



# MONTANA\_DAKOTAS South Dakota Field Office

## Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2021

### Alkali Creek CG Improvements



Kiosk at Alkali Creek Campground and Trailhead

At the Alkali Creek Campground and Trailhead, a portion of the fees was utilized to construct a new kiosk that provides the public information on the area's attractions, trail system, and campgrounds. The project combined information into one location for better visibility by the public. Funding was used to maintain the campground 21 sites, vault toilet, and potable water system. Of the \$5,001 collected in FY 21, \$2,105 was put back into improvements.

### 7th Cavalry Trails Signposts



Signposts along the 7th Cavalry Trail System

Funding that was collected from the SRP fee program was used to purchase new 6"x6" trail marker posts. These posts replace old carsonite signs often damaged by cattle along the trails. The permanent signposts, once installed, will provide trail information such as trail name, current lat/long, and mileage information. Of the \$4,645 collected from Special Recreation Permits in FY 21, \$2,520 was put back into the trails system.

## Recreation Fee Dollars

They support and enhance:

*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.*

- 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 Direct operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program

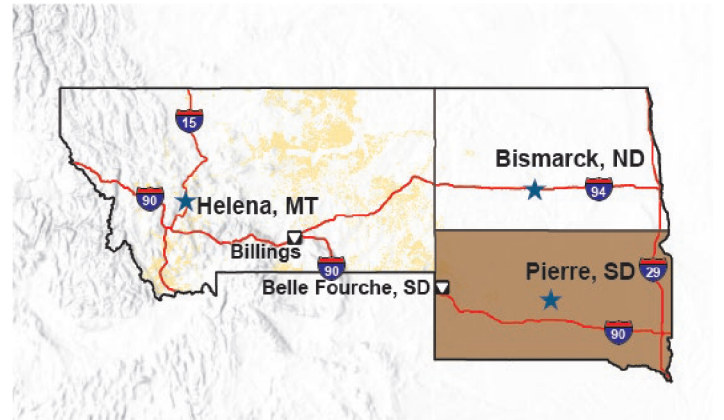


## Other Accomplishments

In addition to the big projects completed at the Fort Meade Recreation Area each year, many projects may or may not go unnoticed.

- Monthly sampling of the potable water system.
- Cleaning and supply replacement in vault toilets.
- Mowing and weed trimming at the campgrounds and trailheads.
- Equipment repairs are used to maintain the recreation area.
- Garbage collection services
- Paining of buildings, gates, and sign posts.
- Trail maintenance projects.

## Vicinity Map



## Contacts

### South Dakota Field Office Recreation Fee Program Contact

Phone Number: (605) 892-7000

Email: [BLM\\_MT\\_South\\_Dakota\\_FO@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_MT_South_Dakota_FO@blm.gov)

Web: <https://www.blm.gov/office/south-dakota-field-office>

### District Contact

Phone Number: (406) 233-2800

Email: [BLM\\_MT\\_Miles\\_City\\_FO@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_MT_Miles_City_FO@blm.gov)

## Revenue & Expenditures

### FY21 Revenue

Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$5,001.15
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$4,645.05
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$380.00
<b>Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY21</b>	<b>\$10,026.20</b>

### FY21 Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$4,625.73
Visitor Services	\$0.00
Law Enforcement	\$0.00
Habitat Restoration	\$0.00
Collections/Overhead	\$0.00
<b>Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY21</b>	<b>\$4,625.73</b>



## Planned Activities



*Trail work at Fort Meade*

In FY22, the continued maintenance of the Fort Meade Recreation Area will occur along with the following improvements:

- \$500 for a new informational kiosk at the Fort Meade Trailhead.
- \$1,500 for concrete around the new vault toilet at Fort Meade Trailhead.
- \$500 for tree planting at the Alkali Creek Campground and Fort Meade Reservoir.
- \$2,000 additional group picnic shelter at Alkali Creek Campground.
- \$750 for Reflective Centennial Trail Markers.
- \$750 for trail maintenance supplies and equipment rental.
- \$1,000 for Law Enforcement Services

## FY22 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$6,000.00
Visitor Services	\$0.00
Law Enforcement	\$1,000.00
Habitat Restoration	\$0.00
Collections/Overhead	\$0.00
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY22	\$7,000.00
FY21 End of Year Carryover	\$23,457.17
FY22 Projected Revenue	\$10,000.00

## Connecting with Communities

While the last two years have been difficult to get groups together for field projects due to covid, the South Dakota Field Office has developed a good relationship with the city of Sturgis, SD, the Chamber of Commerce, and local volunteer groups. With the boundary of the Fort Meade Recreation Area being adjacent to the town of Sturgis, the ability to work together has become more critical than ever due to the increase in use over the last few years. One example is the city of Sturgis has built a great summer event schedule that includes free weekly music concerts and a mountain bike series that races each Wednesday night before the shows start. The bike events take place primarily on the BLM 7th Cavalry trail system and go onto USFS and city lands. The coordination of this event between Sturgis and the BLM has been beneficial in many ways. The city has benefited from a great turnout at their weekly events, with over 100 riders per week participating, translating into a tremendous public recreation opportunity for the local residents. The BLM has significantly benefited from the increased number of people that this event draws in, with many riding the area for the first time and have become return guests. The number of youth riders that take part in these events has increased each year, leading to higher participation and interest in volunteer workdays. Besides mountain biking, there are numerous equestrian opportunities, trail running races, birdwatching, hunting, and fishing opportunities that all have the chance to be improved through the Recreation Fee Program.

