

## Background Information

Fees at the Flaming Gorge NRA that were previously authorized under the Fee Demonstration Project, are under new fee authority authorized by the Recreation Enhancement Act of 2005. The Act permits the Forest Service to continue reinvesting recreation fee revenue back into the sites where they are collected.

The Forest Service has been very successful leveraging fee dollars with grants to complete large projects. Fee collections are not enough to fund the needed replacement and renovation of aging facilities. The NRA relies heavily on partnerships to enhance recreation opportunities. The NRA will continue to stretch the dollars collected from fees by funding future projects with a combination of grants, fees, and appropriated dollars.

## Projects on the Horizon

- **New Docks – New Buoys**
- **Cedar Springs Boat Sewage Pumpout/Floating Toilet**
- **Support to County EMS & Law Enforcement**
- **Highway Information Kiosks**

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To our customers:

**As we get ready to kick off another busy season at the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, I want to update you on the area's fee program. The program has been very successful over the past ten years and improvements are apparent.**

**The program has changed. Under the Fee Demo Program, fees were applied to all recreation activities within the NRA regardless of facilities used. Under the new Recreation Enhancement Act, fees are applied only at developed sites with significant investment and a high number of amenities. 183,000 of the 190,000 acres of the NRA are now free!**

**Last year I asked for your comments on a fee increase and held 3 public meetings. After considering your comments, analyzing the fee program, and gaining concurrence from Recreation Advisory Committees in each state, the Regional Forester has decided that starting May 19<sup>th</sup> 2008, fees within the NRA will be increased. Fees have not been increased since the beginning of the program over 10 years ago, while the cost of doing business has increased (wages, fuel, utilities) etc. Without a fee increase, existing facilities would continue to deteriorate to the point that some sites would need to be closed or become unusable. Additional revenue collected as a result of an increase in fees will allow the Forest Service to continue to enhance existing recreation opportunities.**

**I sincerely welcome your comments and suggestions.**

*Jeff Schramm*  
**District Ranger**

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

USDA Forest  
Service

Intermountain  
Region

**Ashley  
National  
Forest**

May 2008



# Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area

2007  
Recreation Fee  
Accomplishment Report



**Flaming Gorge NRA/Ranger District  
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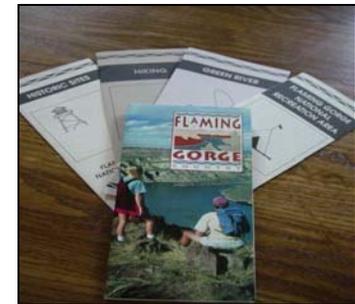
**Completed Enhancement  
Improvement Projects**



**Antelope Flat  
Improvements  
(Grant Funded)**



**Buckboard  
Campground  
Road Work  
(Grant, Partner,  
and Fee Funded)**



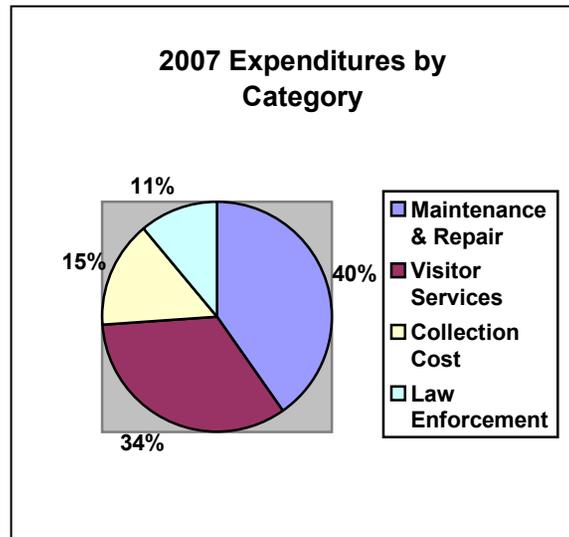
**Visitor  
Brochure  
Printing  
(Fees and Partner  
Funded)**



**Fee Facts**

| Old Fees          | New Fees          |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Day Pass: \$2   | 1 Day Pass: \$5   |
| 16 Day Pass: \$5  | 7 Day Pass: \$15  |
| Annual Pass: \$20 | Annual Pass: \$35 |

| 2007 Fee Program Summary      |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Collected               | \$156,000 |
| Total Expenditures            | \$107,600 |
| Region-wide fee area projects | \$7,800   |
| Large Project Reserve         | \$40,600  |



**Accomplishment Highlights**

- **Construction of restroom and shower building in Buckboard Campground**
- **Increased safety and security by hiring and training two seasonal Forest Protection Officers**
- **Remodeled Firehole host residence to increase security**
- **Purchased Smokey Bear educational materials to be distributed at community events**
- **Supported basic maintenance functions, including maintaining reservoir buoys and docks, trash service and pumping toilets**