

FY08 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NAME OF FEE PROJECT: LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS (AZ23)

STATE: AZ

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DESCRIPTION (PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF THE TYPES OF SITES AND SERVICES THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THIS FEE PROJECT – CAMPGROUNDS, CABINS, TOURS, VISITOR CENTERS, SPECIAL USES PERMITS, ETC.)

The fee project provides for the authorization and administration of Special Recreation Permits (SRP) for commercial and/or competitive activities, and organized groups using public lands in western Arizona. Recreation activities managed under SRPs in the Lake Havasu Field Office have varied greatly over the years, including:

- 2 OHV Desert Races
- 2 Hunting Outfitter Guides
- 2 OHV Poker Runs
- Jeep/4-wheel drive scenic or desert touring business
- A ‘dude’ ranch designed for the physically disabled and their families
- Personal Watercraft Races (cooperation with U.S. Coast Guard)

FEE SCHEDULE

SRP fees are usually the minimum (currently \$95) in other cases the 3% of gross revenue (minus expenses) applies.

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS YEAR (PLEASE PROVIDE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES THAT ADDRESSES THE ENTIRE FEE PROGRAM SUCH AS CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS, VISITOR SERVICES, ETC.)

Visitor Services, Interpretation: LHFO managed 7 commercial/organized and 2 competitive SRPs during FY08. Management actions include collecting fees, adequate liability insurance, provide resource protection stipulations for the authorized use, distributing educational materials (i.e. Tread Lightly, OHV and desert safety information including bulletin boards), and collecting post-use data.

Law Enforcement – Public Use and Recreation: Staff performed compliance checks helping to ensure permit stipulations were met. The fee revenues are used to help cover costs of labor, tools and equipment, including monitoring.

It's interesting and unfortunate to note that both scenic desert tour businesses have went out of business in the past two years. One operated under an SRP for 15 years. Also, the helicopter operator appears to have gone out of business.



PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT YEAR (FY09):

The Lake Havasu Field Office Recreation and Visitor Services Program will continue to process SRP applications on an as needed or as received basis. It is anticipated that the number of permits administered will be similar to past years though there was a slight decline in FY08.

The amount of fee revenue received does not allow a feasible or even viable means for proactive management. However, we can purchase brochures and other educational and interpretive materials (i.e. Leave No Trace/Tread Lightly!) for the public and SRP participants helping create a vested interest to increase ethical, lawful treatment of and appreciation and respect for our public lands. As in past years, most fee revenue will be used to cover labor costs for monitoring of SRP activities.