, maintained and repaired five cabin rentals.
- Promoted responsible recreation practices at Wrights Lake event, which included guided hikes.
- Provided trip planning guidance presentations at four REI locations.
- Provided support for volunteers and interns to staff five trailheads and provide naturalist information about the Desolation Wilderness.
- Partnered with numerous volunteers and organizations to conduct monitoring, restoration, trail maintenance, public education, and patrolling in the Desolation Wilderness.



Autumn snowfall overlooking Caples Lake

Contacts

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Regional Map



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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$275,230	\$8,820,731
Special Uses	\$6,595	\$1,208,449
Interagency Passes	\$35,720	\$802,500
Total	\$317,544	\$10,831,679
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$138,167	\$4,724,634
Visitor Services	\$18,677	\$2,426,694
Law Enforcement	\$5,500	\$257,003
Habitat Restoration	\$5,000	\$32,340
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$33,584
Collections/Overhead	\$360	\$791,294
Total	\$167,704	\$8,265,549

*Carryover funds will be used for large projects and upcoming startup costs.