

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY FY09 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NAME OF FEE PROJECT: AZ07 LAKE HAVASU RECREATION SITES
AMENITY FEE PROGRAM

STATE: AZ

Fee Project Contact: Myron McCoy

Phone: 928-505-1216

Email: myron_mccoy@blm.gov

DESCRIPTION:

The BLM Lake Havasu Field Office (LHFO) oversees more than 140 miles of the lower Colorado River, including 20-miles of Lake Havasu shoreline. Ten million annual visitors are attracted to the area primarily for the world class water-based recreation opportunities. Camping, hiking, wildlife-watching, and OHV activities are also major parts of the Lake Havasu Amenity Fee Program.

LHFO directly manages two boat and watercraft launch facilities, one on the lake the other on the Colorado River below Parker Dam. The Take Off Point launch is on the south end of Lake Havasu near Parker Dam, and is free to the public providing a double ramp, vehicle/trailer parking areas, restrooms, an adjacent shoreline fishing area/dock, accessible fishing pier and picnic area.

The BLM also manages 87 designated campsites dispersed along 20 miles of Arizona shoreline on Lake Havasu. The sites are accessible for use and maintenance only by boat and have become increasingly popular since 1997. The each site's amenities include restrooms, barbecue grills, picnic tables, stanchions for tying up boats and watercraft, shade awnings, litter and trash removal, and beaches. Based on each location, retaining walls, pathways, steps and hand rails are installed. Each site has different terrain, vistas, beaches, trails, and shoreline access, including connection to other campsites.

In addition, the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office manages a free public fishing access area and two concession resorts along the shoreline of Lake Havasu. Below Lake Havasu and Parker Dam, the Colorado River creates a historic channel called the Parker Strip. The Parker Strip has become a river recreation magnet for the summer months and snowbird destination due to the mild winter weather evolving into a year-round recreation area. Water based recreation along the 11-mile stretch is the key attraction. The slow moving waterway is ideal for skiing, boating, fishing and all types of water sports. As on the Lake to the north, recreation use can be intense. In the winter, many recreational vehicle (RV) sites are full for months at a time, rather than just weekends.

Within the Parker Strip Recreation Area, you'll find:

- 10 Concession Resorts with RV & tent camping, vacation mobile homes, convenience stores, marinas, restaurants, overnight rooms, boat storage and fuel
- Bullfrog Day Use Area
- Crossroads Campground

- Empire Landing Campground
- Parker Dam Road National Back Country Byway
- The Copper Basin Dunes and Crossroads OHV Open Areas
- Rockhouse Information Center and Boat Launch

The Rockhouse Boat Launch in the Parker Strip is on the California side of the Colorado River, below Parker Dam and free to the public. The facility provides a double ramp, ample parking, visitor information center, restrooms, a walking path along the river shoreline and volunteer hosts.



The Lake Havasu Field Office's Recreation Amenity Fee Site Program also includes the sale and management of the America the Beautiful Interagency Passes and a regional pass called the BLM Annual Recreation Pass, Lake Havasu Field Office.

FEE SCHEDULE:

- Bullfrog Day Use Area: \$5.00
- Crossroads Campground: \$5.00
- Empire Landing Campground RV & Tent Sites: \$15.00
- Empire Landing Campground Day Use Sites: \$5.00
- Empire Landing Campground RV Hook-up Sites: \$30.00
- Empire Landing Campground RV Dump Station: \$5.00
- Lake Havasu Shoreline Sites (87) Day Use/Overnight Camping: \$10.00
- Lake Havasu Recreation Annual Pass: \$100.00
- America the Beautiful Interagency Pass:
 - Annual: \$85
 - Senior: \$10
- Concession fees: A portion of the concession lease fees are included as part of the developed site amenity fees managed by this office. These fees vary based upon the terms of the lease agreement and the gross revenue collected by each specific resort.

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY09:

Visitor Services, Interpretation:

In 2009, 4 kiosks and 16 bulletin boards were installed using fee revenues.



Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:

Fees collected within the Lake Havasu Field Office are used primarily for the recreation facilities originally built or improved with significant amounts of deferred maintenance funds. For example, in FY09 major enhancements were made to public camping sites on the Lake Havasu shoreline. Also accomplished in FY09 was the reopening of Empire Landing Campground, which had been closed for renovations since FY03. It now features over 50 campsites, 16 sites with water/power, new restrooms, showers, flush toilets, tent sites, accessible sites, volunteer hosts, dump station all located on the Colorado River shoreline.



PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FY10:

In FY10, recreation revenues will be used for maintenance of the amenity fee sites at LHFO, including trash collection and cleaning. A substantial amount of funds will be used to upkeep the condition of the Lake Havasu shoreline patrol, consisting of two powerboats and two personal

watercraft, all which are clearly marked as official BLM vessels, used by BLM Park Rangers and LHFO maintenance crew.