

Fee Accomplishment Report 2009

Rocky Mountain Region

Recreation Program



White River National Forest



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:

- Processed, administered and monitored 156 outfitter and guide and 26 recreation event special use permits that authorized over 42 separate events. Events included a Boy Scout Merit Badge Rally (150 participants) and an American Endurance Ride Conference equestrian event (100 participants).
- Issued a new marina permit and worked with the permit holder and the Colorado Division of Wildlife to initiate a boat inspection program to prevent introduction of aquatic nuisance species (zebra and quagga mussels) at Green Mountain Reservoir.
- Hosted meetings for permit holders regarding the new outfitter and guide regulations at three district offices.
- Co-hosted a 2-day outfitter and guide seminar with a long standing outfitter. Intended for new guides, 'Leave No Trace' practices, and proper packing and camping techniques were demonstrated.
- Conducted several preliminary investigations and worked with Law Enforcement Officers on illegal outfitting and guiding cases.
- Worked with Pike-San Isabel National Forests and the Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands to create a standard operating plan template for outfitters and guides and implemented its use.
- Initiated a district-wide outfitter and guide program analysis on the Dillon Ranger District.

Special Feature

On National Trails Day, the Forest teamed up with two long-standing partners, the Friends of the Dillon Ranger District and the Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness. Over 50 people worked on the heavily used Acorn Creek Trail, which leads to the Ptarmigan Wilderness, to reduce erosion problems. After completing the work, several volunteers led environmental education walks for local girl scouts and other visitors.



White River National Forest Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue	
Source	Amount
Interagency Fees	\$15,420
Recreation Fees	\$425,560
Special Uses	\$483,729
Total	\$924,709

Expenditures*	
Source	Amount
Maintenance & Repair	\$279,111
Visitor Services	\$682,282
Law Enforcement	\$111,978
Cost of Collections	\$51,540
Habitat Restoration	\$2,000
Total	\$1,126,911

*Expenditures may be funded with previous years' revenues.



Teva Games and a bike race recreation events

White River National Forest

Accomplishments continued:



- Maroon Bells Recreation Fee Area:
 - Installed new self-service payment instructions and fee tube at the Welcome Station.
 - Installed bear-proof trash receptacles at East Maroon Portal and constructed new tent pads at Silver Queen campsites.
 - Installed hand dryers in bathrooms and modified and upgraded the solar system at Maroon Lake Day Use facilities.
 - Repaired avalanche damaged micro-hydro unit and reconstructed five sections of the Crater Lake Trail impacted by mudslides.
 - Utilized correctional crews to remove and stack hundreds of dead aspen trees along Maroon Creek Road.
 - Purchased a back-up generator to supplement the solar and micro-hydro systems.
- Leveraged project funds and grant money to refurbish Deep Lake Campground: installed new signs, fire rings, and picnic tables and improved pathways to restrooms and other facilities.
- Green Mountain Reservoir Recreation Fee Area:
 - Funded three seasonal employees who performed cleaning, maintenance, fee collection and law enforcement duties, and made visitor contacts May through October.
 - Purchased and installed six accessible fire rings at Cow Creek Campground.
- Vail Pass Recreation Area
 - Groomed 55 miles of snowmobile trails and signed over 100 miles of multi-use winter trails.
 - Purchased a heavy duty snow plow for parking lot maintenance.
 - Provided field reports to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center and posted CAIC's avalanche forecasts at Vail Pass.
- Funded staff who coordinated and prepared a "Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado" project involving 80 volunteers on the Peaks Trail. The following work was completed:
 - Constructed a 22 foot bridge.
 - Re-routed a 100 feet of trail to avoid a wet area.
 - Constructed three sections of turnpike to harden wet and muddy trail segments.



Sign placement and patrols at Vail Pass Recreation Area



Before and after photos of tread and the Cucumber Creek Bridge on Peaks Trail.



Accomplishments continued:

- Supported trail crews and volunteers who completed basic maintenance work and rebuilt 40 drainage structures, turnpike and boardwalk sections, and rehabilitated dispersed campsites on Acorn Creek, Baker's Tank, Mesa Cortina, Wheeler Lakes, Buffalo Cabin, Peaks, and Colorado trails.
- Supplemented project funds and replaced the Cross Creek Bridge, reconstructed West Grouse Creek Trail and assisted with the Notch Mountain Shelter historic structure survey.
- Reconstructed a switch back in the Island Lakes area and posted new signs and rebuilt rock cairns throughout the back country.
- Coordinated with and prepared work for the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (a 10-person trail crew):
 - Rehabilitated 2 miles of user created trails within the Golden Horseshoe area.
 - Cleared trees using crosscut saws from 30 miles of trail within the Eagles Nest Wilderness.
 - Installed check dams and drainage dips on one mile of the Acorn Creek Trail.
 - Installed check dams and drainage dips on trails within the Frey Gulch area used by Keystone Stables.
- Partnered with the Sierra Club to rehabilitate the West Maroon Trail.
- Hosted four volunteer projects in Wilderness areas with partner organizations: two Outward Bound service days, a back country volunteer project and Friends of the Eagles Nest noxious weed spraying day.
- Inventoried 365 campsites, rehabilitated 56, and installed and maintained 25 Wilderness portal and trail signs on the Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District.
- Packed out and disposed of hundreds of pounds of trash using backpacks and pack stock.
- Inventoried, cleaned and rehabilitated backcountry campsites in the South Fork compartment of the Flattops Wilderness.
- Provided cross-cut saw training for Wilderness and trail crew seasonal employees.



*New signs on
Blanco Ranger District*



*Preparing to pack out trash
from Wilderness Areas.*



*Participants in
cross-cut saw training*

White River National Forest Planned Projects for 2010

- Continue to process, administer and monitor outfitter and guide and recreation event special use permits.
- Partner with organizations and volunteers to complete trail maintenance and Wilderness monitoring projects.
- Continue to groom and mark trails and patrol the Vail Pass Recreation Area.
- Complete maintenance and cleaning tasks, and provide visitor information and assistance in the Maroon Bells Recreation Fee Area and fee sites across the forest.



Permitted climbing school at Camp Hale

Recreation Program



Rafting pre-trip safety meeting

Information:

**White River National Forest
Recreation Fee Program, Contact:**
970-945-3207

Email:

mkenealy@fs.fed.us

Online:

www.fs.fed.us/r2/whiteriver/

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

Email:

pdevore@fs.fed.us

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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.