

## FY08 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**NAME OF FEE PROJECT:** YUMA FIELD OFFICE AMENITY RECREATION SITE    **STATE:** AZ  
PROGRAM (AZ320, AZ11)

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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 Yuma Field Office Amenity Recreation Site program includes the following nine developed recreation sites and areas: (1) Betty’s Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail, (2) Senator Wash Boat Launch and Day Use Area, (3) Senator Wash North Shore Campground, (4) Senator Wash South Shore Campground, (5) Squaw Lake Campground and Boat Launch, (6) Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Area, (7) Ehrenberg Sandbowl Off-Highway Vehicle Area, (8) Imperial Dam Long-Term Visitor Area (between April 16 and September 14 of each year), and (9) La Posa Long-Term Visitor Area (between April 16 and September 14 of each year). During FY2008, the Yuma Field Office sold a total of 6,250 day-use, overnight, and annual pass permits for public use of these nine recreation amenity sites, which provide a wide variety of developed recreational amenities and services in conformance with the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Several of the sites that provide recreational access to the lower Colorado River and its associated backwaters serve as regional destinations for public land visitors each summer.

**FY2007 Fee Schedule for the Ehrenberg Sandbowl Off-Highway Vehicle Area:** \$5.00 per calendar day per vehicle

**FY2007 Fee Schedule for All Other Amenity Recreation Sites:** \$10.00 day-use fee per vehicle, \$15.00 overnight fee per vehicle

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

**Visitor Services, Interpretation:** The Yuma Field Office Recreation and Visitor Services Division conducted a total of 23 different interpretive public outreach efforts during FY2008. These efforts to promote environmentally responsible outdoor principles included presentations to public land visitors at developed recreation sites, booths at events sponsored by recreational clubs and organizations, and interviews for local talk radio and local newspaper, magazine, and website articles.



*Photo 5: Yuma Field Office staff gives a presentation about the BLM recreation program at the Quartzsite Senior Center in Quartzsite, Arizona in January 2008.*

**Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:** BLM staff and volunteers planted a cacti garden and installed an interpretive trail at the Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Area in support of 2008 National Public Lands Day. The project was completed with assistance from the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, the BLM Challenge-Cost Share Program, a local hunting and fishing club, and approximately 20 other BLM volunteers. Collected recreation fees paid for BLM staff time to develop and support these partnerships and volunteer relationships.



*Photo 6: BLM volunteers plant cacti and lay a mulch foundation for an interpretive trail at the Oxbow Recreation & Wildlife Area as a part of 2008's National Public Lands Day.*

**Law Enforcement – Public Use and Recreation:** BLM Law Enforcement officials regularly patrol and respond to issues at all of the Yuma Field Office’s developed recreation sites and areas with funding from the Recreation and Visitor Services Division. Law enforcement staff is also responsible for collecting recreation fees from each recreation site’s self-service “steel ranger” and safely delivering the monies to the field office.

**Wildlife Habitat Restoration, Resource Protection:** The half-mile Betty’s Kitchen National Recreation Trail is annually maintained for public use by the Yuma Field Office recreation, natural resources, and wildland fire management programs. Maintenance efforts at the recreation fee site include the removal of non-native and invasive vegetation to reduce the risk wildland fires, and the trimming of other vegetation that pose public safety hazards.

**Fee Agreements and Reservation Services:** N/A

**Projects/Activities Planned for Next Year (FY09):** Collected recreation fees will continue to support the maintenance and operation of the recreation fee sites, including costs associated with garbage collection, restroom maintenance, and on-site visitor services. The BLM Yuma Field Office also plans on implementing the following projects during FY09 with collected recreation fees: (1) replacement of a universally-accessible floating pier at the Betty’s Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail, (2) installation of a septic system for the volunteer host site at the Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Area, and (3) replacement and extension of the boat launch at the Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Area.