

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY  
FY10 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

<b>NAME OF FEE PROJECT: AZ11 LOWER COLORADO RIVER AMENITY FEE PROGRAM</b>	<b>STATE: AZ</b>
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**DESCRIPTION:**

The Lower Colorado River Amenity Fee Program includes nine developed recreation sites: (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). These nine recreation amenity sites provide a variety of developed recreational amenities and services. Several of the sites provide recreational access to the lower Colorado River and its associated backwaters and serve as regional destinations for public land visitors throughout the year. The recreation sites enhance the quality of life for local residents and visitors to the area. There is also a significant contribution to the regional economy from the recreation based activities.

**FEE SCHEDULE:**

Ehrenberg Sandbowl Off-Highway Vehicle Area: \$5.00 per calendar day/ per vehicle

All other sites:

Day-use fee: \$10.00 per vehicle

Overnight fee: \$15.00 per vehicle

Annual permit: \$75 (honored at all Yuma Field Office Amenity Recreation Sites including Ehrenberg Sandbowl)

**SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY10:**

During FY2010, the Yuma Field Office sold a total of 30,115 calendar-day and annual pass permits for public use of the amenity sites.



### **Visitor Services, Interpretation:**

Recreation fee revenues support agency staff and volunteers and campground hosts who maintain kiosks such as the one pictured above with information about the local area. Volunteer campground hosts are available on-site year-round to provide information for visitors.

### **Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:**

A large portion of the funds for materials and equipment and contractors needed for the maintenance of recreation facilities is provided by fee revenues. Labor costs for BLM staff and reimbursements for volunteers who operate and maintain facilities are also covered. In FY10, recreation fee revenues supported two youth projects that completed parking lot maintenance at Squaw Lake Campground and Boat Launch, and for the replacement of planking on a bridge at the Betty's Kitchen National Recreation Trail. The youth project employed over 50 young adults.

### **Wildlife Habitat Restoration, Resource Protection:**

Collected fee revenues covered the costs for fuel break treatments to protect the Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Management Area from wildfire. Volunteers also contributed to resource protection efforts through the routine monitoring of recreation areas.

### **Law Enforcement – Public Use and Recreation:**

A portion of the labor and equipment funding for Law Enforcement Officers who routinely patrol the recreation areas is covered by recreation fee revenues. During busy holiday weekends, this revenue also supports officers from adjacent offices who are brought in to assist with visitor security and resource protection efforts.

**PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FY11:**

Collected recreation fee revenues will continue to be utilized to support costs associated with garbage collection, facility maintenance, and on-site visitor services, and to provide funding for BLM staff and volunteers who conduct the operation and maintenance of the recreation fee sites. The BLM Yuma Field Office also plans to carry forward the following project proposals from FY10 to FY11: (1) parking and camping area extension at the Oxbow Recreation and Wildlife Area, (2) provide BLM staff support needed to complete one remaining American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Project at the Imperial Recreation Area that will provide solar energy, and (3) continue to support youth projects that promote public land stewardship by involving youth in the improvement of interpretive facilities, trail work, and other facility maintenance and resource protection duties.