



UTAH Moab Field Office (River Program)

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

Westwater Ranger Station



National Public Lands Day with SUWA

Westwater Ranger Station is a remote field station on the Colorado River. Park rangers constantly juggle travel management and visitor needs. There are numerous motorized singletrack trails and the Kokopelli's Trail in the Utah Rims SRMA. We partnered with SUWA for the second year to conduct a project in Westwater Canyon, cleaning the river corridor of tires and other non-natural debris. We also installed a new culinary well to provide potable water to staff and visitors.

Lower Onion Creek Shelter



Day Use Shade Shelter on the Colorado River

Lower Onion Creek is a campground and a popular launching location for commercial and private river runners. It is especially popular in low water. A day-use shelter was needed for groups that have lunch and are waiting for their guides to rig or a shuttle to return. Day users were impacting the group site shelters and creating unnecessary conflicts. Our maintenance crew constructed this of wood to match the three existing shelters in this location and expanded the parking area.

Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations benefit as 100% of the funds collected are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

They support and enhance:

- Maintenance, repair, and facility enhancement related directly to visitor enjoyment, visitor access, and health and safety
- Interpretation, visitor information, visitor service, visitor needs assessments, and signs
- Habitat restoration directly related to wildlife- dependent recreation that is limited to hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, or photography
- Law enforcement related to public use and recreation, including direct operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program



Other Accomplishments

- Patrols of the river corridor and uplands in the Utah Rims Special Recreation Management Area.
- Coordination with Ruby Horsethief boaters and staff.
- Toilet pumping and dumpsters at Westwater & Cisco.
- Monthly Wilderness Study Area patrols & monitoring.
- Install ice machine & washer/dryer at Westwater Ranger Station.
- Designation of new camp at Otter Bar.
- Continued revegetation work at Bald Eagle camp and tire clean-ups in the canyon.

Vicinity Map



Contacts

Moab Field Office (River Program)

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Revenue & Expenditures

FY21 Revenue

Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$0.00
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$0.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$50,880.00
Interagency Passes	\$0.00
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21	\$50,880.00

FY21 Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$69,248.27
Visitor Services	\$20,820.29
Law Enforcement	\$45,780.75
Habitat Restoration	\$15,228.85
Collections/Overhead	\$174,396.39
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21	\$325,474.55



Planned Activities



BLM partners with OARS & MVMC on the Colorado River

- Replace privacy fence between office & boathouse
- Replace stolen and damaged UTV
- Purchase four UTV helmets & two new life jackets for interns
- Install individual shade shelters at four campsites
- Install shelter at Ida Gulch, double toilet & expand the parking area
- Continue partnership with OARS and the Moab Valley Multicultural Center to get the local community out on the river.
- Partnership with State of Utah & Watershed Restoration Initiative for non-native species removal

FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$101,000.00
Visitor Services	\$21,000.00
Law Enforcement	\$45,000.00
Habitat Restoration	\$25,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$176,000.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$368,000.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$74,000.00
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$39,500.00

Connecting with Communities

The Moab Field Office works with commercial river Special Recreation Permit holders to provide access to the Colorado, Green and Dolores Rivers. The partnership with OARS and Moab Valley Multicultural Center works to introduce locals to the Colorado River and their public lands in their backyard. This partnership is also an effort to increase awareness of job and career opportunities in the natural resources field such as becoming a guide, scientist or land manager. We work together to connect our community with the surrounding public lands.

