

# RECREATION MANAGEMENT

## Board of Forestry Recreation Accomplishments (FY 2016)

**Table 1: Summary of Volunteer Hours for Recreation Projects FY 2016**

	Tillamook State Forest - Forest Grove District	Tillamook State Forest - Tillamook District	Clatsop State Forest	Santiam State Forest	West Oregon District
Total Hours	2,915	4,400	1,584	222	2,313

**Table 2: Trail Project Summary for FY 2016**

Activity	Tillamook State Forest		Clatsop State Forest	Santiam State Forest	West Oregon District
	Forest Grove District	Tillamook District	Astoria District	North Cascade District	
<b>OHV Trails (Existing)</b>	109 miles	446.8 miles	35 miles	6 miles	4.8 miles
New Trails Construction	3.87 miles	0 miles	0 miles	0	0
Trail Upgrade/Improvement	2.32 miles	14.8 miles	3 miles	0	0
Trails Maintained	40 miles	41.5 miles	38 miles	6 miles	4.8 miles
<b>Non-Motorized Trails (Existing)</b>	65.5 miles	20.8 miles	21 miles	26 miles	9.5 miles
New Trails Construction	.33 miles	0 miles	0 miles	0.5 mi	0
Trail Upgrade/Improvement	1.55 miles	0.2	.2 mile	1.8 mi	2.5
Trails Maintained	33.6 miles	11.5 miles	21 miles	26 miles	7.0 miles

**Table 3: Number of Campers and Revenue from Campgrounds during FY 2016**

Campground	District/Campsites	Campers	Visitor Nights	Revenue
Henry Rierson Spruce Run	Astoria/38 sites	12,983	12,983	\$50,058
Gnat Creek	Astoria/4 sites	1,064	1,064	\$3,712
Northrup Creek	Astoria/11 sites	803	803	\$4,138
Beaver Eddy	Astoria/8 sites	1,687	1,687	\$3,541
Gales Creek	Forest Grove/19 sites	2,991	4,765	\$18,646
Brown's Camp	Forest Grove /30 sites	4,764	9,240	\$30,577
Stage Coach Horse Camp	Forest Grove/10 sites	118	174	\$824
Elk Creek	Forest Grove/14 sites	1,947	3,354	\$6,301
Reehers Camp	Forest Grove/17 sites	748	1,337	\$4,790

Rock Creek	North Cascade/3 sites	238	471	\$1659
Butte Creek Falls	North Cascade/3 sites	324	714	\$1,329
Santiam Horse Camp	North Cascade/12 sites	174	279	\$1,219
Shellburg Falls	North Cascade/7 sites	344	427	\$1,080
Jones Creek	Tillamook/44 sites	6,167	9,884	\$33,178
Jordan Creek	Tillamook/6 sites	404	756	\$2,613
Nehalem Falls	Tillamook/21 sites	3,079	5,741	\$23,381
Keenig Creek	Tillamook/12 sites	1,761	2,995	\$6,588
Diamond Mill	Tillamook/15 sites	2,025	3,126	\$4,424
<b>Total</b>	<b>274 campsites</b>	<b>41,621 campers</b>	<b>59,800</b>	<b>\$198,058</b>

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## Recreation Facility Planning and Development Projects

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Each State Forest and District with developed recreation facilities has a ten-year plan that provides a prioritized list of facility development projects. Other districts pursue recreation opportunities as time and resources allow and in concert with user groups and volunteers. Following is a summary of recreation-related accomplishments during FY 2016.

### Clatsop State Forest—Astoria District

#### *Developed Facility Improvements*

##### *Henry Rierson Spruce Run Campground*

- Continued making improvements to various infrastructures in the campground including, rocking and hardening of sites, and planting of native trees, plants, and shrubs.
- Installed new roof on flush toilet building
- 1,059 hours of volunteer camp hosting
- Awarded tentative approval for a new grant from the Land and Water Conservation fund for the installation of new double vault toilet buildings at Henry Rierson Spruce Run Campground Tent Area, Beaver Eddy Campground, and single vault toilet at the Morrison Eddy Campground on the Tillamook State Forest.
- The grant will also provide for ADA improvements for two campsites and parking area surfacing at the Beaver Eddy Campground, a small water craft launching area and campsite access improvements at the Spruce Run tent area, plus rerouting of 1,000 feet of the Spruce Run Creek Trail to avoid annual winter storm damage from high water events.

##### *Beaver Eddy Campground*

- Continued improvements to camping infrastructure through rocking and hardening of sites.

##### *Gnat Creek Campground*

- Continued improvements to camping infrastructure including drainage, campsites and rail fence repairs.
- Vacated existing campsite by creek due to hazard tree and new OAR rules and constructed a new site up on top of bank near existing campsites

### ***Northrup Creek Horse Camp and Trail***

- Improved access to car camp sites by widening campsite parking areas and created an overflow parking area
- Cleared trails of brush and fallen timber, worked on improving trail drainage issues, and changing trail conditions.
- Worked on improving trail signage.
- Removed two storm damaged undersized culverts on small fish bearing streams and replaced with a new trail bridge and a creek ford. Re-routed approximately 1,000 feet of trail due storm damage.
- Repaired railings to foot bridge that was damaged by winter storm damage and large fallen timber
- 162 hours of volunteer camp hosting

### ***Dispersed and Designated Recreation Sites***

- Continued to improve camping infrastructure Lower Nehalem dispersed camping sites to improve parking, safety, and overall condition at sites.
- Decommissioned dispersed site at Milepost 9 due to continued vandalism and adjacent landowner complaints.

### ***Lost Lake Recreation Area***

- Completed the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the installation of a double vault toilet, informational kiosk, boat ramp and parking lot improvements at Lost Lake.

### ***Astoria District Demonstration Forest and Wellness Trail***

- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation

### ***Soapstone Lake Trail***

- Cleared trails of brush and windthrow that resulted from winter storms
- Replaced railings on single log stringer bridged damaged by fallen timber
- Installed new information Kiosk at North Trailhead

### ***Bloom Lake Trail***

- Installed new information kiosk at trailhead
- Cleared trails of brush and windthrow that resulted from winter storms

### ***Spruce Run Creek/Gnat Creek /Big Tree Trails***

- Cleared trails of brush and windthrow that resulted from winter storms

### ***Nicolai Mountain OHV Riding Area***

- Installed information kiosks at dispersed, designated campsites and trail heads (Plympton, Kerry, Viewpoint, Hunt Cr., and Shingle Mill).
- Continued to maintain the trail infrastructure.
- Completed Viewpoint Camp improvements.

## **Tillamook State Forest—Forest Grove District**

### ***Developed Facility Operations, Improvements, and Dispersed Site Projects***

- Operated and maintained five developed campground facilities, eleven developed day use facilities and over 30 dispersed site camping areas
- Completed the expansion of Elk Creek Trailhead. Expansion included the development of a 17 vehicle space parking facility at the Elk Creek Campground site to better and more safely accommodate trail users and day use visitors in the area.
- Fabricated and installed sites signs at Elk Creek Trailhead, Deyoe Creek Trailhead, Bellcamp Trailhead
- Fabricated and installed a site sign and frame at Summit Trailhead that replaced an older site sign and frame that had collapsed.
- Fabricated and installed a new information board at Deyoe Creek Trailhead. The new information board replaced a failing structure.
- Fabricated and installed a new information board at Summit Trailhead. The new information board replaced a failing structure
- Fabricated and installed a new information board at Kings Mountain Trailhead. The new information board replaced a failing structure.
- Fabricated and installed a new information board at Storey Burn Trailhead. The new information board replaced a failing structure.
- Re-graveled 800 feet of barrier free (accessible) trails through Elk Creek Campground
- As part of routine maintenance, installed gravel in 12 Reehers Camp horse corrals
- Repainted the interior of two CXT restrooms at Elk Creek Campground.
- Fabricated and installed 23 old and failing picnic tables at Gales Creek Campground and 5 at Browns Camp
- Upgraded 10 picnic tables at Elk Creek Campground with solid used tables being rotated out of Browns Camp and Gales Creek
- Installed 2 used picnic tables at the Browns Camp, Kids Sandpile Play Area.
- Fabricated and installed Forest Entry Information Boards on seven forest roads accessed from Highway 26.
- Completed hazard tree assessment and hazard tree removal work at three campgrounds

### ***OHV Trail Projects***

The Forest Grove District OHV program provides and maintains Class I (quad), II (4WD), III (MC), and IV (SidexSide) trails.

### **Project Work Accomplished**

Trail Construction – Projects focused on improving trail system connectivity and sustainability, improving public safety and reducing resource impacts, maintenance need, and user conflict.

- #6 Browns Powerline Trail- 0.85 mile reroute, vacated 1.35 miles of old unsustainable trail
- #45 Log Jam – 2.62 miles new construction
- #43 Military Trail- 550 ft. new construction (Skills/ Enduro X/ Trials type trail project)
- #43 Military Trail – 0.40 mile new construction
- #9 Sidewinder Trail – 1.47 mile reroute, vacate 0.54 miles of old unsustainable trail

- Upper Nestucca #14 Joel's Jaunt- 0.85 miles new construction

**New- 3.87 miles**

**Reroute – 2.32 miles**

**Vacate – 1.89 miles**

Trail Maintenance – Projects focused on protecting investment and reducing resource impacts.

- Completed general maintenance (Log out, Drainage, Brushing..etc.) on 40+ miles of OHV trail
- Completed assessment and monitoring of entire OHV trail network (109 miles).
- Completed seasonal maintenance and cleaning of 11 trail bridges.

### **Miscellaneous OHV Program Activities and Accomplishments**

- OHV Specialist attended and presented at the 2015 National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council Conference.
- District Recreation Unit staff attended and presented at the Pacific Northwest 4-wheel drive Association Annual Region 3 meeting
- OHV Specialist provided support to BLM, USFS, WA DNR, and Washington County Parks and Recreation staff regarding OHV management concepts and OHV trail design and construction.
- Managed 19 Adopt a Trail agreements.
- Maintained the following OHV Program Equipment
  - Dump truck and trailer
  - Takeuchi 125 compact excavator
  - Bobcat E32 compact excavator
  - Sweco trail dozer
  - Morooka rock hauler
  - ASV Scout rock hauler
  - Two equipment trailers
  - Three trail motorcycles
  - Two quads and a 6x6 utility quad

### ***Non-Motorized Trail Projects***

- Completed location, design, and construction work for a 900 foot long extension of the Wilson River Trail to link it with the new Elk Creek Trailhead parking area.
- Completed location, design, and construction work for a 1200 foot reroute of a segment of the Step Creek Trail.
- Completed seasonal review and assessment of 55 miles of trail with staff and adopt a trail partners.
- Completed seasonal maintenance and cleaning of 40 trail bridges.

- Replaced the decking on Dooley Spur Trail Bridge #2
- Moved the existing Gales Creek Trail bridge #1 to a more sustainable location. Project included construction of approximately 200 feet of new trail to link the trail with the new bridge site.
- Completed basic trail maintenance (logout, drainage, brushing) on 33.6 miles of trail.
- Completed upgrade work on the ½ mile of the Four County Point Trail. Work included a short trail reroute, construction of a turnpike and replacement of an old failing bridge with a culvert.
- Installed four culverts on the Gravelle Brothers Trail at what had been open water crossings.
- Completed construction of a 0.8 mile long reroute on the Gales Creek Trail. Project also included closing and vacating a ½ mile section of old trail that is at risk of being lost in a slow moving landscape slide.
- Completed construction of ¼ mile of the Step Creek Trail project.
- Hosted 5 volunteer work parties focused on construction and maintenance of the Step Creek Trail.

### *Miscellaneous*

- Recreation Unit staff hosted and facilitated the following tours on the district.
  - Washington County Law Enforcement Staff (Deputies and Leadership Staff)
  - Facilitated and led an OHV trail tour on the Tillamook State Forest with OPRD staff and OPRD Parks Commission members.
  - Facilitated and led an OHV trail tour with OPRD ATV Grant Program Committee and OPRD staff
- Submitted and was awarded a Yamaha Access Initiative Grant to purchase material to construct a 45 foot long x 5 foot wide trail bridge on Gummyworm OHV Trail.
- Submitted ATV Grant program and Recreational Trails Program grant applications to support purchase of two compact excavators for the OHV program. One to replace an old excavator on the Tillamook State Forest and one for the OHV program on the Clatsop State Forest.. Awarded ATV Grant. RTP Grant approved by OPRD Commission. Pending Federal Highways Administration approval.
- Submitted and was awarded a Washington County Visitors Association grant to purchase material to construct a 45 foot long x 5 foot wide trail bridge on Step Creek Trail.
- Managed eight existing adopt a trail agreements for the non-motorized trail system.
- Facilitated the 2016 SOLVE trash clean-up event on the Tillamook State Forest. This was the 24<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the district has hosted a SOLVE clean-up event.
- Event Administration

- Administered or co-administered 16 non-profit motorized events.
- Administered the National Jeep Jamboree Event through a Special Use Permit process
- Administered two long distance trail running event races (50 mile race and a 50 kilometer race) through a Special Use Permit process.

## **Tillamook State Forest—Tillamook District**

### ***Maintenance & Operations***

#### **Tillamook State Forest Maintenance and Operations**

- Operated and maintained all campground dispersed camping areas, OHV staging areas and day use area. This includes year round recreation facilities and three seasonal campground.
- Administered 6 special use permits.
  - Sandbox Studio – Columbia Sportswear Photo Shoot Oct 2015
  - Summer Jax Inc. – Hollister Clothing Photo Shoot June 2016
  - Adventures Across Oregon ended March 2016
  - Way Out West Outfitters (2 season permit ending Dec 2016)
  - Upper Trask Outfitters (2 season permit ending Dec 2016)
  - Elk Kings Mountain Traverse – October annual event
- Rollout of new OARs and camping fee increases.
- Diamond Mill rail replacement project –harvesting, peeling and replacing all rails within Diamond Mill OHV Staging Area and along North Fork Wilson Road above Diamond Mill.
- Installation of a new information board at Cedar Creek OHV Staging Area.
- Planting the berms at Diamond Mill OHV Staging Area to create shade and provide additional day use parking.
- Replacement of the hand rail on the Wilson River Trail Bridge at Jones Creek Campground. Project included the harvest, peeling and cutting of all poles.
- Bridge repair and stabilization with retaining rock retaining walls on the Wilson River Trail Bridge at Jones Creek Campground following a high water event.
- Trail maintenance and brushing conducted on the Wilson River Trail, Peninsula Trail, Cedar Butte Trail, and on the trail at Nehalem Falls Campground.
- FEMA trail work project completed on 35. Miles of the Wilson River Trail from Cedar Butte Road to Wolf Creek.
- Facilitated a week of trail work projects for volunteers from the University of Idaho. Trail work included building steps on the south end of the North Fork Wilson bridge for river access and rehabbing and building steps on a user created trail at MP 19.5.
- A contractor was used at replace a decaying railroad tie retaining walls at sites A0 and B1 in Jones Creek Campground.
- Met with users and BLM to discuss possibility of mountain bike trails on Tillamook Ridge.

#### **Grants**

- Received Land & Water Conservation Fund grant that provided funding for 2 new vault toilets at Keenig CG and double unit at Lost Lake Recreation Area (Astoria Dist.) The two new vault toilets installed at Keenig Campground in July 2015.

- Successfully applied for Recreation Trails Program for two bridges on the Wilson River Trail and an Off Highway Vehicle trail bridge in Forest Grove. Awaiting funding approval from Federal Highways.

## **OHV Project Work and Event Administration Accomplished**

### **Administered 6 OHV Events**

- 1-National Observed Trials
- 2- Motorcycle Enduro Events
- 2- Dual Sport Events
- 1- 4WD Event

### **OHV Trail Work Accomplished**

Diamond Mill Staging Area Layout

- 1 mile- Radio Silence layout to avoid timber sale impact
- .7 miles- Jordan Creek FEMA recon to repair storm damage
- 4.8 miles- Cedar Ridge recon to avoid future timber sale impact
- .2 miles- Hembre Ridge Recon to bypass rock pit development project
- .5 Mongos reroute around damage from land slide
- .8 miles- Blue Bus construction/recon to reopen trail after bridge installation completed
- 4 miles- Toll Rd Trail brushing and trail tread repair
- 3 miles- Big and Little Bertha brushing
- 2 miles- Helipad 5 brushing
- 1 mile- Steampot Ridge brushing
- 1.5 miles- Pothole Trail brushing
- 2.3 miles- Township/Barkshanty trail network brushing
- 2 miles- Eagle Hill brushing
- 2 miles- Hembre Ridge brushing and trail tread work around root steps
- 1.2 miles- Bobcat brushing
- 3 miles- Angry Elf Trail tread maintenance and bridge construction
- .1 miles- Purple Bug Stump Switchback Repair
- 1.6 miles- Benny Hill Brushing and Trail Tread Repair
- 2.3 miles- Payne Trail Brushing and Trail Tread Repair
- 2 miles- Mongos Canyon Brushing
- .1 miles- Clear windfall from Odin's Ridge trail
- 2 miles- Elk Meadow brushing and trail tread repair
- .1 mile- Rickety Bridge trail tread rework. Rebuild bench of washed out section
- .2 miles- Stretch Creek Trail reroute from damage to logging operation
- 3 miles- Schwarz's Trail reroute enables two-way traffic from Clear Creek road to top of hill
- 5 miles- Duane's Trail reroute completed to open old trail after storm washout in 2007. New reroute opened a major connecting trail between the Jordan Creek staging area and the southern extent of the riding area.
- 3 miles- Parking Lot west re-open from closed status. Required clearing of downed logs and brushing
- .1 miles- Mongos Canyon reroute around landslide damage

### **South Fork Trail Maintenance Accomplished**



- 20 miles

### **Summary**

49.5 miles of total trail work and maintenance

Trails Maintained: 41.5

New construction: 0 miles

### **Santiam State Forest—North Cascades District**

During the fiscal year 2016, the North Cascade District operated and maintained 4 developed camping areas, 1 dispersed camping area, and 6 trailheads.

Various projects were accomplished in the recreation areas including:

- Replacing picnic tables, garbage cans, horse stalls, kiosks, campsite markers and signs as needed.
- Hazard tree removal from Shellburg, Butte Creek and Horse Camp.
- Installation of a new water filtration system at Horse Camp to remove excess iron from the water.
- Wayfinding signs were replaced along roadways.
- Wayfinding signs were replaced along the Monument Peak Trail System.
- A new Adopt-A-Trail agreement to maintain and improve the Shellburg Falls mountain bike trail system was finalized with Cascadia Trail Crew.
- A new partnership was developed with the Chemeketa's Trail Crew who completed several trail improvement projects at Shellburg Falls.
- A campsite at Rock Creek which was too close to a fish stream was vacated and replanted with native vegetation and cedar.

### **Elliott State Forest—Coos District**

The Coos District does not have a recreation program or a budget to provide recreational benefits, however there are several optimal dispersed camping opportunities near major rivers that are frequented during summer months and hunting season.

### **Klamath-Lake District: Gilchrist State Forest, Sun Pass State Forest, and other scattered tracts:**

The primary recreation strategy in the Eastern Region Long-Range Forest Management Plan is to make District forests available for dispersed recreation. During development of the FMP, it was determined that current users value this type of opportunity because surrounding agencies and private landowners are providing a full spectrum of more developed as well as more primitive recreation opportunities.

Working with Klamath Trails Alliance ODF has permitted a scattered parcel to be used as a trailhead for a number of bike trails adjacent to State Lands.

On the Sun Pass State Forest Klamath Outdoor Science School continues to provide a recreational experience to over 350 students, teachers, and chaperones.

The KOSS nature trail is maintained by ODF and continues to provide educational benefits to the users.

The district is currently working with the Gilchrist High School on plans to construct a nature/educational trail from the high school to the top of Crescent Butte.

Salem staff prepared a recreation assessment of the Gilchrist State Forest indicating moderate to significant potential for recreation development and use. The work was done in support of the acquisition process, which culminated with purchase of the Gilchrist tract lands and dedication of the new state forest in June of 2010.

### **West Oregon District**

The district has active Adopt-A-Trial agreements with the Mt. Baber ATV Club and the Black Rock Mountain Bike Association. These groups are responsible for the maintenance of the Mt Baber ATV trails and Black Rock mountain bike trails. Over the past year no new trails were constructed in the Black Rock or Mt. Baber ATV areas. The West Oregon District Fire crew built and installed a new information Kiosk at the Mt. Baber ATV staging area. A new toilet seat was also installed in the outhouse. Mt. Baber ATV Club members completed an inventory of their trail system. Total volunteer hours were associated with maintaining the current infrastructure.