



COLORADO Mcinnis Canyons

National Conservation Area

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2022

Rabbit Valley Camping

River Program-Ruby Horsethief



New Knowles Canyon Overlook Campground Sign

Rabbit Valley is a popular recreation destination for OHV use, mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding, camping and special events. Outfitters and river users also take advantage of the area during the busy season due to its proximity to the Loma Boat Launch, the main take-out for the Ruby Horsethief Canyon stretch along the Colorado River. This year, many improvements were made such as upgrades to the Knowles Canyon Overlook Campground and the dispersed campsites throughout the valley.

Amount Expended: \$50,000.00



Busy October Day at the Loma Boat Launch

The GJFO maintains and manages 34 campsites along a 25 mile stretch on the Colorado River. This year, a new Career-Seasonal River Ranger was brought on to continue to staff the boat ramps, answer crucial safety questions and concerns, perform patrols, maintain camp sites and facilities, and educate the public on proper boating etiquette and resource protection. Other projects included Purple Looseleaf Strife removal, upgrading signage, and hazardous tree removal at camp sites.

Amount Expended: \$60,000.00

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

Created a permit system and increased public outreach in preparation for adding campsites in Rabbit Valley to Recreation.gov.

Updated kiosk signage at popular trail heads to help minimize resource damage and keep the public up to date on changes.

Kicked off the new Volunteer River Ranger program to better assist permit holders at the Loma Boat Launch.

Vicinity Map



Contacts

Mcinnis Canyons National Conservation Area

Recreation Fee Program Contact

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Web: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/colorado/mcinnis-canyons>

[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:	\$667,024.11
FY22 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$315,219.50
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$1,000.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$30.00
Interagency Passes	\$0.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY22:	\$316,249.50

FY22 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$36,279.79
Visitor Services	\$116,119.09
Law Enforcement	\$11,697.54
Habitat Restoration	\$66,028.02
Collections/Overhead	\$8,085.50
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22:	\$238,209.94



Planned Activities



Construction on the Equestrian Campground

In 2023 improvements in Rabbit Valley will continue with a new Equestrian Campground and trail head near the Jouflas horse trail, as well as upgrading the group use area and facilities. Campsites in Rabbit Valley will go live on Recreation.gov and will be available for reservation, which will help to reduce resource damage and provide a better recreational experience for visitors. Fees collected will be used to maintain campgrounds, provide services for users, and future trail development. We will continue to provide excellent customer service, education and service to the public by hiring seasonal Park Rangers to monitor trails, rivers, and campgrounds and keep facilities clean.

FY23 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$83,000.00
Visitor Services	\$125,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$85,000.00
Habitat Restoration	\$100,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$25,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY23:	\$418,000.00
Carryover Funds To FY23:	\$745,063.67
FY23 Projected Revenue:	\$265,000.00

Connecting with Communities

Colorado Canyons Association (CCA) is the Friends group of McInnis Canyons National Conservation Areas (MCNCA). CCA provided crucial assistance in visitor services for the NCA at the BLM office, organizing volunteer projects, and creating awareness in the community surrounding the stewardship and management of MCNCA. In FY 2022, they helped BLM staff host river cleanups, trail monitoring classes, and educational trips for area youth. BLM works with CCA and our community partners to reach underserved youth in our communities. We have built partnerships with groups like the Riverside Education Center, Dual Immersion Academy, and Mesa County Partners to help remove barriers students may face when visiting and recreating on public lands. These partnerships allow the BLM to host students in an outdoor classroom setting and provide a safe environment for students to feel supported while developing new skills and learning about the resources we manage. These partnerships offer hundreds of youth in our community with new experiences, such as place-based learning, hiking, rafting, and camping, on their public lands.

