



Recreation Program Modification Initiative

Tonto National Forest

REA Overview

The 2004 Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) authorizes the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to charge fees at developed recreation sites.

REA benefits visitors to federal public lands by:

- Reinvesting majority of revenue back to site of collection.
- Providing more opportunities for public involvement in determining recreation fee sites and fees;
- Providing criteria and limits on areas and sites where recreation fees can be charged; and
- Providing opportunities for cooperation with partners.

REA identifies three fee categories:

- **Standard Amenity Fees** are typically day use fees covered by day or annual recreation passes, such as the Tonto Pass.
- **Expanded Amenity Fees** provide direct benefits to users. Examples include developed campgrounds, group day-use and overnight sites, boat launches.
- **Special Recreation Permit Fees** are noncommercial and issued as a way to enhance natural and cultural resource protection, health and safety of visitors, or to allocate capacity or disperse recreation use.

