

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2014 National Forests of Mississippi

Forest Service



Take Pride in America Day

In 2014, recreation fees helped to fund volunteer and community-supported workdays on the Tombigbee and Holly Springs National Forests. Two events resulted in improvements to the Choctaw Lake and Chewalla Lake Recreation Areas. Approximately 170 participants completed maintenance at the sites while \$9,769 in fee revenue purchased materials and supplies and funded Forest Service labor. Accomplishments included: painting campground facilities, such as light poles, gates and camp site id posts; maintaining trails; cleaning camp sites, grills and tables; and power-washing restrooms and pavilions.

Painting tables was among the many accomplishments completed at Choctaw Lake and Chewalla Lake Recreation Areas.



Volunteers from Choctaw County Economic Development, Southern Company, Mississippi Forestry Association of Choctaw County, Boy Scouts of America, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) of Choctaw County, Holly Springs Walmart, Holly Springs Economic Development,

Marshall County NRCS, Holly Springs local businesses, Clark Beverages, PepsiCo, and Frito Lay were invaluable in this effort.



Noxubee Hills volunteer group maintained trail bridges on Tombigbee National Forest.

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

Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$356,331
Special Uses	\$0
Interagency Passes	\$8,003
Total	\$364,334
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$282,222
Visitor Services	\$823
Law Enforcement	\$10,980
Habitat Restoration	\$0
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$15,476
Total	\$309,502

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

Additional Accomplishments

Across the Forest, six campgrounds, two target ranges, four swim/picnic sites, seven boating sites, 21 trailheads and numerous other recreation sites and services benefited through recreation fee revenue. More specifically, the following was accomplished in 2014:

- Partnered with an ATV group who completed trail maintenance work on Chickasawhay ATV Trail.
- Repaired Cypress Creek and Ashe Lake bathrooms, replaced trash containers and installed an accessible drinking fountains. Purchased directional and interpretive signs for Ashe Lake.
- Re-opened Phase 1 of Rattlesnake OHV Trails.
- Refurbished two campsites, reconstructed boat ramps and installed new swimming area rope, buoys and floats at Turkey Fork Recreation Area.
- Helped fund additional Forest Service law enforcement patrols for public safety and assistance and cooperative agreements with county agencies.



Contacts

National Forests of Mississippi

Recreation Fee Program Contact

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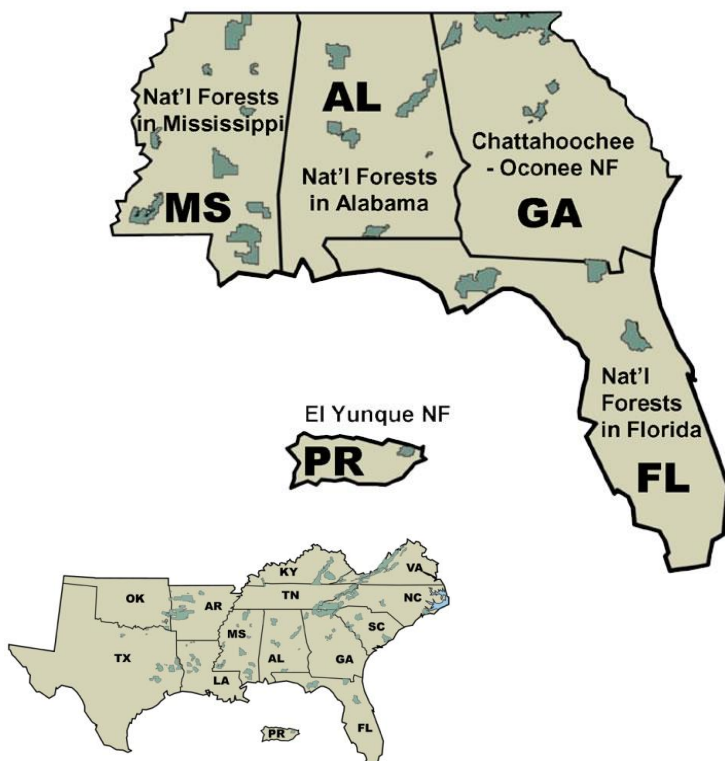
Regional Contact

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Southern Region Maps



Regional Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Amount
Recreation Fees	\$6,373,184
Special Uses	\$1,209,474
Interagency Passes	\$118,320
Total	\$7,700,978
Expenditures	Amount
Repair & Maintenance	\$4,989,435
Visitor Services	\$1,355,389
Law Enforcement	\$213,554
Habitat Restoration	\$4,580
Fee Agreements	\$0
Cost of Collections	\$872,295
Total	\$7,435,253

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