



Visitor Survey of Day-use and Overnight Visitors at Deschutes River State Recreation Area

Final Report

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Nature
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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 3 and August 16, 2015. Separate methods were used for each of these visitor types. The total number of completed questionnaires was $n = 614$ with a response rate of 62%. Completed questionnaires were received from $n = 222$ day users (76% response rate) and $n = 392$ overnight users (57% response rate). These combined sample sizes across survey methods allow generalizations about the population of day users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area at a margin of $\pm 6.6\%$, overnight users at $\pm 4.9\%$, and both day and overnight users at $\pm 4.0\%$ 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 or walking (60%), swimming/ wading (47%), picnicking or barbecuing (47%), sightseeing (33%), and fishing (31%). The least popular activities were horseback riding (0%), boating (motor, canoe, kayak; 6%), running or jogging (7%), and rafting (7%).
- The most common main activity groups were picnicking or barbecuing (20%), fishing (19%), swimming/ wading (17%), and hiking or wading (13%). The least common activity groups were running or jogging, boating, rafting, and sightseeing (all < 1%). Day users were more likely to consider picnicking/ barbecuing and swimming/ wading as their primary activity, whereas overnight users were much more likely to consider camping and fishing as their primary activity.
- Day users spent an average of four and a half hours in the park, with 47% of users spending four to nine hours in the park. Overnight users spent an average of two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (35%) or two (29%) nights at the park. An additional 18% spent three nights at the park, and 18% spent four or more nights.
- 26% of visitors were local (driving 30 miles or less to reach the park) and another 24% originated 91 to 120 miles from the park. A higher percentage of day-use visitors (29%) than overnight visitors (3%) were local. Overnight users, however, on average traveled farther ($M = 265.01$ miles) to visit the park than day visitors ($M = 180.56$ miles).
- In total, 62% of respondents had visited this park before, whereas 38% had not visited previously. Although users had visited an average of four times in the past 12 months, the

highest proportion (33%) visited the park once before. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 4.17$) than overnight users ($M = 2.47$). For example, 23% of day users had visited six or more times in the past 12 months while just 9% of overnight users had visited six or more times.

- Average group size was five and one quarter people. Groups most commonly consisted of two people (30%). Day users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 5.31$ people) than overnight users ($M = 4.39$). Day users were more likely to visit alone (18%) than overnight users (13%).
- In total, 65% of park users did not bring dogs with them; 35% brought dogs. Overnight users (39%) were significantly more likely than day users (34%) to bring dogs.
- Most users arrived at the park in their family's personal vehicle (91%), 5% arrived in somebody else's vehicle, and 4% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.68 people in each personal family vehicle, 4.71 people in somebody else's vehicle, and 2.60 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-use vehicles, there was an average of 2.89 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 2.60 people in the vehicle.
- 60% of users considered this park their main destination with 60% of day users and 59% of overnight users considering it the main reason for their trip.
- If they had been unable to go to Deschutes River State Recreation Area for this visit, many visitors would have gone to Maryhill State Park, Celio Park, Cottonwood Canyon State Park, LePage Park, Memaloose State Park, John Day Fossil Beds, and Peach Beach Camp Park.

Physical Activity

- 61% of all visitors indicated that they did participate in moderate physical activity, while 29% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate physical activity (77%) than day users (59%) and spent more minutes ($M = 146$) than day users ($M = 117$) participating in moderate physical activity during their visit.
- 40% of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area was about the same as their daily life, whereas 29% indicated it was about less, and 31% indicated it was more.
- Park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (85%), reduce anxiety (80%), and improve mental health (80%).

Visitor Spending

- The largest percentage of local day users reported spending \$51- \$150 (29%), while the largest percentage of local overnight users also reported spending \$51-\$150 (50%).
- The largest percentage of non-local day users reported spending \$51-150 (32%) and \$151-\$350 (16%), while the largest percentage of non-local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (41%) and \$151-\$350 (31%).
- Most visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area reported spending some money on gasoline and oil (69%) and groceries (55%).

- 40% of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (65%) than day users (37%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of three nights (3.08), with day users (3.08) staying about the same nights on average as overnight users (3.09).

Obtaining Information about the Parks

- Almost all users (93%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this state park, and the few (7%) who did not find the information they needed would like: pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire, and rattlesnake information.
- The most heavily used sources of information were previous visits (68%), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 68%), friends and family (62%), and highway signs (52%). The least used sources were health care providers (12%), videos or DVDs (12%), television (14%), community organizations (15%), and radio (15%). Day users and overnight users differed significantly on three information sources, with day users more likely than overnight users to obtain information from highway signs and community organizations. Overnight users were significantly more likely than day users to obtain information from official internet websites.
- Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 57%) was overwhelmingly the first primary source used by most respondents, followed by friends and family (16%) and previous visits (8%). 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 (84%). Day users were also dependent on these websites (53%), but also used other sources such as family and friends (17%).

Satisfaction with Experiences and Conditions

- Users considered the most important characteristics were the park's cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 96%), absence of litter (94%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and personal safety (85%). The least important attributes were the number and quality of information/ education programs or materials (37% and 43%), ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 40%), and facilities for groups to gather (44%). There were differences among day users and overnight users for four of the 20 possible comparisons. Day users felt that condition/ maintenance of trails, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, and ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller) were more important than overnight users. Responses for three additional items that were asked in the questionnaires administered only to overnight users showed that 91% of overnight users considered the comfort of campsites to be important, 90% believed that shading provided by trees and other structures was important, and 91% believed that being a good value for fee paid was important.
- Overall satisfaction among users was high, as 94% were satisfied and few respondents (6%) were dissatisfied. In addition, the highest proportion of users was "very satisfied" (51%). Users were most satisfied with the park's cleanliness (95%), absence of litter (95%), number of toilets/ bathrooms (90%), personal safety (89%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and cleanliness of toilets/ bathrooms (86%). Users were least

satisfied with the quality and number of educational information (both 60%), the ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 61%), information about conditions/ hazards (62%), and facilities for groups to gather (62%). Day users were significantly more satisfied with opportunities to escape crowds, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, the ease of movement/ access, and the number and quality of educational information. Overnight users were also satisfied with the comfort of campsites (80%), shading provided by trees (80%), and value for fee paid (81%).

- Most respondents were also satisfied with the natural environment (94%), and facilities and services (87%).
- Most respondents (93%) 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 at Deschutes River State Recreation Area.
- Almost all visitors (98%) to Deschutes River State Recreation Area would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (87%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because of train and highway noise, crowded campsites, rude camp hosts, poor reservation system, and dirty bathrooms.
- The most commonly reported outstanding features and things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area involved: (a) fishing; (b) the river; (c) hiking; (d) natural beauty; (e) swimming; (f) camping near water; and (g) clean facilities.
- 52% of all park users felt some degree of crowding on their visit, with 49% of day users feeling crowded and 75% of overnight users feeling crowded. According to Shelby, Vaske, and Heberlein (1989) and Vaske and Shelby (2008), these results suggest that crowding in the day-use areas are at “low normal”, where crowding problems are not likely to exist and overnight-use areas are at “more than capacity”, where crowding problems 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

- 49% of both day and overnight users would consider participating in a Let’s Go program at a nearby park. From those who indicated overall interest in Let’s Go programs, the most popular programs were rafting (28%), fishing (28%), kayaking (27%), canoeing (24%), camping (24%), stargazing (23%), and hiking (22%). The least supported Let’s Go programs were disc golfing (12%), scenic biking on roads (13%), and horseback riding (13%). The most frequently mentioned “other” programs were basic survival techniques, watchable wildlife, and natural/cultural history.
- Users most strongly supported strategies were to provide more opportunities for escaping crowds (82%), more opportunities for viewing wildlife (81%), more opportunities for hiking (64%), more recycling containers (62%), and requiring all dogs kept on leash at all times (56%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation/ tourism activities (12%), downloadable phone applications (23%), food for sale (23%), and limit the number of people allowed per day (26%). Day users were significantly more supportive of five management options (Table 29) and overnight users one management option.

- A majority of overnight users supported more space between campsites (64%) and campsites with both RV and tent camping (57%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (19%), walk in/ cart in campsites (31%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (34%).
- There was overall low support for service reductions in the park. The highest support was for reducing ranger-led programs (21%), and fewer ranger patrols (15%), with the lowest support for reducing hours open (4%), and reducing janitorial services (6%).
- The most popular type of campsite was an RV site (61%). In addition, 41% of overnight users stayed in the tent campsites. Few overnight users (i.e., 2% or less) stayed in the group tent or RV sites, hiker/ biker sites, yurts, and cabins.
- Overnight users reported that if they were to stay at an RV or tent campsite (52%) would need 30 amps, (23%) would need no electrical power, and (19%) would need 50 amps. Few users (6%) would need 100 amps. The availability of electric (80%) and water (73%) hookups was more important than sewer (44%) hookups.
- In total, 83% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 14% used the telephone reservation system, and 3% had someone else make the reservation. Second, users were asked to report their satisfaction with the reservation system, which was high with 83% satisfied and 17% dissatisfied or neutral. In addition, the highest proportion of users were “satisfied” (42%).

Sociodemographic Characteristics of Users

- There were more male (51%) than female (49%) users at this park.
- The average age of visitors was 46 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (20%) and 60 to 69 years old (20%).
- The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$77,800, and the largest proportion of users had incomes from \$90,000 to \$109,999 (17%) and \$30,000 to \$49,999 (15%). Visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 (\$82,660) was larger than day users (\$77,200).
- Most respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 87%) with some Hispanic/ Latinos (4%).
- Almost all respondents (97%) reported English as their primary language spoken in their homes.
- 31% of park users resided in the Portland Metro region of Oregon, 11% lived in the Mt. Hood/ Gorge, 9% lived in the Willamette Valley, 8% lived in the Central region, 6% lived in the Eastern region, and 1% lived in the Southern and Coastal regions of the state. Around 34% of users came from out of state. The largest percentage of overnight users was the Portland Metro (34%), Central (11%), and the Willamette Valley (10%) regions, whereas day users came primarily from the Portland Metro (26%) and Mt. Hood / Gorge (23%) regions.
- 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. There were no significant differences between day and overnight users. Of those who had a disability, the most common was

associated with walking (9% of park users), while 5% had a hearing disability, 2% had a learning disability, and 2% had impaired sight.

Recommendations

Management Recommendations

- Almost all day and overnight users traveled to this park in their own vehicles (91%), so adequate parking is important and should be considered in planning and management.
- The average number of visitors per vehicle for Deschutes River State Recreation Area day-use visitors (2.89) 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 (39%) and day users (34%) 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. Managers may want to consider examining enforcement of existing pet regulations in the day and overnight areas as 56% of all visitors supported requiring dogs be on leash at all times.
- Most users (94%) were satisfied with their experiences and the conditions at this park. Satisfaction, however, was consistently lower for the quality and number of educational information (both 60%), information about conditions/ hazards (62%), and facilities for groups to gather (62%). 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/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 61%). Given that over 26% of park visitors were over the age of 60 and 14% of users had disabilities (9% 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 75% of overnight users felt crowded at the park. These results suggest that crowding in the overnight-use areas is at “more than capacity”, where crowding problems may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity. Monitoring and management of park overnight use levels should be considered, especially given that 82% of park users supported the provision of more opportunities for escaping crowds. Overnight visitors also reported the need for screening between campsites for privacy.
- Users most strongly supported strategies to provide more opportunities for escaping crowds (82%), more opportunities for viewing wildlife (81%), more opportunities for hiking (64%), more recycling containers (62%), and requiring all dogs kept on leash at all times (56%). A majority of overnight users also supported more space between campsites (64%) and campsites with both RV and tent camping (57%). Managers may want to consider some or all of these strategies.
- The visitor spending analysis showed that non-local overnight visitor party spending was substantial, with the highest percentage reporting spending \$51-\$150 (41%) and \$151-\$350 (31%) on their trip (within 30 miles of the park). Most visitors reported spending some money on gasoline and oil and groceries. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area visitor spending on the local economies.

- The largest proportion of users (57%) depended on official internet websites as the first primary source of obtaining information about state parks such as Deschutes River State Recreation Area, and the majority of overnight users (83%) 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 (93%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area. However, some visitors (7%) were not able to find all information needed. The most popular information needed was pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire and rattlesnake information.
- Users also provided 418 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. The most common outstanding features and things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area involved: (a) fishing; (b) the river; (c) hiking; (d) natural beauty; (e) swimming; (f) camping near water; and (g) clean facilities. This information could be added to the Deschutes River State Recreation Area website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.
- Users provided 317 verbatim open ended positive and negative comments, and suggestions for possible improvement of Deschutes River State Recreation Area and other park related issues. The most common concerns raised involved: (a) loud trains, (b) need for a children's playground, (c) more privacy between campsites, (d) need for a dump station or sewer hookups, (e) too many user fees, (f) dirty restrooms & no soap, (g) more RV sites, (h) larger RV sites for bigger RVs, (i) add restrooms/ showers, (j) need for a fish cleaning station, and (k) flying bugs.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	ii
Table of Contents	ix
List of Tables	xi
List of Figures	xii
Introduction and Objectives	1
Methods.....	1
Onsite Survey of Day Users.....	1
Internet Survey of Overnight Users	2
Sample Sizes and Response Rates	2
Results.....	4
Personal and Visit Characteristics	4
Activity Groups.....	4
Duration of Visit	6
Distance Traveled	7
Previous Visitation.....	8
Group Size	8
Bringing Dogs to the Park.....	9
Transportation to the Park.....	9
Reasons for Visiting.....	10
Alternatives to Visit	10
Section Summary	11
Physical Activity and Other Health Benefits	12
Section Summary	14
Visitor Spending	14
Section Summary	17
Obtaining Information About the Park	18
Section Summary	20
Satisfaction with Experiences and Conditions.....	21
Overall Satisfaction.....	21
Satisfaction and Expectations with Specific Characteristics	21
Importance – Performance Analysis.....	24
Outstanding Features	27

Perceived Crowding.....	28
Section Summary	28
Attitudes About Programs and Management Strategies	30
Let’s Go Program Interest.....	30
Attitudes About Management Strategies	31
Overnight Campsite Use	33
Overnight User Requirements.....	33
Section Summary	35
Sociodemographic Characteristics of Users	36
Section Summary	39
Recommendations.....	40
Management Recommendations.....	40
References.....	43
Appendix A. Open-Ended Comments	44
Positive Comments	44
Negative Comments and / or Issues for Improvement.....	45
Appendix B. Questionnaires	57
Appendix C. Uncollapsed Percentages	73

LIST OF TABLES

1	Sample sizes and response rates for each survey approach	2
2	Comparison of day and overnight users for recreation activities at the park.....	5
3	Comparison of day and overnight users for primary activity at the park	6
4	Duration of visit at the park	7
5	Comparison of day and overnight user distance traveled to the park	7
6	Comparison of day and overnight user previous visitation to the park	8
7	Comparison of day and overnight user number of previous visits to the park in the last 12 months	8
8	Comparison of day and overnight user group size at the park.....	9
9	Comparison of day and overnight users bringing dogs with them to the park	9
10	Comparison of day and overnight user transportation to the park.....	10
11	Comparison of day and overnight users in whether the park was their main destination	10
12	Comparison of day and overnight user participation in moderate and physical activity during visit	13
13	Comparison of day and overnight user level of physical activity at Prineville Reservoir to daily life.....	13
14	Comparison of day and overnight user health benefits related to park visitation.....	14
15	Comparison of day and overnight users, local / non-local.....	15
16	Comparison of day and overnight total spending, dollars per party per trip	16
17	Comparison of percent of day and overnight party spending of any dollars in eight spending categories.....	16
18	Comparison of day and overnight user nights staying away from home within 30 miles of park	17
19	Comparison of day and overnight users in whether they found the information needed	18
20	Comparison of day and overnight user use of information sources.....	18
21	Comparison of day and overnight users for primary information source	19
22	Comparison of day and overnight user overall satisfaction.....	21
23	Comparison of day and overnight user specific expectations at the park.....	22
24	Comparison of day and overnight user specific satisfactions at the park	23
25	Comparison of day and overnight user likelihood of returning and satisfaction with the park fees, facilities, and environment	27
26	Comparison of day and overnight user recommendation of park to friends and family	27

27	Comparison of day and overnight crowding evaluations	28
28	Comparison of day and overnight user consideration of participating in “Let’s Go” programs.....	31
29	Comparison of day and overnight user attitudes about management at the park	32
30	Comparison of day and overnight user support of possible service reduction at the park.....	33
31	Overnight campsite use at the park.....	33
32	Overnight user power supply needs.....	34
33	Overnight user importance of RV hookups	34
34	Overnight user reactions to the reservation systems.....	34
35	Comparison of day and overnight user demographic characteristics	37
36	Respondent location of residence	38
37	Comparison of day and overnight user disabilities.....	39

LIST OF FIGURES

1	Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix	24
2	Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix for day users	25
3	Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix for overnight users.....	26

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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area between July and August 2015. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area between July 3 and August 16, 2015 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 23 and August 24, 2015. 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 $n = 614$ with an estimated total response rate of 62%. Completed questionnaires were received from $n = 222$ day users (76% response rate) and $n = 392$ overnight users (57% response rate). These combined sample sizes across survey methods allow generalizations about the population of day users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area at a margin of $\pm 6.6\%$, overnight users at $\pm 4.9\%$, and day and overnight users at $\pm 4.0\%$ 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	293	222	76
Overnight Users	692	392	57
Total	985	614	62

Table 1 also shows that the total number of completed questionnaires for overnight users ($n = 392$) was higher than day users ($n = 222$). Between 2013 and 2015, however, a much larger proportion of the total population of users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area consisted of day users. Actual population estimates for day users, for example, ranged from 278,206 in 2013, 299,264 in 2014, and 291,268 in 2015 compared to just 33,460 overnight users in 2013, 35,078 in 2014, and 36,852 overnight users in 2015. These average use levels across the three years from 2013 to 2015 show that approximately 89.2% of users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area were day users and 10.8% were overnight users. The sample for this project, however, consisted of 36.2% day users and 63.8% overnight users. Consequently, in the results sections reporting findings only for all users taken together (i.e., total users at Prineville Reservoir), 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:

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

$$\text{Weight (day users)} = \frac{0.892}{0.362} = 2.46$$

$$\text{Weight (overnight users)} = \frac{0.108}{0.638} = 0.17$$

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 , eta η) 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area on their most recent trip. Table 2 shows that the most popular activities at this park were hiking or walking (60%), swimming/wading (47%), picnicking or barbecuing (47%), sightseeing (33%), and fishing (31%). The least popular activities were horseback riding (0%), boating (motor, canoe, kayak; 6%), running or jogging (7%), and rafting (7%). Participation rates did differ moderately between day users and overnight users for 3 of these 19 activities; picnicking or barbecuing, fishing, and boating (motor, canoe, kayak). The most popular other activities were geocaching, relaxing, and attending family reunions.

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	59	64	60	0.65	0.421	0.03
Swimming/ wading	52	42	47	0.96	0.328	0.04
Picnicking or barbecuing	49	29	47	9.29	0.002	0.12
Sightseeing	34	24	33	2.60	0.109	0.06
Fishing	29	44	31	5.82	0.020	0.10
Dog walking	28	30	28	0.06	0.812	0.01
Bird or wildlife watching	21	17	20	0.58	0.448	0.03
Outdoor photography	19	20	19	0.09	0.765	0.01
Other ^c	14	7	13	3.85	0.050	0.07
Visiting historic sites	12	13	12	0.02	0.878	0.01
Bicycling on local roads	12	9	12	0.53	0.467	0.03
Mountain biking	11	11	11	<.001	0.989	0.001
Inner tubing	8	13	9	2.74	0.100	0.06
Volleyball	8	3	8	1.85	0.174	0.06
Rafting	7	8	7	0.01	0.920	0.01
Running or jogging	7	5	7	0.58	0.448	0.03
Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)	5	16	6	9.01	0.003	0.14
Horseback riding	0	0	0	--	--	--
Camping	--	87	--	--	--	--

^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: geocaching, relaxing, and attending family reunions.

Respondents were then asked to specify the one primary activity in which they participated most often during their recent visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 3 shows that the most common primary activity groups were picnicking or barbecuing (20%), fishing (19%), swimming/ wading (17%), and hiking or wading (13%). The least common activity groups were running or jogging, boating, rafting, and sightseeing (all < 1%). Day users were more likely to consider picnicking/ barbecuing and swimming/ wading as their primary activity, whereas overnight users were much more likely to consider camping and fishing 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
Picnicking or barbecuing	23	1	20
Fishing	17	30	19
Swimming/ wading	18	7	17
Hiking or walking	14	5	13
Other	9	3	8
Mountain biking	6	1	5
Dog walking	4	2	3
Bicycling on local roads	2	<1	2
Inner tubing	2	1	2
Bird or wildlife watching	2	0	2
Visiting historic places	1	1	1
Volleyball	1	0	1
Outdoor photography	1	<1	1
Sightseeing	<1	1	<1
Rafting	0	1	<1
Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)	0	1	<1
Running or jogging	0	1	<1
Camping	--	44	5

^a $\chi^2 = 3.30, p < .14, V = .44.$

^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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 approximately four and a half hours in the park, with 47% of users spending four to nine hours in the park.

Overnight users spent an average of two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (35%) or two (29%) nights at the park (Table 4). An additional 18% spent three nights at the park, and 18% spent four or more nights.

Table 4. Duration of visit at the park

Day Users (Hours)	
1 hour	17
2 hours	18
3 hours	9
4 to 5 hours	27
6 to 9 hours	20
10 or more hours	9
Mean / average hours	4.45
Overnight Users (Nights)	
1 night	35
2 night	29
3 night	18
4 night	6
5 night	6
6 or more nights	6
Mean / average nights	2.51

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 26% of visitors were local (driving 30 miles or less to reach the park) and another 24% originated 91 to 120 miles from the park. A higher percentage of day-use visitors (29%) than overnight visitors (3%) were local. Overnight users, however, on average traveled farther ($M = 265.01$ miles) to visit the park than day visitors ($M = 180.56$ 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	29	3	26
31 to 60 miles	8	3	8
61 to 90 miles	12	10	12
91 to 120 miles	24	32	24
121 to 150 miles	4	15	5
151 to 250 miles	10	16	10
251 to 500 miles	6	12	6
501 or more miles	8	9	9
Mean / average ^c	180.56	265.01	191.43

^a $\chi^2 = 36.62, p < .001, V = .24.$

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

^c $t = 2.08, p = .038, rpb = .09$

Previous Visitation. Users were asked if they had ever visited Deschutes River State Recreation Area before their most recent trip. Table 6 shows that 62% of respondents had visited this park before, whereas 38% had not visited previously. There was no significant difference between day (63%) and overnight (60%) 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	63	60	62
No, not visited park before	37	40	38

^a $\chi^2 = .23, p = .63, \phi = .020$.

^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 four times in the past 12 months, the highest proportion (33%) visited the park once before. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 4.17$) than overnight users ($M = 2.47$). For example, 23% of day users had visited six or more times in the past 12 months while just 9% of overnight 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	20	13	16
1 Trip	27	37	33
2 Trips	16	21	19
3 to 5 Trips	14	21	18
6 to 12 Trips	16	7	10
13 to 24 Trips	5	2	3
More than 24 Trips	2	0	1
Mean / average trips ^c	4.17	2.47	3.98

^a $\chi^2 = 23.08, p = .001, V = .25$.

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

^c $t = 2.96, p = .004, rpb = .18$.

Group Size. Respondents were asked to report how many people, including themselves, accompanied them at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on their most recent trip. Table 8 shows that the average group size was five and one quarter people. Groups most commonly consisted of two people (30%). Day users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 5.31$ people)

than overnight users ($M = 4.39$). Day users were more likely to visit alone (18%) than overnight users (13%).

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

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
1 Person (alone)	18	13	18
2 People	29	34	30
3 or 4 People	18	31	19
5 to 10 People	20	15	19
11 to 25 People	13	6	12
More than 25 People	2	1	2
Mean / average ^c	5.31	4.39	5.21

^a $\chi^2 = 7.35, p = .196, V = .12$.

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

^c $t = 1.86, p = .063, rpb = .08$.

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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 9 shows that 65% of park users did not bring dogs with them and 35% brought dogs. Overnight users (39%) were more likely than day users (34%) 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)	66	61	65
Yes, brought dog(s)	34	39	35

^a $\chi^2 = .73, p = .392, \phi = .037$.

^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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area on their most recent trip. Table 10 shows that almost all users arrived at the park in their family’s personal vehicle (91%), 5% arrived in somebody else’s vehicle, and 4% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.68 people in each personal family vehicle, 4.71 people in somebody else’s vehicle, and 2.60 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-use vehicles, there was an average of 2.89 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 2.60 people in the vehicle. There was no significant difference between day users and overnight users, with almost all overnight users

arriving in their own vehicles (95%) compared to day users (90%). Day users (6%) were slightly more likely than overnight users (2%) to use somebody else’s personal vehicle.

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	90	95	91
Somebody else’s personal vehicle ^d	6	2	5
Other ^e	4	3	4

^a $\chi^2 = .207, p = .356, V = .06$.

^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 = 2.68 (1-2 people = 62%, 3-4 people = 27%), day user = 2.71, overnight = 2.52.

^d Number of people in vehicle: mean / average = 4.71 (1-4 people = 75%), day user = 4.75, overnight = 3.71.

^e Number of people in vehicle: mean / average = 2.60 (1-4 people = 95%), day user = 2.40, overnight = 4.38.

Reasons for Visiting. Visitors were asked if this park was the main reason for their trip. Table 11 shows that 60% of users considered this park their main destination with 59% of overnight users and 60% of day users 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	60	59	60
Primarily for recreation – main destination was not this park	24	32	25
Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – park was side trip	11	6	10
Some other reason	5	3	5

^a $\chi^2 = 3.32, p = .344, V = .07$.

^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 also asked to specify what other park they would consider going to if they had not been able to go to Deschutes River State Recreation Area for this visit, many visitors would have gone to Maryhill State Park, Celio Park, Cottonwood Canyon State Park, LePage Park, Memaloose State Park, John Day Fossil Beds, and Peach Beach Camp Park.

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

- The most popular activities were hiking or walking (60%), swimming/ wading (47%), picnicking or barbecuing (47%), sightseeing (33%), and fishing (31%). The least popular activities were horseback riding (0%), boating (motor, canoe, kayak; 6%), running or jogging (7%), and rafting (7%).
- The most common main activity groups were picnicking or barbecuing (20%), fishing (19%), swimming/ wading (17%), and hiking or wading (13%). The least common activity groups were running or jogging, boating, rafting, and sightseeing (all < 1%). Day users were more likely to consider picnicking/ barbecuing and swimming/ wading as their primary activity, whereas overnight users were much more likely to consider camping and fishing as their primary activity.
- Day users spent an average of four and a half hours in the park, with 47% of users spending four to nine hours in the park. Overnight users spent an average of two and a half nights at the park, although the largest proportions spent one (35%) or two (29%) nights at the park. An additional 18% spent three nights at the park, and 18% spent four or more nights.
- 26% of visitors were local (driving 30 miles or less to reach the park) and another 24% originated 91 to 120 miles from the park. A higher percentage of day-use visitors (29%) than overnight visitors (3%) were local. Overnight users, however, on average traveled farther ($M = 265.01$ miles) to visit the park than day visitors ($M = 180.56$ miles).
- In total, 62% of respondents had visited this park before, whereas 38% had not visited previously. Although users had visited an average of four times in the past 12 months, the highest proportion (33%) visited the park once before. On average, day users had visited significantly more times ($M = 4.17$) than overnight users ($M = 2.47$). For example, 23% of day users had visited six or more times in the past 12 months while just 9% of overnight users had visited six or more times.
- Average group size was five and one quarter people. Groups most commonly consisted of two people (30%). Day users, on average, visited in larger groups ($M = 5.31$ people) than overnight users ($M = 4.39$). Day users were more likely to visit alone (18%) than overnight users (13%).

- In total, 65% of park users did not bring dogs with them; 35% brought dogs. Overnight users (39%) were significantly more likely than day users (34%) to bring dogs.
- Most users arrived at the park in their family's personal vehicle (91%), 5% arrived in somebody else's vehicle, and 4% arrived in another form of transportation. On average, there were 2.68 people in each personal family vehicle, 4.71 people in somebody else's vehicle, and 2.60 people in other forms of transportation. For all day-use vehicles, there was an average of 2.89 people in the vehicle. For all overnight vehicles, there was an average of 2.60 people in the vehicle.
- 60% of users considered this park their main destination with 60% of day users and 59% of overnight users considering it the main reason for their trip.
- If they had been unable to go to Deschutes River State Recreation Area for this visit, many visitors would have gone to Maryhill State Park, Celio Park, Cottonwood Canyon State Park, LePage Park, Memaloose State Park, John Day Fossil Beds, and Peach Beach Camp 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area (Table 12). 61% of all visitors indicated that they did participated in moderate physical activity, while 29% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate physical activity (77%) than day users (59%) and spent more minutes ($M = 146$) than day users ($M = 117$) participating in moderate physical activity.

Table 12. Comparison of day and overnight user participation in moderate and vigorous physical activity during visit

	User Group ^a			χ^2 or <i>t</i> value	<i>p</i> value	Effect size ϕ or <i>r</i> _{pb}
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Moderate Physical Activity				7.43	.006	0.12
No	41	23	39			
Yes	59	77	61			
Avg (min)	116.92	145.81	121.16			
Vigorous Physical Activity				.51	.477	0.03
No	70	74	71			
Yes	30	26	29			
Avg (min)	111.44	110.66	111.37			

^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, 40% of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area was about the same as their daily life, whereas 29% indicated it was about less, and 31% indicated it was more (Table 13). There were no significant differences between day and overnight users when comparing their level of physical activity to their daily life.

Table 13. Comparison of day and overnight user level of physical activity at Deschutes River SRA to daily life ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Physical activity ABOUT THE SAME than daily life	40	44	40
Physical activity LESS as daily life	29	25	29
Physical activity MORE than daily life	31	31	31

^a $\chi^2 = .47, p = .789, V = .03$.

^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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area had improved their mental and physical health. Table 14 shows that, overall, park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (85%), reduce anxiety (80%), and improve mental health (80%).

Table 14. 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	69	85	8.77	0.003	0.14
Reducing anxiety	82	57	80	15.01	<.001	0.19
Improving mental health	82	65	80	7.23	0.007	0.13
Improving physical health	59	35	56	9.88	0.002	0.14
Improving level of physical fitness	49	30	47	7.64	0.006	0.12

^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:

- 61% of all visitors indicated that they did participate in moderate physical activity, while 29% indicated participating in vigorous physical activity. Overnight users were significantly more likely to participate in moderate physical activity (77%) than day users (59%) and spent more minutes ($M = 146$) than day users ($M = 117$) participating in moderate physical activity during their visit.
- 40% of all visitors indicated that their level of physical activity during their visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area was about the same as their daily life, whereas 29% indicated it was about less, and 31% indicated it was more.
- Park visitors reported their visit helped to reduce stress (85%), reduce anxiety (80%), and improve mental health (80%).

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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 15 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 (74%). Significantly more day users (28%) are local than overnight users (3%). Based on previous year visitation estimates, approximately 89.2% of all users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area are day users and 10.8% are overnight users.

Table 15. Comparison of day and overnight users, local / non-local ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Local	28	3	26
Non-Local ^c	72	97	74

^a $\chi^2 = 22.87, p < .001, \phi = .17.$

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

Table 16 shows the proportion of total spending for each visitor profile type and reported on a party trip basis. The largest percentage of local day users reported spending \$51- \$150 (29%), while the largest percentage of local overnight users also reported spending \$51-\$150 (50%). The largest percentage of non-local day users reported spending \$51-150 (32%) and \$151-\$350 (16%), while the largest percentage of non-local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (41%) and \$151-\$350 (31%).

Table 16. 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	18	0	13	<1	13
\$1 - \$25	18	0	15	3	13
\$26 - \$50	18	0	10	6	11
\$51 - \$150	29	50	32	41	33
\$151 - \$350	6	38	16	31	16
\$351 - \$550	11	12	6	10	8
\$551 - \$1,000	0	0	6	9	6

^a $\chi^2 = 27.04, p = .001, V = .20$

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

Table 17 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 gasoline and oil (68%) and groceries (59%), and most local overnight visitors reported spending money on gasoline and oil (100%), groceries (100%), camping (75%), and park entry fees (63%). For non-local day use visitors, most reported spending some money on gasoline and oil (69%), groceries (62%), and restaurants and bars (53%). Most non-local overnight visitors reported spending money on camping (81%), gasoline and oil (77%), and groceries (63%). The “All” spending average is estimated as a weighted average for spending by day-user and overnight visitors. Most visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area reported spending some money on gasoline and oil (69%) and groceries (55%).

Table 17. 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 (%)	
Gasoline and oil	68	100	69	77	69
Groceries	59	100	54	63	55
Restaurants and bars	18	13	53	46	41
Park entry, parking, or recreation user fees	24	63	31	40	28
Camping	24	75	33	81	34
Recreation and equipment (guide fees, equipment rental)	6	13	13	8	10
Souvenirs, clothing, and other miscellaneous	9	13	10	12	9
Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, other lodging	6	13	13	2	10

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

Respondents were asked to indicate if they were staying away from home within 30 miles of Deschutes River State Recreation Area, and the number of nights they were staying if they were. Table 18 shows that 40% of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (65%) than day users (37%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of three nights (3.08), with day users (3.08) staying about the same nights on average as overnight users (3.09).

Table 18. 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	37	65	40
Mean number of nights ^c	3.08	3.09	3.08

^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 $\chi^2 = 15.33, p < .001, \phi = .19$.

^c Cell entries in this row are mean (avg) nights. $t = .02, p = .985, r_{pb} = .001$.

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

- The largest percentage of local day users reported spending \$51- \$150 (29%), while the largest percentage of local overnight users also reported spending \$51-\$150 (50%).
- The largest percentage of non-local day users reported spending \$51-150 (32%) and \$151-\$350 (16%), while the largest percentage of non-local overnight users reported spending \$51-\$150 (41%) and \$151-\$350 (31%).
- Most visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area reported spending some money on gasoline and oil (69%) and groceries (55%).
- 40% of all visitors were staying away from home within 30 miles of the park with significantly more overnight users (65%) than day users (37%) staying away from home. Of those users staying away from home within 30 miles of the park, respondents indicated staying an average of three nights (3.08), with day users (3.08) staying about the same nights on average as overnight users (3.09).

Obtaining Information About the Park

The questionnaires contained several questions examining how users obtained information about state parks such as Deschutes River State Recreation Area and whether they were able to obtain the information they needed. Table 19 shows that almost all users (93%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this state park, and the few (7%) who did not find the information they needed would like: pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire, and rattlesnake information.

Table 19. 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	92	96	93
No, did not find the information needed ^c	8	4	7

^a $\chi^2 = 1.22, p = .27, \phi = .05$.

^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 pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire, and rattlesnake information.

Table 20. 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			
Previous visit	68	68	68	<.001	0.98	.001
Official internet websites (OPRD)	65	91	68	16.76	<.001	.17
Friends/ Family	62	60	62	0.02	0.90	.01
Highway signs	54	34	52	7.42	0.01	.13
Brochures	37	35	37	0.09	0.77	.01
Other ^c	32	23	32	0.58	0.45	.05
Social media websites	30	32	30	0.09	0.77	.01
Books	26	17	25	1.60	0.21	.06
Magazines	25	17	24	1.53	0.22	.06
Newspapers	21	13	20	1.59	0.21	.06
Work	16	14	16	0.11	0.74	.02
Radio	16	6	15	4.37	0.04	.09
Community organizations or church	16	5	15	4.49	0.03	.09
Television	15	10	14	0.97	0.33	.05
Videos / DVDs	12	6	12	2.01	0.16	.06
Health care providers	12	5	12	2.04	0.15	.06

^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: AllStays app.

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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 20 shows that the most heavily used sources of information were previous visits (68%), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 68%), friends and family (62%), and highway signs (52%). The least used sources were health care providers (12%), videos or DVDs (12%), television (14%), community organizations (15%), and radio (15%). Day users and overnight users differed significantly on three information sources, with day users more likely than overnight users to obtain information from highway signs and community organizations. Overnight users were significantly more likely than day users 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 21 shows that official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 57%) was overwhelmingly the first primary source used by most respondents, followed by friends and family (16%) and previous visits (8%). 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 (84%). Day users were also dependent on these websites (53%), but also used other sources such family and friends (17%).

Table 21. Comparison of day and overnight users for primary information source ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Official internet websites (OPRD)	53	84	57
Friends / family	17	8	16
Previous visit	9	2	8
Brochures	6	1	5
Highway signs	4	<1	4
Other	4	1	3
Social media websites	2	2	2
Radio	2	0	2
Books	2	1	2
Newspapers	1	0	<1
Work	<1	1	<1
Magazines	<1	0	<1

^a $\chi^2 = 23.62, p = .008, V = .21$.

^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 (93%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to this state park, and the few (7%) who did not find the information they needed would like: pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire, and rattlesnake information.
- The most heavily used sources of information were previous visits (68%), official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 68%), friends and family (62%), and highway signs (52%). The least used sources were health care providers (12%), videos or DVDs (12%), television (14%), community organizations (15%), and radio (15%). Day users and overnight users differed significantly on three information sources, with day users more likely than overnight users to obtain information from highway signs and community organizations. Overnight users were significantly more likely than day users to obtain information from official internet websites.
- Official internet websites (e.g., Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon; 57%) was overwhelmingly the first primary source used by most respondents, followed by friends and family (16%) and previous visits (8%). 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 (84%). Day users were also dependent on these websites (53%), but also used other sources such family and friends (17%).

Satisfaction with Experiences and Conditions

Overall Satisfaction. Respondents were asked “overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your *overall experience* at Deschutes River State Recreation Area?” Table 22 shows that overall satisfaction was high, as 94% were satisfied and few respondents (6%) were dissatisfied or neutral. In addition, the highest proportion of users was “very satisfied” (51%).

Table 22. Comparison of day and overnight user overall satisfaction ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Very Satisfied	51	46	51
Satisfied	44	43	43
Dissatisfied or Neutral	6	11	6

^a $\chi^2 = 15.89, p = .003, V = .22.$

^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 most users were satisfied with their overall visit at Deschutes River State Recreation Area, 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 23 shows that the most important characteristics were the park’s cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 96%), absence of litter (94%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and personal safety (85%). The least important attributes were the number and quality of information/ education programs or materials (37% and 43%), ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 40%), and facilities for groups to gather (44%). There were differences among day users and overnight users for four of the 20 possible comparisons. Day users felt that condition/ maintenance of trails, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, and ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller) were more important than overnight users. Responses for three additional items that were asked in the questionnaires administered only to overnight users showed that 91% of overnight users considered the comfort of campsites to be important, 90% believed that shading provided by trees and other structures was important, and 91% believed that being a good value for fee paid was important.

Table 23. 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)	96	97	96	0.08	0.77	.01
Absence of litter	93	97	94	1.35	0.25	.05
Cleanliness of toilets/ bathrooms	93	95	93	0.42	0.52	.03
Courteousness of rangers / personnel	85	88	86	0.54	0.46	.03
Personal safety	85	84	85	0.03	0.87	.01
Number of toilets/ bathrooms	82	85	82	0.60	0.44	.03
Parking for vehicles	83	76	82	1.51	0.22	.06
Opportunities to escape crowds	83	75	82	2.61	0.11	.07
Signs with directions <i>in</i> the park	74	64	72	2.73	0.10	.07
Condition / maintenance of trails	72	60	71	4.04	0.05	.09
Signs with directions <i>to</i> the park	71	58	69	4.10	0.05	.09
Information about conditions / hazards	66	63	66	0.25	0.62	.02
Presence of park rangers / personnel	64	73	65	2.10	0.15	.06
Number of park trails	67	54	65	3.36	0.07	.08
Variety of things to do	62	53	61	1.90	0.17	.06
Facilities for groups to gather	46	29	44	6.84	0.01	.11
Quality of educational information	45	33	43	2.56	0.11	.07
Ease of movement / access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller)	42	27	40	5.62	0.02	.10
Number of educational information	38	30	37	1.42	0.23	.05
Comfort of campsites	--	91	--	--	--	--
Being a good value for fee paid	--	91	--	--	--	--
Shading provided by trees or other structures	--	90	--	--	--	--

^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 24 shows that the majority of users were satisfied with most of these characteristics at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Users were most satisfied with park cleanliness (95%), absence of litter (95%), number of toilets/ bathrooms (90%), personal safety (89%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and cleanliness of toilets/ bathrooms (86%). Users were least satisfied with the quality and number of educational information (both 60%), the ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 61%), information about conditions/ hazards (62%), and facilities for groups to gather (62%). Day users were significantly more satisfied with opportunities to escape crowds, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, the ease of movement/ access, and the number and quality of educational information. Overnight

users were also satisfied with the comfort of campsites (80%), shading provided by trees (80%), and value for fee paid (81%).

Table 24. 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)	95	97	95	0.34	0.56	0.02
Absence of litter	95	94	95	<.001	0.98	0.01
Number of toilets/ bathrooms	93	86	90	1.28	0.26	0.05
Personal safety	89	87	89	0.11	0.74	0.02
Courteousness of rangers / personnel	87	82	86	0.89	0.35	0.04
Cleanliness of toilets/ bathrooms	86	84	86	0.12	0.73	0.02
Parking for vehicles	83	74	82	2.25	0.13	0.07
Presence of park rangers / personnel	81	82	81	0.07	0.79	0.01
Opportunities to escape crowds	81	61	78	10.65	0.001	0.15
Signs with directions <i>to</i> the park	75	63	73	3.61	0.01	0.09
Number of park trails	74	66	73	1.60	0.21	0.06
Condition / maintenance of trails	73	65	72	1.25	0.26	0.05
Variety of things to do	71	60	69	2.40	0.12	0.07
Signs with directions <i>in</i> the park	73	63	68	0.51	0.48	0.03
Facilities for groups to gather	65	39	62	12.28	<.001	0.16
Information about conditions / hazards	62	56	62	0.72	0.40	0.04
Ease of movement / access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller)	63	47	61	5.30	0.02	0.11
Number of educational information	62	39	60	10.52	<.001	0.15
Quality of educational information	63	39	60	11.24	0.001	0.16
Comfort of campsites ^c	--	82	--	--	--	--
Being a good value for fee paid ^c	--	81	--	--	--	--
Shading provided by trees / structures ^c	--	80	--	--	--	--

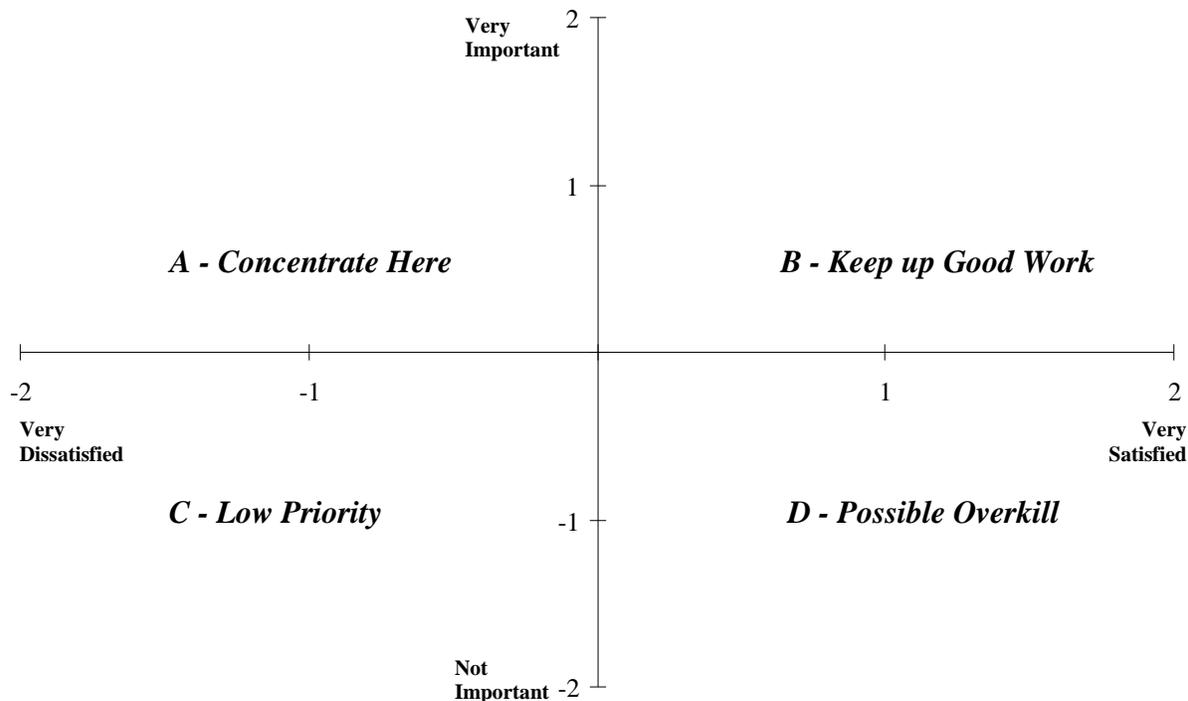
^a Cell entries are percentages (%) of users who rated the characteristic as “satisfied” or “very satisfied.”

^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*

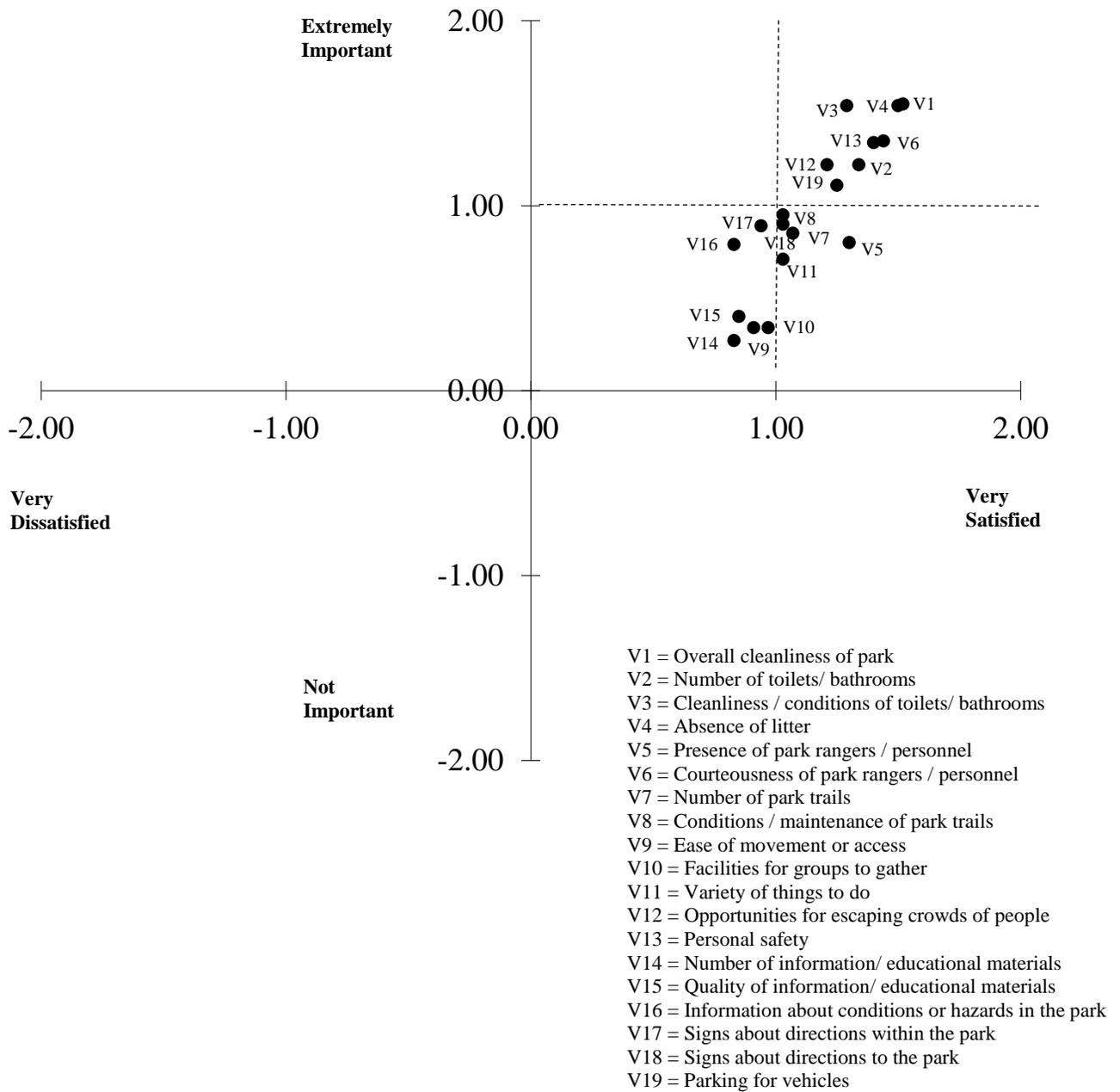


Figure 3. Importance-performance (I-P) analysis matrix for *overnight users*

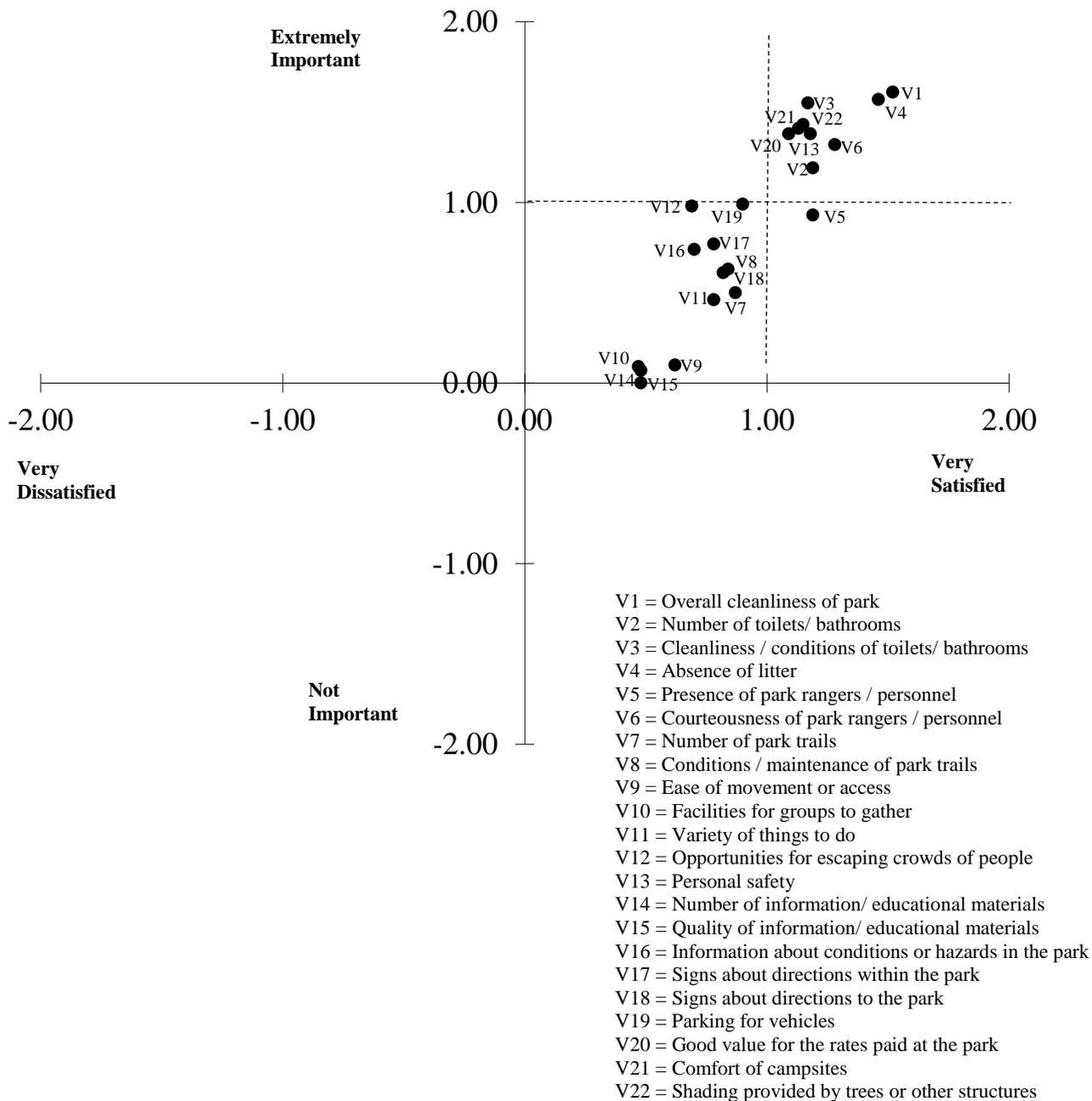


Figure 2 is the I-P matrix for day users and Figure 3 is the matrix for overnight users. Both matrices show that all attributes were in the “keep up the good work” quadrant, indicating that users thought that park staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. 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 also show that park staff were doing a good job managing conditions and experiences at Deschutes River State Recreation Area.

Respondents were asked several additional questions about their satisfaction with Deschutes River State Recreation Area, 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 25 shows high user satisfaction with the environment (94%) and facilities and services (87%). In total, 93% of respondents said they were likely to return to this park in the future.

Table 25. 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	94	93	94	0.17	0.68	0.02
Satisfaction with facilities and services ^b	88	86	87	0.14	0.71	0.02
Satisfaction with fee paid ^b	--	83	--	--	--	--
Likelihood of returning ^c	94	82	93	10.24	0.001	0.15

^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 26 shows that almost all visitors (98%) to Deschutes River State Recreation Area would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (87%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because of train and highway noise, crowded campsites, rude camp hosts, poor reservation system, and dirty bathrooms.

Table 26. Comparison of day and overnight user recommendation of park to friends and family ^a

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^b
Yes, recommend park	99	87	98
No, would not recommend park	1	13	2

^a $\chi^2 = 17.56, p < .001, \phi = .25$.

^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 418 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. The most common outstanding features and things to do involved (a) fishing; (b) the river; (c) hiking; (d) natural beauty; (e) swimming; (f) camping near water; and (g) clean facilities.

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 27 shows that, on average, both day users and overnight users felt slightly crowded. More specifically, 52% of all park users felt some degree of crowding on their visit, with 49% of day users feeling crowded and 75% of overnight users feeling crowded. According to Shelby, Vaske, and Heberlein (1989) and Vaske and Shelby (2008), these results suggest that crowding in the day-use areas are at “low normal”, where crowding problems are not likely to exist and overnight-use areas are at “more than capacity”, where crowding problems may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity, indicating more studies may be needed to allow management to preserve experiences.

Table 27. 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	3.04	4.45	3.20	7.20	<.001	.28

^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 = 52% (49% Day Users, 75% Overnight).

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

- Users considered the most important characteristics were the park’s cleanliness (e.g., lawn care, lack of graffiti; 96%), absence of litter (94%), cleanliness of toilets (93%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and personal safety (85%). The least important attributes were the number and quality of information/ education programs or materials (37% and 43%), ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 40%), and facilities for groups to gather (44%). There were differences among day users and overnight users for four of the 20 possible comparisons. Day users felt that condition/ maintenance of trails, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, and ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller) were more important than overnight users. Responses for three additional items that were asked in the questionnaires administered only to overnight users showed that 91% of overnight users considered the comfort of campsites to be important, 90% believed that shading provided

by trees and other structures was important, and 91% believed that being a good value for fee paid was important.

- Overall satisfaction among users was high, as 94% were satisfied and few respondents (6%) were dissatisfied. In addition, the highest proportion of users was “very satisfied” (51%). Users were most satisfied with the park’s cleanliness (95%), absence of litter (95%), number of toilets/ bathrooms (90%), personal safety (89%), courteousness of rangers/ personnel (86%), and cleanliness of toilets/ bathrooms (86%). Users were least satisfied with the quality and number of educational information (both 60%), the ease of movement/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 61%), information about conditions/ hazards (62%), and facilities for groups to gather (62%). Day users were significantly more satisfied with opportunities to escape crowds, signs with directions to the park, facilities for groups to gather, the ease of movement/ access, and the number and quality of educational information. Overnight users were also satisfied with the comfort of campsites (80%), shading provided by trees (80%), and value for fee paid (81%).
- Most respondents were also satisfied with the natural environment (94%), and facilities and services (87%).
- Most respondents (93%) 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 at Deschutes River State Recreation Area.
- Almost all visitors (98%) to Deschutes River State Recreation Area would recommend the park to their friends or family, with more day users (99%) willing to recommend the park than overnight users (87%). Reasons respondents indicated they would not recommend the park were because of train and highway noise, crowded campsites, rude camp hosts, poor reservation system, and dirty bathrooms.
- The most commonly reported outstanding features and things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area involved: (a) fishing; (b) the river; (c) hiking; (d) natural beauty; (e) swimming; (f) camping near water; and (g) clean facilities.
- 52% of all park users felt some degree of crowding on their visit, with 49% of day users feeling crowded and 75% of overnight users feeling crowded. According to Shelby, Vaske, and Heberlein (1989) and Vaske and Shelby (2008), these results suggest that

crowding in the day-use areas are at “low normal”, where crowding problems are not likely to exist and overnight-use areas are at “more than capacity”, where crowding problems 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 28 indicates that 49% of 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 rafting (28%), fishing (28%), kayaking (27%), canoeing (24%), camping (24%), stargazing (23%), and hiking (22%). The least supported Let's Go programs were disc golfing (12%), scenic biking on roads (13%), and horseback riding (13%). The most frequently mentioned “other” programs were basic survival techniques, watchable wildlife, and natural/cultural history.

Table 28. 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	52	28	49	10.94	0.001	0.15
Specific Program Interest						
Rafting	30	12	28	13.72	0.001	0.17
Fishing	29	13	28		0.002	0.16
Kayaking	28	13	27	12.76	0.002	0.16
Canoeing	25	9	24	12.30	0.001	0.16
Camping	25	11	24	13.35	0.002	0.16
Stargazing	24	15	23	12.35	0.002	0.16
Hiking	24	12	22	12.50	0.002	0.16
Mountain biking	19	5	17	12.50	0.001	0.17
Rock climbing	16	7	15	13.95	0.002	0.16
Geocaching	15	10	14	12.32	0.002	0.16
Birding	15	9	14	12.35	0.002	0.16
Horseback riding	14	6	13	12.35	0.002	0.16
Scenic biking on roads	14	7	13	12.39	0.002	0.16
Disc golfing	12	3	12	12.16	0.001	0.16
Other	2	1	2	13.06	0.003	0.16

^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: basic survival techniques, watchable wildlife, and natural/cultural history.

Attitudes About Management Strategies. Several items in the questionnaires examined user attitudes about possible management strategies at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Users were asked, for example, the extent they opposed or supported several potential new strategies for this park. Table 29 shows that the most strongly supported strategies were to provide more opportunities for escaping crowds (82%), more opportunities for viewing wildlife (81%), more opportunities for hiking (64%), more recycling containers (62%), and requiring all dogs kept on leash at all times (56%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation/tourism activities (12%), downloadable phone applications (23%), food for sale (23%), and limit the number of people allowed per day (26%). Day users were significantly more supportive of five management options (Table 29) and overnight users one management option. 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 more space between campsites (64%) and campsites with both RV and tent camping (57%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (19%), walk in/ cart in campsites (31%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (34%).

Table 29. 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 escaping crowds	83	71	82	4.14	0.042	0.10
More opportunities for viewing wildlife	83	61	81	11.92	0.001	0.17
More opportunities for hiking	66	50	64	5.37	0.021	0.11
More recycling containers	62	56	62	0.73	0.394	0.04
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times	56	58	56	0.14	0.708	0.02
More trash cans	53	46	52	1.14	0.290	0.05
Do not change anything / keep as is	53	40	51	3.11	0.078	0.08
More information/ education	51	48	51	0.20	0.654	0.02
Natural buffers to block view of development	49	53	49	0.30	0.584	0.03
Make park more pet friendly	48	34	47	3.84	0.050	0.09
Restore to historical conditions	47	39	46	0.92	0.338	0.04
Improve maintenance of facilities / services	44	42	44	0.08	0.776	0.01
More group picnic areas	39	19	37	8.93	0.003	0.13
Wireless internet access in park	34	50	36	5.37	0.021	0.11
Limit the number of large groups allowed	34	44	36	1.78	0.183	0.06
More programs let by park rangers	36	27	35	1.72	0.190	0.06
More paved trails	33	23	32	2.45	0.117	0.07
More enclosed shelters	31	23	30	1.56	0.212	0.06
Limit the number of people allowed per day	24	37	26	4.16	0.041	0.10
Food for sale	24	15	23	2.59	0.107	0.07
Downloadable mobile phone applications	22	28	23	0.62	0.430	0.04
Close park to all recreation/tourism activities	13	6	12	1.69	0.193	0.06
Campsites with both RV and tent camping ^c	--	57	--	--	--	--
More space between campsites ^c	--	64	--	--	--	--
Increase enforcement of quiet hours ^c	--	43	--	--	--	--
More tent camping in campgrounds ^c	--	34	--	--	--	--
More group camping areas ^c	--	19	--	--	--	--
More walk in/ cart in campsites ^c	--	31	--	--	--	--

^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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 30 shows overall low support for service reductions with the highest support for reducing ranger-led programs (21%), and fewer ranger patrols (15%), with the lowest support for reducing hours open (4%), and reducing janitorial services (6%).

Table 30. 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	20	28	21	1.67	0.196	0.06
Fewer ranger patrols	15	13	15	0.16	0.693	0.02
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g. mowing)	10	11	10	0.04	0.843	0.01
Scaled down facilities (e.g., restrooms, shelters)	9	5	9	0.92	0.337	0.04
Reduced janitorial services	6	3	6	0.51	0.474	0.03
Fewer hours open	4	4	4	0.01	0.916	0.01

^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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 31 shows that the most popular type of campsite was an RV site (61%). In addition, 41% of overnight users stayed in the tent campsites. Few overnight users (i.e., 2% or less) stayed in the group tent or RV sites, the hiker / biker sites, yurts, and cabins.

Table 31. Overnight campsite use at Deschutes River State Recreation Area

RV Campsite	61
Tent Campsite	41
Other	2
Group Tent Camp	2
Group RV Camp	1
Hiker/ Biker Campsite	1
Yurt	<1
Cabin	<1

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 32 shows that over half these users (52%) would need 30 amps, (23%) would need no electrical power , and (19%) would need 50 amps. Few users (6%) would need 100 amps.

Table 32. Overnight user power supply needs

30 amps	52
No electric power needed	23
50 amps	19
100 amps	6

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 33 shows electric (80%) and water (73%) hookups to be more important than sewer (44%) hookups.

Table 33. Overnight user importance of RV hookups

Electric hookups	80
Water hookups	73
Sewer hookups	44

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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. Table 34 shows that 83% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 14% used the telephone reservation system, and 3% had someone else make the reservation. Second, users were asked to report their satisfaction with the reservation system, which was high with 83% satisfied and 17% not satisfied (Table 34).

Table 34. Overnight user reactions to the reservation systems

Type of reservation system used	
Internet reservation system	83
Telephone reservation system	14
Did not make the reservation	3
Satisfaction with reservation system	
Very Satisfied	41
Satisfied	42
Dissatisfied or Neutral	17

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

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

- 49% of both day and overnight users would consider participating in a Let's Go program at a nearby park. From those who indicated overall interest in Let's Go programs, the most popular programs were rafting (28%), fishing (28%), kayaking (27%), canoeing (24%), camping (24%), stargazing (23%), and hiking (22%). The least supported Let's Go programs were disc golfing (12%), scenic biking on roads (13%), and horseback riding (13%). The most frequently mentioned "other" programs were basic survival techniques, watchable wildlife, and natural/cultural history.
- Users most strongly supported strategies were to provide more opportunities for escaping crowds (82%), more opportunities for viewing wildlife (81%), more opportunities for hiking (64%), more recycling containers (62%), and requiring all dogs kept on leash at all times (56%). The least supported strategies were to close park to all recreation/ tourism activities (12%), downloadable phone applications (23%), food for sale (23%), and limit the number of people allowed per day (26%). Day users were significantly more supportive of five management options (Table 29) and overnight users one management option.
- A majority of overnight users supported more space between campsites (64%) and campsites with both RV and tent camping (57%). They were least supportive of providing more group camping areas (19%), walk in/ cart in campsites (31%), and more tent camping in campgrounds (34%).
- There was overall low support for service reductions in the park. The highest support was for reducing ranger-led programs (21%), and fewer ranger patrols (15%), with the lowest support for reducing hours open (4%), and reducing janitorial services (6%).
- The most popular type of campsite was an RV site (61%). In addition, 41% of overnight users stayed in the tent campsites. Few overnight users (i.e., 2% or less) stayed in the group tent or RV sites, hiker / biker sites, yurts, and cabins.
- Overnight users reported that if they were to stay at an RV or tent campsite (52%) would need 30 amps, (23%) would need no electrical power, and (19%) would need 50 amps. Few users (6%) would need 100 amps. The availability of electric (80%) and water (73%) hookups was more important than sewer (44%) hookups.

- In total, 83% of overnight users reserved their visit using the internet reservation system, 14% used the telephone reservation system, and 3% had someone else make the reservation. Second, users were asked to report their satisfaction with the reservation system, which was high with 83% satisfied and 17% dissatisfied or neutral. In addition, the highest proportion of users were “satisfied” (42%).

Sociodemographic Characteristics of Users

Table 35 shows demographic characteristics of users. There were more male (51%) than female (49%) users at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. There was no significant difference in the gender of overnight and day users. The average age of respondents was 46 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (20%) and 60 to 69 years old (20%). There was a significant difference in age between day (45 years) and overnight users (51 years). Almost all respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 87%) with some Hispanic/ Latinos (4%). The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$77,800, and the largest proportion of users had incomes from \$90,000 to \$109,999 (17%) and \$30,000 to \$49,999 (15%). Visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 (\$82,660) was larger than day users (\$77,200). Almost all users (97%) considered English as the primary language spoken in their homes. Finally, there was no significant difference between the language spoken most often at home between day and overnight users, with almost all (99%) overnight users speaking English and 97% of day users speaking English.

Table 35. Comparison of day and overnight user demographic characteristics

	User Group ^a			χ^2 or <i>t</i> value	<i>p</i> value	Effect size ϕ or r_{pb}
	Day Users	Overnight Users	Total ^b			
Gender				1.11	0.292	0.046
Female	50	43	49			
Male	50	57	51			
Age						
Less than 20 years old	3	<1	3			
20 – 29 years	20	8	19			
30 – 39 years	16	14	16			
40 – 49 years	15	21	16			
50 – 59 years	20	21	20			
60 – 69 years	20	31	20			
70 – 79 years	5	5	5			
80+ years old	1	0	1			
Average age (mean years)	45.52	51.32	46.06	4.06	<.001	0.19
Household income (before taxes)				27.09	.001	0.25
Less than \$10,000	5	<1	5			
\$10,000 – \$29,999	9	5	9			
\$30,000 – \$49,999	15	13	15			
\$50,000 – \$69,999	13	15	13			
\$70,000 – \$89,999	9	21	10			
\$90,000 – \$109,999	17	13	17			
\$110,000 – \$129,999	11	12	11			
\$130,000 – \$149,999	9	8	9			
\$150,000 – \$169,999	2	5	2			
\$170,000 or more	11	9	11			
Average income (mean dollars)	77,200	82,660	77,800	1.01	0.272	0.54
Ethnicity				2.04	0.916	0.06
White (Caucasian)	87	90	87			
Hispanic / Latino	5	2	4			
Other	3	2	3			
Black / African American	2	1	2			
American Indian / Alaska Native	2	1	2			
Asian	1	3	1			
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<1	1	<1			
Language spoken most often at home				3.67	0.299	0.08
English	97	99	97			
Spanish	2	<1	2			
Russian	1	0	<1			
Other	<1	1	1			

^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 36 shows that 66% of users lived in Oregon, 17% resided in Washington, 4% resided in California, and 3% were from Idaho. Among park users, 31% of park users resided in the Portland Metro region of Oregon, (<http://www.guidetooregon.com/regions/map.html>), 11% lived in the Mt. Hood/ Gorge, 9% lived in the Willamette Valley, 8% lived in the Central region, 6% lived in the Eastern region, and 1% lived in the Southern and Coastal regions of the state. The largest percentage of overnight users was the Portland Metro (34%), Central (11%), and the Willamette Valley (10%) regions, whereas day users came primarily from the Portland Metro (26%) and Mt. Hood / Gorge (23%) regions. A majority of day users lived in Oregon (66%), Washington (16%), California (4%), and Idaho (3%). Overnight users resided in Oregon (65%), Washington (18%), California (4%), and Idaho (3%).

Table 36. Respondent location of residence

	Day Users (%)	Overnight Users (%)	Total (%) ^a
Country			
USA	97	94	97
Canada	3	5	3
Other	0	1	0
State			
Oregon ^b	66	65	66
Washington	16	18	17
California	4	4	4
Idaho	3	3	3
Other	11	10	10

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

^b In total, 31% of park users resided in the Portland Metro region of Oregon, 11% lived in the Mt. Hood/ Gorge, 9% lived in the Willamette Valley, 8% lived in the Central region, 6% lived in the Eastern region, and 1% lived in the Southern and Coastal regions of the state. Around 34% of users came from out of state. The largest percentage of overnight users was from the Portland Metro (34%), Central (11%), and the Willamette Valley (10%) regions, whereas day users came primarily from the Portland Metro (26%) and Mt. Hood / Gorge (23%) regions.

Table 37 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 (9% of park users), while 5% had a hearing disability, 2% had a learning disability, and 2% had impaired sight.

Table 37. 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	0.15	0.699	0.016
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 = 9%, hearing = 5%, learning = 2%, sight = 2%, other = 2%

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

- There were more male (51%) than female (49%) users at this park.
- The average age of visitors was 46 years old, and the largest proportions of users were 50 to 59 years old (20%) and 60 to 69 years old (20%).
- The average annual household income before taxes of respondents was \$77,800, and the largest proportion of users had incomes from \$90,000 to \$109,999 (17%) and \$30,000 to \$49,999 (15%). Visitors to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 (\$82,660) was larger than day users (\$77,200).
- Most respondents were white (i.e., Caucasian; 87%) with some Hispanic/ Latinos (4%).
- Almost all respondents (97%) reported English as their primary language spoken in their homes.
- 31% of park users resided in the Portland Metro region of Oregon, 11% lived in the Mt. Hood/ Gorge, 9% lived in the Willamette Valley, 8% lived in the Central region, 6% lived in the Eastern region, and 1% lived in the Southern and Coastal regions of the state. Around 34% of users came from out of state. The largest percentage of overnight users was the Portland Metro (34%), Central (11%), and the Willamette Valley (10%) regions, whereas day users came primarily from the Portland Metro (26%) and Mt. Hood / Gorge (23%) regions.
- 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. There were no significant differences between day and overnight users. Of those who had a disability, the most common was

associated with walking (9% of park users), while 5% had a hearing disability, 2% had a learning disability, and 2% 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area:

- Almost all day and overnight users traveled to this park in their own vehicles (91%), so adequate parking is important and should be considered in planning and management.
- The average number of visitors per vehicle for Deschutes River State Recreation Area day-use visitors (2.89) 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 (39%) and day users (34%) 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. Managers may want to consider examining enforcement of existing pet regulations in the day and overnight areas as 56% of all visitors supported requiring dogs be on leash at all times.
- Most users (94%) were satisfied with their experiences and the conditions at this park. Satisfaction, however, was consistently lower for the quality and number of educational information (both 60%), information about conditions/ hazards (62%), and facilities for groups to gather (62%). 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/ access (wheelchair, elderly, stroller; 61%). Given that over 26% of park visitors were over the age of 60 and 14% of users had disabilities (9% 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 75% of overnight users felt crowded at the park. These results suggest that crowding in the overnight-use areas is at “more than capacity”, where crowding problems may soon or already exceed social carrying capacity. Monitoring and management of park overnight use levels should be considered, especially given that 82% of park users supported the provision of more opportunities for escaping crowds. Overnight visitors also reported the need for screening between campsites for privacy.
- Users most strongly supported strategies to provide more opportunities for escaping crowds (82%), more opportunities for viewing wildlife (81%), more opportunities for hiking (64%), more recycling containers (62%), and requiring all dogs kept on leash at all times (56%). A majority of overnight users also supported more space between campsites (64%) and campsites with both RV and tent camping (57%). Managers may want to consider some or all of these strategies.
- The visitor spending analysis showed that non-local overnight visitor party spending was substantial, with the highest percentage reporting spending \$51-\$150 (41%) and \$151-\$350 (31%) on their trip (within 30 miles of the park). Most visitors reported spending some money on gasoline and oil and groceries. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area visitor spending on the local economies.
- The largest proportion of users (57%) depended on official internet websites as the first primary source of obtaining information about state parks such as Deschutes River State Recreation Area, and the majority of overnight users (83%) 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 (93%) were able to find the information they needed when planning their visit to Deschutes River State Recreation Area. However, some visitors (7%) were not able to find all information needed. The most popular information needed was pictures and site dimensions of campsites, better map and signs to the park, wildfire and rattlesnake information.

- Users also provided 418 verbatim open ended comments on what they found to be the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area. The most common outstanding features and things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area involved: (a) fishing; (b) the river; (c) hiking; (d) natural beauty; (e) swimming; (f) camping near water; and (g) clean facilities. This information could be added to the Deschutes River State Recreation Area website to inform future visitors regarding what other visitors feel are the most outstanding features at the park.
- Users provided 317 verbatim open ended positive and negative comments, and suggestions for possible improvement of Deschutes River State Recreation Area and other park related issues. The most common concerns raised involved: (a) loud trains, (b) need for a children's playground, (c) more privacy between campsites, (d) need for a dump station or sewer hookups, (e) too many user fees, (f) dirty restrooms & no soap, (g) more RV sites, (h) larger RV sites for bigger RVs, (i) add restrooms/ showers, (j) need for a fish cleaning station, and (k) flying bugs.

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APPENDIX A: OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Positive Comments

- Another well maintained state park - thank you for the GREAT work!
- Appreciate your hiker/biker section.
- Awesome park-I should buy a lottery ticket to support parks and recreation!
- Beautiful place. We loved our visit on route to WI.
- Been coming here for 30 years. Appreciate the restroom upgrades. I wouldn't change a thing.
- Do I like the park, yes, would I come back, yes. people friendly, yes. clean, yes.
- Enjoyed finding a nice tranquil setting on a hot summer day.
- Fine the way it is.
- Great area! First time here and lived in The Dalles for 20y. Unfortunately, this park is a really good secret! Love the green grass/picnic area.
- Great park - wonderful experience - met fun picnickers - great personnel - best experience in a long time - certainly will be back and tell others!
- Great park! Wish we had more time to explore.
- Great place.
- I feel everything is satisfactory at this time and look forward to staying again when we visit Oregon
- I think everything is beautiful...I enjoy everything ! This park is so clean and green, rangers were very nice and helpful ! Just keep it like that !
- I think your doing a great job now. So maintain as you are doing.
- I'm not sure it needs any improvement, it was great the way it is.
- Is amazing place;) Txs .
- It is a very beautiful park we have been here 3 times passing through to another town or state.
- It's a nice park with access to river.
- Its great the way it is.
- Its great, I really enjoyed the visit.
- It's great just the way it is. If it aint broke, don't fix it :)
- It's perfect for us.
- It's pretty nice now.
- Just fine.
- Keep as is
- Keep doing what been doing with a smile :)
- Keep it as it is! It is a great place to visit!
- Keep it beautiful and quiet.
- Keep it the way it is please. Clean and beautiful!!
- Keep the camping area as it is.
- Keep up the great work!
- Not much, love it
- Not sure. It was pretty darned good.
- Nothing, it's good.
- Our family's first time here. Very nice place - green / ,oist. Cool and great. Thank you

- Park Rangers were excellent.
- Pretty park and nicely maintained. Thanks.
- Thank you.
- The park is absolutely beautiful. It is the most well kept & green that have seen this summer 2015.
- The park is terrific! Well maintained.
- Too great.
- Very nice! Hosts helpful.
- We have been coming here for about 7 years. We have always been very happy with the park - The cleanliness and people are always friendly.

Negative Comments and / or Issues for Improvement

- A better play area for kids.
- A fish cleaning station would be really nice. Well away from the campsite so nobody could smell it. Up by the new off leash dog park at the south end of the park.
- A playground for small/young children. Better beach access-fewer rocks. Historical signs in park.
- A playground for the kids would be awesome!
- A playground would be nice, more activities, a mini market in the area would be convenient, speed bumps and signs, cleaner bathrooms
- A sign indicating the picnic/day use area.
- Access to the river.
- Add a dump station.
- Add garbage cans throughout the park.
- Add electricity and water to your group campsite.
- Add more RV sites with power, water, and sewer.
- Add sewer hook ups at the sites or at least a dump station. Continue reservations thru November.
- Add sewer/septic for RV sites.
- Allow camp fires in summer- appreciate the weather.
- Allow dogs off leash.
- Apply the leash free law to morons that don't control their dogs. Treat it like speeding...you speed, you get a ticket. Your dog causes problems, you get a ticket. maybe have an off leash area. The park is meticulously clean and well kept. The employees are terrific...positive, capable and good with customer service.
- Area where dogs can run free. There is space to develop an area and dogs are very prominent in the park.
- Better separation of campsites, vegetative screens.
- Better signage to the park at a longer distance.
- Better signage. Actually found signage in whole place of Oregon fair to poor. Signs indicated camping but often left you hanging as to which direction and how far to the destination. Went on more than one "goose chase" so to speak and ended up choosing alternate camping.
- Better trail maps at trail heads, basic trail maps available to take, better maintenance of certain stretches of eastern riverbank trail. Trail signage.
- Campfire restrictions.

- Campsites were very crowded
- Change the online reservations so that you can reserve more than one campsite per transaction. Paying \$10 for a night is very reasonable. An \$8 service charge is not, especially when you purchase more than one site and that service charge applies to each site. My party had 5 sites all together, so we paid \$40 to process our \$50/night site fee. That's lame.
- Children's play equipment.
- Children's play equipment.
- Clean goose poop on a daily basis.
- Clean up the duck poop, you can not walk around the lawn with your head up because you have to watch where you walk at all times. I worried about small children and getting sick.
- Cut the dividing shrubbery back from the paved loops about 4 feet. Let people know size of site before reservations. Have the hosts take a class on respecting/ helping others. They were very rude and none helpful.
- Not every park has to be environmentally kosher... just expand with some more natural overflow/dispersed areas...let the grounds guy have the greenest lawn in Oregon..it's OK.
- Depending on the camp more room is needed to backup. I can handle it but see a lot of people have difficulty.
- Description of irregular campsites in your information would help. Small and un-level sites should be noted. Also, common sense from the park manager is needed. Flexibility and the ability to workout solutions might be important in a park manager if you want campers to return.
- Desperately need a fish cleaning station.
- Disc golf course and make the wind go away:)
- Do away with the train!
- Do something about the bugs. We have stayed there in the past and it wasn't near that bad. This time it was inhabitable for use after dark. The bathroom facilities were deplorable. We have never experienced anything that bad.
- Dogs on leashes at all times, STRICT enforcement of this on trails.
- Don't change the park. No online reservations 1st come, 1st served.
- Don't make it any bigger!
- Don't over do it.
- Don't raise the fees to stay over night. Keep them down. The poor can't come, and we are it.
- Don't touch it.
- Dump site far away, no train honking.
- Dump station for RV's.
- Dump station and stop the trains.
- Ease up on the quiet hours. We were approached 3 times for being loud when we were merely talking. Therefore, provide more space between campsites. Ours was a family reunion and there was much conversation/laughter to be had. Also it seemed like there was a lot of park personnel present. They seemed to be walking the park every 15 minutes. I think that was unnecessary. I camp frequently in remote places specifically so I can be as loud as I want and not have to deal with people. Camping is an escape and I didn't feel like I could do that here. I probably won't be back. That being said the facilities were decent and the park personnel were for the most part friendly.

- Easy going please, showers are awesome don't change them, I am an Oregonian and I love this place, don't make it touristy, never able to get a spot.
- Either a dump station or full hook-ups. Free wi-fi. Stay open through November with water and electricity.
- Electric hookups in group area.
- Encountered 2 different panhandlers walking into my site and every other site, asking for money. This is not acceptable at all. This was middle of the day and not a Park Host or Park personnel anywhere to be found.
- Enhance vegetation buffer between park and the train tracks to help dampen the noise. Continue reinvesting in the park. Consider motion sensor lights in restroom and tighter mesh in restroom vents. Each evening we experienced heavy bug impacts in the restroom. staff and volunteers did a good job cleaning it up, but preventative measures might help.
- Fish cleaning station. Larger camping spaces. Install a dump station for RV's.
- Geocaching, 2nd bathroom/shower, trash cans everywhere.
- Get new Camp Host (A loop)! It is my understanding that the same awful camp hosts have been there for at least the last 2 years.
- Get rid of Jim the head Ranger. He has very little personality that he shares. If you wave he turns his head. He is something else! All the other staff is wonderful and make the camping wonderful. He's a real bummer to the park.
- Get the Railroad to stop running trains from Midnight til 7:00am. Sleeping was an issue due to the LOUD TRAIN WHISTLES in the middle of the night.
- Get the trains to quit double-honking, and do something about the loud partying.
- Get the trains to stop whistling in the night.
- Give Randall and Connie a raise. Add another stall in the men's room. Replace the not user friendly urinal in the men's room. Add soap and paper towels to the men's room. A loop men's room, that is. Add a thin layer of fine, clean pea gravel to the bare dirt in the A loop sites. Make the fish bite. Amen.
- Go back to first come, first served.
- Have a contact number visitors can call when someone is having a fire - when there is a burn ban.
- Have campground host come by to check on things. Provide ventilation in the showers. Provide soap in the bathrooms.
- Have pix of the RV campsites on the websites; make RV campsites bigger - more privacy.
- Have the rangers be more knowledgeable about their job, communicate better with each other and lighten up on the campers.
- Having more for kids, play structure, place to ride bikes safely.
- Having recycling containers more obvious, or signs to them. Bathrooms needed more cleaning due to an issue with tiny flies coating the sinks! Not sure why they were swarming. Great place!
- Help protect this previous river and its fish!! Go Deschutes River Alliance!
- I don't like the geese poop on the grass. Sometimes its too much.
- I don't think there's anything you can do about the trains. Relocate group campsite.
- I know there is nothing you can do about the traffic and train, but it is a problem that will keep me from coming back. Thanks, Oregon is great.
- I loved this park, unfortunately we were there, on the way to another state park in Eastern Oregon, both on the way over and the way back the temperatures were unseasonably

HOT! We would have loved to be more active and explore more about this park but the heat kept us near the water and even in the AC watching a movie. We are looking forward to coming back and exploring more maybe during the fall or spring. All of the Rangers were very nice.

- I think there should be a playground for little kids and a bathroom with running water and toilets in the day use area
- I think it would be nice if they had pop machine and vending machine. Other places do :) Some people need for medical reasons
- I think its ok park in this lot to hike but I'm not sure. Surprise would help. It's a great place to come to. We camped here last year and enjoyed it.
- I think some more secluded camp spots for those who wish to be away from crowds, although the snakes might be a problem.
- I think you are doing a fine job. My only concern is all the damn fees. A fee to float, a fee to go to the island? Really. Thank you, Randy R.
- I thought it was great. My only complaint was the trains honking their horns every hour during the night. Which the website DID mention. I just didn't believe it would be so frequent and loud. Nothing can be done about that. Park rangers were great and we saw them often.
- I was not expecting the \$8 registration fee, it would be helpful if the price displayed for reservation included this fee instead of adding it on later. This \$8 nearly doubled the amount I was planning on paying. (\$10 for the site + \$8 fee)
- I was surprised to hear BLM was running a powerboat on a non pb weekend
- I wish the spaces were a bit farther apart. Other than that, this is one of the nicest parks in Oregon
- I would love to see a play area for my kids and neces. More safety signs
- I'd say by putting up like a Volleyball nets to be able to play :) Other than that this park is amazing. Would not change anything from it :)
- If the group site had a couple of water valves and some power available! That would be awesome!
- If you intend to continue the same or greater level of use, you need more showers. People were coming from the tent sections into the RV section. The water quality of your hose hook-up at first caused me to think my water pump was leaking petroleum products into the water. Disconnected hose and filled bottles outside of trailer, then realized the smell and taste was from chemicals in your water. No problem with our water pump on the rest of the trip.
- Install a dump station for RV's.
- Install a fish cleaning facility
- it can use a playground for children. Some dog droppings were near the tables
- It is a wonderful campground. The only thing that could help is that the back in spots are not slanted properly and therefore it could be difficult for some folks to back a trailer into the site. The loop road in the RV section is pretty narrow. For people with big motorhomes - pull through is nice.
- It is disappointing for an Oregon state park to not have an RV dump. Provide complimentary earplugs for the train noise. Have obvious reminders on the Oregon state park and ReserveAmerica website about the park not having an RV dump and also about the train noise. Although I think the train noise might have been mentioned on the sites.

- It was not your fault, as we loved the campsite, but it was entirely too hot out to sleep in a tent and we had to pack it in for a hotel with AC. Wish we lived closer but your park was on the way to our destination from our previous living quarters.
- It would be a great improvement for us if the Tie up boat area along the campgrounds west bank was improved to protect the boats from the large rocks put in place to stop erosion, we do not use this option because of the damage that has occurred to our boat in the past. A Fish cleaning station is a must, most campgrounds around the state have put in nice fish cleaning stations to keep people from using the picnic tables to do so, it would be a very nice improvement here as well.
- It would be nice If the boat ramp area had a dock area to tie up on. Would be especially helpful for single-handed boaters.
- It would be nice if the tent sites were more spread out / more privacy.
- It's fantastic. Unless you can reroute the Union Pacific rail artery, I'd leave it alone. Perhaps an RV dump station and/or full hookups some day.
- It's hard to get a reservation? I think people are booking too far in advance. Limit reservations within two to three months or less of the actual stay.
- Just a few more garbage cans in the day use/swimming area. We enjoy the relaxing feel of Deschutes!
- Keep funding at same levels, picnic looks good!
- Keep it clean and maintained. Build on the trail system and have trail information and markers.
- Keep it clean, keep it quiet.
- Keep it simple. Well kept. People like to get away from town (restaurants, people, ect.) Do not ruin it by doing much.
- Keep low key, small, natural. some of the camp sites are "compressed" or close together, would be nice to have a little more space but not at risk of impacting environment. I think the park between the A loop and group sites is great, but not utilized enough to be as large as it is and could be used to slightly expand or a small number of sites to.
- Keep the park maintained.
- Keeping up the good maintenance program, keep the grass green and continue to hire friendly rangers and camp host.
- Kid play area.
- Kiosk with geological and historical information. We have come here many times and always enjoy our time here.
- Leave as it is or add more RV and primitive sites.
- Less fees, more campsites.
- Less fees, leave our parks alone!
- Less jet boat traffic!
- Less powered water vessels on the river. Drinkable water at Heritage Landing somehow!
- Less ranger hovering, positive ranger interaction as opposed to park police, don't water my campsite while I'm camped in it but out fishing for the day, walkways in between campsites so I don't have folks tromping right through the middle of my site.
- Less rules.
- Let us use a power outlets to fill up Air Mattress for my pregnant wife!!
- Limit crowds.
- Limit group camping amount. Were distrurbed quite alot by loud groups.
- Limit number of people per site.

- Limit people to how many times they can book RV sites per year!!!!
- Limit the length of time you can reserve campsites. Park is booked many months in advance of summer. Not let the large groups leave their children unattended running wild throughout the park. Last couple trips there were groups of 15 plus Hispanic kids running through campsites and being very obnoxious and loud. Also witnessed on multiple occasions these groups walk into the river and start relieving themselves right in front of us when we were sitting in the river. Pretty gross.
- Longer RV sites with more space between sites.
- Longer trailer sites, better beach boat access.
- Love it. Have tried to get reservations, always seems full! Must be doing things right.
- Love the new restrooms in B loop, sorry to see more trees cut down but excited to see that the almonds are bearing nuts!
- Love your park, wish my husband wouldn't get poison oak every time he walks the trail for fishing..ha ha. Beautiful green lawns to look at, don't change a thing.
- Maintain the river trail for the first 2 miles.
- Make a safe swimming area.
- Make bathroom easier to get to. Fix a place so people can get to the water easier. Not have to go under or over the rope.
- Make exit from drift boats away from rocks :(I have a special needs son its impossible to exit on rocks.
- Make tent specific sites without power hookups (so they are less expensive) and physically separated from R/V sites.
- Make the day-use picnic area smaller and add more sites for RV/Tent camping such as "A loop."
- Make the process of changing or cancelling reservations easier, PLEASE!
- Make the trains stop blowing their horns all night long.
- Maybe keep the grass along the trails to avoid snakes. Maybe a few more shaded areas for when its really hot.
- Maybe you could provide some sort of electrical outlets in the tent camping area for cell phones and other devices. As it is now, it was hard to get at the sinks in the bathroom because people were using those outlets for their devices for long periods of time.
- More bathrooms and trails kept up more.
- More beaches, kid crossing signs, biking signs.
- More campsites and RV with electricity.
- More campsites spread out so its not a parking lot.
- More clearly mark waste water dumps in RV area. Improve recycling facilities. All State Parks should become total non-smoking areas.
- More flush toilets, more frequent dump station emptying, ban generators.
- More garbage cans, bathroom water fountains.
- More horse camping opportunities!
- More improvements=more people. We live in The Dalles-close escape to get refreshed.
- More isolated campsites. Provide screening, etc, trees, bushes, between sites.
- More Mt. Bike trails/bike trail, fish cleaning station. Very nice park!
- More Mt. Bike trails-fishcleaning station. Its all good at Deschutes.
- More privacy, clean toilets, doesn't feel like a campsite, its more like a park.
- More RV or campsites.
- More RV sites with deeper parking spots. Fish Cleaning Station would be great!

- More shade trees at some of the tent camp sites. That's about it. I think the camp is great!
- More showers.
- More showers, enforce leash rules, do not allow boats to be parked in tent sites.
- More space between campsites or maybe put in some remote sites.
- More space in between camp sites.
- More spots for camping, your always booked up.
- More tent camping. Maybe hike in spots. Reduce extra car fee to \$5.
- More trash cans.
- More trees between the RV campsites...too crowded.
- More vehicle camp sites.
- More warning signs regarding rattle snakes. Canoe and kayak boat launching from the park. A new water spigot at the south side of the campground would be nice. Solar light inside the concrete restroom at the south side of the campground would be really nice.
- Mowing watering grass-less important then trails; beackcountry camping, keep the river natural.
- My family and I were EXTREMELY pleased with our visit. We looked forward to our stay for a while since we made the reservations. We stayed in the RV sites in our trailer, next to the river. Was amazing. Facilities, personnel, and rates were great. My only complaint will be the fee that we are charged for booking on-line ("convenience fee" I believe). I payed the fee for the original reservation then had to pay it again to add an extra day to our stay. Was a total of approximately \$18 which is close to paying the fee for another day's stay at the park. I'm sure the website is independent from the park and the fee goes to the agency hosting the site, but, at the end of the day it is a part of the "whole experience" for this trip. Either way, thank you so much for the GREAT job you do at the Deschutes River State Rec Park!!!
- Need hand soap in bathroom.
- Need soap in restroom, signs for children + playground
- No train lol.
- Normally I visit the park during summer steel head season. I bike up river with gear, fish, spend the night, fish more, and return to car next day. A few signs up river may help w the dirty fisherman polluting the area.
- Not a fan of carrying cash to pay for vehicle charges because Reserve America couldn't allow it. I could add a boat but not a 2nd vehicle. As a result, I had to find an ATM (10 miles west) to secure \$21 cash for my 3 nights. Park host / ranger was quick to place an IOU sticker on my windshield but had no time to welcome us to the campground or ask if everything was alright. They appeared to address those folks who visited their castle but they made no attempt to visit. Upon my arrival, I needed to spend 15 minutes to read all of the junk on the wall to figure out the next step. Another camper arrived and was just as puzzled...after I finished my paperwork, I lent my limited experience and walked him thru the quagmire of wallpaper.
- Not allow cars to drive into the grassy circle of campsites!!! There is parking outside, right by the campsites so that is enough. Very disturbing to be in your tent and then have a car go by in the same group of people who are drinking alcohol. Seems a recipe for them driving right into our tent and killing my kid or I.
- Not charge my wife to park at my campsite. You should have 2 cars for free, that is ridiculous. I think I paid enough for the campsite, no need to stick it to loyal customers for nickel and dime ----.

- Not sure what you can do about it... but the bathroom was far too disgusting to use. The dead gnats and other flying bugs had literally covered every square inch of the sinks and that did not change during the time I was there. Would there be a cost effective way to create an intermediate screened entry?
- Warning signs should be posted along the river banks and park rangers should patrol more often. On our last trip, my son-in-law and I saved a kid from drowning in the river. He tried swimming across the river and got caught in the current. Never got his name, but his dad thanked us.
- Not sure. It was pretty great. Maybe a few more trees here and there, but, it is somewhat in the desert and very dry. Maybe use the Deschutes water to grow a few trees. Overall, great spot.
- Nothing really. The train is a bit of a nuisance; maybe hand out earplugs. Haha
- Online reservation fee seemed slightly high, a warning of proximity to train tracks and noise, overall very nice.
- Our only issue - the campsite we had was very tight for the size 5th wheel we had and to be able to park the truck on the site too. It was rated for our size trailer. Only my brother, who made a living driving a truck could have gotten it in there. Site number was in the 20s - close to the bathrooms. Straight back in sites are harder on such a narrow road. Also, the vehicles hanging over the edge at the site across the way didn't help. This was the only issue we had with the experience at the park. Obviously, we live 2000 miles away, we won't be back but would if the opportunity happened.
- Parking was frustrating and expensive.
- Perhaps identify two showers for men and two for women?
- Periodically trim back the blackberry bushes on the lower river trail
- Pick up dead fish please
- Place was near perfect. More space and/or vegetation between campsites would improve the experience
- Plant more trees, reduce the amount of people camping.
- Play ground equipment other than river seen no cover for picnic would like to know if more up river if theres a place to swim or play in shallow waters.
- Play place for children, more kid friendly activities, play ground etc. Teach river safety.
- Play structure for kids, water craft rentals, soap in bathrooms.
- Play structure, love the nature trees.
- Playground.
- Playground equipment. Easier handicap access to day use.
- Playground for children, eradicate canada thistle in day use lawn, get rid of puncture vine (goat heads) between tent camping toilet, day use parking lot.
- Playground for kids.
- Playground, beach areas enlarged.
- Playground, dog park off leash area, a couple of permanent grilles.
- Playground, speed limit system, love it here.
- Playground/kid friendly.
- Please - add flushing toilets to the camping areas! Also - more space/privacy between tent camping sites!
- Please do not over develop or over restrict. The area is clean and managed as is.
- PLEASE enforce the noise rules and general behavior guidelines in the campground. We had loud groups on either side of us, one with several kids running around and yelling,

and playing music late at night; and the other group that was drinking and making a lot of noise playing a some form of field game well after dark. This was not compatible with my plan to get a good nights sleep and get up early to go fishing. When we awoke in the morning the campsite with the kids and young adults was completely trashed with beer and water bottles strewn all over the ground, empty bags of chips on the ground, chairs tipped over, etc., etc.

- Please keep this park open. It's incredibly beautiful, clean and friendly. I look forward to seeing it every summer. Close the railroads, that's my only advice :)
- Please put more space between campsites. We were crammed in next to some people with several children. No privacy. Other than that, we have been at the campground before and had great spots more along the River.
- Possibly another shower facility in the "B" loop. And, doing something with the "no-shows". Several campsites were open all weekend, even though they were booked.
- Post speed limit signage to improve safety for children and pedestrians.
- Protect fishing.
- Provide an off-leash dog area!!!
- Provide bbq pits in the day use area. Overall we had a great day and we will definitely be back again. The staff is wonderful and the picnic area is clean and bathrooms are very well maintained. Thank you.
- Provide foot access to the Columbia River as well.
- Provide intertubes and rafts that are safe.
- Provide larger RV sites. We have a 30 ft trailer and alot of sites are too small.
- Provide more RV campsites and eliminate reservations one year in advance. Limit the total number of nights people can camp during salmon/steelhead season. People that only have 3-4 day vacation time can never get a reservation within the park during this season.
- Provide swim area. Increase space between sites. Make sites larger. Add more full book up sites.
- Put a leash on overzealous park ranger.
- Put in a sani-dump, make the sites larger for big RV's, change the rude Host on site, turn the darn sprinklers off, clean the river access area so people can actually get to and into the water in the public area to swim!!!! we are not all there to FISH!!!! We will never return there and lost money for 1 nite camping.
- Put in sewer or at least an in-park RV dump station.
- Put soap in bathrooms; provide more toilets; more parking; turn the north section of the park (grassy area closer to highway) into RV sites with more space for RV's and trailers (allowing enough room for slide outs and longer RV's and trailers); could also do the same thing with some of the picnic area between Section A and B; build a playground; build a dump; build a boat dock and/or a place to park boats by the campground.
- Put soap in restroom! Very nice park would not change much.
- Reduce reservation fees when reserving multiple sites.
- Reduce the noise in the campground - specifically from the trains!
- Reduce train noise.
- Reducing crowds on weekends.
- Remark deschutes waterway land enforcement contract. Go to a agency trade 1 hour of straight time for 2 hours of state parks overtime. You would get better and more efficient law enforcement coverage for scenic waterway. Include OSP, Wasco & Sherman Counties in contract.

- Remove boat fees and plant sound barriers to soften train horns, and/ or make the crossing a no-horn crossing.
- Remove goose poop daily! Clean restrooms!
- Replace signage along the river trail describing the native flora along the way. Years ago the signs were in place, and a single page brochure (available at the little info board just before the river trail started) acted as a guide with descriptions of the plants near the numbered markers along the trail. It was basically a simple self-guided tour.
- Replace vault toilets for flash toilets in all camping areas.
- Restore natural fire regime, reduce invasives, fish habitat, place educational signs; extend trail up river.
- Sani dump would be a great improvement!
- Separate the RV campsites from each other. They're too close together.
- Sewage hook up.
- Sewer dump station.
- Sewer hook ups would be nice.
- Sewer hookups would be nice, but not that important. Otherwise great as is.
- Signs for children, more parking, trim shrubs, little room for slideouts, soap in bathrooms, post actual size of sites and how wide, on website.
- Soap and more ventilation in the restrooms.
- Soap available in restrooms, play structures.
- Some RV campsites are nearly on top of one another.
- Some stickers on weeds the south circle of day use area that need removed. We love this park.
- Somehow reduce the noise from roads / trains, and spread out the campsites so they are less crowded. Otherwise it's a real gem of a park.
- Somewhere to get into the water other than from rocks.
- Spreading out the camp sites would be great. It's hard to relax when feeling like other folks are right on top of you, and hard to sleep when neighbors are talking and arguing late into the night. It's a beautiful park but I would really hesitate to spend another night in a tent less than two feet from a stranger's tent.
- Stargazing lookout spot? Better nature trail and children's playground.
- Stop charging for kids to play in the river. We pay for our drift boat....but for each kid to pay \$2 per day to use that natural resource?! We are looking into other places to vacation, It's getting too frustrating to be told by each ranger that comes on shift. We live on the Deschutes and play in the Deschutes here in Bend. It is ONLY at your campground that we are told to pay. Otherwise, a great place to stay. Randall is always friendly and does a great job.
- Stop the trains running at night! Just kidding, I know that's impossible. I enjoyed my time spent at the park despite the whistles at night. I think Oregon State Parks did a great job with the park.
- Take away \$8 booking fee. \$2 would be ok.
- Take out a loop and make it car camping.
- Tell the hostess to smile and appear more friendly.
- Tell the trains not to blow their horns when going by the park!
- Tell them damn Railroads that it is not necessary to toot their horns. I believe they do that just to be damn ornery.

- The access to the outhouse in loop B really should be adjusted. It's extremely steep. Really excited for the new facilities though!
- The area is spectacular, but the campsites are incredibly crowded. I would love see more space between campsites. I go camping to get away from people, but when camping at the Deschutes River, I'm surrounded by people at every moment of the day. Also, there wasn't enough shade. The campsite was boiling hot, but there was almost no shade to be found. Other than that, I loved the trip!
- The host on this day was extremely rude and very grumpy, it started the evening off on a negative state after having driven all day to get there.
- The new ADA bathroom in the B loop is very nice - but it needs a stairway leading up from the B loop campsites to the flat pad of the restrooms - it is not convenient to walk up the paved entrance to the B loop or along the roadway - especially at night in the dark.
- The night time flying bug situation was bad! It looked like it was snowing in the headlights. We would not go back for that reason.
- The night we stayed there were billions of flying insects once the sun set. They swarmed anything illuminated. We camp a lot and had never seen anything like it. It made the showers and bathrooms unusable and kept us from leaving our vehicle. In the morning the bathroom floors were carpeted with dead insects, which was disturbing. The insect problem would be the only thing keeping us from returning or recommending the park to others.
- The night we stayed, the restrooms were over-run with insects - 1000's of bugs - every where. The children in our group refused to use the bathroom. (These are seasoned campers, used to bugs and the outdoors - the sheer volume of insects was overwhelming!) Thank goodness we had a self-contained trailer. It would nice if the RV sites had sewer hook-ups or there was a dump station at the campground.
- The only problem we had was it was tight backing in our truck/trailer and the sign post for the site was so far out it was in the way.
- The ranger allowed another camper to move into our campsite before breakfast without asking us.
- The showers could use better exhaust fans.
- The site was uneven, we could not level our motor home adequately. Other than that the park was great. The hiking trail was overgrown and should have been signed as such before the walk began.
- The small sites at the beginning of the RV loop are a bit small for even a pretty small trailer. The bushes on the side of the concrete pad made it impossible to access any of the compartments or utilities on that side of the trailer and I had to park my truck off the pad on the ground.....this doesnt bother me, but Im sure it bothers you. The spots on the rest of the loop were much more spacious, but I was glad to have the spot available.
- The sprinklers were on all night - it was a waste of water.
- The web site information said check in was 4:00 pm, when we got there it was 1:00 pm.
- There should be campsites where large groups can hang out and the park's quiet hours should have some flexibility. We weren't loud but since the campers on either side of us were there for fishing, hence they were sleeping by 9 PM. As a large group with children we tried hard to speak softly but still some of the campers complained and the rangers made us disperse. We had to sleep by 10 AM while we noticed the second night that there were some campers who were still making noise after 10 but that didn't bother a lot of people.

- This time the dogs are running all over the place some of them have a leash on but no person on the other end! And the campsite 2 down from us had 5 tents put up in it and that is way too many people in one site (the group had 3 site but only used 1 for their tents) and they were very loud until someone started yelling at them it was 1:30 am. Im very upset with the park because they stopped taking reservation on Nov. 1st. We have been going up there for the last 10 years or so with at least 12 camp site. And now we are just going to have to go and hope we can get a site that our RVs will fit into.
- To improve the park there needs to be showers at both ends for disabled people. or put parking by the showers for disabled people.
- To many rules just to enjoy the river. Pay for this, pay for that. Can't even just float in a iner tube or air mattress, or just canoe around without someone wanting \$. That's B.S. Randy R.
- Train the rangers to leave people alone. I felt like he was targeting us, and he ruined our trip.
- Trains- loud!
- Update restrooms and make the train stop laying on its horn all night.
- Walking for handicap to get down to the park.
- Warning signs for poison oak, sting nettle, snakes, etc.
- We love it....please keep facilities clean & camp hosts/ranger presence!
- We regularly visit and enjoy the day-use wading area, but are discouraged to find so many fish hooks. I suggest making the wading area a no fishing zone for the safety of other park patrons.
- We were part of a small RV caravan following the old Oregon Trail. We enjoyed our one night stay and have no suggestions for improvement.
- What we find the most frustrating with the Deschutes River is getting boaters passes to either use float tubes from the park or getting passes to float and fish the river from Mack Canyon to Heritage. This year it has been a nightmare!!
- Why are there no Yurts? Tell state police to chill (on the river).
- Wifi, more trash cans, slides to go to the water, lifeguard stations, mountain hiking trails.

APPENDIX B: QUESTIONNAIRES

**Day Visitor Experiences and Perceptions
at Deschutes River State Recreation Area**



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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? (write number) _____ hour(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Hiking or walking	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Playing volleyball	<input type="checkbox"/> N. Inner tubing
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> I. Sightseeing	<input type="checkbox"/> O. Fishing
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Running or jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Picnicking or barbecuing	<input type="checkbox"/> P. Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Bicycling on local roads	<input type="checkbox"/> K. Outdoor photography	<input type="checkbox"/> Q. Swimming/wading
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Mountain biking	<input type="checkbox"/> L. Bird or wildlife watching	<input type="checkbox"/> R. Other (write response) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> F. Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/> M. Rafting	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> G. Visiting historic sites		

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Deschutes River SRA 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 Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

10. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Deschutes River State Recreation Area in the future? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Unlikely Unlikely Neither Likely Very Likely

11. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (**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

12. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Deschutes River SRA? (**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

13. To what extent do you **oppose or support** each of the following possible management actions at Deschutes River SRA?
(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.

14. To what extent would you **oppose or support** each of the following possible service reductions at Deschutes River SRA?
(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

15. To what extent did you feel crowded at Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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		

16. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Deschutes River SRA on this trip? _____ person(s)

17. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Deschutes River SRA? (**check ONE**) No Yes

18. 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

19. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Deschutes River SRA, 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

20. From the list of sources in question 19 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter _____

21. When planning your visit to Deschutes River SRA, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

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

22. How did you get to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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)

23. If you had NOT been able to go to Deschutes River SRA for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? (**list park names**)

24. Would you recommend a Deschutes River State Recreation Area visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

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

25. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (**write response**)

26. 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 _____

27. 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

28. 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

29. Is your level of physical activity at Deschutes River SRA 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 Deschutes River SRA than my daily life.
- My physical activity is LESS at Deschutes River SRA than in my daily life.
- My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Deschutes River SRA as it is in my daily life.

30. To what degree did this Deschutes River SRA 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	

31. 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 Deschutes River SRA. *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

32. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Deschutes River SRA 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)

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

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

35. 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 _____

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

- English Spanish Russian Other (write response) _____

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

38. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area:

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

Overnight Visitor Experiences and Perceptions at Deschutes River State Recreation Area



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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (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 Deschutes River SRA on this trip? (write number) _____ night(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Hiking or walking	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Camping	<input type="checkbox"/> O. Inner tubing
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> I. Playing volleyball	<input type="checkbox"/> P. Fishing
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Running or jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Sightseeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Q. Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Bicycling on local roads	<input type="checkbox"/> K. Picnicking or barbecuing	<input type="checkbox"/> R. Swimming/wading
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Mountain biking	<input type="checkbox"/> L. Outdoor photography	<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. Visiting historic sites	<input type="checkbox"/> N. Rafting	

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Deschutes River SRA 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 Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)
 - Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neither Satisfied Very Satisfied

11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 Deschutes River SRA? (**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
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 Deschutes River SRA? (**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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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 Deschutes River SRA? **(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 Deschutes River SRA 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 Deschutes River SRA? (**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 Deschutes River SRA? (**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 Deschutes River SRA on this trip? _____ person(s)

20. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Deschutes River SRA? (**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 Deschutes River SRA for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? (**list park names**)

23. How did you get to Deschutes River State Recreation Area 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. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Deschutes River SRA, 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

25. From the list of sources in question 24 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter _____

26. When planning your visit to Deschutes River SRA, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

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

27. Would you recommend a Deschutes River SRA overnight visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

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

28. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River SRA? (**write response**)

29. What type of campsite(s) did you use on your most recent trip to Deschutes River SRA? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

- RV campsite
- Cabin
- Group RV camp
- Hiker / biker campsite
- Tent campsite
- Yurt
- Group tent camp
- Other (write response) _____

30. 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

31. 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

32. 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 _____

33. 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

34. 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

35. Is your level of physical activity at Deschutes River SRA 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 Deschutes River SRA than my daily life.
- My physical activity is LESS at Deschutes River SRA than in my daily life.
- My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Deschutes River SRA as it is in my daily life.

36. To what degree did this Deschutes River SRA 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	

37. 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 Deschutes River SRA. *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

38. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Deschutes River SRA 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)

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

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

41. 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 _____

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

- English Spanish Russian Other (write response) _____

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

44. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area:

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

APPENDIX C: UNCOLLAPSED PERCENTAGES

**Day Visitor Experiences and Perceptions
at Deschutes River State Recreation Area**



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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)
 - 37% No
 - 63% Yes → if yes, how many day trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (write number) M=4.17 trip(s)

2. How many hours did you spend at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? (write number) M=4.45 hour(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

59% A. Hiking or walking	8% H. Playing volleyball	8% N. Inner tubing
28% B. Dog walking	34% I. Sightseeing	29% O. Fishing
7% C. Running or jogging	49% J. Picnicking or barbecuing	5% P. Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)
12% D. Bicycling on local roads	19% K. Outdoor photography	48% Q. Swimming/wading
11% E. Mountain biking	21% L. Bird or wildlife watching	14% R. Other (write response) <u>See report</u>
0% F. Horseback riding	7% M. Rafting	
12% G. Visiting historic sites		

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Deschutes River SRA 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**)
 - 60% Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - 24% Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - 11% Primarily for business, family, or other reasons – this park was a side trip
 - 5% Some other reason

6. About how far from your home did you travel to get to this park? (write number of miles) M=180.56 mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)

5% Very Dissatisfied	0% Dissatisfied	1% Neither	43% Satisfied	51% Very Satisfied
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8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)

3% Very Dissatisfied	0% Dissatisfied	3% Neither	39% Satisfied	55% Very Satisfied
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9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)

3% Very Dissatisfied	2% Dissatisfied	7% Neither	42% Satisfied	46% Very Satisfied
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10. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Deschutes River State Recreation Area in the future? (check **ONE**)

1% Very Unlikely	1% Unlikely	4% Neither	35% Likely	59% Very Likely
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11. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (circle one number for **EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1%	0%	3%	37%	59%
Number of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	3	14	36	46
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	1	5	31	63
Absence of litter.	2	0	5	31	62
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	3	6	28	38	26
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	2	0	13	34	51
Number of park trails.	2	4	27	40	27
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	2	4	22	42	30
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	9	9	40	22	19
Facilities for groups to gather.	11	9	34	27	19
Variety of things to do.	3	7	28	39	23
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	2	2	14	40	43
Personal safety.	1	2	13	32	53
Number of information/ education programs or materials.	5	14	43	25	13
Quality of information/ education programs or materials.	6	12	38	26	19
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	3	6	25	41	25
Signs about directions within the park.	3	6	18	48	26
Signs about directions to the park.	3	6	21	40	31
Parking for vehicles.	2	4	12	47	36

12. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Deschutes River SRA? (circle a number for **EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1%	1%	3%	35%	60%
Number of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	2	7	45	46
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	3	10	38	48
Absence of litter.	0	1	4	38	57
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	0	1	19	31	50
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	0	1	13	30	57
Number of park trails.	1	1	24	40	34
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	0	4	24	39	34
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	2	0	36	31	32
Facilities for groups to gather.	1	1	33	31	34
Variety of things to do.	0	2	27	36	35
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	1	2	17	37	43
Personal safety.	0	1	11	37	52
Number of information/ education programs or materials.	0	5	33	36	26
Quality of information/ education programs or materials.	0	4	33	37	26
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	1	5	33	36	26
Signs about directions within the park.	0	5	27	39	30
Signs about directions to the park.	0	4	21	42	32
Parking for vehicles.	1	3	14	37	46

13. To what extent do you **oppose or support** each of the following possible management actions at Deschutes River SRA?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	1%	0%	16%	42%	41%
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	2	2	14	46	38
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	27	27	23	13	11
Provide more group picnic areas.	8	11	42	26	13
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	2	3	29	41	25
Provide more paved trails.	11	12	43	20	14
Provide more trash cans.	1	2	44	34	19
Provide more recycling containers.	1	3	34	38	24
Provide more information/ education about nature, history, or archeology.	2	4	42	35	17
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	2	9	53	23	13
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	27	14	25	15	19
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	24	14	40	12	10
Provide more enclosed shelters.	10	10	49	21	11
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	5	5	47	26	18
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	10	13	22	22	33
Make the park more pet friendly.	6	7	39	25	24
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	7	6	39	24	25
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	6	9	38	25	21
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	13	20	42	16	9
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	12	15	39	19	15
Close this park to all recreation/ tourism activities.	58	15	14	6	7
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	6	5	36	28	25

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.

14. To what extent would you **oppose or support** each of the following possible service reductions at Deschutes River SRA?
(circle one number for EACH)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	38%	38%	21%	3%	1%
Fewer ranger patrols.	22	26	37	11	4
Fewer ranger-led programs.	14	22	44	16	4
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	32	33	26	8	2
Reduced janitorial services.	38	35	22	4	2
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	37	33	21	7	3

15. To what extent did you feel crowded at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? (**circle a number**)

29%	22%	17%	10%	3%	13%	5%	1%	1%
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded			Moderately Crowded		Extremely Crowded	

16. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Deschutes River SRA on this trip? M=5.31 person(s)

17. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Deschutes River SRA? (**check ONE**) 66% No 34% Yes

18. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

86% No

14% Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**) 5% Hearing 2% Sight 9% Walking
2% Learning 3% Other: See report

19. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Deschutes River SRA, 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).	32%	4%	22%	14%	29%
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	61	9	15	7	8
C. Brochures.	50	12	27	6	5
D. Newspapers.	66	13	17	2	3
E. Magazines.	64	11	17	6	2
F. Books.	60	14	16	7	3
G. Television.	70	15	11	3	2
H. Videos / DVDs.	75	12	10	1	1
I. Radio.	70	14	11	3	3
J. Community organization or church.	72	12	12	3	1
K. Health care providers.	78	10	8	3	2
L. Work.	74	10	10	3	3
M. Friends or family members.	29	9	18	17	26
N. Highway signs.	38	8	24	15	16
O. Previous visit.	30	2	13	14	41
P. Other (write response): <u>See report</u>	62	6	17	5	10

20. From the list of sources in question 19 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter See report

21. When planning your visit to Deschutes River SRA, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

92% Yes

8% No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) See report

22. How did you get to Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? (**check ONE**)

- 91% My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? M=2.71 person(s)
- 6% Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? M=4.75 person(s)
- 4% Other (write response) See report → how many total people were in the vehicle? M=2.40 person(s)

23. If you had NOT been able to go to Deschutes River SRA for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? (**list park names**)

See report

24. Would you recommend a Deschutes River State Recreation Area visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

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

25. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (**write response**)

See report

26. 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?

- 48% No
- 52% Yes → if yes, what types of activities would you/your family be interested in learning about? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

- 15% Birding 12% Disc golfing 24% Hiking 19% Mountain biking 14% Scenic bicycling on roads
- 25% Camping 29% Fishing 14% Horseback riding 30% Rafting 23% Stargazing
- 25% Canoeing 15% Geocaching 28% Kayaking 16% Rock climbing 2% Other: See report

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

- 41% No
- 59% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in moderate physical activity for this trip? M=117 minutes

28. 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**)

- 70% No
- 30% Yes → if yes, how much time did you spend in vigorous physical activity for this trip? M=111 minutes

29. Is your level of physical activity at Deschutes River SRA more than, less than, or about the same as your level of physical activity in your day-to-day life? (**check ONE**)

- 32% My physical activity is MORE at Deschutes River SRA than my daily life.
- 29% My physical activity is LESS at Deschutes River SRA than in my daily life.
- 40% My physical activity is ABOUT THE SAME at Deschutes River SRA as it is in my daily life.

30. To what degree did this Deschutes River SRA 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%	1%	10%	25%	61%
B. Improving your level of physical fitness.	14	5	32	20	29
C. Improving your physical health.	9	5	28	26	32
D. Improving your mental health.	4	1	13	29	54
E. Reducing your anxiety.	4	2	12	31	51

31. 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 Deschutes River SRA. **Please round off to the nearest dollar.**

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

32. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Deschutes River SRA on this trip? (**check ONE**)

63% No

37% Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?
M=3.08 night(s)

33. Are you: (**check ONE**) 50% Male 50% Female

34. How old are you? (**write response**) M=45.52 years old

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

- 87% White (Caucasian) 5% Hispanic / Latino 1% American Indian or Alaskan Native 3% Other (write response)
- 2% Black / African American 1% Asian 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander See report

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

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

37. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town See report State See report Country See report Zipcode See report

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

5% Less than \$10,000	17% \$90,000 to \$109,999
9% \$10,000 to \$29,999	11% \$110,000 to \$129,999
15% \$30,000 to \$49,999	9% \$130,000 to \$149,999
13% \$50,000 to \$69,999	2% \$150,000 to \$169,999
9% \$70,000 to \$89,999	11% \$170,000 or more

Please tell us how we can improve Deschutes River State Recreation Area:

See report

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

Overnight Visitor Experiences and Perceptions at Deschutes River State Recreation Area



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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area. 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 Deschutes River State Recreation Area? (check **ONE**)
 - 40% No
 - 60% Yes → if yes, how many trips have you made to this park in the past 12 months? (write number) M=2.47 trip(s)

2. How many nights in a row did you spend at Deschutes River SRA on this trip? (write number) M=2.51 night(s)

3. Please check **all** recreation activities you did at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip. (check **ALL THAT APPLY**)

64% A. Hiking or walking	87% H. Camping	13% O. Inner tubing
30% B. Dog walking	3% I. Playing volleyball	44% P. Fishing
3% C. Running or jogging	24% J. Sightseeing	16% Q. Boating (motor, canoe, kayak)
6% D. Bicycling on local roads	29% K. Picnicking or barbecuing	42% R. Swimming/wading
7% E. Mountain biking	20% L. Outdoor photography	7% S. Other (write response): <u>See report</u>
1% F. Horseback riding	17% M. Bird or wildlife watching	
13% G. Visiting historic sites	8% N. Rafting	

4. From activities in Question 3 above, what **ONE primary activity** did you do at Deschutes River SRA 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**)
 - 59% Primarily for recreation – this park was my main destination
 - 32% Primarily for recreation – my main destination was NOT this park
 - 6% 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=265 mile(s)

7. Overall, how dissatisfied or satisfied were you with your **overall experience** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)

3% Very Dissatisfied	4% Dissatisfied	4% Neither	43% Satisfied	46% Very Satisfied
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8. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **natural environment** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied	2% Dissatisfied	4% Neither	42% Satisfied	51% Very Satisfied
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9. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **facilities / services** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)

2% Very Dissatisfied	6% Dissatisfied	6% Neither	41% Satisfied	46% Very Satisfied
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10. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the **rates that you paid** at Deschutes River SRA? (check **ONE**)

1% Very Dissatisfied	4% Dissatisfied	12% Neither	42% Satisfied	40% Very Satisfied
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11. How unlikely or likely are you to return to Deschutes River State Recreation Area in the future? (check **ONE**)

5% Very Unlikely	6% Unlikely	8% Neither	29% Likely	53% Very Likely
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12. How **important** is it to you that each of the following is at Deschutes River SRA? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Not Important		Neither		Extremely Important
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	<1%	<1%	2%	32%	65%
Number of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	3	11	46	40
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	1	3	32	63
Absence of litter.	<1	0	2	38	59
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	5	22	47	26
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	1	1	10	37	51
Number of park trails.	6	6	33	40	14
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	5	6	29	41	19
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, baby stroller).	19	9	46	17	10
Facilities for groups to gather.	19	12	41	17	12
Variety of things to do.	8	6	34	38	15
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	3	4	19	43	32
Personal safety.	1	1	13	32	52
Number of information/ education programs or materials.	12	13	46	22	7
Quality of information/ education programs or materials.	12	12	43	24	9
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	4	7	25	38	26
Signs about directions within the park.	3	6	28	40	24
Signs about directions to the park.	5	7	29	38	21
Parking for vehicles.	2	5	17	44	32
Comfort of campsites.	<1	2	7	43	49
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	1	2	7	35	55
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	1	0	9	38	53

13. Now, how **dissatisfied or satisfied** were you with the following at Deschutes River SRA? (**circle a number for EACH**)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Overall cleanliness of park (e.g., graffiti, lawn care).	1%	<1%	2%	40%	57%
Number of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	5	9	48	38
Cleanliness / conditions of toilets/ bathrooms.	1	5	10	44	41
Absence of litter.	<1	1	5	42	53
Presence of park rangers / personnel.	1	3	15	40	42
Courteousness of park rangers / personnel.	2	5	12	35	46
Number of park trails.	1	2	32	41	25
Condition / maintenance of park trails.	2	3	30	40	25
Ease of movement or access (e.g., wheelchair, elderly, stroller).	1	2	51	28	19
Facilities for groups to gather.	2	4	55	26	14
Variety of things to do.	1	2	37	39	21
Opportunities to escape crowds of people.	3	7	29	39	22
Personal safety.	<1	2	12	43	43
Number of information/ education programs or materials.	2	3	56	25	14
Quality of information/ education programs or materials.	2	2	58	25	14
Information specifically about conditions or hazards in the park.	2	3	39	35	21
Signs about directions within the park.	1	5	31	42	21
Signs about directions to the park.	1	2	34	39	24
Parking for vehicles.	2	6	18	49	25
Comfort of campsites.	1	7	11	46	36
Shading provided by trees or other structures.	2	5	13	38	42
Good value for the rates that I paid at the park.	2	4	14	40	41

14. To what extent did you feel crowded at Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? (**circle a number**)

17%	8%	16%	6%	9%	25%	7%	5%	5%
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 Deschutes River SRA? (**circle one number for EACH**)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Provide more opportunities for escaping crowds of people.	1%	3%	25%	47%	25%
Provide more opportunities for viewing wildlife.	1	2	26	45	16
Food for sale (restaurants, snack shops, etc.)	26	28	31	10	5
Provide more group picnic areas.	9	13	58	14	5
Provide more opportunities for hiking.	2	5	43	37	13
Provide more paved trails.	11	16	50	18	5
Provide more trash cans.	1	4	49	35	11
Provide more recycling containers.	<1	4	40	37	19
Provide more information/ education about nature, history, or archeology.	2	4	46	39	10
Provide more programs led by park rangers.	3	10	61	22	5
Provide wireless internet access within the park.	15	11	24	25	25
Provide downloadable mobile phone applications.	11	12	50	20	8
Provide enclosed shelters.	9	14	54	18	5
Improve maintenance or upkeep of facilities / services.	2	4	52	29	13
Require all dogs be kept on leash at all times.	6	8	27	27	32
Make the park more pet friendly.	8	7	51	20	14
Provide natural buffers to block views of development outside the park.	1	3	43	34	18
Restore it to historical conditions (e.g., replace non-native with native plants)	4	7	50	25	14
Limit the number of people allowed per day.	4	10	49	27	10
Limit the number of large groups allowed (e.g., no more than 10-20 people).	6	11	40	27	18
Close this park to all recreation/ tourism activities.	50	21	22	2	5
Provide more space between campsites.	2	6	28	38	26
Provide more walk-in / cart-in campsites.	7	7	55	20	11
Provide more tent camping in developed campgrounds.	4	7	55	21	13
Provide campsites that accommodate both RV and tent camping.	4	6	33	36	21
Provide more group camping areas.	10	15	57	12	6
Increase enforcement of campground quiet hours (10 p.m. – 7 a.m.)	5	9	44	27	16
Do not change anything / keep things as they are now.	5	11	44	25	16

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

14% Telephone reservation system	83% Internet reservation system	3% I did not make the reservation
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17. How dissatisfied or satisfied were you with the reservation system for your trip to Deschutes River SRA? (**check ONE**)

4% Very Dissatisfied	6% Dissatisfied	8% Neither	42% Satisfied	41% Very Satisfied	1% Didn't make reservation
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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 Deschutes River SRA? **(circle one number for EACH)**

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither	Support	Strongly Support
Fewer hours open.	32%	37%	28%	3%	1%
Fewer ranger patrols.	19	33	35	11	2
Fewer ranger-led programs.	9	16	47	21	7
Scaled down facilities (e.g., fewer restrooms, picnic shelters).	39	39	17	5	<1
Reduced janitorial services.	44	40	13	3	1
Reduced ground maintenance (e.g., mowing, landscaping).	35	33	20	10	1

19. **Including yourself**, how many people accompanied you at Deschutes River SRA on this trip? $M=4.39$ person(s)

20. Did you or anyone in your group bring dog(s) with you to Deschutes River SRA? **(check ONE)** 61% No 39% Yes

21. Did anyone in your group have a disability?

88% No

12% Yes → if yes, what are these disabilities? **(check ALL THAT APPLY)** 3% Hearing 1% Sight 8% Walking
2% Learning 1% Other: See report

22. If you had NOT been able to go to Deschutes River SRA for this visit, what other park(s) would you have considered going to instead? **(list park names)**

See report

23. How did you get to Deschutes River State Recreation Area on this trip? **(check ONE)**

95% My family's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? 2.52 person(s)

2% Somebody else's personal vehicle → how many total people were in the vehicle? 3.71 person(s)

3% Other (write response) See report → how many total people were in the vehicle? 4.38 person(s)

24. When you were thinking about visiting an Oregon State Park such as Deschutes River SRA, 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).	7%	3%	21%	20%	51%
B. Social media internet websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).	61	6	19	6	8
C. Brochures.	58	7	23	9	4
D. Newspapers.	78	9	10	2	1
E. Magazines.	71	12	12	4	2
F. Books.	71	12	10	5	2
G. Television.	80	10	8	1	1
H. Videos / DVDs.	85	9	5	<1	1
I. Radio.	84	10	4	1	1
J. Community organization or church.	86	9	3	1	1
K. Health care providers.	88	7	4	<1	1
L. Work.	79	8	9	3	2
M. Friends or family members.	35	4	24	22	15
N. Highway signs.	55	11	22	9	4
O. Previous visit.	27	5	17	16	35
P. Other (write response) <u>See report</u>	74	3	13	1	9

25. From the list of sources in question 24 above, which **ONE** would you use **FIRST** when obtaining information about an Oregon State Park? (**write letter**)

Letter See report

26. When planning your visit to Deschutes River SRA, were you able to find the information you needed? (**check ONE**)

96% Yes

4% No → if no, what additional information did you need? (**write response**) See report

27. Would you recommend a Deschutes River SRA overnight visit to friends or family members? (**check ONE**)

87% Yes

13% No → if no, why not? (**write response**) See report

28. What do you feel are the most outstanding features or things to do at Deschutes River SRA? (**write response**)

See report

29. What type of campsite(s) did you use on your most recent trip to Deschutes River SRA? (**check ALL THAT APPLY**)

61% RV campsite <1% Cabin 1% Group RV camp 1% Hiker / biker campsite
 41% Tent campsite <1% Yurt 2% Group tent camp 2% Other (write response) See report

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

52% 30 amps 19% 50 amps 6% 100 amps 23% No electric power needed

31. 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.	10%	2%	8%	28%	52%
Water hookups.	12	3	12	27	46
Sewer hookups.	26	7	23	23	21

38. Are you staying away from home either inside the Park or within 30 miles of Deschutes River SRA on this trip? (**check ONE**)

35% No

65% Yes → if yes, how many nights are you staying away from home inside the Park or within 30 miles of this Park?
M=3.09 night(s)

39. Are you: (**check ONE**) 57% Male 43% Female

40. How old are you? (**write response**) M=51.32 years old

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

90% White (Caucasian) 2% Hispanic / Latino 1% American Indian or Alaskan Native 2% Other (write response)

1% Black / African American 2% Asian 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander See report

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

99% English <1% Spanish 0% Russian 1% Other (write response) See report

43. Where do you live? (**write responses**) City / town See report State See report Country See report Zipcode See report

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

<1% Less than \$10,000	13% \$90,000 to \$109,999
5% \$10,000 to \$29,999	12% \$110,000 to \$129,999
13% \$30,000 to \$49,999	8% \$130,000 to \$149,999
15% \$50,000 to \$69,999	5% \$150,000 to \$169,999
21% \$70,000 to \$89,999	9% \$170,000 or more

Please tell us how we can improve Deschutes River State Recreation Area:

See report

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