

# Eldorado National Forest

## Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2019

### Clean Power at Robbs Hut



New solar lighting at Robbs Hut

Robbs Hut was constructed as a fire lookout in 1934 and is still used for this purpose in emergencies. At an elevation of 6,686 feet, the hut offers amazing views of the Crystal Range in the Desolation Wilderness. In 2019, the forest installed a solar-powered lighting system for Robbs Hut, replacing an old propane system. Recreation fee funds were used to purchase the system and Sacramento Municipal Utility District personnel installed the system.

### 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.

### Trail Improvements

The Mokelumne Wilderness is in the Carson Pass Management Area. The area is traversed by a number of trails including the Pacific Crest Trail and home to three lakes – Round Top, Fourth of July and Winnemucca. There were two trail-related issues in the Wilderness. Near Winnemucca Lake, heavy use has caused user-created trails to fan out in all different. Also, water bars on the trails were silting up with eroded trail soils. Muddy conditions caused people to walk through the vegetation beside the trail, causing damage.

The forest used \$1,000 in recreation fee funds and \$8,000 in Cornerstone funds to support rehabilitation work. Forest staff worked with an American Conservation Experience crew to block user created trails with brush, branches and rocks; and to repair trail treads and water bars.



Steps on the Ralston Trail



Water diversion completed on trail near Winnemucca Lake

## Other Accomplishments

- Hosted two motorcycle endurance races, one dual-port motorcycle endurance race, three equestrian rides, two mountain bike events, a foot race event and a handcart re-enactment event.
- Administered 14 outfitter and guide permits for mountain biking, eight rock climbing, rafting/kayaking and outdoor education related to rock climbing, backpacking, snowshoeing and hiking.
- Repaired leaking pipes at Big Meadows and Hell Hole Campgrounds and the water transmission line in between the two sites.
- Repaired/cleaned the Dru Barner Campground water system.
- Removed hazard trees and reduced fuels at developed recreation sites.
- Repaired and maintained five cabin rentals, including janitorial services, propane, hazard tree removal, roof repair and water system service. Sanded and painted the Van Vleck bathroom and deck stairs and performed pest control.
- Opened a new visitor information service center with trained staff for the Desolation Wilderness. Forest staff provide permits, issued overnight permits to walk in customers and provide trip planning information to the public.
- Volunteers and interns staffed five trailheads and provide naturalist information about the Desolation Wilderness.

## Regional Map



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Loon Lake, Crystal Basin Recreation Area

## Contacts

**Eldorado National Forest**  
**Recreation Fee Program Contact**  
**530-621-5214**

Email: [michelle.zuro-kreimer@usda.gov](mailto:michelle.zuro-kreimer@usda.gov)  
 Online: [www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado](http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado)

**Regional Contact**  
**707-562-8846**  
 Email: [matthew.boisseau@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.boisseau@usda.gov)

## Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$216,122	\$9,140,351
Special Uses	\$5,382	\$1,297,840
Interagency Passes	\$17,940	\$502,160
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$239,444</b>	<b>\$10,940,351</b>
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$170,471	\$4,261,296
Visitor Services	\$89,539	\$2,512,317
Law Enforcement	\$24,123	\$228,114
Habitat Restoration	\$4,000	\$24,966
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$20,122
Collections/Overhead	\$3,977	\$899,107
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$292,110</b>	<b>\$7,945,922</b>

\*Carryover funds will be used for large projects and upcoming startup costs.