



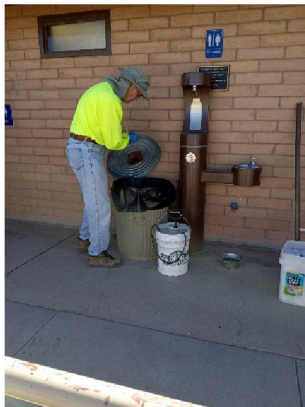
NEW MEXICO

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks NM

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2022



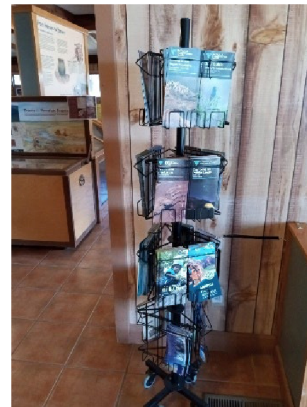
Site Maintenance



Tresco employee at work in Dripping Springs

The Monument has averaged 150,000-250,000 visitors annually to Dripping Springs Natural Area and Aguirre Spring Recreation Area. With high use, the Monument has determined that to offer a quality and healthy experience for visitors, a janitorial contract with local non-profit organization Tresco would benefit visitors, the site, and the local economy. Tresco employs local Las Cruces citizens of an underserved community and offers them opportunities for independence while also giving back.

Monument Brochures



Brochures available at the Dripping Springs Visitor Center

The Monument has worked closely with interns and the BLM New Mexico State Office to create and refine interpretive and educational brochures for the public. Topics covered include the area's history, local flora and fauna, and dispersed camping throughout the Monument and the Las Cruces District. Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act funds have been used to print brochures for distribution at the Dripping Springs Natural Area Visitor Center and Las Cruces District Office visitor lobby. They have also been distributed throughout the city for visitors.

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



Other Accomplishments

- Monitoring of permitted activities and visitor use
- Seasonal Park Rangers and volunteer staffing at recreation sites and visitor centers
- Brush maintenance along approximately 6.0 miles of roads to developed recreation sites on Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument
- Trail and fence maintenance at developed recreation sites
- Purchase and install post and cable fencing for Soledad Recreation Area
- Purchased uniform pieces for the Monument Friends Docent Group
- Renewed a 5-year subscription to TRAFx data interface to track visitation of vehicle counters. Contract to turn brochures 508 compliant

Vicinity Map



Contacts

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks NM

Recreation Fee Program Contact

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Web: <https://www.blm.gov/office/las-cruces-district-office>

District Contact

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Revenue & Expenditures

FY21 Revenue

Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$167,419.20
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$1,019.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$500.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$168,938.20

FY21 Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$44,798.20
Capital Improvements for Health & Safety-Facilities	\$7,447.64
Deferred Maintenance-Facilities	\$163.00
Visitor Services, Interpretation	\$45,382.69
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$609.80
Collections/Overhead	\$401.37
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$98,802.70



Planned Activities



Volunteer helps visitor at VC

- Monitoring of permitted activities and visitor use; Volunteer site hosts and volunteer staffing of visitor centers and recreation sites
- Supplies for facilities in each of four developed recreation sites
- Vault toilet and septic pumping
- Clean-up of vandalism on historical structures and frequently visited areas (rocks, walls, signs, etc.)
- Install new informational kiosks throughout recreation areas and trailheads in the Monument

FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$68,200.00
Visitor Services	\$59,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$800.00
Collections/Overhead	\$520.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$128,520.00
Prior Year Carryover	\$70,135.50
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$202,739.00

Connecting with Communities

The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument has partnered with the BLM New Mexico State Office (State Office) and the Public Lands Interpretive Association (Association) to offer local, underserved middle school students an opportunity to experience their local public lands. The partnership was formed in 2021 and is planned to serve students through the fiscal year 2022. The program will work in two phases, a classroom visit and a field site visit. For the classroom portion, the Association and BLM employees will visit classrooms to educate students on the local history, local flora and fauna, Leave No Trace, wilderness stewardship, and responsible recreation in public lands. The second phase will include transporting students to the Dripping Springs Natural Area. The students will have the opportunity to walk through the visitor center, take part in an outdoor lesson at the La Cueva Group Site, and hike up to La Cueva or Dripping Springs. The Association and BLM staff will focus the field trip portion on hands-on learning so that the students can apply their classroom lessons in a real-life setting. Both organizations' goal is to educate and expose the local youth to their public lands and cultivate a sense of ownership and public land stewardship.

