



ARIZONA Lower Sonoran Field Office

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

Petroglyph Site Protection



Metal barrier installed around petroglyphs

Recreation fee expenditures were used to install a rail fence around the Painted Rock Petroglyph Site. This site is considered significant to many tribes in southern Arizona. The fence allows visitors to view and appreciate the archaeological site while protecting it from damage. Approximate cost was \$25,000.

Enhancing Visitor Experience



BLM staff removing bags of smuggling trash

Recreation fee expenditures assisted in purchasing supplies and providing Law Enforcement services for a multi-day cleanup event. The June 2021 event resulted in the removal of 10,440 lbs. of drug and immigrant smuggling trash. Repeated cleanups are organized to provide for the health and safety and visitor enjoyment on the Sonoran Desert National Monument. Approximate cost was \$10,000.

Recreation Fee Dollars

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.

They support and enhance:

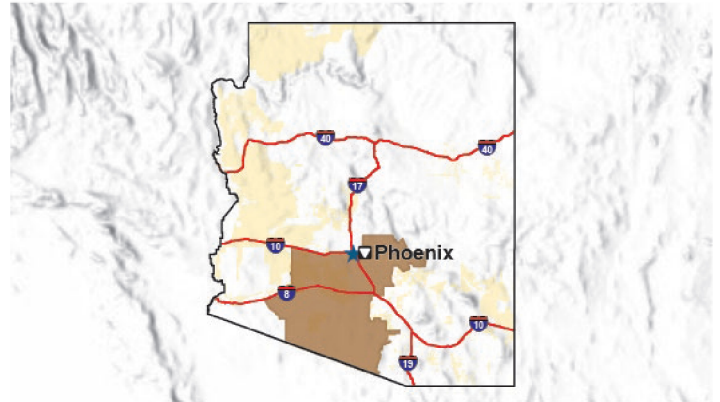
- Maintenance, repair, and facility enhancement related directly to visitor enjoyment, visitor access, and health and safety
- Interpretation, visitor information, visitor service, visitor needs assessments, and signs
- Habitat restoration directly related to wildlife- dependent recreation that is limited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



Other Accomplishments

- Funded a janitorial contract for the Painted Rock Petroglyph Site and Campground
- Purchased campground supplies such as trash bags, hand sanitizer, safety equipment, signs, and toilet paper
- Purchased & installed a new restroom door
- Funded campground hosts to help ensure fee compliance from visitors, provide interpretive information to recreationists, and assist in the overall operations and maintenance of the site
- Purchased & installed campsite markers
- Continued annual maintenance site support
- Processed all new special recreation permit (SRP) applications and expiring permit renewals

Vicinity Map



Contacts

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District Contact

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Revenue & Expenditures

FY20 End of Year Carryover	\$218,482.00
FY21 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$20,694.50
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$8,277.70
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$10,420.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$39,392.20

FY21 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$14,590.17
Visitor Services	\$51,248.58
Law Enforcement	\$18,218.62
Habitat Restoration	\$0.00
Collections/Overhead	\$8,798.67
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$92,856.04



Planned Activities



Host site improvements

- Fund a campground host.
- Plan & install host site improvements such as water and electricity to help recruit & retain quality campground hosts for future seasons.
- Design, develop and install visitor information signs for the Apache Junction area to help permittees, and visitors navigate the existing route network & potentially reduce the impact of unauthorized activities.
- Continued support of operations and maintenance for the fee site, including purchasing replacement vault toilet doors, restroom supplies, and tools to complete repairs.
- Address unplanned repair and maintenance issues as they arise.

FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$20,000.00
Visitor Services	\$1,800.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$2,500.00
Collections/Overhead	\$8,019.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$32,319.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$50,000.00

Connecting with Communities

The Lower Sonoran Field Office (LHFO) staff are working with the community of Apache Junction to address the illegal dumping and camping overstays in the Goldfield area. These issues are affecting the residents as well as tourists. With input from the community, the BLM has initiated a travel management plan and is designing recreation facilities that would benefit the area. This project supports the Connecting with Communities BLM Recreation Strategy, specifically Goal 1: Support Community Services Providers While Balancing the Interests of All Public Lands Users.

The LSFO staff annually reviews SRP renewals and processes new applications for compliance with the Resource Management Plan. This allows the BLM to coordinate and track commercial, competitive, and organized group use while ensuring the American public receives fair market value from the commercial use of its public land. The permits also provide resource protection measures to safeguard the public's future enjoyment of those resources. Most of the authorized permittees operating on LSFO-managed lands are local and help bring tourism revenue to the community. These actions support Goal 2 in the Connecting with Communities Strategy: Facilitate Greater Well-Being and Economic Benefits within Communities.

