



Visitor Survey of Day-use and Overnight Visitors at Silver Falls State Park

Final Report

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Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Objectives

Understanding opinions of park users about issues such as the quality of facilities, social and resource conditions, and how they use these parks is critical to providing adequate programs and services. Project objectives were to describe day and overnight user activities, demographic characteristics, and opinions about conditions and management at this park and provide recommendations for maintaining or improving conditions at this park.

Methods

Data were obtained from questionnaires administered to random samples of day users and overnight visitors to the park between July 4 and August 10, 2013. Separate methods were used for each of these visitor types. The total number of completed questionnaires was $n = 979$ with a response rate of 67%. Completed questionnaires were received from $n = 405$ day users (82% response rate) and $n = 574$ overnight users (59% response rate). These combined sample sizes across survey methods allow generalizations about the population of day users at Silver Falls State Park at a margin of $\pm 4.9\%$, overnight users at $\pm 4.1\%$, and both day and overnight users at $\pm 3.1\%$ at the 95% confidence level. The day-use visitor survey involved on-site intercepts. The overnight visitor survey involved an internet survey of visitors who stayed overnight at the park during the survey period and made a reservation through Reservations Northwest. Data were weighted by day-use and overnight user population proportions calculated from a three year average of park visitation statistics to ensure that responses were representative of the total population of all users at this park.

Results

Personal and Visit Characteristics

- The most popular activities were hiking / walking (97%), sightseeing (45%), and outdoor photography (35%); the least popular were horseback riding (<1%), fishing (1%), playing softball or baseball (1%), disc golf (2%), and soccer (2%). Overnight users were more likely to participate in most activities, which is not surprising given that they had more time at the park.
- The most common main activity groups were people hiking or walking (76%), picnicking or barbequing (6%), and sightseeing (4%). The least common groups were people bicycling on local roads, ranger led programs, playing soccer, and horseback riding (all < 1%). Day users were more likely to consider hiking or walking, picnicking, sightseeing, or outdoor photography, whereas overnight users were more likely to consider camping, bicycling on trails, and horseback riding as their primary activity.
- Day users spent an average of almost four hours in the park, with 88% of users spending up to five hours in the park. The majority of day users (81%), however, spent two to five hours. Overnight users spent an average of almost two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (27%) or two (36%) nights at the park and an additional 22% spent three nights at the park, 10% spent four nights, and another 6% spent five or more nights.
- Most visitors to the park were non-locals (70%), driving 31 miles or more to reach the park. Day users, on average, traveled farther ($M = 285.15$ miles) to visit the park than overnight visitors ($M = 215.43$ miles). Most overnight users (26%) traveled 31 to 60 miles to reach the park, whereas most day users (31%) traveled 30 miles or less, or 31 to 60 miles (26%) to reach the park.

- In total, 61% of respondents had visited this park before with overnight users more likely (65%) than day users (60%) to have visited before. Although users had visited an average of over two and a half times in the past 12 months, the highest proportion (38%) had never visited the park before, with 26% making just one trip in the past year. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 2.68$) than overnight users ($M = 1.54$).
- Average group size was between four and five people, but this average was skewed by a few extremely large groups (e.g., weddings, reunions). Groups most commonly consisted of two (34%) and three to four people (34%). Overnight users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 7.44$ people) than day users ($M = 4.36$), but these averages were again influenced by a few large groups. The majority of day users visited in groups of two people (35%), whereas a majority of overnight users visited in groups of three to four people (32%). Day users were more likely to visit alone (12%) than overnight users (4%), and overnight users (16%) were more likely than day users (6%) to visit in large groups consisting of more than 10 people.
- In total, 88% of park users did not bring dogs with them; 12% brought dogs. Overnight users (38%) were significantly more likely than day users (11%) to bring dogs.
- Most users arrived at the park in their family's personal vehicle (80%), 11% arrived in somebody else's vehicle, and 9% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.80 people in each personal family vehicle, 3.30 people in somebody else's vehicle, and 3.51 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-use vehicles, there was an average of 2.90 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 3.19 people in the vehicle.
- Over three quarters (79%) of users considered this park their main destination with a similar amount of overnight users (80%) as day users (79%) considering it the main reason for their trip.
- If they had been unable to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, most park visitors would have either gone somewhere else for the same activity (47%) or come back another time (18%).
- If they had been unable to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, many day users would have gone to Cape Lookout State Park, Champoeg State Park, Bush Pasture Public Park, Crater Lake National Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Forest Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Multnomah Falls, Oregon Gardens, Willamette Mission State Park, and other coastal state park; whereas overnight users would have gone to Beverly Beach State Park, Milo McIver State Park, Champoeg State Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Fisherman's Bend Recreation Site, L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Oxbow Regional Park, and coastal parks around Cannon Beach (i.e., Oswald West State Park, Cape Lookout State Park, Fort Stevens State Park, and Nehalem Bay State Park).

Physical Activity

- A majority of all visitors indicated that they participated in moderate physical activity (86%), while 39% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate physical activity (94%) than day users (86%) and spent more minutes ($M = 209$) than day users ($M = 120$) participating in moderate physical activity. Overnight users ($M = 130$) also spent more minutes participating in vigorous physical activity than day users ($M = 76$) during their visit.

- Over half (57%) of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Silver Falls State Park was more than their daily life, whereas 33% indicated it was about the same, and 10% indicated it was less.
- Park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (86%), improve mental health (85%), reduce anxiety (76%), and improve physical fitness (75%) and physical health (75%). Day users reported significantly more physical and mental benefits from their visit than overnight users, whereas overnight users were least likely to report health benefits related to improving their level of physical fitness (56%) and physical health (55%).

Visitor Spending

- The majority of local day users reported spending \$1-\$25 (39%) and \$51-\$150 (20%), while local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (51%).
- The majority of non-local day users reported spending \$51-\$150 (27%) and \$1-\$25 (26%), while the majority of non-local overnight users reported spending \$151-\$350 (38%) and \$51-\$150 (37%).
- Most local day-use visitor parties reported spending on park entry fees (84%), gasoline and oil (82%), and groceries (60%). Most non-local overnight visitors reported spending money on gasoline and oil (76%), groceries (73%), and camping fees (73%).
- Most visitors reported spending some money on park entry fees (83%), gasoline and oil (80%), restaurants and bars (67%), and groceries (54%).
- Day users reported that they would spend no more than an average of \$81 than they already spent before deciding not to visit the park, whereas overnight users reported that they would spend an average of no more than \$116 than they already spent before deciding not to visit the park. The largest percentage of day users (31%) reported they would spend no more than \$1 to \$25 before deciding not to visit. The largest percentage of overnight users (28%) reported they would spend no more than \$51 to \$150 before deciding not to visit the park.
- Nearly a third (31%) of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (71%) than day users (29%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of almost three nights (2.98), with day users (3.05) staying more nights on average than overnight users (2.49).

Obtaining Information about the Parks

- Almost all users (96%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this park, and the few (4%) who did not find it would like better directions to the park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general.
- The most heavily used sources of information were friends or family members (77% used sometimes or often), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 74%), previous visits (67%), highway signs (55%), and brochures (55%). The least used sources were health care providers (13%), videos or DVDs (16%), community organizations or church (17%), radio (18%), and television (20%). Day users utilized most sources much more often, but overnight users (96%) were more likely than day users (73%) to obtain information from official internet websites.

- Official internet websites were used by most respondents (59%) as their first primary information source, followed by friends or family members (22%), brochures (7%), and previous visits (4%). Overnight users were almost entirely dependent on official websites as their primary source (88%). Day users were also heavily dependent on these websites (57%), but also used other sources such as friends and family (23%) and brochures (7%).

Satisfaction with Experiences and Conditions

- Users considered the most important characteristics at this park were its cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 97%), absence of litter (96%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), condition / maintenance of trails (93%), and signs with directions within the park (90%). The least important attributes were the facilities for groups to gather (43%), ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller; 48%), number and quality of information / education programs or materials (56% to 64%), and having a variety of things to do (57%). Day users considered signs with directions to the park, quality and amount of education information, ease of movement or access, and facilities for groups to gather to be more important. Overnight users considered the absence of litter, cleanliness and number of bathrooms, courteousness and presence of staff, good value for fee paid, personal safety, and having a variety of things to do to be more important. Almost all (94%) overnight users considered comfort of campsites to be important and 93% believed that shading provided by trees and other structures was important.
- Overall satisfaction among users was extremely high, as 97% were satisfied with the highest proportion of users being “very satisfied” (80%). Users were most satisfied with the park cleanliness (97%), personal safety (94%), number and condition of park trails (94%), absence of litter (92%), good value for fee(s) paid at the park (92%), and courteousness of park staff (86%). Users were least satisfied with the facilities for groups to gather (67%), ease of movement / access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 71%), amount and quality of educational information provided (both 75%), and with the opportunities to escape crowds (78%). Day users were more satisfied with the group facilities, ease of movement, information about conditions / hazards, and signs with directions to Silver Falls State Park, whereas overnight users were more satisfied with the lack of litter, the number of bathrooms, having a variety of things to do, and the presence of park rangers. Overnight users were also satisfied with the shading provided by trees (91%), and the comfort of campsites (90%).
- Most respondents were also satisfied with the natural environment (98%), facilities and services (92%), and with the fee(s) paid (89%).
- Most respondents (92%) said they were likely to return to this park in the future.
- An Importance – Performance analysis showed that all park attributes were in the “keep up the good work” category, indicating that users thought that staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences. There were, however, two attributes that were important to overnight users, but these users were only slightly satisfied with these attributes. These attributes fell into the “concentrate here” category and included signs to and within the overnight areas of the park.
- Almost all visitors (99%) to Silver Falls State Park would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (97%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because the campsites are crowded or too close together, there are too many dogs, and dogs are not allowed on certain trails.

- The most commonly reported outstanding features and things to do at Silver Falls State Park involved: (a) hiking and biking opportunities; (b) waterfall beauty and accessibility; (c) a well maintained park; (d) ranger and junior ranger programs; (e) equestrian facilities; (f) camping, cabins, and ranches; (g) swimming; and (h) the quietude and serenity of the natural environment. This information could be added to the Silver Falls State Park website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.
- Both day users (67%) and overnight users (64%) felt slightly crowded with 67% of all park users feeling some degree of crowding on their visit. These results suggest that crowding in the overnight-use areas are at “high normal”, where carrying capacity may not be exceeded, but may be trending in that direction. However, crowding in the day-use area is at “more than capacity”, and may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences.

Attitudes About Programs and Management Strategies

- About half (50%) of day users and overnight users (41%) would consider participating in a Let’s Go program. Programs with the most interest were hiking (58%), stargazing (50%), canoeing (45%), and kayaking (44%), while programs with the least interest were disc golfing (16%), mountain biking (25%), and scenic bicycling on roads (27%). Overnight and day users were similarly interested in each of the programs with overnight users significantly more interested in stargazing (64%) and geocaching (45%) than day users.
- Only 8% of day and overnight users utilized a concession service or activity (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic or historic tour) while at Silver Falls State Park. The most popular concession service/activities were bicycle rentals, café, firewood, gift store, and guided hikes.
- Users most strongly supported management strategies that would provide more opportunities at the park for viewing wildlife (85%), opportunities for escaping crowds (83%), opportunities for hiking (73%), requiring all dogs be kept on a leash at all times (71%), recycling containers (68%), and more information and education (nature, history; 66%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation / tourism activities (16%), limit the number of people allowed per day (30%), provide more enclosed shelters (32%), provide wireless internet access (35%), provide downloadable mobile phone applications (36%), and limit the number of large groups allowed (40%). Day users were more supportive of providing more opportunities for viewing wildlife, escaping crowds, hiking, requiring all dogs be kept on a leash, more information and education (e.g., nature, history), restoring park to historical conditions, more trash cans, improved maintenance of facilities and services, not changing anything, more group picnic areas, and closing park to all recreation activities. Overnight users were more supportive of wireless internet access in the park.
- A majority of overnight users supported adding more space between campsites (59%), providing more campsites with both RV and tent camping (51%), and increasing enforcement of quiet hours (48%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (27%), more walk in / cart in campsites (32%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (43%).
- There was overall low support for service reductions in the park. The highest support was for reducing ranger-led programs (23%) and ground maintenance (16%) with the lowest

support for reducing janitorial services (7%) and scaled down facilities (9%). Day users (7%) were significantly more supportive of reducing janitorial services than overnight users (2%).

- The most popular type of campsite was a tent site (44%). In addition, 38% of overnight users stayed in RV sites and 15% stayed in cabins. Few overnight users (< 2% stayed in group tent or group RV sites, yurts, and hiker / biker sites.
- Overnight users reported that if they were to stay at an RV or tent campsite, (50%) would need 30 amps, (29%) would need no electrical power, and (18%) would need 50 amps. Few users (3%) would need 100 amps.
- In total, 80% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 20% used the telephone reservation system, and 1% had someone else make the reservation. Satisfaction with the reservation system was high, as 91% were satisfied and only 9% were not satisfied, and the highest proportion of overnight users was “very satisfied” (57%).

Sociodemographic Characteristics of Users

- There were a few more female (56%) than male (44%) users at this park.
- The average age of users was approximately 48 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (22%) and 60 to 69 years old (21%).
- The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$73,600, and the largest proportion of users had incomes from \$50,000 to \$69,999 (17%) and \$70,000 to \$89,999 (17%). Visitors to Silver Falls State Park are generally wealthier than the Oregon population at large (Oregon median income household income in 2010 was \$51,994).
- Most respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 89%) with few Asians (5%), Hispanic / Latinos (3%), American Indian / Alaska Natives (1%), and Blacks / African Americans (< 1%).
- There was not a significant difference in ethnicity between day and overnight users.
- Almost all respondents (97%) reported English as their primary language spoken in their homes.
- About 63% of users lived in Oregon, 10% resided in Washington State, 10% were from California, and 1% were from British Columbia, Canada. Among park users, 36% resided in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, 23% resided in the Portland Metro region, and 2% or fewer lived in each of the other regions of the state (i.e., Coastal, Southern, Eastern, Central, and Mt. Hood / Gorge). The largest percentage of overnight users was from the Portland Metro region (34%) and from out of state (35%), whereas day users came primarily from the Willamette Valley (37%) and Portland Metro regions (22%). A majority of day users lived in Oregon (63%), Washington State (10%), and California (10%). Overnight users resided in Oregon (63%), Washington State (16%), California (11%), and British Columbia, Canada (4%).

Recommendations

Management Recommendations

- Almost all day and overnight users traveled to this park in their own vehicles (80%), so adequate parking is important and should be considered in planning and management.
- The average number of visitors per vehicle for Silver Falls State Park day-use visitors (2.83) was lower than the current FMS assumption of 4.0 visitors per vehicle. Park

managers may want to use this updated figure in future day-use visitation calculations for the park.

- Over one third of overnight users (38%) and 11% of day users brought dogs with them to this park, so it will be important to ensure adequate facilities to accommodate dogs and their owners (e.g., pick up bags, signs specifying regulations or restrictions), especially in the overnight camping areas. There were also various concerns in the narrative portions of the survey regarding the access for dogs on some, but not all, trails and the noise or mess left behind by dogs. Managers may want to consider examining enforcement of existing pet regulations in the day and overnight areas as 71% of all visitors supported requiring dogs be on leash at all times and only 44% supported making the park more pet friendly.
- Almost all users (97%) were satisfied with their experiences and the conditions at this park. Satisfaction, however, was consistently lower for group facilities (43%) and the amount (56%) and quality (64%) of information and education materials and programs. Managers may wish to evaluate these services to users to ensure they are meeting visitor needs.
- Users were also somewhat less satisfied with the ease of movement and access around the park (e.g., wheelchair, stroller, elderly; 48%). Given that over 28% of park visitors were over the age of 60 and 14% of users had disabilities (10% with disabilities related to walking), managers may want to consider evaluating access throughout the park and perhaps even obtaining a current ADA or related audit.
- Approximately 67% of day and 64% of overnight users felt crowded at the park. These results suggest that crowding in the day-use area is at “more than capacity”, and may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences. Furthermore, crowding in the overnight-use areas are at “high normal”, where carrying capacity may not be exceeded, but may be trending in that direction. Monitoring and management of park use levels is needed, especially given that 84% of day users and 74% of overnight users supported the provision of more opportunities for escaping crowds.
- Users most strongly supported strategies designed to provide more opportunities at the park for viewing wildlife (85%), opportunities for escaping crowds (83%), opportunities for hiking (73%), require all dogs be kept on a leash at all times (71%), recycling containers (68%), and more information and education (nature, history; 66%). A majority of overnight users also supported adding more space between campsites (59%), and providing more campsites with both RV and tent camping (51%). Managers may want to consider some or all of these strategies.
- An Importance – Performance analysis showed that all park attributes were in the “keep up the good work” category, indicating that users thought that staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences. There were, however, two attributes that were important to overnight users, but these users were only slightly satisfied with these attributes. These attributes fell into the “concentrate here” category and included signs to and within the overnight areas of the park. These results reveal that managers should consider examining the signage in these areas, especially considering the size of Silver Falls State Park, and the number of visitor comments in Appendix A indicating a need for improved signage.
- The visitor spending analysis showed that non-local overnight visitor party spending was substantial, with the highest percentage (38%) reporting spending \$150-\$350 on their trip

(within 30 miles of the park). Most visitors reported spending some money on gasoline and oil, groceries, restaurants and bars, and park entry fees. A more extensive visitor spending analysis of this data set is being conducted by Oregon State University (OSU) and will be available in a separate report. Park managers may want to use the OSU report findings to help inform local community leaders about the positive impact of Silver Falls State Park visitor spending on the local economies.

- The largest proportion of users (59%) depended on official internet websites as the first primary source of obtaining information about state parks such as Silver Falls State Park, and the majority of overnight users (80%) reserved their spot at this park using the online / internet reservation system. Given these findings, it is imperative for staff to ensure that agency and park internet websites are easy to navigate, up to date, and provide comprehensive information.
- Almost all park visitors (96%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to Silver Falls State Park. However, some visitors (4%) were not able to find all information needed. The most popular information needed was better directions to park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general.
- Users also provided 750 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park. The most common outstanding features and things to do involved: (a) hiking and biking opportunities; (b) waterfall beauty and accessibility; (c) a well maintained park; (d) ranger and junior ranger programs; (e) equestrian facilities; (f) camping, cabins, and ranches; (g) swimming; and (h) the quietude and serenity of the natural environment. This information could be added to the Silver Falls State Park website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.
- The demographic analysis shows that about 3% of day users and overnight users were Hispanic at Silver Falls State Park. Given that the Hispanic population is the fastest growing ethnic group in the state, park managers might consider enacting strategies intended to increase Hispanic participation and camping at Silver Falls State Park.
- Users provided 432 verbatim open ended positive and negative comments, and suggestions for possible improvement of Silver Falls State Park and other park related issues. The most common concerns raised involved: (a) lack of spacing, buffers, and privacy in the overnight areas, which caused users to be overcrowded; (b) allow dogs on the trails; (c) better enforcement of off-leash dogs, noise from barking dogs, and messes created by dogs; especially in overnight areas and on trails; (d) better directions on how to get to park; (e) improved signage and maps for navigating trails and rest of park; (f) provide bathroom and water facilities along the trails; (g) better enforcement of noisy children, dogs, and adults, especially after quiet hours in overnight areas; (h) RV sites with full hook-ups (sewer); (i) lack of clean or updated bathrooms; (j) issues with ground maintenance (e.g., trimming of lawn, shrubs); (k) improved conditions of bike trails; (l) improved educational material (e.g., geology, history, etc.) about the falls, trails, and vegetation; and (m) additional services (e.g., convenience store, snack shop, healthy menu choices).

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

The Oregon State Parks system provides public access to a collection of the state's outstanding natural, cultural, scenic, and outdoor recreation resources. Understanding the opinions of park users regarding issues such as the quality of facilities, recreational opportunities, social and resource conditions, and how they use these parks is critical to providing effective facilities, programs, and services. Project objectives were to describe day and overnight user activities, demographic characteristics, and opinions about conditions and management at this park and provide recommendations for maintaining or improving conditions at this park.

METHODS

Data were obtained from questionnaires (see Appendix B) administered to randomly selected samples of day and overnight users at Silver Falls State Park between July and August 2013. Separate survey methods were used for each of these visitor types — on-site (face to face) for day users and electronic (email, internet) for overnight users. Questionnaires administered to overnight users were basically identical to those administered to day users, but contained a few additional questions specific to overnight activities (e.g., camping). Each day user or overnight user contacted only completed the full length questionnaire once using only one of these methods, not multiple times using more than one approach.

Onsite Survey of Day Users

Day users 18 years of age and older who visited Silver Falls State Park between July 4 and August 10, 2013 were approached in person (face to face) and asked to complete the six page questionnaire onsite at this park. Onsite questionnaires were necessary because personal contact information (e.g., home mail and email addresses, telephone numbers) required for alternative approaches such as telephone or mail surveys are not available from day users, as OPRD does not regularly collect this information from these users. Day users were asked if they would be willing to complete the questionnaire and asked to immediately complete and return the full length questionnaire onsite. Questionnaires were printed on both sides of two legal sized (8 ½ x 14) pages and folded into a small booklet, and took most respondents approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete. Respondents were provided with a clipboard and pen to complete the questionnaire onsite. Two volunteers (e.g., Camp Hosts) administered these questionnaires to reduce costs.

Internet Survey of Overnight Users

Random samples of overnight users 18 years of age and older were contacted via email and directed to complete the questionnaire on the SurveyMonkey internet website (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/>). OPRD and Reservations Northwest collect contact information such as email addresses from overnight users when these users reserve their camping spot through the agency telephone or internet reservation systems. A single completion option on the SurveyMonkey website was used to ensure that respondents did not complete the full length questionnaire more than once.

Users were sent a first email letter that requested their participation by completing an internet questionnaire, provided standard verbiage regarding recruitment / consent and length. A week after this initial email, a second email letter was sent to those who had not yet completed the internet questionnaire stressing the importance of the study, emphasizing anonymity and confidentiality, and requesting participation. A third final email letter was sent to those that had not yet completed the questionnaire. No further email letters were sent, so users were considered a nonresponse if they did not complete the internet questionnaire following these three email letters. Email letters requesting participation were sent between July 24 and August 14, 2013. These emails and internet questionnaires were administered by researchers at the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Sample Sizes and Response Rates

As shown in Table 1, the total number of completed questionnaires across all survey approaches was $n = 979$ with an estimated total response rate of 67%. Completed questionnaires were received from $n = 405$ day users (82% response rate) and $n = 574$ overnight users (59% response rate). These combined sample sizes across survey methods allow generalizations about the population of day users at Silver Falls State Park at a margin of $\pm 4.9\%$, overnight users at $\pm 4.1\%$, and both day and overnight users at $\pm 3.1\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

Table 1. Sample sizes and response rates for each survey approach

	Initial contacts	Completed surveys (<i>n</i>)	Response rate (%)
Day Users	494	405	82
Overnight Users	969	574	59
Total	1463	979	67

Table 1 also shows that the total number of completed questionnaires for overnight users (*n* = 574) was higher than day users (*n* = 405). Between 2010 and 2012, however, a much larger proportion of the total population of users at Silver Falls State Park consisted of day users. Actual population estimates for day users, for example, ranged from 990,936 in 2010, 927,456 in 2011, and 1,033,336 in 2012 compared to just 59,895 overnight users in 2010, 58,266 in 2011, and 59,934 overnight users in 2012. These average use levels across the three years from 2010 to 2012 show that approximately 94.3% of users at Silver Falls State Park were day users and 5.7% were overnight users. The sample for this project, however, consisted of 41.4% day users and 58.6% overnight users. Consequently, in the results sections reporting findings only for all users taken together (i.e., total users at Silver Falls), the data were weighted by population proportions calculated from the three year average using the following formula (Vaske, 2008) to ensure that questionnaire responses were statistically representative of the total population of all users at this park:

$$\text{Weight} = \frac{\text{Population \%}}{\text{Sample \%}}$$

$$\text{Weight (day users)} = \frac{0.943}{0.414} = 2.28$$

$$\text{Weight (overnight users)} = \frac{0.057}{0.586} = 0.097$$

Questionnaires administered to both the day users and overnight users included questions on a range of topics such as prior visitation, activity participation, visitor spending, satisfaction, support of management, and demographic characteristics. Results in this report are grouped into subsections according to these questions. Within each subsection, analysis is conducted on potential differences between day users and overnight users. Percentages, crosstabulations, and bivariate statistical tests were used to analyze and present results. These tests produce *p*-values and when a *p*-value associated with any statistical tests (i.e., χ^2 , *F*) presented in this report is $p \leq$

.05, a statistically significant relationship or difference was observed between groups or variables. In addition to these tests of statistical significance, effect size statistics (e.g., Cramer's V , η^2) were used to compare the strength of relationships. In general, a value of .10 for effect sizes can be considered a "minimal" (Vaske, 2008) or "weak" (Cohen, 1988) relationship or difference. An effect size of .30 is considered "medium" or "typical," and .50 or greater is a "large" or "substantial" relationship or difference; larger effect sizes imply stronger relationships or differences. To highlight key findings, data were often recoded into major response categories (e.g., agree, disagree; support, oppose), but basic descriptive findings of uncollapsed questions (i.e., strongly, slightly agree) are provided in Appendix C.

RESULTS

Personal and Visit Characteristics

Activity Groups. The questionnaires asked respondents to check all of the activities in which they participated at Silver Falls State Park on their most recent trip. Table 2 shows that the most popular activities at this park were hiking / walking (97%), sightseeing (45%), and outdoor photography (35%). The least popular activities were horseback riding (<1%), fishing (1%), playing softball or baseball (1%), disc golf (2%), and soccer (2%). Participation rates differed significantly between day users and overnight users for 13 of these 19 activities; participation in visiting historic sites, bird or wildlife watching, running or jogging, disc golf, playing softball/baseball, and fishing did not differ between these two groups. In many cases, overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in the various activities, which is not surprising given that they had much more time at the park to engage in activities.

Table 2. Comparison of day and overnight users for recreation activities at the park

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Hiking or walking	97	94	97	5.47	.019	.07
Sightseeing	45	53	45	6.75	.009	.08
Outdoor photography	34	44	35	10.01	.002	.10
Picnicking or barbecuing	27	46	28	38.93	< .001	.20
Visiting nature store	28	34	28	3.96	.047	.06
Visiting historic sites	19	17	19	0.36	.550	.02
Swimming / wading	16	44	17	92.27	< .001	.30
Bird or wildlife watching	16	19	16	1.50	.220	.04
Dog walking	9	28	10	56.88	< .001	.23
Other ^c	8	4	8	7.33	.007	.09
Running or jogging	7	6	7	0.01	.940	.00
Bicycling on trails	5	22	6	62.34	< .001	.24
Bicycling on local roads	3	15	4	43.19	< .001	.20
Ranger-led programs	3	14	3	37.69	< .001	.19
Playing soccer	2	4	2	4.58	.032	.07
Disc golf	2	1	2	0.01	.916	.00
Playing softball / baseball	1	2	1	3.82	.051	.06
Fishing	1	3	1	2.30	.130	.05
Horseback riding	< 1	3	< 1	13.42	< .001	.10

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who reported participating in the activity at the park on their most recent visit. Percentages do not sum to 100% because respondents could check more than one activity from the list.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c The most popular “other” activities were: social events (e.g., weddings, reunions, party, celebrations), star gazing, eating at the lodge, playing, relaxing, and exploring.

Respondents were then asked to specify the one primary activity in which they participated most often during their recent visit to Silver Falls State Park. Table 3 shows that the most common primary activity groups were hiking or walking (76%), picnicking or barbecuing (6%), and sightseeing (4%). The least common activity groups were bicycling on local roads, ranger led programs, playing soccer, and horseback riding (all < 1%). There was, however, a statistically significant and “substantial” difference between primary activities of day users and overnight users. Day users, for example, were more likely to consider hiking or walking, picnicking, sightseeing, or outdoor photography as their primary activities, whereas overnight users were much more likely to consider camping, bicycling on trails, and horseback riding as their primary activity.

Table 3. Comparison of day and overnight users for primary activity at the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Hiking or walking	79	35	76
Picnicking or barbecuing	6	3	6
Sightseeing	4	2	4
Outdoor photography	3	1	3
Other	3	2	3
Camping	0	48	3
Dog walking	1	2	1
Running or jogging	1	0	1
Bicycling on trails	1	3	1
Swimming	1	1	1
Visiting historic sites	1	< 1	1
Visiting nature store	0	< 1	1
Horseback riding	0	3	< 1
Playing soccer	< 1	0	< 1
Ranger led programs	< 1	0	< 1
Bicycling on local roads	0	< 1	0

^a $\chi^2 = 393.14, p < .001, V = .56$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Duration of Visit. Day users were asked to report how many *hours* they spent at Silver Falls State Park on their recent trip and overnight users were asked how many *nights* in a row they spent at the park on their trip. Table 4 shows that, on average, day users spent almost four hours in the park, with 88% of users spending up to five hours in the park. The majority of day users (81%), however, spent two to five hours.

Overnight users spent an average of almost two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (27%) or two (36%) nights at the park (Table 4). An additional 22% spent three nights at the park, 10% spent four nights, and another 6% spent five or more nights.

Table 4. Duration of visit at the park

Day Users (Hours)	
1 hour	7
2 hours	20
3 hours	27
4 to 5 hours	34
6 to 9 hours	11
10 or more hours	3
Mean / average hours	3.71
Overnight Users (Nights)	
1 night	27
2 night	36
3 night	22
4 night	10
5 night	4
6 or more nights	2
Mean / average nights	2.37

¹ Cell entries are percentages (%) unless specified as means / averages

Distance Traveled. Respondents were also asked to report about how far from home they traveled to get to the park. Table 5 shows that 31% of visitors were local (driving 30 miles or less to reach the park) and another 39% originated 31 to 120 miles from the park. A higher percentage of day-use visitors (32%) than overnight visitors (11%) were local. Day users, however, on average traveled farther ($M = 285.15$ miles) to visit the park than overnight visitors ($M = 215.43$ miles).

Table 5. Comparison of day and overnight user distance traveled to the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
30 miles or less	32	11	31
31 to 60 miles	26	26	26
61 to 90 miles	10	23	11
91 to 120 miles	2	6	2
121 to 150 miles	2	2	2
151 to 250 miles	6	9	7
251 to 500 miles	6	11	6
501 or more miles ^c	16	12	15
Mean / average	285.15	215.43	281.06

^a $\chi^2 = 285.96, p < .001, V = .51.$

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c $t = 2.18, p = .030, r_{pb} = .08.$

Previous Visitation. Users were asked if they had ever visited Silver Falls State Park before their most recent trip. Table 6 shows that 60% of respondents had visited this park before, whereas 40% had not visited previously. There was no significant difference, however, between day users and overnight users with previous visitation.

Table 6. Comparison of day and overnight user previous visitation to the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Yes, visited park before	60	65	61
No, not visited park before	40	35	40

^a $\chi^2 = 2.21, p = .137, \phi = .05$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Users who had previously visited this park were then asked how many trips they had made to this park in the past 12 months. Table 7 shows that although users had visited an average of over two and half times in the past 12 months, the highest proportion (38%) had never visited the park before, with 26% making just one trip in the past year. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 2.68$) than overnight users ($M = 1.54$). For example, 89% of overnight users had visited two or fewer times in the past 12 months and less than 4% had visited six or more times, whereas 8% of day users had visited six or more times.

Table 7. Comparison of day and overnight user number of previous visits to the park in the last 12 months ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
0 Trips	39	27	38
1 Trip	25	43	26
2 Trips	13	19	13
3 to 5 Trips	15	9	15
6 to 12 Trips	6	2	6
13 to 24 Trips	1	< 1	1
More than 24 Trips	1	< 1	1
Mean / average trips ^c	2.68	1.54	2.60

^a $\chi^2 = 49.98, p < .001, V = .29$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c $t = 1.78, p = .077, r_{pb} = .09$.

Group Size. Respondents were asked to report how many people, including themselves, accompanied them at Silver Falls State Park on their most recent trip. Table 8 shows that the average group size was between four and five people, but this average was skewed by a few extremely large groups (e.g., weddings, reunions). Groups most commonly consisted of two

(34%) and three to four people (34%). Overnight users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 7.44$ people) than day users ($M = 4.36$), but these averages were again influenced by a few extremely large groups. The majority of day users visited in groups of two people (35%), whereas a majority of overnight users visited in groups of three to four people (32%). Day users were more likely to visit alone (12%) than overnight users (4%), and overnight users (16%) were more likely than day users (6%) to visit in large groups consisting of more than 10 people.

Table 8. Comparison of day and overnight user group size at the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
1 Person (alone)	12	4	12
2 People	35	24	34
3 or 4 People	34	32	34
5 to 10 People	14	25	15
11 to 25 People	4	11	4
More than 25 People	2	5	2
Mean / average ^c	4.36	7.44	4.53

^a $\chi^2 = 92.37, p < .001, V = .30$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c $t = 5.12, p < .001, r_{pb} = .16$.

Bringing Dogs to the Park. The questionnaires asked day users and overnight users if they or anyone else in their group brought dog(s) with them to Silver Falls State Park. Table 9 shows that 88% of park users did not bring dogs with them and 12% brought dogs. Overnight users (38%) were significantly more likely than day users (11%) to bring dogs.

Table 9. Comparison of day and overnight users bringing dogs with them to the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
No, did not bring dog(s)	89	62	88
Yes, brought dog(s)	11	38	12

^a $\chi^2 = 88.77, p < .001, \phi = .31$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Transportation to the Park. Respondents were asked how they got to Silver Falls State Park on their most recent trip. Table 10 shows that almost all users arrived at the park in their family’s personal vehicle (80%), 11% arrived in somebody else’s vehicle, and 9% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.80 people in each personal family vehicle, 3.30 people in somebody else’s vehicle, and 3.51 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-

use vehicles, there was an average of 2.90 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 3.19 people in the vehicle. There was a significant, but relatively weak difference between day users and overnight users, with almost all overnight users arriving in their own vehicles (92%) compared to day users (80%). Day users (10%) were slightly more likely than overnight users (5%) to use other modes of transportation.

Table 10. Comparison of day and overnight user transportation to the park ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
My family’s personal vehicle ^c	80	92	80
Somebody else’s personal vehicle ^d	11	3	11
Other ^e	10	5	9

^a $\chi^2 = 30.42, p < .001, V = .19$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c Number of people in vehicle: mean / average = 2.80 (1-2 people = 46%, 3-4 people = 41%), day user = 2.75, overnight = 3.20.

^d Number of people in vehicle: mean / average = 3.30 (1-4 people = 84%), day user = 3.29, overnight = 3.50.

^e Number of people in vehicle: mean / average = 3.51 (1-4 people = 82%), day user = 3.54, overnight = 2.71.

Reasons for Visiting. Visitors were asked if this park was the main reason for their trip. Table 11 shows that 79% of users considered this park their main destination with a similar amount of overnight users (80%) as day users (79%) considering it the main reason for their trip.

Table 11. Comparison of day and overnight users in whether the park was their main destination ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Primarily for recreation – this park was main destination	79	80	79
Primarily for recreation – main destination was not this park	11	15	11
Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – park was side trip	7	4	7
Some other reason	3	1	3

^a $\chi^2 = 11.41, p = .010, V = .11$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Alternatives to Visit. Respondents were then asked what things they would have considered doing if they were not able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit. As shown in Table 12, most users responded that, if unable to go to the park for this visit, they would have either gone somewhere else for the same activity (47%) or come back another time (18%). Overnight users (61%) were more likely than day users (47%) to go somewhere else for the same activity. Furthermore, overnight users reported that they would travel farther for the same activity ($M =$

161.38) than day users ($M = 75.73$), and would also travel farther for a different activity ($M = 202.81$) than day users ($M = 91.90$).

Table 12. Comparison of day and overnight user alternatives to park visit ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Gone somewhere else for same activity ^c	47	61	47
Come back another time	18	15	18
Stayed home	15	7	14
Gone somewhere else for a different activity ^d	9	9	9
Gone to work at my regular job	1	1	1
Something else (none of these)	11	8	10

^a $\chi^2 = 23.25, p < .001, V = .17$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c If gone somewhere else for same activity, how far from home is the place you would have gone instead: mean / average = 84.23 miles, day user = 75.73, overnight = 161.38. ($t = 5.41, p < .001, r_{pb} = .23$).

^d If gone somewhere else for different activity, how far from home is the place you would have gone instead: mean / average = 99.61 miles, day user = 91.90, overnight = 202.81. ($t = 1.85, p = .070, r_{pb} = .24$).

Respondents were also asked to specify what other park they would consider going to if they had not been able to go to Silver Falls State Park. Many day users indicated that they would visit Cape Lookout State Park, Champoeg State Park, Bush Pasture Public Park, Crater Lake National Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Forest Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Multnomah Falls, Oregon Gardens, Willamette Mission State Park, and other coastal state parks. Many overnight users indicated that they would visit Beverly Beach State Park, Milo McIver State Park, Champoeg State Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Fisherman’s Bend Recreation Site, L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Oxbow Regional Park, and coastal parks around Cannon Beach (i.e., Oswald West State Park, Cape Lookout State Park, Fort Stevens State Park, and Nehalem Bay State Park).

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- The most popular activities were hiking / walking (97%), sightseeing (45%), and outdoor photography (35%); the least popular were horseback riding (<1%), fishing (1%), playing softball or baseball (1%), disc golf (2%), and soccer (2%). Overnight users were more likely to participate in most activities, which is not surprising given that they had more time at the park.

- The most common main activity groups were people hiking or walking (76%), picnicking or barbequing (6%), and sightseeing (4%). The least common groups were people bicycling on local roads, ranger led programs, playing soccer, and horseback riding (all < 1%). Day users were more likely to consider hiking or walking, picnicking, sightseeing, or outdoor photography, whereas overnight users were more likely to consider camping, bicycling on trails, and horseback riding as their primary activity.
- Day users spent an average of almost four hours in the park, with 88% of users spending up to five hours in the park. The majority of day users (81%), however, spent two to five hours. Overnight users spent an average of almost two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (27%) or two (36%) nights at the park and an additional 27% spent three nights at the park, 10% spent four nights, and another 6% spent five or more nights.
- Most visitors to the park were non-locals (70%), driving 31 miles or more to reach the park. Day users, on average, traveled farther ($M = 285.15$ miles) to visit the park than overnight visitors ($M = 215.43$ miles). Most overnight users (26%) traveled 31 to 60 miles to reach the park, whereas most day users (31%) traveled 30 miles or less, or 31 to 60 miles (26%) to reach the park.
- In total, 61% of respondents had visited this park before with overnight users more likely (65%) than day users (60%) to have visited before. Although users had visited an average of over two and a half times in the past 12 months, the highest proportion (38%) had never visited the park before, with 26% making just one trip in the past year. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 2.68$) than overnight users ($M = 1.54$).
- Average group size was between four and five people, but this average was skewed by a few extremely large groups (e.g., weddings, reunions). Groups most commonly consisted of two (34%) and three to four people (34%). Overnight users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 7.44$ people) than day users ($M = 4.36$), but these averages were again influenced by a few large groups. The majority of day users visited in groups of two people (35%), whereas a majority of overnight users visited in groups of three to four people (32%). Day users were more likely to visit alone (12%) than overnight users (4%), and overnight users (16%) were more likely than day users (6%) to visit in large groups consisting of more than 10 people.

- In total, 88% of park users did not bring dogs with them; 12% brought dogs. Overnight users (38%) were significantly more likely than day users (11%) to bring dogs.
- Most users arrived at the park in their family's personal vehicle (80%), 11% arrived in somebody else's vehicle, and 9% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.80 people in each personal family vehicle, 3.30 people in somebody else's vehicle, and 3.51 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-use vehicles, there was an average of 2.90 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 3.19 people in the vehicle.
- Over three quarters (79%) of users considered this park their main destination with a similar amount of overnight users (80%) as day users (79%) considering it the main reason for their trip.
- If they had been unable to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, most park visitors would have either gone somewhere else for the same activity (47%) or come back another time (18%).
- If they had been unable to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, many day users would have gone to Cape Lookout State Park, Champoeg State Park, Bush Pasture Public Park, Crater Lake National Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Forest Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Multnomah Falls, Oregon Gardens, Willamette Mission State Park, and other coastal state park; whereas overnight users would have gone to Beverly Beach State Park, Milo McIver State Park, Champoeg State Park, Detroit Lake State Park, Mt. Hood National Forest, Fisherman's Bend Recreation Site, L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Oxbow Regional Park, and coastal parks around Cannon Beach (i.e., Oswald West State Park, Cape Lookout State Park, Fort Stevens State Park, and Nehalem Bay State Park).

Physical Activity and Other Health Benefits

Day and overnight visitors were asked their extent of participation in moderate physical activity (e.g., walking, bicycling, canoeing at a moderate pace), and vigorous physical activity (e.g., jogging, walking, or bicycling at a vigorous pace, breaking a sweat, heart beating rapidly) during their trip to Silver Falls State Park (Table 13). A majority of all visitors indicated that they participated in moderate physical activity (86%), while 39% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate

physical activity (94%) than day users (86%) and spent more minutes ($M = 209$) than day users ($M = 120$) participating in moderate physical activity. Overnight users ($M = 130$) also spent significantly more minutes participating in vigorous physical activity than day users ($M = 76$) during their visit.

Table 13. Comparison of day and overnight user participation in moderate and vigorous physical activity during visit

	User Group ^a			χ^2 or t value	p value	Effect size ϕ or r_{pb}
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Moderate Physical Activity				14.69	< .001	.13
No	14	6	14			
Yes	86	94	86			
Avg (min)	120.03	209.20	125.45	9.45	< .001	.32
Vigorous Physical Activity				1.51	.220	.04
No	61	57	61			
Yes	39	43	39			
Avg (min)	76.00	129.71	79.27	4.79	< .001	.25

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who reported participating in physical activity unless otherwise specified as average minutes participating in moderate or vigorous physical activity.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Furthermore, 57% of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Silver Falls State Park was more than their daily life, whereas 33% indicated it was about the same, and 10% indicated it was less (Table 14). There were no significant differences between day and overnight users when comparing their level of physical activity to their daily life.

Table 14. Comparison of day and overnight user level of physical activity at Silver Falls to daily life ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Physical activity MORE than daily life	57	56	57
Physical activity LESS than daily life	10	10	10
Physical activity ABOUT THE SAME as daily life	33	34	33

^a $\chi^2 = 0.11, p < .944, V = .01$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Park visitors were asked to rate the degree that their visit to Silver Falls State Park had improved their mental and physical health. Table 15 shows that, overall, park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (86%), improve mental health (85%), reduce anxiety (76%), and improve physical fitness (75%) and physical health (75%). Day users reported significantly more physical and mental benefits from their visit than overnight users, whereas overnight users were least

likely to report health benefits related to improving their level of physical fitness (56%) and physical health (55%).

Table 15. Comparison of day and overnight user health benefits related to park visitation

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	<i>p</i> value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Reducing stress	86	80	86	4.89	.027	.08
Improving mental health	86	78	85	7.76	.005	.10
Reducing anxiety	76	70	76	3.95	.047	.07
Improving level of physical fitness	76	53	75	46.88	< .001	.24
Improving physical health	76	55	75	39.10	< .001	.22

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who reported benefiting “much” or “a great deal” from visit to park.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- A majority of all visitors indicated that they participated in moderate physical activity (86%), while 39% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate physical activity (94%) than day users (86%) and spent more minutes ($M = 209$) than day users ($M = 120$) participating in moderate physical activity. Overnight users ($M = 130$) also spent more minutes participating in vigorous physical activity than day users ($M = 76$) during their visit.
- Over half (57%) of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Silver Falls State Park was more than their daily life, whereas 33% indicated it was about the same, and 10% indicated it was less.
- Park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (86%), improve mental health (85%), reduce anxiety (76%), and improve physical fitness (75%) and physical health (75%). Day users reported significantly more physical and mental benefits from their visit than overnight users, whereas overnight users were least likely to report health benefits related to improving their level of physical fitness (56%) and physical health (55%).

Visitor Spending

Park visitors were asked to estimate how much they and the other members of their party spent on their trip within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park on eight spending categories. The information included in this section of the report summarizes basic visitor spending results from the survey. A more extensive visitor spending analysis will be conducted by Oregon State University and available in a separate report.

For this analysis, “local” visitors are defined as those visitors reporting traveling 30 miles or less from home to get to the park. “Non-local” visitors are those respondents living 31 or more miles from the park. All foreign visitors were classified as “non-local” visitors. Visitor responses were excluded under the following conditions:

- The number of nights spent away from home in the local area was greater than 30,
- The reported size of the group was greater than 10 individuals,
- Spending per day/night was greater or equal to \$500 or spending on recreation and equipment rental was greater or equal to \$500 in total.

Table 16 includes the percentages of all park day users and overnight users that are local and non-local visitors. Most visitors to the park are non-local (living 31 or more miles from the park) visitors (72%). More overnight users (89%) are non-local than day users (71%). Based on previous year visitation estimates, approximately 94.3% of all users at Silver Falls State Park are day users and 5.7% are overnight users.

Table 16. Comparison of day and overnight users, local / non-local ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Local	30	11	29
Non-Local ^c	71	89	72

^a $\chi^2 = 49.78, p < .001, \phi = .23.$

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Table 17 shows the proportion of total spending for each visitor profile type and reported on a party trip basis. The majority of local day users reported spending \$1-\$25 (39%) and \$51-\$150 (20%), while the majority of local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (51%). The majority of non-local day users reported spending \$51-\$150 (27%) and \$1-\$25 (26%), while the majority of non-local overnight users reported spending \$151-\$350 (38%) and \$51-\$150 (37%).

Table 17. Comparison of day and overnight total local spending, dollars per party per trip ^a

	<u>Local</u>		<u>Non-Local</u>		All ^b (%)
	Day (%)	Overnight (%)	Day (%)	Overnight (%)	
Spent no money	10	0	4	0	5
\$1 - \$25	39	5	26	3	29
\$26 - \$50	15	5	14	8	14
\$51 - \$150	20	51	27	37	25
\$151 - \$350	10	19	14	38	14
\$351 - \$550	3	16	12	11	10
\$551 - \$1,000	3	3	4	2	4

^a $\chi^2 = 154.32, p < .001, V = .48$

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Table 18 includes the proportion of visitor parties that reported spending any dollars on the eight spending categories (e.g., motel, camping, restaurants and bars, groceries, etc.). For local day use visitors, most reported spending some money on park entry fees (84%), gasoline and oil (82%), and groceries (60%). Most local overnight visitors reported spending money on gasoline and oil (76%), groceries (73%), and camping fees (73%). The “All” spending average is estimated as a weighted average for spending by day-user and overnight visitors. Most visitors to Silver Falls State Park reported spending some money on park entry fees (83%), gasoline and oil (80%), restaurants and bars (67%), and groceries (54%).

Table 18. Comparison of percent of day and overnight party spending of any dollars in eight spending categories

Spending Categories	<u>Local</u>		<u>Non-Local</u>		All ^a (%)
	Day (%)	Overnight (%)	Day (%)	Overnight (%)	
Park entry, parking, or recreation use fees	84	35	87	25	83
Gasoline and oil	82	76	81	64	80
Restaurants and bars	49	16	78	34	67
Groceries	60	73	52	60	54
Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous	26	30	50	28	40
Camping	15	73	35	82	31

Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging	10	16	41	13	30
Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental)	14	8	7	2	7

^a Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Visitors indicated that they would spend no more than an average of \$84 than they already spent at Silver Falls State Park before they would consider not taking the trip (Table 19). Overnight users were willing to additionally spend more (\$116) than day users (\$81) before they would consider not taking the trip. The highest percentage of day users (31%) would be willing to spend an additional \$1-\$25, whereas the highest percentage of overnight users (28%) would be willing to spend an additional \$51-\$150 before deciding not to visit.

Table 19. Comparison of day and overnight additional spending before deciding not to visit ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
No more than already spent	18	21	18
\$1 - \$25	31	9	30
\$26 - \$50	18	20	18
\$51 - \$150	19	28	20
\$151 - \$350	8	15	9
\$351 - \$550	3	5	3
\$551 – and up	2	2	2
Avg (\$) ^c	81.01	116.32	83.63

^a $\chi^2 = 39.00, p < .001, V = .29$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c $t = 2.38, p = .018, r_{pb} = .11$.

Respondents were asked to indicate if they were staying away from home within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park, and the number of nights they were staying if they were. Table 20 shows that nearly a third (31%) of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (71%) than day users (29%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of almost three nights (2.98), with day users (3.05) staying more nights on average than overnight users (2.49).

Table 20. Comparison of day and overnight user nights staying away from home within 30 miles of park

	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total (%) ^a
Staying away from home ^b	29	71	31

Mean number of nights ^c	3.05	2.49	2.98
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^a Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^b Cell entries in this row are percentages (%) of visitors staying away from home within 30 miles. $\chi^2 = 149.61, p < .001, \phi = .42$.

^c Cell entries in this row are mean (avg) nights. $t = 2.41, p = .018, r_{pb} = .14$.

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- The majority of local day users reported spending \$1-\$25 (39%) and \$51-\$150 (20%), while local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (51%).
- The majority of non-local day users reported spending \$51-\$150 (27%) and \$1-\$25 (26%), while the majority of non-local overnight users reported spending \$151-\$350 (38%) and \$51-\$150 (37%).
- Most local day-use visitor parties reported spending on park entry fees (84%), gasoline and oil (82%), and groceries (60%). Most non-local overnight visitors reported spending money on gasoline and oil (76%), groceries (73%), and camping fees (73%).
- Most visitors reported spending some money on park entry fees (83%), gasoline and oil (80%), restaurants and bars (67%), and groceries (54%).
- Day users reported that they would spend no more than an average of \$81 than they already spent before deciding not to visit the park, whereas overnight users reported that they would spend an average of no more than \$116 than they already spent before deciding not to visit the park. The largest percentage of day users (31%) reported they would spend no more than \$1 to \$25 before deciding not to visit. The largest percentage of overnight users (28%) reported they would spend no more than \$51 to \$150 before deciding not to visit the park.
- Nearly a third (31%) of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (71%) than day users (29%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of almost three nights (2.98), with day users (3.05) staying more nights on average than overnight users (2.49).

Obtaining Information About the Park

The questionnaires contained several questions examining how users obtained information about state parks such as Silver Falls State Park and whether they were able to obtain the information

they needed. Table 21 shows that almost all users (96%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this state park, and the few (4%) who did not find the information they needed would like: better directions to park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general. There were no significant differences between day and overnight users in their responses to these questions.

Table 21. Comparison of day and overnight users in whether they found the information needed ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Yes, found the information needed	96	97	96
No, did not find the information needed ^c	5	3	4

^a $\chi^2 = 0.83, p = .363, \phi = .03.$

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c The most popular information needed was: better directions to park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general.

Table 22. Comparison of day and overnight user use of information sources

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Friends / family	77	69	77	6.00	.014	.09
Official internet websites (OPRD)	73	96	74	98.42	< .001	.34
Previous visit	67	71	67	1.37	.241	.04
Highway signs	57	35	55	37.78	< .001	.22
Brochures	55	54	55	0.09	.767	.01
Books	36	21	35	22.21	< .001	.17
Other ^c	33	20	33	5.68	.017	.15
Magazines	33	21	32	13.29	< .001	.13
Newspapers	33	15	32	37.15	< .001	.22
Social media websites	32	26	31	2.92	.088	.06
Work	25	13	25	20.03	< .001	.16
Television	21	10	20	18.19	< .001	.15
Radio	19	7	18	24.24	< .001	.18
Community organizations or church	17	8	17	16.32	.001	.15
Videos / DVDs	16	6	16	20.78	< .001	.16
Health care providers	13	4	13	25.99	< .001	.18

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who used the information source “sometimes” to “often.”

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c The most popular “other” ways were: Oh Ranger Parkfinder app.; directories and websites such as AAA, Tripadvisor, and travel guides; hotel; other state parks; grew up in area; word of mouth.

Respondents were also presented with a list of 16 possible sources for finding information and asked how often they obtained information from these sources when thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park. Table 22 shows that the most heavily used sources of information were friends or family members (77% used sometimes or often), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 74%), previous visits (67%), highway signs (55%), and brochures (55%). The least used sources were health care providers (13%), videos or DVDs (16%), community organizations or church (17%), radio (18%), and television (20%). Day users and overnight users differed significantly on all but three information sources, with day users utilizing almost all of these sources much more often. Overnight users (96%), however, were more likely than day users (73%) to obtain information from official internet websites.

Respondents were then asked to specify from this list of information sources what one source they would first use when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park. Table 23 shows that official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 59%) was overwhelmingly the first primary source used by most respondents, followed by friends or family members (22%), brochures (7%), and previous visits (4%). Few people used other sources when obtaining information. There was a significant difference between day and overnight users, with overnight users almost entirely dependent on official internet websites as their primary source (88%). Day users were also heavily dependent on these websites (57%), but also used other sources such as friends and family (23%) and brochures (7%).

Table 23. Comparison of day and overnight users for primary information source ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Official internet websites (OPRD)	57	88	59
Friends / family	23	7	22
Brochures	7	1	7
Previous visit	4	3	4
Books	3	0	3
Other	2	< 1	1
Highway signs	1	< 1	1
Social media websites	2	< 1	1
Magazines	1	0	1
Work	1	0	1
Newspapers	< 1	0	< 1
Television	< 1	< 1	< 1
Community organizations or church	< 1	0	< 1

Health care providers	0	< 1	0
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^a $\chi^2 = 121.12, p < .001, V = .38.$

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- Almost all users (96%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this park, and the few (4%) who did not find it would like better directions to the park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general.
- The most heavily used sources of information were friends or family members (77% used sometimes or often), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 74%), previous visits (67%), highway signs (55%), and brochures (55%). The least used sources were health care providers (13%), videos or DVDs (16%), community organizations or church (17%), radio (18%), and television (20%). Day users utilized most sources much more often, but overnight users (96%) were more likely than day users (73%) to obtain information from official internet websites.
- Official internet websites were used by most respondents (59%) as their first primary information source, followed by friends or family members (22%), brochures (7%), and previous visits (4%). Overnight users were almost entirely dependent on official websites as their primary source (88%). Day users were also heavily dependent on these websites (57%), but also used other sources such as friends and family (23%) and brochures (7%).

Satisfaction with Experiences and Conditions

Overall Satisfaction. Respondents were asked “overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your *overall experience* at Silver Falls State Park?” Table 24 shows that overall satisfaction was extremely high, as 97% were satisfied and almost no respondents (3%) were dissatisfied. In addition, the highest proportion of users was “very satisfied” (80%).

Table 24. Comparison of day and overnight user overall satisfaction ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
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Very Satisfied	81	62	80
Satisfied	16	35	17
Dissatisfied or Neutral	3	4	3

^a $\chi^2 = 43.91, p < .001, V = .21$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Satisfaction and Expectations with Specific Characteristics. Although almost all users were satisfied with their overall visit at Silver Falls State Park, this does not indicate that they were satisfied with every aspect of this park. This project, therefore, first measured respondent *expectations* by asking them the extent they believed that several attributes of Silver Falls State Park were *important* to their visit (e.g., absence of litter, personal safety, signs, parking). Then, respondents reported their *satisfaction* of these same attributes at this park to measure *performance* of these attributes.

Table 25 shows that the most important characteristics were the park’s cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 97%), absence of litter (96%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), condition / maintenance of trails (93%), and signs with directions within the park (90%). The least important attributes were the facilities for groups to gather (43%), ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller; 48%), number and quality of information / education programs or materials (56% to 64%), and having a variety of things to do (57%). There were differences among day users and overnight users for 13 of the 20 possible comparisons. Signs with directions to the park, quality and amount of education information, ease of movement or access, and facilities for groups to gather were considered to be more important to day users than overnight users. Overnight users felt that absence of litter, cleanliness and number of bathrooms, courteousness and presence of staff, good value for fee paid, personal safety, and having a variety of things to do were more important at this state park. Responses for two additional items that were asked in the questionnaires administered only to overnight users showed that 94% of overnight users considered the comfort of campsites to be important and 93% believed that shading provided by trees and other structures was important.

Table 25. Comparison of day and overnight user specific *expectations* at the park

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Cleanliness of park (graffiti, lawns)	97	98	97	2.17	.141	.05
Absence of litter	96	99	96	8.21	.004	.10
Cleanliness of toilets / bathrooms	92	97	93	13.78	< .001	.12
Condition / maintenance of trails	93	90	93	1.64	.200	.04
Signs with directions <i>in</i> the park	91	88	90	1.19	.276	.04
Courteousness of rangers / personnel	86	93	86	13.40	< .001	.12
Good value for fee paid at the park	86	93	86	14.10	< .001	.13
Personal safety	85	91	86	8.77	.003	.10
Opportunities to escape crowds	85	86	85	0.01	.936	.00
Parking for vehicles	85	80	84	2.87	.090	.06
Number of toilets / bathrooms	84	90	84	8.39	.004	.10
Number of park trails	84	85	84	0.14	.706	.01
Signs with directions <i>to</i> the park	93	75	82	7.91	.005	.09
Information about conditions / hazards	76	72	76	2.13	.144	.05
Presence of park rangers / personnel	67	78	68	11.82	.001	.11
Quality of educational information	65	57	64	5.19	.023	.08
Variety of things to do	56	74	57	30.72	< .001	.19
Amount of educational information	57	49	56	4.83	.028	.07
Ease of movement / access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller)	49	31	48	30.30	< .001	.18
Facilities for groups to gather	43	31	43	15.24	< .001	.13
Comfort of campsites ^c	--	94	--	--	--	--
Shading provided by trees / structures ^c	--	93	--	--	--	--

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who rated the characteristic as “somewhat” or “extremely important.”

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c Only asked in questionnaires of overnight users, not day users.

Table 26 shows that the majority of users were satisfied with most of these characteristics at Silver Falls State Park. Users were most satisfied with park cleanliness (97%), personal safety (94%), number and condition of park trails (94%), absence of litter (92%), good value for fee(s) paid at the park (92%), and courteousness of park staff (86%). Users were least satisfied with the facilities for groups to gather (67%), ease of movement / access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 71%), amount and quality of educational information provided (both 75%), and with the opportunities to escape crowds (78%). Day users were significantly more satisfied with the group facilities, ease of movement, information about conditions / hazards, and signs with directions to Silver Falls State Park. Overnight users were more satisfied with the lack of litter, the number of

bathrooms, having a variety of things to do, and the presence of park rangers. Overnight users were also satisfied with the shading provided by trees (91%), and the comfort of campsites (90%).

Table 26. Comparison of day and overnight user specific *satisfactions* at the park

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Cleanliness of park (graffiti, lawns)	97	97	97	0.30	.587	.02
Personal safety	94	93	94	0.23	.633	.02
Number of park trails	93	93	94	0.01	.917	.00
Condition / maintenance of trails	94	94	94	0.02	.900	.00
Absence of litter	92	98	92	15.82	< .001	.14
Good value for fee paid at the park	92	93	92	0.23	.635	.02
Courteousness of rangers / personnel	86	86	86	0.00	.988	.00
Parking for vehicles	85	87	85	0.68	.408	.03
Signs with directions <i>to</i> the park	85	79	85	4.84	.028	.07
Signs with directions <i>in</i> the park	84	78	84	4.56	.033	.07
Number of toilets / bathrooms	83	89	83	5.25	.022	.08
Cleanliness of toilets / bathrooms	83	86	83	2.16	.141	.05
Variety of things to do	80	86	81	4.87	.027	.08
Presence of park rangers / personnel	80	87	81	8.02	.005	.10
Information about conditions / hazards	80	74	80	4.52	.033	.07
Opportunities to escape crowds	78	78	78	0.00	.990	.00
Quality of educational information	76	71	75	2.13	.145	.05
Amount of educational information	75	70	75	2.71	.100	.06
Ease of movement / access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller)	72	60	71	13.70	< .001	.13
Facilities for groups to gather	68	52	67	21.44	< .001	.16
Shading provided by trees / structures ^c	--	91	--	--	--	--
Comfort of campsites ^c	--	90	--	--	--	--

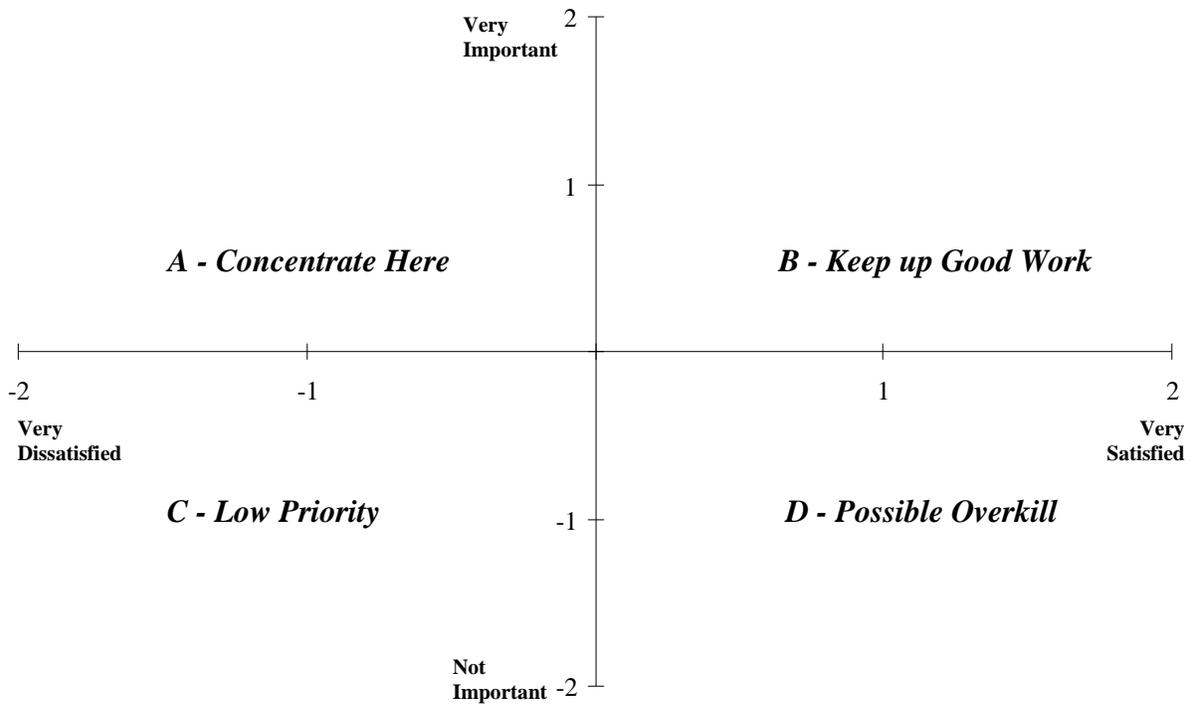
^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who rated the characteristic as “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c Only asked in questionnaires of overnight users, not day users.

Importance – Performance Analysis.

Figure 1. Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix



One approach for visualizing relationships between expectations (i.e., importance of attributes) and satisfaction (i.e., performance of these attributes) is Importance – Performance (I-P) analysis (Figure 1). Importance or expectations are represented as averages (i.e., means) on the vertical axis (i.e., y-axis) and average performance or experiences (i.e., satisfaction) are measured on the horizontal axis (i.e., x-axis). When combined, these axes intersect and produce a matrix of four quadrants that can be interpreted as “concentrate here” (high importance or expectation, low satisfaction or poor experiences; Quadrant A), “keep up the good work” (high importance or expectation and high satisfaction or good experiences; Quadrant B), “low priority” (low

importance or expectation and low satisfaction or poor experiences; Quadrant C), and “possible overkill” (low importance or expectation, high satisfaction or good experiences; Quadrant D). This matrix provides managers with an easily understandable picture of the status of services, facilities, and conditions as perceived by users, and reveals conditions that may or may not need attention (Bruyere, Rodriguez, & Vaske, 2002; Vaske, Beaman, Stanley, & Grenier, 1996).

Figure 2. Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix for *day users*

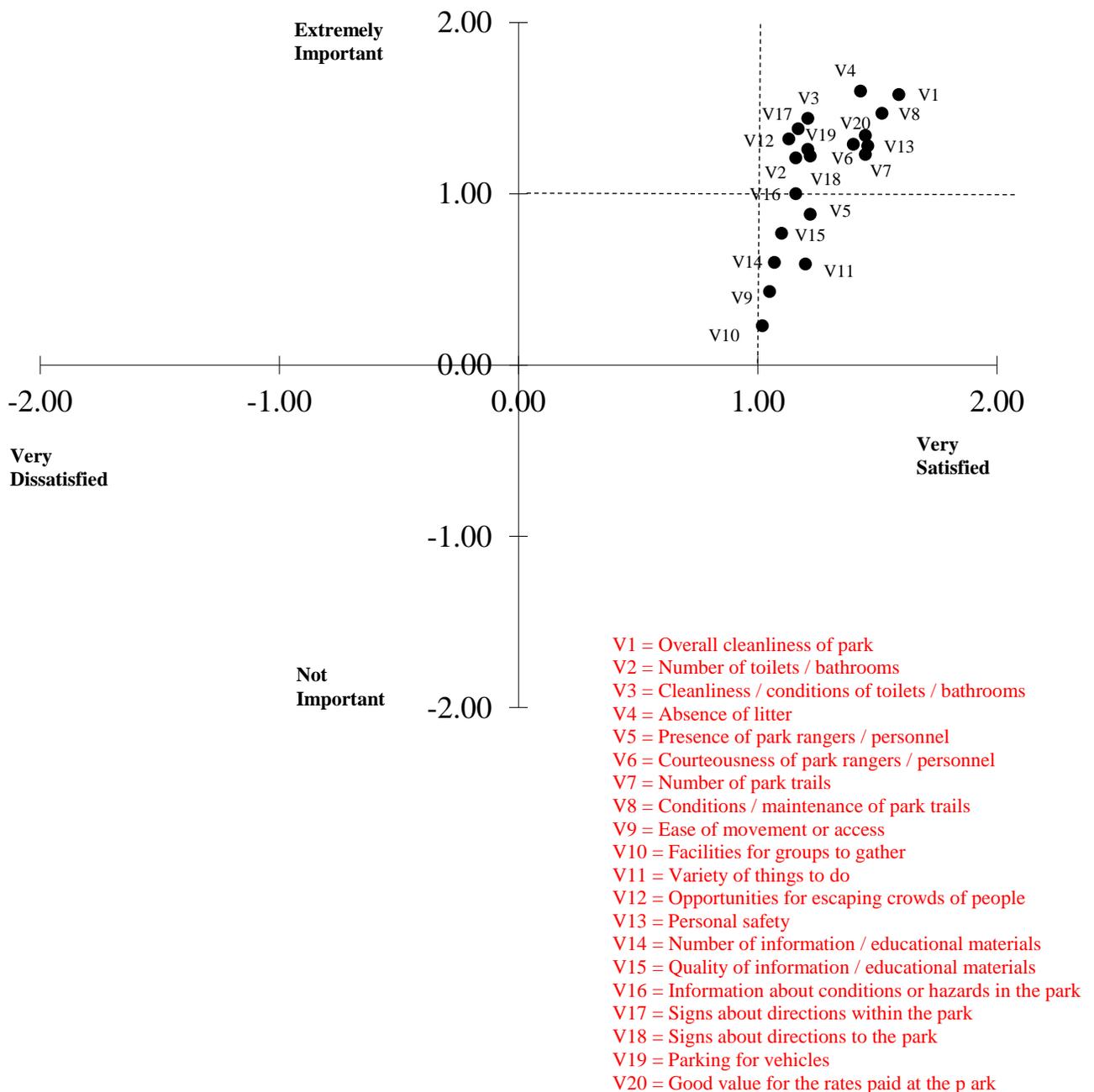


Figure 3. Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix for *overnight users*

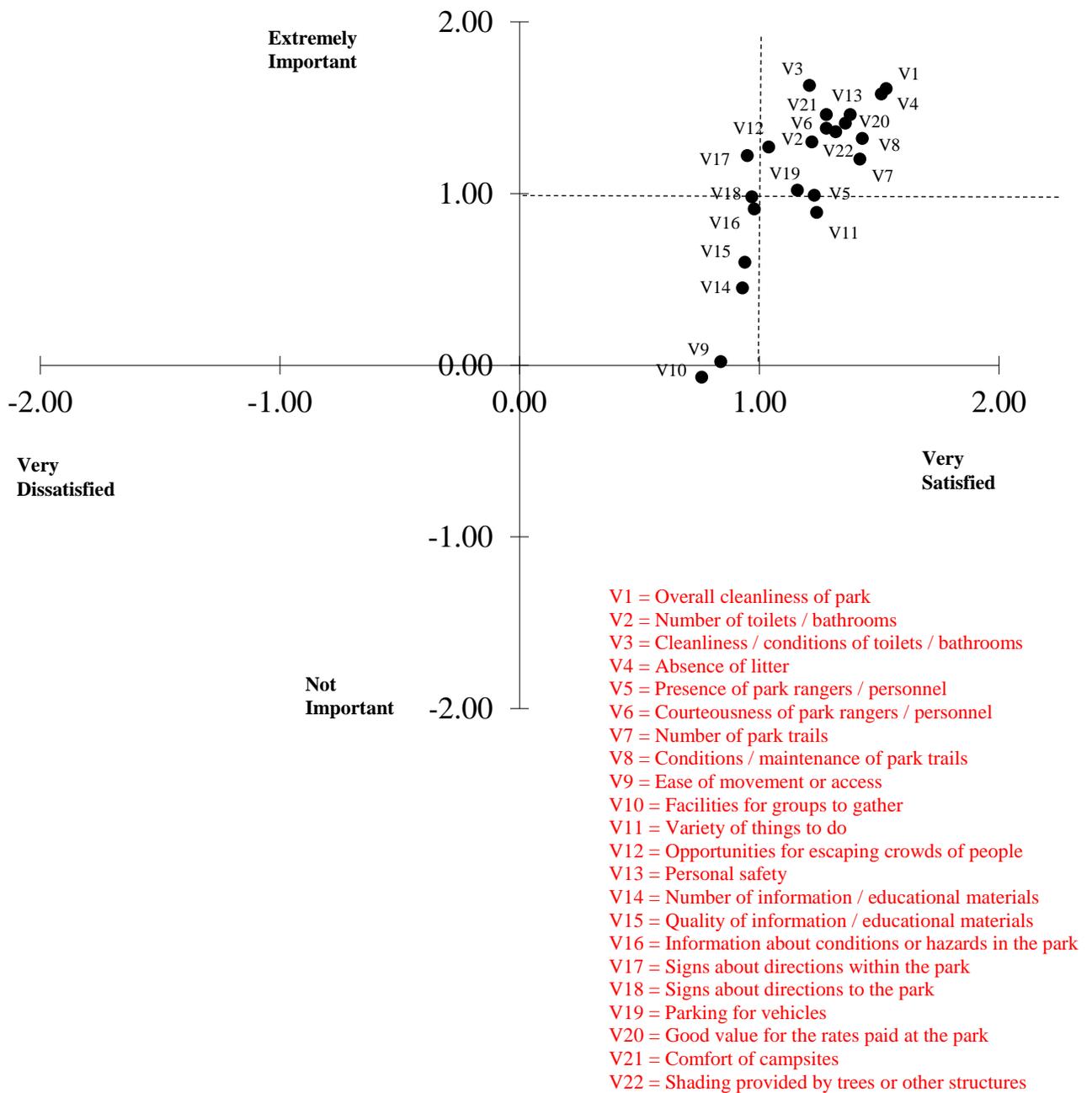


Figure 2 is the I-P matrix for day users and Figure 3 is the matrix for overnight users. Both matrices show that almost all attributes were in the “keep up the good work” quadrant, indicating that users thought that park staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences at Silver Falls State Park. For this state park visitor survey project, we are also taking a closer examination of I-P scores in the “keep up the good work” quadrant within the dashed lines included in Figures 2 and 3. These results reveal that managers should consider monitoring attributes such as signs with directions to (V17) and within (V18) the overnight-use areas of the park.

Respondents were asked several additional questions about their satisfaction with Silver Falls State Park, including this park’s natural environment, facilities and services, and fees. Users were also asked how likely they would return to this state park. Table 27 shows high user satisfaction with the environment (98%), facilities and services (92%), and fees at this park (89%). Day and overnight users were similar in their satisfaction with the park’s natural environment, facilities and services, and with the fee paid. In total, 92% of respondents said they were likely to return to this park in the future.

Table 27. Comparison of day and overnight user likelihood of returning and satisfaction with the park fees, facilities, and environment

	User Group			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^a			
Satisfaction with natural environment ^b	98	98	98	0.07	.965	.01
Satisfaction with facilities and services ^b	92	93	92	0.25	.619	.02
Satisfaction with fee paid ^b	89	92	89	1.80	.179	.04
Likelihood of returning ^c	92	92	92	0.08	.777	.01

^a Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^b Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who rated the characteristic as “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”

^c Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who said they were “likely” or “very likely” to return to the park in the future.

Table 28 shows that almost all visitors (99%) to Silver Falls State Park would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (97%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because the campsites are crowded or too close together, there are too many dogs, and dogs are not allowed on certain trails.

Table 28. Comparison of day and overnight user recommendation of park to friends and family ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Yes, recommend park	99	97	99
No, would not recommend park	1	3	1

^a $\chi^2 = 7.69, p = .006, \phi = .09$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Outstanding Features. Users also provided 750 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park. The most common outstanding features and things to do involved: (a) hiking and biking opportunities; (b) waterfall beauty and accessibility; (c) a well maintained park; (d) ranger and junior ranger programs; (e) equestrian facilities; (f) camping, cabins, and ranches; (g) swimming; and (h) the quietude and serenity of the natural environment.

Perceived Crowding. *Perceived crowding* is a subjective and negative evaluation that this reported number of encounters or people observed in an area is too many. Research suggests that when users perceived an area to be crowded, they likely encountered more than their maximum acceptance (i.e., their norm) of impacts (e.g., use levels) for the particular setting (Manning, 2010; Needham & Rollins, 2009).

Table 29 shows that, on average, both day users and overnight users felt slightly crowded. More specifically, 67% of all park users felt some degree of crowding on their visit, with 67% of day users feeling crowded and 64% of overnight users feeling crowded. According to Shelby, Vaske, and Heberlein (1989) and Vaske and Shelby (2008), these results suggest that crowding in the overnight-use areas are at “high normal”, where carrying capacity may not be exceeded, but may be trending in that direction. However, crowding in the day-use area is at “more than capacity”, and may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences.

Table 29. Comparison of day and overnight crowding evaluations

	User Group			<i>t</i> value	<i>p</i> value	Effect size <i>r</i> _{pb}
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^a			
Perception of crowding ^c	3.83	3.92	3.84	0.57	.572	.02

^a Cell entries are means on 9 point crowding scale of 1-2 “not at all crowded” to 3-4 “slightly crowded” to 5-7 “moderately crowded” to 8-9 “extremely crowded.” Median = 3, Mode = 1, Percent crowded =67% (67% Day Users, 64% Overnight).

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- Users considered the most important characteristics at this park were its cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 97%), absence of litter (96%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), condition / maintenance of trails (93%), and signs with directions within the park (90%). The least important attributes were the facilities for groups to gather (43%), ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller; 48%), number and quality of information / education programs or materials (56% to 64%), and having a variety of things to do (57%). Day users considered signs with directions to the park, quality and amount of education information, ease of movement or access, and facilities for groups to gather to be more important. Overnight users considered the absence of litter, cleanliness and number of bathrooms, courteousness and presence of staff, good value for fee paid, personal safety, and having a variety of things to do to be more important. Almost all (94%) overnight users considered comfort of campsites to be important and 93% believed that shading provided by trees and other structures was important.
- Overall satisfaction among users was extremely high, as 97% were satisfied with the highest proportion of users being “very satisfied” (80%). Users were most satisfied with the park cleanliness (97%), personal safety (94%), number and condition of park trails (94%), absence of litter (92%), good value for fee(s) paid at the park (92%), and courteousness of park staff (86%). Users were least satisfied with the facilities for groups to gather (67%), ease of movement / access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 71%), amount and quality of educational information provided (both 75%), and with the opportunities to escape crowds (78%). Day users were more satisfied with the group facilities, ease of movement, information about conditions / hazards, and signs with directions to Silver Falls State Park, whereas overnight users were more satisfied with the lack of litter, the number of bathrooms, having a variety of things to do, and the presence of park rangers. Overnight users were also satisfied with the shading provided by trees (91%), and the comfort of campsites (90%).
- Most respondents were also satisfied with the natural environment (98%), facilities and services (92%), and with the fee(s) paid (89%).
- Most respondents (92%) said they were likely to return to this park in the future.

- An Importance – Performance analysis showed that all park attributes were in the “keep up the good work” category, indicating that users thought that staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences. There were, however, two attributes that were important to overnight users, but these users were only slightly satisfied with these attributes. These attributes fell into the “concentrate here” category and included signs to and within the overnight areas of the park
- Almost all visitors (99%) to Silver Falls State Park would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (97%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because the campsites are crowded or too close together, there are too many dogs, and dogs are not allowed on certain trails.
- The most commonly reported outstanding features and things to do at Silver Falls State Park involved: (a) hiking and biking opportunities; (b) waterfall beauty and accessibility; (c) a well maintained park; (d) ranger and junior ranger programs; (e) equestrian facilities; (f) camping, cabins, and ranches; (g) swimming; and (h) the quietude and serenity of the natural environment. This information could be added to the Silver Falls State Park website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.
- Both day users (67%) and overnight users (64%) felt slightly crowded with 67% of all park users feeling some degree of crowding on their visit. These results suggest that crowding in the overnight-use areas are at “high normal”, where carrying capacity may not be exceeded, but may be trending in that direction. However, crowding in the day-use area is at “more than capacity”, and may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences.

Attitudes About Programs and Management Strategies

Let's Go Program Interest. The questionnaires asked respondents to indicate if they, or their family members, would consider participating in a weekend program (i.e., Let's Go program) for beginners to learn basic outdoor skills and to identify all of the skills they would be interested in learning about. Table 30 indicates that 50% of day users and 41% of overnight users would consider participating in such a program at a nearby park. From those who indicated overall

interest in Let’s Go programs, the most popular programs were hiking (58%), stargazing (50%), canoeing (45%), and kayaking (44%). The least supported Let’s Go programs were disc golfing (16%), mountain biking (25%), and scenic bicycling on roads (27%). Overnight and day users were similarly interested in each of the programs with overnight users significantly more interested in stargazing (64%) and geocaching (45%) than day users.

Table 30. Comparison of day and overnight user consideration of participating in “Let’s Go” programs

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Overall Interest						
Yes	50	41	49	6.00	.014	.09
Specific Program Interest						
Hiking	58	56	58	0.20	.658	.02
Stargazing	49	64	50	7.94	.005	.15
Canoeing	45	49	45	0.52	.471	.04
Kayaking	43	49	44	0.94	.332	.05
Camping	43	51	43	2.32	.128	.08
Birding	39	36	39	0.21	.648	.02
Rafting	37	36	37	0.02	.889	.01
Fishing	33	38	34	0.95	.330	.05
Horseback riding	33	31	32	0.08	.774	.02
Rock climbing	31	32	31	0.03	.868	.01
Geocaching	27	42	28	8.43	.004	.15
Scenic bicycling on roads	27	25	27	0.23	.633	.03
Mountain biking	25	20	25	1.08	.299	.06
Disc golfing	16	17	16	0.62	.804	.01
Other	7	2	7	5.94	.015	.13

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who reported interest in “Let’s Go” programs. Percentages do not sum to 100% because respondents could check more than one program from the list.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c The most popular “other” programs were: plant identification and wilderness survival.

Respondents were also asked if they, or members of their group, participated in any concession service / activity such as a guided tour (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic, historic) or equipment rental (e.g., kayak, bicycle). Table 31 shows that only 8% of day and overnight users utilized a concession service or activity while at Silver Falls State Park. There was no significant difference in user participation in concession services / activities between day and overnight users. The most popular concession service / activities were bicycle rentals, café, firewood, gift store, and guided hikes.

Table 31 Comparison of overall day and overnight user participation in concession services/activities ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Utilized a concession service/activity ^c	8	8	8
Did not utilize a concession service/activity	92	92	92

^a $\chi^2 = 0.10, p = .755, \phi = .01$.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c The most popular concession services/activities indicated were: bike rental, café, food, firewood, gift store, guided hike.

Attitudes About Management Strategies. Several items in the questionnaires examined user attitudes about possible management strategies at Silver Falls State Park. Users were asked, for example, the extent they opposed or supported several potential new strategies for this park. Table 32 shows that the most strongly supported strategies were to provide more opportunities at the park for viewing wildlife (85%), opportunities for escaping crowds (83%), opportunities for hiking (73%), requiring all dogs be kept on a least at all times (71%), recycling containers (68%), and more information and education (nature, history; 66%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation / tourism activities (16%), limit the number of people allowed per day (30%), provide more enclosed shelters (32%), provide wireless internet access (35%), provide downloadable mobile phone applications (36%), and limit the number of large groups allowed (40%). Day users were significantly more supportive of providing more opportunities for viewing wildlife, escaping crowds, hiking, requiring all dogs be kept on a leash, more information and education (e.g., nature, history), restoring park to historical conditions, more trash cans, improved maintenance of facilities and services, not changing anything, more group picnic areas, and closing park to all recreation activities (Table 32). Overnight users were more supportive of wireless internet access in the park. Overnight users were also asked to rate their support of six additional strategies specifically related to lodging and camping in the park. The majority of these users supported adding more space between campsites (59%), providing more campsites with both RV and tent camping (51%), and increasing enforcement of quiet hours (48%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (27%), more walk in / cart in campsites (32%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (43%).

Table 32. Comparison of day and overnight user attitudes about management at the park

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
More opportunities for viewing wildlife	86	77	85	9.70	< .002	.11
More opportunities for escaping crowds	84	74	83	11.97	< .001	.12
More opportunities for hiking	74	63	73	11.38	.001	.12
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times	72	64	71	5.48	.019	.08
More recycling containers	68	63	68	2.28	.131	.05
More information / education	67	54	66	14.01	< .001	.13
Restore to historical conditions	66	51	65	19.01	< .001	.15
More trash cans	64	54	63	7.12	.008	.09
Natural buffers to block view of development	61	61	61	0.04	.844	.01
Improve maintenance of facilities / services	61	52	60	5.86	.016	.08
Do not change anything / keep as is	55	38	54	21.39	< .001	.16
More programs led by park rangers	51	46	50	1.70	.170	.05
More group picnic areas	45	29	44	22.26	< .001	.16
More paved trails	45	38	44	3.40	.065	.06
Make park more pet friendly	44	40	44	1.63	.201	.04
Food for sale	43	39	43	6.14	.189	.08
Limit the number of large groups allowed	41	37	40	1.29	.255	.04
Downloadable mobile phone applications	36	33	36	0.94	.332	.03
Wireless internet access in park	34	47	35	12.68	< .001	.12
More enclosed shelters	33	28	32	2.31	.129	.05
Limit the number of people allowed per day	30	30	30	0.01	.928	.01
Close park to all recreation/tourism activities	17	6	16	25.78	< .001	.18
More space between campsites ^c	--	59	--	--	--	--
Campsites with both RV and tent camping ^c	--	51	--	--	--	--
Increase enforcement of quiet hours ^c	--	48	--	--	--	--
More tent camping in campgrounds ^c	--	43	--	--	--	--
More walk in / cart in campsites ^c	--	32	--	--	--	--
More group camping areas ^c	--	27	--	--	--	--

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users whose response was “support” or “strongly support.”

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c Only asked in questionnaires of overnight users, not day users.

Park users were also asked the extent that they would oppose or support possible service reductions at Silver Falls State Park. Table 33 shows overall low support for service reductions

with the highest support for reducing ranger-led programs (23%) and ground maintenance (16%). The least supported service reductions were for reducing janitorial services (7%) and scaled down facilities (9%). Day users (7%) were significantly more supportive of reducing janitorial services than overnight users (2%).

Table 33. Comparison of day and overnight user support of possible service reductions at the park

	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size Phi (ϕ)
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Fewer ranger-led programs	23	23	23	0.00	.993	.00
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing)	16	17	16	0.07	.793	.01
Few ranger patrols	13	13	13	0.00	.964	.00
Fewer hours open	10	8	10	0.56	.453	.03
Scaled down facilities (e.g., restrooms, shelters)	9	7	9	1.73	.188	.05
Reduced janitorial services	7	2	7	16.44	< .001	.14

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users whose response was “support” or “strongly support.”

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Overnight Campsite Use. The questionnaires completed *only by overnight users* asked what type of campsite(s) they used on their most recent trip to Silver Falls State Park. Table 34 shows that the most popular type of campsite was a tent site (44%). In addition, 38% of overnight users stayed in the RV campsites, and 15% stayed in cabins. Few overnight users (i.e., 2% or less) stayed in the group tent or RV sites, yurts, and the hiker / biker sites.

Table 34. Overnight campsite use at Silver Fall State Park

Tent Campsite	44
RV Campsite	38
Cabin	15
Other	6
Group Tent Camp	2
Yurt	1
Group RV Camp	1
Hiker / Biker Campsite	0

¹ Cell entries are percentages (%) of overnight users who reported using the campsite type at the park on their most recent visit. Percentages do not sum to 100% because respondents could check more than one campsite type from the list.

Overnight User Requirements. A number of additional questions related to management of facilities and services were asked in questionnaires completed only by *overnight users*. One questions, for example, asked overnight users what power supply they would require if they were to stay at an RV or tent campsite. Table 35 shows that the majority of these users (50%) would need 30 amps, (29%) would need no electrical power, and (18%) would need 50 amps. Few users (3%) would need 100 amps.

Table 35. Overnight user power supply needs

30 amps	50
No electric power needed	29
50 amps	18
100 amps	3

¹ Cell entries are percentages (%) of overnight users who require this type of power supply.

Overnight users were also asked about the importance of electric, water, and sewer hookups. Table 36 shows that electric (77%) and water (75%) hookups to be more important than sewer (46%) hookups.

Table 36. Overnight user importance of RV hookups

Electric hookups	77
Water hookups	75
Sewer hookups	46

¹ Cell entries are percentages (%) of overnight users who indicated that hookup was “somewhat” to “extremely” important.

Overnight users were also asked several questions about the Oregon State Parks reservation systems. First, these users were asked what reservation systems they used for their most recent overnight trip to Silver Falls State Park. Table 37 shows that 80% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 20% used the telephone reservation system, and 1% had someone else make the reservation. Second, users were asked to report their satisfaction with the reservation system, which was high with 91% satisfied and only 9% not satisfied (Table 37). In addition, the highest proportion of users was “very satisfied” (57%).

Table 37. Overnight user reactions to the reservation systems

Type of reservation system used	
Internet reservation system	80

Telephone reservation system	20
Did not make the reservation	1
Satisfaction with reservation system	
Very Satisfied	57
Satisfied	34
Dissatisfied or Neutral	9

¹ Cell entries are percentages (%) unless specified as means / averages

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- About half (50%) of day users and overnight users (41%) would consider participating in a Let’s Go program. Programs with the most interest were hiking (58%), stargazing (50%), canoeing (45%), and kayaking (44%), while programs with the least interest were disc golfing (16%), mountain biking (25%), and scenic bicycling on roads (27%). Overnight and day users were similarly interested in each of the programs with overnight users significantly more interested in stargazing (64%) and geocaching (45%) than day users.
- Only 8% of day and overnight users utilized a concession service or activity (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic or historic tour) while at Silver Falls State Park. The most popular concession service/activities were bicycle rentals, café, firewood, gift store, and guided hikes.
- Users most strongly supported management strategies were to provide more opportunities at the park for viewing wildlife (85%), opportunities for escaping crowds (83%), opportunities for hiking (73%), requiring all dogs be kept on a leash at all times (71%), recycling containers (68%), and more information and education (nature, history; 66%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation / tourism activities (16%), limit the number of people allowed per day (30%), provide more enclosed shelters (32%), provide wireless internet access (35%), provide downloadable mobile phone applications (36%), and limit the number of large groups allowed (40%). Day users were more supportive of providing more opportunities for viewing wildlife, escaping crowds, hiking, requiring all dogs be kept on a leash, more information and education (e.g., nature, history), restoring park to historical conditions, more trash cans, improved maintenance of facilities and services, not changing anything, more group picnic areas, and closing park to all recreation activities. Overnight users were more supportive of wireless internet access in the park.

- A majority of overnight users supported adding more space between campsites (59%), providing more campsites with both RV and tent camping (51%), and increasing enforcement of quiet hours (48%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (27%), more walk in / cart in campsites (32%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (43%).
- There was overall low support for service reductions in the park. The highest support was for reducing ranger-led programs (23%) and ground maintenance (16%) with the lowest support for reducing janitorial services (7%) and scaled down facilities (9%). Day users (7%) were significantly more supportive of reducing janitorial services than overnight users (2%).
- The most popular type of campsite was a tent site (44%). In addition, 38% of overnight users stayed in RV sites and 15% stayed in cabins. Few overnight users (< 2% stayed in group tent or RV sites, yurts, and hiker / biker sites.
- Overnight users reported that if they were to stay at an RV or tent campsite, (50%) would need 30 amps, (29%) would need no electrical power, and (18%) would need 50 amps. Few users (3%) would need 100 amps.
- In total, 80% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 20% used the telephone reservation system, and 1% had someone else make the reservation. Satisfaction with the reservation system was high, as 91% were satisfied and only 9% were not satisfied, and the highest proportion of overnight users was “very satisfied” (57%).

Sociodemographic Characteristics of Users

Table 38 shows demographic characteristics of users. There were a few more female (56%) than male (44%) users at Silver Falls State Park, with significantly more females in the overnight areas (66%) than in the day areas (56%). The average age of respondents was 48 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (22%) and 60 to 69 years old (21%). There was no significant difference in age between day and overnight users (48 years). Almost all respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 89%) with few Asians (5%), Hispanic / Latinos (3%), American Indian / Alaska Natives (1%), and Blacks / African Americans (< 1%). The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$73,600, and the largest

proportion of users had incomes from \$50,000 to \$69,999 (17%) and \$70,000 to \$89,999 (17%). Visitors to Silver Falls State Park are generally wealthier than the Oregon population at large (Oregon median household income in 2010 was \$51,994). The average annual household income of overnight users (\$76,800) was larger than day users (\$73,400). Almost all users (97%) considered English as the primary language spoken in their homes. There was not a significant difference in ethnicity between day and overnight users. Finally, there was no significant difference between the language spoken most often at home between day and overnight users.

Table 38. Comparison of day and overnight user demographic characteristics

	User Group ^a			χ^2 or <i>t</i>		Effect size
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b	value	<i>p</i> value	ϕ or <i>r</i> _{pb}
Gender				10.04	.002	.11
Female	56	66	56			
Male	45	34	44			
Age				130.74	< .001	.38
Less than 20 years old	1	1	1			
20 – 29 years	16	6	15			
30 – 39 years	20	22	20			
40 – 49 years	14	29	14			
50 – 59 years	22	21	22			
60 – 69 years	21	18	21			
70 – 79 years	6	4	6			
80+ years old	1	< 1	1			
Average age (mean years)	48	48	48	0.28	.778	.01
Household income (before taxes)				11.04	.273	.12
Less than \$10,000	5	2	5			
\$10,000 – \$29,999	9	6	8			
\$30,000 – \$49,999	14	13	14			
\$50,000 – \$69,999	17	21	17			
\$70,000 – \$89,999	17	18	17			
\$90,000 – \$109,999	12	13	12			
\$110,000 – \$129,999	8	10	8			
\$130,000 – \$149,999	5	5	5			
\$150,000 – \$169,999	6	3	6			
\$170,000 or more	8	10	8			
Average income (mean dollars)	73,400	76,800	73,600	0.96	.337	.04
Ethnicity				3.46	.749	.06
White (Caucasian)	89	89	89			
Asian	5	4	5			
Hispanic / Latino	3	3	3			

Other	2	4	2			
American Indian / Alaska Native	1	< 1	1			
Black / African American	< 1	< 1	< 1			
Language spoken most often at home				2.13	.547	.05
English	97	97	97			
Spanish	1	1	1			
Other	2	2	2			

^a Cell entries are percentages (%) unless specified as means or averages.

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

Table 39 shows that 63% of users lived in Oregon, 10% resided in Washington State, 10% were from California, and 1% were from British Columbia, Canada. Among park users, 36% resided in the Willamette Valley of Oregon (<http://www.guidetooregon.com/regions/map.html>), 23% resided in the Portland Metro region, and 2% or fewer lived in each of the other regions of the state (i.e., Coastal, Southern, Eastern, Central, and Mt. Hood / Gorge). The largest percentage of overnight users was from the Portland Metro region (34%) and from out of state (35%), whereas day users came primarily from the Willamette Valley (37%) and Portland Metro regions (22%). A majority of day users lived in Oregon (63%), Washington State (10%), and California (10%). Overnight users resided in Oregon (63%), Washington State (16%), California (11%), and British Columbia, Canada (4%).

Table 39. Respondent location of residence

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^a
Country			
USA	95	96	96
Canada	1	4	1
State			
Oregon ^b	63	63	63
Washington	10	16	10
California	10	11	10
British Columbia (Canada)	1	4	1
Idaho	1	2	1
Other	15	4	15

^a Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^b In total, 36% of park users resided in the Willamette Valley, 23% resided in the Portland Metro region of Oregon, and 2% or fewer lived in each of the other regions of the state (i.e., Coastal, Southern, Eastern, Central, Mt. Hood / Gorge). Around 37% of users came from out of state. The largest percentage of overnight users was from the Portland Metro region (34%) and out of state (35%), whereas day users came primarily from the Willamette Valley (37%) and Portland Metro regions (22%).

Table 40 shows that 86% of users said that nobody in their group had a disability, whereas 14% had at least one group member with a disability. There were no significant differences between

day and overnight users. Of those who had a disability, the most common was associated with walking (10% of park users), while 3% had a hearing disability, 1% had a learning disability, and 1% had impaired sight.

Table 40. Comparison of day and overnight user disabilities

Disability in group	User Group ^a			χ^2 value	p value	Effect size ϕ
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
No	86	88	86	0.64	.423	.03
Yes ^c	14	12	14			

^a Cell entries are percentages (%).

^b Cell entries in this column based on data weighted by population proportions to represent total population of all park users.

^c Types of disabilities: walking = 10%, hearing = 3%, learning = 1%, sight = 1%, other = 2%

Section Summary. Taken together, results in this section showed that:

- There were a few more female (56%) than male (44%) users at this park.
- The average age of users was approximately 48 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (22%) and 60 to 69 years old (21%).
- The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$73,600, and the largest proportion of users had incomes from \$50,000 to \$69,999 (17%) and \$70,000 to \$89,999 (17%). Visitors to Silver Falls State Park are generally wealthier than the Oregon population at large (Oregon median income household income in 2010 was \$51,994).
- Most respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 89%) with few Asians (5%), Hispanic / Latinos (3%), American Indian / Alaska Natives (1%), and Blacks / African Americans (< 1%).
- There was not a significant difference in ethnicity between day and overnight users.
- Almost all respondents (97%) reported English as their primary language spoken in their homes.
- About 63% of users lived in Oregon, 10% resided in Washington State, 10% were from California, and 1% were from British Columbia, Canada. Among park users, 36% resided

in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, 23% resided in the Portland Metro region, and 2% or fewer lived in each of the other regions of the state (i.e., Coastal, Southern, Eastern, Central, and Mt. Hood / Gorge). The largest percentage of overnight users was from the Portland Metro region (34%) and from out of state (35%), whereas day users came primarily from the Willamette Valley (37%) and Portland Metro regions (22%). A majority of day users lived in Oregon (63%), Washington State (10%), and California (10%). Overnight users resided in Oregon (63%), Washington State (16%), California (11%), and British Columbia, Canada (4%).

- In total, 86% of users said that nobody in their group had a disability, whereas 14% had at least one group member with a disability. Of those who had a disability, the most common was associated with walking (10% of park users), while 3% had a hearing disability, 1% had a learning disability, and 1% had impaired sight.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Management Recommendations

Based on these results from surveys of day and overnight users, the following recommendations, in no particular order, are proposed for management of Silver Falls State Park:

- Almost all day and overnight users traveled to this park in their own vehicles (80%), so adequate parking is important and should be considered in planning and management.
- The average number of visitors per vehicle for Silver Falls State Park day-use visitors (2.83) was lower than the current FMS assumption of 4.0 visitors per vehicle. Park managers may want to use this updated figure in future day-use visitation calculations for the park.
- Over one third of overnight users (38%) and 11% of day users brought dogs with them to this park, so it will be important to ensure adequate facilities to accommodate dogs and their owners (e.g., pick up bags, signs specifying regulations or restrictions), especially in the overnight camping areas. There were also various concerns in the narrative portions of the survey regarding the access for dogs on some, but not all, trails and the noise or mess left behind by dogs. Managers may want to consider examining enforcement of existing pet regulations in the day and overnight areas as 71% of all visitors supported

requiring dogs be on leash at all times and only 44% supported making the park more pet friendly.

- Almost all users (97%) were satisfied with their experiences and the conditions at this park. Satisfaction, however, was consistently lower for group facilities (43%) and the amount (56%) and quality (64%) of information and education materials and programs. Managers may wish to evaluate these services to users to ensure they are meeting visitor needs.
- Users were also somewhat less satisfied with the ease of movement and access around the park (e.g., wheelchair, stroller, elderly; 48%). Given that over 28% of park visitors were over the age of 60 and 14% of users had disabilities (10% with disabilities related to walking), managers may want to consider evaluating access throughout the park and perhaps even obtaining a current ADA or related audit.
- Approximately 67% of day and 64% of overnight users felt crowded at the park. These results suggest that crowding in the day-use area is at “more than capacity”, and may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences. Furthermore, crowding in the overnight-use areas are at “high normal”, where carrying capacity may not be exceeded, but may be trending in that direction. Monitoring and management of park use levels is needed, especially given that 84% of day users and 74% of overnight users supported the provision of more opportunities for escaping crowds.
- Users most strongly supported strategies designed to provide more opportunities at the park for viewing wildlife (85%), opportunities for escaping crowds (83%), opportunities for hiking (73%), require all dogs be kept on a leash at all times (71%), recycling containers (68%), and more information and education (nature, history; 66%). A majority of overnight users also supported adding more space between campsites (59%), and providing more campsites with both RV and tent camping (51%). Managers may want to consider some or all of these strategies.
- An Importance – Performance analysis showed that all park attributes were in the “keep up the good work” category, indicating that users thought that staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences. There were, however, two attributes that were important to overnight users, but these users were only slightly satisfied with these

attributes. These attributes fell into the “concentrate here” category and included signs to and within the overnight areas of the park. These results reveal that managers should consider examining the signage in these areas, especially considering the size of Silver Falls State Park, and the number of visitor comments in Appendix A indicating a need for improved signage.

- The visitor spending analysis showed that non-local overnight visitor party spending was substantial, with the highest percentage (38%) reporting spending \$150-\$350 on their trip (within 30 miles of the park). Most visitors reported spending some money on gasoline and oil, groceries, restaurants and bars, and park entry fees. A more extensive visitor spending analysis of this data set is being conducted by Oregon State University (OSU) and will be available in a separate report. Park managers may want to use the OSU report findings to help inform local community leaders about the positive impact of Silver Falls State Park visitor spending on the local economies.
- The largest proportion of users (59%) depended on official internet websites as the first primary source of obtaining information about state parks such as Silver Falls State Park, and the majority of overnight users (80%) reserved their spot at this park using the online / internet reservation system. Given these findings, it is imperative for staff to ensure that agency and park internet websites are easy to navigate, up to date, and provide comprehensive information.
- Almost all park visitors (96%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to Silver Falls State Park. However, some visitors (4%) were not able to find all information needed. The most popular information needed was better directions to park, better information for where the falls are, distances to falls, better information about pets on trails, directions for how to navigate OPRD and Reserve America websites, and more information about the park in general.
- Users also provided 750 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park. The most common outstanding features and things to do involved: (a) hiking and biking opportunities; (b) waterfall beauty and accessibility; (c) a well maintained park; (d) ranger and junior ranger programs; (e) equestrian facilities; (f) camping, cabins, and ranches; (g) swimming; and (h) the quietude and serenity of the natural environment. This

information could be added to the Silver Falls State Park website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.

- The demographic analysis shows that about 3% of day users and overnight users were Hispanic at Silver Falls State Park. Given that the Hispanic population is the fastest growing ethnic group in the state, park managers might consider enacting strategies intended to increase Hispanic participation and camping at Silver Falls State Park.
- Users provided 432 verbatim open ended positive and negative comments, and suggestions for possible improvement of Silver Falls State Park and other park related issues. The most common concerns raised involved: (a) lack of spacing, buffers, and privacy in the overnight areas, which caused users to be overcrowded; (b) allow dogs on the trails; (c) better enforcement of off-leash dogs, noise from barking dogs, and messes created by dogs; especially in overnight areas and on trails; (d) better directions on how to get to park; (e) improved signage and maps for navigating trails and rest of park; (f) provide bathroom and water facilities along the trails; (g) better enforcement of noisy children, dogs, and adults, especially after quiet hours in overnight areas; (h) RV sites with full hook-ups (sewer); (i) lack of clean or updated bathrooms; (j) issues with ground maintenance (e.g., trimming of lawn, shrubs); (k) improved conditions of bike trails; (l) improved educational material (e.g., geology, history, etc.) about the falls, trails, and vegetation; and (m) additional services (e.g., convenience store, snack shop, healthy menu choices).

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APPENDIX A: OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Positive Comments

- Loved the cabins for dogs, garbage compactor and recycling, and no Wi-Fi which kept me, and (everyone else) off of my smart phone.
- Lots of people but usually did not feel very crowded because the campground is away from "civilization".
- I love that there were a variety of venues to choose from between North Falls, the day use lodge, the old and new Ranches, and the conference center. It's already more diverse than most parks.
- Please don't develop it too much more and make it too crowded. I love the rustic feeling and accessible prices of the state Park.
- They allowed us to have a weekend wedding for under \$10,000 with people paying for their own lodging. That is just amazing. Please keep it that way for other family gatherings.
- Everything was great.
- It's a lovely place to be.
- Everything was great.
- A great park. Love being able to head out on my mountain bike on a variety of trails.
- As a youth pastor, I go to Silver Falls and to the Old or New Ranch with my youth group every summer. For my teens and all my volunteers we are again and again blown away at how great our visit is. We love the park and enjoy the Ranches.
- As far as the horse camping, couldn't think of anything else to make it better.
- We found our way. Can't really get lost.
- Beautiful.
- Beautiful park. The falls speak for itself. Thank you.
- Beautiful park. We will definitely be back.
- Bring it to NYC.
- It's perfect.
- Change nothing. Keep it beautiful and clean.
- Continue to operate Howard Creek Horse Camp and horse trails.
- Continue / improve ranger programs such as camp fire talks.
- Do not change much.
- Do not mess with a good thing.
- Had a great time.
- Everyone was great.
- Good as is.
- Great as is.
- Great experience. Thanks.
- Great family activity that is healthy and fun.
- Great park. I have been going here since my childhood 20 + years ago. Keep it up.

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- I enjoyed our stay very much. No changes needed in my opinion.
 - I have been coming to Silver Falls for 43 years. I love it and I love the improvements over the years. They are needed yet understated so the environment is #1.
 - I love the park very much. It is an amazing place. I appreciate all efforts of the staff keep the park in better way.
 - I love it just the way it is.
 - I love it the way it is.
 - I think it is great as it is.
 - I think it is fine.
 - I thought it was great.
 - Beautiful park with well-maintained facilities and helpful, friendly rangers. Awesome place.
 - Thanks for creating such a great place for us to stage our wedding. The New Ranch was very comfortable, and the park, of course, is beautiful. Our guests (especially those from out of town) were really impressed. Also, a water main burst the morning of the wedding, and the rangers on duty did a fabulous job keeping us updated, bringing us water, and getting it fixed quickly. So thank you. We will be back.
 - If nothing changed, we would be happy.
 - It is a beautiful park.
 - It is a great park.
 - It is a wonderful park with tons of activities and outdoor experiences for kids, thus unavoidably very overused.
 - Overall, we appreciated that the campground was quiet and the staff very helpful.
 - We love the bridges, creeks, and extensive natural areas.
 - It is a wonderful park.
 - I will come again.
 - It is just fine.
 - It is OK as is.
 - It is wonderful already.
 - It seems to me you are doing all you can to accommodate people.
 - It was a great experience but I wished I spoke Spanish. Lots of Hispanic people.
 - It was great.
 - It was great.
 - It was great.
 - Staff was very nice and park was in great shape. Keep doing the great job you are.
 - It was great.
 - It was great. Thank you.
 - It was just great. Thank you.
 - It was wonderful.
 - We stay only in the cabins, and we like them.
 - It's all good.

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- It's amazing.
 - It's basically a wonderful blessing all the way around. We are glad to be here and thankful to God for its beauty.
 - It's beautiful.
 - It's good.
 - It's great.
 - It's great.
 - It's great as it is.
 - It's great.
 - It's perfect.
 - It's pretty close to perfect.
 - It's really great just the way it is. We had a great visit.
 - It is a well ran, clean park with lots to offer.
 - With the huge number of people going through each year, it is important to preserve and maintain the park. It seems like that is being done.
 - What's being done there now is fantastic.
 - There is a lot to do and enjoy.
 - We ran into a volunteer on the trail of ten falls which is a great idea as well.
 - Keep up the good work. Thank you.
 - It's beautiful and perfect.
 - Just keep it awesome as it is. It's a treasure. Please don't change much.
 - Just keep up the good work.
 - Keep doing what you are doing. Wonderful experience. Thank you.
 - Keep it beautiful.
 - Keep it the same. It is an extraordinary Oregon treasure.
 - Keep it the same. C'est un parc magnifique.
 - Keep it wild, natural and beautiful.
 - Keep the affordable cabin rate.
 - Keep the park as natural as possible. The trail around the falls is an absolute treasure. Love this place.
 - Keep the trails as they are in natural unpaved condition.
 - Keep trails safe and tidy.
 - Keep up good maintenance.
 - Keep up the good work.
 - Keep up the good work.
 - Keep up the good work. We will be back next summer.
 - Keep up what's being done already.
 - Keep wildlife available to view and hike to the public.
 - Keeping camping fees reasonable.
 - Love the park.
 - Love it as it is.

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- Love it have been going for at least 40 years now and still love it and recommend it to our friends.
 - Love it, will come back.
 - Loved camping there.
 - Loved it like it is.
 - Loved it. Hope to be able to go back again.
 - Loved our time there.
 - Loved the park.
 - Loved the park.
 - Lovely park. We plan to come back for a longer stay.
 - Maintain existing facilities. They are nice, please keep them that way.
 - Most of our experience was great.
 - It's very fine as it is.
 - No improvement needed.
 - Not much. It's my favorite place on earth.
 - I love the place and want to be a volunteer trail guide / interpreter when I retire sometime in the next 5-6 years.
 - The park is beautiful and we enjoy coming each year.
 - Nothing to improve. Our family had a lovely time.
 - It's a great park.
 - It is just fine the way it is.
 - Oh, you all do a great job. Keep up the good work.
 - Overall it was a great experience, wish we had more time to spend there.
 - Park is fine with me.
 - Park was very nice with very good bathroom facilities and nice camp hosts.
 - Perfect.
 - Perfect.
 - This campground is one of the best we have ever used. We plan to make it an annual trip. Thank you for your commitment to keeping the parks safe and user friendly.
 - Promote it more. People just don't know what great falls are here.
 - We had a great time.
 - Seems fine to me.
 - I love it here.
 - Silver Falls is a lovely park, and I am looking forward to visiting again in the future. The services are wonderful. The park is clean, well patrolled, and offers services that enhance the camping experience.
 - Thank you.
 - It was super and we all enjoyed the day.
 - The group campsite was ideal and beautiful and private.
 - The experience was very good.
 - The park is fine the way it is.

- The park was a great one day / night activity. We really enjoyed eating at the Conference Center for supper and breakfast the following morning.
- The trails are great
- It was a beautiful hike, one that I would do again.
- There is really nothing more you could do for me.
- There is so much that is wonderful already.
- They love it here.
- This was my favorite campground of many on our road trip. Your facilities were impeccable. Just make sure they remain as amazing.
- Very good.
- Very nice park. Great stuff to see and do. I plan to go back and spend a 3 day weekend there.
- Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed our short stay and have told many friends what a great park it is.
- We had a good time.
- We had a ton of fun there and will definitely be back.
- We have enjoyed Silver Falls State Park many times.
- We have enjoyed visiting Silver Fall for the last 5 yrs. We always enjoy ourselves greatly.
- We have no complaints. Everything was great.
- We like it just the way it is, but I did notice a lot of bicycle riding by kids that sometimes almost ran me over, but I like that they are having fun.
- We love Silver Falls State Park and feel very fortunate to live so close to such a beautiful spot.
- We love the Park.
- We loved it. There's nothing we can think of to improve the park. We have already made another reservation for several nights. Thank you.
- We loved it.
- We loved it. It was how we remembered it from our last trip and is why we will return again.
- We loved our trip to the park.
- We loved the park.
- We thought it was one of the best parks we have been at in years. I don't have any suggestions for improvement.
- We were extremely happy with the picnic shelter (D) that we reserved and the description that it was very accessible for bathrooms and parking for our older family members.
- We were on a 10 day camping trip and this was our favorite spot.
- This is one of our favorite parks in the Oregon State Park system. If you start closing parks, put this one at the end of the list.
- Wonderful park. Good job.
- You are doing a great job. Keep up the excellent work. Thank you.

Negative Comments and / or Issues for Improvement

- Accuracy of your RV/Trailer site lengths. I stayed in B05 at Silver Falls State Park and it is listed at 43 feet. But the inside of the stop curb is 1 1/2-2 feet into the parking pad thus leaving only about 41 feet to park.
- Make as many of your sites 50-60 feet or 45-55 feet with the ability to overhang the stop curb, by clearing out trees and shrubs from 10-15 feet behind parking space to accommodate larger vehicles.
- Campground restrooms need to be rebuilt like the new ones at Wallowa and Champogeg. Sink too high for kids to reach. Often had to wait to use toilet and sink.
- Dogs should be allowed on longer than 6 foot leashes/lines within their own campsite. It should only be enforced when dogs are outside of their own "rented" campsite.
- Sign for where people are to pour their personal portable potty refuse - saw a 10 year old starting to pour it into a brown Waste Water collector.
- Lots of people packed into some campsites that got pretty loud. Barking dog and loud music at several sites. Not sure how to control it as it was probably a popular time of year.
- Better screening of the tent camp sites. Most sites appear to be group sites instead of individual.
- Rate the trails as of steepness and condition of the surface. The trail to and under the South Falls was much more difficult than it appeared.
- Ground maintenance more frequently (mainly lawn mowing).
- Enclose, or partially enclose, the pet run area.
- Hiker biker camping is a problem with many state parks. People biking have fewer options than if they're driving. There needs to be available spots to encourage alternative transportation to the park.
- Banned or limited driving within the park & provide a shuttle between the campground and South Falls Lodge / day use area, and Winter Falls & North Falls. Reduce the traffic congestion in the park for people staying overnight.
- You are a good distance from Portland and Salem. Please make this a bike destination.
- A "walk in the trees" activity?
- A little more shade in the campground.
- A lot of campsites had you back right up against one another with no buffer, (i.e., bushes, trees). Very close campfires. In my first site I had smoke in my camper first thing in the morning and most of the night.
- A fenced free run for dogs would be better. Picnickers were in the dog run area playing soccer and it felt awkward to let the dog out to run through their group. A fenced area would have solved that and also any chance of passerby's feeling nervous about loose dogs.
- A port potty or bathroom along one of the long trails, or a place to get a drink of water. My little kids could not wait 3 hours to pee while hiking the entire falls trails.
- A sink to wash dishes at camping site that has hot running water.
- Add a few volleyball nets.

- Add sewer systems. We spend most of our trips at Stub because it has sewers at the camp spots.
- Additional bathrooms on long trails.
- Cut back the overgrowth of berry bushes along trails and fix dangerous erosion on trails.
- Allow more space between tent sites, and please don't turn this beautiful park into an RV mecca or a tourist trap.
- Allow dogs.
- Allow dogs and forest passes.
- Allow dogs on all the trails.
- Allow dogs on all trails, as long as they are on a 6 foot leash and controlled by their owner.
- Allow dogs on all trails.
- Allow dogs on the trail of ten falls.
- More space between campsites.
- Allow dogs on the trails or emphasize that no dogs are allowed on all literature and on the website. We brought a dog and had to leave her in the car. We had no idea that dogs weren't allowed on the waterfall trails.
- Allow dogs on the trails.
- Allow dogs to walk the trails.
- Allow early parking for cabin renters and check in even without key. Hard to find a place to wait for cabin to be ready.
- Would be nice to park somewhere near campground and let kids run around a bit.
- Allow pets in more cabins - especially in the cabin loop.
- Allow leashed dogs on the canyon trail.
- Locate some trash cans throughout the campground like it used to be, rather than only providing the central dumpster at the entrance.
- Allowing someone to stay in the handicap before 7pm, and allowing camping in the held firemen / police sites if empty.
- We wanted to pay to stay longer but were told we couldn't use the empty sites.
- The only improvements are more wants, and not needs, but would be showers at the ranches and larger and more developed water area for swimming.
- Trail signs on the Howard Creek cut off trail by the convention center.
- B loop is in desperate need of a new bathroom and shower facilities.
- More private toilets for the men.
- The lawns need to be trimmed and cut.
- It would really benefit the park to fix and improve the bike trails.
- Bathrooms in main lodge are confusing and very inefficient - need simple upgrading to allow at least 2 different persons (males) to go at once.
- A garbage receptacle or "don't litter" or "pack it to trailhead" signs would be good.
- Bathroom maintenance.
- BBQ need to be replaced. They were rusted out.

- Better bathrooms.
- Better maps detailing the waterfall loops.
- Better showers. I found the shower heads to be too low and not adjustable. Also if the shelf for shampoo etc. was in the stall and not at the door, that would be more convenient. More hooks for bags and towels etc.
- Better signage on the trails.
- Better signage within park.
- Better signage on the trails.
- Bigger campsites and less noise.
- Blank out all iPods, phones of any source. No texting, twitter, v-mail, emails and even turkey calls.
- Brand new oven is broken.
- Fridge needed defrosting.
- Toilets clogged.
- Bring in more volunteer hosts.
- Brushes could be cut back to widen trails.
- Build a grocery store. Also, a restaurant that is available to all, not just certain people in the park.
- Building more mountain biking / hiking only trails.
- Camp hosts could be more courteous. Had unpleasant experience just trying to purchase one bundle of firewood.
- Camp sites are too small & too close together. Better and more trail signs. Campground Trail is overgrown and needs maintenance & signage.
- Camp sites are way too close to one another. If I could, I would have bought 3 campsites just to get some space from other people.
- Clarify your pet policies and provide more specific directions.
- Clean the bathroom and shower facilities more often. My shower was very dirty with hair and dirt all over the floor.
- Clean the porta potty's more often or on Fridays when most people come to camp for the weekend.
- Cleaner bathroom at North Falls.
- Clear fallen logs from falls, like at Upper North Falls.
- Closer dump station for our trailer.
- Connect the Howard Creek loop at the Conference Center so that Howard Creek loop is in fact a loop for a shorter equestrian ride. Build a new trail along north side of parking lot east over the creek and up slope to existing trail.
- Enforce the no horse, no site rule as stated in the Reserve America policies. The "My horse is sick," answer is not enough to displace other valid equestrian users.
- Encourage visitors to clean up after themselves.
- Controlling crowds. With so many people it begins to take away from the serene environment people come here to experience.

- Decrease reservation fees. We had to move our date up and were charged \$8 per site on top of the \$8 charged for making a reservation.
- Didn't like the cabin area we stayed in, much too crowded. The campsites were much better.
- Difficult getting reservations.
- Do a better job of trail maintenance.
- Have better directions on road from Silverton, OR.
- Dog friendly trails.
- Emphasize trails available away from the falls canyons -- increased information on hike times, distances, etc.
- Encourage campers to get out of the campground and explore the trails.
- Enforce quiet hours. It was very noisy the 2 nights we were there (until 11 or midnight), and I will not come back for that reason.
- Enforce quiet time hours equally.
- Enforce the 8 person per site rule. Many sites had way more than 8 people, even when they combined sites.
- Clean the showers more often. They were disgusting and because so many sites were overloaded with people, the restrooms stunk.
- If you make a rule, enforce it.
- Enforcement of quiet hours.
- Entrance roads to camping section rather confusing. Better signage.
- A dump station closer to camping area would be an improvement.
- Expand the park if at all possible.
- Fenced dog park.
- Find a way to have more shade in your parks.
- Fix pay station.
- For cabins, restrict total number of tents / RV / screen house can put up, and / or the total number of people to stay at cabin. I think 10 per cabin is a bit much since they are a double bed with futon and should not have more than one outside extra allowed.
- Allowing up to 20 tents instead of 10, if under the 75 people limit.
- Full hookups.
- Get park ranger that's more polite.
- Get rid of obtrusive, overbearing, park hosts / rangers.
- Get rid of the giant ant hills, and the ants that bit our feet.
- Get the waterlines and electrical sites working right.
- Group camps could use more restrooms.
- Have a more in-depth pamphlet available for free just about the ten waterfalls. I enjoyed the brief snippets about each waterfall in the current map / pamphlet, but would have liked to learn more about their individual differences and similarities, and more about how they were made.
- Add more space between fire pits, if unable to provide more space between sites alone.

- Have larger signage and the check in booth managed during check-in and checkout hours.
- Have trails more clearly marked and make maps available near trail heads.
- Horses and bikes for rent.
- I believe the only change would be to have signs warning of hazards in the park. For example there was a family of raccoons that lived in the campground.
- Too much campfire smoke, especially near the tent sites.
- I felt like the people making the reservation really do not know the park. Both times I have called to make the reservation I have said I want to be close to the bathrooms. Neither time were they close enough for people in wheelchairs.
- I think the park should not be operated in a bureaucratic way, even under the control of the state.
- I made reservations for four groups for three nights and had to pay a fee for each reservation. \$32.00 just to make the reservations.
- Some of the camps sites were too close together, next camper almost in your spot.
- Driving into campground there is no sign that says Silver Falls State Campground - camping this way. What are camping facilities?
- I only had one bad experience with a ranger. We mainly speak Spanish and when my husband was telling me something to tell the ranger in Spanish, the lady ranger said that my husband should speak to me in English. We have the right to speak in whatever language we chose to. We felt somewhat discriminated.
- I think overall better communication about the layout and features of the park would be helpful.
- I was next to a campsite with lots of unruly children that were in my site and all over my picnic table. I thought sites didn't allow more than 8 people and 2 cars. This site had at least 4 cars that unloaded and parked their cars elsewhere.
- I would like to see more bathrooms available and a sink with running and a flushable toilet.
- More parking
- I would place 20 to 30 more camp sites and hook ups at a second location in the park to keep up with boomer demand and trends.
- I'd like to see slightly less campsites and perhaps a little more space between sites.
- If someone breaks one of your fine print rules, be courteous and explain why it's important that the rule be followed. Otherwise, the visitor may be left with a bad taste in their mouth about what was an otherwise wonderful experience.
- Improve the group camp sites to add showers and electricity.
- Improve cell service.
- Improve the group campground and have better descriptors so people know what to expect.
- Improve volunteer campsite volunteer relations through training or screening - we had a poorly managed, rude incident with one of the volunteer park hosts that we felt was inappropriate given the situation.

- Install RV tank dump site at the camp ground.
- It feels crowded with humans.
- The only improvement I would like to see is maybe more advertisement in the park of rental options of equipment and maybe a Rent-a-Ranger program.
- There were a couple of places where additional trail signs could have helped.
- The porta-potties in the horse camp area need to be cleaned on Monday after busy weekends.
- The density of the campground creates horrible air quality due to campfires.
- A little short on women's bathrooms but we managed.
- Main suggestion is 4 p.m. check in seems pretty late for a tent site.
- Wish we had sewer hookup.
- It seemed like we really had to search for information regarding how far the falls were from the camping area.
- I am biased against sharing the park with large groups of people such as family reunions, church groups or social clubs. There are many other places they can meet. They increase the noise level and park maintenance. The park should be reserved for people interested in wild life and plants, and for visitors who have come to see the falls (unique to the park).
- Better restroom facility at North Falls.
- Less expensive food / snacks.
- I would prefer closer garbage cans.
- More dining choices or a grocery store would be great.
- It would be very helpful to have restroom facilities (porta potty) somewhere along the 10-falls trail.
- We would never stay in the tent sites because they are so close together.
- A little crowded for 1 bathroom at North Falls.
- Fix or add water fountain at north lot.
- Just add some shade trees to the campground.
- Provide more educational material on the falls, geology, etc.
- Would like to see a camp store where we can purchase some groceries, camp supplies and personal items as there are no stores within easy distance to campsite. Also mentioning on website that there are no store facilities on premises would have been helpful to first time campers.
- More enforcement of leash requirements for dogs.
- Keep the campground bathrooms clean.
- Clean up public litter.
- Larger campsites and more divisions between sites.
- Less crowded campsite or more space or buffering between sites for privacy and less noise.
- Less crowds.
- More trails and more technical mountain biking trails.

- Less litter.
- More maps.
- More non-beef options at snack bar.
- Less park rangers in the camping area would make the park much more enjoyable.
- Let campers know that it is common courtesy not to cut through your neighbors campsite to go get water or use the bathroom.
- Let dogs go on all the trails.
- Let people take on leash dogs on the trails.
- On the website, let people who might consider swimming know that the swimming area is shallow and that the water is very cold.
- Let us check in whenever. During hot weather wanted to come before 8.
- Let well-mannered dogs on trails.
- Lighten up on those of us who are actually camping to enjoy each other's company at the end of the day.
- Limit dogs and control dogs.
- Maybe have a private river wading beach for the campground instead of the open to the public access.
- More information about elevation gains and approximate hiking times for trail segments would be helpful.
- Lower fees.
- Lower the fees for day use and bbq. Spent \$58.00 to have a bbq.
- Consider portable toilet at south entrance.
- Make a few more camping loops (100 -150 spots).
- Make it free with free parking.
- Make it more RV friendly.
- Make more of the trails pet friendly. We probably would not come back unless we can bring our little doggy with us on the hiking trails.
- Make sure people keep their dogs on a leash.
- Make sure that people who bring their dogs know that they need to clean up after them (we had two poop piles at our campsite from other people's dogs. Also, we had a Beagle that howled across from us. It would have been a more pleasant stay if pets were not allowed.
- Make the campsites a little more private.
- Make the campsites more private
- Make the tent camping sites more private
- Make people pay fines for dogs getting off the leash as my dog was attacked by another dog that was off leash at the swimming area.
- Maps and signage not always helpful.
- Maybe a few more hiking trails.
- Maybe a little more services, especially groceries, in the park. Silverton was a bit of a trek.

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- Maybe more porta potties.
 - Maybe some yurts.
 - Monitor campsites closer for the comfort of all. Abusive campers have no concern for other campers because there are no consequences.
 - Provide foliage buffers between campsites for better privacy.
 - Provide cell service closer to campground, but not in the campground, so someone doesn't have to travel so far to get service in case of family emergencies.
 - More activities for children.
 - More available yurts.
 - More barriers between campsites.
 - More bathroom and showers. Two bathrooms and two showers are not enough for the amount of people using the park.
 - Not a designated men and women's bathroom. Kind of grossed me out to use the bathroom after men had been in there.
 - The shower floors were always flooded and there is not enough hot water.
 - More bathrooms and clean the bathrooms / showers more often.
 - Showers in group sites.
 - More bathrooms and food options at the main lodge.
 - More bike trails.
 - More bike paths.
 - More camp sites.
 - More camping areas.
 - More campsites for tents.
 - More covered picnic areas.
 - More detailed local area maps.
 - More dog friendly trails would be awesome.
 - More educational signs regarding geology on trails.
 - More enforcement of those who bring dogs. The barking at all times was annoying.
 - More privacy between tent campsites would be nice.
 - The most improvement needed would be change from gravel to a natural surface for trails between campsites. When people go use the restroom in the middle of the night the gravel makes a lot of noise under the feet, thus waking up other campers.
 - More fishing access.
 - Full hookups in campground (sewer).
 - More restrooms with showers.
 - More garbage and recycling facilities.
 - More fishing areas for my spouse to want to return.
 - More garbage cans.
 - More garbage cans so hopefully people will use them.
 - More horse camping, with power, and showers like Stub Stewart.
 - More horse trails & trail maintenance for existing trails. Mud control.

- More mirrors and outlets in toilet area. A way to wipe off counters between uses, and a way to wash floor of bathroom between uses or way to keep floor away from shower dry.
- A few essential groceries.
- More opportunities to get close to the falls.
- More parking at falls sites.
- More parking near the actual camping. The overflow felt like it was miles away. We had to shuttle people back to the camp site.
- More parking spaces at North Falls.
- More pet friendly trails.
- Bathrooms closer to the cabins.
- More private campsites.
- More picnic tables at swimming area.
- More places to sit and rest during hikes.
- More portable toilets at the North group tent / RV campground.
- More privacy at campsites.
- More privacy between tent camp sites at the campground.
- More privacy between the campsites.
- More privacy in between campsites, they are literally on top of each other with no privacy.
- Registration needs to let campers in early and not turn them away.
- More privacy in sites. We had a pretty private site (#16) but the neighbor's RV was still right next to our camp fire.
- More privacy in tent sites.
- More private, farther spaced apart campsites.
- More ranger programs.
- Camp spots were dirty. They use to rake them but they do not anymore.
- Camp host were hard to find and did not want to interact.
- More rangers present on trails.
- More restrooms. We stayed in a cabin and they are further from the restrooms than the RV sites. Late night trips to the restrooms on the paths is an adventure.
- More road signs leading to park.
- Brochures in hotels and restaurants.
- More room between campsites is always good, but less capacity for us to enjoy.
- More RV dumps.
- Less barking dogs.
- No refrigerators outside RV campsites. Looks like you have full time people living there.
- Better signage on bike loop trail. Did it twice before we realized we were on the bike loop. No signs.
- More secluded campsites for 27 foot trailers.
- More secluded side areas to get away from people.
- More showers. Especially at the ranch.

- More signs. Less confusing map.
- More space between camp sites, everything else was great.
- More space between campsites with more trees and natural barriers between campsites. Also, inform campers that they should not yell across other people's campsites, and generally reminding people that we don't want to be surrounded by loud and obnoxious people when camping. Maybe have a child-free zone of the campground.
- More space between tent sites.
- More toilets at trail head.
- More toilets in the lodge please. Long lines.
- More options for choosing hike length (i.e. connections between paths) would be nice.
- More trash receptacles around the camp sites.
- More trees between campsites. Have a little convenience store to purchase little items and maybe a little snack shop for coffee and sandwiches.
- More vegetation between campsites.
- The main improvement I would want would be more space or screening between the tent campsites, there was a lot of light and noise from nearby campers at night, and the quiet hours didn't seem to be enforced very much.
- Move potty's closer to the handicapped shelter.
- My children want internet connection.
- My only reservation with staying at the campground is loud campers and campers not respectful of the quiet time.
- Remove jungle gym and playground. Individual kids can play among themselves and not be so rambunctious like they are on a school playground.
- Need a porta potty at Winter Falls parking lot.
- Need designated handicapped stalls. Identify changing areas so people don't use the handicapped stalls. The handicap stall should have a handicap only sign.
- Need more showers.
- The extra parking near site #73 is not well signed. We noticed during our stay that most cars drove into the parking lot thinking it was the road to the campground.
- No dogs in the park.
- No signs leading to the park. Signs only available at 5 miles radius of park.
- Not allowing park perimeter paths to intersect campsites.
- Better signing on trails, perhaps with mile markers.
- Come up with a consistent distance for the 10 Falls Trails, including out and back on the short trails to Double Falls and Upper North Falls. Your green brochure and the big white signs on the trail don't give the same distance for the full loop. And apparently the Friends of Silver Falls have come up with a third distance: 8.1 miles.
- Not so many big groups taking up 3 to 4 sites and making noise all day.
- Offer sewer hook ups. Dump station hoses need repairs or replacement.
- Our campsite was located next to the restrooms. There are some young plants bordering the site but it doesn't do enough to establish a real border. As a result, people were

constantly walking or biking right through the middle of our campsite. We had absolutely no privacy. Until those plants get much bigger, something else needs to be put into place to designate the site and its borders.

- Our stay was pretty much ruined by the large group of people in site 65, several sites away. There were around 20 people, mostly unsupervised kids, having loud and wide-ranging water balloon fights during the day (leaving their broken balloons everywhere), and then parking directly behind our site in the stream until late at night, screaming at the top of their lungs most of the time. This is not my idea of "peaceful" or "nature experience."
- It was very busy and noisy with families at campsite. We enjoy quieter camping places better.
- Please allow dogs on the trails.
- Please consider lifting the ban on dogs on the trails down by the falls.
- One of the bath houses is in desperate need up updating; tiles are coming up off the floor and is generally not clean.
- Please do a better job of trail maintenance including the bike trail.
- Please don't decrease any of the current services.
- Please make sure people clean up poop. Having it scattered around my campsite was off putting.
- Please make sure there are more persons to help and be present for visitors.
- Please, please, please enforce quiet hours. Thank you.
- Please preserve access to all people and keep costs affordable. State Parks are for everyone, not just for the wealthy.
- Possibly adding more camp sites so more people can enjoy it.
- Post signs way before hiking trails that no dogs allowed on that trail.
- Provide better signs to find the park. The first time I came to the park I approached from the Salem side the second time from the Bend side. Both times I had difficulty in finding the right exit to the park, very frustrating.
- Provide more signs within the park and around the trails. We walked the trail around the campsite and there were not many signs.
- Provide water by the last waterfalls parking lot.
- Providing healthy snack options in café or snack booth.
- Put another dump station for RV's at the main camping area.
- Quiet hours need to be enforced. Do not put large groups in amongst campers.
- Place play structure at one end of the park instead of the middle. Kids screamed for hours each morning and night making it very unpleasant for us.
- Reduce restrictions for dogs on trails. Allow dogs on trails while on leash.
- Reduce the time it takes to enter the park by providing an online tool to print State Park parking day pass when a camping reservation is made.
- Release camp no show sites at 10 pm rather than the next day. Lots of great sites are empty on busy Fridays.

- Remodel the restrooms.
- Restroom facilities along the hiking trails would be the only recommendation.
- Restructure the campsites to give more space between them. Plant some trees to provide privacy and noise buffer.
- I had to speak to people in two of the sites (the third served as a parking area for the people next to us) about being quiet after 10pm.
- Serve alcohol in the snack bar.
- Sewer hook-ups for RVs.
- Sewer hookups for the RV camp sites.
- Sewers for RV's.
- Signs at all the forks of the trail. I have a horrible sense of direction.
- Signs to camp with miles on the bike trail.
- Labels along the nature trail to help identify the plants and trees.
- More full hook-up sites.
- A nearby dump station close to the present loops A and B.
- An 18 hole disk golf course.
- Simpler to read trail info and a separate map for each trail with elevations. Clearer signs.
- Cut back foliage along trail.
- Tent campsites are too crowded. We felt like we were camping with our neighbors. We could hear normal level of talking inside the tent at the campsite next to ours.
- Tent campsites further apart.
- The bathroom and shower facilities need some work.
- There are windows up top that are kept locked trapping in all the moisture. The showers smell moldy.
- The bathrooms need a disinfectant spray down and some ventilation to prevent the mold buildup.
- The bathrooms for cabins 1-6 could be improved. They smelled and were not as clean as the camp site bathrooms.
- The biggest problem we had was after hours noise. Loud people and obviously intoxicated. Was surprised no one asked them to keep it down.
- The bike paths around the picnic shelter are too close to the shelter. We had people riding past our family reunion all day and looking in at what we were eating. Should have an alternative path around shelter D instead of right next to it.
- The campground needs to have more convenient garbage and recycling containers so you can take your trash to them daily.
- We had problems with animals getting into our garbage and scattering it all over.
- It could also use more bathrooms.
- Perhaps a well-placed sign or better markings on the pavement.
- I would be in favor of limiting those huge gatherings in the day use area because they are noisy and take up all the day use area for smaller groups

- The campsite we had (#45) was the worst with no room for our tent and the ground was rocky and uneven.
- The disabled site B2 needs some fill around the concreted area. There is too much of a ledge for someone in a wheelchair which could prove to be dangerous.
- The drinking water in our campsite in Loop B had a funny taste and odor.
- The group camp / RV sites need showers, power, and water. I would like to stay at a group site, but the lack of showers, power, and water are a show stopper.
- The porta potty was overflowing when we arrived. However, the park cleaned it up pretty fast once we mentioned it to them.
- I think that the check out and check in could be simplified for the group site.
- The signs inside the park were a bit confusing.
- How about some sort of shuttle bus to allow people to hike one way and then come back to the main parking lot.
- The handicap stall does not have a handicap only sign on them. The people use it to change clothes instead of the changing and shower area.
- Big dogs really ought to be required to be kept on leashes.
- The playground set in the tent camping section of the park needs to be addressed and reconsider changing the shape or angle of the slide. It seems dangerous as it currently is. Thank you.
- We arrived early and were yelled at by the volunteers for being early. I feel that check in time should be earlier, if we are paying for that day and the site is clean.
- During this camp trip, it was the worst I've ever been treated by staff. I'm hoping that was just a one-time event and when I return next time it will be like how I remembered.
- The restrooms near cabins 1 - 8 need to be updated like the one at the RV site. The RV site was a lot cleaner.
- The restrooms were horrid. They were very dirty and all the sanitary products used by Sunday afternoon. Monday early afternoon they were still dirty.
- The road to the horse campground is very narrow.
- Better signage when traveling from Silverton where to turn for the campground. The signs were hard to understand / read when driving and alone in the vehicle.
- More patrols for dogs on trails because we've seen a few of them.
- The trucks passing by using their "Jake Brakes" got really old each night.
- There could be more parking
- A few more ranger programs (geared to adults too) would be great -- geology and science of the area, etc.
- There should be more overflow parking for the campground area.
- Some rangers need more training on safety and customer relations. All other rangers were very courteous.
- There wasn't much present of a park ranger around the campsites and the showers could have been a little cleaner.
- This should not be the place for loud groups of people camping and drinking.

- The campfire smoke is a little out of control. What are the carbon emissions from this park?
- Toilet paper in women's restroom.
- Trail signs and clearer maps for the horse trails.
- Unable to use express check in via internet.
- Update cabins and update showers / bathrooms in RV circle and in cabin circle.
- More evening programs during the summer.
- Update trail maps so the cut-off trail is no longer labeled the Maple Grove trail.
- Disappointed in limitations to trails with my dogs. Warn people on reservation site of this strictness.
- Way more space between tent sites. There was zero privacy for such a large park and so little space for camping.
- Perhaps the park store / snack bar could have additional hours in the summer.
- We found several forks in path with no sign.
- Electric hook ups in the group RV camps might be nice.
- More shade in parking lot.
- The campsite that we stayed at was very small and we felt like the people next to us were too close.
- When we bought firewood there, it was so wet that we couldn't get it to even catch on fire.
- Our site was squeezed in between tents on one side and multiple RV's on the other and in the back. Most of these folks were together so it was extremely unpleasant and crowded.
- I thought some of the campsites were a little too close and open. Other than that it was great.
- Would like more shaded tables at swimming area, more secluded campsites, more RV sites with water and electricity, and camp host to deliver firewood.
- I was really surprised at how much campers loved to burn firewood. With not a lot of wind during our stay, it was so smoky we could barely breathe due to all the campfires.
- We tent camp in the RV spots because there is more privacy. So, more space / privacy in the tent sites. Also, we would camp here more often if we could get reservations.
- We thoroughly enjoyed staying in a cabin. It did look like the tent camping was close together. There weren't very many bathrooms, but I rarely had to wait. We did camp on a weekday.
- The only thing that we did not care for was the sewer access plate that was way too close. We had small kids running around so had to keep them on the other side and at times we could smell the sewer.
- We would never recommend to other people to stay in the A loop. The sites seem to be right on top of each other with very little privacy. Loop B is much better.
- Were very cramped in site #71 between RV's with a large group that was a bit rowdy. Wish we had just a bit more space because we were in a tent and went to bed early.
- I really did not like the obnoxious blower mid-day when I was cooking lunch. Thanks.

-
- When staying at the cabin there were keyed restroom and shower facilities. The shower was very poor.
 - When we checked in, there was no one at the front gate. We checked in around 2:00 in the afternoon. I thought this was unusual. Having someone at the gate is important.
 - When we visit the wilderness, we do not like to have people so close. Cabins or tent sites that have more privacy would be great.
 - While we were there we visited the nature store for souvenirs. They were out of stock on almost every T-shirt. You could have made more money had the store been properly stocked for the summer season.
 - Widen the approach road (Hwy 22).
 - Winter Falls needs port a potty and road.
 - Better cell service and opportunity for wireless.
 - Possibly more bathrooms in the campground areas.
 - Wish we didn't have to reserve 9 months in advance to get a good site. So, maybe make it bigger.
 - You need better trail signs to North Falls. At the fork it says rim trail and canyon trail. It doesn't say North Falls until you're down canyon trail about 200 ft.

APPENDIX B: QUESTIONNAIRES

**Day Visitor Experiences and Perceptions
at Silver Falls State Park**



Please Complete this Survey and Return it as Soon as Possible

Participation is Voluntary and Responses are Anonymous

Thank You for Your Participation

A Study Conducted by:



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

We are conducting this survey to learn about your experiences at Silver Falls State Park. Your input is important and will assist managers improve your experiences at this park. **Once you have completed this survey, please return it as soon as possible.**

1. Before this trip, had you ever visited Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - No
 - Yes → if yes, how many day trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (write number) _____ trip(s)

2. How many hours did you spend at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write number) _____ hour(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Silver Falls State Park on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Hiking or walking	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Playing soccer	<input type="checkbox"/> O. Fishing
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> I. Outdoor photography	<input type="checkbox"/> P. Visiting historic sites
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Running or jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Disc golf	<input type="checkbox"/> Q. Visiting nature store
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Bicycling on local roads	<input type="checkbox"/> K. Sightseeing	<input type="checkbox"/> R. Ranger-led program(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Bicycling on trails	<input type="checkbox"/> L. Picnicking or barbecuing	<input type="checkbox"/> S. Other (write response) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> F. Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/> M. Bird or wildlife watching	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> G. Playing softball / baseball	<input type="checkbox"/> N. Swimming / wading	_____

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write a letter that matches your response)
 Letter for primary activity _____

5. Which of the following best describes the purpose of your trip? (check **ONE**)
 - Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – this park was a side trip
 - Some other reason

6. About how far from your home did you travel to get to this park? (write number of miles) _____ mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Silver Falls State Park in the future? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Unlikely Unlikely Neither Likely Very Likely

12. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1	2	3	4	5
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Absence of litter.	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	1	2	3	4	5
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of things to do.	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Personal safety.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	3	4	5
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	2	3	4	5

13. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle a number for EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1	2	3	4	5
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Absence of litter.	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	1	2	3	4	5
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of things to do.	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Personal safety.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	3	4	5
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	2	3	4	5

14. To what extent do you *oppose or support* each of the following possible management actions at Silver Falls State Park?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	1	2	3	4	5
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more group picnic areas.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more paved trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more trash cans.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more recycling containers.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more information / education about nature, history, or archeology.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more enclosed shelters.	1	2	3	4	5
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	1	2	3	4	5
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	1	2	3	4	5
Make the park more pet friendly.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	1	2	3	4	5
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	1	2	3	4	5
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	1	2	3	4	5
Close this park to all recreation / tourism activities.	1	2	3	4	5
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	1	2	3	4	5

As agency budgets for management of this park decrease over time, we may be faced with difficult decisions related to service reductions. Before making any changes, however, we feel that it is important to know what changes would be supported or opposed by current visitors. As a result, the following questions list various hypothetical changes that managers could make in the future. Please indicate your level of opposition or support to these possible changes.

15. To what extent would you *oppose or support* each of the following possible service reductions at Silver Falls State Park?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	1	2	3	4	5
Fewer ranger patrols.	1	2	3	4	5
Fewer ranger-led programs.	1	2	3	4	5
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	1	2	3	4	5
Reduced janitorial services.	1	2	3	4	5
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	1	2	3	4	5

16. To what extent did you feel crowded at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**circle a number**)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded	

17. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? _____ person(s)

18. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**) No Yes

19. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

- No
 Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**) Hearing Sight Walking
 Learning Other _____

20. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park, about how often did you obtain information from each of the following sources when making your decision? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Never		Sometimes		Often
A. Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon).	1	2	3	4	5
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	1	2	3	4	5
C. Brochures.	1	2	3	4	5
D. Newspapers.	1	2	3	4	5
E. Magazines.	1	2	3	4	5
F. Books.	1	2	3	4	5
G. Television.	1	2	3	4	5
H. Videos / DVDs.	1	2	3	4	5
I. Radio.	1	2	3	4	5
J. Community organization or church.	1	2	3	4	5
K. Health care providers.	1	2	3	4	5
L. Work.	1	2	3	4	5
M. Friends or family members.	1	2	3	4	5
N. Highway signs.	1	2	3	4	5
O. Previous visit.	1	2	3	4	5
P. Other (write response) _____	1	2	3	4	5

21. From the list of sources in question 20 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter _____

22. When planning your visit to Silver Falls State Park, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

- Yes
 No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) _____

23. How did you get to Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**check ONE**)

- My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)
- Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)
- Other (write response) _____ → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)

24. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what would you have done? (**check ONE**)

- Gone somewhere else for the same activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? _____ miles(s)
- Gone somewhere else for a different activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? _____ miles(s)
- Come back another time
- Stayed home
- Gone to work at my regular job
- Something else (none of these)

25. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? (**list park names**) _____

26. Would you recommend a Silver Falls State Park visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

- Yes
- No → if no, why not? (**write response**)

27. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park? (write response)

28. If Oregon State Parks offered weekend programs for beginners to learn basic outdoor skills, would you/your family consider participating in such a program at a nearby park?

- No
- Yes → if yes, what types of activities would you/your family be interested in learning about? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

- Birding Disc golfing Hiking Mountain biking Scenic bicycling on roads
- Camping Fishing Horseback riding Rafting Stargazing
- Canoeing Geocaching Kayaking Rock climbing Other _____

29. During your visit to this park, did you or members of your personal group use a concession service/activity such as a guided trip/tour (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic, historic) or equipment rental (e.g., kayak, bicycle)?

- No
- Yes → if yes, what type of concession service/activity (write in response)

30. Did you participate in any moderate physical activity during this trip (for example walking, bicycling, canoeing at a moderate pace)? **(check ONE)**

- No
- Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in moderate physical activity for this trip? _____ minutes

31. Did you participate in any vigorous physical activity during this trip (for example jogging, walking, or bicycling at a vigorous pace, breaking a sweat, heart beating rapidly)? **(check ONE)**

- No
- Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in vigorous physical activity for this trip? _____ minutes

32. Is your level of physical activity at Silver Falls State Park more than, less than, or about the same as your level of physical activity in your day-to-day life? **(check ONE)**

- My physical activity is MORE at Silver Falls State Park than my daily life.
- My physical activity is LESS at Silver Falls State Park than in my daily life.
- My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Silver Falls State Park as it is in my daily life.

33. To what degree did this Silver Falls State Park visit result in the following health benefits for you? **(circle one number for EACH)**

	Not at all					A great deal
A. Reducing your stress.	1	2	3	4	5	
B. Improving your level of physical fitness.	1	2	3	4	5	
C. Improving your physical health.	1	2	3	4	5	
D. Improving your mental health.	1	2	3	4	5	
E. Reducing your anxiety.	1	2	3	4	5	

34. For each of the following categories, please estimate how much you and other members of your party spent and plan to spend on this trip both inside the Park and within **30 miles** of Silver Falls State Park. **Please round off to the nearest dollar.**

- Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging: \$ _____ .00
- Camping: \$ _____ .00
- Restaurants and bars: \$ _____ .00
- Groceries: \$ _____ .00
- Gasoline and oil: \$ _____ .00
- Park entry, parking, or recreation use fees: \$ _____ .00
- Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental): \$ _____ .00
- Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous: \$ _____ .00

35. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**check ONE**)

No

Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?
 _____ night(s)

36. Considering the amount that you spent on this trip, how much more would you have spent on this trip before deciding not to take it? \$_____

37. Are you: (**check ONE**) Male Female

38. How old are you? (**write response**) _____ years old

39. Which of the following best describes you? (**check ONE**)

White (Caucasian)

Hispanic / Latino

American Indian or Alaskan Native

Other (write response) _____

Black / African American

Asian

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander _____

40. What language is spoken most often at your home? (**check ONE**)

English

Spanish

Russian

Other (write response) _____

41. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town _____ State _____ Country _____ Zipcode _____

42. Which of these broad categories best describes your *current annual household income before taxes*? (**check ONE**)

Less than \$10,000

\$90,000 to \$109,999

\$10,000 to \$29,999

\$110,000 to \$129,999

\$30,000 to \$49,999

\$130,000 to \$149,999

\$50,000 to \$69,999

\$150,000 to \$169,999

\$70,000 to \$89,999

\$170,000 or more

Please tell us how we can improve Silver Falls State Park:

Thank you, your input is important! ***Please return this survey as soon as possible.***

Overnight Visitor Experiences and Perceptions at Silver Falls State Park



Please Complete this Survey and Return it as Soon as Possible

Participation is Voluntary and Responses are Anonymous

Thank You for Your Participation

A Study Conducted by:



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

We are conducting this survey to learn about your experiences at Silver Falls State Park. Your input is important and will assist managers improve your experiences at this park. **Once you complete this survey, please return it as soon as possible.**

1. Before this trip, had you ever visited Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - No
 - Yes → if yes, how many trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (write number) _____ trip(s)

2. How many nights in a row did you spend at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write number) _____ night(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Silver Falls State Park on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Hiking or walking	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Playing soccer	<input type="checkbox"/> O. Swimming / wading
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> I. Outdoor photography	<input type="checkbox"/> P. Fishing
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Running or jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Disc golf	<input type="checkbox"/> Q. Visiting historic sites
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Bicycling on local roads	<input type="checkbox"/> K. Sightseeing	<input type="checkbox"/> R. Visiting nature store
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Bicycling on trails	<input type="checkbox"/> L. Camping	<input type="checkbox"/> S. Ranger-led program(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> F. Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/> M. Picnicking or barbecuing	<input type="checkbox"/> T. Other (write response) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> G. Playing softball / baseball	<input type="checkbox"/> N. Bird or wildlife watching	_____

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write a letter that matches your response)
 Letter for primary activity _____

5. Which of the following best describes the purpose of your trip? (check **ONE**)
 - Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – this park was a side trip
 - Some other reason

6. About how far from your home did you travel to get to this park? (write number of miles) _____ mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Silver Falls State Park in the future? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Unlikely Unlikely Neither Likely Very Likely

12. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important	2	Neither	3	Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1	2	3	4	5
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Absence of litter.	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	1	2	3	4	5
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of things to do.	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Personal safety.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	3	4	5
Comfort of campsites.	1	2	3	4	5
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	1	2	3	4	5
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	2	3	4	5

13. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle a number for EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1	2	3	4	5
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	2	3	4	5
Absence of litter.	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	1	2	3	4	5
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of things to do.	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Personal safety.	1	2	3	4	5
Number of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	1	2	3	4	5
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	3	4	5
Comfort of campsites.	1	2	3	4	5
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	1	2	3	4	5
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	2	3	4	5

14. To what extent did you feel crowded at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**circle a number**)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded			Moderately Crowded		Extremely Crowded	

15. To what extent do you **oppose or support** each of the following possible management actions at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	1	2	3	4	5
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more group picnic areas.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more paved trails.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more trash cans.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more recycling containers.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more information / education about nature, history, or archeology.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide enclosed shelters.	1	2	3	4	5
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	1	2	3	4	5
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	1	2	3	4	5
Make the park more pet friendly.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	1	2	3	4	5
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	1	2	3	4	5
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	1	2	3	4	5
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	1	2	3	4	5
Close this park to all recreation / tourism activities.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more space between campsites.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more walk-in / cart-in campsites.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more tent camping in developed campgrounds.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide campsites that accommodate both RV and tent camping.	1	2	3	4	5
Provide more group camping areas.	1	2	3	4	5
Increase enforcement of campground quiet hours (10 p.m. – 7 a.m.)	1	2	3	4	5
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	1	2	3	4	5

16. Did you make your reservation for your recent overnight visit to Silver Falls State Park using the Oregon State Parks telephone or internet reservation system? (**check ONE**)

- Telephone reservation system
 Internet reservation system
 I did not make the reservation

17. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the reservation system for your trip to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

- Very Dissatisfied
 Dissatisfied
 Neither
 Satisfied
 Very Satisfied
 Didn't make reservation

As agency budgets for management of this park decrease over time, we may be faced with difficult decisions related to service reductions. Before making any changes, however, we feel that it is important to know what changes would be supported or opposed by current visitors. As a result, the following questions list various hypothetical changes that managers could make in the future. Please indicate your level of opposition or support to these possible changes.

18. To what extent would you **oppose or support** each of the following possible service reductions at Silver Falls State Park? **(circle one number for EACH)**

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	1	2	3	4	5
Fewer ranger patrols.	1	2	3	4	5
Fewer ranger-led programs.	1	2	3	4	5
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	1	2	3	4	5
Reduced janitorial services.	1	2	3	4	5
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	1	2	3	4	5

19. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? _____ person(s)

20. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Silver Falls State Park? **(check ONE)** No Yes

21. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

No

Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? **(check ALL THAT APPLY)** Hearing Sight Walking
 Learning Other _____

22. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what would you have done? **(check ONE)**

- Gone somewhere else for the same activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? _____ miles(s)
- Gone somewhere else for a different activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? _____ miles(s)
- Come back another time
- Stayed home
- Gone to work at my regular job
- Something else (none of these)

23. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? **(list park names)** _____

24. How did you get to Silver Falls State Park on this trip? **(check ONE)**

- My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)
- Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)
- Other (write response) _____ → how many total people were in the vehicle? _____ person(s)

25. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park, about how often did you obtain information from each of the following sources when making your decision? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Never		Sometimes		Often
A. Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon).	1	2	3	4	5
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	1	2	3	4	5
C. Brochures.	1	2	3	4	5
D. Newspapers.	1	2	3	4	5
E. Magazines.	1	2	3	4	5
F. Books.	1	2	3	4	5
G. Television.	1	2	3	4	5
H. Videos / DVDs.	1	2	3	4	5
I. Radio.	1	2	3	4	5
J. Community organization or church.	1	2	3	4	5
K. Health care providers.	1	2	3	4	5
L. Work.	1	2	3	4	5
M. Friends or family members.	1	2	3	4	5
N. Highway signs.	1	2	3	4	5
O. Previous visit.	1	2	3	4	5
P. Other (write response) _____	1	2	3	4	5

26. From the list of sources in question 25 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter _____

27. When planning your visit to Silver Falls State Park, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

Yes

No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) _____

28. Would you recommend a Silver Falls State Park overnight visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

Yes

No → if no, why not? (**write response**) _____

29. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park? (write response)

30. What type of campsite(s) did you use on your most recent trip to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

RV campsite

Cabin

Group RV camp

Hiker / biker campsite

Tent campsite

Yurt

Group tent camp

Other (write response) _____

31. If you were to stay at a RV campsite, what type of power supply would you require? (**check ONE**)

- 30 amps
 50 amps
 100 amps
 No electric power needed

32. If you were to stay at an RV campsite, how important are electric, water, and sewer hookups? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Electric hookups.	1	2	3	4	5
Water hookups.	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer hookups.	1	2	3	4	5

33. If Oregon State Parks offered weekend programs for beginners to learn basic outdoor skills, would you/your family consider participating in such a program at a nearby park?

- No
 Yes → if yes, what types of activities would you/your family be interested in learning about? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)
- Birding Disc golfing Hiking
 Mountain biking Scenic bicycling on roads
 Camping Fishing
 Horseback riding Rafting
 Stargazing
 Canoeing Geocaching Kayaking
 Rock climbing Other _____

34. During your visit to this park, did you or members of your personal group use a concession service/activity such as a guided trip/tour (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic, historic) or equipment rental (e.g., kayak, bicycle)?

- No
 Yes → if yes, what type of concession service/activity (write in response)
-

35. Did you participate in any moderate physical activity during this trip (for example walking, bicycling, canoeing at a moderate pace)? (**check ONE**)

- No
 Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in moderate physical activity for this trip? _____ minutes

36. Did you participate in any vigorous physical activity during this trip (for example jogging, walking, or bicycling at a vigorous pace, breaking a sweat, heart beating rapidly)? (**check ONE**)

- No
 Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in vigorous physical activity for this trip? _____ minutes

37. Is your level of physical activity at Silver Falls State Park more than, less than, or about the same as your level of physical activity in your day-to-day life? (**check ONE**)

- My physical activity is MORE at Silver Falls State Park than my daily life.
 My physical activity is LESS at Silver Falls State Park than in my daily life.
 My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Silver Falls State Park as it is in my daily life.

38. To what degree did this Silver Falls State Park visit result in the following health benefits for you? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not at all				A great deal
A. Reducing your stress.	1	2	3	4	5
B. Improving your level of physical fitness.	1	2	3	4	5
C. Improving your physical health.	1	2	3	4	5
D. Improving your mental health.	1	2	3	4	5
E. Reducing your anxiety.	1	2	3	4	5

39. For each of the following categories, please estimate how much you and other members of your party spent on your trip both inside the Park and within **30 miles** of Silver Falls State Park. *Please round off to the nearest dollar.*

- Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging: \$ _____ .00
- Camping: \$ _____ .00
- Restaurants and bars: \$ _____ .00
- Groceries: \$ _____ .00
- Gasoline and oil: \$ _____ .00
- Park entry, parking, or recreation use fees: \$ _____ .00
- Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental): \$ _____ .00
- Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous: \$ _____ .00

40. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**check ONE**)

- No
- Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?
_____ night(s)

41. Considering the amount that you spent on this trip, how much more would you have spent on this trip before deciding not to take it? \$ _____

42. Are you: (**check ONE**) Male Female

43. How old are you? (**write response**) _____ years old

44. Which of the following best describes you? (**check ONE**)

- White (Caucasian) Hispanic / Latino American Indian or Alaskan Native Other (write response)
- Black / African American Asian Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander _____

45. What language is spoken most often at your home? (**check ONE**)

- English Spanish Russian Other (write response) _____

46. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town _____ State _____ Country _____ Zipcode _____

47. Which of these broad categories best describes your *current annual household income before taxes*? (**check ONE**)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$90,000 to \$109,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 to \$29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$110,000 to \$129,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000 to \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$130,000 to \$149,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$69,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 to \$169,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$70,000 to \$89,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$170,000 or more |

Please tell us how we can improve Silver Falls State Park:

Thank you, your input is important! *Please return this survey as soon as possible.*

APPENDIX C: UNCOLLAPSED PERCENTAGES

**Day Visitor Experiences and Perceptions
at Silver Falls State Park**



Please Complete this Survey and Return it as Soon as Possible

Participation is Voluntary and Responses are Anonymous

Thank You for Your Participation

A Study Conducted by:



We are conducting this survey to learn about your experiences at Silver Falls State Park. Your input is important and will assist managers improve your experiences at this park. **Once you have completed this survey, please return it as soon as possible.**

1. Before this trip, had you ever visited Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)
 - 39% No
 - 49% Yes → if yes, how many day trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (write number) see report trip(s)

2. How many hours did you spend at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write number) M=3.71 hour(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Silver Falls State Park on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

97% A. Hiking or walking	2% H. Playing soccer	1% O. Fishing
9% B. Dog walking	34% I. Outdoor photography	19% P. Visiting historic sites
7% C. Running or jogging	2% J. Disc golf	28% Q. Visiting nature store
3% D. Bicycling on local roads	45% K. Sightseeing	3% R. Ranger-led program(s)
5% E. Bicycling on trails	27% L. Picnicking or barbecuing	8% S. Other (write response) _____
<1% F. Horseback riding	16% M. Bird or wildlife watching	_____
1% G. Playing softball / baseball	16% N. Swimming / wading	

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (write a letter that matches your response)

Letter for primary activity see report

5. Which of the following best describes the purpose of your trip? (check **ONE**)
 - 79% Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - 11% Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - 7% Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – this park was a side trip
 - 3% Some other reason

6. About how far from your home did you travel to get to this park? (write number of miles) M=350.42 mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)

3% Very Dissatisfied	0% Dissatisfied	1% Neither	16% Satisfied	81% Very Satisfied
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8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied	0% Dissatisfied	1% Neither	16% Satisfied	82% Very Satisfied
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9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied	2% Dissatisfied	5% Neither	36% Satisfied	56% Very Satisfied
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10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Silver Falls State Park? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied	2% Dissatisfied	7% Neither	32% Satisfied	57% Very Satisfied
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11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Silver Falls State Park in the future? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Unlikely	2% Unlikely	4% Neither	25% Likely	67% Very Likely
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12. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	< 1%	0%	3%	36%	61%
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	1	14	44	40
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	0	1	7	39	53
Absence of litter.	0	0	4	31	65
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	5	26	39	29
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	2	12	39	47
Number of park trails.	< 1	1	15	43	41
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	0	< 1	7	69	54
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	9	10	32	26	23
Facilities for groups to gather.	12	16	29	24	19
Variety of things to do.	6	9	30	32	24
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	12	35	50
Personal safety.	2	1	12	38	47
Number of information / education programs or materials.	3	9	31	38	19
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	3	7	25	40	25
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	2	5	17	42	34
Signs about directions within the park.	1	2	7	39	51
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	15	39	43
Parking for vehicles.	1	1	14	40	44
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	1	12	35	51

13. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle a number for EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1%	1%	2%	33%	64%
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	4	12	43	40
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	2	5	11	35	47
Absence of litter.	< 1	2	5	38	54
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	< 1	2	18	36	44
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	< 1	< 1	13	32	54
Number of park trails.	< 1	1	5	40	53
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	1	1	4	34	60
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	< 1	2	26	37	36
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	0	31	32	36
Variety of things to do.	1	< 1	19	39	41
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	5	16	36	42
Personal safety.	< 1	< 1	5	42	52
Number of information / education programs or materials.	< 1	3	22	40	35
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	< 1	2	22	38	37
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	1	19	42	38
Signs about directions within the park.	1	4	11	45	39
Signs about directions to the park.	1	3	12	44	41
Parking for vehicles.	1	4	10	41	43
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	1	6	37	55

14. To what extent do you **oppose or support** each of the following possible management actions at Silver Falls State Park?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	< 1%	< 1%	16%	46%	38%
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	< 1	< 1	14	45	41
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	6	12	40	31	12
Provide more group picnic areas.	2	8	46	32	13
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	1	1	25	45	29
Provide more paved trails.	5	15	37	30	15
Provide more trash cans.	1	4	32	48	15
Provide more recycling containers.	1	2	30	44	24
Provide more information / education about nature, history, or archeology.	< 1	2	31	48	19
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	0	4	46	36	15
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	16	19	31	20	14
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	7	16	42	23	13
Provide more enclosed shelters.	2	9	56	24	8
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	< 1	1	38	40	21
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	2	6	20	30	42
Make the park more pet friendly.	8	10	39	28	16
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	< 1	3	36	37	25
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	1	3	30	39	27
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	13	21	37	23	7
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	7	15	38	28	13
Close this park to all recreation / tourism activities.	49	17	17	11	6
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	1	5	40	33	21

As agency budgets for management of this park decrease over time, we may be faced with difficult decisions related to service reductions. Before making any changes, however, we feel that it is important to know what changes would be supported or opposed by current visitors. As a result, the following questions list various hypothetical changes that managers could make in the future. Please indicate your level of opposition or support to these possible changes.

15. To what extent would you **oppose or support** each of the following possible service reductions at Silver Falls State Park?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	29%	39%	22%	8%	1%
Fewer ranger patrols.	20	34	33	11	2
Fewer ranger-led programs.	14	24	39	18	5
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	26	36	29	8	1
Reduced janitorial services.	28	40	25	6	1
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	24	32	29	13	3

16. To what extent did you feel crowded at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**circle a number**)

18	15	18	7	12	20	6	3	<1
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded		Extremely Crowded		

17. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? *see report* person(s)

18. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**) 86% No 14% Yes

19. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

86% No

14% Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**) 25% Hearing 4% Sight 75% Walking
6% Learning 17% Other *see report*

20. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park, about how often did you obtain information from each of the following sources when making your decision? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Never		Sometimes		Often
A. Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon).	21%	6%	25%	16%	31%
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	56	13	19	7	6
C. Brochures.	36	9	28	14	13
D. Newspapers.	55	12	23	7	3
E. Magazines.	55	12	22	9	3
F. Books.	51	13	22	10	4
G. Television.	64	16	15	4	2
H. Videos / DVDs.	71	13	13	2	2
I. Radio.	68	14	15	2	2
J. Community organization or church.	69	14	12	3	2
K. Health care providers.	75	12	10	2	1
L. Work.	62	13	16	7	3
M. Friends or family members.	19	4	26	24	27
N. Highway signs.	34	10	30	19	8
O. Previous visit.	30	3	17	18	32
P. Other (write response) _____	62	5	20	6	8

21. From the list of sources in question 20 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter *see report*

22. When planning your visit to Silver Falls State Park, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

96% Yes

5% No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) _____

23. How did you get to Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**check ONE**)

- 80% My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? M = 2.75 person(s)
- 11% Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? M = 3.29 person(s)
- 10% Other (write response) _____ → how many total people were in the vehicle? M = 4.93 person(s)

24. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what would you have done? (**check ONE**)

- 47% Gone somewhere else for the same activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? M=218miles(s)
- 9% Gone somewhere else for a different activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? M=301 miles(s)
- 18% Come back another time
- 15% Stayed home
- 1% Gone to work at my regular job
- 11% Something else (none of these)

25. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? (**list park names**) _____ see report _____

26. Would you recommend a Silver Falls State Park visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

- 99% Yes
- 1% No → if no, why not? (**write response**) _____ see report _____

27. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park? (write response)

_____ see report _____

28. If Oregon State Parks offered weekend programs for beginners to learn basic outdoor skills, would you/your family consider participating in such a program at a nearby park?

- 50% No
 - 50% Yes → if yes, what types of activities would you/your family be interested in learning about? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)
- | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 19% Birding | 8% Disc golfing | 29% Hiking | 12% Mountain biking | 13% Scenic bicycling on roads |
| 21% Camping | 17% Fishing | 16% Horseback riding | 18% Rafting | 25% Stargazing |
| 23% Canoeing | 14% Geocaching | 22% Kayaking | 16% Rock climbing | 4% Other _____ |

29. During your visit to this park, did you or members of your personal group use a concession service/activity such as a guided trip/tour (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic, historic) or equipment rental (e.g., kayak, bicycle)?

- 92% No
 - 8% Yes → if yes, what type of concession service/activity (write in response)
- _____ see report _____

30. Did you participate in any moderate physical activity during this trip (for example walking, bicycling, canoeing at a moderate pace)? (check **ONE**)

14% No

86% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in moderate physical activity for this trip? M=120 minutes

31. Did you participate in any vigorous physical activity during this trip (for example jogging, walking, or bicycling at a vigorous pace, breaking a sweat, heart beating rapidly)? (check **ONE**)

61% No

39% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in vigorous physical activity for this trip? M=76 minutes

32. Is your level of physical activity at Silver Falls State Park more than, less than, or about the same as your level of physical activity in your day-to-day life? (check **ONE**)

57% My physical activity is MORE at Silver Falls State Park than my daily life.

10% My physical activity is LESS at Silver Falls State Park than in my daily life.

33% My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Silver Falls State Park as it is in my daily life.

33. To what degree did this Silver Falls State Park visit result in the following health benefits for you? (circle one number for **EACH**)

	Not at all				A great deal
A. Reducing your stress.	2%	2%	11%	31%	55%
B. Improving your level of physical fitness.	2	5	17	36	40
C. Improving your physical health.	2	5	18	38	39
D. Improving your mental health.	2	1	11	34	51
E. Reducing your anxiety.	3	5	16	29	47

34. For each of the following categories, please estimate how much you and other members of your party spent and plan to spend on this trip both inside the Park and within **30 miles** of Silver Falls State Park. **Please round off to the nearest dollar.**

Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging:	<u>See report.00</u>
Camping:	\$ <u> </u> .00
Restaurants and bars:	\$ <u> </u> .00
Groceries:	\$ <u> </u> .00
Gasoline and oil:	\$ <u> </u> .00
Park entry, parking, or recreation use fees:	\$ <u> </u> .00
Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental):	\$ <u> </u> .00
Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous:	\$ <u> </u> .00

35. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**check ONE**)

71% No

29% Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?

M=3.77 night(s)

36. Considering the amount that you spent on this trip, how much more would you have spent on this trip before deciding not to take it? \$ M=81.01

37. Are you: (**check ONE**) 45% Male 56% Female

38. How old are you? (**write response**) M = 47.58 years old

39. Which of the following best describes you? (**check ONE**)

89% White (Caucasian) 3% Hispanic / Latino 1% American Indian or Alaskan Native 2% Other (write response)

<1% Black / African American 5% Asian 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander _____

40. What language is spoken most often at your home? (**check ONE**)

97% English 1% Spanish 0% Russian 2% Other (write response) _____

41. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town _____ State _____ Country _____ Zipcode see report

42. Which of these broad categories best describes your *current annual household income before taxes*? (**check ONE**)

5% Less than \$10,000 12% \$90,000 to \$109,999

9% \$10,000 to \$29,999 8% \$110,000 to \$129,999

14% \$30,000 to \$49,999 5% \$130,000 to \$149,999

17% \$50,000 to \$69,999 6% \$150,000 to \$169,999

17% \$70,000 to \$89,999 8% \$170,000 or more

Please tell us how we can improve Silver Falls State Park:

see report

Thank you, your input is important! **Please return this survey as soon as possible.**

Overnight Visitor Experiences and Perceptions at Silver Falls State Park



Please Complete this Survey and Return it as Soon as Possible

Participation is Voluntary and Responses are Anonymous

Thank You for Your Participation

A Study Conducted by:



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

We are conducting this survey to learn about your experiences at Silver Falls State Park. Your input is important and will assist managers improve your experiences at this park. **Once you complete this survey, please return it as soon as possible.**

1. Before this trip, had you ever visited Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)
 - 35% No
 - 65% Yes → if yes, how many trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (**write number**) *M=1.54* trip(s)

2. How many nights in a row did you spend at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**write number**) *M=2.37* night(s)

3. Please check all recreation activities you did at Silver Falls State Park on this trip. (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

6% A. Hiking or walking	4% H. Playing soccer	44% O. Swimming / wading
28% B. Dog walking	44% I. Outdoor photography	3% P. Fishing
6% C. Running or jogging	1% J. Disc golf	17% Q. Visiting historic sites
15% D. Bicycling on local roads	53% K. Sightseeing	34% R. Visiting nature store
22% E. Bicycling on trails	89% L. Camping	14% S. Ranger-led program(s)
3% F. Horseback riding	46% M. Picnicking or barbecuing	4% T. Other (write response) _____
2% G. Playing softball/baseball	19% N. Bird or wildlife watching	_____

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**write a letter that matches your response**)

Letter for primary activity see report

5. Which of the following best describes the purpose of your trip? (**check ONE**)
 - 80% Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - 15% Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - 4% Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – this park was a side trip
 - 1% Some other reason

6. About how far from your home did you travel to get to this park? (**write number of miles**) *M=246.87* mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

1% Very Dissatisfied	1% Dissatisfied	1% Neither	35% Satisfied	62% Very Satisfied
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8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

<i><</i> 1% Very Dissatisfied	1% Dissatisfied	1% Neither	25% Satisfied	73% Very Satisfied
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9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

1% Very Dissatisfied	3% Dissatisfied	3% Neither	45% Satisfied	48% Very Satisfied
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10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

<i><</i> 1% Very Dissatisfied	1% Dissatisfied	7% Neither	47% Satisfied	45% Very Satisfied
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11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Silver Falls State Park in the future? (**check ONE**)

1% Very Unlikely	3% Unlikely	5% Neither	31% Likely	61% Very Likely
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12. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	0%	0%	2%	35%	63%
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	1	1	8	48	42
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	< 1	2	30	67
Absence of litter.	0	0	1	40	59
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	1	20	53	25
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	< 1	< 1	6	47	46
Number of park trails.	< 1	1	14	49	36
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	< 1	< 1	9	48	43
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	14	13	42	20	11
Facilities for groups to gather.	19	12	39	19	12
Variety of things to do.	2	5	19	50	24
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	< 1	1	13	43	43
Personal safety.	< 1	2	7	35	57
Number of information / education programs or materials.	4	8	39	39	10
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	3	6	33	43	15
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	2	4	23	45	26
Signs about directions within the park.	< 1	2	10	52	36
Signs about directions to the park.	1	4	20	45	30
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	17	54	26
Comfort of campsites.	< 1	1	5	41	53
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	1	< 1	6	59	45
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	< 1	1	6	44	49

13. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle a number for EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	< 1%	1%	2%	41%	57%
Number of toilets / bathrooms.	< 1	5	7	50	38
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets / bathrooms.	1	5	8	45	41
Absence of litter.	< 1	1	1	43	55
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	1	11	49	38
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	2	2	10	40	47
Number of park trails.	< 1	< 1	10	40	47
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	< 1	1	4	44	50
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	1	1	39	34	26
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	1	46	25	27
Variety of things to do.	< 1	1	13	46	40
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	2	5	15	43	35
Personal safety.	< 1	< 1	6	48	45
Number of information / education programs or materials.	1	1	29	44	26
Quality of information / education programs or materials.	< 1	2	27	45	26
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	< 1	1	25	48	26
Signs about directions within the park.	1	8	13	51	27
Signs about directions to the park.	2	6	13	52	28
Parking for vehicles.	1	2	10	52	34
Comfort of campsites.	1	3	6	47	43
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	1	2	6	46	45
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	< 1	2	5	48	45

14. To what extent did you feel crowded at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? (**circle a number**)

20%	16%	17%	5%	9%	17%	8%	4%	4%
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded			Moderately Crowded		Extremely Crowded	

15. To what extent do you **oppose or support** each of the following possible management actions at Silver Falls State Park? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	1%	2%	24%	49%	24%
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	1	1	21	52	25
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	5	14	43	28	11
Provide more group picnic areas.	1	8	62	25	4
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	1	2	34	43	20
Provide more paved trails.	3	13	46	30	8
Provide more trash cans.	1	3	42	40	14
Provide more recycling containers.	1	2	35	45	18
Provide more information / education about nature, history, or archeology.	1	1	44	42	12
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	1	3	50	35	11
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	11	16	26	25	21
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	7	11	49	23	10
Provide enclosed shelters.	2	8	62	23	5
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	1	1	46	36	16
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	4	8	25	30	34
Make the park more pet friendly.	4	12	44	26	14
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	1	2	36	40	21
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	2	4	43	34	17
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	7	19	44	22	8
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	9	17	38	24	12
Close this park to all recreation / tourism activities.	57	20	18	5	1
Provide more space between campsites.	1	5	35	30	29
Provide more walk-in / cart-in campsites.	2	6	60	23	9
Provide more tent camping in developed campgrounds.	2	6	49	29	14
Provide campsites that accommodate both RV and tent camping.	3	6	40	35	16
Provide more group camping areas.	3	11	59	19	8
Increase enforcement of campground quiet hours (10 p.m. – 7 a.m.)	3	6	43	29	19
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	4	9	49	27	11

16. Did you make your reservation for your recent overnight visit to Silver Falls State Park using the Oregon State Parks telephone or internet reservation system? (**check ONE**)

20% Telephone reservation system 80% Internet reservation system 1% I did not make the reservation

17. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the reservation system for your trip to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied 3% Dissatisfied 4% Neither 34% Satisfied 56% Very Satisfied < 1% Didn't make reservation

As agency budgets for management of this park decrease over time, we may be faced with difficult decisions related to service reductions. Before making any changes, however, we feel that it is important to know what changes would be supported or opposed by current visitors. As a result, the following questions list various hypothetical changes that managers could make in the future. Please indicate your level of opposition or support to these possible changes.

18. To what extent would you **oppose or support** each of the following possible service reductions at Silver Falls State Park? **(circle one number for EACH)**

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	25%	43%	24%	8%	1%
Fewer ranger patrols.	19	39	29	11	2
Fewer ranger-led programs.	14	26	37	20	3
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	32	43	18	6	1
Reduced janitorial services.	35	49	15	1	< 1
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	24	37	22	15	2

19. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Silver Falls State Park on this trip? $M = 7.44$ person(s)

20. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Silver Falls State Park? **(check ONE)** 62% No 38% Yes

21. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

88% No

12% Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? **(check ALL THAT APPLY)** 15% Hearing 9% Sight 65% Walking
9% Learning 13% Other _____

22. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what would you have done? **(check ONE)**

61% Gone somewhere else for the same activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? $M = 161.38$ miles(s)

9% Gone somewhere else for a different activity → how far from home is the place you would go instead? $M = 202.81$ miles(s)

15% Come back another time

7% Stayed home

1% Gone to work at my regular job

8% Something else (none of these)

23. If you had NOT been able to go to Silver Falls State Park for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? **(list park names)** _____ *see report*

24. How did you get to Silver Falls State Park on this trip? **(check ONE)**

92% My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? $M = 3.20$ person(s)

3% Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? $M = 3.50$ person(s)

5% Other (write response) _____ → how many total people were in the vehicle? $M = 3.96$ person(s)

25. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Silver Falls State Park, about how often did you obtain information from each of the following sources when making your decision? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Never	Sometimes	Often
A. Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon).	2%	2%	66%
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	63	11	6
C. Brochures.	35	11	7
D. Newspapers.	75	11	< 1
E. Magazines.	69	10	2
F. Books.	66	13	2
G. Television.	81	10	1
H. Videos / DVDs.	86	8	< 1
I. Radio.	84	9	< 1
J. Community organization or church.	84	9	1
K. Health care providers.	90	7	< 1
L. Work.	79	8	2
M. Friends or family members.	26	5	20
N. Highway signs.	54	12	3
O. Previous visit.	26	3	32
P. Other (write response) _____	79	2	9

26. From the list of sources in question 25 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter see report

27. When planning your visit to Silver Falls State Park, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

97% Yes

3% No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) _____

28. Would you recommend a Silver Falls State Park overnight visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

97% Yes

3% No → if no, why not? (**write response**) see report _____

29. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Silver Falls State Park? (write response)

see report _____

30. What type of campsite(s) did you use on your most recent trip to Silver Falls State Park? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

38% RV campsite 85% Cabin 1% Group RV camp 0% Hiker / biker campsite
 44% Tent campsite 1% Yurt 2% Group tent camp 6% Other (write response) _____

31. If you were to stay at a RV campsite, what type of power supply would you require? (**check ONE**)

50% 30 amps 18% 50 amps 3% 100 amps 29% No electric power needed

32. If you were to stay at an RV campsite, how important are electric, water, and sewer hookups? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Electric hookups.	14%	1%	9%	25%	52%
Water hookups.	13	2	10	26	49
Sewer hookups.	31	4	20	24	22

33. If Oregon State Parks offered weekend programs for beginners to learn basic outdoor skills, would you/your family consider participating in such a program at a nearby park?

59% No

41% Yes → if yes, what types of activities would you/your family be interested in learning about? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

15% Birding 7% Disc golfing 23% Hiking 8% Mountain biking 10% Scenic bicycling on roads
 21% Camping 16% Fishing 13% Horseback riding 15% Rafting 26% Stargazing
 20% Canoeing 17% Geocaching 20% Kayaking 13% Rock climbing 1% Other _____

34. During your visit to this park, did you or members of your personal group use a concession service/activity such as a guided trip/tour (e.g., fishing, rafting, bicycling, scenic, historic) or equipment rental (e.g., kayak, bicycle)?

92% No

8% Yes → if yes, what type of concession service/activity (write in response)

35. Did you participate in any moderate physical activity during this trip (for example walking, bicycling, canoeing at a moderate pace)? (**check ONE**)

6% No

94% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in moderate physical activity for this trip? $M = 209.20$ minutes

36. Did you participate in any vigorous physical activity during this trip (for example jogging, walking, or bicycling at a vigorous pace, breaking a sweat, heart beating rapidly)? (**check ONE**)

57% No

43% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in vigorous physical activity for this trip? $M = 129.71$ minutes

37. Is your level of physical activity at Silver Falls State Park more than, less than, or about the same as your level of physical activity in your day-to-day life? (**check ONE**)

56% My physical activity is MORE at Silver Falls State Park than my daily life.

10% My physical activity is LESS at Silver Falls State Park than in my daily life.

34% My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Silver Falls State Park as it is in my daily life.

38. To what degree did this Silver Falls State Park visit result in the following health benefits for you? **(circle one number for EACH)**

	Not at all				A great deal
A. Reducing your stress.	3%	3%	14%	36%	44%
B. Improving your level of physical fitness.	8	9	31	33	20
C. Improving your physical health.	7	10	29	36	19
D. Improving your mental health.	3	3	16	41	37
E. Reducing your anxiety.	5	4	21	36	34

39. For each of the following categories, please estimate how much you and other members of your party spent on your trip both inside the Park and within **30 miles** of Silver Falls State Park. **Please round off to the nearest dollar.**

Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging:	\$ <u>see report.00</u>
Camping:	\$ <u> .00</u>
Restaurants and bars:	\$ <u> .00</u>
Groceries:	\$ <u> .00</u>
Gasoline and oil:	\$ <u> .00</u>
Park entry, parking, or recreation use fees:	\$ <u> .00</u>
Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental):	\$ <u> .00</u>
Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous:	\$ <u> .00</u>

40. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Silver Falls State Park on this trip? **(check ONE)**

29% No

71% Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?

M = 2.65 night(s)

41. Considering the amount that you spent on this trip, how much more would you have spent on this trip before deciding not to take it? \$ M = 116.32

42. Are you: **(check ONE)** 34% Male 66% Female

43. How old are you? **(write response)** M = 48 years old

44. Which of the following best describes you? **(check ONE)**

89% White (Caucasian) 3% Hispanic / Latino <1% American Indian or Alaskan Native 3% Other (write response)
 <1% Black / African American 4% Asian 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander _____

45. What language is spoken most often at your home? (**check ONE**)

97% English 1% Spanish < 1% Russian 2% Other (write response) _____

46. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town _____ State _____ Country _____ Zipcode *see report*

47. Which of these broad categories best describes your *current annual household income before taxes*? (**check ONE**)

2% Less than \$10,000	13% \$90,000 to \$109,999
6% \$10,000 to \$29,999	10% \$110,000 to \$129,999
13% \$30,000 to \$49,999	5% \$130,000 to \$149,999
21% \$50,000 to \$69,999	3% \$150,000 to \$169,999
18% \$70,000 to \$89,999	10% \$170,000 or more

Please tell us how we can improve Silver Falls State Park:

See report

Thank you, your input is important! *Please return this survey as soon as possible.*