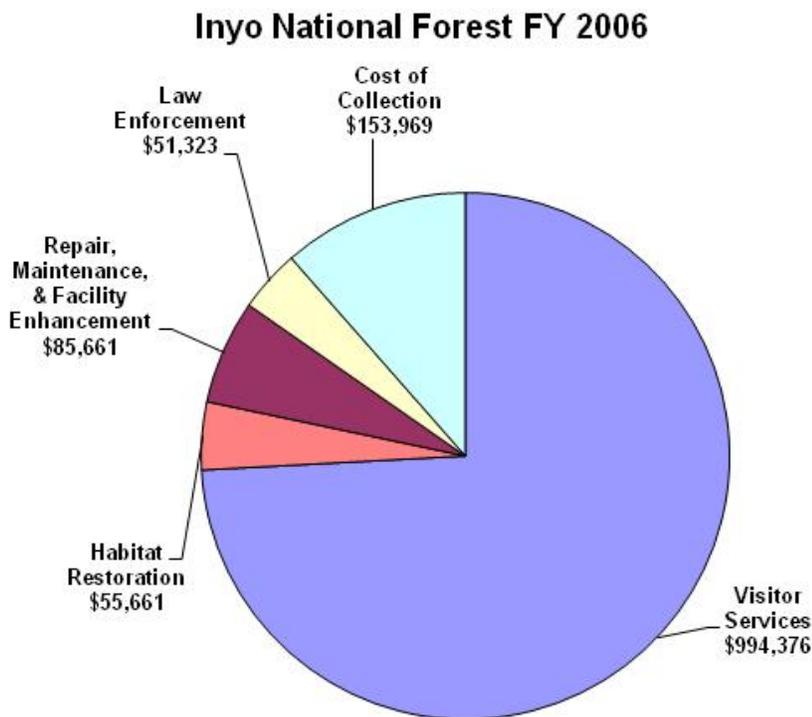




Inyo National Forest Recreation Fee Program Pacific Southwest Region 2006 Accomplishment Report



2006 Recreation Fee Program Expenditures



Your Fees at Work in 2006

Repair, Maintenance & Facility Enhancement

- Removed old boardwalk sections on interpretive trail and moved interpretive panels that were inundated by the rising Mono Lake
- Constructed deck extension to provide shaded picnic area at Shulman Grove
- Repaired five miles of trail in the Hilton Creek, Piute Pass, and Sabrina Basin
- Provided trail maintenance on several miles of the main Mt. Whitney trail

Fee Program Success Stories

Schulman Grove Boardwalk



Building the Shuman Grove Boardwalk

A recent customer satisfaction survey administered by the Forest Service Pacific Southwest Experiment Station and conducted by graduate students from Humboldt State University indicated that the number one request from visitors for improvements to the Schulman Grove Interpretive Site in the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest was for shaded picnic sites. The sun is intense at 10,000 feet and while the two picnic areas do have some shade, additional capacity was needed for the summer months.

A boardwalk adjacent to the building was constructed creating a space large enough for picnic tables under the overhang of the building. By adding just five feet to the space, it allowed for wheelchair access to the tables and a wonderful shaded area to relax and enjoy the scenery of the ancient trees.

For More Information

If you would like additional information about Pacific Southwest Region's Recreation Fee Program please contact Tamara Wilton, Recreation Fee Program Manager by phone at (530) 283-2605.

Visitor Services

- Provided 200+ interpretive talks and naturalist guided hikes for over 3500 visitors at the Mono Lake South Tufa and Shulman Grove
- Provided environmental education to approximately 80 schools, reaching over 1000 students at Mono Lake
- Continued implementation of a voluntary pack-it-out program for human waste on the Mt. Whitney Trail (80% of wilderness visitors now pack it out!) and serviced the Mt. Whitney toilet system
- Hosted 1st Annual Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center Lecture Series with 10 lectures that reached over 350 visitors
- Continued to manage wilderness reservation office; the office staff manage a complex wilderness permit and allocation system that accommodated 49,500 overnight visitors in 2006
- Provided shuttle bus to Reds Meadow Resort, Rainbow Falls and the Devils Postpile National Monument

Habitat Restoration

- Performed routine trail maintenance and invasive species plant control at South Tufa and Panum Crater in the Mono Basin
- Removed campsites and fire-rings within the Hilton Creek, Piute Pass and Sabrina Basin areas
- Provided trail re-route for 1/4 mile in Cottonwood Lakes Basin to protect an alpine meadow
- Continued shuttle operations into Reds Meadow Valley

Law Enforcement

- Provided law enforcement patrols to ensure visitor and resource protection

Cost of Collection

- Funded salaries for employees who conducted fee collections and compliance

Recreation Fee Revenue Sources

Permits & Passes

- Wilderness Permits
- Golden Passports & Federal Interagency Passes
- Recreation Event and Outfitter & Guide Permits

Sites/Areas

- Standard amenity fees at Mono Basin Visitor Center (South Tufa) and Shulman Grove
- Expanded amenity fees at two developed campgrounds

Services

- Wilderness Permit reservation service
- Reds Meadow transportation system