



# National Forests in Alabama

## Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

### Parking Issues No More

The forests added two overflow parking areas to loops A and C in Open Pond Campground. Parking had been an issue for campground visitors and guests during high use times, with visitors parking on the grass and undesignated areas.

The two new parking areas will reduce impacts to campers when they have multiple vehicles and/or guest visiting. They will also help reduce the number of vehicles parking along the road edge and make roadway passage safer for campers and motorhomes. Finally, the new areas will help with area degradation. Recreation fee dollars of \$1,884.47 helped to fund this project.

*New parking area*



### Water's Edge Safer



Over the past several years the water level at the swimming area at Blue Lake Day Use Recreation Area has remained higher than normal causing water rise above the block wall that was installed at the beach area.

To make access safer when entering the water, the forest installed post and rope barriers at the block wall edge. The forest also installed concrete pavers and handrails on the steps leading into the water. Recreation funds of \$1,649.79 enabled this work.

### Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. They support and enhance:

- Public safety
- Recreation site maintenance and improvements
- Educational experiences
- Informational wayside exhibits
- Youth programs and partnerships
- Interpretive programs

Current and future generations benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

### It's Good to be in Hot Water

Showers are great – except when you expect warmth and get only a cold splash. That was the case for the showers in Loop C Bath House in Open Pond Campground. To fix the issue, the forest used \$891.70 of recreation fee funds to purchase and install a new water heater. Visitors once again can enjoy a hot shower after a day of play.

## Other Accomplishments

- Treated and routinely tested potable water at campgrounds and swimming beaches.
- Provided additional law enforcement support during peak use days and holidays.
- Provided clean and well maintained facilities at campgrounds, including replacing damaged tables, grills and fire rings, mowing grass, cleaning restrooms, replacing signage and dumping trash.
- Removed hazardous trees at recreation fee areas and campgrounds with the help of certified contractors and volunteers.
- Pumped toilets throughout recreation areas.
- Replaced damaged tables at Uchee Shooting Range.
- Bladed and graveled Warden Station Horse Camp loop roads.
- Maintained OHV trails to include dozer work to widen trails and fix erosion.
- Repaired water leaks at Coleman Lake.
- Installed new posts and fencing at Henry Creek and Shepard’s Branch Shooting Ranges.

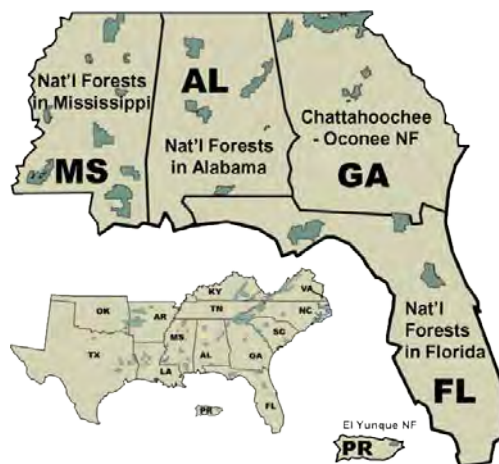


Beautiful Waterfall in the Sipsey Wilderness



New tables at Uchee Shooting Range

## Regional Map



## Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$282,347	\$7,790,073
Special Uses	\$2,016	\$1,704,464
Interagency Passes	\$38,460	\$528,471
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$322,824</b>	<b>\$10,023,008</b>
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$194,078	\$4,625,554
Visitor Services	\$16,024	\$1,400,284
Law Enforcement	\$1,000	\$180,257
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$304,256
Fee Agreements	\$4,388	\$55,183
Collections/Overhead	\$4,387	\$1,272,180
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$219,877</b>	<b>\$7,837,714</b>

## Contacts

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