# COLORADO Grand Junction Field Office

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

#### North Fruita Desert Improvements



Campers enjoy the sunset after a day of biking

GJFO completed the Event Area and Camping Expansion within the North FruitaDesert SRMA, a popular and nationally recognized mountain bike trail system. A new access road, 3-acre graveled staging area, 53 additional campsites with picnic table and fire ring, four CXT vault toilets, and enhanced trail access were completed. The continued development of camping and event areas enhances our commitment to the local community's interests in sustainable and economically viable outdoor recreation.

#### Special Recreation Permits Program



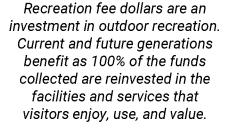
OHV enthusiasts enjoying their public lands

GJF's SRP program issued 32 new/renewing permits and managed 105 permits totaling 12,740 SRP user days. Funds were also utilized to support 50+ active partnerships that provide resource monitoring, education programs, and trash dump clean-ups. Highlights include facility development planning for the Grand Valley OHV area located on 27 1/4 Road.

## **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





#### Other Accomplishments

- Facilities maintenance includes 46 vault toilets, two fee campgrounds, two public water systems, six non-fee campgrounds, 26 trailheads, and one developed shooting range.
- Provided agreement funding to a newly organized Mesa County Trails Crew to provide maintenance of existing trails and new construction.
- Supported a robust OHV program in partnership with CPW that garnered over 36 miles of new motorized trail construction/rehabilitation.
- Supported an Adopt an Area program to facilitate volunteer work from diverse recreation user groups.

#### Vicinity Map



#### Contacts

#### **Grand Junction Field Office Recreation Fee Program Contact**

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#### **District Contact**

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## Revenue & Expenditures

FY21 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$61,044.08
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$41,238.91
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$14,720.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$117,002.99

FY21 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$33,119.41
Visitor Services	\$22,198.61
Law Enforcement	\$3,277.76
Habitat Restoration	\$18,205.72
Collections/Overhead	\$705.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$77,506.50



#### **Planned Activities**



**Multiple Opportunities** 

In addition to our non-discretionary workload, our primary focus will be on building and maintaining relationships with our local government and non-government partners. Implementing the North Fruita Desert Trails Master plan will be our top priority. It is a high-profile, high visitation area supported by key partnerships. In addition, we authorized the use of class-one e-bikes within the trail system. We will have increased revenue from the new campsites. We will focus on high-priority OHV projects throughout the resource in partnership with CPW and local OHV user groups to provide maintenance and new trail construction. User groups include OHV, motorcycle, and 4x4 enthusiasts.

## FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$55,000.00
Visitor Services	\$23,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$20,000.00
Habitat Restoration	\$20,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$10,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$128,000.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$40,000.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$157,000.00

#### Connecting with Communities

The Grand Junction Field Office collaborates with local, robust, and diverse user groups to benefit the local community and visitors' recreation programs. The strategy of Connecting with Communities is that public lands should be viewed as connected to and integrated with local communities. Many projects representing varied recreational uses have been proposed or in some implementation stage. Our local government cooperating partners include Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Mesa County, the cities of Grand Junction and Fruita, and the town of Palisade. Local non-government community partners are as numerous as they are diverse, from quiet wilderness seekers to gnarly rock crawling; all seek to enhance the visitor recreation experience from Backyard to Backcountry. Our GJFO Visitor Services Program offers consistent information regarding visitor and recreation services provided within our BLM field office and a robust volunteer coordination program. The GJFO recently signed and implemented the North Fruita Desert Trails, Master Plan. Through public scoping, we realized the need and support for allowing class-1 e-bikes. This provides a unique opportunity to gather data on how e-bike use may affect a trail system. The importance of facilitating and maintaining effective partnerships strengthens communication and outreach efforts. Understanding community social and economic values and quality of life issues align with the resources of the BLM's Recreation and Visitor Services Program, delivering as many benefits as possible to the recreating public.