

**Appendix D-1**  
**Big Meadows Campground**  
**Inventory**

**DEVELOPED RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORY AND ACCESSIBILITY FORM**

Name of Facility:	<b>Big Meadows Campground</b>
Type of Facility:	Campground
Managing Agency:	USDA Forest Service – Eldorado National Forest – Georgetown Ranger District
Date of this Inventory:	August 21, 2008 <i>(updated in 2010 to reflect improvements made in 2008 and 2009)</i>
Inventory Prepared by:	Sandra Walter-Perry (ENTRIX) in consultation with Vicky Jowice (ENF)

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SITE:**

Big Meadows Campground is accessible from Eleven Pines Road (FR 2) and is located about 2.7 road miles northwest of Hell Hole Boat Ramp. The campground was originally constructed in 1967, improved in 1995 as part of a MFP license agreement, and again in 2008 and 2009. This campground is operated by the ENF in part with funds provided by PCWA. Big Meadows Campground includes 54 family-sized units, one of which is a fully accessible (Site 52). Other amenities located within the campground boundaries include bathrooms with flush toilets, vault toilets, bear-proof garbage bins, bear-proof food storage lockers, and faucets with potable water.

**OVERALL CONDITION OF FACILITY:**

<p><b>Condition of Facility:</b> The road from FR-2 to the Big Meadows Campground (14N43) is generally in fair condition, but potholes near the entrance and at various locations along the road should be repaired. The fee station sign frames are in good condition, but the signs are damaged. All of the bathrooms have either been upgraded or replaced with modern, accessible, pre-fabricated precast concrete toilets (CXTs). The bear-proof garbage containers and bear-proof food storage lockers are in good condition. All sites have accessible fire rings with grills. The tables are in fair to good condition and PCWA has been recently replaced many of the old wood tables with new accessible tables. The parking spurs are paved but the surface on many of the spurs is in poor condition due to potholes and other damage.</p>
<p><b>Accessibility Conditions:</b> One of the campsites (Site 52) is fully accessible. All of the sites have accessible fire rings. Some of the sites have accessible tables. All of the faucets have been replaced and are accessible. All of the bathrooms are accessible. Most of the site spurs are not wide enough to meet accessibility standards, but some were recently widened.</p>
<p><b>Health and Safety Concerns:</b> The potable water source for this facility is the Big Meadows Water Supply. According to the Forest Service, the Big Meadows Water Supply distribution lines sometimes break and water samples sometimes do not meet water quality standards.</p>
<p><b>Environmental and Cultural Concerns:</b> The Big Meadows Campground encompasses an NRHP-eligible prehistoric cultural resource (FS-05-03-53-65). The Forest Service has developed a management plan to help protect cultural resources at this site. The management plan includes development and installation of interpretative signage/displays.</p>
<p><b>Comments:</b> The information contained on this form was developed during a site visit conducted on August 21, 2008. During the site visit, PCWA was just beginning to upgrade certain features at the site, including replacing and adding barrier rock and barrier posts, grading and extending parking spurs, and replacing culverts. Information about improvements that occurred after the site visit was provided by V. Jowice (ENF) and Steve Jones (PCWA).</p>

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**FACILITY FEATURES**

Feature	Quantity or Dimensions	Location or Description	Material	Type	Cond	Accessibility						Comments
						Accessible (yes/no)	Needs Leveling	Obstacles present	Brush or hazard trees	Excessive Slope	Other	
Fee Tube	1	Adjacent to fee station	Painted steel		Good	Y						Pathway is paved and in good condition.
Bathroom	4	Throughout campground	Single unit CXT	Vault	Good	Y						All old wood vault bathrooms have been replaced with modern CXTs
Bathroom	1	East side of campground Adjacent to site 38.	Double unit CXT	Vault	Good	Y						New as of 2008/2009 rehab effort.
Bathroom	1	West side of campground, adjacent to accessible Site 52.	Painted wood.	Flush	?	Y						Closed for repair during site visit. Converted to be accessible by PCWA in 1995.
Faucet	4	Throughout campground	Upright attached to wood posts set in a plastic sump filled with drainage rock	Potable water	Good	N						Sump/drain is set at grade

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**FACILITY FEATURES (continued)**

Feature	Quantity or Dimensions	Location or Description	Material	Type	Cond	Accessibility						Comments	
						Accessible (yes/no)	Needs Leveling	Obstacles present	Brush or hazard trees	Excessive Slope	Other		
Faucet	6	Throughout campground	Upright attached to wood posts set in a round corrugated steel sump filled with drainage rock	Potable water	Fair	N						X	Not accessible design. At least some of these were replaced with accessible units in 2008.
Garbage Containers	7 (2-bin)	Throughout campground	Steel	Bear-proof	Good	N						X	Garbage containers are not considered accessible due to handle design. Installed on concrete pads.
Garbage Containers	3	Adjacent to bathroom near Site 52.	Plastic	Standard trash cans	Good	Y							

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**PARKING, ROADWAYS and TRAVEL PATHS**

Feature	Quantity or Dimensions	Location or Description	Material	Cond	Accessibility						Comments
					Accessible (yes/no)	Needs Leveling	Obstacles present	Brush or hazard trees	Excessive Slope	Other	
<b>Gate</b>	1	At entrance to 14N43	Painted steel swing gate w/ 2 reflective hazard signs	Good	NA						Paint fading/flaking.
<b>Main Access Road (14N43)</b>	Approx. 1,056 feet long by 12-foot wide (single lane)	As measured from entrance at FR 2 to "Y" at start of campground loops. This road is identified as 14N43 and includes 418' feet of road that crosses private property.	Asphalt (AC)	Fair/Poor	Y						Road entrance near FR 2 is in poor condition. Potholes/raveling along edges. See detailed road survey for additional information.
<b>Turn-out</b>	Approx. 1,500 square feet	Adjacent to fee station.	Asphalt (AC)	Good	Y						In condition. See detailed road survey for additional information.
<b>Loop roads</b>	Approx. 3,800 feet total (mostly single lane)	Outer Loop Road, Center Road and Loop Return Road	Asphalt (AC)	Fair/Poor	Y						Asphalt is mostly in fair condition. Some alligator cracking and potholes/raveling along edges. See detailed road survey for additional information.
<b>Barrier Posts</b>	377 single and 41 double	Throughout campground	PTDF	Good	NA						Additional barrier posts were added in 2008.

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**PARKING, ROADWAYS and TRAVEL PATHS (continued)**

Feature	Quantity or Dimensions	Location or Description	Material	Cond	Accessibility						Comments
					Accessible (yes/no)	Needs Leveling	Obstacles present	Brush or hazard trees	Excessive Slope	Other	
<b>Barrier Rock</b>	534	Throughout campground	Rock	Good	NA						Additional barrier rock was added in 2008.

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**SIGNAGE**

Type of Sign	Location	Qt.	Material	Cond	Wording/Graphics	Remarks	Accessibility Notes
Site Identification	South side of entrance	1	Painted MDO plywood on masonry structure (double sided)	Good	ELDORADO <i>National Forest</i> CAMPGROUND Big Meadows		
Historical Marker	Entrance, near Site ID sign, adjacent to road	1	Painted aluminum on PTDF post	Good	GEORGETOWN DISTRICT HISTORY TOUR 13		
Message Post	Entrance, adjacent to Site ID sign	1	Painted MDO plywood board on PTDF post	Poor	VISITOR MESSAGE POST	Very poor condition. Delaminating wood, faded and peeling paint, bullet holes	
Regulatory	Entrance, adjacent to Site ID sign	1	Aluminum sign on PTDF post	Good	U.S. FEE AREA (rounded triangle shape)		
Road Identification	Entrance, adjacent to Site ID sign	1	Carsonite post	Good	14N43		
Traffic	On gate near entrance	1	Painted aluminum hanging from gate (single sided)	Good	ROAD CLOSED		
Traffic	On gate near entrance	2	Painted aluminum hanging from gate (single sided)	Good	Red and white striped hazard placards		
Traffic	At intersection of entrance road and south camping loop	1	Aluminum sign on PTDF post	Fair	KEEP RIGHT	Functional but paint is peeling	

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**SIGNAGE (continued)**

Type of Sign	Location	Qt.	Material	Cond	Wording/Graphics	Remarks	Accessibility Notes
Traffic	At intersection of entrance road and south camping loop	1	Aluminum sign on PTFD post	Fair	SPEED LIMIT 5	Functional but paint is peeling	
Fee Station	At turnout just west of camping loops	1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	FEE PROCEDURE engraved and painted with explanatory poster		Board titles area painted white for contrast.
		1	Painted aluminum placard on painted MDO plywood board (framed) mounted on painted wood post located behind fee tube	Fair	STOP PAY HERE	Sign is functional but paint is fading. Paint on mounting board is peeling.	Information on posters is not readable from a distance.
		1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	Information posters	Minor paint peeling along edges of board and on crossbars	Access to information boards is good because area surrounding fee station is level and paved.
		1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	FOREST NEWS engraved and painted with "No Campfires" poster	Minor paint peeling along edges of board and on crossbars. Minor damage on title frame	
		1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	Information posters	Minor paint peeling along edges of board and on crossbars. Minor damage along edges of board.	
		1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	MESSAGES engraved and painted with regulatory posters	Minor paint peeling along edges of board and on crossbars. Minor damage on title frame	
		1	Painted MDO plywood board mounted on painted wood crossbars on painted wood posts	Good	MESSAGES engraved and painted with regulatory posters	Minor paint peeling along edges of board and on crossbars. Minor damage on title frame	

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**SIGNAGE (continued)**

Type of Sign	Location	Qt.	Material	Cond	Wording/Graphics	Remarks	Accessibility Notes
Traffic	At speed bump at beginning of south camping loop.	1	Painted plywood on steel post	Poor	BUMP	Plywood is delaminating and paint is fading. Sign is also too low and leaning.	
Directional	At intersection of north and south campground loops	1	Painted redwood sign with engraved and painted letters ON PAINTED WOOD POST	Fair	← UNITS 22 TO 35 UNITS 36 TO 55 ↑	Paint on sign (including lettering) and post has almost completed worn off.	
Unit Identification	Adjacent to each camp site	50	Wood posts (some redwood, some PDLF) with engraved, painted number	Good	Unit numbers	Unit 1 post has fallen over. Missing posts at units: 14, 17, 18, 43	

Note: An interpretative sign was recently installed across from Site 1. However, this sign was not present during the site visit, and as such, was not assessed.