

# California National Forests

## *Recreation Fees at Work*

### Sequoia National Forest Standard Amenity Fee Increase Proposal

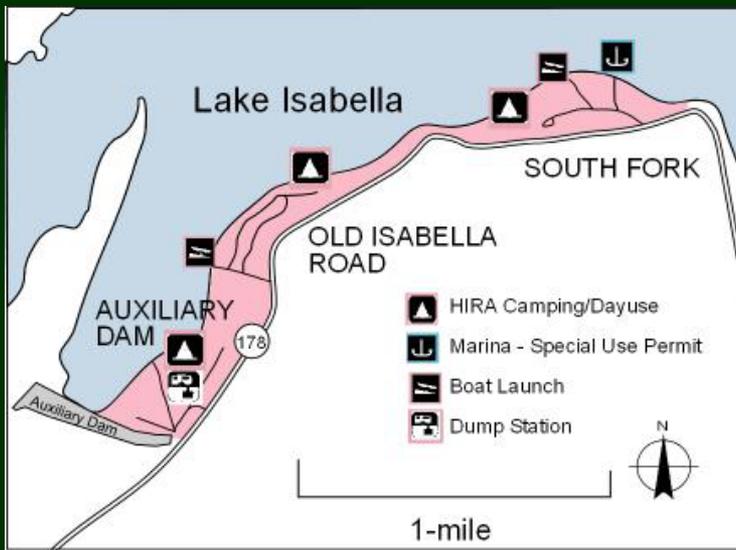


**Lake Isabella High Impact  
Dispersed Recreation Area  
(HIRA)**



# California National Forests

## Recreation Fees at Work



- Closest large lake to southern & central California visitors
- Popular motorized & non-motorized boating opportunity, fishing, wind surfing
- Flush toilets, showers, tables, fire rings, garbage collection, RV Dump Station

- Developed sites & open shoreline day use and camping
- Three developed recreation areas – Auxiliary Dam, Old Isabella, & South Fork
- Open year round





## *What are recreation fees being used for?*

- Operation and maintenance – includes site cleaning, toilet pumping, trash collection, water system testing & maintenance
- Litter abatement, vandalism repair & graffiti removal
- Providing portable toilets & additional trash dumpsters during high use (weekends/holidays)
- Addressing heavy maintenance of ageing buildings and infrastructure





## *Why do we need to change the current fees?*

- To meet rising operation and maintenance costs
- To align fee with local markets
- To address large deferred maintenance backlog & begin facility improvements



**USDA Forest Service**

**Sequoia National Forest  
Kern River Ranger District**

**21<sup>st</sup> Congressional District  
Kern County**

***Revised Business Plan  
Management Plan for the Lake Isabella High Impact  
Recreation Area***



**June 2008**

**Recreation Enhancement Act  
Revised Business Management Plan  
For the  
Lake Isabella High Impact Recreation Area**

I. Overview

The original business plan, Business Plan with Communications and Operation Management Plans for the Lake Isabella Recreation Area; Auxiliary Dam, Old Isabella, and South Fork Recreation Areas, was finished in January, 2002. This document outlined the decision to turn these three developed recreation sites into fee sites under the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. The fees were established at \$5.00 fee for day-use/overnight camping per vehicle from May 1 to September 30 each year or \$35 for an annual pass/vehicle and a \$7.00 fee for using the RV dump station. The forest began charging fees on May 1, 2002.

In December 2004 the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) was signed into law and replaced the Fee Demonstration fee authority. Through an extensive review and evaluation process prior to transitioning from Fee Demonstration to REA it was determined that the fees charged at the Lake Isabella Recreation Area fell under the standard amenity fee type. The April 25, 2005 Forest Service Interim Implementation Guidelines (Guidelines) describe the conditions in which a standard amenity area fee can be charged and the characteristics of a High Impact Recreation Area.

From the REA legislation agencies may charge a standard amenity fee (Section (f)), in an area (Section (4 A-D, *i-g*)). The Guidelines describe a High Impact Recreation Area (HIRA) as a clearly delineated, contiguous area that supports or sustains concentrated recreation use; and that provides opportunities for outdoor recreation that are directly associated with a natural or cultural feature, place, or activity (i.e., waterway, canyon, travel corridor, geographic attraction – the recreation attraction). For more information on the characteristics of a standard amenity fee area (HIRA) please refer to Appendix A.

It was determined that the fees charged under Fee Demonstration met the REA fee authority and the \$5.00 fee for day-use/overnight camping from May 1 to September 30 each year and the \$35 annual pass were standard amenity fees. The \$7.00 fee for using the RV dump station was determined to meet REA authority as an expanded amenity fee. There was no increase in fees.

Beginning in May 2007 the Sequoia National Forest initiated a proposal to raise the fees at the Lake Isabella fee area after public participation efforts during the Recreation Facility Analysis early in 2007 revealed that the public preferred raising fees to other alternatives such as reducing amenities and services. A series of news releases, mailings, and public workshops were held in August of 2007 informing and involving the public in

discussions concerning the proposed increases. The fee increase proposal was revised to address issues raised during this process. The revised fee increase proposal went back out for public review and comment in a February 2008 news releases and March 2008 public workshops.

## II. Project Location

The project area is located on the southwest shoreline of Lake Isabella in Kern County, approximately one-hour driving time east of Bakersfield and two to three hours driving time from the greater Los Angeles Basin. The project area is popular for a wide variety of recreation uses including non motorized boating, motorized boating, jet skiing, water play, and wind surfing. Lake Isabella is the only motorized boating opportunity in the Sequoia National Forest and is one of the closest freshwater reservoirs available at a convenient distance from southern and central California.

## III. Program Description

The three contiguous developed recreation sites; Auxiliary Dam, Old Isabella, and South Fork Recreation Area, make up the Lake Isabella HIRA. The fee area is approximately 120 acres and offers developed and lakeshore camping and picnicing opportunities.

**Visitation:** On an average summer weekend within the Lake HIRA you can expect to see between 300 to 500 people and 100 vehicles. On an average summer holiday weekend or during a special event, you can expect to see between 3,000 to 5,000 people and 1,000 vehicles. Based on observations, over 80 percent of the recreation users come from outside the Kern River Valley during the main recreation season.

**Amenities Provided:** Within the Lake Isabella HIRA amenities include; picnic tables, fire rings, potable water, paved access roads, designated parking, trash collection, boat launch ramps (Old Isabella Road, South Fork), flush restrooms, shower, vault toilet, portable toilets, dumpsters, and an RV dump station.

Permanent Facilities Include:

- Auxiliary Dam: 3 Block Flush Restroom Buildings (1 with showers); 1 Septic Tank (5,500 gals); 1 RV Dump Station (1,500 gals); Joint Water System with Old Isabella (see specifics – Old Isabella), 1 host site.
- Old Isabella: 1 Block Flush Restroom Building; 1 Septic Tank (2,000 gals); 1 CTX Vault Toilet Building (1,000 gals); 1 Vertical Well with 40,000-gallon Storage Tank; 6 Connections (also serves Auxiliary Dam).
- South Fork Recreation Area: 1 Block Flush Restroom Building (2,000 gals); 1 Vertical Well with 550-gal Storage Tank which serves 11 Connections & permanent restroom, fire rings and tables at 10 designated campsites.

Seasonal Facilities Provided:

Year	Portable Toilets	Dumpsters
2008	28 FS	11
2007	13 FS	11
2006	13 FS	11
2005	10 FS and 22 rental	12
2004	10 FS and 22 rental	13

In 2008 amenities will include the purchase of an additional 15 new portable toilets, of which 5 will be accessible. Two Forest Service employees will work full time within the Lake Isabella HIRA to increase the level of services above those provided in previous years. Duties will include cleaning restrooms, litter abatement, visitor contacts, and compliance checks.

**Fees:**

In May 2007, the Forest Supervisor of the Sequoia National Forest proposed raising fees to cover the rising costs of managing the Lake Isabella area and to begin to address the deferred maintenance backlog inherited from the Army Corps of Engineers as well as improve the facilities and services. Proposed implementation of the fee changes is August 1, 2008.

	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Day Use/Overnight Camping	\$5/vehicle	\$10/vehicle
Annual Pass	\$35/vehicle	\$50/vehicle, \$10 second vehicle pass
RV Dump	\$7	\$10
Fee Season	May 1 – Sept 30	Year round

These fee increases, determined through a financial analysis, were found to be in line with other similar recreation facilities in the Lake Isabella area and with inflation affecting the costs of managing the facilities. Please refer to Fee Determination/Market Analysis (Section VI.) for more information.

**Fee Collection:** The current methods used to collect fees include self-service iron rangers and a staffed entrance booth on holiday weekends. The public has voiced concern that the current method of collection may be resulting in low compliance. The collecting and accounting for fees in this manner is labor intensive and expensive to administer. The district proposes replacing this method with a pass system and a vendor

sales program to begin August 1, 2008. This method of collecting fees has proven to be very efficient on other national forests (Adventure Pass), is more convenient for visitors, and will give local businesses a chance to benefit from and support the recreation fee program.

#### IV. Public Benefit

The Lake Isabella area is a low cost alternative for camping and day use that offers the popular and much desired shoreline access. The development scale is lower when compared to the concessionaire and privately operated facilities around Lake Isabella that charge considerably higher fees.

The physical characteristics of the Lake Isabella area offer visitors a more flexible camping or day-use experience than traditional developed sites. Visitors are allowed to drive and park their vehicles at the fluctuating shoreline and define their camping or day-use site. Sites above the high water mark are more defined and include more amenities (picnic tables, fire rings). This flexibility allows for larger social gatherings and shoreline access for boaters, fishermen, and swimmers.

The facilities are maintained for the public's enjoyment year round. Additional portable restrooms and trash containers are provided during high use seasons and special events to meet visitor needs and health and safety standards.

#### V. Public Notification and Participation

During the Recreation Facility Analysis process, in early 2007, Forest Service employees were invited to community sponsored public meetings to discuss a 5-year proposed program of work for developed recreation sites in the Sequoia National Forest. It became apparent through public response, that people wanted the Forest Service to keep all recreation facilities open without eliminating amenities and a majority of respondents were supportive of increasing fees in order to accomplish this.

The Forest Supervisor announced the proposal to increase recreation fees at an open house held in Porterville on May 29, 2007. On May 30, 2007 the initial press release was sent to local newspapers. Flyers were placed at the sites that would be affected by the increases. On July 16, 2007 a press release announced 5 public workshops planned for August 2007. Letters were sent out to members of the public on July 25, 2007. A web page was developed and posted on the forest web site on July 30th and provided a link for e-mail comments. In August 2007 a series of 5 public workshops were held in different communities to provide information and get public feedback on the proposal to increase fees. The Kern River Valley Revitalization committee expressed their support for increased fees at their June 6, 2007 meeting when given a copy of the press release. This organization sent a letter to the Forest Supervisor supporting the fee increases Sept 28, 2007.

The original business plan for the Lake Isabella Fee Demonstration Project identified a grass roots organization, "Citizens for Keeping Lake Isabella Campgrounds Free". There was no response from this group during the 2007 public outreach and it appears that this group is no longer active. Forest Service employees developed exhibits and printed

materials addressing issues raised in the past by this organization and by early responders to the press releases. These exhibits and handouts were made available at the workshops and Forest Service employees were available to talk one on one with all participants.

The Lake Isabella workshop was the most well attended session, with 42 attendees. A total of 59 persons attended the 5 workshops held in August 2007. The majority of attendees asked questions without objections to the proposed increases. One individual opposed fees for private boaters using the Kern River and the Recreation Enhancement Act in general. This individual continues to express opposition to recreation fees. There were no public comments submitted from these outreach actions opposing fee increases at the Lake Isabella HIRA or any of the other sites. Several participants came forward expressing an interest in pursuing partnership opportunities with the Forest Service on behalf of the groups they represented.

Mailed responses, letters to the editor, and e-mail comments focused around the needs for litter abatement, law enforcement, and better management of the facilities to make sure users paid fees. There were several written responses opposed to fees. In general, public participation was lower than anticipated.

In a February 2008 a news release explaining and updating the fee proposal at the Lake Isabella HIRA was distributed. The new pass and vendor sales system, second vehicle pass, and year round fee were explained. This news release also announced the March 2008 public workshops. There was one public workshop held to explain the vendor sales program to interested business owners. Four public workshops were held in March 2008 to explain the fee proposal and discuss the changes to the original fee increases proposed and discussed in 2007. There was little to no attendance at these workshops. Please refer to Appendix B for details on public involvement.

## VI. Fee Determination/Market Analysis

A market analysis was done looking at private providers of recreation services around Lake Isabella. The concessionaire operated developed campgrounds offering picnic tables, steel fire rings, showers and lake front sites currently charge \$19.00. A private provider offering the same amenities and sites within walking distance to the lake charges \$44.00 per night. Another private provider offers full hookups, picnic tables, steel fire rings, and within close proximity to the lakeshore charges \$35.00 per night. The proposed \$10.00 fee is appropriate when compared to the local market for similar offerings. Lake Isabella facilities have a lower development scale, require significant renovation, and generally provide fewer amenities (no hook ups) when compared to privately operated facilities in the area.

Fees for RV dump stations across California vary greatly according to location of the service and whether the fee was included under another, larger service or commodity fee. One example was a fee accompanied with a gasoline purchase. The range was from \$5 to \$20. Ten dollars was the average cost for facilities located at comparable locations, California state parks.

VII. Collection/Expenditures

**Collections:**

Lake Isabella HIRA

Year	Collections
2002	\$31,213
2003	\$48,772
2004	\$63,951
2005	\$21,549
2006	\$21,671
2007	\$21,735

**Expenditures:**

The following numbers were used during the Recreation Facilities Analysis process in 2007 for facilities within the Lake Isabella HIRA.

- Deferred Maintenance: \$ 259,163
- Annual Operation and Maintenance: \$ 96,765

In Fiscal Year 2007 REA revenues covered approximately 23% of the annual operations and maintenance costs associated with the HIRA, the appropriated recreation budget covered the balance.

Fiscal Year 2007 O&M Expenditures:

Expense	Total	Funding Sources
Staffing – Perm Employees	\$ 35,245	Appropriated
Staffing – Temp Employees	\$ 29,507	REA & Appropriated
Staffing - Other	\$0 Estimated value = \$ 5,200	Department of Labor SCSEP program & Volunteers – 13 weeks
Supplies & Materials	\$ 25,000	REA & Appropriated
Contracted Costs	\$ 26,286	Appropriated
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$116,047</b>	

Contracted Costs:

Fiscal Year	Toilet Pumping Service	Portable Rental and Servicing	Trash Pick-up
2008 (estimated)	\$33,000	\$0	\$18,870
2007	\$11,286	\$0	\$15,000
2006	\$10,745	\$0	\$16,100
2005	\$25,791	\$22,588	\$13,500
2004	\$24,142	\$21,392	\$11,928

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2002:

- Painted and repaired fixtures in 5 flush restrooms
- Replaced faucets with accessible design
- Provided additional portable toilets and trash receptacles during high use season
- Hired 2-person seasonal maintenance crew
- Hired 3 seasonal protection officers to increase field presence

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2003:

- Constructed walk-in campsites at South Fork Recreation Area consisting of picnic tables, campfire rings, and leveled pads
- Upgraded the water system at South Fork Recreation Area by installing accessible faucets and sump rings
- Repaired showers at Auxiliary Dam Recreation Area
- Replaced mirrors in flush restroom facilities with polished steel mirrors
- Graded access roads and repaired road drainage structures

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2004:

- Purchased signing specific to the lake program
- Purchased of cleaning supplies to continue care and policing of restrooms
- Provided additional trash dumpsters and portable toilets during high use season
- Contracted portable toilets & servicing

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2005:

- Hired 2 seasonal employees who spend 98% of their time performing various tasks including signing, visitor assistance, pass compliance/monitoring
- Purchased signing specific to the lake program as needed

- Purchased of cleaning supplies to continue care and policing of restrooms
- Provided additional trash dumpsters and portable toilets during high use season
- Contracted portable toilets & servicing

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2006:

- Funded signing specific to the lake program
- Purchased cleaning supplies to continue care & policing of restrooms
- Provided additional trash dumpsters/portable toilets during the high use season
- Funded contractor to service additional toilets during the high use season
- Performed maintenance on dump station's septic system
- Performed maintenance work on shower unit drain
- Painted interior of 4 permanent restrooms and the exterior of 1 restroom building
- Performed maintenance work (filling in ruts & tampered entrance drain) on paved surfaces at Auxiliary Dam
- Removed graffiti from concrete sidewalks at South Fork Recreation Area's permanent restroom
- Cleaned public launch ramp at Old Isabella by removing build-up sand and other material

Accomplishments paid for by fees collected in 2007:

- Funded signing specific to the lake program
- Purchased cleaning supplies to continue care & policing of restrooms
- Provided additional trash dumpsters/portable toilets during the high use season
- Funded contractor to service additional toilets during the high use season
- Performed maintenance on dump station's septic system
- Repaired broken water pipes
- Performed repair work on Old Isabella flush restroom urinal and sinks caused by vandalism and theft
- Removed graffiti from Auxiliary & Old Isabella flush restroom building interiors
- Cleaned public launch ramp at Old Isabella & South Fork Recreation Area
- Performed courtesy dock repair at Old Isabella site
- Replaced pump and performed other plumbing repairs to Old Isabella/Auxiliary Dam water system

#### Planned Accomplishments for 2008:

- Meet health and cleanliness standards, facility condition, safety and security standards and provide visitor assistance within the three recreation sites.
- Continue to repair water systems
- Improve and maintain recreation area signing
- Improve care and policing of the restroom facilities located at lake access sites and provide more portable toilets, including 5 accessible units.
- Improve enforcement of the camping overnight stay limit and unoccupied RV storage issue
- Hire one GS-4 and one GS-5 to pick up trash, clean restrooms, check for compliance and provide visitor contacts
- Hire three SCA student interns to help with visitor contacts and recreation site operations

#### VIII. Key Contacts and Stakeholders

##### Elected Officials

Congressman Kevin McCarthy, 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
Senator Roy Ashburn, 14<sup>th</sup> State Senate District  
Assemblywoman Jean Fuller, 32<sup>nd</sup> State Assembly District  
Kern County Supervisor Jon McQuiston, 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District

##### Agencies

US Army Corps of Engineers  
USDI-Bureau of Land Management  
Kern County Parks and Recreation  
California Department of Boating & Waterways  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
California Department of Fish & Game  
Kern County Sheriff's Department  
Kern County Fire Department  
California Highway Patrol  
Kern County Board of Trade

##### Organizations

Bakersfield Visitor's Bureau  
Kern Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Kernville Chamber of Commerce  
Kern River Valley Revitalization

Fish and Game Habitat Improvement Club  
Audubon Society

Businesses/Permittees

Red's Kern Valley Marina  
California Land Management  
French Gulch Marina  
North Fork Marina  
Kern River Tours  
Outdoor Adventures/Kern River Outfitters  
Whitewater Voyages  
Sierra South  
Mountain and River Adventures  
Southern California Edison

Individuals

Kern Valley property and business owners  
Out-of-town property owners  
Forest visitors representing a large and diverse recreation base

News Media

Kern Valley Sun  
The Fence Post  
Bakersfield Californian  
Porterville Recorder  
The Daily Independent  
News Review  
LA Times  
Orange County Register  
KERO-Channel 23  
KBAK-Channel 29  
KGET-Channel 17  
QAB Media  
KUZZ (Bakersfield)  
KNZR (Bakersfield)  
KERN (Bakersfield)  
KLOA (Ridgecrest)  
KTIP (Porterville)  
KMJ (Fresno)

## APPENDIX A

### **Criteria for a Standard Amenity Fee - High Impact Recreation Area (HIRA)**

Excerpt from Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) Forest Service Interim Implementation Guidelines (Issued April 25, 2005)

High impact recreation areas must follow all the same criteria as a day use facility except that the amenities must be located within the area in an integrated manner so they reasonably accommodate the visitor.

In addition, the following additional criteria must be met for high impact recreation areas:

- They incur significant expenditures for items such as operations and maintenance of recreation facilities, public health and safety, educational services, and protection of natural and cultural resources.
- They have been analyzed by regional fee boards and approved by the appropriate line officer.
- They are not an entire administrative unit such as a national forest, but may include a collection of recreation sites.
- They typically display one or more of the following characteristics:
  1. They are within 2 hours driving time of populations of 1 million or more;
  2. They contain rivers, streams, lakes or interpreted scenic corridors;
  3. Natural and cultural resources management activities are conducted in the area to maintain or enhance recreation opportunities; and
  4. They have regionally or nationally recognized recreation resources that are marketed for their tourism values.

Note: If a standard amenity fee is charged for a high impact recreation area, no additional standard amenity fee can be charged for day use facilities within the area. Expanded amenity recreation fees or special recreation permit fees may be charged where authorized for facilities, services, or activities within a high impact recreation area.

**Region 5  
Recreation Fee  
Public Involvement Documentation**

Site or Service Being Offered: Lake Isabella HIRA

Kind of Fee Change: Fee Increase – Standard Amenity Fee – Area  
Day use/camping, RV dump station, Annual pass & second vehicle pass

<b>Date (s) of PI Activity</b>	<b>Type of Public Involvement Activity</b>	<b>Audience(s) Reached</b>	<b>Feedback Received?*</b> <b>(Yes/No)</b>	<b>Synopsis of Feedback</b>
March 2, 2007	Offered information on Recreation Site Facility Master Planning (RSFMP) & Proposed Fee Increases	Kern River Valley Revitalization (KRVR) President & Chamber members	Yes	4 community members in attendance. All were in support of the fee increases. Wanted FS to use fees to keep facilities open for public use & have enough funding to manage sites.
March 7, 2007	Offered information at KRVR meeting on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Kern River Valley Revitalization members	Yes	Approximately 20 people participated. All were in support of the fee increases as long as it meant facilities would stay open for public use. Felt FS sites were priced too low.
March 7, 2007	Offered information at Kern Valley Chamber meeting on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Kern River Valley Chamber members	Yes	Approximately 15 people participated. All were in support of the fee increases as long as it meant facilities would stay open for public use. Liked idea of FS managing sites + ability to retain 95% of collected fees.

March 8, 2007	Follow up to 3/7/07 meetings	Kern River Valley Revitalization President & Chamber members	Yes	4 community members in attendance. All were in support of the fee increases. Wanted FS to continue to meet with interested publics about fee increases. Recognized need to voice their support of fee increases to both forest & their congressional representatives.
March 8, 2007	Offered information at Kern Valley Exchange Club meeting on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Kern Valley Exchange Club members	Yes	Approximately 15 people participated. All were in support of the fee increases. Felt FS didn't charge enough for services offered.
March 9, 2007	Offered information on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	KCNQ Dam Talk Show Listeners	Yes	10 radio listeners phoned in to express their support of keeping fees local and having any fees collected returned to maintain the FS sites.
March 12, 2007	Offered information on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Kernville Chamber members	Yes	16 community members in attendance. All were in support of the fee increases. Wanted fees to stay local & sites to remain open for public's use.
March 26, 2007	Offered information on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Kernville Chamber members	Yes	12 community members in attendance. Continued concern that sites not be closed. FS receive funds to support their recreation sites.
May 8, 2007	Offered information on RSFMP & Proposed Fee Increases	Lake Isabella & Bodfish Homeowners Association members	Yes	Approximately 21 people participated. All were in support of the fee increases as long as it meant facilities would stay open for public use. Felt FS sites were priced too low compared to like local sites.
May 29, 2007	Open House at the SO	Public	No	

May 30, 2007	Forest Press Release Announcing Proposed Fee Increases	Forest Media Contact Lists	Yes	Kern River Valley Revitalization expressed their support for increased fees on the forest at their 6/6/07 meeting when given a copy of press release. Approximately 20 in attendance. One e-mail supporting raising fees to maintain facilities.
June 11, 2007	Place flyer on campground bulletin boards and at fee stations	Public		3 comments were received on the back of fee receipts. 2 opposing all campground fee increases, 1 suggesting an Adventure Pass in lieu of raising camping fees,
July 16, 2007	Press release announcing open houses	Public	yes	Public Meeting announcement in the Kern River Courier; Aug. 10, 5 Letters to the editor-2 supporting raising fees, 1 complaining of community apathy, and 2 written by the same person opposing REA in general- specifically fees associated with white water boating. This same person posted flyers around town before the meeting generating public interest in attending the FS workshop.
July 25, 2007	Letter to the Public	Public mailing list	Yes	3 letters were received: 1 opposing increase at Fish Creek but did not oppose increasing Troy Meadow and did not want improvements to Fish if fee increase followed. 1 supporting increases, 1 opposing raising fees at Troy Meadows
July 30, 2007	Forest Web page	Public and Internal	No	3 e-mail comments: 2 supported increases, 1 supported increases but suggested a lower rate for Big Meadows.
Aug. 1, 2007	Open house	Public	yes	10 persons attended the workshop format. 2 written comments were obtained on the workshop response form both supporting raising fees. Several participants were interested in pursuing partnership opportunities with the Forest Service with the groups they represented.
Aug. 8, 2007	Open house	Public	yes	2 persons attended the workshop format mostly to obtain information. No written comments were received

Aug. 16, 2007	Open house	Public	yes	42 persons attended not counting forest service personnel. 3 written comments were received-2 with suggestions to improve service and communications, 1 opposing fees for day use and increasing fees for campgrounds, supported dump station fees and cabin rental fee increases. Newspaper article, front page with picture, in the Kern Valley Sun, Aug.22.
Aug. 18, 2007	Open house	Public	yes	2 attended the workshop to obtain information about the forest.
Aug. 28, 2007	Open house	Public	yes	3 persons attended. 1 person had attended the workshop in Lake Isabella. 1 written comment was received which suggest raising the fee at Troy campground to \$22 a night since it was recently retrofitted to accommodate RVs, toy haulers, OHVs and provided accessible facilities, supported all of the fee increases.
September 5, 2007		Kern Valley Sun		Letter to the Editor: Fees are not fair.
September 7, 2007	Update Website	Public and Internal		
September 12, 2007		Kern Valley Sun		Letter to the Editor: Trash is overwhelming problem in recreation areas.
September 25, 2007	Letter to boaters	Public		3 return comments: 2-for raising fees and felt the increase as reasonable. 1- was for raising fees but thought the increase was too much.
September 25, 2007	Send comments received to each District Ranger	Internal		
September 28, 2007				Letter received from the Kern River Valley Revitalization, Inc. supporting fee increases at campgrounds and HIRA.

February 8	News release	External	no	Announcing public workshops in March to discuss changes in fees for HIRA and new pass system for fee collection. Included information on January RRAC approval of fee increase proposals for campgrounds, recreation rentals, and Forks SRP.
February 12, 2008	News release	External	no	Vendor Meeting
February 12, 2008	Web page	External	no	Update website with pass information, RRAC approval of increases for campgrounds, rec. rentals and SRP, March public meeting announcements and fee changes for the HIRA.
March 12, 2008	News release	External	no	Re-released information to announce workshops.
March 6, 17, 18, 21 , 2008	Public workshops	External	yes	No show for first 3 workshops, Workshop in Lake Isabella was attended by 12 participants-none that opposed the fee changes but had suggestions on how to improve services. They also wanted to know how fees collected would be used.