Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
Pacific Southwest Region
Recreational Fee Program
2008 Accomplishment Report

2008 Recreation Fee Program Expenditures

- Visitor Services: $102,793
- Law Enforcement: $23,600
- Repair, Maintenance, & Facility Enhancement: $31,468
- Cost of Collection: $13,802

Your Fees at Work in 2008

**Repair, Maintenance & Facility Enhancement**

- Serviced and maintained the Eagle Falls Trailhead, including cleaning and pumping of toilets, trash collection, and parking area repairs.
- Contributed to trail maintenance and restoration in the Desolation Wilderness.
- Initiated a comprehensive campsite inventory survey on the LTBMU portion of the Desolation as part of the Chief’s 10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge.
- Worked with the Eldorado National Forest to conduct a wilderness encounter monitoring program on both portions of the Desolation.

**Visitor Services**

- Hired three wilderness naturalists to staff the Taylor Creek information and education center and provided information at popular wilderness trailheads.

*Fee Program Success Story: Desolation Wilderness Monitoring & Education Program*

The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), in cooperation with the Eldorado NF (ENF), initiated a comprehensive campsite inventory survey within the Desolation Wilderness using REA funding in 2008. Completing these campsite inventory meets a 2009 target of the Chief’s 10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge and provides valuable information on the current condition of the wilderness resource. In addition, by using wilderness naturalists and information specialists, the LTBMU and the ENF were able to promote wilderness stewardship along with wilderness education and information programs.
• Recruited and hired a wilderness education student intern that provided interpretive visitor information.
• Along with the Eldorado National Forest, continued to support the Desolation Wilderness Volunteer and Education Program. Thirty-three volunteers contributed over 3,100 hours in 2008.
• Provided wilderness education booths and presentations for schools, fairs, businesses, and to area service clubs and organizations.
• Implemented “Visitor Appreciation Days” throughout the busy July 4th weekend holiday period at Eagle Falls Trailhead to promote public involvement and “Wilderness Stewardship Challenge”.
• Administered outfitter guide and recreation event permits.

Law Enforcement
• Funded two wilderness rangers for wilderness patrol, education and enforcement of wilderness regulations.

Cost of Collection
• Funded salaries for employees who conducted fee collections and compliance.

Upcoming Fee Projects
• Improve and enhance the Eagle Falls Trailhead interpretation signing and landscaping.
• Install a new generation of informational signs at popular trailheads.
• Continue and expand the wilderness naturalist program through the use of interns and volunteers.
• Expand and formalize the Wilderness Education and Outreach Program.
• Continue the “Desolation Wilderness Education Tour” providing wilderness education booths and presentations for schools, fairs and businesses.
• Continue “Visitor Appreciation Days”.
• Continue to exceed the targets presented in the Chief’s “Wilderness Stewardship Challenge”.
• Continue to work cooperatively with the Eldorado National Forest to implement the Desolation Wilderness monitoring program.
• Continue working on trail restoration and stabilization projects.
• Continue to support outfitter guide and recreation event permit issuance and administration.

Recreation Fee Revenue Sources

Permits & Passes
• Desolation Wilderness Permit & reservations
• Eldorado National Forest/Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Annual Day Use Pass
• Federal Interagency Passes
• Outfitter & Guide and Recreation Event Permits

Sites/Areas
• Standard amenity day use fee at Eagle Falls Trailhead

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 email at twilton@fs.fed.us or by phone at (530) 283-7778.