



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

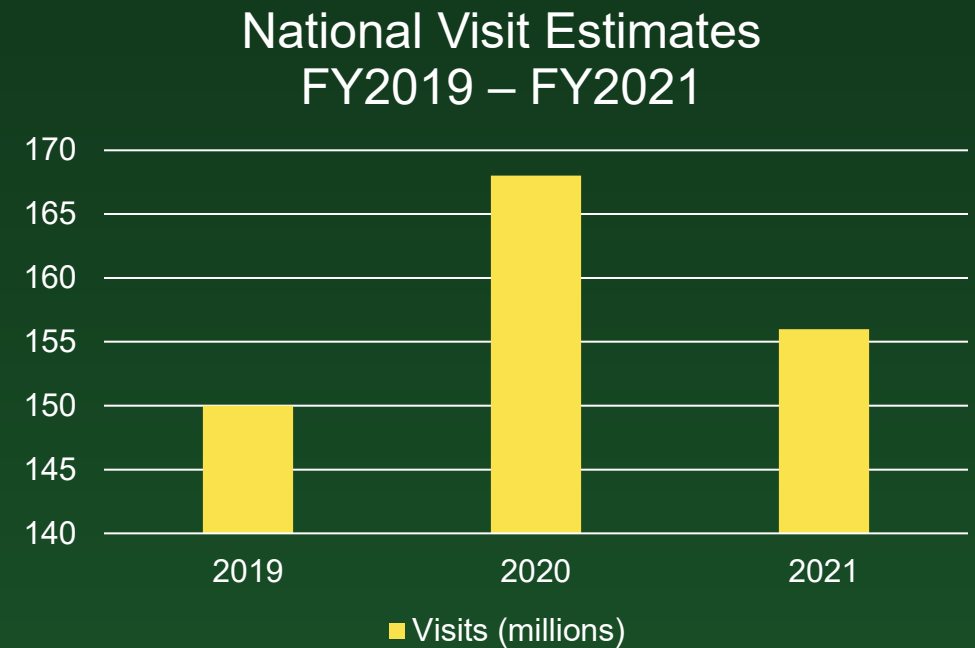
Reimagine Recreation *A Call to Action*

Creating an Inspired New Vision
for Outdoor Recreation on
America's National Forests and
Grasslands



Making Connections

- More Americans are connecting to national forests and grasslands than ever before
- Surge in 2020, **168 million** visits
- **New visitors**, new opportunities to connect



High Demand, Varied Use

- Traditional uses, new expectations
- Dramatic increase to **dispersed settings, 70% higher** than 2019
- **Wilderness visitation nearly doubled**



Community Connections

- Outdoor Recreation in 2020
 - ✓ **\$689 billion** in economic output
 - ✓ **4.3 million** jobs
- Essential economic driver for many rural and gateway communities



Key Learning

- Recreation is vital
 - ✓ **Connection** to the public
 - ✓ **Economic driver** for job creation
 - ✓ **Foundation** for local communities
- Collective Challenges
 - ✓ **Difficult budgets**
 - ✓ **Limited workforce capacity**
 - ✓ **Systems designed for the past**

Stimulus for Change

- Visitation Impacts
- Climate Change
- Environmental Justice
- Pandemic
- Internal Recalibration



Increased Investments

Great American Outdoor Act

- ✓ **\$285 million** each year through 2025
- ✓ Funding **883 projects** in 43 states and Puerto Rico
- ✓ In 2023, 70% of GAOA projects will address **climate sustainability**

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- ✓ **\$35 million** for **Recreation**
- ✓ **\$20 million** for **Cabins**
- ✓ **\$250 million** for Legacy **Roads and Trails** Programs

Asset Types	Number* of Projects
Recreation Sites	519
Trails	312
Roads	293
Water Systems	106
Trail Bridges	99
Road Bridges	79
Wastewater Systems	77
Public Service Facilities	144
Dams	24
Communication Systems	6

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Focus Areas

Visitors

- ✓ Deliver **affordable, safe access**
- ✓ Ensure all are **welcome and feel connected**
- ✓ Provide opportunities for all people, of **any background or ability**



Focus Areas

Workforce

- ✓ Invest in our employees



Focus Areas

Infrastructure

- ✓ Update and redesign facilities and recreation sites



Focus Areas

Connections

- ✓ Support and empower our employees
- ✓ Invite visitors to become **active participants and stewards**
- ✓ Encourage opportunity for **spiritual and physical experiences**



Reimagining Recreation

Reengage

Reinvest

Reinvent

Reengage

Provide a place for everyone to feel welcome and connected to the outdoors

Initial Steps

- Modernize our digital presence
- Engage Diverse Groups:
 - Tribes
 - Partners
 - Urban and rural communities



Reinvest

Equip our workforce with the skills, knowledge, tools, budget, and operating environment necessary to succeed

Initial Steps

- Hiring events
- Engage partners to increase capacity
- Overhaul data management
- New approaches to work with and through others
- New funding and project support



Reinvent

Embrace creative and collaborative solutions as we plan, design, adapt, and manage recreation into the future

Initial Steps

- Strategic approach to capital investments
- Collaboratively reimagine visitor access with a “recreation-shed” approach
- Implement the 10-Year Trail Challenge and Strategy



Sheila Gattton, Share the Experience

Join the Journey



Craig Rowtham, Share the Experience