

# Recreation Resource Advisory Committee

US Forest Service- Eastern Region

Fee Proposal

**National Forest, State:** Huron-Manistee National Forests, Michigan

**Site Type:** Camping

- Family Campsites
- Equestrian Family Campsites



**FLREA Fee Type:** Expanded Amenity

**Type of proposal:** Fee Increase at 21 campgrounds

**Proposed Action:**

SITE	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Amount Increase
Equestrian Horse Camp	\$3.00	\$15.00	\$12
Highly Developed Campground	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$3
Med Developed Campground	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7

**Date of Last Increase:** 1995

**Reason for the Proposed Fee Increase:** inflation, increased maintenance costs, increased use, improved facilities, and alignment with local market, (see summary).

Fees have not increased in 14 years. Also, based on the summary information for price comparisons, the Forest's proposal increases fees to \$10 to \$15 per night, which is below the average fee charged of \$23 per night by other public and private providers.

**If approved, the proposal will be implemented:** January 1, 2009

**Site and Proposed Action:**

Site	Dev Level	Current Fee 2008	Proposed Fee 2009	Amount Increase
Au Sable Loop Campground	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Bowman Lake Campsites	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Brush Lake Campsites	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Claybank Campground - Pere Marquette National Scenic River	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Diamond Point Campsites - White River - Wild & Scenic Study River	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Dorner Lake Campground	2	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$3.00
Driftwood Valley Campground	3	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$3.00
Gabion's Campground	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Hungerford Horse Campground	3	\$3.00	\$15.00	\$12.00
Indian Lake Campsites	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Meadows Campground	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Minnie Pond Campground	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Ravine campground	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
River Dune Campsites	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Sawdust Hole River Access (Camping) - Manistee National Recreation River	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Shelley Lake Campground	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Timber Creek Campground	3	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Twinwood Lake Campground	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Udell Rollways	3	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$3.00
Wakeley Lake Campsites	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00
Walk-up Lake	2	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$7.00

## **Price Comparisons for Similar Facilities & Services:**

### **Forest Service:**

- Hiawatha (MI) fees for camping range from \$12 to \$19 per night.
- Ottawa (MI) fees for camping range from \$10 to \$14 per night.
- Huron-Manistee (MI) Concession sites camp fees range from \$11 to \$16.
- Wayne (OH) fees for camping range from \$10 to \$16 per night.
- Shawnee (IL) fees for camping range from \$5 to \$12 per night
- Chequamegon-Nicolet (WI) fees for camping range from \$10 to \$17 per night

### **Local Private and Public Providers:**

2008 fee rates were reviewed for this comparison analysis:

- 82 privately owned recreation sites within 50 miles of National Forest System land in the lower peninsula of Michigan.
- 6 Equestrian campsites
- 3 National Park Service recreation sites within Michigan
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources rates

The fees were compared to Forest Service campsite fees, which allow two sleeping units, two vehicles, and eight people per night. The campsite fees were discounted to include no extra amenities, such as hook-ups, showers, flush toilets, pool, and internet.

The comparison analysis results were:

- Average campsite fee was \$23.00 and the median fee was \$21.00. The range, for camping fees at the 82 sites, was from \$15 to \$50 per night.
- Average equestrian campsite fee was \$26.00 and the median fee was \$22.00. The range was from \$12 to \$42 per night at six sites.

The Huron-Manistee proposes to charge \$10.00 or \$15.00 per night depending upon development level and additional amenities.