Boat Ramp Repairs

The McGilivray recreation area located on Lake Koocanusa, includes a campground, boat launch, beach area with a pavilion, and a rental pavilion. The Forest widened the boat launch in 2011; however, high water events caused undercutting to the boat ramp turn-around. Through a combination of recreation fees and appropriations, the boat ramp was reconstructed by installing sheet piling and backfilling with concrete. This project will protect the boat ramp for years to come.

Upper Ford Cabin Improvements

The Kootenai National Forest provided a 76 year old Engelmann spruce, for the Capitol Christmas Tree. The tree had been growing near the Upper Ford Cabin warehouse. Prior to the tree cutting ceremony, the forest “spruced” up the Upper Ford site by cleaning, repairing, painting and clearing vegetation. Recreation fee funds and Capitol Christmas funds paid for this project.

A Second Host Site

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.

Rexford Bench Campground is part of a larger complex including a boat launch with parking for over 100 vehicles, a dedicated beach, and Kamloops Campground. With over 50 campsites, Rexford Bench is at nearly full capacity during the summer. Located near the Canadian border, visitation is even higher during both U.S. and Canadian holidays. In order to improve visitor service, the forest added a second host site by installing power, water and a phone. This will allow seven day coverage and improve host services throughout the summer.
Other Accomplishments

General Accomplishments
• Maintained fee sites and provided services such as mowing, collecting trash, cleaning, pumping toilets and septic tanks, and providing utilities.
• Increased safety by removing hazard trees and limbs, testing drinking water, repairing propane lines, and leveling camp sites to prevent tripping.
• Supported volunteers, including 19 campground host sites (32 volunteers). Hosts provide information about the area, appropriate use of public lands and instill an appreciation for the area’s natural and cultural history.
• Cut and delivered firewood to fee campgrounds

Specific Accomplishments
• Repaired shutters at Wam Lookout in partnership with the Northwest Montana Forest Fire Lookout Association
• Repaired generator for a remote host site
• Replaced failed well pump at Rocky Gorge Campground
• Replaced vacuum breakers at Rexford Bench Complex dump station
• Repainted parking lot lines
• Supported Law Enforcement Officers during OHV recreation event
• Replaced cabin furniture and supplies
• Replaced porches on the East Fork Guard Station cabin in partnership with the Cabinet Back Country Horsemens
• Repaired damaged water hydrant at Bull River Campground

Contacts

Kootenai National Forest
Recreation Fee Program Contact
406-283-7648
Email: mlaws@fs.fed.us
Online: www.fs.usda.gov/kootenai

Regional Contact
406-329-3587
Email: jward02@fs.fed.us

View of Lake Koocanusa Bridge looking into the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area

Revenue & Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue*</th>
<th>Forest</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Fees</td>
<td>$185,650</td>
<td>$2,039,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Uses</td>
<td>$48,758</td>
<td>$1,215,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Passes</td>
<td>$6,221</td>
<td>$208,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$240,628</td>
<td>$3,463,374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Forest</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repair &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>$69,572</td>
<td>$1,560,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Services</td>
<td>$101,023</td>
<td>$650,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$74,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat Restoration</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$60,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee Agreements</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections/Overhead</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$233,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$178,595</td>
<td>$2,579,249</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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