

# Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis – Clatsop County Summary

2013-2017 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Supporting  
Documentation

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## **Background**

In preparation for the 2013-2017 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) contracted with Oregon State University (OSU) to conduct a statewide survey of Oregon residents regarding their 2011 outdoor recreation participation in Oregon, as well as their opinions about parks and recreation management. This report summarizes key findings of the survey for Clatsop County. For review of statewide survey results, please see the full survey report, Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis, online at: [http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018\\_SCORP/Demand\\_Analysis.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018_SCORP/Demand_Analysis.pdf)

## **Survey Methodology**

The survey was conducted using a random sample of Oregon households. In order to generate sufficient responses for each county, the sample was stratified by county. Separate random samples were drawn from each county. Surveying Oregonians consisted of 50,150 mail outs, with 46,348 of the surveys deliverable (92%). Of those delivered, 8,860 completed surveys were obtained, for an overall response rate of 19%. This response rate is typical of statewide, general population surveys that are long and do not include token financial incentives. Sample data were weighted to represent county-level population proportions and statewide age-related proportions. For a detailed description of the survey methodology, please see the full survey report at the web link provided above.

## Outdoor Recreation Activities

Based on previous SCORP outdoor recreation activity lists and input from the SCORP steering committee comprised of parks and recreation managers across Oregon, seventy (70) recreation activities were identified as important recreation activity types. These activities were grouped into eight (8) categories, including Non-motorized Trail Activities, Motorized Activities, Non-motorized Snow Activities, Outdoor Leisure / Sporting Activities, Nature Study Activities, Vehicle-based Camping Activities, Fishing / Hunting / Shooting Activities, and Non-motorized Water-based and Beach Activities.

## User Occasions and Participation in Outdoor Recreation

User occasions (number of times people engage in an activity) and percent of the population that participates in an activity are presented for Clatsop County in the following tables. The top activities for Clatsop County both user occasions (based on where the activity occurred) and proportion of Clatsop County residents are included in Table 1. County totals for all seventy recreation activities are included in Table 2.

**Table 1. Top Ten Activities in Clatsop County, 2011**

User Occasions Where Activity Occurred		% Population Participating	
Activity	User Occasions	Activity	% Population Participating
Beach activities – ocean	4,396,791	Walking on local streets / sidewalks	64.2
Walking on local streets / sidewalks	3,720,619	Walking on local trails / paths	61.7
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	2,691,679	Beach activities – ocean	61.7
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	1,881,919	Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	61.6
Walking on local trails / paths	1,629,869	Visiting historic sites / history-themed parks	57.5
Dog walking / going to dog parks / off-leash areas	1,138,564	Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	52.6
Exploring tide pools	992,709	Picnicking	50.4
Beach activities – lakes, reservoirs, rivers	946,764	Attending outdoor concerts, fairs, festivals.	43.0
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	893,743	Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	42.5
Visiting historic sites / history-themed parks	766,688	Beach activities – lakes, reservoirs, rivers	38.3

**Table 2. User Occasions and Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities, Clatsop County Residents, 2011**

Activity	User Occasions	% Population Participating
<b>Non-motorized Trail Activities</b>		
Walking on local streets / sidewalks	3,720,619	64.2
Walking on local trails / paths	1,629,869	61.7
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails / paths	893,743	42.5
Long-distance hiking (back packing)	153,718	9.5
Jogging / running on streets / sidewalks	420,170	10.6
Jogging / running on trails / paths	364,865	10.6
Horseback riding	94,616	4.5
Bicycling on unpaved trails	102,967	10.2
Bicycling on paved trails	432,029	28.0
Bicycling on roads, streets / sidewalks	683,467	28.0
Bicycle touring on paved roads / paths (long day / multi-day rides)*		11.7
<b>Motorized Activities<sup>22.3</sup></b>		
Class I – All-terrain vehicle riding (3 & 4 wheel ATVs, straddle seat and handle bars)	135,281	11.1
Class II – Off-road 4-wheel driving (jeeps, pick-ups, dune buggies, SUVs)	111,794	8.8
Class III – Off-road motorcycling	2,035	2.3
Class IV – Riding UTVs / side-by-side ATVs (non-straddle seat, driver and passenger sit side-by-side in the vehicle, steering wheel for steering control)	26,318	1.1
Snowmobiling	<1,000	1.7
Personal water craft – jet ski	21,473	2.1
Power boating (cruising / water skiing)	169,435	17.5
<b>Non-motorized Snow Activities</b>		
Downhill (alpine) skiing / snowboarding	<1,000	9.7
Cross-country / Nordic skiing / skijoring on groomed trails	<1,000	1.9
Cross-country / Nordic skiing / skijoring on ungroomed trails / off designated trails	<1,000	3.2
Snowshoeing	<1,000	3.6
Sledding, tubing, or general snow play	29,228	21.4
<b>Outdoor Leisure / Sporting Activities</b>		
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure	2,691,679	61.6
Picnicking	380,320	50.4
General play at a neighborhood park / playground	473,094	35.6
Dog walking / going to dog parks / off-leash areas	1,138,564	32.3
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat / noise, etc.	1,881,919	52.6
Attending outdoor concerts, fairs, festivals	120,724	43.0
Tennis (played outdoors)	18,876	2.7
Outdoor court games other than tennis (basketball, beach volleyball, badminton, etc.)	58,736	7.4
Baseball / softball	93,181	8.7
Football, soccer, lacrosse, rugby, ultimate frisbee	44,116	5.5

<b>Activity</b>	<b>User Occasions</b>	<b>% Population Participating</b>
Golf	50,477	10.5
Disc golf	15,364	4.9
Skateboarding, inline skating, roller skating, roller skiing	82,840	4.8
Rock climbing, bouldering, mountaineering	3,508	2.0
Orienteering, geocaching	13,744	5.2
Hang gliding, sky diving, paragliding	59,508	1.5
Visiting historic sites / history-themed parks (history-oriented museums, outdoor displays, visitor centers, etc.)	766,688	57.5
<b>Nature Study Activities</b>		
Bird watching	572,069	21.8
Whale watching	278,553	17.9
Exploring tidepools	992,709	32.1
Other nature / wildlife / forest / wildflower observation	529,052	33.1
Visiting botanical gardens	29,914	7.5
Visiting nature centers	79,573	9.4
Outdoor photography, painting, drawing	390,452	18.7
Collecting (rocks, plants, mushrooms, berries)	407,582	32.8
<b>Vehicle-based Camping Activities</b>		
RV / motorhome / trailer camping	499,219	19.8
Car camping with a tent	108,132	22.5
Motorcycle camping with a tent	6,645	<1.0
Yurts / camper cabins	43,700	5.6
<b>Fishing, Hunting, Shooting Activities</b>		
Fly fishing	12,261	3.8
Fishing from a boat (other than fly fishing)	399,031	22.5
Fishing from a bank or shore (other than fly fishing)	208,372	25.0
Crabbing	280,999	23.6
Shellfishing / clamming	689,417	26.6
Big game hunting with a gun	72,842	12.2
Big game hunting with a bow	15,145	3.3
Waterfowl hunting	31,945	4.8
Upland bird or small game hunting	29,178	4.5
Target / skeet shooting / archery	84,812	10.9
<b>Non-motorized Water-based and Beach Activities</b>		
White-water canoeing, kayaking, rafting	12,030	6.1
Flat-water canoeing, sea kayaking, rowing, stand-up paddling, tubing / floating	432,478	11.0
Surfing / ocean stand-up paddling	529,738	4.0
Windsurfing / kiteboarding	510,720	<1.0
Sailing	19,932	2.2
Beach activities – ocean	4,396,791	61.7
Beach activities – lakes, reservoirs, rivers	946,764	38.3
Swimming / playing in outdoor pools / spray parks	185,945	11.8
Snorkeling / SCUBA diving	2,416	<1.0

\*Bicycle touring was asked as a separate question regarding participation only.

### Camping Likelihood and Priority Needs

This set of questions asked people to rate various camping types using 5-point Likert scales according to the likelihood of using a type of camping when or if the individual went camping at an Oregon State Park campground (1 = Not at all likely to 5 = Very likely), and to rate their perceived need for more of each type of camping near the individual’s community ( 1 = Lowest priority need to 5 = Highest priority need).

For Clatsop County residents, drive-in tent sites had the highest likelihood of use, while hiker-biker sites had the lowest likelihood of use (Table 3). Drive-in tent sites had the highest priority need, while RV sites had the lowest priority need.

**Table 3. Likelihood and Priority Need for Camping Type, Clatsop County**

Camping Type	How likely to use camping type in state park*	Level of priority need for camping type near your community*
RV sites	2.5	2.4
Cabins or yurts w/ heat, lights	3.0	3.0
Cabins or yurts w/ heat, lights, bathroom, kitchen	2.9	3.0
Drive-in tent sites	3.6	3.4
Hike-in tent sites	2.8	3.0
Hiker-biker sites	2.3	2.7
Other type	3.1	3.1

\* Means scores for 5-point Likert Scale (1 = "Not at all likely" or "Lowest priority need" to 5 = "Very likely" or "Highest priority need")

### Priorities for the Future

Survey participants were asked about their opinions on priorities for the future in and near their community. Respondents were asked to rate several items for investment by park and forest agencies using a 5-point Likert scale (1 = Lowest priority need to 5 = Highest priority need). Items were developed by the steering committee, representing several municipal-type areas and beyond.

Table 4 reports Clatsop County results, with items listed in descending order by mean priority ratings. The top priority needs for Clatsop County residents are soft surface walking trails, access to waterways, picnic areas for small groups, off-street bicycle trails and nature and wildlife viewing areas. Playgrounds with natural materials (Natural Play Areas) and paved walking trails rated high as well. Tennis and basketball courts, baseball / softball fields and multi-use fields rated the lowest on priority investments.

**Table 4. Priorities for the Future, What Park and Forest Agencies Should Invest In, Clatsop County—Mean For 5-Point Likert (1 = “Lowest priority need” to 5 = “Highest priority need”)**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Dirt / other soft surface walking trails and paths	3.7
Public access sites to waterways	3.7
Picnic areas and shelters for <u>small</u> visitor groups	3.4
Off-street bicycle trails and pathways	3.4
Nature and wildlife viewing areas	3.4
Children’s playgrounds and play areas made of natural materials (logs, water, sand, boulders, hills, trees)	3.3
Paved / hard surface walking trails and paths	3.1
Picnic areas and shelters for <u>large</u> visitor groups	2.9
Community gardens	2.9
Off-leash dog areas	2.9
Children’s playgrounds and play areas built with manufactured structures like swing sets, slides, and climbing apparatuses	2.8
Designated paddling routes for canoes, kayaks, rafts, driftboats	2.7
Off-highway vehicle trails / areas	2.6
Multi-use fields for soccer, football, lacrosse, etc.	2.4
Baseball / softball fields	2.3
Basketball courts	2.3
Outdoor tennis courts	2.0

### **Value and Delivery for Benefits of Parks and Recreation Services**

Clatsop County residents that participated in outdoor recreation activities were also asked their opinions related to the benefits provided by park and recreation agencies. First, respondents were asked to rate each benefit type based on how valued it is using a 5-point Likert scale (1 = Least valued to 5 = Most valued). Next, they were asked to rate how well park and recreation agencies are currently delivering each benefit type using a similar scale (1 = Currently does not deliver at all to 5 = Currently delivers extremely well).

Ranging from a mean score of 3.2 to 4.2 on the 5-point scale, improving physical health, community desirability and preserve open space and rated the highest valued in Clatsop County. Lowest valued benefits in Clatsop County included help attract new residents / businesses, increase property values and provide opportunities for social interaction. Delivery of benefits ranged from a mean score of 2.9 to 3.9, with preserve historical features, promote tourism, community desirability and preserve open space rated the highest delivered in Clatsop County. Lowest delivered benefits in Clatsop County included help attract new residents / businesses, help reduce crime and increase property values.

**Table 5. Value and Delivery for Benefits of Parks and Recreation Services, Clatsop County**

<b>Value For Benefits of Parks and Recreation Services—Mean for 5-point Likert (1 = "Least valued" to 5 = "Most valued")</b>		<b>Delivery of Benefits of Parks and Recreation Services—Mean for 5-point Likert (1 = "Currently does not deliver at all" to 5 = "Currently delivers extremely well")</b>	
<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Value Mean</b>	<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Delivery Mean</b>
Improve physical health and fitness	4.2	Preserve historical features in your community	3.9
Make your community a more desirable place to live	4.2	Promote tourism	3.9
Preserve open space and the environment	4.2	Make your community a more desirable place to live	3.6
Improve mental health and reduce stress	4.1	Preserve open space and the environment	3.6
Preserve historical features in your community	4.1	Improve physical health and fitness	3.5
Help reduce crime	3.9	Enhance a sense of place and community	3.5
Enhance a sense of place and community	3.9	Improve mental health and reduce stress	3.3
Promote tourism	3.5	Provide opportunities for social interaction	3.3
Provide opportunities for social interaction	3.4	Increase property values in your community	3.0
Increase property values in your community	3.2	Help reduce crime	2.9
Help attract new residents and businesses	3.2	Help attract new residents and businesses	2.9