



Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests



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:

- Administered and monitored approximately 150 outfitter and guide and 35 recreation event special use permits. Implemented new policy direction that included analysis of permit types, and allocated service days and areas.
- Completed cultural clearance surveys for outfitter and guide hunting camps.
- Cleared downed trees along trails frequently used by outfitter and guide operations in the West Elk, Raggeds and La Garita Wilderness areas, as well as other trails across the forest.
- Rented and maintained portable toilets at several popular and heavily-used trailheads such as Judd Falls/Copper Creek, and Slot Taylor River access.
- Maintained many restrooms at trailheads and dispersed locations that are largely used by outfitter and guides.
- Constructed horse corrals at a popular horse camping/wilderness trailhead. Also, fabricated and installed hitching rails in the Horse Ranch Park area.
- Installed a new trail turnpike on the Beckwith Pass Trail.
- Administered Telluride Bluegrass Music Festival recreation event: supplemented law enforcement patrols at event, associated permitted camping area and concentrated dispersed camping areas.
- Conducted additional field inspections of outfitter and guide and recreation event operations. Inspections were completed by permit administrators with assistance from Colorado Division of Wildlife Officers and Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers.

Special Feature

Outfitter and guides provide forest visitors opportunities to participate in activities that may be too challenging or expensive otherwise. The Forest values the relationships with outfitters and guides and in 2009, the forest held several meetings to improve relationships and to discuss new national direction for operations. Visitors who use guided services and those who do not will both benefit from the increased understanding and compliance of outfitters and guides.



GMUG National Forests Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	
Source	Amount
Interagency Fees	\$3,294
Recreation Fees	\$16,418
Special Uses	\$245,651
Total	\$265,363

Expenditures	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$41,315
Visitor Services	\$104,604
Law Enforcement	\$11,899
Cost of Collections	\$7,041
Total	\$164,859

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

GMUG National Forests Accomplishments continued:

- Hired an Alpine Ranger to provide visitor contacts and off-highway vehicle law enforcement and patrols, conduct use surveys, and complete routine maintenance on high country jeep passes including Black Bear, Imogene and Ophir Pass roads.
- Partnered with several snowmobile clubs that groomed and marked snowmobile routes.
- Installed and rehabilitated more than 15 trailhead kiosks.
- Continued to fund additional law enforcement and permit administrator presence at several recreation events such as the Imogene Pass Run, Jeep Jamboree, motorcycle enduro events, snowmobile and dog sled races, Mountain Man rendezvous, annual car race to Lands End, Fat Tire Bike Ride and many more.
- Staffed the Ouray Visitor Center daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day. This center is a major contact point for internationally renowned high alpine jeep country and other guided opportunities.
- Patrolled winter trailheads and identified and investigated several illegal outfitter and guide operations and instances of motorized use within Wilderness areas.
- Issued new and/or updated outfitter and guide special use permits and associated operating plans as directed by new national policy.
- Funded seasonal employees who made visitor contacts, maintained restrooms and kiosks, removed hazard trees in the camping pods, distributed brochures, answered visitor questions and collected fees at Canyon Creek recreation area.
- Continued funding West Virginia University's development of an outfitter and guide capacity analysis methodology for the forest that will eventually be expanded to include all of the Rocky Mountain Region.
- Funded employees to coordinate volunteers and local trail groups who maintained trails and installed signs. Purchased needed materials and supplies to support these groups.
- Partnered with high-country jeep operators who cleaned and maintained remote restrooms along their routes.
- Support hosts at the camping pods in the Canyon Creek recreation fee area. These volunteers assist visitors by offering information about recreation opportunities in the Ouray area and complete daily operation and maintenance tasks.

Recreation Program



Outfitter field camp inspection



Participants at a bicycle recreation event



Dog sledding recreation event

GMUG National Forest Planned Projects for 2010

- Support law enforcement and compliance staff who monitor outfitter and guide operations and recreation events, and patrol campgrounds and day use sites.
- Provide portable restrooms and operate and maintain facilities associated with the fee program.
- Initiate trail projects to improve tread and reduce erosion problems caused by heavy use.
- Continue to build and install additional bulletin boards and make facility improvements at fee sites.



Recreation Program



Information:

**GMUG National Forest
Recreation Fee Program, Contact:
970-874-6612**

Email:

kcmoore@fs.fed.us

Online:

www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/

**For information on the
Regional Program, Contact:
303-275-5043**

Email:

pdevore@fs.fed.us

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Rocky Mountain Region Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue*

Source	Amount
Interagency Pass	\$183,064
Recreation Fees	\$1,956,085
Special Uses	\$1,868,121
Total	\$4,007,270

Expenditures

Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,292,097
Visitor Services	\$1,730,922
Law Enforcement	\$209,815
Cost of Collections	\$284,837
Habitat Restoration	\$210,805
Fee Agreements	\$0
Total	\$3,728,476

*Remaining funds will be used for large projects
and next year's startup season costs.