

**COLORADO RECREATION RESOURCE ADVISORY
FEDERAL LANDS RECREATION ENHANCEMENT ACT
NEW FEE OR FEE CHANGE
PROPOSAL FORM**

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Name of Project Area/Site: **North Fruita Desert Campground**

Project Contact Person: **Chris Ham**

Position Title & Phone #: **Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, (970) 244-3031**

Project Contact Person: **Michelle Bailey**

Position Title & Phone #: **Outdoor Recreation Planner, (970) 244-3047**

County: **Mesa**

Congressional District: **District 3**

BLM Field Office: **Grand Junction Field Office, CO**

Site Type: **Campground**

Capacity: **37 Units**

Season of Use: **March through November**

Fee Type: Standard Amenity___ Expanded Amenity **X** Special Rec. Permit___

Proposed Action: New fee **X** Change of fee ___

Existing Fee: **\$0**

Proposed Fee: **\$10**

Summary of **benefits** the public receives or will receive:

- **Unique opportunity to access single-track trail system directly from campground.**
- **Increased safety patrols.**
- **Additional interpretive services and enhanced security.**
- **Increased facility maintenance and cleaning.**
- **A beautiful campground setting with opportunities for family togetherness.**
- **Greater ability to maintain facilities through time to decrease “deferred maintenance” issues in the future.**

Facilities/Amenities Checklist (check all that apply, list each site separately):

Site Name:___

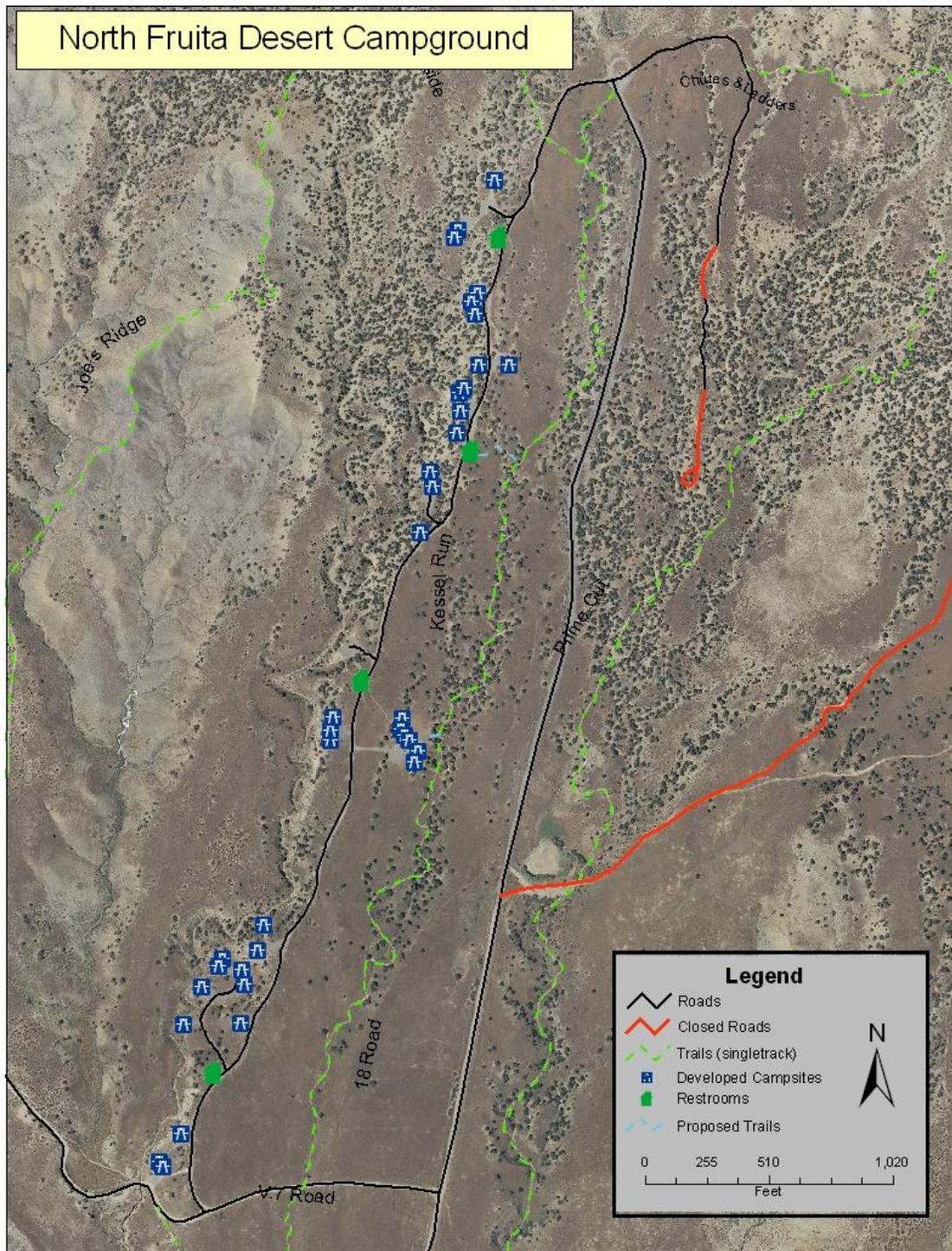
1. **X** Designated developed parking
2. **X** Permanent toilet facility: ___Flush **X** Vault
3. ___ Permanent trash receptacle
4. **X** Interpretive sign, exhibit or kiosk
5. **X** Picnic tables
6. **X** Security services

Other Amenities: Garbage Removal, Paved Access Road, Drinking Water, Information/Directional signs, Shower/Bath House, Tent Pads, Electricity, RV Hookups, Fire Rings/Grills, Other (Site host)

Photo(s):



Map (HIRA's show boundaries and ID amenities):



Setting & General Description:

The fee site is a 37-unit primitive campground located at the north end of Mesa County Road 18, north of Fruita, Colorado. The facility is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Grand Junction Field Office and is located in the North Fruita Desert (NFD) Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The campground occupies about 40 acres in the heart of the mountain bike trail system. It primarily serves the mountain bike visitors, most of whom are tent campers. The facilities include individual camp sites, as well as two group sites, with fire rings and picnic tables. Each site has parking for two to four vehicles. Four vault pit toilets are located within walking distance of each cluster of campsites. Trail and campground maps are available from the information kiosks on site. No water or garbage services are available at this time.

Visitors tend to be young adults, typically between the ages of 18 and 35 years of age. Most visitors are vacationing, in the valley visiting NFD and other nearby bicycling opportunities. Their average stay is estimated at three nights. Most of the motorized and equestrian visitors are from the nearby communities and do not use the campground.

Visitation is seasonal due to seasonal variations in temperature in the Grand Junction area. The spring season begins in March and continues through June. In the hotter summer months, overnight use declines. Visitor use increases as the day-time temperatures drop in September and the use season continues into November in an average year.

NRHP Eligibility (Cabins/Structures): **NA** Archeologist's concurrence: ___Y ___N

Comments: **There are no structures that meet the NRHP standards for eligibility. Archeological issues were addressed during construction.**

2. CURRENT AND PROJECTED REVENUES and ANNUAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE COSTS

See Attachment A: Revenue/Cost projection spreadsheet.

3. COST OF BACKLOG WORK NEEDS:

Maintaining information kiosks and visitor information signs	\$2,000
Pump outhouses	\$2,000
Clean camp sites	\$4,000
Support camp volunteer host	\$2,500
Repairs and maintenance of infrastructure	\$6,000
Visitor services and patrols	\$5,000
Estimated Total	<u>\$21,500</u>

4. FEE COLLECTION METHOD AND ESTIMATED FEE COLLECTION COSTS

Method: **On-site self pay station with site host compliance checks.**

Costs: Salaries of employees and site host who collect, process and deposit collections. Estimated combined cost of \$300. Seasonal employee visits site on a weekend basis to collect fees, conduct routine maintenance, patrol area and support site host.

5. FEE DETERMINATION PROCESS SUMMARY

Fair Market Value Comparison (compare similar fees at other FS, state, federal, or private recreation sites in the area with similar facilities & services):

Colorado State Parks has a developed campground located 5 miles south of the NFD campground. The facility includes showers, potable water onsite, laundry facilities, sanitary dump station as well as a lake front location. User fees range from \$14 to \$22 per site per night. Tent camping is available at a local commercial facility for \$29 per night, and RV sites are about \$38 per night, including all hook ups.

6. PLANNED USE OF FEES RETURNED TO SITE (list by priority; include daily O&M if appropriate; add to list if appropriate)

1. Maintain informational kiosk, visitor information signs, maps and information packets
2. Support volunteer host
3. Creation of new sites and access route to address the needs of the growing popularity

7. CUSTOMER/PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MECHANISM TYPES

- Site Monitoring
- Customer Survey Card
- Comment Log
- Newspaper Articles
- Website Listing
- E-mails
- Direct Mail
- Personal Contacts
- On-site Posting
- Other (list): _

See Attachment B: Summary of Public Involvement for details.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RESULTS

See Attachment B: Summary of Public Involvement for details.

9. ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS

List and reference additional information (documents) that can be provided upon request to document this project proposal and the public response.

10. PROJECT SUBMITTAL & CERTIFICATION

Project Submittal:

This recreation site is already, or being submitted for inclusion as, a fee site under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA). This proposal has been reviewed by representatives on the unit. I understand that any reservations must be made through the NRRS system. I also fully understand and agree to comply with the accounting and reporting requirements necessary to participate in the fee program.

Forest Supervisor/ BLM Field Manager

Date

Project Certification:

This recreation site is already, or is now forwarded as, a fee site and the proposed fee schedule is forwarded to the RRAC for their review under REA.

Recreation Fee Board Chair

Date

BLM Washington Office Review ____Y ____N

RRAC Project Recommendation:

This site and proposed fee schedule is ____ / is not ____ recommended as a fee site.
This recreation site is already a fee site and the proposed fee schedule is ____ / is not ____ recommended to the Secretary for acceptance under REA.

Colorado Recreation RAC Chair

Date

Project Acceptance:

This site and proposed fee schedule is ____ / is not ____ accepted as, a fee site.
This recreation site is already a fee site and the proposed fee schedule is ____ / is not ____ accepted by the Secretary under REA.

Regional Forester/BLM State Director

Date