

BLM Elko District Recreation Fee Sites

Final Business Plan

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PREPARING OFFICE

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Region 10 Elko District Office 3900 E. Idaho St. Elko, Nevada 89801 (775) 753–0200

Final Business Plan for

BLM Elko District Recreation Fee Sites

RECOMMENDATIONS, REVIEWS and APPROVALS

Date

Date

Date

Date

Recommended by:

Melanie A. Peterson Field Manager, Tuscarora Field Office

Melanie Mitchell Field Manager, Wells Field Office

Reviewed by:

Gerald Dixon Elko District Manager

Approved by:

Jon K. Raby Nevada State Director

This Elko District Recreation Sites Business Plan was prepared pursuant to the "Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, 2004" (P.L 108-447) and Bureau of Land Management Recreation Fee Program policy. It establishes future management goals and priorities for the campground and recreation sites in the Elko District Office.

Table of Contents

1. 2.		ecutive Summary gal Authorities	
2.	.1.	Regulatory Background	8
2.	.2.	Agency Policies and Guidelines	9
3.	Bacl	ckground	
3.	.1.	Area Description	10
3.	.2.	Visitor Demographics	11
3.	.3.	Recreational Visitation	12
3.	.4.	Season of Use	13
3.	.5.	Financial Analysis (Costs and Revenues)	13
3.	.6.	Recreation Use and Fee Revenues	15
4.	Fee	e Proposal	
4.	.1.	Summary	
4.	.2.	Existing and Proposed Fee Types	17
	4.2.1	.1. Standard Amenity-Fee Update	18
	4.2.2	.2. Expanded Amenity-Fee Updates	18
	4.2.3	.3. Expanded Amenity-Reservation Services	18
4.	.3.	Fee Calculation	19
4.	.4.	Financial Projections	21
4.	.5.	Use of Fees	22
4.	.6.	Impact of Fee Changes	23
	4.6.1	.1. Effects of Fee Increase	23
	4.6.2	.2. Effects of No Fee Increase	24
5.	Out	treach	25
5.	.1.	Public and Stakeholder Participation	25
5.	.2.	Public Communication and Marketing Plan	25
6.	Арр	pendices	27
6.	.1.	Recreation Site Descriptions	27
	6.1.1	.1. North Wildhorse	28
	6.1.2	.2. Wilson	29
	6.1.3	.3. Zunino-Jiggs	
	6.1.4	.4. Tabor Creek	31
6.	.2.	Site Fee Comparisons	32
	6.2.1	.1. North Wildhorse and Wilson	32
	6.2.2	.2. Zunino-Jiggs	

6.2.3	3. Tabor Creek	34
6.3.	Public Comment Matrix	35

List of Tables

Table 1: Overview of Proposed Fee Schedule	6
Table 2: Visitor Age Class	11
Table 3: Annual Household Income	11
Table 4: Participation and Activity Rates	12
Table 5: Distance Travelled	12
Table 6: Annual Visitation per Recreation Site	12
Table 7: Annual Operating Costs per Recreation Site	13
Table 8: Annual Operating Costs per Type	15
Table 9: Fee Accounts and Associated Recreation Fee Sites	15
Table 10: Annual Fee Revenue per Fiscal Year	16
Table 11: Five-Year Average Revenue, Cost, Difference and Ratio for all Recreation Sites	17
Table 12: Fee Proposal Summary	17
Table 13: Standard Amenity-Fee Modifications	18
Table 14: Expanded Amenity-Fee Modifications	18
Table 15: Contract Cost per Scan and Pay Transaction	19
Table 16: Projected Revenue per Site	
Table 17: Projected Revenue, Cost, Difference and Ratio	
Table 18: Long-Term Expenditures	22

List of Figures

Figure 1: Elko District Recreation Site Locations	7
Figure 2: A single campsite at North Wildhorse Campground	10
Figure 3: Day users having a picnic at Zunino-Jiggs Campground	11
Figure 4: North Wildhorse Campground in the winter	13
Figure 5: Double Vault Toilet at Tabor Creek Campground	14
Figure 6: Work on kiosk funded by FLREA fees	14
Figure 7: Before painting of single vault toilet at Wilson Campground	14
Figure 8: Repainted vault toilet at Wilson Campground	14
Figure 9: Fee station at Zunino-Jiggs Campground	15
Figure 10: Visitation and Revenue FY17-FY21	16
Figure 11: Sample BLM Recreation Use Permit used to collect fees at sites	20
Figure 12: RV Trailer at Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir Campground	21
Figure 13: Basic campsite at Wilson Campground	
Figure 14: Group campsite at North Wildhorse Campground	27
Figure 15: Camphost site at Zunino-Jiggs Campground. Camphosts provide valuable services to increase	
compliance at BLM campgrounds	27

Final Business Plan for BLM Elko District Recreation Fee Sites

1. Executive Summary

This business plan was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko District pursuant to the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) of December 2004 (P.L. 108-477, as amended), and BLM recreation fee program policy and manual direction. FLREA provides the BLM with its authority to collect Standard and Expanded Amenity Fees for sites and services that provide direct benefits to individuals and groups. These fees cover specialized outdoor recreation sites and services. FLREA also authorizes the BLM to retain collected fees locally and outlines how revenues may be used, such as for facility repair, maintenance, enhancement, interpretation, visitor information and services, visitor needs assessments, signs, restoration, law enforcement related to public use and recreation, and operating or capital costs directly associated with the Recreation and Visitor Services Program. The BLM's Elko District Office (EKDO) manages recreational use of its campgrounds through Recreation Use Permits (RUP), and associated fees, issued for short-term recreation use of specialized sites, facilities, or services that meet the fee collection guidelines established by FLREA.

FLREA requires that each fee program have a business plan which thoroughly discusses fees and explains how fees are consistent with the criteria set forth in FLREA and other agency directives. Business plans assist management in determining appropriate fee rates, outline the costs of administering fee programs, and identify priorities for future fee program expenditures. The primary purpose of the plan is to serve as public notification of the objectives for use of recreation fee revenues and to provide the public an opportunity to comment on these objectives.

This business plan will specifically cover a description of the recreation fee sites, proposed changes in fees to these sites, associated operating costs, planned expenditures of fee revenue, a financial analysis utilizing a regional comparative market study of fees charged for other similar recreation facilities, and the anticipated impacts of proposed fee changes.

The EKDO manages four campgrounds in Elko County, Nevada. RUPs are required for day use or overnight camping at all four campgrounds. All RUP fees are deposited into accounts solely for the management of these campgrounds and used toward maintenance and upgrades to these sites. This business plan covers all existing fee sites within the EKDO, seeks modest fee modifications starting in fiscal year 2023, proposes an increase in fiscal year 2028 at existing day-use sites and campgrounds, and repealing the fee for using the boat launch at Wilson Recreation Area.

An overview of the current and proposed fee schedule is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Overview of Proposed Fee Schedule

Amenity-type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee FY 23	Proposed Fee FY 28			
North Wildhorse Recreation Area						
Day-use	\$2	\$5	\$5			
Camping, single site	\$6	\$10	\$15			
Camping, double site	\$6	\$20	\$25			
Camping, group site	\$6	\$40	\$45			
Wilson Recreation Area						
Day-use	\$2	\$5	\$5			
Camping	\$4	\$10	\$15			
Amenity-type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee FY 23	Proposed Fee FY 28			
Boat Launch	\$2	\$0	\$0			
Zunino-Jiggs Recreation A	Area					
Day-use	\$2	\$5	\$5			
Camping	\$2	\$5	\$10			
Tabor Creek Recreation Area						
Day-use	\$2	\$5	\$5			
Camping	\$2	\$5	\$10			

All proposed fees are based on a comparative review of fees charged by other public agencies, Tribal Nations, and private providers for similar services within the respective geographic area of each recreation site (see Appendix 6.2). Fee increases are necessary to better meet the expenses of the recreation program, including maintenance and operations, to prevent resource damage and provide better visitor services. Fees at EKDO recreation sites have not been modified or increased in more than 20 years.

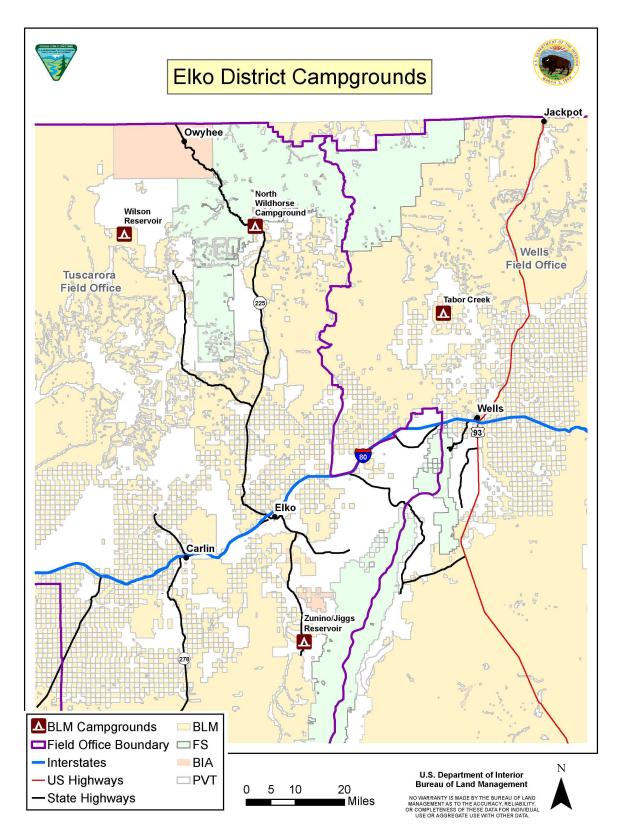


Figure 1: Elko District Recreation Site Locations

2. Legal Authorities

2.1. Regulatory Background

Legal authorities that pertain to the management of public lands and the collection of recreation fees by BLM include the following:

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), 1976 [Public Law 94-579], contains BLM's general land use management authority over the public lands, and establishes outdoor recreation as one of the principal uses of those lands. Section 302 (b) of FLMPA directs the Secretary of the Interior to regulate through permits or other instruments the use of public lands. Section 303 of FLMPA contains the BLM's authority to enforce the regulations and impose penalties.

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), 2004, repealed applicable portions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act and replaced BLM's authority to collect recreation fees. This current law authorizes BLM to collect recreation fees at sites that meet certain requirements, allows the BLM to retain the fee revenues at the local offices where they were collected, and directs how the BLM will manage and utilize these revenues. The FLREA also established the America the Beautiful—The National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass program.

Under FLREA, a Standard Amenity or Expanded Amenity fee may be charged for the use of certain recreation facilities or services. These sites must meet the respective criteria defined below:

- Standard Amenity Recreation Fees cover recreation areas that provide significant opportunities for outdoor recreation; have substantial federal investments; where fees can be effectively collected; and that have <u>all</u> the following amenities:
 - designated developed parking,
 - permanent toilet facility,
 - permanent trash receptacle,
 - interpretive sign, exhibit, or kiosk,
 - picnic tables,
 - and security services.
- **Expanded Amenity Recreation Fees** cover specialized recreation sites and services including but not limited to developed campgrounds with at least a <u>majority</u> of the following amenities:
 - tent or trailer spaces,
 - picnic tables,
 - drinking water,
 - access roads,
 - fee collection by an employee or agent of the BLM,
 - reasonable visitor protection,
 - refuse containers,
 - toilet facilities,
 - simple devices for containing a campfire.

Prohibitions on Charging FLREA Fees

Section 803 of FLREA provides that Standard or Expanded Amenity recreation fees shall not be charged (shortened list):

- solely for parking, undesignated parking or picnicking along roads or trails,
- for general access,
- for dispersed areas with low or no investment,
- for persons moving through without using the facilities or services,
- for camping at undeveloped sites that do not provide a minimum number of facilities or services as describe above (Expanded Amenity recreation fee),
- for use of overlooks or scenic pullouts,
- for any person who has right of access for hunting or fishing privileges under specific provision of law or treaty,
- for any person engaged in the conduct of official Federal, State, Tribal, or local government business,
- for special attention or extra services necessary to meet the needs of the disabled,
- for any person under 16 years of age,
- for outings conducted for noncommercial educational purposes by schools or bona fide academic institutions.

Fee Discounts

Section 805 of FLREA provided for the establishment of the single interagency national pass series, known as the "America the Beautiful—the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass." This pass series includes the Interagency Annual Pass, Senior Pass, Military Pass, Access Pass, Volunteer Pass, and Every Kid Outdoors Pass. All passes provide the bearer full coverage of Standard Amenity fees. Holders of the Interagency Senior and Access Passes may receive a 50 percent discount on some Expanded Amenity fees. The National Interagency Senior and Access Passes replaced the Golden Age and Access Passports in 2007; the BLM continues to honor these passes.

The FLREA guidelines require that fee sites have a business plan in place that:

- Informs the public about the objectives for use of collected recreation fee revenues;
- Provides an opportunity for public comment on those objectives;
- Assists BLM to determine the appropriateness and level of fees, costs of administering fee programs, and provides a structured communication and marketing plan;
- Serves as official documentation in the event of an audit.

2.2. Agency Policies and Guidelines

This business plan has also been prepared pursuant to all applicable BLM recreation fee program policies and guidance, including:

- Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 2930: Permits for Recreation on Public Land
- BLM Manual MS-2930, Recreation Permits and Fees, Rel. 2-296 dated October 22, 2007
- BLM Handbook 2930-1, Recreation Permit and Fee Administration, Rel. 2-300 dated November 14, 2014.

3. Background

3.1. Area Description

The BLM's Elko District encompasses two Field Offices that collectively manage 7.2 million acres of public land. These lands span across three counties (Elko, Lander, and Eureka) and one Congressional District (Second). The District manages lands for recreation, mineral extraction, wildlife habitat, cultural values, and other resources and resource uses within these areas, as directed in the Elko Resource Management Plan and the Wells Resource Management Plan of 1987 and 1985, respectively. Other recreational opportunities in the area include Tribally administered recreation sites on the Duck Valley Reservation, Wildhorse and South Fork State Parks, and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

The EKDO's Recreation and Visitor Services program is managed at the respective Field Office level with shared services and consistent recreational conditions throughout the District. Common recreational activities include camping, off-highway vehicle driving, hunting, fishing, and scenic viewing. Across the landscape, such opportunities are emphasized and enhanced within Special Recreation Management Areas, where recreational uses are considered the predominant management focus. These management areas include four existing recreation fee sites discussed in this business plan.

Currently, the EKDO has four developed recreation fee sites: North Wildhorse, Wilson, Zunino-Jiggs, and Tabor Creek. Tabor Creek is managed out of the Wells Field Office, while the others are managed out of the Tuscarora Field Office. Many of the recreational opportunities exist near the water sources located in or near the recreation site, so in addition to picnicking, camping, and staging for hunting, users will also stage for water-related sports and off-highway vehicle driving.

North Wildhorse is adjacent to Wildhorse Reservoir. It has 18 campsites with shade structures at most sites, fire rings, grills and tent pads at all sites, vault toilets, and garbage service. In addition to the 14 single campsites, there are three group sites and one double campsite in this campground. Law enforcement, BLM staff and adjacent State Park staff patrol the campground. The campsites are first-come, first serve and the campground is typically inaccessible during the winter due to snow. It sustained damage from the Sugarloaf Fire in September 2018 and was closed until October 2020, when it was brought back to pre-fire conditions.



Figure 2: A single campsite at North Wildhorse Campground

Wilson Recreation Area surrounds the Wilson Sink Reservoir and has 25 campsites. Some campsites have shade structures, and all have fire rings, picnic tables, level tent pads and trailer spaces. There are vault toilets, and the area does have garbage service as well as visitor protection. There is also an improved boat ramp. There is little to no driving access in the winter. Snowmobiles may be used to access the reservoir for ice fishing, but use remains low. Wilson Recreation Area is managed in accordance with the Wilson Reservoir Recreation Area Management Plan.

Zunino-Jiggs Recreation Area surrounds the Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir. There are 15 campsites, and the area is staffed on most years by a volunteer camp host and patrolled by law enforcement rangers. All sites have fire rings, picnic tables, and level tent pads/trailer spaces. Vault toilets and garbage service are available as well. In 2014, Nevada Department of Wildlife improved the boat ramp and hardened a parking area. The recreation site is accessible all year round due to its location on NV State Route 228, a

paved and well-maintained highway. It is managed in accordance with the Zunino-Jiggs Recreation Area Management Plan.

Tabor Creek Recreation Area is adjacent to Tabor Creek and has 13 sites with tables, fire rings, vault toilets and shade trees. Camping, fishing, picnicking, mountain biking, wildlife observation and hunting are viable recreational opportunities at this site. The campsites are first-come, first-serve and are usually accessible from mid-April through late November. Law enforcement and BLM staff patrol the campground.

3.2. Visitor Demographics

The Elko District does not collect or maintain comprehensive visitor demographic information for



Figure 3: Day users having a picnic at Zunino-Jiggs Campground

recreational users across the public lands it administers. The most reliable information on visitor demographics comes from the 2018 and 2019 National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) surveys performed on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (Outside of Spring Mountains NRA).¹ Portions of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest are contiguous with the respective BLM public lands and offer similar recreational settings, opportunities, and experiences. For these reasons, the NVUM

survey's demographic findings are considered representative summaries of visitor profiles to the BLM sites referenced in this business plan.

The NVUM surveys provide qualitative and quantitative information regarding use levels, visitor demographics, distance traveled, household income, satisfaction, and public need. Approximately 64 percent of visitor to the public lands identified as male, and 35 percent identified as female. Additional data regarding visitors' age class, annual household income, distance traveled, and most common activity rates are documented in Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5.

National Forest Visits (%)	Ar
11.7	
2.6	
9.2	\$2
15.0	\$5
21.1	\$7
21.0	
17.2	\$10
2.2	\$
100	
	11.7 2.6 9.2 15.0 21.1 21.0 17.2 2.2

Table 2: Visitor Age Class

Table 3: Annual Household Income

Annual Household Income	National Forest Visits (%)
Under \$25,000	11.2
\$25,000 to \$49,999	7.8
\$50,000 to \$74,999	7.6
\$75,000 to \$99,999	25.8
\$100,000 to \$149,999	27.7
\$150,000 and up	19.9
Total	100

¹ NVUM reports are available for public review at https://apps.fs.usda.gov/nvum/results.

Table 4: Participation and Activity Rates

Table 5: Distance Travelled

Recreation Activity	% Participation	% Main Activity	Miles from Respondent's Home	National Forest Visits (%)
Hiking/Walking	58.7	48.3	to Interview Location	
Viewing Natural	28.5	5.8	0 – 25 miles	65.1
Features			26 – 50 miles	13.2
Relaxing	12.4	2.7	51 – 75 miles	2.2
Driving for Pleasure	10.8	3.6	76 – 100 miles	3.2
OHV Use	4.9	4.5	101 – 200 miles	3.1
Horseback Riding	4.3	2.5	201 – 500 miles	7.4
Developed	3.7	3.5	Over 500 miles	5.8
Camping	5.7	3.5	Total	100

3.3. Recreational Visitation

Recreational visitation is recorded annually in the BLM's Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) database. The use at each site is captured as "visits," or the number of individuals per day entering BLM public lands in pursuit of recreational purposes. Visitation in RMIS follows the federal fiscal year (FY) cycle that begins on October 1 and runs through September 30 of the following year.

Visitation at designated fee sites is derived primarily through traffic counters or BLM staff estimates. Table 6 identifies annual visitation data for all recreation sites and associated expanded amenities discussed in this business plan.

Recreation Site	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20 ²	FY21
North Wildhorse	7,129	7,235	0 ³	0	84
Wilson	3,492	3,544	4,021	5,076	5,177
Zunino-Jiggs	1,765	1,791	1,643	2,988	1,722
Tabor Creek	13,289	13,489	13,164	15,714	12,714

Table 6: Annual Visitation per Recreation Site

Visitation trends are highly variable and primarily influenced by external factors such as economic conditions, fuel prices, weather, river levels, and wildfires. This was particularly noteworthy in FY20, where recreational visitation was dramatically affected by a coronavirus pandemic that resulted in higher recreational use on BLM public lands when other area agency recreation sites were closed and the Sugarloaf fire 2018 that partially burned the North Wildhorse Recreation Area. Population increases and access improvements also have driven increases in visitation to BLM recreation sites. Since 2000, Elko County's population has increased 18%. Visitation data may also be affected by internal factors

² Visitation in FY20 was abnormally high in some areas due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated closures of area State Parks and National Forest Service Campgrounds.

³ North Wildhorse Campground was closed all of FY19 and FY20 due to damage sustained during the Sugarloaf fire of 2018.

such as installing new traffic counters, the temporary closure of a recreation site, or other administrative actions.

3.4. Season of Use

Visitation to recreation sites occurs throughout the year and largely depends on seasonal factors such as weather. However, most visitation occurs between May and October, except for Zunino-Jiggs, where the bulk of the visitation is during March-early June because of its location directly off the paved NV-228 and ease of access. The BLM's campgrounds and facilities typically extend their seasons slightly beyond these months, dependent on user demand, weather, and access availability. Campground occupancy rates differ per site, season, and day of week, but generally range between 10 and 50 percent. Occupancy data per recreation site is provided in section 4.4 Financial Projections.



Figure 4: North Wildhorse Campground in the winter

3.5. Financial Analysis (Costs and Revenues)

The Elko District expends considerable resources in managing visitor use at developed recreation sites. All sites require considerable levels of visitor contact, signage, trash pick-up, and maintenance. Direct costs for these services include BLM employees and campground hosts. Costs also include services such as restroom pumping, garbage collection, hazard tree mitigation, vehicles, law enforcement, signage, and maintenance supplies.

The BLM utilizes several funding sources to develop and maintain its recreation sites. These sources include congressional appropriations and fee revenues. Funding sources, including fee revenues collected under FLREA authorities, are dependent on periodic renewal and may not be consistently available. For the past five years, the Elko District has spent approximately \$219,940 per year to operate and maintain the recreational sites identified in this business plan. These costs are estimated per site in Table 7.

Recreation Site	Annual Operating Costs	Percent of Total (%)
North Wildhorse	\$61,583	28
Wilson	\$74,780	34
Zunino-Jiggs	\$54,985	25
Tabor Creek	\$28,592	13
Total	\$219,940	100%

Table 7: Annual Operating Costs per Recreation Site

The most significant operating expense is related to staff labor for visitor services and related maintenance actions. BLM recreation employees and campground hosts ensure the cleanliness and safety of the facilities. These staff are responsible for responding to visitor inquiries, resolving disputes, collecting fees, cleaning campsites, site maintenance, and constructing campground amenities. The recreation sites are also patrolled by BLM Law Enforcement Rangers to assist with fee compliance,

protect resources and facilities, and help maintain the safety of campers. Additional assistance comes

from fire crews assisting with maintenance and other needs as they arise, and if they are available to assist.

Another large operating expense is cleaning of the recreational sites. Pumping and effluent disposal services are performed by specialized contractors certified to address hazardous wastes. The cost of cleaning and maintaining the recreation sites also includes buying toilet paper, garbage bags and cleaning supplies, and trash removal.



The program also supports the cost of vehicles and equipment used to support patrols, maintenance work, resource and visitor

Figure 5: Double Vault Toilet at Tabor Creek Campground

use monitoring, and law enforcement. The district's engineering and road maintenance staff supports large projects involving campground design, construction, and road maintenance. Other annual operating costs include monitoring of visitor use, public affairs, GIS mapping, and support functions such



Figure 7: Before painting of single vault toilet at Wilson Campground



Figure 8: Repainted vault toilet at Wilson Campground

as providing information services to the public. A summary of all annual operational and service expenses by type are documented in Table 8.

Figure 6: Work on kiosk funded by FLREA fees



Table 8: Annual Operating Costs per Type

Cost Type	Annual Operating Costs	Percent of Total (%)
Field Managers	\$16,034	7
BLM staff labor	\$129,173	57
(2 recreation planners, 1		
technician, 2 engineers, and 1-2		
other staff supporters)		
Vehicles	\$10,928	5
Supplies and equipment	\$4,093	4
Sanitation (waste pumping,	\$10,100 ⁴	5
trash pickup)		
Camphost stipends	\$3,977	2
Law Enforcement	\$45,635	20
Total	\$219,940	100%

The above annual operating expenses do not include original infrastructure outlays or deferred maintenance projects.

3.6. Recreation Use and Fee Revenues Fee revenues are managed and maintained within the Elko District and provide for recreation site labor, operations, maintenance, and development of new facilities. Revenues are deposited in separate accounts currently organized by geographic area. These accounts were realigned to reflect the location of the sites more accurately in their respective Field Offices in 2021. For this reason, depicted fee revenue accounts include multiple fee sites. Table 9 summarizes these fee accounts and associated current fee sites. Annual revenues for the past five years for each fee account are included in Table 10.

3.6. Recreation Use and Fee Revenues Figure 9: Fee station at Zunino-Jiggs Campground



Table 9: Fee Accounts and Associated Recreation Fee Sites

Fee Account Code	Fee Account Name	Included Fee Site(s)
LVRDNV02	Tuscarora	North Wildhorse Wilson
		Zunino-Jiggs
LVRDNV03	Wells	Tabor Creek

⁴ Vault toilets are pumped an average of every other year, depending on usage. Cost was divided by 2 to reflect every other year pumping.

Table 10: Annual Fee Revenue per Fiscal Year

Fee	Fee	FY17	FY18	FY19 ⁵	FY20 ⁶	FY21
Account	Account					
Code	Name					
LVRDNV02	Tuscarora	\$6,507.25	\$5,914.79	\$2,300.07	\$7,985.85	\$4,683.85
LVRDNV03	Wells	\$854.00	\$707.00	\$1,127.30	\$1,142.72	\$1,010.94

Over the past five years, from FY17 through FY21, the average annual fee revenue for all fee sites was \$6,446.75. Fee revenue is typically highly correlated with visitation patterns, and thus varies per year due to several external factors. However, it is also affected by BLM actions per site, such as the temporary removal of amenities for maintenance. In this scenario, although the site may remain open, the Elko District does not assess site fees until the amenities are fully restored. Actual visitation and revenues for the past five years are depicted in Figure 10.



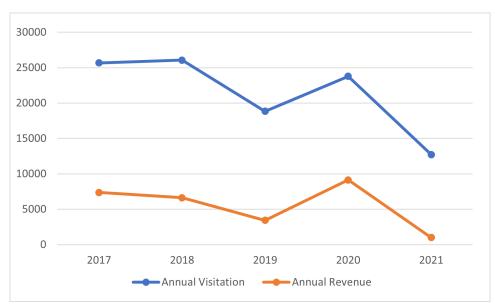


Table 11 documents the five-year average revenue, operating costs, revenue-to-cost difference, and revenue-to-cost ratio for all recreation sites. Recreation fee revenues cover approximately 3 percent of operating costs at these current levels, leaving 97 percent of operating costs to be covered by other funding sources.

⁵ During FY19 and FY20, the North Wildhorse Campground was closed due to damage sustained in the Sugarloaf Fire of 2018 resulting in zero revenue.

⁶ Revenues in FY20 were abnormally high in some areas due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated closures of area State Park and National Forest Service Campgrounds.

Fee Account Code	Fee Account Name	Operating Cost	Revenue	Revenue-to- Cost Difference	Revenue-to- Cost Ratio (%)
LVRDNV02	Tuscarora	\$191,348	\$5,478	(\$185,870)	3%
LVRDNV03	Wells	\$28,592	\$968	(\$27,624)	3%
	Total	\$219,940	\$6,446	(\$213,494)	3%

Table 11: Five-Year Average Revenue, Cost, Difference and Ratio for all Recreation Sites

4. Fee Proposal

4.1. Summary

This proposal covers two types of recreation fee modifications. A summary of these categories and the number of affected recreation sites is included in Table 12.

Table 12: Fee Proposal Summary

Amenity Type	Proposal Type	Recreation Site Affected
Standard Amenity	Fee modifications	North Wildhorse
		Wilson
		Zunino-Jiggs
		Tabor Creek
Expanded Amenity	Fee modifications	North Wildhorse
		Wilson
		Zunino-Jiggs
		Tabor Creek

4.2. Existing and Proposed Fee Types

All visitors utilizing recreation fee site amenities are required to obtain a Recreation Use Permit (RUP). These permits can be obtained at self-service fee stations located in the recreation area. Some recreation areas have multiple self-service fee stations. RUPs can also be purchased through an approved third-party contractor. EKDO is considering ways for visitors to the recreation sites to pay via electronic methods using the recreation.gov website or Recreation.gov mobile application. "Scan and Pay" electronic methods make it possible for visitors to pay for their RUP fees using credit and debit cards via their smartphone. This payment method reduces risks, costs and staff hours associated with cash and check handling and improves safety for field staff and visitors. An additional nominal reservation service fee would be charged for this electronic payment expanded amenity service.

Recreation staff, law enforcement and volunteer campground hosts all play a role in recreation fee site compliance. These staff directly interface with visitors to ensure they clearly understand payment requirements and procedures. Permit receipts must be displayed either on the campsite post or within view from the vehicle's front window. Compliance issues are addressed through the campground hosts, recreation staff, or law enforcement rangers as appropriate.

The following sections identify the proposed fee structures that would be implemented, as categorized by amenity and fee update type.

4.2.1. Standard Amenity-Fee Update

The EKDO proposes to modify current Standard Amenity fees at all its recreation sites. These sites and proposed fees are identified in Table 13. All identified sites provide significant opportunities for outdoor recreation, have substantial federal investments, and contain the required amenities for Standard Amenity fees as defined in FLREA.

Type of Fee	Recreation Site	Current Fee	FY 23 Proposed Fee	FY 28 Proposed Fee
Day Use	North Wildhorse	\$2/day	\$5/day	\$5/day
Day Use	Wilson	\$2/day	\$5/day	\$5/day
Boat Ramp Use	Wilson	\$2/visit	Free	Free
Day Use	Zunino-Jiggs	\$2/day	\$5/day	\$5/day
Day Use	Tabor Creek	\$2/day	\$5/day	\$5/day

Table 13: Standard Amenity-Fee Modifications

4.2.2. Expanded Amenity-Fee Updates

The EKDO proposes to modify current Expanded Amenity fees at existing campgrounds. These sites and proposed fees are identified in Table 14. All campgrounds contain most amenities necessary for Expanded Amenity fees as defined in FLREA.

Table 14: Expanded Amenity-Fee Modifications

Site Type	Recreation Site	Current Fee	FY 23 Proposed Fee	FY 28 Proposed Fee
Basic Campsite	North Wildhorse	\$6/night	\$10/night	\$15/night
	Wilson	\$4/night	\$10/night	\$15/night
	Zunino-Jiggs	\$2/night	\$5/night	\$10/night
	Tabor Creek	\$2/night	\$5/night	\$10/night
Double Site	North Wildhorse	\$6/night	\$20/night	\$25/night
Group Sites	North Wildhorse	\$6/night	\$40/night	\$45/night

4.2.3. Expanded Amenity-Reservation Services

ELKO will use various e-commerce technologies, as directed in Instruction Memorandum 2022-019, to provide recreation visitors opportunities to find, reserve, and pay for a campsites and day use within the EKDO. Most of these options are provided through the interagency reservation service Recreation.gov.

Currently there is no internet availability to conduct advanced reservations, but the EKDO may use the "Scan and Pay" option as part of the reservation services provided by recreation.gov and allowed by 16 U.S.C. 6802(g)(2)(G). If the EKDO decides to make available the "Scan and Pay" or any other type of ecommerce solution option in the future, an expanded amenity fee for reservation services would be charged in addition to any other standard or expanded amenity fees in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 6802(g)(2)(G). The fee is determined by amount of the charge. Curent reservation fees can range from \$0.50 to \$10.00. The reservation fee is subject to contracting requirements on Recreation.gov and will be adjusted as that contract changes or with future updates to the Business Plan. For visitors who wish not to pay the expanded amenity fee of reservation services, the traditional iron ranger with RUP

envelope will exist until the field office moves the fee area completely to ecommerce and/or the RUP envelope is no longer available for payment.

Transaction Total	Reservation Service Fee per Scan and Pay Transaction	Transaction Total	Reservation Service Fee per Scan and Pay Transaction
\$0.01-\$7.99	\$.50	\$25.00-\$29.99	\$2.50
\$8.00-\$13.99	\$1.00	\$30.00-\$39.99	\$3.50
\$14.00-\$19.99	\$1.50	\$40.00-\$49.99	\$4.50
\$20.00-\$24.99	\$2.00	\$50.00-\$59.99	\$5.50

 Table 15: Current Reservation Service Fee per Scan and Pay Transaction

4.3. Fee Calculation

BLM policy provides several items to consider when establishing recreation fee rates: direct and indirect cost to the government, level of benefits and services provided, and comparability with fees charges charged by others in the area. Direct costs consider a fee rate calculated to provide revenue to cover most of the projected annual operating and maintenance costs. Benefits and services provided looks at fees that are reasonable and fair based on the amenities available, and the services provided. Comparability considers a fee rate calculated to be comparable with fees charged at similar or comparable Tribal, federal, state, and local recreation sites in the general area. The fee rate analysis in this business plan focused on comparable fees for similar amenities and services provided. For each respective site, EKDO recreation staff conducted analysis of comparable fees charged by similar Tribal, state, federal, and local park facilities. Because all existing fee sites exceed the amenity requirements defined in FLREA, additional comparable services and amenities provided were the main determining factors for the proposed fees. The following information summarizes the comparative analysis per fee type. Although the BLM's fee rate analysis was conducted for each recreation site's geographic market, the following summaries are comprehensive across the district. For site specific comparisons of fees and amenities, see Appendix 6.0.

The proposed Standard Amenity fees are comparable to other providers in each respective market, particularly sites managed by Nevada State Parks, U.S. Forest Service, and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. Day-use fees for locations managed by these public agencies are all \$5 per vehicle, and provide similar services, amenities, and recreational opportunities. The proposed rate for increase matches the other recreation sites in the area.

The use of the boat launch at area State Parks is included in the entrance fees. The proposal to terminate the Standard Amenity fee for use of the boat launch at Wilson is comparable to boat launch uses at the area State Parks. By aligning our fees with other area agency fees, it would reduce the confusion of the fee system at Wilson Reservoir Recreation Area. Figure 11: Sample BLM Recreation Use Permit used to collect fees at sites

orm 1370-036 (May 2021) RE	BUREAU OF LAND M CREATION FEE PERMIT E		2933)
ee posted fee schedule and site infl	ormation on registration board. Please o		
Overnight Campsite #:	Day Use	/Daily Parking Donation	n 🗌 Other: 0
1. Date Permit Purchased:	2. Number of Days/M	3. M	Number in Group/Party:
4. Total Amount Enclosed:	5. Victole Licina, Pla	# and State: 6. H	Home Zip Code:
 Federal Interagency Pass Disc Refer to registration board to d fill in your pass number below. 	letter of press discounts apply. If p	pass discounts apply for c	
Senior Pass #:	Access Pass #:	Golden Age/Access	Passport #:
8. Recreation.gov Reservation #	(on-line and phone purchase only):		
	SORRY, NO F	REFUNDS	

The proposed Expanded Amenity fees

for campgrounds are also comparable to providers in each respective market. For individual campsites, fees at similar locations typically range from \$5 to \$18 per night. Campsites with partial or full hook-ups, such as electric or sewer, generally range from \$20 to \$40 per night. Private campgrounds often offer advanced developments such as wireless internet and other customized comforts that command price premiums. The EKDO's proposed fee rates reflect the comparable quality, extent, and aesthetic of each site's features. This allows slight discounts for campsites that are more primitive in nature or located in isolated areas with fewer recreation opportunities. Additionally, this affords slight premiums for double campsites or groups campsites offering additional amenities.

Proposed fees for group and double campsites reflect the additional amenities and opportunities of the recreation site. For example, the fee for a double or group site that provides extra parking and picnic tables with additional grills will differ from a simple shelter with a fire pit. Moreover, each group site has an inherent group size limit, beyond which the experience degrades, and resource impacts may occur. Costs at these facilities in the area range from \$71 to \$225+ per night (based on 10 vehicles). Cost for these facilities in the area that offer double campsites are \$34 per night.

See Appendix 6.0 for additional information on a site-by-site basis.

4.4. Financial Projections

For each respective Standard Amenity site, the projected fee revenue was derived by dividing the total number of visitors (5-year average) by the average number of occupants per vehicle, multiplying the result by the estimated permit compliance rate, and then multiplying that by the proposed fee amount.

For example, 4974 (site visitation) / 1.87 (occupants per vehicle) x .12 (permit compliance) x \$5 (proposed fee) = \$1596 projected revenue.

For each Expanded Amenity site, the projected fee revenue was derived by multiplying the number of available sites by the site's calculated occupancy rate, multiplying that by the site's length of season, and finally multiplying that number by the proposed fee amount. For example, 12 (number of campsites) x .5 (occupancy rate) x 190 (average length of recreation use season, in



Figure 12: RV Trailer at Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir Campground

days) x \$10 (proposed fee) = \$11,400 projected revenue. See table 15 for projected revenue per site and amenity fee.

Financial projections require good-faith assumptions and professional estimates. Permit compliance rates were estimated by EKDO recreation staff based on a comparison of RUPs against traffic counter data, and spot checks. Campground occupancy rates are based on prior year RUP calculations.

Fee Account Name	Recreation Site	Amenity Type	# of Sites	Compliance/ Occupancy Rate	FY 23/28 Proposed Fee	FY 23 Projected Revenue	FY 28 Projected Revenue
Tuscarora	North	Campsite	12	50%	\$10/\$15	\$11,400	\$17,100
	Wildhorse	Double Campsite	1	35%	\$20/\$25	\$1,330	\$1,662
		Group Campsite	3	10%	\$40/\$45	\$2,280	\$2,565
		Day Use	15	12%	\$5	\$1,596	\$1,596
					Subtotal	\$16,606	\$22,923
	Wilson	Campsite	26	30%	\$10/\$15	\$14,820	\$22,230
		Day Use	26	20%	\$5	\$1,894	\$1894
					Subtotal	\$16,714	\$24,129
	Zunino-	Campsite	15	30%	\$5/\$10	\$8,212	\$8,550
	Jiggs	Day Use	15	40%	\$5	\$1,761	\$1,761
					Subtotal	\$9,973	\$10,311
Wells	Tabor	Campsite	13	15%	\$5/\$10	\$4,638	\$3,705
	Creek	Day Use	13	15%	\$5	\$1,853	\$1,853

Table 16: Projected Revenue per Site

Subtotal	\$6,491	\$5 <i>,</i> 558
Total Future Projected Revenue	\$49,784	\$62,921

Under the proposed fee structure, projected revenues would total \$49,784, increasing \$42,578 above current average revenues for the past five years. Recreation fees would cover approximately 23 percent of annual operating expenses, an increase of 20 percent above current conditions. Recreation fee sites would reduce their reliance on appropriated monies and other funding sources to \$170,916 per year, compared to \$219,940 currently. The 5-year average annual operating cost, projected revenue, projected revenue-to-cost difference, and projected revenue-to-cost ratio for each fee account is provided in Table 16.

Table 17:	Projected	Revenue,	Cost,	Difference	and Ratio
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Fee Account Code	Fee Account Name	Operating Cost	Projected Revenue	Revenue-to- Cost Difference	Revenue-to- Cost Ratio (%)
LVRDNV02	Tuscarora	\$191,348	\$43,293	(\$148,815)	23%
LVRDNV03	Wells	\$28,592	\$6,491	(\$22,101)	23%
Total		\$219,940	\$49,784	(\$170,916)	23%

4.5. Use of Fees

The EKDO's primary goal for recreation sites is to provide all visitors high-quality recreation opportunities and experiences. Normal site operation and maintenance funding has come primarily from base appropriated sources, supplemented with fee revenues. The base funding dollars for recreation sites have been flat to decreasing over the past years due to inflation and administrative priorities. With these continual decreases, additional fee revenues are necessary to sustainably operate, maintain, and enhance the public's recreational opportunities.

The following table identifies the expenditures for on-going services and future improvements. The annual occurrences are those items that are the day-to-day operating costs associated with managing the four campgrounds. The short-term occurrences are examples of small projects that could be funded in years where there is a surplus of available funds. The long-term occurrences are projects that require small amounts of surplus funds to be saved over time to achieve the goal.

Expenditures	Amount	Occurrence
Maintenance Supplies	\$2,500	Annual
Campground host stipends	\$10,000	Annual
Dumpster services and biennial pumping of vaults	\$10,100	Annual/Biennial
Work month for collections, supplies, public reports	\$18,000	Annual
Fishing line recycling Containers	\$1,000	Short-Term
Installation of new kiosks	\$15,000	Short-Term

Table 18: Long-Term Expenditures

Sign Replacement	\$10,000	Long-Term
Add shade structures to Wilson and Zunino-Jiggs	\$300,000	Long-Term
Replace vault toilets at North Wildhorse and Wilson	\$300,000	Long-Term

Projects that are featured in the future include recruitment for and additional monies used for stipends for additional camp hosts to assist with compliance monitoring at the campgrounds, installation of new kiosks and shade structures at Zunino-Jiggs Recreation Area to provide important information at additional areas in the recreation area and shade where there is little available, fishing line recycling containers at Tabor Creek, sign replacements at Wilson and North Wildhorse Recreation Areas, adding additional shade structures to Wilson so all campsites have shade, replacement of the vault toilet at North Wildhorse (destroyed during the 2018 Sugarloaf Fire) and expected replacements of the aging vault toilets at Wilson. Over the next ten years, the recreation program is looking to achieve greater self-sufficiency and resiliency while recognizing that appropriated funds still provide the financial backbone of the program.

4.6. Impact of Fee Changes

4.6.1. Effects of Fee Increase

Recreational Users Effects

The site fees in the EKDO have not been updated or increased in almost two decades. Over these years, the cost of goods, labor, and services have steadily increased. One gauge of this inflection is the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the prices consumers pay for goods and services. Since 2004, this CPI has increased 44 percent. As the cost of goods, labor, and services has increased, the purchasing power from recreation fees has decreased proportionally.

If the proposed fee increases were adopted, the Elko District would begin to recoup revenues consistent with economic inflation and other public and private recreation providers. Current operating services could continue to be offered and new services would be available. Some of the revenue would be used to reduce the maintenance backlog gradually. Also benefiting would be site infrastructures, cleanliness, and visitor services and information. The overall recreational experience would be improved.

Local Economy Effects

Benefits to the local economy would be also realized. An Outdoor Industry Association study found that in 2019, outdoor recreation directly supported 59,000 jobs and generated \$5.5 billion in Nevada. The EKDO, with its proximity to interstate travel to and from recreation destinations such as California and Utah, provides recreational opportunities for out-of-state visitors as well as for the local area. It is imperative to local economies throughout the EKDO to keep recreation site infrastructure in good condition, cleaned, and serviced to high standards. Maintaining these services and creating new opportunities improves the overall recreational experience for current and new visitors alike.

Environmental Effects

Increased fees are also a benefit to the environment. By providing such recreation sites for visitors, the EKDO consolidates resource impacts to a much smaller area. Human waste and garbage are dealt with in an appropriate manner in areas where infrastructure is provided. Increased fees would allow for more purchasing power to acquire items that help reduce negative impacts to the environment. For

example, new interpretive panels could be installed to educate visitors on the importance of recreating responsibly and new shrubs and native trees could be purchased and planted to provide shade and prevent social trailing through sensitive areas.

Socio-economic Effects, including low-income and minority populations.

The socio-economic data of recreational activities on BLM public lands in Elko County is unknown. Meaningful effects on low-income populations are not expected as there are abundant opportunities for dispersed (free) camping on BLM land surrounding the established campgrounds and population centers in the EKDO. Less than 500 acres of the total 7.1 million acres of BLM public lands in the EKDO are represented in the four established recreational site boundaries.

A screening of any environmental justice populations identified American Indian, low income, and minority populations in Elko County as groups that could be affected. It is unknown if there are any environmental justice populations coming in from outside of the community and recreating in our recreation sites. Please refer to 5.2 Public Communication and Marketing Plan for additional information on targeted outreach efforts to reach these identified populations.

4.6.2. Effects of No Fee Increase

Recreational User Effects

Recreation facilities represent a substantial public investment. If proposed fees are not adopted, and the flat to declining trend for appropriated funding sources continues, visitors could expect to see an erosion of services and loss of functionality. Site maintenance may not happen as quickly or as often as needed, resulting in site decay and deterioration. Maintenance costs would increase as facilities age and some facilities may not be reopened due to a lack of funds. Maintenance which is deferred because of insufficient funding may result in increased safety hazards, reduced services to the public, higher future costs, and inefficient operations. Facilities that do not generate revenue may be decommissioned.

Local Economy Effects

Not increasing the fees could lead to erosion of services, such as limited cleaning of sites, or limited development or improvements to facilities. This could impact the recreation sector of the local economy. Sites that are not appealing to visitors may cause them to recreate in other places which would decrease the spending in local areas for services such as gas, food, etc. The EKDO may also have challenges in fulfilling the goals and objectives of BLM's recreation strategy.

Environmental Effects

Negative impacts to the environment could also occur. Fewer trash pickups and pumping of toilets could occur thus creating human waste and garbage impacts. Less-frequent patrols from recreation staff/volunteer camp hosts to maintain signage and education materials may allow some visitors to act inappropriately by vandalizing facilities.

Socio-economic Effects, including low-income and minority populations.

Not increasing fees would most likely benefit low-income populations by allowing a lower cost to utilize the sites. However, if fees were not increased, campground facilities may not be adequately maintained. High quality recreation experiences and increased visitor satisfaction made possible through the increase of campground fees would not be available.

5. Outreach

5.1. Public and Stakeholder Participation

The BLM's "Connecting with Communities" recreation strategy provides a vision to increase and improve collaboration with local community service providers to help communities produce greater well-being and socioeconomic health to deliver outstanding recreation experiences to visitors while sustaining the distinctive character of public land recreation settings. As part of this strategy, the EKDO seeks engagement and partnerships with local stakeholders to accomplish mutual public access and recreation objectives. The EKDO also seeks relationships with youth groups in helping to promote a positive experience for youth and to inspire them to take a greater interest in public land issues.

The EKDO has multiple partnerships fulfilling these roles, with potential for others. The Nevada Department of Wildlife and Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy are two partners who have taken a role in assisting with maintaining and enhancing our recreation sites. The Nevada Department of Wildlife recently upgraded and enhanced a boat ramp and paved a parking area in the Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir to provide additional opportunities for boating access in the reservoir. The Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy is a new partnership where the cadets in the quasi-military program earn credits toward high school graduation. A community service component is instrumental in their program, with BLM lands being a recipient of their hard work in maintaining the campgrounds.

The BLM will continue nurturing existing partnerships and pursuing new ones that complement the agency's mission. In a fiscal environment that cannot sustain wasteful spending and program inefficiency, the agency continues to act on opportunities that will support a healthy, robust, relevant, and accountable recreation program for the public. Future priorities include increasing the number and scope of such partnerships and agreements associated with the EKDO recreation program.

In October 2021, information about the Elko District's proposed fee changes were posted in all recreation sites under consideration for fee modification. A news release was provided to local news outlets, with publication by the Elko Daily Free Press and picked up by a few forum type websites for discussion and review. This news release, as well as draft business plans, were also posted on the Elko District public website. All documents provided physical and email address where public comments related to the business plans could be submitted.

As of July 2022, the Elko District received one email on the draft business plan. The comment expressed general support for the proposed fee increases. This public comment is documented in Appendix 6.3.

In August 2022, the Elko District presented its business plan and fee modification proposal to the Sierra Front-Northern Great Basin Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). The RAC approved the fee modification proposal with no requested modifications.

5.2. Public Communication and Marketing Plan

As part of the proposal to modify recreation site fees, the Elko District has been and will continue to conduct the following outreach to notify the public of its opportunity to review and provide comments:

- Public notice of proposed fee changes will continue to be posted onsite until implemented.
- Comments are allowable and encouraged using the comment section provided on the campground envelope (BLM Form 1370-036).

- News releases will be provided to local news outlets, informing the public of the proposed fee changes, and requesting public comment.
- Public notices, news releases, local radio interviews and interested party letters will contain contact information for public comments on the proposed fee changes.
- Website and social media posts will inform the public of the proposed fee changes.
- Fee signs and paper materials will reflect the proposed fee changes, including notice of the fee rate(s), the passes that are accepted, and where the fees are charged.

The BLM monitors visitor use to detect changes in site utilization, and documents written and oral communication from the public. Periodic reviews of the business plan are done and future adjustments to approved fee schedules will reflect public comment and program implantation needs.

Fee revenue information is collected on an annual basis and presented in the Public Land Statistics available online at <u>https://www.blm.gov/public_land_stastics/</u>. More specifically, each recreation account will post fee expenditure information online and on site as space permits to inform the public where and on what services, maintenance, and operations their fees are spent.

6. Appendices

6.1. Recreation Site Descriptions

The following descriptions include all recreation sites discussed in this business plan for updated fees. Note: Some site maps may be slightly out of date or otherwise inconsistent with the description provided in this business plan. Recreation site maps are developed intermittently as necessary and may not be fully reflective of recent or proposed developments.

Each of the described areas that allow day-use provide significant opportunities for outdoor recreation,

have substantial federal investments, allow for efficient fee collection, and contain all the required amenities for Standard Amenity fee sites. These amenities include designated developed parking; permanent toilet facilities; permanent trash receptables; interpretive signs, exhibits, or kiosks; picnic tables; and security services.

Each of the campgrounds possess the required majority (at least 5 of 9) of amenities to qualify for use of an Expanded Amenity fee. These include tent or trailer spaces; picnic tables; drinking water; access roads; the collection of the fee by an employee or agent of the federal



Figure 13: Basic campsite at Wilson Campground

land management agency; reasonable visitor protection; refuse containers; toilet facilities; and simple devices for containing a campfire.

All campgrounds include basic campsites. North Wildhorse has basic campsites, double campsites, and group campsites.

Figure 14: Group campsite at North Wildhorse Campground



- Double campsites allow up to four vehicles and sixteen people.
 Additional tents are allowed as space allows.
- Group campsites allow up to thirty or more people and 4-6 vehicles at most sites.

• *Basic* campsites allow up to two vehicles and eight people. An additional tent is allowed at each site in addition to the primary camping type. For example, each site allows up to two tents, or an RV and a tent, or a camper trailer and a tent.

Figure 15: Camphost site at Zunino-Jiggs Campground. Camphosts provide valuable services to increase compliance at BLM campgrounds.

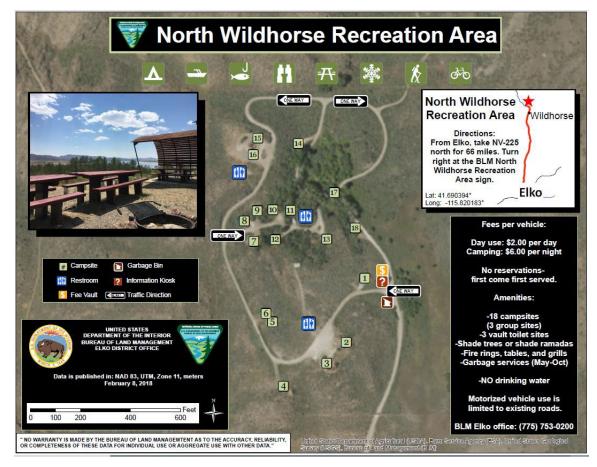


6.1.1. North Wildhorse

The North Wildhorse Campground and Recreation Area is in Elko County in Northeast Nevada. At an elevation of 6200 feet, the campground is near Wildhorse Reservoir and borders the Humboldt National Forest to the north. The 120-acre campground is situated within a 5,800-acre Special Recreation Management Area. North Wildhorse is located 70 miles north of Elko on NV State Highway 225.

North Wildhorse includes a campground, that is also used as a day-use picnic area. It offers a variety of recreational opportunities both in and adjacent to the recreation area including camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing, mountain biking, and hunting. Besides fishing and boating nearby at Wildhorse Reservoir, the campground provides easy access for scenic drives along the Owyhee River and into the Jarbidge and Independence Mountains. Mountain biking opportunities are available on the two-track roads near the campground and north onto the Sunflower Flats. There is also one of the County's "Watchable Wildlife" sites located eight miles north of the campground along NV State Highway 225. At this site, located among the steep volcanic cliffs along the Owyhee River, one might see cliff swallows, retailed hawks, golden eagles, or mule deer.

The campground consists of 18 campsites with tables, fire rings, grills, and aspen trees or shade ramadas with most of the sites providing stunning overviews of the reservoir and the surrounding mountain ranges. There are also three group sites available and one double site available. The sites accommodate RV and tent campers on a first come, first serve basis. The area has vault toilets. The campground is open year-round, weather permitting for access, generally May through October. Law enforcement and recreation personnel regularly patrol the campground. Current fee is \$6 per night.



6.1.2. Wilson

The Wilson Reservoir Recreation Area is in Elko County in Northeast Nevada. At an elevation of 5,300 feet, the 80-acre campground is part of the 5,400-acre Special Recreation Management Area. Wilson Reservoir is 83 miles north-northwest of Elko, Nevada, and can be accessed via NV State Highway 225 to NV State Highway 226 with the last 16 miles being County and BLM graded gravel roads.

Wilson Reservoir offers a variety of recreational opportunities including camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, mountain biking, wildlife viewing, windsurfing, and hunting. Fishing and boating on the 700 surface acres of the reservoir is the area's main attraction, however one can also access scenic drives through the old mining town of Tuscarora or through the Independence Range and over picturesque Maggie Summit. Wilson Reservoir is a quiet get away spot with the opportunity to experience isolation and classic Great Basin vistas.

The campground consists of 26 campsites with picnic tables and fire rings along the reservoir shoreline and on the bluffs above. The campground also has vault toilets, garbage service and a paved boat ramp. The sites accommodate RV and tent campers on a first come, first-serve basis. During the season, late April through October, recreation personnel and law enforcement regularly patrol the recreation area. The current fees are \$4 per vehicle per night, \$2 for day use, and \$2 for boat ramp use.



6.1.3. Zunino-Jiggs

The Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir is in Elko County in Northeast Nevada approximately 30 miles southsoutheast of Elko. At the elevation of 5,600 feet, the 45 surface acres of Zunino-Jiggs is part of the 800acre Special Recreation Management Area. The Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir can be accessed by NV State Highway 227 to NV State Highway 228.

The recreational opportunities available at Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir include camping, picnicking, and wildlife observation. The reservoir is stocked with rainbow trout, largemouth bass, and bluegill sunfish and provides enjoyable opportunities for fishing, small craft boating, and windsurfing. While staying at Zunino-Jiggs Reservoir, visitors have the chance to take in the majestic views of the nearby Ruby Mountains; venture over Harrison Pass to Ruby Valley for the day; visit the Lamoille Canyon Scenic Byway; view parts of the California National Historic Trail; or explore the South Fork of the Humboldt River.

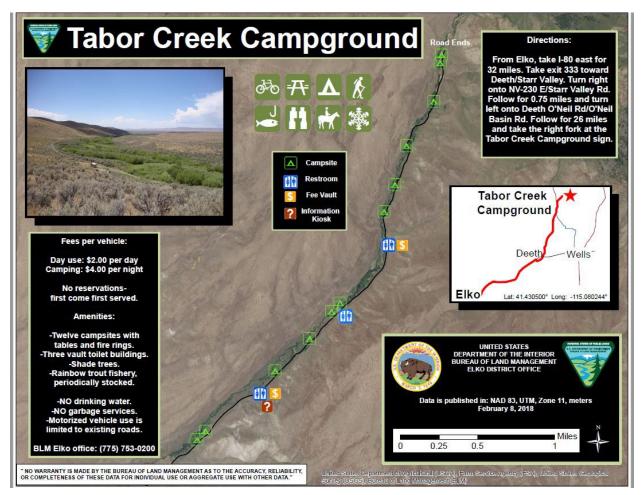
The campground has 15 sites with tables and fire rings, three vault toilets and trash collection. The sites accommodate RV and tent campers on a first come, first-serve basis. Due to its proximity to NV State Highway 228, the reservoir is accessible year-round and is open all year. Recreation personnel and law enforcement rangers regularly patrol the area. The current fees are \$2 per night for camping and \$2 per day for day-use.



6.1.4. Tabor Creek

The Tabor Creek campground is in Elko County in Northeast Nevada approximately 30 miles northnorthwest of Wells. At 6,000 feet elevation, the 237-acre recreation area has 13 campsites with tables and fire rings, three vault toilets, and trash collection. Tabor Creek is accessible mid-April through late November. It is located 26 miles north of Wells on O'Neil Basin Road.

Along Tabor Creek, the outdoor enthusiast can enjoy camping, fishing, picnicking, mountain biking, and wildlife observation. The creek is periodically stocked with trout and the nearby Snake Range provides excellent mountain biking and hiking opportunities. The campground is especially popular during sage grouse, antelope, and deer hunting season (September-October). Other nearby recreational opportunities include enjoying the Jarbidge Mountains, the California Backcountry Byway, and Mary's River. The area is regularly patrolled by law enforcement rangers and recreation staff. Currently the fees are \$2 per day for day-use and \$2 per night for camping.



6.2. Site Fee Comparisons

The following sections provide site fee comparisons of each recreation site discussed in this business plan, as compared to similar public and private providers in the respective geographic and regional markets. This evaluation compares proposed fees and amenities provided at each site, including those required under FLREA as well as additional site features. Each site's information was collected through official websites and other publicly available resources. Data is current as of October 2021.

6.2.1. North Wildhorse and Wilson

Recreation Site	Tent/ Trailer Spaces	Picnic Tables	Fire Rings	Toilet	Drinking Water	Partial/ Full Hookup	Showers	Day-Use	Single Site	Double Site	Group Site	Other
North Wildhorse (BLM)	•	•	•	•				\$5	\$10	\$20	\$40	
Wilson (BLM)	•	•	•	•				\$5	\$10			
					O	ther Area	a Agen	cy Red	creation Areas			
Wildhorse State Park (State of NV)	•	•	•	•	•		•	\$5	\$20		\$45 ⁷	
Jack Creek (USFS)	•	•	•	•					\$0			
Big Bend (USFS)	•	•	•	•					\$8			
Wildhorse Crossing (USFS)	•	•	•	•					\$5			Currently closed due to damage
Shoshone-Paiute Wildhorse Campsites (Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation)	•	•	•	•		•		\$5	\$10 ⁸ /dry camp \$15/paved/RV site			\$5/extra tent or vehicle.
Shoshone-Paiute Sheep Creek Reservoir (Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation)	•	•	•	•		•			\$10/dry camp \$15/paved/RV site			
						Priva	tely O	wned	Business			
Wildhorse Resort	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		\$25			

⁷ As described on NV State Park website, group fee is entrance fee (\$5) + camping fee (\$15) + group site fee (\$25) per vehicle.

⁸ This fee is per vehicle, not per site.

6.2.2. Zunino-Jiggs

Recreation Site	Tent/ Trailer Spaces	Picnic Tables	Fire Rings	Toilet	Drinking Water	Partial/ Full Hookup	Showers	Day-Use	Single Site	Double Site	Group Site	Other
Zunino-Jiggs (BLM)	•	٠	•	•				\$5	\$5			
					Otl	her Area	Agenc	y Recr	eation Area	as		
South Fork State Park (State of NV)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$5	\$20-30		\$45 ⁹	
Terraces Campground and Picnic Area (USFS)	•	•	•	•	•			\$7	\$7	\$14	\$100 ¹⁰	\$7 extra vehicle
Thomas Canyon (USFS)	•	•	•	•	•				\$19	\$38		\$7 extra vehicle; \$8 off seasons camping
South Ruby (USFS)	•	٠	•	•	•				\$17	\$32		\$7 extra vehicle; \$8 off season camping
						Private	ely Ow	ned B	usiness			
Iron Horse RV Park, Elko	•	•		•	•	•	•		\$36-51			
Double Dice RV Park, Elko	•	•		•	•	•	•		\$52			
Elko RV Park at Ryndon	•	•		•	•	•	•		\$16-32			

 ⁹ As described on NV State Park website, group fee is entrance fee (\$5) + camping fee (\$15) + group site fee (\$25) per vehicle.
 ¹⁰ Entire campground (9 sites) can be reserved for \$100 per night.

6.2.3. Tabor Creek

Recreation Site	Tent/ Trailer Spaces	Picnic Tables	Fire Rings	Toilet	Drinking Water	Partial/ Full Hookup	Showers	Day-Use	Single Site	Double Site	Group Site	Other
Tabor Creek (BLM)	•	•	•	•				\$5	\$5			
Other Area Agency Recreation Areas												
Angel Creek (USFS)	•	•	•	•	•				\$17	\$34	\$71	\$7 extra vehicle; \$8 off season camping
Angel Lake (USFS)	•	٠	•	•	•			\$7	\$18	\$36		\$7 extra vehicle; \$8 off season camping
						Private	ly Ow	ned Bu	isiness			
Angel Lake RV Park, Wells	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•		\$39.90			
Mountain Shadows RV Park, Wells	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		\$35.91			
Elko RV Park at Ryndon	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•		\$30			

6.3. Public Comment Matrix

Comment ID	Public Comment	BLM Response
1.1	"I support the issue completely as long as the	Comment noted.
	funds be used as needed for improvements	
	and maintenance of facilities"	