

# RECREATION MANAGEMENT

## Board of Forestry Recreation Accomplishments (FY 2019)

**Table 1: Summary of Volunteer Hours for Recreation Projects FY 2019**

	Tillamook State Forest - Forest Grove District	Tillamook State Forest - Tillamook District	Clatsop State Forest	Santiam State Forest	West Oregon District
Total Hours	4,437	5,494	1,344	123	1,840

**Table 2: Trail Project Summary for FY 2019**

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>	113 miles	308 miles	30 miles	6 miles	4.2 miles
New Trails Construction	2.1 miles	0 miles	0 miles	0 miles	0 miles
Trail Upgrade/Improvement	0 miles	10.8 miles	1.5 miles	0 miles	0 miles
Trails Maintained	113 miles	49.4 miles	30 miles	6 miles	4.2 miles
<b>Non-Motorized Trails (Existing)</b>	66 miles	20.8 miles	21 miles	26 miles	9.5 miles
New Trails Construction	0 miles	.3 miles	0 miles	0 miles	0 miles
Trail Upgrade/Improvement	6.25 miles	.5 miles	0.5 miles	1 miles	3 miles
Trails Maintained	66 miles	19 miles	21 miles	21.5 miles	9.5 miles

**Table 3: Number of Campers and Revenue from Campgrounds during FY 2019**

Campground	District/Campsites	Campers	Visitor Nights	Revenue
Henry Rierson Spruce Run	Astoria/38 sites	7,859	11,930	\$65,176
Gnat Creek	Astoria/4 sites	994	1,157	\$6,832
Northrup Creek	Astoria/11 sites	565	1,291	\$7,560
Beaver Eddy	Astoria/8 sites	1,325	1,443	\$6,390
Viewpoint	Astoria/4	135	193	\$966
Gales Creek	Forest Grove/19 sites	3,060	4,998	\$31,522
Brown's Camp	Forest Grove /30 sites	3,536	7,264	\$38,602
Stage Coach Horse Camp	Forest Grove/10 sites	81	101	\$905
Elk Creek	Forest Grove/14 sites	2,732	4,213	\$19,840

Reehers Camp	Forest Grove/17 sites	482	807	\$5,888
Rock Creek	North Cascade/3 sites	42	283	\$405
Butte Creek Falls	North Cascade/3 sites	150	1,528	\$1,180
Santiam Horse Camp	North Cascade/12 sites	62	514	\$1,234
Shellburg Falls	North Cascade/7 sites	295	5,764	\$2,517
Jones Creek	Tillamook/44 sites	6,257	11,213	\$71,757
Jordan Creek	Tillamook/6 sites	489	792	\$4,370
Nehalem Falls	Tillamook/21 sites	3,289	5,491	\$38,611
Keenig Creek	Tillamook/12 sites	1,835	2,768	\$14,118
Diamond Mill	Tillamook/15 sites	1,411	2,683	\$5,024
Cedar Creek	Tillamook/25 sites	3,436	9,957	\$13,568
Morrison Eddy	Tillamook/6 sites	359	751	\$3,054
North Fork Wilson	Tillamook/7 sites	716	1,268	\$2,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>316 campsites</b>	<b>39,110 campers</b>	<b>76,409</b>	<b>\$342,169</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 2019.

### **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.
- Over 578 hours of volunteer camp hosting.
- FY19 revenues from firewood sales program was \$6,635.
- Installed new steps from day use areas down to the river.
- Installed new site posts to replace old fiberglass posts.
- Removed several danger trees.

##### ***Beaver Eddy Campground***

- Continued improvements to camping infrastructures through rocking and hardening of sites.
- Installed rock and wood wall to replace dirt mounds to block cars from entering campground.
- Removed several danger trees.
- Improved individual sites by creating more space for tents and creating privacy screens.
- Site 1 now has a pull through and expanded tent pad.

- Site 4 now has a small extension to allow for a second tent.
- Developed a group fire ring near the day use area and river access to utilize empty space that was being used as another campsite.
- Installed new site posts.
- Installed new kiosk.

### ***Gnat Creek Campground and Trail***

- Continued improvements to camping infrastructures.
- Installed new site posts.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.
- 196 hours of cooperative hosting through the Gnat Creek Hatchery.

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

- Thinned areas around the campground to increase useable area and vistas.
- Opened up the group picnic area to allow access to creek and improve view.
- Installed a bench along Big Tree Trail.
- 82 hours of volunteer camp hosting.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.

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

- Continued to improve camping infrastructure on dispersed camping sites to improve parking, safety, and overall condition at sites.

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

- Continued to monitor and maintain facilities and trails.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.

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

- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Continued work to refresh and update informational signs.
- Installed a larger dog waste bin to keep up with use.
- Thinned sections of the Demonstration Forest.
- Hosted a Forester guided walk

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

- Cleared trail of brush that resulted from winter storms.
- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Installed a bench at a scenic area that people frequently left chairs.

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

- Cleared trails of brush that resulted from winter storms.
- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Put up signage to reduce access to lake by vehicle.

### ***Spruce Run Creek Trail***

- Cleared trails of brush that resulted from winter storms.
- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Closed the upper portion of trail until the end of an active timber operation.
- Installed No Shooting signs on landings above trail.

### ***Gnat Creek Trail***

- Cleared trails of brush that resulted from winter storms.
- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Continued regular maintenance on trail.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.

### ***Big Tree Trail***

- Cleared trails of brush that resulted from winter storms.
- Installed permanent reroute on north section of trail that was impacted during winter creek floods.
- Continued to maintain trail infrastructure and kept trail surfacing clear of vegetation.
- Cleared trails of brush and fallen timber, worked on improving trail drainage issues, and changing trail conditions.
- Worked on improving trail signage.

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

- Re-rocked approach to a bridge on Plympton Creek trail.
- Created a small reroute around a massive root system on Plympton Creek trail.
- Staged more than 500 yards of trail material to be used on trail projects.
- Hosted a dual sport event on the Nicolai network.
- Created reroute with help from user groups on a reroute on Tuck and Roll.
- Mapped undesignated trails with user group help.
- Submitted an Issue Paper detailing the need for trail system adjustments.
- Continued to maintain the trail infrastructure.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.

## *Viewpoint Campground*

- Continued to maintain campground.
- Installed rain deflector on vault access door to reduce frequency of cleanouts due to rainwater.

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

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

Projects were focused on addressing safety and sanitation, reducing maintenance need, and improving sustainability of infrastructure.

- Operated and maintained 5 developed fee-campgrounds, 16 day use facilities and more than 30 dispersed site camping areas.
- Operated and maintained 4 designated target shooting lanes in collaboration with our target shooting community partners
- Replaced all barrier bollards at Reehers Camp. Old wood bollards were replaced with boulders to increase effectiveness, improve infrastructure sustainability, and eliminate or reduce future replacement costs.
- Replaced all barrier bollards at Gales Creek Campground. Old wood bollards were replaced with boulders to increase effectiveness, improve infrastructure sustainability, and eliminate or reduce future replacement costs.
- Replaced the safety rail fence at Elk Creek Campground campsite #2.
- Replaced access route steps to Elk Creek Campground campsite #13.
- Replaced parking pad retaining wall and railing at Reehers Camp horse-campsite #3. Adjustments were made in design and material type to reduce current and future replacement costs and improve infrastructure sustainability.
- Completed hazard tree review and assessment at all campground and day use facilities.
- Completed hazard tree removal at Browns Camp. Work removed 10 hazard trees.
- Completed hazard tree removal at Gales Creek Campground. Work removed 13 hazard trees.
- Upgraded two target shooting lanes at the North Fork Wolf Creek Target Shooting Lanes. Work was funded by an NRA Foundation grant that we partnered on the previous year with one of our target shooting community partners.
- Completed design and development of the new Lower Raven Ridge Trailhead to support use of the Raven Ridge Trail. The new trailhead provides parking for 10 to 12 vehicles.
- Completed design work for the Upper Raven Ridge Trailhead. Construction work will take place in FY2020 as part of timber sale project work.
- Submitted a Recreation Trails Program grant application requesting \$100,000.00 to support expansion of Kings Mountain Trailhead.
- Fabricated and installed two site signs for Reehers Camp. New signs replaced aging signs and frames. New frames were installed on concrete footings to extend lifespan and reduce replacement costs over time.
- Fabricated and installed a new single panel information board at University Falls Trailhead.
- Installed new fee boxes at Browns Camp, Gales Creek, and Elk Creek Campgrounds. New boxes are safer for staff to access and designed to hold up better to theft attempts.
- Partnered with our target shooting partner, Trash No Land, to complete and submit an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Shooting Range Grant application requesting \$16,750 to help fund improvement of target shooting lanes on the Tillamook State Forest. Trash No Land was the primary author of the grant application.

## ***OHV Trail Projects***

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

Trail Construction- projects focused on improving trail system connectivity and sustainability, improving public safety and reducing resource impacts, maintenance need, and user conflict. 2019 winter storm impacts limited progress on project work during the winter months.

- Cedar Tree Trail extension- 1.5 miles of new construction to improve system connectivity and reduce forest road use.
- Powerline Trail Re-route- .6 miles of new construction to improve system connectivity and reduce public use on BPA access roads.
- Construction of a 45' Glulam Stringer OHV bridge on Elliott Creek Trail to replace a failing 25' log stringer bridge. Bridge funded by a Recreation Trails Program grant.

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

- Completed winter storm damage work (logout and clearing) and general maintenance on the entire OHV trail network.
- Completed assessment and monitoring of the entire OHV trail network
- Completed seasonal maintenance and cleaning of 14 OHV trail bridges

Miscellaneous OHV Program Activities and Accomplishments

- Administered 11 local club trail use events
- Managed 20 Adopt-A-Trail agreements
- Administered 4 Special Use Permits for commercial trail use activity, including the permit for the annual National Jeep Jamboree event. This weekend event contributes over \$50,000 to the Tillamook area economy.
- Awarded Oregon Parks and Recreation Department ATV Grant to purchase (2) heavy equipment trailers to replace (2) old existing trailers and to purchase a rock hammer for use on OHV program mini-excavators.
- Designed and revised the Tillamook State Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Map
- OHV Program Staff attended and presented at the Annual Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association Region 3 meeting
- OHV Program Staff Attended the National Off Highway Vehicle Conservation Council Trails Workshop sponsored by Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.
- Purchased a Morooka Rock Hauler (MST300VD) using Federal Highways Administration Recreation Trail Program Grant dollars.
- Maintained the following OHV program equipment
  - 10 yard Dump Truck
  - 3 heavy equipment trailers
  - 2 mini-excavators
  - Sweco trail dozer
  - 2 trail motorcycles
  - 1 quad and 1 6x6 utility ATV
  - 2 Morooka Rock Haulers

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

The Forest Grove District provides and maintains trails for hiking, running, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Projects focused on improving trail system sustainability, improving public safety, and reducing resource impacts, maintenance need, and user conflict. Project work in FY19 was primarily maintenance focused.

- Widened 3.5 miles of the Elk Creek Trail, 0.5 miles of the Wilson Trail, and 0.5 miles of the Kings Mountain Trail from 30 inches wide to 54 inches wide (on average). Widening work was done to help facilitate search and rescue and emergency medical services access to the upper areas of the Kings Mountain / Elk Mountain Trail system more quickly and safely.
- Completed construction of a new 35 foot long glu-lam stringer bridge on the Low Divide Loop Trail. The new bridge replaced an old bridge that was failing and no longer met code. The bridge was partially fund with a grant from the Washington County Visitors Association.
- Completed construction a seasonal bridge across Elk Creek on the Wilson River Trail. This bridge was installed to provide access across the creek from spring to fall. It is removed in each year in the fall and re-installed in the spring. It is modified as necessary to account for yearly changes in the stream channel.
- Completed a 1 mile reroute of the Nels Rogers Trail. The reroute improves trail sustainability, reduces maintenance need, and eliminates a trail bridge crossing and the need to replace a failing trailbridge.
- Hosted 3 volunteer work parties focused on completing construction of the Nels Rogers Trail Reroute.
- Provided guidance and support for location, design, and construction work on the 0.75 mile long Gales Creek Trail Segment A Bridge 5 reroute that was completed by the Trailkeepers of Oregon. This reroute project improves trail sustainability, reduces maintenance need, and eliminates a trail bridge crossing and the need to replace a failing trailbridge.

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

- Completed winter storm damage (logout and clearing maintenance) on the entire network (66 miles).
- Completed assessment and monitoring of entire non-motorized trail network.(66 miles).
- Completed seasonal maintenance and cleaning of 35 trail bridges.
- Completed trail tread and brushing maintenance on 52 miles of trail.
- Managed eight existing Adopt-A-Trail agreements for the non-motorized trail system.

### ***Miscellaneous Recreation Program Activities***

- Recreation staff presented at the annual Oregon Trails Summit.
- Recreation staff presented at the Oregon Mountain Bike Coalition meeting
- Recreation staff participated and presented at the Trash No Land fund raising event.
- Recreation program staff hosted and facilitated OHV trail tours with OPRD, USFS, and Washington County Visitor Association staff on the Tillamook State
- District Recreation Unit staff provided support to USFS, WA DNR, and Washington County Parks and Recreation staff regarding trail and recreation facility design and management.
- Facilitated the 2019 SOLVE trash clean-up event on the Tillamook State Forest. This was the 27th year in a row that the district has hosted a SOLVE clean-up event.
- Completed Recreation Unit AOP and participated in AOP review of Marketing, Roads, and Reforestation AOP activities.
- Recreation staff facilitated ongoing training and supervision of the Tillamook State Forest Volunteer Trail Patrol program.
- Issued and administered six special use permits for filming activities on the Tillamook State Forest.
- Maintained the Tillamook State Forest Blog and supported ODF website management associated with public use and Recreation management activities.

- Revised the Adopt-A-Trail program documents.
- Non-motorized Trail Use Event Administration
  - Administered two long distance trail running event races (50 kilometer race and a 50 mile race) through a Special Use Permit process. Each event had over 175 participants.

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

### **Maintenance and Operations**

- Operated and maintained all campgrounds, designated campsite sites, OHV staging areas, trailheads, and day use areas. This includes three seasonal campgrounds. All other facilities are open year round.
- Collected fees at eight sites: Jones Creek Campground, Nehalem Falls Campground, Keenig Creek Campground, Jordan Creek OHV Campground, Diamond Mill OHV Staging Area, Morrison Eddy Campground, Cedar Creek Designated Campsites, and North Fork Designated Campsites.
- Administered 7 special use permits.
  - 2 commercial photo shoots
  - 2 hunting guide permits
  - 3 running events
- Replaced the 45' failing double log stringer bridge in Keenig Creek Campground.
- Completed a .3 mile reroute of the Wilson River Trail and installed two trail bridges- 20' and 40'. The reroute mitigates user conflicts through the heavily used Jones Creek Day Use Area and will allow for the removal of an aging existing log stringer bridge over Jones Creek.
- Installed two grey water receptacles at Keenig Creek Campground.
- Upgraded and reopened designated dispersed site #2 on North Fork Trask. Resource protection measures included relocating the campsite, installing fencing and adding signage.
- Closed designated dispersed site #20 on Cedar Creek due to proximity to the river and continued resource protection issues.
- Complete a .5 mile trail upgrade project on the Peninsula Trail Project with funds from a generous donor. Project work included installation of hand rails, drainage upgrades and trail tread repairs.
- Trail maintenance and brushing conducted on the Wilson River Trail, Peninsula Trail, Cedar Butte Trail, Outback Trail, Bridge Creek Falls Trail and Nehalem Falls Campground Trail.
- Hosted annual Solve event on the Wilson River with 40 volunteers contributing 120 volunteer hours.

### **Grants**

- Received a \$30,000 Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative Grant to install a double vault toilet at the Cedar Creek OHV Staging Area. The vault toilet will be installed in FY20.

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

### **Administered 5 OHV Events**

- 1 National Observed Trials
- 2 Motorcycle Enduro Events
- 2 4WD Events

### **OHV Trail Work Accomplished**

- Replaced the Spaur Creek OHV Trail Bridge with RTP Grant funds.
- Constructed the Diamond Mill OHV Staging Area Kids Track.
- Improved 10.8 miles of trail pre and post timber sale activity: Odin's Ridge, Radio Silence, Cedar Ridge, Rickety Bridge
- Decommissioned 2 miles of Meusial Ridge OHV Trail after completing the Cedar Ridge reroute
- Completed trail maintenance on 49.4 miles of OHV trails.
- Held the second annual Single Track Trail Day with 20 volunteers contributing 160 hours to clearing OHV trails.
- One hundred and fifty six OHV club and individual volunteers contributed 1,635 hours to the OHV program.

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

North Cascade District operates and maintains 4 developed camping areas, 1 dispersed camping area, and 6 trailheads.

A variety of projects and events took place in the recreation program over the past fiscal year including:

- Reconstruction of one horse stall at the Santiam Horse Camp by a local Boy Scout troop.
- Trail drainage improvements continued along sections of the Monument Peak trail system which were accomplished through the use of inmate labor crews.
- Within the Shellburg Recreation Area, our mountain bike volunteer group Cascadia Trail Alliance is exploring a potential new trail route which will provide a loop back to the top of the free-ride take starting point.
- National Association of the Deaf continued to hold their annual Youth Leadership Camp at the Rock Creek Recreation Area for approximately 100 youth.
- Run Wild held their annual trail run event at the Shellburg Falls Recreation Area.

## **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. Two additional trails will be constructed through this State Parcel.

- 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 volunteers have completed construction of 3 additional Yurts, a Bathroom facility, and a Pavilion, to be used as a Kitchen and meeting area.
- 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.

### **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. Total volunteer hours were associated with maintaining the current infrastructure.