



ARIZONA Safford

Field Office

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2022

Implementation of Aravaipa Plan



New fiberglass marker post installed

Workers installed fiberglass marker posts to delineate road and trail networks to implement part of the Aravaipa Ecosystem Management Plan. The transportation networks provide important multimodal access between BLM-managed lands in the Galiuro and Santa Teresa Mountain areas, including Aravaipa Canyon and the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness.

Amount Expended: \$1,645.00

Facility Operations/Maintenance



Clean restroom facility at Gila Box

Restroom cleaning, grounds maintenance, and facility repairs are regularly completed to keep developed recreation sites at the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (GBRNCA) operating in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition for visitors. Contractors provide cleaning services at most of the recreation sites. Supplies such as toilet paper and trash bags along with the hard work from camp hosts help keep the GBRNCA sites running smoothly and enhances visitor experiences.

Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

Recreation Fee Dollars

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

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.



Other Accomplishments

Removed weeds, grubbed trails, and updated signs and fiberglass markers posts at trailhead parking areas.

Processed all new special recreation permits (SRPs) and letters of agreement

Provided leadership, training and mentoring for six returning camp hosts

Initiated a field office-wide sign inventory and started order for signs needing replacement

Vicinity Map



Contacts

Safford Field Office

Recreation Fee Program Contact

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[Published FLREA Triennial Report](https://doi.sciencebase.gov/flrea/)
<https://doi.sciencebase.gov/flrea/>

[Published FLREA Annual Revenue and Spending Plans](https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/permits-and-fees/flrea-revenue)
<https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/permits-and-fees/flrea-revenue>

[Connecting with Communities BLM Recreation Strategy](https://www.blm.gov/national-office/public-room/strategic-plan/connecting-communities-blm-recreation-strategy-summary)
<https://www.blm.gov/national-office/public-room/strategic-plan/connecting-communities-blm-recreation-strategy-summary>

Revenue & Expenditures

End of Year Carryover:	\$210,827.60
FY22 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$11,757.76
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$6,595.19
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$84,827.00
Interagency Passes	\$760.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY22:	\$103,939.95

FY22 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$28,729.36
Visitor Services	\$71,650.02
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$79,969.00
Collections/Overhead	\$6,134.48
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22:	\$186,482.86



Planned Activities



BLM River Ranger discussing swift water rescue

In FY23, we are working on completing updates to the map and brochure for the GBRNCA. We plan to continue funding four (4) park rangers working in support of recreation fee sites or areas. We will continue to process, manage, monitor, and evaluate Special Recreation Permits. Recreation fee collections will be used to help fund property leases at the east and west end of Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness which provide public access and support management of the wilderness area. Lastly, we plan to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance of recreation sites/areas, including trash removal, sign replacement, trail inventory and maintenance.

FY23 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$52,575.00
Visitor Services	\$30,500.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$10,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$7,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY23:	\$100,075.00
Carryover Funds To FY23:	\$128,284.69
FY23 Projected Revenue:	\$104,000.00

Connecting with Communities

The Safford Field Office (SFO) will continue building partnerships within the Gila Valley. The Graham County Chamber of Commerce assists the BLM with public outreach and serves as a hub for public lands information. They have formed a Gila Valley Adventure group that makes frequent visits to BLM recreation sites and wilderness areas. BLM staff has been delivering presentations regarding each BLM administered site visited and sometimes leads group activities.

The Graham County Search and Rescue has requested our river ranger present at meetings and lead swift water rescue training exercises. His skill set is not only valuable to the BLM but also assists organizations within the community. Over the next year, we will work toward improving outreach and education opportunities that serve our agency, community and partners.

