



# Tahoe National Forest

## Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

### Hazard Tree Mitigation

Due to stress from extended drought and subsequent beetle infestations, many developed recreation sites on the forest have suffered from extensive tree mortality over the past several years. In 2017, campground crews dealt with about 500 hazard trees by cutting down or sawing off large 'widow maker' branches from live trees within dozens of developed recreation sites.

Considered a critical public health and safety the Forest invested \$60,000 of recreation fee funds along with other appropriated funds into this project in 2017. Investment included training in the safe operation of chainsaws and tree-climbing skills.

*The removal of hazard trees in a campground.*



### A Big Crew for a Big Job



The forest invested approximately \$1.2 million of recreation fees into the operation and maintenance of 52 family and group campgrounds.

Employees worked with student interns, volunteer campground hosts and a Youth Conservation Corps crew to clean campsites, make visitor contacts, ensure safe drinking water and generally clean sites. Volunteers gave over 8,000 hours to this effort at value of \$189,000..

The Forest also invested approximately \$200,000 into heavy maintenance projects at campgrounds.



*A truckload of tables*

### 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.

Investments included new picnic tables, new toilet installation, new fire rings, and dozens of bear-proof food lockers.

In addition funds helped to clean-up and repair damage at four low-lying campgrounds that were flooded by the South Yuba and North Yuba Rivers. Reconstruction included re-grading and leveling individual campsites, resetting tables, replacing bear boxes and fire rings, repairing water systems, and repairing roads and camping spurs.

## Other Accomplishments

- Operated and maintained 13 day-use fee sites.
- Presented Kids in the Woods Interpretive Program to over 400 fourth grade students at 11 local schools.
- Led weekly interpretive talks at multiple campgrounds including four campfire talks to campers on high use weekends.
- Conducted proper food storage in bear territory.
- Operated drinking water systems at major campgrounds across the forest.
- Prepped and painted picnic tables, bulletin boards, and restrooms at multiple campgrounds and day-use sites.
- Managed the firewood program at major campgrounds by processing downed hazard trees.
- Coordinated and managed volunteer campground hosts.
- Installed 75 bear-proof food lockers at Granite Flat Campground.
- Hazard tree cleanup and chipping at Sugar Pine and Giant Gap Campgrounds using a Calfire inmate crew.
- Reset grills and fire rings in campgrounds and day-use areas.
- Replaced approximately 50 fire rings.
- Administered special use permits for recreation events, outfitter and guides, and ski slopes.
- Provided administrative oversight at major recreation events.
- Purchased and installed modern recycling receptacles at Logger Campground.



*The impressive Sierra Buttes form the backdrop for many developed recreation sites.*

## Contacts

### Tahoe National Forest Recreation Fee Program Contact

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### Regional Contact

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## Regional Map



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$1,556,788	\$8,820,731
Special Uses	\$107,150	\$1,208,449
Interagency Passes	\$38,263	\$802,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,702,201</b>	<b>\$10,831,679</b>
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$1,101,943	\$4,724,634
Visitor Services	\$84,000	\$2,426,694
Law Enforcement	\$20,000	\$257,003
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$32,340
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$33,584
Collections/Overhead	\$190,953	\$791,294
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,396,896</b>	<b>\$8,265,549</b>

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