

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

# OREGON/WASHINGTON Grants Pass Field Office

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

#### **River Rangers Clean Up the Rogue**



River Ranger removing litter from the Rogue

The Rogue River Ranger crew conducted several clean-up efforts on the river in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. They participated in the annual Rogue River clean-up, working with Josephine County to support the effort. The river rangers conduct a pumpkin sweep every autumn, removing the many pumpkins that tend to find their way into the river after the fall holiday season. The river rangers also helped with invasive species removal, turtle surveys, fuel reduction projects, emergency communications, raft recovery, and trail maintenance.

#### **Rec Site Access Road Improvements**



Road Improvements at River Access Sites

In FY21, the BLM completed much-needed upgrades to the access roads for the Chair Recreation Site, Smullin Visitor Center, and crew quarters along the Rogue River. Roads and parking areas were graded and received a new layer of weed-free base rock. This maintenance will improve visitor and staff access at these sites and improve the overall visitor experience. The staff accomplished the work with a combination of recreation fee money and the in-house workforce.

## **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**

- Purchased and replaced visitor signs along the Rogue River corridor
- Staffed visitor center with seasonal employees
- Funded river rangers and maintenance crew
- Supported site hosts at the Rogue River Ranch
- Repaired solar power and plumbing systems at the Rogue River Ranch
- Maintained and improved water system at the Rogue River Ranch
- Routine annual maintenance of facilities along the Rogue River

#### Vicinity Map



### Contacts

#### Grants Pass Field Office Recreation Fee Program Contact

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#### **District Contact**

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#### **Revenue & Expenditures**

FY21 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$0.00
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$174,615.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$83,318.00
Interagency Passes	\$0.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$257,933.00

FY21 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$15,665.00
Visitor Services	\$744.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$409,629.00
Collections/Overhead	\$710.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$426,748.00



### **Planned Activities**



River Rangers during a raft recovery

- Carry out routine annual maintenance at all river facilities
- Replace jet boat for river patrols and monitoring
- Staff the visitor center, river ranger, and maintenance crews
- Support volunteer hosts at the Rogue River Ranch
- Replace the HVAC system at the visitor center and crew quarters
- Continue to support the other agency resource programs whose work on the river enhances the visitor experience
- Improve the Grave Creek boat launch site
- Improve the Whitehorse boat launch site

#### **Connecting with Communities**

In addition to the river program, Grants Pass also manages a variety of land-based recreation opportunities. It is currently in the process of developing a community-driven recreation site along the Applegate River. The former Provolt Seed Orchard has been established as a Special Recreation Management Area, highlighting the high potential for recreation opportunities and access to the Applegate River. BLM has partnered with many local groups to develop the recreation site, including the Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council, Applegate Valley Volunteer Firefighters, the Boy Scouts, local elementary schools, and numerous local volunteers. Developing the site has been a grassroots effort, with considerable contributions from the Provolt Volunteer Team, a group of volunteers dedicated to improving the site to benefit the local community. The site is ideally situated for interpretive events, and many school groups visit the site every year. As the BLM further develops the area, increased demand for Special Recreation Permits is expected for educational events, classes, and organized groups. Upcoming developments include a permanent vault toilet, trash cans, picnic tables and benches, interpretive panels, kiosks, fence and gate realignment to improve access, and parking lot improvements. Longerterm future developments will include equestrian trails and horse trailer parking, a disc golf course, and wildlife viewing structures. These recreation developments will provide social and economic benefits to the local community.



### FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$46,000.00
Visitor Services	\$1,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$440,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$1,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$488,000.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$499,686.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$265,000.00