



Eldorado National Forest

Recreation Program Fee Accomplishment Report 2013

Recreation fees are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations will benefit as 95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use and value.

Accomplishments Provided with Recreation Fees:

- Operated and maintained family and group campgrounds in Hell Hole, Crystal Basin and Wrights Lake areas; and Lovers Leap, Dru Barner and Middlefork campgrounds: Cleaned and patrolled sites, collected fees, contacted visitors, pumped toilets and collected trash.
- Worked with volunteers who levelled camping spurs and installed picnic tables in Southfork Campground.
- Operated and maintained Robb's Hut, Loon Lake Chalet, Van Vleck Bunkhouse, Sly Guard and Harvey West rentals.
- Partnered with El Dorado Nordic Ski Patrol who completed maintenance tasks and repainted Robb's Hut.
- Reconstructed the front stairs at Van Vleck Bunkhouse and installed a new cook stove at Loon Chalet.
- Hired a summer intern who coordinated and presented interpretive programs at Wrights Lake Amphitheater, including Impact Monster, campfire talks, and wildflower walks. Over 1,000 people attended these presentations.
- Served 6,600 visitors and answered nearly 350 calls from mid-May through September at Crystal Information Station: provided campground and recreation rental availability information, distributed maps and recreation opportunity guides, answered visitor questions and gave directions, and sold various recreation passes.
- Patrolled the Carson Pass Area, a portal to Mokelumne Wilderness, using a summer ranger who also maintained trails, coordinated and directed volunteers, and presented information and education on wilderness.
- Provided oversight and training for the Mokelumne Wilderness volunteer group who assisted with trail clearing, visitor education and support for the popular Carson Pass Portal area. This volunteer group has 26 members and provided over 1,400 hours of service.
- Supplemented funds for operation and maintenance of Carson Pass, Meiss and Woods Lake trailhead areas and Woods Lake Picnic Area.
- Processed and administered 16 outfitter and guide and 19 recreation event special use permits.

Special Feature

Middle Velma Lake is located along the Pacific Crest Trail in the Desolation Wilderness. Many campsites in this popular overnight destination were within 100 feet of the lakeshore causing damage to sensitive resources. Forest Wilderness Rangers partnered with Student Conservation Association (SCA), Desolation Wilderness Volunteers, Backcountry Horsemen and Elegant Ears to remove and naturalize these sites. Their combined effort enhanced the wild character of this magnificent area.



Eldorado National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*

Source	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$300,014
Special Uses	\$12,347
Interagency Pass	\$7,059
Total	\$319,420

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$205,376
Visitor Services	\$67,232
Cost of Collections	\$17,232
Law Enforcement	\$11,488
Habitat Restoration	\$2,700
Fee Agreements	\$0
Total	\$305,028

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

Eldorado Accomplishments Continued

In cooperation with the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, supported projects in Desolation Wilderness:

- Patrolled and contacted visitors in the Desolation Wilderness. Wilderness rangers also coordinated the volunteer program and maintained 118 trail miles.
- Partnered with REI, the Tides Foundation, ENFIA, and California Alpine Club and supported the Desolation Wilderness Volunteer Program. Forty-six volunteers donated 3,100 hours and providing education, maintaining trails, monitoring resources, updating the website and rehabilitating campsites.
- Worked with Desolation Wilderness Volunteers to clear fallen trees and maintain Lyons Creek Trail on National Trails Day.
- Partnered with Wilderness Volunteers, Desolation Wilderness Volunteers, Backcountry Horsemen, Elegant Ears Mule Association and the SCA and restored campsites at Middle Velma Lake, a popular Pacific Crest Trail destination. About 700 hours of volunteer labor were contributed.
- Served as primary point of contact for the Desolation Wilderness overnight permit reservation system.
- Hired two SCA interns who coordinated wilderness monitoring, developed new trailhead naturalist displays, drafted a new trip planning guide, assisted with interpretive programs and updated the wilderness education plan.



Participants get ready to begin the Enduro Riders Association recreation event.



A naturalist provides trip planning assistance at a Desolation Wilderness trailhead.

More Information

Eldorado National Forest Recreation Fee Program

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For information on the Regional Program

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The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Pacific Southwest Region Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*

Source	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$6,456,100
Special Uses	\$765,873
Interagency Pass	\$244,641
Total	\$7,466,614

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$3,381,331
Visitor Services	\$1,827,894
Cost of Collections	\$370,575
Law Enforcement	\$323,204
Habitat Restoration	\$13,828
Fee Agreements	\$5,661
Total	\$6,298,759

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