



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Recreation Site Improvements, Coeur d'Alene

Category: Capital Improvement, Deferred Maintenance

BLM
Idaho

BLM Improves Numerous Recreation Sites in Northern Idaho

With an abundance of sparkling lakes and mountain rivers, northern Idaho is becoming an increasingly popular tourist destination. The BLM is using \$1 million in ARRA funds to complete nine projects in the Coeur d'Alene District's Cottonwood and Coeur d'Alene Field Offices, where investments today will defray future long-term maintenance costs.



Blue Creek Bay on Lake Coeur d'Alene

Huckleberry Campground outside St. Maries, Idaho, shoreline stabilization repaired the effects of winter ice scouring, which was degrading important trout habitat and threatening to damage campsites. A new telephone line will enhance visitor security. Huckleberry is the only full-service RV camping site on the St. Joe River for 34 miles, with 27,000 visitor-days each year.

To end unauthorized widening and ATV use that was causing erosion, the BLM placed width-limiting barriers and signs along the Twin Crags Trail in the Crystal Lake Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The trail remains open as a single track for hikers, motorcyclists, mountain bikers and equestrians. The BLM also is addressing erosion in the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River by installing drainage features on the Little Lost Lake Trail in the Grandmother Mountain WSA. Information kiosks installed at the Crater Lake and Crater Peak campsites in another



New barrier and sign on the Twin Crags Trail

part of this WSA are improving public access to the backcountry in this part of Idaho. Along the St. Joe River at the

The BLM recently acquired the Blue Creek Bay site on the shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, 98 percent of which is privately owned. This summer (2010) the BLM will use ARRA funding to construct visitor facilities such as parking areas, docks, and boat launches. BLM sites on the smaller Killarney Lake, 25 miles southeast of Coeur d'Alene, will receive maintenance and improvement under two projects to include dock and boat launch replacements. Popular sites along the Clearwater and Salmon Rivers in the Cottonwood Field Office have also been improved using ARRA funding. Parking areas at a number of sites were chip sealed in September 2009. These sites offer put-in and takeout access to the rivers.

Contracts have been awarded and some work is completed. The contracts benefit local communities and, as visitors to the sites spend additional dollars in these same communities, an additional return is made on the BLM's investment in maintenance and improvement.

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U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

