



# OREGON/WASHINGTON Wenatchee Field Office

## Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

### Piloted Remote Off-Grid Kiosk



*ROK Unit Installed at Roza Recreation Site*

The Wenatchee Field Office participated in a BLM pilot program to determine the long-term feasibility of utilizing remote off-grid kiosks (ROK). This device allows visitors to pay fees with credit or debit cards, and transactions can occur even if cell or Wi-Fi connections are unavailable. BLM installed a ROK at the Roza Recreation Site in the Yakima River Canyon. The unit installation was simple, customers found it easy to operate and understand, and BLM staff found the ROK relatively problem-free and reduced the number of fee envelopes.

### Umtanum Bridge Rehabilitation



*Completed Umtanum Bridge Improvements*

Framed by basalt cliffs and the rolling desert hills of Yakima River Canyon, the Umtanum Suspension Bridge is a historic structure spanning the Yakima River. It is also the only means to access land on the west side of the river. In 2021, the bridge's deck and railings were replaced, suspension towers were realigned, new support beams, bracing, and tensioning components were installed, and the lower parking lot and access road were paved and striped. The project was supported with both fee revenues and deferred maintenance funding.

## 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

- Improved boat trailer parking at the Umtanum Recreation Site
- Installed solar lights in outhouses
- Pumped outhouse vaults
- Outhouse door handle upgrades
- Continued supplemental summer law enforcement contract with Kittitas County
- Purchased aluminum utility trailer
- Removed and chipped hazard trees, chipped debris from other fallen trees
- Installed new fire rings at the Liberty Recreation Site to replace broken/vandalized units
- Rented outhouse for Cowiche Canyon Trailhead
- Continued Okanogan County maintenance contract for two recreation sites
- Responded to wildfires affecting recreation infrastructure and visitors

## Vicinity Map



## Contacts

### Wenatchee Field Office

#### Recreation Fee Program Contact

Phone Number: 509-665-2100

Email: [BLM\\_OR\\_WN\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_WN_Mail@blm.gov)

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

#### District Contact

Phone Number: 509-536-2100

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## Revenue & Expenditures

### FY21 Revenue

Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$159,529.43
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$5,055.06
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$19,180.00
<b>Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21</b>	<b>\$183,764.49</b>

### FY21 Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$128,365.38
Visitor Services	\$26,475.63
Law Enforcement	\$64,720.64
Habitat Restoration	\$0.00
Collections/Overhead	\$8,558.23
<b>Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21</b>	<b>\$228,119.88</b>



## Planned Activities



*Install ROK unit at Umtanum recreation site*

- Install second ROK at Umtanum Recreation Site
- Install four recreation site entrance gates
- Complete road repairs at Liberty Recreation Site
- Purchase vehicle toolbox rack
- Purchase pressure washer units
- Recreation site resource protection
- Outhouse pumping
- Supplemental summer law enforcement contract with Kittitas County

BLM is also planning several deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects in 2022 and will be developing contracts for a new outhouse unit, picnic table shelter, and pavement crack sealing.

## FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$261,000.00
Visitor Services	\$27,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$65,000.00
Habitat Restoration	\$0.00
Collections/Overhead	\$9,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$362,000.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$253,909.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$178,000.00

## Connecting with Communities

In 2013, the BLM, US Forest Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service received a “Service First” grant to reduce barriers Latino families face visiting their public lands, including costs, fear of the unknown, transportation, and language. With this initial grant, the BLM, other agencies, and local partners joined forces to form Team Naturaleza. The partnership focused on connecting with North Central Washington’s Latino communities through bilingual natural science field trips, conservation education, and stewardship activities. Team Naturaleza also includes local community members who provide bilingual environmental education and encourage diverse visitors to gain the skills and knowledge to return to the public land sites independently and with their families and instill a sense of stewardship for these areas.

Since 2013, BLM and Team Naturaleza have partnered with Latino communities on various projects in the Douglas Creek Management Area. Douglas Creek is one of BLM’s closest management areas to Wenatchee, with over 29,000 acres managed for recreation, grazing, and wildlife values. Team Naturaleza serves as the community liaison between the BLM and the local Latino communities. The team has provided opportunities for multiple visits to Douglas Creek, including weekly bird walks, Douglas Creek cleanups and service projects, staffing booths at the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival and the Leavenworth Bird Festival, and assisting at a free fishing day event.

