

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

# ARIZONA

**Arizona Strip Field Office** 

**Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021** 

### Installing a New Fee Kiosk



Fee Kiosk at Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area

The BLM installed a double-paneled kiosk at the Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area (VRCRA), paid for it with non-recreation fee funds, and installed it with recreation fee dollars. This kiosk will provide information on the transition to Recreation.gov and other information such as how fee dollars have been spent. The BLM will soon be providing lighting over our iron ranger fee containers. Amount expended: \$7,600

### Constructing a Parking Area



Completed Parking Area at Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area

At the Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area, BLM staff used a skid steer and mini excavator to clear vegetation and spread gravel base for an expanded and improved parking area. This project mitigated a safety hazard along County Road 242, where up to 30 vehicles would park on busy weekends, impeding traffic. This parking area will allow visitors to safely park off the road and be screened from the county road to provide a remote experience. Amount expended: \$9,929

#### **Recreation Fee Dollars**

They support and enhance:

- Maintenance, repair, and facility enhancement related directly to visitor enjoyment, visitor access, and health and safety
- Interpretation, visitor information, visitor service, visitor needs assessments, and signs
- Habitat restoration directly related to wildlife- dependent recreation that is limited to hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, or photography
- Law enforcement related to public use and recreationDirect operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program



Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations benefit as 100% of the funds collected are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

#### **Other Accomplishments**

Other renovations in 2021 to the VRCRA included additional water system repairs, which will provide upgraded facilities as the site reopens in spring 2022. Fee revenue was partially paid for this project.

The BLM is also preparing to transition approximately half of the VRCRA recreation sites to Recreation.gov, to facilitate user trip planning.

Lastly, a crew repaired the fence surrounding the recreation area and constructed a new fence segment to keep the cattle out of the recreation area.

#### Vicinity Map



#### Contacts

#### Arizona Strip Field Office Recreation Fee Program Contact

Phone Number: (435) 688-3200 Email: blm\_az\_asdoweb@blm.gov Web: https://www.blm.gov/office/arizona-strip-fieldoffice

#### **District Contact**

Phone Number: (435) 688-3200 Email: blm\_az\_asdoweb@blm.gov

#### Revenue & Expenditures

FY 20 End of Year Carryover	\$170,154.44
FY21 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$110.00
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$45,194.82
Individual Special Recreation Permits (ISRPs)	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$21,140.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$66,444.82

FY21 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$38,150.96
Visitor Services	\$0.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$6,545.38
Collections/Overhead	\$4,363.95
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$49,060.29



# **Planned Activities**



New Vault Toilet at Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area

At the Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area, the BLM has several planned projects, including contracts to replace the septic system and replace the epoxy floors in the restrooms. We plan to finish the fee kiosk, improve accessibility at four campsites, and improve the trail down to the river.

We plan to purchase four new vault toilets and install three at Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and one at Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area.

# FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$33,175.00
Visitor Services	\$0.00
Law Enforcement	\$3,866.00
Habitat Restoration	\$100,000.00
Collections/Overhead	37,120.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$174,161.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$86,000.00

### **Connecting with Communities**

These recreation fees (from Recreation Use Permits and Special Recreation Permits) are currently being used to maintain and enhance the Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area and the Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area.

We will soon be transitioning to recreation.gov, and we are working on an updated business plan. For the Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area, we recently established a 14-day stay limit (consistent with the rest of the AZ Strip District). The stay limit will open the area to more recreational users. Recreation.gov will facilitate trip planning for visitors since visitors will be able to reserve sites in advance; visitors will also be able to use credit cards for payments. An updated business plan will allow the BLM to charge more appropriate fees, consistent with similar sites in the area. These projects will help the BLM better serve its diverse users at the Virgin River Canyon Recreation Area and provide necessary maintenance and management of the recreation area.

At the Lime Kiln Canyon Climbing Area, we provide necessary facilities to increase climbing users' safety, appreciation, and sanitation. The new and proposed facilities will also meet the needs of the increasing visitation by local UTV users who recreate in Lime Kiln Canyon.

