

Lassen National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2021

Safer and Sunnier!



Road crew cleans debris and slash inside Gurnsey Creek Campground.

Gurnsey Creek Campground is one of the forest's most popular campgrounds providing access to plentiful hiking trails, picnic spots and rainbow trout fishing. Unfortunately, due to a large hazard tree problem, the site

has been closed for several years. Lucky for us, and the public, staff from across the forest and from a multitude of resource areas worked together to mitigate the large-scale issue. Our timber staff put together a small sale that included hazard tree removal. Once the harvest was complete our road crew spent several weeks diligently cleaning the site of slash and debris. Our fire crews felled additional trees to open-up the canopy. Forest crews partnered with the Sierra Institute to replace picnic tables, fire rings, and bollards that were damaged during the logging operations. Repairs are nearly complete, and we hope to reopen the campground this season!

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.

The Recovery Begins

On the Lassen and Plumas National Forests, and in the local community, 2021 will always be remembered as the year the Dixie Fire burned 979,104 acres in the region. Among the immense devastation the fire caused, was extensive damage to many recreation sites. Forest staff joined the



Felling a hazard tree in a campground affected by the Dixie Fire

Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team to assess the damage and hazards in recreation sites caused by the fire and to ensure that the scope and scale of the recovery was fully understood.

As soon as conditions were safe, forest trails, OHV, and fire staff used recreation fee dollars to begin the first step in recovery for our recreation sites: hazard tree felling.

With the scale of damage from the fire, there is still much work to be done. However, the



initiation of the work in 2021 has already kicked off the recovery effort. With hard work and determination, we anticipate bringing all our recreation sites back to safe and working order for our visitors to once again enjoy.

Recreation Office felling a tree in a campground which was killed by the Dixie Fire.

Other Accomplishments

- Installed 36 new picnic tables and fire rings at the Almanor Campground.
- Replaced kiosk at Butte Meadows Campground.
- Replaced six tables, six fire rings, kiosk, and replaced the bathroom roof at Black Rock Campground.
- Repaired vault toilets at Battle Creek Campground.
- Installed or replaced 60 bollards.
- Returned to opening and operating nearly all campgrounds after the 2020 summer recreation season was limited by COVID.



Replaced double grill at Hat Creek Group Campground

Hat Creek Recreation Area received 32 grills, two double grills, and five fire pits. Doing this was especially important due to the potential fire hazards in a dry year. Employees were also able to reconstruct a split rail fence at Hat Creek Group Campground. Picnic tables were also replaced at the group camp since old tables were falling apart.

Regional Map



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



McCarthy Point Lookout

Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$421,760	\$8,921,596
Special Uses	\$373	\$977,102
Interagency Passes	\$1,780	\$102,752
Total	\$423,913	\$10,001,450
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$175,912	\$3,499,145
Visitor Services	\$0	\$2,921,425
Law Enforcement	\$0	\$272,025
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$231,339
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$1,208
Collections/Overhead	\$37,526	\$382,632
Total	\$213,438	\$7,307,774

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