

Sunny Flat Campground Renovation

July 8, 2004

The Coronado National Forest is renovating Sunny Flat Campground, the largest campground in Cave Creek Canyon.

Structural Design Associates of Albuquerque is completing the final design, which will incorporate the following elements:

- The road and campsites in the floodplain and riparian area will be removed. A new one-way loop road through the meadow will be constructed, and replacement campsites constructed. Some of these campsites will have small ramadas.
- The aging restroom will be replaced.
- Each campsite will get a new table, pedestal grill, campfire ring, bear-proof food storage locker, tent pad, and lantern hanger.
- There will be a new campground host site, an improved information/pay station, and new trash bins.
- A small trailhead parking area.
- Accessibility will be improved throughout the campground.

A [preliminary design for the campground is shown here](#).

Design work should be completed this fall, and the Coronado anticipates receiving construction funds at that time. Work will be done according to recommendations in the environmental assessment (NEPA), with sensitivity to the site and its special features. No trees over 9 inches will be removed. Construction work will take place in fall and winter to minimize impacts to wildlife and visitors. Areas disturbed by construction will be revegetated with a native seed mix.

In addition to the renovation project, the Coronado plans to install a new bridge at the entrance to the campground. Work is likely to begin in September. The new bridge will provide better access to the campground when the creek is running, and will protect water quality in the creek by keeping vehicles out of it.

Both projects will require closing the campground during construction activities.

For additional information, contact the Douglas Ranger District at (520) 364-3468.