



Inyo National Forest

Recreation Program Fee Accomplishment Report 2010

Recreation fees are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations will benefit as 95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use and value.

Accomplishments Provided with Recreation Fees on the Inyo National Forest:

- Through a partnership with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), utilized REA funds to hire sixteen student interns who participated in wilderness stewardship programs and provided interpretive programs, information, and wildlife education to thousands of visitors.
- Produced a series of ten short video segments focused on visitor education to be featured on the forest’s web site. Topics included wildfire ecology, boating safety, Reds Meadow history and access information, and wilderness stewardship.
- Funded a new “roving ranger” program at Reds Meadow/Minaret Vista. These rangers provided informal interpretation and visitor information at popular destinations, campgrounds, transit loading areas, the Mammoth Ski Area, along trails, and on public buses. In addition, they removed trash and performed trail work when not assisting visitors.
- Defined and renumbered campsites and increased number of restroom facilities at Lower Lee Vining, Aspen and Moraine campgrounds.
- Constructed information boards at Moraine and Cedar Flat Group campgrounds.



South Tufa Natural Area rangers and staff provided over 450 interpretive tours in 2010 to an estimated 4,600 visitors.

Special Feature

Campgrounds offer visitors an opportunity to reconnect with nature. But, if designed poorly, campsites can have a negative impact on the surrounding environment. Lands acquired in a 2005 exchange included campground facilities in Lee Vining Canyon. The layout and design of these campgrounds had contributed to stream sedimentation and bank erosion. Recreation fees were used to make substantial campground infrastructure investments during 2010 that will protect the canyon’s natural setting and increase visitor enjoyment.



**Inyo National Forest
Revenue & Expenditures**

Revenue*

Source	Amount
Interagency Fees	\$94,410
Recreation Fees	\$944,487
Special Uses	\$86,668
Total	\$1,125,565

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$174,978
Visitor Services	\$541,257
Law Enforcement	\$39,423
Cost of Collections	\$134,163
Habitat Restoration	\$118,422
Total	\$1,008,243

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

Inyo National Forest Additional Accomplishments

- Placed barriers and signs at Aspen and Lower Lee Vining campgrounds and in the Reds Meadow Valley to protect meadows and riparian vegetation.
- Removed invasive species at South Tufa Natural Area with assistance from volunteer youth groups.
- Increased the frequency of restroom cleaning, trash and horse manure removal, and bear-proof storage box maintenance at Horseshoe Meadows Equestrian Campground.
- Provided on site “Be Bear Aware” education to campers and backpackers to reduce negative human-bear interactions.
- Repaired and maintained the boardwalk and exhibit at Schulman Grove, and replaced the roof at the visitor center.
- Added exhibits to Schulman Grove interpretive trails, and Camp Nelson and Mexican Mine sites.
- Provided interpretive programs on geology at Schulman Grove.
- Funded Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns who helped restore sites along the Pacific Crest Trail. They also maintained trails, removed fire rings, and shared Leave No Trace information.
- Supported staff who led trail maintenance projects on the Mt. Whitney Trail and habitat restoration projects in the Kearsarge Pass, Piute Pass, Pine Creek, and North Fork Big Pine Creek drainages to protect and restore habitat for rare and sensitive amphibian species.
- Staffed the Wilderness Reservation Office and managed the complex wilderness permit and allocation system that accommodated 60,000 overnight visitors in 2010.
- Provided educational publications at Inyo visitor centers and offered wilderness education programs.
- Administered and monitored Outfitter and Guide and Recreation Event special use permits.



Wilderness rangers and SCA interns cleared fallen trees along the Pacific Crest Trail.

More Information

Inyo National Forest Recreation Fee Program

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For information on the Regional Program

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Pacific Southwest Region Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue

Source	Amount
Interagency Fees	\$265,304
Recreation Fees	\$6,103,159
Special Uses	\$810,333
Total	\$7,178,797

Expenditures*

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$3,663,433
Visitor Services	\$2,224,898
Law Enforcement	\$446,583
Cost of Collections	\$786,686
Habitat Restoration	\$225,885
Fee Agreements	\$0
Total	\$7,347,486

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenue.