



COLORADO Royal Gorge Field Office

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

Partnership Work



Volunteers working on the trail at Shelf Road

Shelf Road Recreation Area Project work was completed to improve climbing access. Through a partnership with Rocky Mountain Field Institute, both Shelf Road and Guffey Gorge were priority projects based on intensive visitor use accompanied by failing trail infrastructure. Guffey Gorge improvements on 94 linear feet of trail were accomplished. The cost of the assistance agreement was \$25,000.

Campground Improvements



The metal kiosk installed at The Bank campground

The local office enhanced the visitor experience with informational upgrades. Kiosks were upgraded to a low maintenance modular style in both campgrounds in the Shelf Road Recreation Area. At the cost of \$8900, kiosk upgrade and relocation of the fee station benefit the public by providing information in a logical place. The method of fee collection shifted to Recreation.gov, and camp hosts were brought in to help in the transition.

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 recreationDirect operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program



Other Accomplishments

- Turtle Rock Campground- Picnic table installation project for forklift rental, fuel, and supplies \$800 Cache Creek Kiosk purchase and install- \$3000
- Operational costs in Guffey Gorge, toilet pumping, and trash pickup \$4300
- Cleaning contracts Turtle Rock \$16,000
- Cleaning contract Gold Belt including Guffey \$19,600
- SRP permit administrator, LEO labor \$20,000
- Contract: Kiosk manufacture and installation for Deer Haven, Texas Creek, Booger Red \$27,720

Total 2021 \$121,520

Vicinity Map



Contacts

Royal Gorge Field Office Recreation Fee Program Contact

Phone Number: 719-429-1712
Email: lskinner@blm.gov
Web: www.blm.gov

District Contact

Phone Number: 719-429-3171
Email: jbrewer@blm.gov

Revenue & Expenditures

FY21 Revenue

Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$88,925.59
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$29,274.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$3,660.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$121,859.59

FY21 Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$80,320.00
Visitor Services	\$15,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$25,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$1,200.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$121,520.00



Planned Activities



Trail improvements planned

- Partner agreement FY23 \$11,000 for Shelf Road project, \$14,000 for Guffey project, total \$25,000
- Kiosk installation at Turkey Rock, Beaver Creek, Grape Creek \$16,950
- Intern hire FY23- Guffey Gorge and Shelf Road \$30,000
- Toilet pumping, trash Guffey contract \$4,300
- Cleaning contracts Turtle Rock \$16,000
- Cleaning contract Gold Belt including Guffey \$19,600
- Camphost \$4500 each, Turtle Rock and The Bank \$8,000

Total cost 2022 \$119,850

FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$39,900.00
Visitor Services	\$44,950.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$25,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$10,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$119,850.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$2,010.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$122,000.00

Connecting with Communities

RGFO projects support community service providers while balancing the interests of all public land users. Public lands across the state continue to see unprecedented and historic use from people experiencing the outdoors for the first time and those representing diverse and underserved populations who didn't think the outdoors was accessible. RGFO's partnership with Rocky Mountain Field Institute for environmental stewardship work on public land ensures attention is focused on high priority areas while ensuring that the underserved are included as project volunteers and staff leaders. The stewardship work is encompassed by the broader concept of environmental justice, requiring all people's fair treatment and meaningful involvement.

Future project work is planned for recreation areas supported by the recreation fee program. Management plans reflect the desire to maintain recreation opportunities within a backcountry setting. However, some areas require intensive education and adaptive management to protect the resources. Project work will continue to include monitoring and improvements of public land recreation areas to provide exceptional experiences while preserving the integrity of the resource.

