<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td>MAY 18 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes from Public Meetings Re: San Joaquin River Gorge Fee Proposal

Meetings held at Clovis Police Department in Clovis, CA. on May 18, 2010 from 6-8pm, and at Sierra Unified School District Office in Prather, CA on May 19, 2010 from 6-8pm.

Press releases explaining the fee proposal and advertising the public meetings were sent out by BLM on April 29, 2010 to the following news outlets:

fresnobee@fresnobee.com
metro@fresnobee.com
Porterville Recorder
Tulare Advance-Register
KGPE CBS Ch. 47 TV news
Merced Sun-Star
Modesto Bee
Stockton Record
Manteca Bulletin
Madera Tribune
Mountain Press

Only the Mountain Press published the press release.

A total of six people attended both meetings (3 each night). A sign-in sheet has been included in the project file.

Notes of the meetings have been combined and were taken by David Christy, BLM Public Affairs Officer.

Attendees: Steve Larson, Assoc. Field Manager-Resources, Bakersfield Field Office, David Christy, BLM Cen-Cal Public Affairs Officer, Folsom, CA; Tracy Rowland, Park Manager, and Harrison Grumann, Park Ranger, San Joaquin River Gorge Special Recreation Management Area attended for BLM. (Mr. Larson and Mr. Grumann only attended the May 18, 2010 meeting).

Members of the public who attended:

May 18, 2010-Ted Kimbler, Marcia Rasmussen, John Rasmussen

May 19, 2010-Don and Joann Blocker, Richard Haze (sp?)
David Christy welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and introduced Tracy Rowland, Park Manager who presented a powerpoint program on the proposed fees. The powerpoint was detailed and lasted approximately 25 minutes and then a discussion period began where attendees asked many questions.

Questions raised by attendees:

1. Will BLM honor Golden Age, Golden Access, America the Beautiful Pass as part of this fee program. **Answer: Yes**

2. Parking Fee was stated in Press Release. BLM explained that this was a grammatical error, that the Standard Amenity Fee is not a “parking” fee, but rather partially pays the costs of providing the many amenities provided within the Special Recreation Management Area such as roads, parking areas, trails and bridges, water, toilets, campgrounds, group sites, and interpretive exhibits and signs and for staffing costs for 7-day coverage.

3. How will you manage fees? BLM plans to utilize “iron rangers” at the Trailhead campground, group camp and equestrian camp to collect fees. Visitors would then place the fee envelope stubb in view on the dash of their vehicles. BLM has strict procedures regarding collection, handling and reporting of fee monies and these procedures will be followed.

4. How will reservations be handled for the group and equestrian camps? Information will be posted on the Bakersfield BLM web page, and users will call, fax or e-mail the SJRG Office to make a reservation. Once use grows, external sites or services may be utilized such as recreation.gov or partner sites.

5. Will there be fees for making reservations? For now, we plan to handle all of this on-site at the Gorge. However, if an external service is used such as recreation.gov or other services, there may be a reservation fee of a few dollars.

6. What is the cut-off for a regular campsite? BLM has set a capacity of 8 persons for a single campsite, 16 for double and 24 for triple sites.

**NOTE:** At the time of this meeting BLM was not intending to charge for extra vehicles associated with paid campsites as we had thought to charge the $5 per vehicle daily fee on top of camping fee. BLM has since reconsidered this and will only charge one fee per vehicle. Visitors will either pay the campsite fee or the day use fee but not both. Extra vehicles who are sharing a campsite with a primary vehicle (who has paid the camping fee) will only be charged the $5 per car per day fee. This will make fee compliance more efficient and is most equitable to the visitors.

7. Are there fees now? **NO fees for camping or day use currently, however for group use and special events we do charge a special recreation permit fee (SRUP).**
8. A question was asked about splitting up the group site to accommodate multiple groups. BLM will consider this in future planning. Currently the site supports group use and day use picnicking, allowing for multiple groups.

9. Is dispersed camping permitted? Are any extra permits needed? At this time, dispersed camping is permitted with no additional permits, other than a fire permit needed. BLM has no plans to change this.

10. Comment was made to not develop horse camp with asphalt. BLM has no plans to pave the horse camp.

11. Comment was made that the area is beautiful and rustic and they want BLM to keep its character and not over-develop the area. As outlined in the Business Plan, a priority is to keep the landscape healthy and retain its primitive character, while still providing adequate services to the visiting public to protect safety of the public and to provide resource protection.

12. Comment was made that this user would agree to a fee to pay for management costs but did not want to see fees used to create much new development in the area.

13. Comment was made that the existing horse camp is nice, but need to keep corrals in repair. Want minimal facility as most horse people can take care of their animals.

14. School program fees will be required, but low cost or no cost to Sierra Unified since we are partnering with them to develop quality standards-based programs. Other districts will be charged a fee to cover costs of this service.

15. What other monies are available to the BLM in this area? BLM receives a few dollars from a power company for mitigation and habitat enhancement. May be an opportunity when the powerhouse comes up for FERC (Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission) re-licensing.

16. Will BLM interpret the water and power story? Yes BLM is working with PGE and other partners to tell these important stories.

17. Your visitor use estimate of 84,000 seems high. Suggest placing traffic counters. BLM has installed a traffic counter on Smalley Road and will be trying to correlate the data to get a more accurate picture of actual visitation. We noticed a large drop in visitation this year most likely due to the economy.

18. Sheriff and Backcountry Horsemen groups use this area for training, will there be a fee? If these groups are participating in authorized Search and Rescue training through Fresno County Sheriff’s Department, we do not plan to charge for these at this time as we partner with these groups to support SAR training.

19. Comment stated concern regarding charging schools for interpretive programs as they are also faced with budget difficulties. BLM is working with schools to keep program fees as
low as possible. If a school wants to partner with BLM and provide some of the instruction during a field trip, fees may be discounted.

20. Would parent volunteers with school trips in private vehicles also be charged the day use fee? No, busses and parent chaperone vehicles will be included in the program fee price and will be exempted from the daily vehicle fee.

21. Comment that taxpayers are already paying and shouldn’t be charged any more fees.

22. How did you come up with the fee amounts? A market study looked at other local area sites that charge fees and compared them to the sites here, then fee amounts were set accordingly so as to be within established market value.

23. Concern was expressed about the group camp fee proposed of $175 per nite. This could be problematic for small groups. There are alternatives for small groups such as family campouts, etc. These people could choose to occupy multiple sites in the campground and as long as the 8 person capacity per single site is maintained and everyone has paid the appropriate fee we would be fine with that. If however, a group wants a site all to themselves, then the group site would be more appropriate.

24. Campfires are allowed in developed campsites. This is a problem for some people who cannot tolerate smoke. How can these people be accommodated who cannot be around campfires? BLM has no answer currently for this issue.

25. What is the current staffing level? One full-time park manager and one term park ranger.

26. If Temperance Flat Dam is built how much of this area will be under water? The majority of the management area would be inundated, however the two campgrounds are supposedly above the high water mark of a new reservoir. The pole barn, Indian Village, Visitor Center and most of the trail system in the river canyon would be under water. Attendees were referred to Reclamation’s website for more information.

27. Attendees were asked to submit comments by May 31, 2010 and were provided BLM contact information.