



Department of the Interior Recovery Investments

Investing in America's Economic Recovery



Fortymile National Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Parking and Trail Access Repairs

Need

The Fortymile Area is a major gateway to Alaska and receives a great deal of current and increasing visitation. In a 10-year period (1990-1999), road traffic on the Taylor Highway, the only road though the management area has increased 43 percent. Existing and planned improvements to the mostly gravel road by the Department of Transportation may increase visitation further.

Recovery Act Funding

Contracts will be awarded in 2010 for construction projects along the Taylor Highway.

Benefits

The parking and trail repairs will improve and protect resources, preserve facilities, improve accessibility for the physically challenged and safety for all visitors, and restore sites to normal operating conditions.

Mount Fairplay Wayside: Replace failing aggregate on foot path to maintain handicap access to toilet and viewing deck. Reclamation of adjacent borrow pit and additional vehicle barrier will improve scenic view from observation deck, decrease incidents of littering and black and grey water dumping, and prevent destruction of vegetation from RV's driving off parking surface to camp.

West Fork Wayside/River Access: Improve river access to existing put-in site will prevent on-going trampling of vegetation and degradation of river bank by foot and vehicle traffic. Public visitors will benefit greatly from improvements and, based on several comments from users, customer satisfaction will increase.

Chicken Wayside: Relocation of existing trailhead parking area will drastically improve visitor safety by eliminating the need for the public to cross the busy road at a place with limited visibility.

Chicken Dredge Trail: Rehabilitation of existing trail route in wet areas will prevent erosion and encourage trail users to use the developed trail..

Fortymile Bridge Wayside/River Access: Resurfacing and crowning will provide water drainage of this popular parking area used regularly by hunters, miners, day-users, trappers, and river users.

Hospital Ruins Trail: Rehabilitation of wet and damaged portions of the trail route will prevent erosion and direct traffic to the developed trail to preserve the natural habitat and historic sites of the area.



More Information

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