

# BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY FY11 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**NAME OF FEE PROJECT:** AZ16 ARIZONA STRIP SPECIAL RECREATION  
PERMITS

**STATE:** AZ

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## DESCRIPTION:

The Arizona Strip District Special Recreation Permit (SRP) fee project was established to account for fees collected for commercial and competitive SRPs and organized group events in the Arizona Strip Field Office, the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, and the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, all located within the Arizona Strip District.

Most of the SRPs issued were for the commercial services of hunting guides/outfitters and tour guides. Trophy hunts for mule deer and bighorn sheep occur at several locations in the district. The Arizona Strip District manages commercial guides for touring, sightseeing, and hiking the challenging and scenic areas of the Grand Canyon region, as well as several competitive and organized group events.

Commercial applications for motorized and non-motorized guiding and sightseeing in the monuments on the district are increasing in number each year. In coordination with the St. George Field Office in Utah, the Arizona Strip Field Office has hosted, for some 20 years, the annual Rhino Rally, a motorcycle race sponsored by the Wizards Motorcycle Club. Organized events such as the Tri-State ATV Jamboree have provided well-managed, guided ATV touring, using numerous combinations of looping routes in the Southern Utah/Northern Arizona area. The popularity of the region has grown beyond local and regional riders to national renown.

The BLM co-manages Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument with the National Park Service (NPS) which issues Commercial Use Authorizations (CUA) for commercial/organized group events on NPS-administered lands. Commercial and/or competitive activities and/or organized group events that occur on both NPS and BLM-administered land in that Monument may be issued both a CUA and a SRP. The Arizona Strip District staff also works cooperatively with the Kanab Field Office and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah to administer recreation in the northeastern portion of the District and in the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

The Programmatic EA for Commercial Motorized SRPs on Vermilion Cliffs NM (DOI-BLM-AZ-A020-2010-001-EA) was completed. When this EA goes into effect, several (8 to 10), new permits will be issued for the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

## FEE SCHEDULE:

The SRP fee schedule for commercial activities is established nationally for all BLM field offices. Fee receipts derived from recreational commercial, competitive, and organized group event SRPs are

routinely calculated using national fee schedule guidance found in BLM Recreation Permit Administration Manual H-2930-1, Section III.G., as established by 43 CFR 2930. As of March 2011, the SRP fee schedule is the following:

- Commercial permits are the maximum of \$100 or 3% of the gross revenue.
- Competitive permits are the maximum of \$100, 3% of gross revenue or \$5 per participant/day.
- Organized-group use is \$5 per person per day or \$100, whichever is greater.

The Arizona Strip District has 36 valid SRPs (permits which are up-to-date) and a total of 50 active permits (including SRPs that have not been initially approved or renewed). In FY2010, \$11,856.96 was collected. These fees are usually used for signs, barriers, road maintenance, and visitation counters.

#### **SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY11:**

**Visitor Services, Interpretation:** Funded with recreation fee revenues, several traffic counters have been installed across the district to study visitor use trends. The Arizona Strip Field Office currently has 27 counters and the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument has 16 counters.

#### **PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FY12:**

At the present time no projects are planned using recreation funds from this account.