

2014-2015 Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study: A Visitor Survey on the Salt Lake Ranger District and Surrounding Public Lands

SPRING QUARTERLY REPORT



Prepared for:

Save Our Canyons, Salt Lake City, and the Salt Lake Ranger District
of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

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The Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (IORT) conducts a program of research, extension, and teaching for the benefit of the people of Utah, our country, and the world, directed at improving our understanding of the relationships between outdoor recreation and tourism, natural resources management, community economic vitality, and quality of life.

Through statewide collaboration and cooperation, IORT will be a source for the creation, communication, and transfer of knowledge on resource-based recreation and tourism issues affecting social, economic, and environmental systems, in order to assist Utah's citizens in making decisions that enhance both community and resource sustainability.

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Introduction

The purpose of this research project is to collect visitor use data (both dispersed use and overall use) on the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, by conducting visitor intercept surveys (on-site interviews) at recreational sites, areas, and trailheads in the Tri-Canyons area (Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood, and Mill Creek Canyons), Parley's Canyon, and Park City—Wasatch Back (private land and resort access). Additionally, for those respondents agreeing to participate, a more-detailed, on-line e-survey will be administered. The data collected and subsequent analysis will be useful for the National Forest, Salt Lake City, and Mountain Accord, a multi-phase initiative that seeks to make critical decisions regarding the future of the Central Wasatch Mountains, made up of a collaboration of public and private interests, including state and local governments, federal agencies, and businesses and grassroots organizations. The research project is being funded through Save Our Canyons, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the beauty and wildness of the Wasatch mountains, canyons, and foothills.

This report outlines the data gathered from the intercept survey during the **2015 Spring Quarter (March, April, and May)** of this twelve-month project. The intercept survey is designed to gather the following information: visitor demographics including group size and make-up; local and non-local use; visitor use patterns; minority use; forms of transportation utilized for access; sites/areas recreated in and activities respondents engaged; motivations for recreation participation and personal values/benefits sought; issues of solitude and perceived crowding; and awareness of protected watersheds and designated Wilderness Areas.

Methods

Intercept surveys were administered by volunteers from Save Our Canyons and other stakeholder groups. These volunteers were trained and managed by a USU Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (IORT) Project Manager, working in conjunction with a Project Field Coordinator who was hired by the Salt Lake Ranger District, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The sampling design, location of sampling sites, and sampling schedule were developed in consultation with the Salt Lake Ranger District, Save Our Canyons, and other stakeholder groups. The target number of surveys by the end of the twelve months is approximately 2000-2500.

Data collected were compiled and entered into SPSS data analysis software, with subsequent analysis. This is the fourth and final quarterly report provided by Utah State University's Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism research scientists.

Results

This report presents the data collected over the fourth and final quarter of the Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study. Over the fourth quarter, 439 visitor intercept surveys were completed, for a total of 2,442 surveys completed over the duration of this project.

Forty sites were scheduled each month—ten sites from each area within the Central Wasatch Mountains: Little Cottonwood Canyon, Big Cottonwood Canyon, Millcreek Canyon, and the Wasatch Back. Approximately 75% of the scheduled sites were surveyed. Table 1 presents the number of surveys completed at each survey location over the spring quarter.

Table 1: Number of surveys completed by site

	Surveys	(Percent of Surveys Completed)
<u>Little Cottonwood Canyon</u>		
White/Red Pine	16	(3.6)
Alta Central	10	(2.3)
Lisa Falls	6	(1.4)
West Gate	15	(3.4)
Grizzly Gulch	6	(1.4)
Bell's Canyon/Lightning Ridge	19	(4.3)
<u>Big Cottonwood Canyon</u>		
Mill B South/North	89	(20.3)
Butler Fork	11	(2.5)
Spruces	18	(6.4)
Cardiff Fork	5	(1.1)
Mineral Fork	2	(.5)
Silver Lake	23	(5.2)
<u>Millcreek Canyon</u>		
Mill Creek Winter Gate	6	(1.4)
Porter Fork	25	(5.7)
Church Fork	46	(10.5)
Rattlesnake Gulch	60	(13.7)
Neff's Canyon TH	14	(3.2)
Mount Olympus TH	34	(7.7)
<u>Park City/Wasatch Back/Parley's Canyon</u>		
Lamb's Canyon	5	(1.1)
Rob's	11	(2.5)
Quinn's in Round in Valley	8	(1.8)
Total	439	(100.0)

This section follows the format of the intercept survey. Each question on the intercept survey is presented in **bold** and is italicized, followed by tables, graphs, and interpretations of the data.

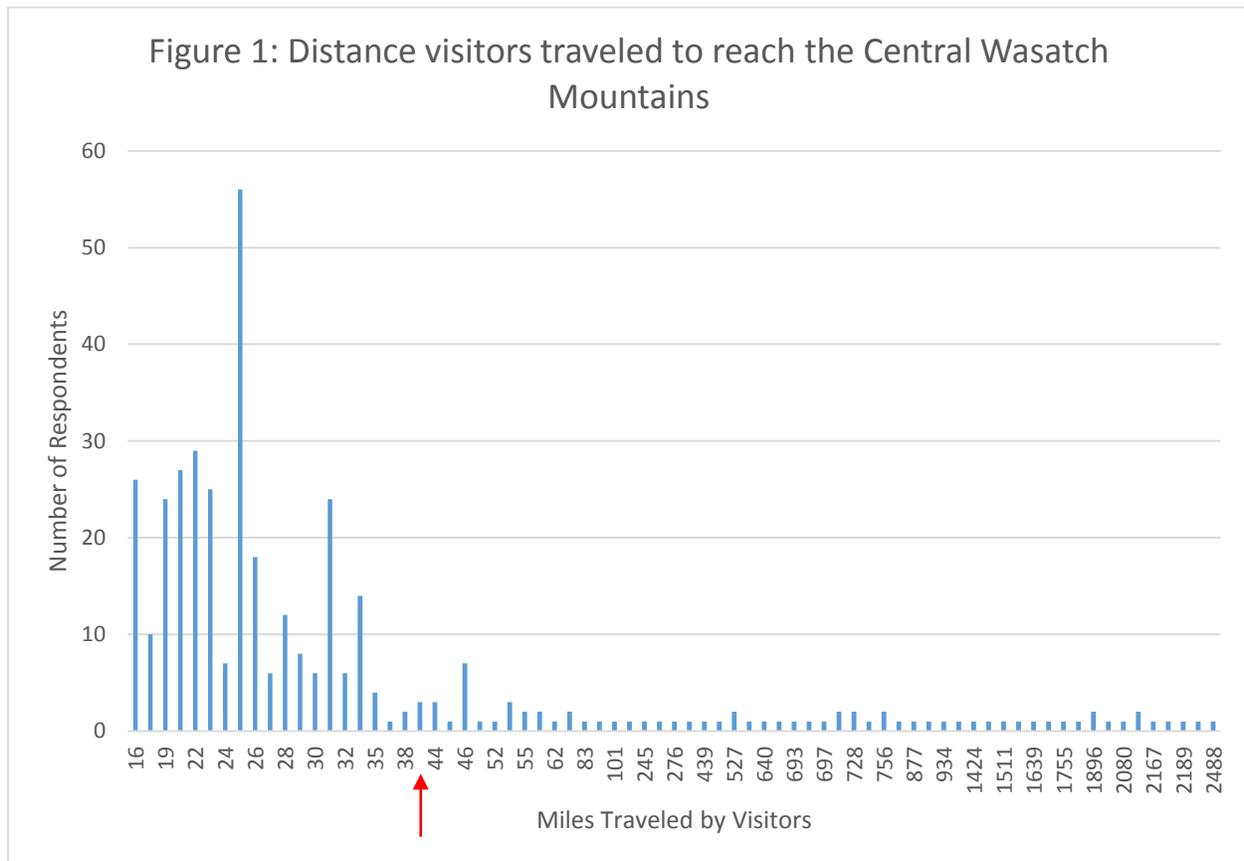
Are you a resident of the United States?

Yes ***If Yes, what is your Home Zip Code?*** _____

No ***If No, what Country are you from?*** _____

The question above was used to identify how far visitors are traveling to reach the Central Wasatch Mountains (CWM). This analysis was done by calculating the distance each zip code was from a central location (i.e., Brighton Ski Resort) in the Wasatch Mountains. As seen in Figure 1, the overwhelming majority of visitors live fewer than 40 miles from Brighton Ski Resort. The median distance traveled by visitors was 25 miles (median distances for other

quarters are as follows: summer = 25 miles, fall = 26 miles, winter = 27 miles), and the mean distance was 164 miles (mean distances for other quarters are as follows: summer = 110, and fall = 133 miles, winter = 131 miles). The large discrepancy between the median and mean illustrates the heavily right-skewed distribution of the histogram below. The maximum distance traveled by U.S. residents to reach the Central Wasatch Mountains during the third quarter was 2,488 miles. Over the spring quarter, eight respondent were from outside of the country, and traveled from Ukraine, Sweden, Panama, Netherlands, Latvia, Germany, Canada, and Argentina. These data show that 81.1% of CWM visitors live fewer than 40 miles from Brighton Ski Resort (summer = 84.2%, fall = 82.4%, winter = 82.6%). These data are nearly identical to the first, second, and third quarters. This is indicative of two things: first, the sampling methods are producing consistent results; and second, little change has occurred in the distance visitors are traveling to reach the CWM during all seasons of the year.



How long are you going to be recreating on this trip?

- Short trip under three hours**
 About half the day
 The majority of the day
 Overnight
 Multiple days – if so, how many? _____ days

The question above is used to gauge how long respondents are spending in the CWM during their recreational visit. The majority (61.2%) of respondents spent fewer than three hours recreating during their visit, and 27.6% spent about half the day. So, 88.8% of visitors spent a half day or less recreating. Only 5.5% spent the whole day recreating, and 1.8% spent the night. Twenty-three (3.7%) individuals said they were spending multiple days, which ranged from two to 100 days. Table 2 presents the amount of time respondents recreated during their visit, and Table 3 presents the number of days respondents spent recreating for those who spent multiple days in the CWM.

Table 2: Respondents' Trip Duration

	Number	Percent
Short trip under three hours	262	61.2
About half the day	118	27.6
The majority of the day	24	5.5
Overnight	8	1.8
Multiple days	16	3.7
Total	428	100

Table 3: Number of days respondents spent recreating on their trip

	Number	Percent
Two days	1	7.1
Three days	3	21.4
Four days	1	7.1
Six days	3	21.4
Eight days	4	28.6
Nine days	1	7.1
One hundred days	1	7.1
Missing	2	Not included
Total	16	100

On this trip, are you planning on visiting any other sites besides this one? Yes No

If Yes, how many other sites are you going to visit? _____ sites

Respondents were asked if they plan on visiting more than one site during their trip to the CWM. The majority (80.7%) of respondents only visited one site during their trip to the CWM. Of the 19.3% that did visit multiple sites during their recreational visit, 76.8% visited two sites, 7.2% visited three sites, 7.2% visited four sites, and 7.2% visited five sites. Table 4 presents the proportion of respondents who visited one site and the respondents who visited more than one site. Table 5 presents the number of sites visited by respondents who visited more than one site.

Table 4: Respondents visiting more than one site per visit

Visited more than one site	Number of respondents	Percent
No	348	80.7
Yes	83	19.3
Total	599	100

Table 5: Number of sites visited by respondents who visited more than one site

Total number of sites visited	Number of respondents	Percent
2	53	76.8
3	5	7.2
4	5	7.2
5	5	7.2
6	1	1.4
Missing	14	Not included
Total	83	100

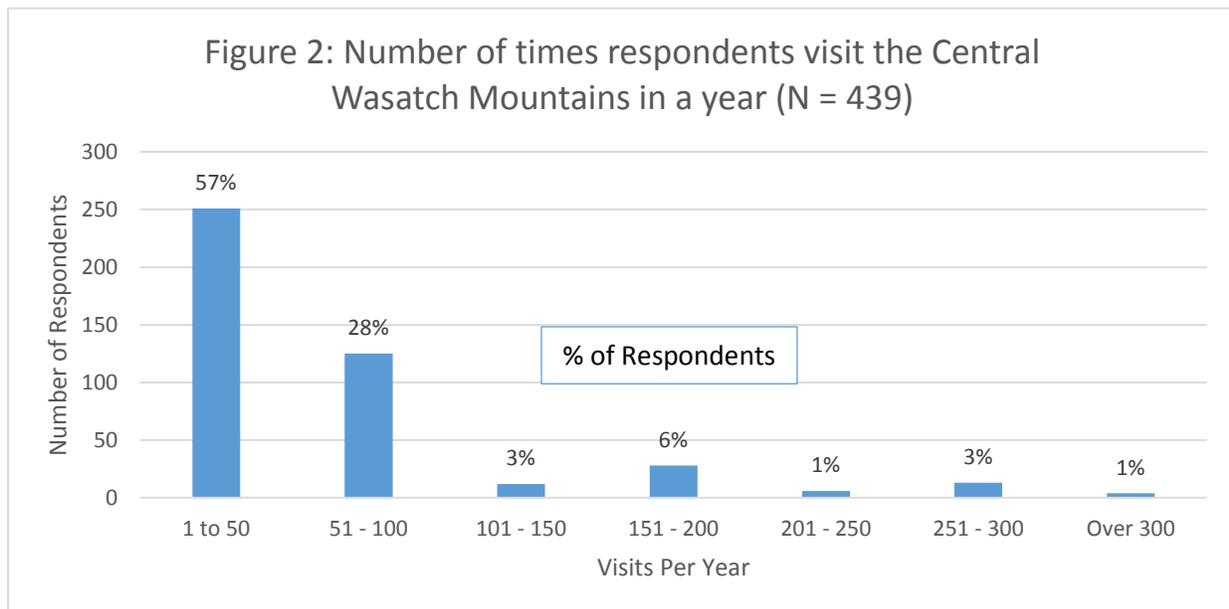
On average, how many times per year do you visit the National Forest here in the Central Wasatch Mountains? _____ times per year

Respondents were asked, on average, how many times they visit the CWM in a year. The median number of times respondents visit the CWM was 40 times, and the mean was 66.4 times. Table 6 presents the mean, median, standard deviation, and range of days respondents visit the CWM in a year.

Figure 2 shows the wide range, but heavily right-skewed distribution of the number of times respondents visit the CWM per year.

Table 6: Number of times respondents visit the Central Wasatch Mountains in a year

	Visits
Mean	66.4
Median	40
Std. Deviation	75.6
Minimum	0
Maximum	350



What types of areas do you use most often when recreating here in the Central Wasatch Mountains?

- Developed areas, such as developed campgrounds, picnic areas, ski resorts, etc.*
- Undeveloped areas, such as trails, dirt roads, rivers and lakes, dispersed camping, wilderness, etc.*
- I use both developed and undeveloped areas equally.*

Half (49.3%) of the respondents reporting using both developed and undeveloped areas equally, and 44.2% said they mostly use undeveloped areas while recreating in the CWM (Table 7). Only 6.5% of respondents said they primarily use developed sites when recreating in the CWM.

Table 7 presents the types of areas visitors use when recreating in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

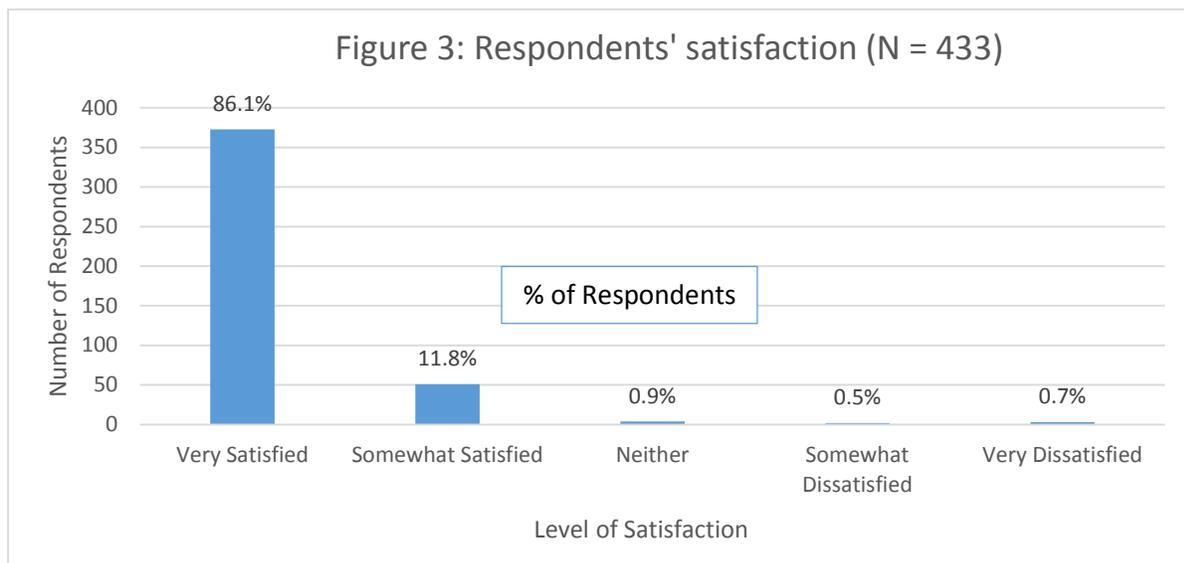
Table 7: Proportion of respondents who use developed and undeveloped areas

	Number	Percent
Developed	28	6.5
Undeveloped	109	44.2
Both	212	49.3

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains today?

- Very satisfied**
- Somewhat satisfied**
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied**
- Somewhat dissatisfied**
- Very dissatisfied**

The majority of respondents (86.1%) were “very satisfied” with their visit to the CWM demonstrating a high level of satisfaction. Another 11.8% were “somewhat satisfied.” Slightly less than one percent were “neither satisfied or dissatisfied,” and slightly over one percent were “Somewhat dissatisfied/very dissatisfied” (Figure 3).



For **TODAY**, please check “✓” all of the Recreation Activities you have participated in (or will participate in). Then, **Circle** your **MAIN** activity or purpose for visiting the Central Wasatch Mountains **TODAY**.

✓	RECREATION ACTIVITIES
NON-MOTORIZED ACTIVITIES	
	Walking
	Hiking
	Horseback riding
	Road cycling
	Mountain biking
	Non-motorized water travel (canoe, kayak, raft, sail)
	Rock climbing
	Ice climbing
	Downhill skiing (Resort)
	Snowboarding (Resort)
	Cross-country skiing
	Backcountry skiing
	Backcountry snowboarding
	Snowshoeing
	Sledding, tobogganing
	Other non-motorized activities (races, endurance events)
MOTORIZED ACTIVITIES	
	Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel or dirt)
	Riding on motorized trails (non-snow, OHV/ATV)
	Snowmobile travel
	Other motorized activities (races, games)
VIEWING & LEARNING—NATURE & CULTURE	
	Viewing/photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc.
	Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.
	Visiting historic and prehistoric sites/areas
	Nature study
	Visiting a nature center, nature trail, or visitor center

✓	RECREATION ACTIVITIES
CAMPING OR OTHER OVERNIGHT	
	Camping in developed sites (family or group sites)
	Primitive camping (motorized in roaded areas)
	Primitive camping (backpacking in unroaded backcountry areas)
	Resorts, cabins, or other accommodations on Forest Service managed lands (private or FS)
FISHING & HUNTING	
	Fishing—all types
	Hunting—all types
OTHER ACTIVITIES	
	Picnicking or family day gatherings in developed sites (family or group)
	Gathering mushrooms, berries, firewood, or other natural products
	Relaxing, hanging out
	Escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc.
	Exercising
	Walking/Exercising Pet(s)
OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT LISTED? (Please write in below and ✓ to left.)	

The question above asks two things: it first asks respondents to identify all of the recreational activities they will be participating in during their visit to the CWM, and it also asks them to identify their “main” activity or reason for visiting. Presented in this report are respondents’ main activities along with all of the activities respondents identified participating in during their visit.

Forty-one respondents either did not answer the question, or answered the question in a way that resulted in it being excluded from this analysis (e.g., checking all of the recreational activities they participate in throughout the year). Subsequently, there were 398 respondents that provided quality data. Of the 398, 173 did not circle their “main” activity. The respondents who did **not** circle a main activity were excluded from Table 8, which includes only the respondents who circled a main activity (N = 266). Table 9 however, includes **all** the activities respondents reported participating during their visit to the CWM (N = 398).

Just as in all other quarterly reports, the most popular “main” recreational activity participated in by CWM visitors was hiking (57.5%). The second most popular activity during the spring quarter was backcountry skiing (10.5%), followed by walking (9%), trail running (3.8%), and walking/exercising pet(s) (3.4%) (Table 8).

Table 8: Respondents’ main reason for visiting the Central Wasatch Mountains

	Number	Percent
Hiking	153	57.5%
Backcountry skiing	28	10.5%
Walking	24	9.0%
Trail running	10	3.8%
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	9	3.4%
Cross-country skiing	7	2.6%
Rock Climbing	6	2.3%
Mountain Biking	5	1.9%
Snowshoeing	5	1.9%
Backcountry snowboarding	4	1.5%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.	3	1.1%
Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel, or dirt)	2	0.8%
Picnicking of family day gatherings in developed sites (family or group)	2	0.8%
Relaxing, hanging out	2	0.8%
Exercising	2	0.8%

Note: Recreational activities that had fewer than four respondents were excluded from this table. N = 266

Table 9 includes all of the activities respondents reported participating in. Hiking (39%), exercising (28%), viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc. (28%), and viewing/photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc. (23%) were the most common activities respondents participated in. Relaxing and hanging out (18%), escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc. (14%), and walking/exercising pet(s) (12%) were the next most common activities.

Table 9: All activities in which respondents participated

	Number	Percent*
Hiking	172	39%
Exercising	122	28%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.	121	28%
Viewing/photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc.	102	23%
Relaxing, hanging out	81	18%
Escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc.	61	14%
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	51	12%
Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel, or dirt)	46	10%
Backcountry skiing	40	9%
Snowshoeing	27	6%
Picnicking	26	6%
Rock climbing	25	6%
Mountain biking	24	5%
Downhill skiing (resort)	23	5%
Nature study	22	5%
Visiting a nature center, nature trail, or visitor center	15	3%
Visiting historic sites	15	3%
Primitive camping (backpacking in unroaded areas)	14	3%
Cross-country skiing	13	3%
Camping in developed sites (family or group)	13	3%
Trail running	12	3%
Resorts, cabins, or other accommodations (Forest Service or Private)	8	2%
Snowboarding (Resort)	7	2%
Sledding, tobogganing	7	2%
Backcountry snowboarding	6	1%
Fishing	6	1%
Road cycling	5	1%
Primitive camping (motorized in roaded areas)	4	1%
Gathering mushrooms, berries, firewood, or other natural products	4	1%

*Percent was calculated from N = 398

Did you recreate in a protected watershed today?

Yes, I did recreate in a protected watershed, or

No, I did not recreate in a protected watershed.

How familiar are you with the rules and regulations for recreating in this protected watershed?

Not Familiar

Somewhat Familiar

Very Familiar

1

2

3

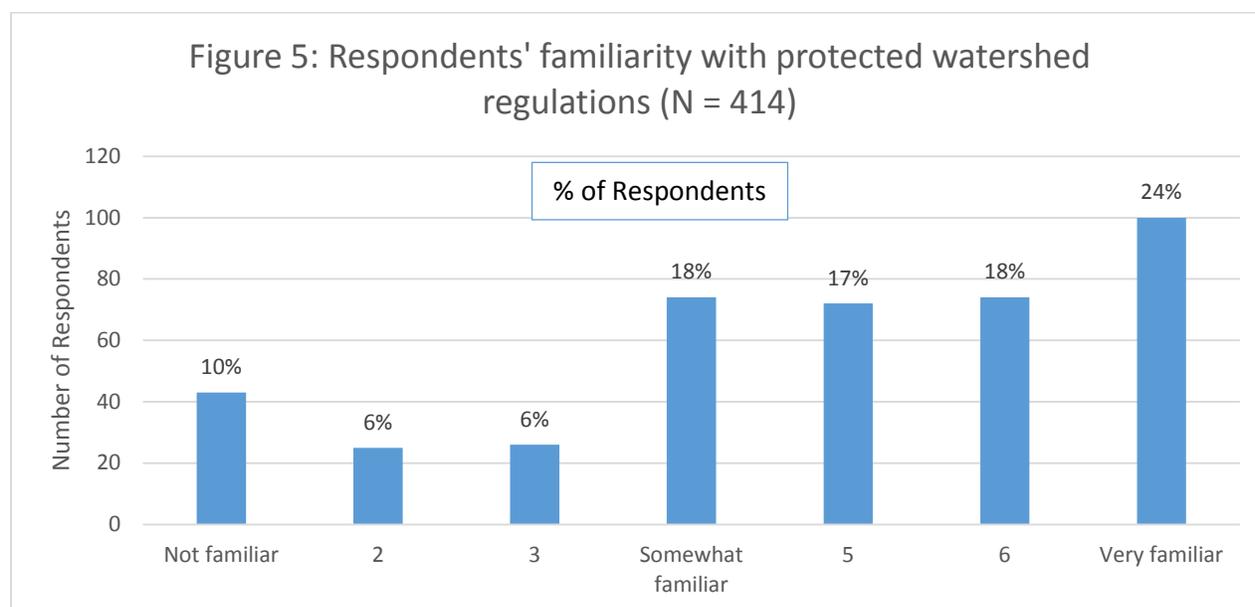
4

5

6

7

Approximately half of the survey locations used in this study are located in a “protected watershed.” All respondents were asked if they were recreating in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed. Out of the 425 people who responded to the question, 221 (50.3%) said “yes,” they were recreating in a protected watershed, and 204 (46.5%) said “no,” they were not recreating in a protected watershed. Respondents were then asked how familiar they were with the regulations of a protected watershed. The mean for respondents’ familiarity was 4.76, and the median was five, which is skewed toward “very familiar.” Figure 4 presents a histogram with respondents’ self-reported familiarity with protected watershed regulations.



For further analysis, we split the dataset into two groups: those respondents who were in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed and those who were not. This was done to

see if respondents knew if they were or were not in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed.

Approximately 75% of respondents who were in a protected watershed were aware they were in a protected watershed, 74.8 who were not in a protected watershed were aware they were not in a protected watershed. About 25% were incorrect in thinking they were, or were not in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed. Figure 10 presents the respondents who were, or were not in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed, and their knowledge of watershed boundaries.

Table 10: Respondents' geographical knowledge of protected watershed boundaries

	Respondent Answer	Number (Percent)
Not in a Protected Watershed	No	151 (74.8)
	Yes	51 (25.2)
	Total	202 (100)
In a Protected Watershed	No	53 (23.8)
	Yes	170 (76.2)
	Total	230 (100)

Table 11 presents respondents' self-reported familiarity of protected watershed regulations. In the spring quarter, the means and medians were down from the winter quarter, which had a mean of 5.26 (not in a protected watershed) and 5.40 (in a protected watershed), and both had a median of six. The spring quarter's means and medians are similar to the means and medians presented in the summer and fall reports, which suggests people recreating in the CWM during the winter are more familiar with protected watershed regulations than people who visit during other times of the year.

Table 11: Respondents' self-reported familiarity with protected watershed regulations

	Mean (Median)
Not Protected Watershed	4.86 (5)
Protected Watershed	4.67 (5)

Do you know this National Forest has Congressionally designated Wilderness Areas?

Yes No

If Yes, have you ever recreated in a Congressionally designated Wilderness Area in this National Forest?

Yes No

If Yes, what is the name of the Wilderness Area(s) in which you recreated?

I don't remember the name of the Wilderness Area(s).

What recreation activities do you typically engage in during your visits to Wilderness Areas? (List below)

Another question respondents were asked was if they knew the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest had Congressionally designated Wilderness areas. Of the 428 respondents who answered the question, 148 (34.6%) respondents said they did not know the U-W-C National Forest had Wilderness areas, and 280 (65.4%) said they did know. Respondents were also asked if they had ever recreated in the Wilderness areas on the U-W-C National Forest, and of the 428 who responded to the question, 251 (58.6%) said “no”, they have not recreated in any of the Wilderness areas, and 177 (41.4%) said they have.

Of the people who had recreated in the Wilderness areas, 70 said they had recreated in the Mount Olympus Wilderness Area, 57 said they had recreated in the Lone Peak Wilderness Area, 35 said they had recreated in the Twin Peaks Wilderness Area, and 75 said they had recreated in a Wilderness area but they did not remember the name of the Wilderness Area(s).

The most popular recreational activity in Wilderness areas was hiking (79.9%). The next most common activity respondents reported participating in was backcountry skiing (26.8%), followed by primitive camping (18.6%), rock climbing (19.6%), and trail running (11.7) (Table 12).

Table 12: Activities respondents reported participating in in Wilderness Areas

	Number	Percent*
Hiking	143	79.9%
Backcountry skiing	48	26.8%
Primitive camping (backpacking in unroaded areas)	46	25.7%
Rock Climbing	35	19.6%
Trail running	21	11.7%
Snowshoeing	16	8.9%
Mountain Biking	10	5.6%
Cross-country skiing	10	5.6%
Viewing/photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc.	8	4.5%
Walking	7	3.9%
Backcountry snowboarding	5	2.8%
Sledding, tobogganing	5	2.8%
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	5	2.8%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.	4	2.2%
Fishing	3	1.7%
Hunting	2	1.1%

*Percent was calculated from N = 179

About how many people outside of your group did you encounter (see, talk to, interact with, etc.) while recreating today? _____ people

What do you think about the number of people you encountered while recreating today?

Did they positively enhance your experience? Yes No

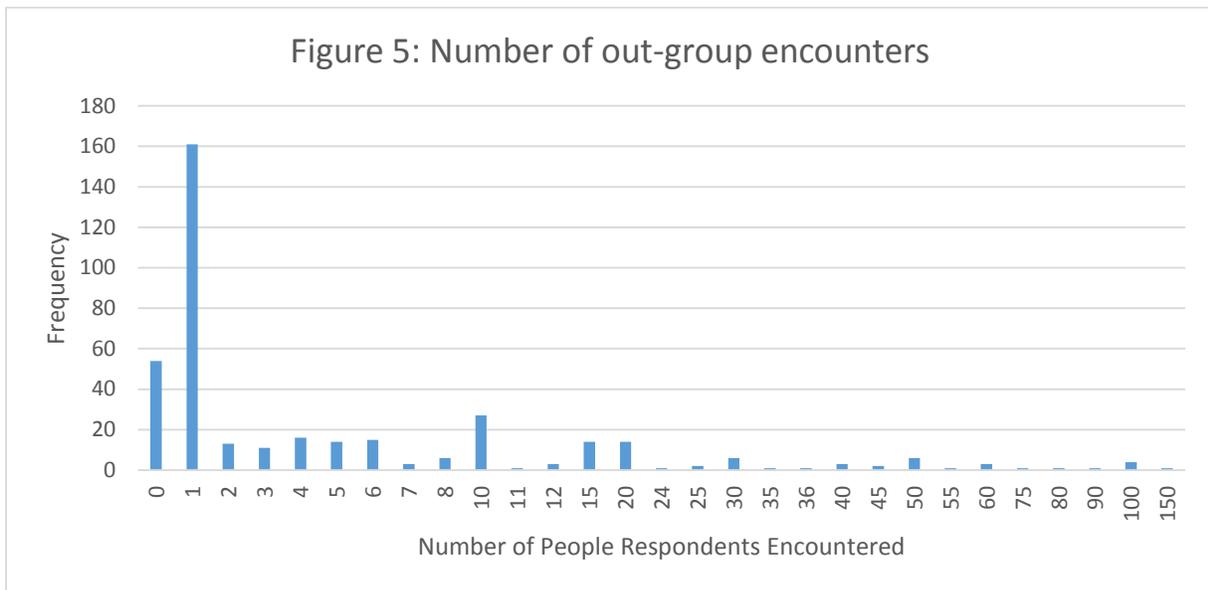
If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

Did they negatively affect your experience? Yes No

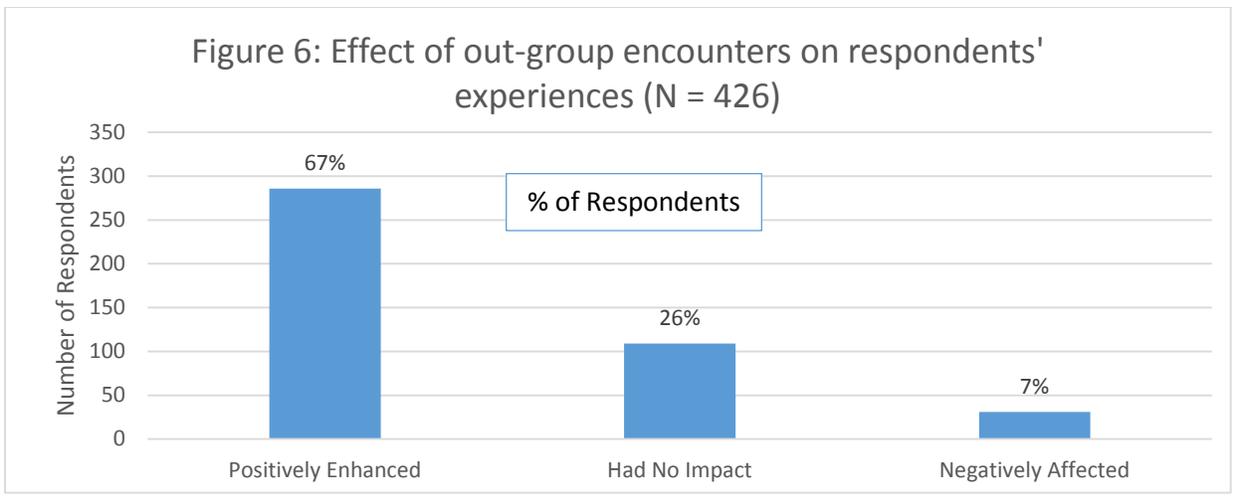
If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

They neither positively enhanced nor negatively affected my experience.

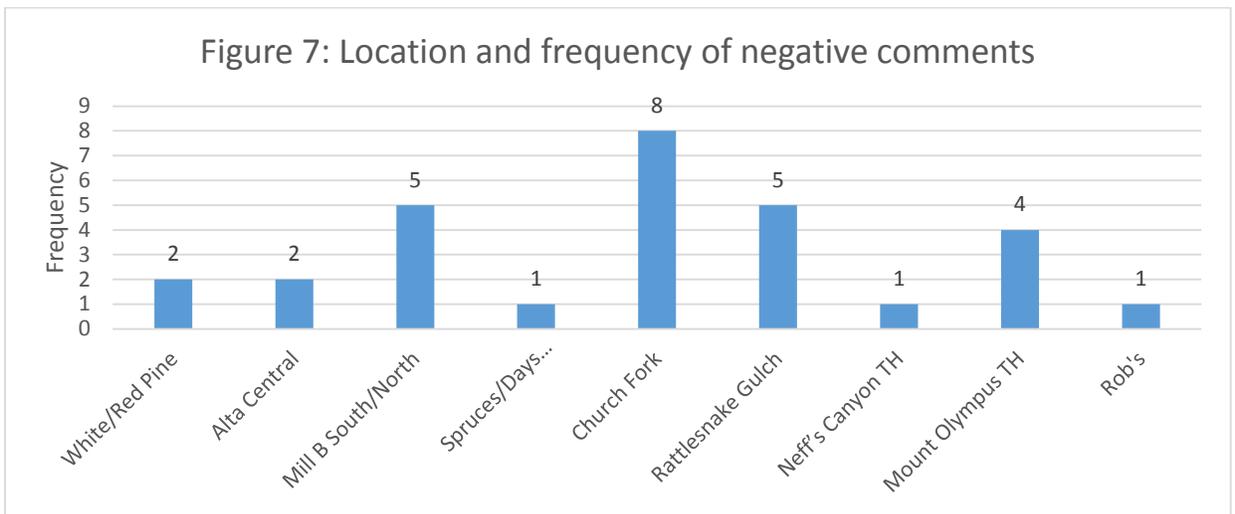
The number of out-group encounters experienced by respondents ranged greatly based on site, day of the week, and time of day. The mean number of encounters experienced by respondents was 13.21 (median = 7), which is up from the winter report's mean of 10.7, but the median stayed the same at seven. The number of encounters ranged from 0-150. Figure 5 presents the number of out-group encounters respondents experienced while they were recreating in the Central Wasatch Mountains.



Respondents were asked how the people they encountered affected their experience while recreating. The majority (67%) said the people they encountered positively enhanced their experience, and 26% said the people they encountered had no effect on their recreational experience. Only 7% of respondents said the people they encountered negatively affected their recreational experience. Therefore, 93% of respondents said the encounters they had with people outside of their group either positively enhanced or had no effect on their recreational experience. Figure 6 presents the proportion of respondents whose trip was positively enhanced, negatively affected, or was not impacted by the encounters they had with people outside of their group. Comments that were left by respondents explaining why the encounters they had positively enhanced their experience can be found in (Appendix C on page 42), and comments explaining how respondents' out-group encounters negatively affected their recreational experience can be found in Appendix D on page 49 (negative comments are grouped by location).



For further analysis, the frequency of comments left by respondents describing why the encounters they had negatively affected their experience was graphed by location (Figure 7). Church Fork had eight negative comments, Mill B South and Rattlesnake Gulch had five negative comments, and Mount Olympus TH had four negative comments. The negative comments left by respondents grouped by location can be found in Appendix D on page 49.



Are there places in the Central Wasatch Mountains you no longer visit because encounters with other forest users/uses have negatively affected your recreational experience? Yes No

If Yes, please identify the area(s) and explain the type of encounter and why you no longer visit:

Respondents were asked if there were any areas in the CWM that they no longer visit because they have had negative experiences with other forest users or uses. Of the 415 people who responded to the question, 335 (80.7%) said there were not areas they no longer visit because they have had negative encounters, and 80 (19.3%) said there are places they no longer visit. Comments left by respondents explaining the areas and reasons why they no longer visit them can be found in Appendix E (Page 51).

How did you access the recreation site you are visiting today? (Check one)

Personal Vehicle—How many people were in your vehicle TOTAL? _____

Public Transit (bus, TRAX)

Private Shuttle

Biked on my own

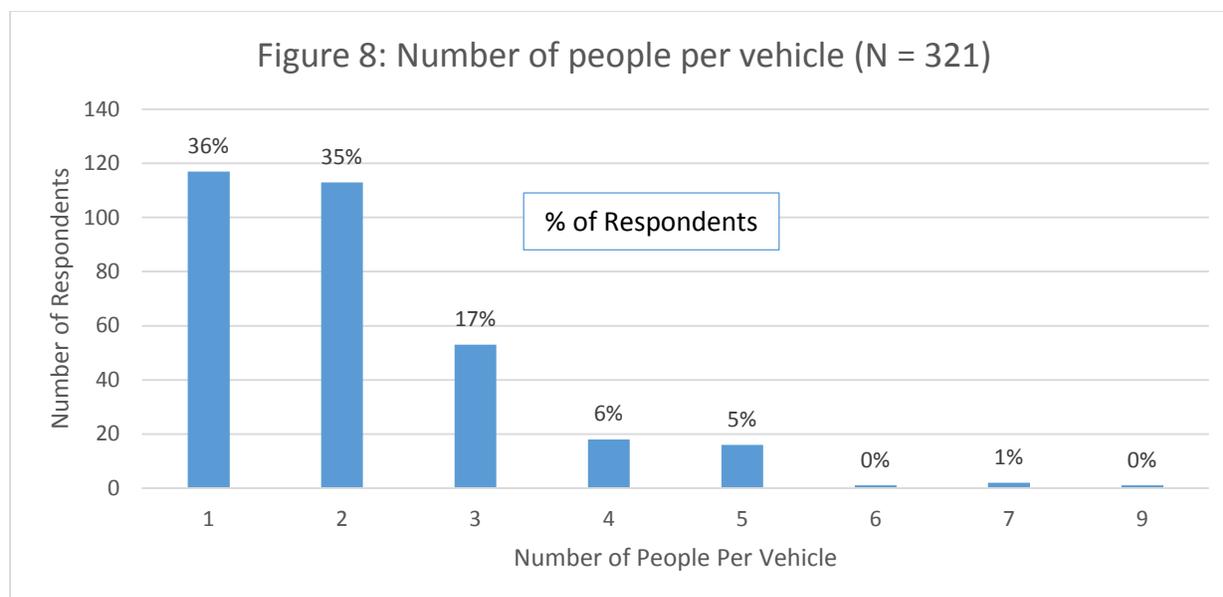
Walked on my own

Other Please describe: _____

To better understand the way CWM visitors access recreation sites, respondents were asked what mode of transportation they used to access their desired recreation locations. The majority (95.1%) of respondents used their personal vehicle, 3.5% walked on their own, and 0.5% biked, 0.5% used public transit, and 0.5% used a private shuttle. The number of passengers was measured as the total number of people in the respondent's personal vehicle. The median number of people in personal vehicles was two (mean = 1.96), and the range was 1-7 people. Table 13 presents the modes of transportation used by respondents to reach their desired locations, and Figure 8 presents the number of people per vehicle.

Table 13: Respondents' mode of transportation to reach desired recreation location

	Number	Percent
Personal vehicle	404	95.1
Public transit	2	0.5
Private shuttle	2	0.5
Biked on my own	2	0.5
Walked on my own	15	3.5
Total	425	100

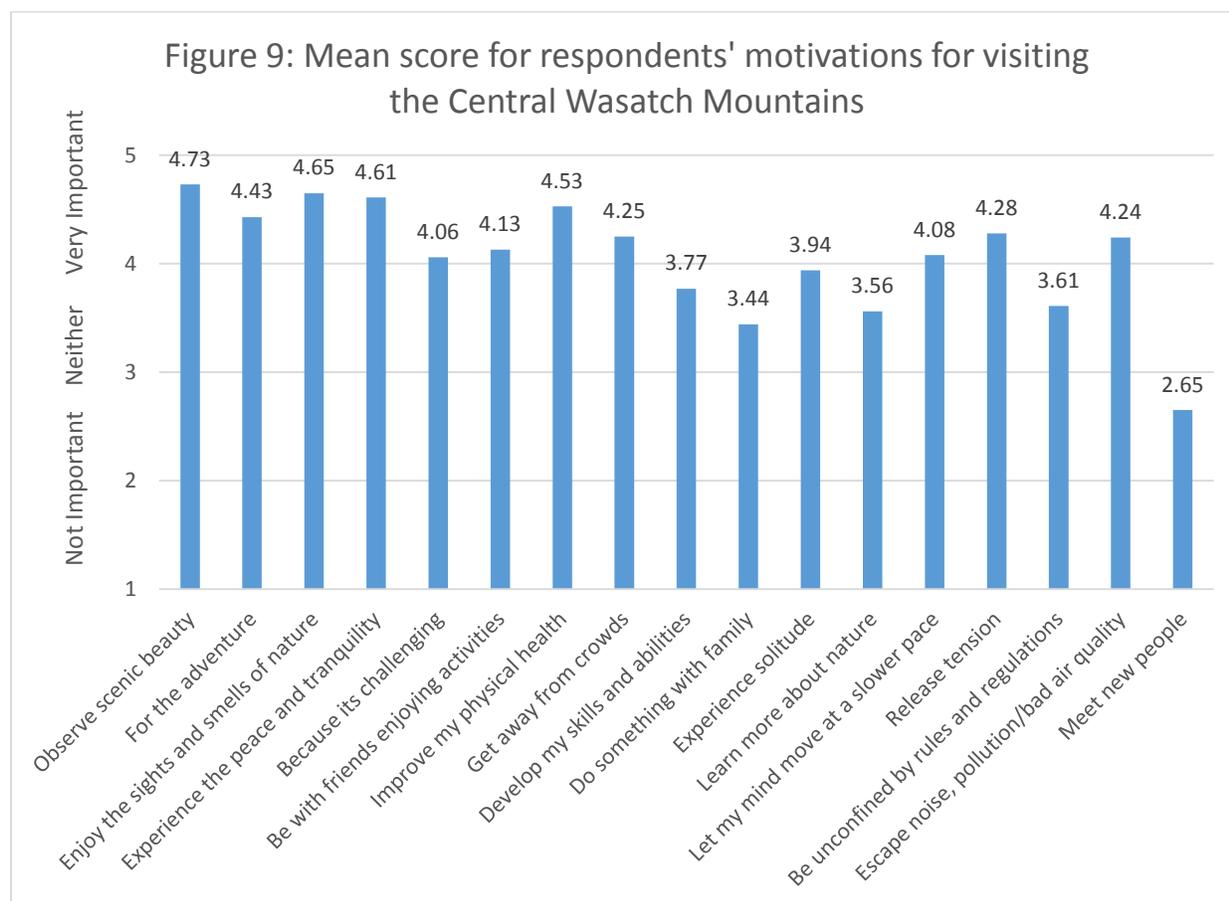


What motivated you to recreate TODAY?

	<i>Not Important at All</i>	<i>Somewhat Unimportant</i>	<i>Neither Unimportant nor Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
<i>Observe scenic beauty</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>For the adventure</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Enjoy the sights and smells of nature</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Experience the peace and tranquility</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Because its challenging</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Be with friends enjoying activities</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Improve my physical health</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Get away from crowds</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Develop my skills and abilities</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Do something with family</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Experience solitude</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Learn more about nature</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Let my mind move at a slower pace</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Release tension</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Be unconfined by rules and regulations</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Escape noise, pollution/bad air quality</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Meet new people</i>	1	2	3	4	5

There are many reason why people visit public lands, and the list of motivations above are some of the most common. Respondents were asked to rank on a scale from “not important at all” to “very important” each of the motivations listed in the table above. Respondents ranked

“observe scenic beauty,” “enjoy the sights and smells of nature,” “experience peace and tranquility,” and “improve physical health” as the most important motivating factors for recreating in the CWM. Respondents ranked “meet new people”, “do something with family”, “learn more about nature”, , and “be unconfined by rules and regulations” as the least important motivating factors for recreating in the CWM. Figure 9 presents all of the motivations with their corresponding mean scores.



If you could choose just one or two words to describe your personal feelings about the Central Wasatch Mountains what would the word(s) be?

The word map on the cover page of this report was developed from the frequency of words respondents used to describe their personal feeling toward the CWM. The website *Tagul* was used to develop the word map. The word “Beautiful” and “Peaceful” especially stand out,

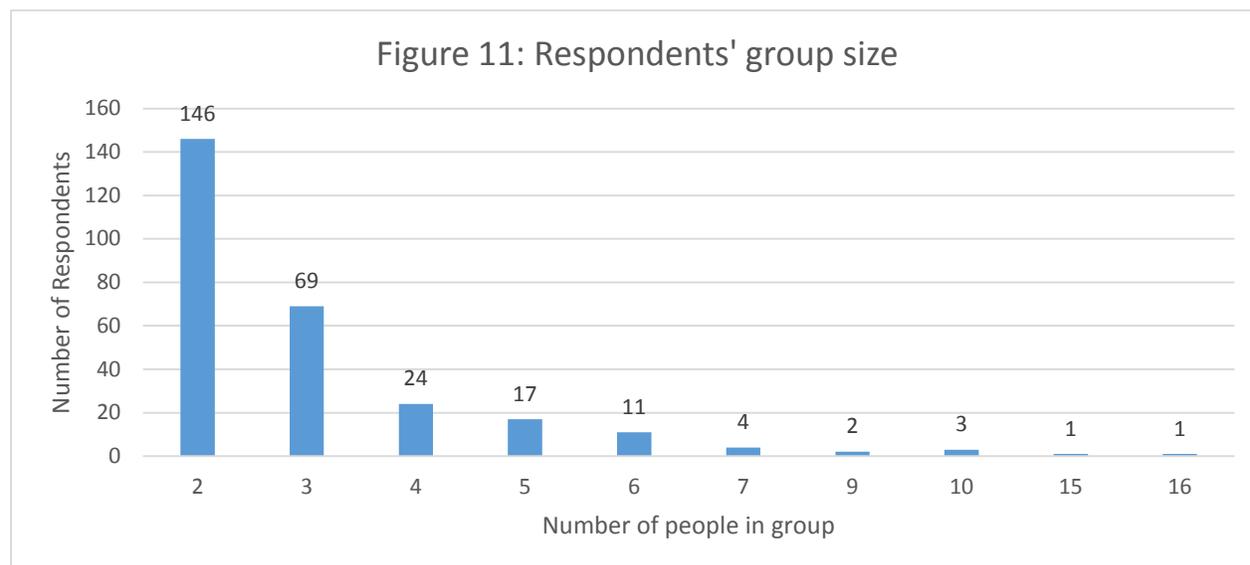
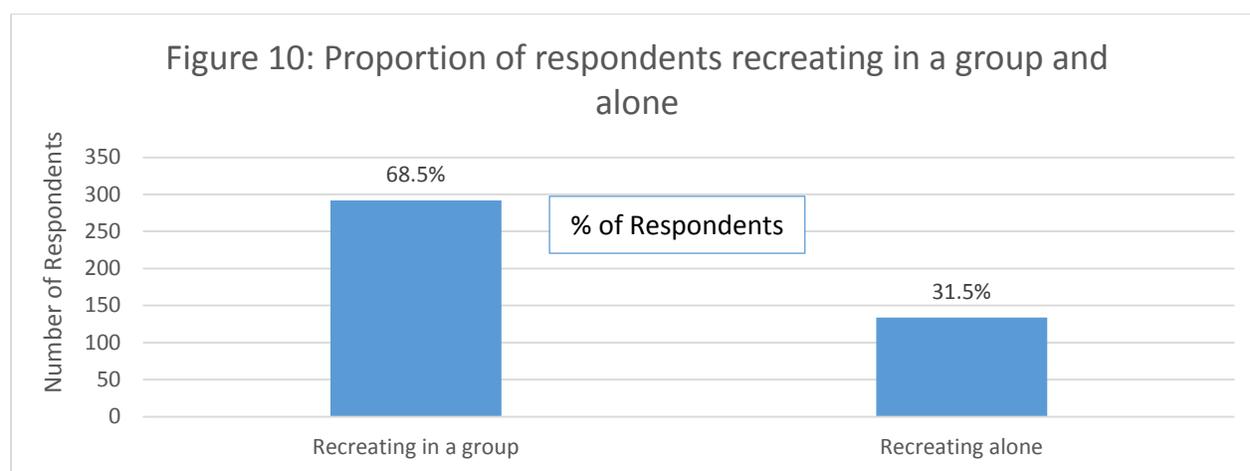
followed by a host of other descriptors expressing respondents' personal feelings toward the CWM. For a larger image of the word map, please refer to Appendix F on page 55.

Are you recreating alone today? Yes No

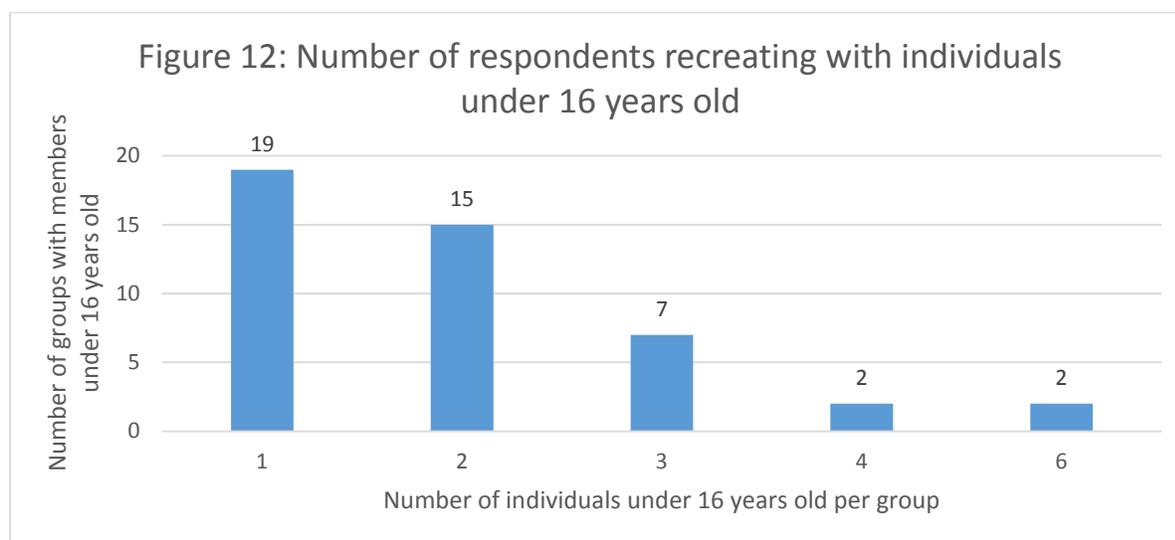
If No, how many people (total) are in your group? _____ people

Of these, how many are under 16 years of age? _____ people

To gain a better understanding about the group structure of CWM visitors, respondents were asked if they were recreating alone, and if they were not, they were asked how many people were in their group, and how many people in their group were under sixteen years old. Of the 426 who responded to the question, 292 (68.5%) said they were recreating in a group, and 134 (31.5%) said they were recreating alone (Figure 10). For respondents who were recreating in a group, the mean group size was 2.06 (median 2), with a range of 2-16 (Figure 11).



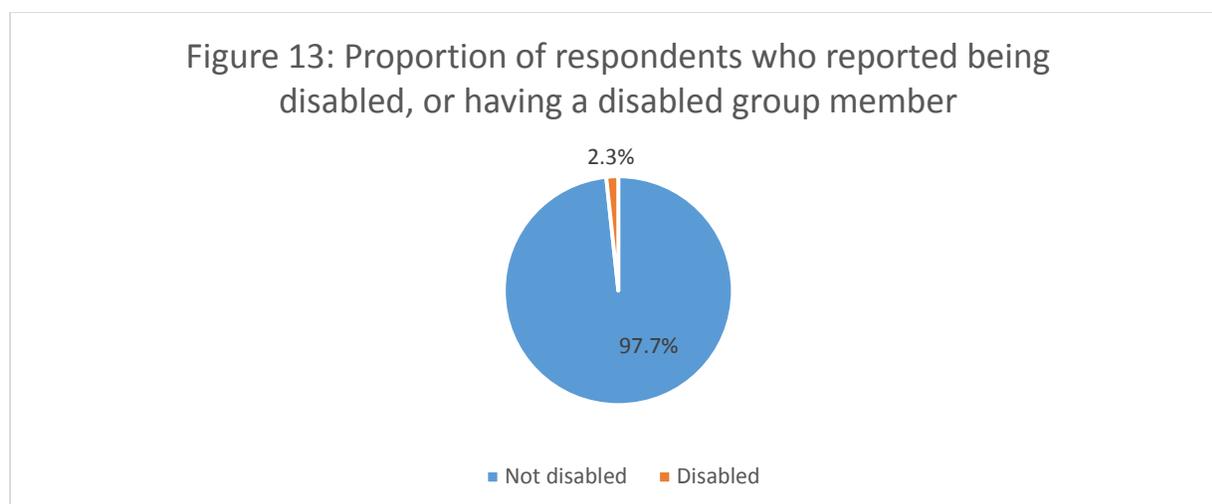
Just over 10% of respondents were recreating with people under 16 years old. Most had one (42.2%) to two (33.3%) people with them who were under 16 years old (Figure 12).



Does anyone in your group have any disabilities? Yes No

If Yes, were the areas and facilities you visited accessible? Yes No

Of the 423 who responded to the question, 10 (2.3%) reported themselves, or someone in their group as being disabled (Figure 13), which is up from the winter's 1.7%. Over the summer, 5% of respondents reported themselves, or someone in their group as being disabled. During the fall, 2.5% reported being disabled, and during the winter, the percentage dropped to 1.7%, and in the spring is rose again to 2.3%. Respondents were asked if the sites and facilities they visited were accessible, and one of the ten said they were not. This respondents said, "Can't make mountains accessible. I wouldn't want you to either."



Are you a veteran? Yes No

If Yes, where did you see service?

World War II

Korean Conflict

Vietnam War

Iraq War(s)

War in Afghanistan

Are you a wounded or disabled veteran? Yes No

Of the 242 who responded to the question, 17 (4%) reported themselves as being veterans. The most common area served by these veterans was Vietnam (57%). Out of the 17 veterans, two reported being either wounded or disabled. Figure 14 shows the proportion of veterans in this study's sample, and Figure 15 shows the areas where the veterans served.

Figure 14: Proportion of respondents that were veterans

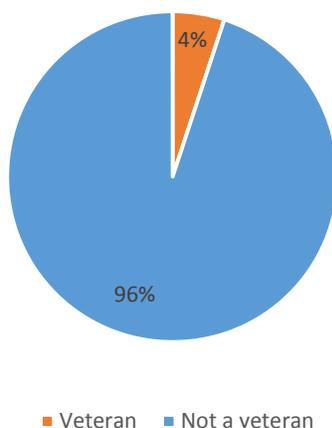
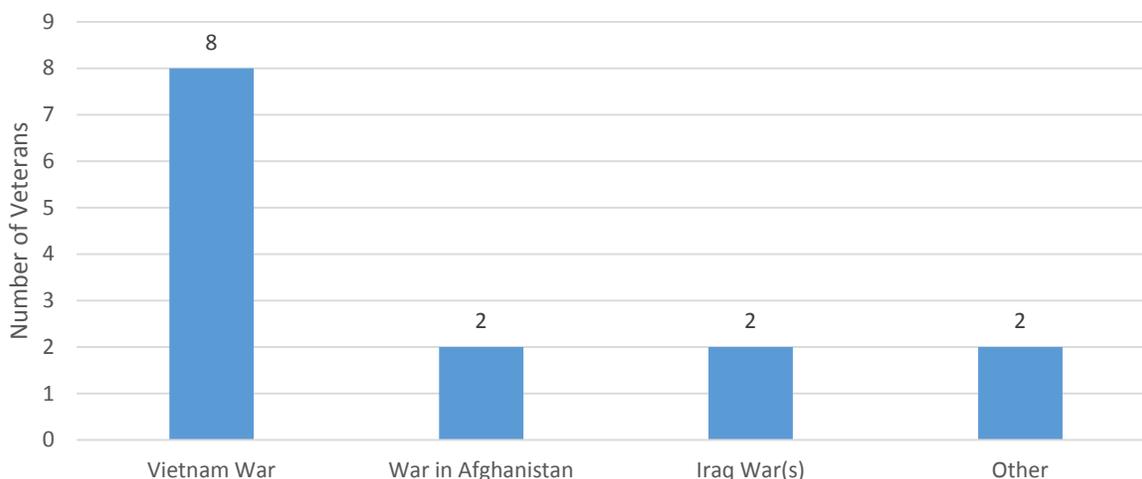


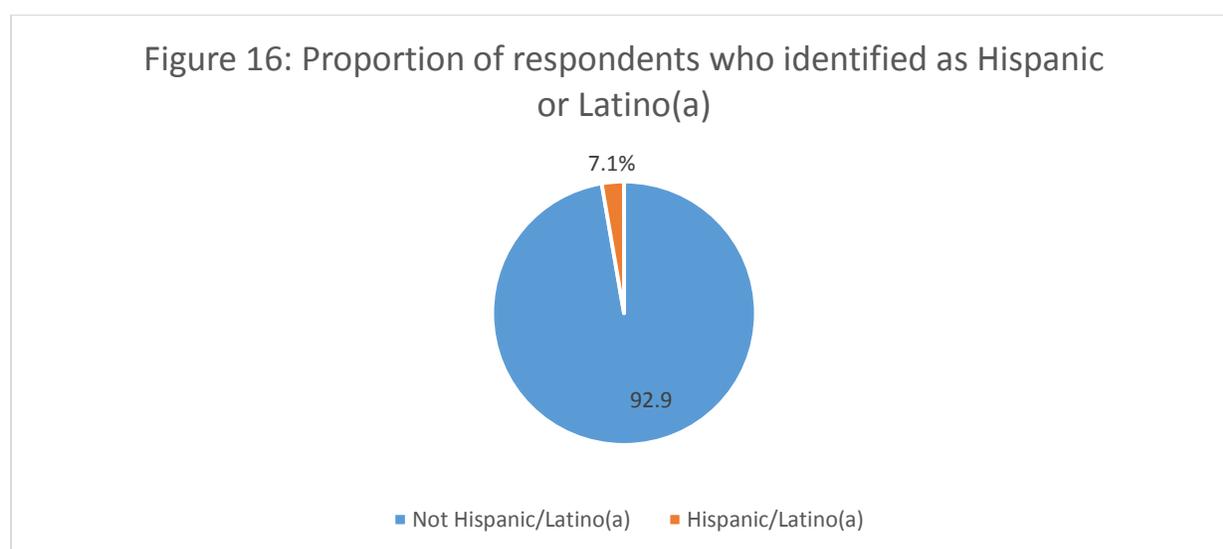
Figure 15: Areas veterans served



Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino(a)?

- Yes, Hispanic or Latino(a)***
 No, not Hispanic or Latino(a)

Respondents were asked if they considered themselves Hispanic or Latino(a). Of the 424 people who responded to the question, 30 (7.1%) identified as Hispanic or Latino(a). Figure 16 presents the proportion of respondents that identified as Hispanic or Latino(a).

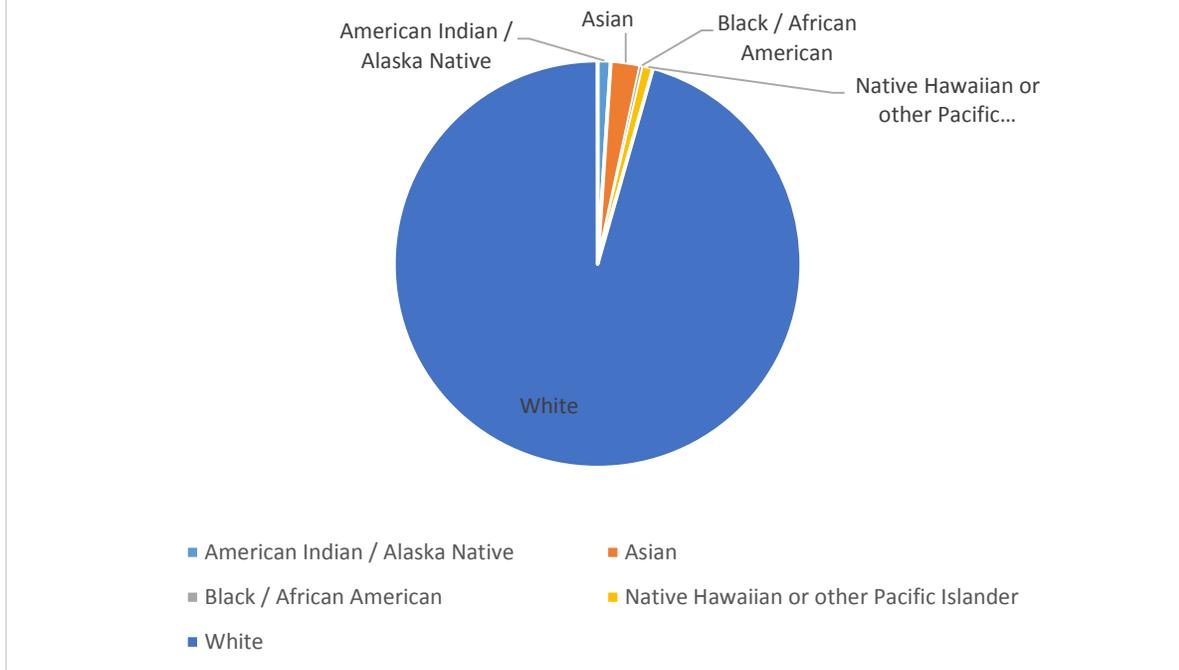


With which racial group do you most closely identify?

- American Indian/Alaska Native***
 Asian
 Black/African American
 Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 White

Respondents were asked which racial group they most closely identified, and 95.6% identified as “white.” “Asian” (2.3%) was the next most common racial group respondents identified, followed by “American Indian/Alaska Native” (1%), “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander” (0.8%), and “Black/African American” (0.3%). Figure 17 presents the proportions of races that respondents most closely identified.

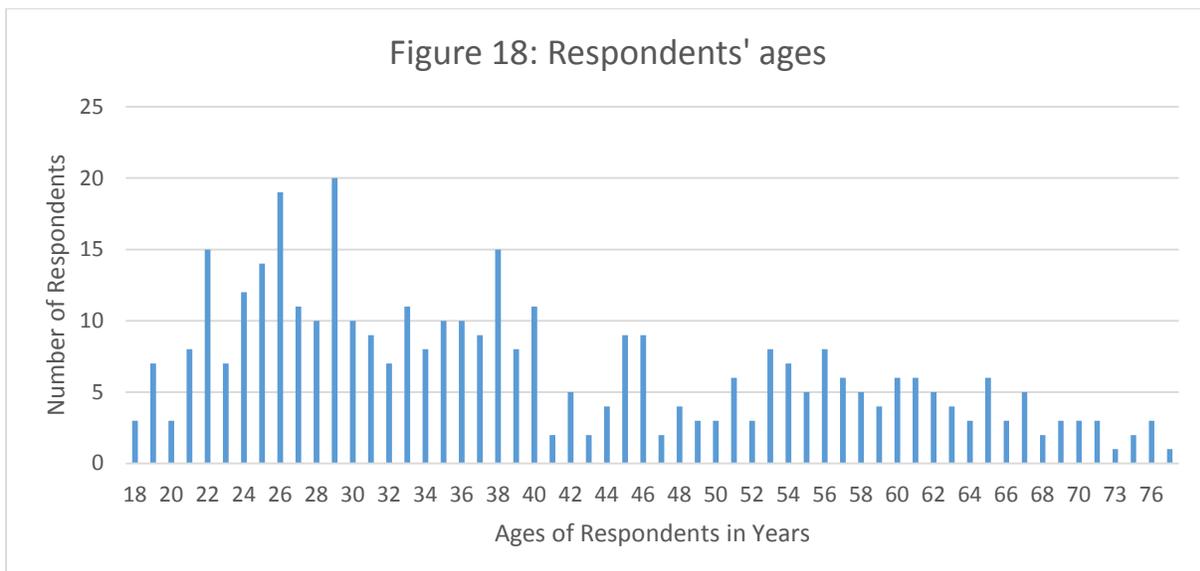
Figure 17: Racial identity of respondents



In what year were you born? _____

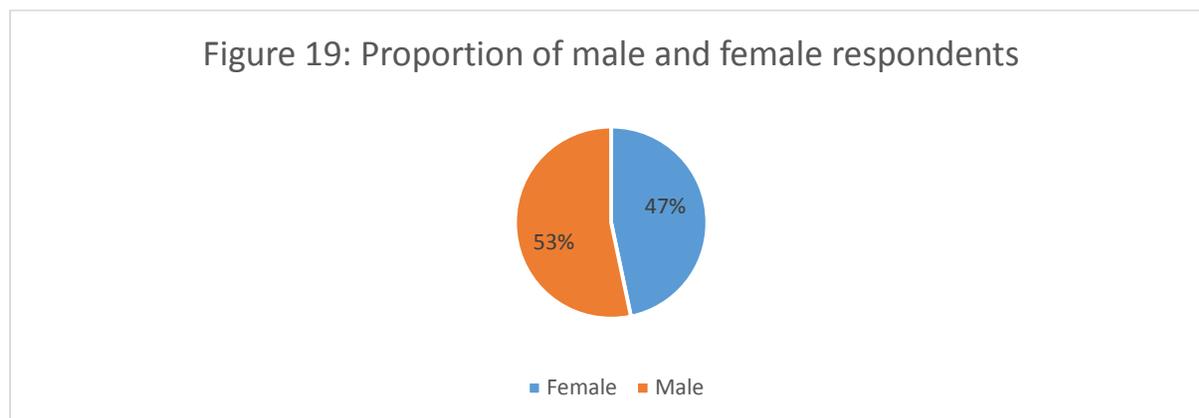
The mean age of respondents was 39 years, and the median was 36. Figure 18 presents the wide distribution of respondents' ages.

Figure 18: Respondents' ages



What is your sex: Male Female

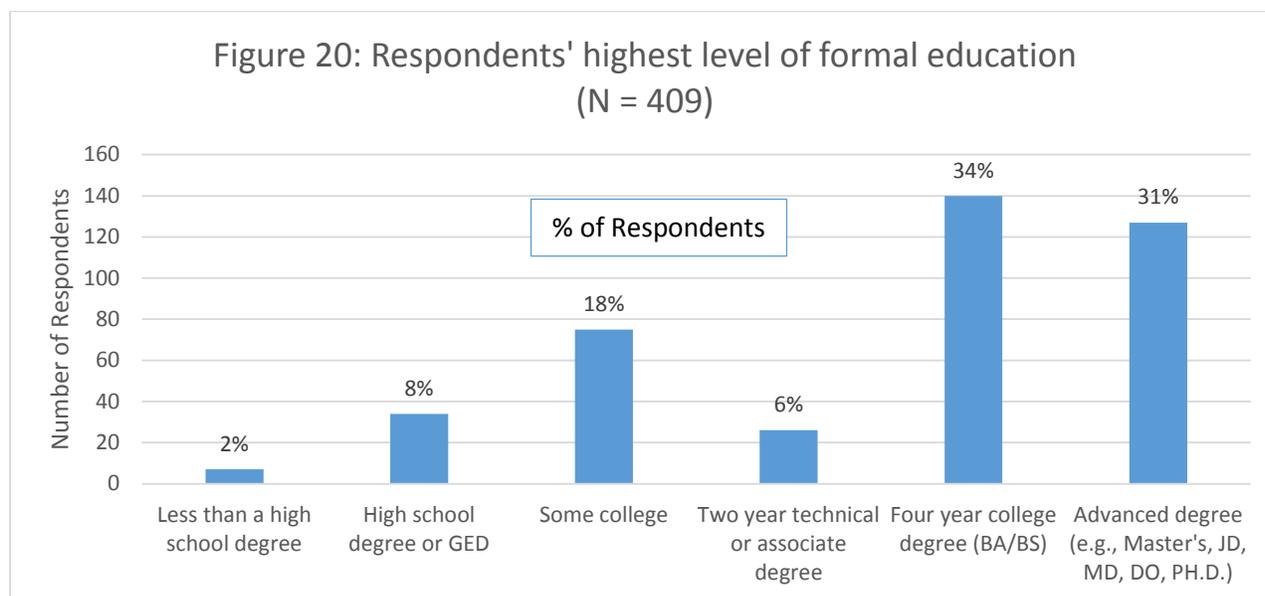
The proportion of male respondents slightly decreased to 53% from the winter's 57%. The proportion of male respondents during the fall was 54% and the summer was 51% (Figure 19).



What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

- Less than a high school degree High school degree or GED
 Some college 2 year technical or associate degree
 4 year college degree (BA/BS) Advanced degree (e.g., Master's, JD, MD, DO, Ph.D.)

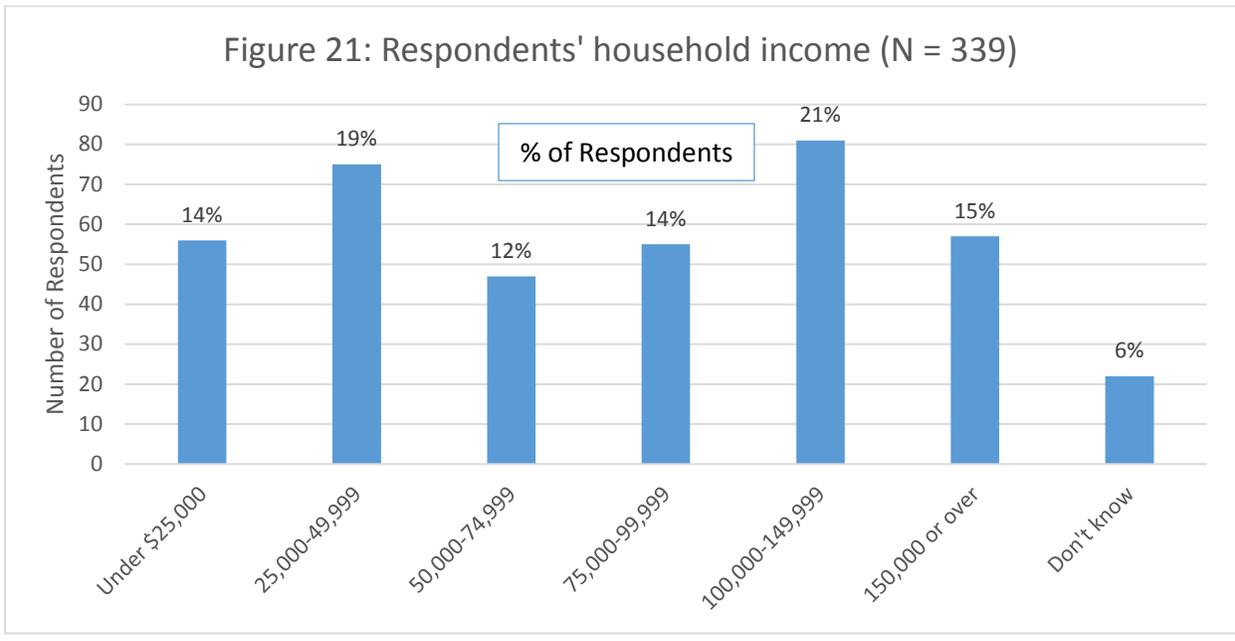
The majority of respondents reported having a four year college degree (34%) or an advanced degree (31%). Figure 20 presents the respondents highest level of formal education.



Information about income is important because people with different incomes come to Public Lands for different reasons. What is your annual household income?

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000-\$49,999
- \$50,000-\$74,999
- \$75,000-\$99,999
- \$100,000-\$149,999
- \$150,000 or over
- Don't know

The mean and median household income of respondents were both between \$75,000-\$99,999. Figure 20 presents the household incomes of CWM visitors.



Appendices

Appendix A: Comments for Forest Service

If you could ask the U.S. Forest Service and/or other Public Land Management Agencies to change some things about the way they manage the Central Wasatch Mountains, what would you ask them to do?

A few more areas accessible for dogs.

Address invasive weeds, provide shuttles into canyons.

All was good!

Allow cattle and sheep to graze.

Allow dogs in Bell's Canyon.

Allow Dogs in Little & Big Cottonwood.

Allow dogs in more canyons / hiking areas.

Allow dogs in watershed areas.

Allow dogs up Big/Little Cottonwood Canyons.

Allow more access to water features. More porta-potties.

Allow motorcycles and side-by-sides.

Allow swimming.

Bathrooms at trail head.

Be more lenient w/ dogs; allow even/odd days like Millcreek; have bear trash cans at trail heads so we can deposit trash when returning; and have more community trail work.

Be forward thinking—work w/ ski resorts to secure private land for recreation.

Be more dog friendly.

Be more informative and open to what is happening and why it is happening and which businesses/legislatures are supporting them financially.

Better control of dogs + bikers.

Better dog enforcement.

Better parking up the canyons.

Better public transit options for Cottonwood Canyons (not a train). Better trail maintenance and signage.

Better public transportation options. Shift regional opening/closing dates to keep certain areas totally free of people for some portion of year.

Better signage on popular backcountry routes and trails.

Better signs at the entrance.

Birth Control.

Build bike lanes or paths on the canyon roads. Phase out helicopter backcountry skiing. Oppose the Ski Link.

Build more hiking trails and improve and enlarge trailhead parking availability.

Build more trails.

Car congestion can be difficult. Better public transportation options would be great.

Change the bikes!! Make them stop @ stop sign. They litter + are becoming more + more populated here. Request bikers take litter bags + dispose properly. People should be limited on # of dogs.

Cleaner bathrooms.

Clear signage about trash and carbon footprint.

Concerned about development. No ski resort expansion.

Confine ski areas to existing boundaries.

Content, but do follow the issues as they arise. Ability to exercise dogs leash free is important to me, but I also hike without them.

Cross-trails, branches off main trail.

Decrease motorized access.

Decreasing vehicle traffic--yet maintaining access for those less mobile is important--bus service? We don't need to access every location easily by car or ski lift. Allow some places to be challenging access--then when you do get there it is more special.

Do not privatize national or state forests! More state financing for park service and recreation. Use developed recreation to subsidize state parks.

Do not connect the ski resorts! We love the backcountry the way it is!!

Do not put a train up the canyon.

Do something about people who litter, I wish I didn't see so much litter especially in LCC.

Don't approve the ski cross link.

Don't charge to visit. Enforce on camping. No dogs.

Don't cut trees!!

Don't allow more lifts to be built.

Easier to find i.e., signs and online info.

Educate: Signs on shortcuts that educate, ex. "Erosion caused by this shortcut." Pick up poop campaign - bagging and leaving is not helpful. Idea of "leave no trace."

Education to the numerous people that visit that just aren't aware (or care) of impact & litter.

Enforcement of Dog's on trails especially in Water Canyons. I've seen dogs up both Big & Little Cottonwood Canyons w/ no fines.

Ensure increase in population doesn't lower quality of land. PROTECT IT! Even if that means limited access.

Everything was great. I wouldn't change anything.

Everywhere trails need a lot of work, like non-regulated trails (Neff's) dead fall maintenance.

Fewer people at ski resorts.

Fewer people.

Fewer restrictions when possible.

Fight against Utah legislature. Make canyons NRA stand up to them.

Fight for access to the Oquirrh Mountains and easier access to Antelope Island from SL County.

First and foremost Central Wasatch trails are a disgrace. Water-bars would go a long way in helping trail erosion, and I think total reconstruction of many trails in BCC + LCC is necessary. The second this is the red snake. Driving the canyons isn't peaceful for anyone. I have never enjoyed being white knuckled up LCC or BCC. Buses w/ specific lanes or a train/light rail to Alta would actually make it a more perfect and relaxing experience.

Find ways to regulate how many cars are coming up and down the canyon. Better bus service? Carpooling?

Finish the BST. More funding on trail systems. NO Interconnect.

For the most part I am pleased with the maintenance and regulations of the Wasatch.

Free bus service to keep cars out of canyon. Allow more bikes & natural experience.

Free public transit - developed trails - signs about not shitting in Lisa Falls close the ski resorts.

Get me a job.

Get rid of toll booth.

Good.

Have snow plows plow the road all the way up Millcreek Canyon during the winter. There should be plenty of money with the fees collected at the toll booth.

Have some hikes dog off leash every day.

Hold individuals more responsible for trash/behavior on the trails.

Honestly it's fine.

Huts. Build some damn Backcountry Huts.

I do not know enough about it to know what I would want to change.

I think it's great!

I think it's great

I think they are well managed overall but it would be nice if some of the picnic areas opened earlier.

I would keep it the way it is right now. I like that this area is bow hunting only.

I'm not familiar enough with this to provide any insight.

I'm satisfied.

Involve the public more.

If it were to better trails & roads, I would pay a Minimum fee.

If they could install some water fountains @ the parking lot. Also #'s of miles going to travel through a trail.

Improve bus system in Cottonwood Canyons.

Improve public transit access. Minimize development.

Improve the trails.

Improve trail maintenance.

Improve trail, provide restrooms @ trailhead, and clean up trail.

Indicate trails a little clearer.

Inform people on proper defecation procedures, leave no trace practices.

Information for people who want to view wildlife. Such as best locations, when, etc.

Institute a use fee for those driving in the canyon. Be more proactive in minimizing litter and graffiti. Minimize volume of personal vehicle traffic.

Jail time littering, yo.

Just keep it clean and the trails safe.

Keep advocating for protecting wilderness! No more development :)

Keep ATV's out + snowmobiles out - Loud polluting.

Keep developers out. Once they are in they will charge us to be able to use their crowded resort.

Keep it National Forest.

Keep it undeveloped.

Keep Millcreek open longer than four months.

Keep nature preserved.

Keep open the dog friendly area!

Keep the dirt roads open! Patrol the campsites and enforce liter control.

Keep the Forest. Forests keep people together.

Keep them clean. Keep them around. Less development.

Keep things the same.

Keep up the good work. No complaints.

Keeping trails maintained.

Leave restrooms open year round.

Less regulations.

Let me bring my dog to watersheds.

Let the animals be—don't let the cows out!

Let us walk dogs.

Limit development.

Limit ski lifts.

Limit the numbers of visitors per day!

Lunch benches on trails. Ex: fork to Dog or Desolation Lake on Mine Trail.

Maintain access to motorized vehicle areas. Specifically Guardsman's Pass for snowmobiling!
Also, dirt bike trails. (We also ski, hike, camp, backpack, and explore a ton!)

Maintain natural-ness.

Make more mountain bike trails.

Make more places to allow dogs.

Make more trail.

Make people keep it clean.

Make sure to protect the remaining Wilderness areas for future generations. Access to Wilderness is SLC's biggest asset.

Make sure to reduce waste on trails. People come for the beauty and it is unflattering to see trash or waste on trails/campsites.

Mandate public transportation up the Cottonwoods and prohibit future development.

More access through or around private land to public land.

More dog access.

More dog friendly areas.

More enforcement of pet regulations. For example, pick up poop bags on trails. Otherwise, doing a great job.

More info when hunting is on—big sign at entrance. Worried about knowing when hunting is going on. Speeding.

More land designated as Wilderness. Less development—particularly by the ski resorts. Do not allow a permit for heli skiing.

More mountains?

More off leash dog friendly areas.

More pet areas. Separate biking and hiking areas.

More places where dogs can go!

More preservation for Wilderness.

More signs.

More signs for people to know where to go.

More signs to know where trails are.

More trail signage for summer trails.

More trailhead access adjacent / through private property.

More transit, more dog areas, less development.

Need more restrooms. More trail maintenance - clip bushes in to trail, dirges are stairs.

Never thought about it.

No more ski area expansion! Hiking trail to Hogum fork. Mt. Biking Allowed in Albion Basin. Keep working w/ SLCA to improve climbing Access. Thanks for maintaining the trailhead restrooms. White Pine Trail head entrance—exit is dangerous—please redesign!

No because I am not familiar with how they manage it.

No change, just no more ski lifts.

No dogs, no One-Wasatch, tiki bars.

No logging on public land.

No One Wasatch.

No One Wasatch.

No One Wasatch. No more resort expansion.

No rail / constructed transit. Buses only up the canyon we already have the infrastructure.

No ski connection. Limit car travel BCC and LCC Salt Lake air quality.

No Ski Link.

No, people using land need to continue to get educated about the effects the things they do have on the environment.

Not charge for Millcreek Canyon.

Not experienced enough to ask questions.

Nothing at all!

Nothing I can think of.

Nothing necessarily you could do, but the waste and graffiti is so weird, even waste high up.

Nothing they don't. I think it's done well.

Nothing, great job!

Nothing, I'm satisfied.

Nothing, seems well protected, just lots of people.

Nothing. I'm a first time visitor and don't have much input.

Nothing. It's fine.

Nothing. I think it is absolutely perfect. I enjoy spending time in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Open facilities year round.

Open gates before Memorial Weekend :) Please + Thank you. We wanted to grill dinner but every gate was locked.

Open Guardsman's Pass in the winter.

Open restrooms earlier.

Open restrooms earlier in year.

Open the bathrooms earlier & later.

Open up more land.

Overall I had a great experience and I wouldn't change anything.

Patrol and enforce more.

Please protect it. NEVER sell out to corporate interests.

Post little trail etiquette signs on the most popular trails. "Yield to uphill!"

Post signs at bottom of hiking saying no littering pack-in/out (no spray paint on the rocks).

Lower canyon mainly.

Preserve areas for those that like raw nature & you "earn" the experience.

Preserve what we have, National Park Status.

Promote hitchhiking or carpools.

Protect & charge for entry.

Protect the Central Wasatch from further development.

Protect the wilderness. Many more busses, more frequent lots of stops.

Protect, protect, protect.

Put in a train in Big & Little.

Put information signs regarding the area and wildlife.

Put more info on trailheads and maps.

Put up informational signs regarding the area. Such as old bridges, pipelines, etc.

Reduce restrictions on dogs in Tri-Canyon area.

Reduce the amount of homes in the mountains.

Reduce vehicle traffic. Maybe implement a bus system.

Reevaluate reasonable watershed regulations concerning dogs. Concentrated impacts and the effects of ski area development related to other concerns.

Regulate further development. More wilderness areas. Too small of an area for helicopter skiing.

Remove helicopter access. No more ski resort expansion. Don't spend money to pay personnel to lock gates/access when gov't shuts down next time.

Seems fine.

Some areas: Parking.

Some places need more parking spaces and restroom facilities.

Stop letting people build houses in them.

Stop One Wasatch and resort expansion.

Stop ski resorts from expanding.

Stop tearing down the downhill bike trail on the Quarry Trail! And stop putting logs on trails.

Stop the ski areas from connecting between the canyons.

Strictly enforce a "no littering" ordinance. It is very disappointing and disrespectful how some people treat this special place.

Sustainable development of recreation areas. Make areas more accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Thank you!

Thanks for doing this!

Thanks for trying to balance competing interests. Complete Bonneville trail way. More access points to hiking areas. Sometimes the parking lots are full.

The Wasatch is small + already overrun w/ people. Keep the wild areas wild + limit development. Stop encouraging more people to come.

There should be maps of Trails @ the trailheads.

They are doing a great job. Glad there are restrooms, trash containers at the parking areas.

They should clearly close the roads to private transportation and replace it with an efficient public transport system. This would reduce air pollution, traffic jams and pollution on the water streams.

Think of some way to control the increase in traffic up the canyons.

This year, certainly make campgrounds and parking, toilets, etc. available earlier in the year. Keep bike lanes free.

Trail markings with distances.

Trail work, erosion control, user education.

Trash bins. We often find trash from other parties it would be nice to have a close place to get rid of it.

Transportation! & development - No new ski area expansions.

We need to keep areas for pets. We need a National Monument in Wasatch--by Obama before he goes out.

Appendix B: Comments regarding management, protection, and development of the Central Wasatch Mountains

Do you have any additional comments or thoughts about issues regarding the management, protection, or development of the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Access to public lands should be available to citizens and visitors. However, please protect "my land" (as a tax payer) from business interests/development such as ski resorts.

Awareness and education--even focus on the coming generation, the next stewards, caretakers--training, teaching, community involved.

Awesome!!

Better public transportation.

Clean outdoor recreation areas.

Clearly sign Little Cottonwood trails.

Composting toilets.

Continue to protect the water supply.

Do not allow ski resort expansion. Backcountry usage is rapidly growing and needs to be protected. Also the bus system does not cater to locals. It needs to run frequently and consistently!

Do NOT build Ski Link - Alpine skiing is NOT a growth sport - Need to be creative.

Don't let the ski resorts take over!

Don't over-develop or add/don't cater to large business--no more Olympics needed--we had it once.

Don't sell off any of our areas.

Grateful.

Hire the Student Conservation Association (SCA)—engage youth into trail building.

I appreciate all the outdoor recreation areas. I prefer non-motorized activities.

I appreciate having the opportunity to enjoy our mountains! Thank you!

I do not want to see any development happen here. Protect our canyons please!

I don't want Interconnect.

I have submitted lengthy comments to Mt. Accord and sent a copy to Carl Fisher at SOC.

I like no dogs.

I love coming up here.

I love the Wasatch. Keep it as it.

I occasionally ski at the resorts, but I don't think the resort should be expanded anymore. The SLC Wasatch is so close to the metro area + such a great natural resource. Preservation should be the priority.

I think 90% of the Mt. Accord plans are great, the environmentalism needs to be addressed now! And this our chance to do it. Overcrowding of parking lots on the weekends is not a solution for clean water. We need easy dependable transit that SLC resident will actually take. Clearly a tunnel through the mountains is ridiculous, but let's not throw away all these other great ideas.

I think you do a great job. Keep it up!

In other areas of Utah, cattle drives are so obviously disruptive of plant life. I don't know if you see that much here...

In regards to Mountain Accord Meetings, how can we get kids more interested/involved in them?

In regards to the Mountain Accord proposal, I would strongly recommend that it be thrown out altogether. Before destroying this beautiful area with further development in hopes of increased monetary gain, consider figuring out what capacity of people this area can safely maintain on a daily basis without destroying the ecology. Wilderness should never be exploited. Keep the wild, wild, and mysteries, mysterious.

Responsible uphill travel should be allowed at the resorts so we can access the Wilderness behind them.

It's beautiful.

It's one of the last city-side wild places in the lower 48! Please protect it!

It's our life. It's why we don't move to other states. Love the Wilderness.

It's really nice

It's a small place, Limit Resort Expansion to existing bounders. No heli in Central Wasatch, it's too busy already.

Just make sure it stays here forever. :)

Keep it beautiful!

Keep it clean. Keep it protected.

Keep it free of motorized off-road vehicles.

Keep it natural. This is one of the most beautiful natural resources the country has.

Keep it wild.

Keep it wild!

Keep it wild. No more development.

Keep our mountains clean.

Keep protecting. Thanks!

Keep them--they are much needed for life!

Keep trails open to dogs - at least every other day.

Keep up the good work.

Keep up the good work!

Keep up the good work.

Keep Vail off of anything that has to do with fun.

Less development.

Lots of people use the Wasatch, and the use is concentrated in a few places. Build more trails!

Love being in the mountains.

Love hiking love nature!

Love it here.

Love seeing you guys on the trails doing surveys like this!

Maintain and protect dispersed recreation

Maintain area for long-term recreation use as opposed to short-term resource extraction.

Managed well

More advocacy for public land & recreation.

More tax money should be used to protect and maintain.

More trash cans to help with less garbage at the trail.

Nice balance of activities--bikes, hiking, running, fishing, dogs, etc.

No developing!!!

No more developing

No more ski resorts.

No Ski Link Please.

No ski resort expansion.

No, it's wonderful.

No, just need people to respect these mountains they are my home and I hate how much litter is in them.

No, love it up here!

No. Love nature!

None; I'm enjoying everything.

Nope, be excellent to each other.

Nope! It was great!

Only that I am disappointed that I can't hike w/ dogs in the watershed.

Open more areas to dogs.

Just limit it to buses only like in Zion National Park.

Parking is becoming a huge issue in a Big and Little Cottonwoods. Ski areas are over-flowing on weekends and people receive tickets for parking on the road because there's nowhere else to park!

Please do everything possible to preserve this amazing resource.

Please don't let the ski resorts build the Wasatch-One-Link. It will destroy these mountains. Have more control/management on traffic going up the Cottonwoods; more buses; less cars.

Please don't let One Wasatch happen! Please!

Please--no land swaps with Alta ski lifts, no tunnels, and no trains. Thanks!

Please. No gondola or train system!!! Buses for the win!

Preserve mountain biking & hiking trails.

Protect as much as possible.

Protect what we have for future generations.

Put funding into trail network and public transit not more lifts. Solve LCC traffic with an alternative lane. Two up in the AM, and two down in the PM.

Quit listening to minority more voicing of opinions.

Resorts are great during winter/snowy months. Refuse is an issue.

Save the canyons!

Seems OK to me.

Smart Transit. More Buses to PC/SLC! Many per Day! Charge for personal vehicles up ALL canyons in Wasatch + into PC, then use that \$\$ to fund free buses. No interconnect (Ski Resorts) ...interconnect summer trails!

Thanks for caring & taking a survey.

Thank you!

Thanks for all you do!

Thanks for taking care of nature.

Thanks for working to improve.

Thanks!

The best part of UT is the trails!

The hike today was beautiful! The trails are well marked and clean. I love it out here! Keep up the good work!

The more we can protect from development the better.

There should be a limit of how many cars go up a canyon on any given day. No dogs allowed should be more enforced in SLC Canyons. Watershed education and better protection. No inter-canyon connect development. Once Our Canyons are gone we won't be able to get them back.

There are some points on Pipeline trail that need protective rails (for children).

These mountains need to be honored & respected - not destroyed for a few people to make even more money while destroying the canyon.

This area must be protected! I would not want to see any development happen here that would tamper with nature.

This area needs to be protected from further development.

We are very fortunate to have un-developed wilderness areas, leave them as it, please.

We love the mountains! We encourage keeping undeveloped areas protected for recreation + non-vehicle/mechanized transport use.

We love Utah! Thanks!

We love you.

We need to protect more. How? Regulate # of people??

We're lucky to have these types of places in Utah--thanks for working to keep it beautiful!

Yes to Mountain Accord.

Appendix C: Comments by respondents explaining why their out-group encounters positively enhanced their recreational experience

All outdoors.

Chatting.

Community.

Courteous, quiet, no litter.

Cute dogs.

Data on trail conditions, smiles, high Fives.

Didn't matter either way.

Everyone is always friendly & helpful outdoors.

Everyone is friendly.

Everyone is very happy.

Everyone was super nice / safe.

Everyone's pleasant...Seemed to be enjoying the hike.

Exchange "hellos", pet dogs.

Friendly.

Friendly - said hello - small talk.

Friendly advice.

Friendly and fun.

Friendly chat.

Friendly hikers.

Friendly people.

Friendly people.

Friendly--doing same thing we are.

Friendly--enhanced experience.

Friendly, gave directions.

Friendly, informative, positive vibes.

Friendly, inviting.

Friendly, nice to talk to.

Friendly, particularly towards pet.

Friendly, took pictures, showed us the trail.

Fun to talk to.

Glad to see others people getting out.

Good to see other folks up here.

Good to see other people enjoying trails.

Good to see others when I'm done.

Good to see people out and using resources.

Good to see people out enjoying the mountains.

Good to see people out exercising.

Good to see people out.

Good vibes.

Great attitudes.

Greeting dogs.

Guy who told me to do this survey very nice man!

Happen to see people.

Happy and nice.

Happy children and women studying vegetation.

Happy people.

Having fun on conference day.

He was taking pictures.

He was taking pictures. Made me want to tell my photographer boyfriend about taking pictures.

Help with info.

Helpful.

I like things as remote as possible.

I love mountain bikes.

I love to get away from town and people.

If they are safe and cool, no problem.

It is nice to see people enjoying the outdoors.

It was comforting seeing other skiers.

It was great to see all of the dogs.

It was great weather for a hike.

It's good to see people enjoying the canyons!

It's nice to see people being outside.

It's nice to see people taking advantage of our trail system.

Jovial, smart, informed.

Just said "hi", so friendly.

Kind & smiled.

Kind interaction – friendly.

Kind words. Talking about the area.

Kindred souls.

Leash your pets.

Like to hike + like scenery + dogs.

Like to meet people.

Love to see happy people.

Made me feel safe.

Made me laugh because they wore shorts.

More the better. They vote!

Most were friendly and polite - positive, a few noisy - neg.

Motivation.

Motivation.

Motivational.

Mutual conversation about environment.

Nice.

Nice and polite.

Nice folks. Enthusiastic. Shared stories.

Nice peeps.

Nice personalities.

Nice seeing other people enjoying the wilderness.

Nice to interact with people while you're out, makes me feel safe knowing people are on the same trail if I'm out on my own.

Nice to see and talk to others.

Nice, broke trail, couple jokes.

Nice.

Not too many, not too few.

Not too many, they all said "hello".

Often chat and share experiences.

Okay - not the most social or personable people.

Olympus trailhead--I don't mind people.

Only saw one solo user. Enhanced by giving slight feeling of safety.

Other people enjoying nature.

People are using the trails.

People up here are always very friendly.

Pleasant conversation.

Pleasant encounters.

Pleasant greetings.

Pleasant greetings.

Pleasant Hi's.

Pleasant people.

Pleasant verbal exchange.

Pleasant, considerate.

Pleasant, happy.

Pointed out wildlife (moose).

Polite.

Positive out on their hike.

Respectful.

Safety in numbers.

Said hello.

Saw a friend.

Saw old friends.

Saying hi.

Saying hi, sharing water and giving directions.

Scenery (beautiful).

Shared some overall good energy.

Smile.

Smiled and said "hi".

Smiled, pleasant conversation.

Smiles - Fellow hikers are family.

Smiles and friendly people.

Smiles, polite people.

Social connection.

Some were friendly and knew trail etiquette.

Some were very pleasant on the trail.

Sure, they were happy to be out + about.

Survey!

Survey!

Talked to a few people.

Talking

Talking / Sharing info.

They also enjoy the mountains very much.

They are friendly and in good spirit.

They didn't enhance or take away from it.

They show their passion for nature and why it matters. As well as information.

They were excited to be outside and enjoy nature.

They were friendly.

They were friendly.

They were friendly.

They were happy.

They were informative.

They were kind.

They were nice.

They were nice!

They were nice.

They were nice.

Told me about different trails.

Told us about bare spots in road!

Told us about snowboard skis.

Told us there was a moose.

Took our picture.

Took pictures, said hi, were nice.

Very friendly.

Very nice.

Very nice. Friendly.

Very pleasant and easy to talk to.

Very polite. Encouraging while hiking.

Want to see people enjoy X-C skiing.

Way too crowded.

We discussed how beautiful it is and enjoyed being away in nature. Everyone was smiling & happy.

We met some Russians and chatted with them. We chatted with everyone and enjoyed it.

When in the mountains the positive vibes role.

Which flowers to watch for.

Yes as they were all engaged in back country activity.

Appendix D: Comments by respondents explaining why their out-group encounters negatively affected their recreation experience by location

Location	Comments
White/Red Pine	I'm just not very social.
	Too many people.
Alta Central	Resorts should take responsibility for trash their customer leave behind. If they are joy riding when they are ski employees/don't like trash skiers leave.
	Too crowded.
Mill B South/North	Crowded.
	I prefer less busy areas.
	In my way.
	Loudness.
	Not really - just had to wait on the trail.
Spruces/Days Fork/Mill D North	Over populated area.
Church Fork	Many people today! (No surprise for Labor Day). Some did not know hiking right-of-ways.
	Noise.
	Rather not see anyone.
	Some baggies of dog poo left along trail.
	Some do not follow trail etiquette; one had very loud music.
	Some going downhill seemed to want to plow right through us (one group only).
	Too many people.
	Trail etiquette.
Rattlesnake Gulch	Clean up pet crap.
	No leash dogs that growled.
	Not all, only the ones who did not clean up after their dogs.
	One intimidating dog.
	Too many.
Neff's Canyon TH	Their dogs attacked my dog

Mount Olympus TH	Carrying music playing out loud, trash
	In the Wilderness I want solitude.
	Music
	Other listening to music on speakers and trash all over
Rob's	I hate the number of people.

Appendix E: Places and reasons respondents no longer visit

9999' area - too many skiers from the canyons.

Alta, Snowbird, Brighton, Solitude.

American Fork Canyon--I don't like the fees. Too crowded at Stewart Falls.

Any developed ski area. I prefer man powered recreation.

Anywhere helicopters or lifts go.

Areas adjacent to the ski resorts I avoid for backcountry skiing due to the large number of people.

Areas like Donut Falls--too many crowds.

ATV + snowmobile smells and noises were not pleasant when I was hiking or snowshoeing. I went into the mountain areas to get away from noise and pollution.

Bear Cave hike at the mouth of LCC. Too much vandalism.

Bell's canyon - too crowded.

Bell's Canyon--packed.

Bell's Canyon.

Bike days in Millcreek Canyon.

Bonanza Flat—too many snowmobiles = scary

Boulders that get graffiti. Areas that have too many people. Snowbird after a storm (too crowded/roads).

Can't bike on certain days--too many dogs.

Can't bring dogs

Corner Canyon on weekends--biker/hiker incidents.

Corner Canyon.

Dog Lake, too many people

Foothills behind the Research Park - overused & dog feces.

Highly used trails like Bell's Canyon.

Horses in American Fork. Hikers on Mill D.

I avoid high use areas during holiday weekends, etc.

I do not come to Millcreek on weekends because it is overcrowded. The fact that the majority of the Tri-Canyon area is watershed + restricted for dogs plays a big role in where I choose to recreate.

I don't like garbage left behind.

I only go to Cecret Lake before the road is open--too crowded. I also avoid sunset Peak on Pioneer Day Weekend--same reason.

I try to avoid Saturday's--too crowded.

In general I stay away from camper camp sites; folks are so noisy and smoke or play loud music.

Just population.

Killyon's Canyon--users bring a lot of dogs, all off leash, and they tend to be too friendly. Part of Millcreek Canyon--too crowded.

Lisa falls is a shit show. I don't know if the BLM owned ski resort land counts. But fuck those places too.

Main areas / resorts.

Major trailhead on weekends.

Mill B South in summer; too many people, litter.

Mill Creek--Big Water Trail on Mt. bike days--Mt. bikes kick up dust and aren't always in control. Mill Creek on weekends--too many people.

Millcreek - dog shit and bags of dog shit everywhere. I have/love dogs but owners are horrible. No leash law enforcement at all.

Millcreek Canyon area - too crowded, too much restriction on dog leash law.

Millcreek Picnic areas on weekends --- too crowded.

Mineral Fork.

Mineral Fork because it is opened to four wheelers.

Motorcyclist in AF Canyon.

Mt. Olympus and Bell's Canyon.

Near ski areas.

Not sure if local or National, but dogs in Tanner Park are poorly supervised by owners - Mill Creek cap on dogs.

People who listen to music through speakers on the trail really bugs me.

People litter--too crowded.

Places in Park City which have all been taken up by houses and too many cars that you can't park to hike even if you leave early. Utah government is more interested in money rather than preserving the canyons.

Rattlesnake Gulch--Millcreek on holiday weekends and normal weekends its very crowded.

Resorts--commercialized at all points and loud.

Scared of other backcountry users in weekends on upper Alta powder days.

Ski resort areas - WAY too crowded.

Ski resorts.

Slips.

Snowbird and Park City--too crowded for recreation.

Snowbird--depends on where I go.

Snowbird--parking is too crowded.

Snowbird--too crowded.

Snowmobiles - too noisy, too stinking. Popular BC ski areas - too many other people - Thom's, powder parks, Reynolds peak off hill B in BCC.

Some trailheads are getting to busy, White pine, Grizzly Gulch.

Some, Millcreek, irresponsible dog owners, irresponsible bike riders (who don't pay).

Tanner Park--unsafe dog etiquette/behavior. Threatening people--drinking alcohol.

The Cottonwood Canyons on weekends are a circus. I try to get up there by 4 am then be gone by 9 am.

Too many people on the weekends in all the canyons.

Too many backcountry users is not as fun.

Too many dogs and I try to go very early to avoid people.

Too many people in summer.

Too many people.

Top of Millcreek when it's closed for snow.

Some trails can be overused – Ignorant users going off trail is disturbing - I come at times other do not.

Unites - such a huge impact of people & destruction.

Upper Millcreek - Too many People!!

We don't do Lake Blanche often. Too many people.

We generally avoid crowds - it gets dirty and noisy.

Weekend Wasatch Front.

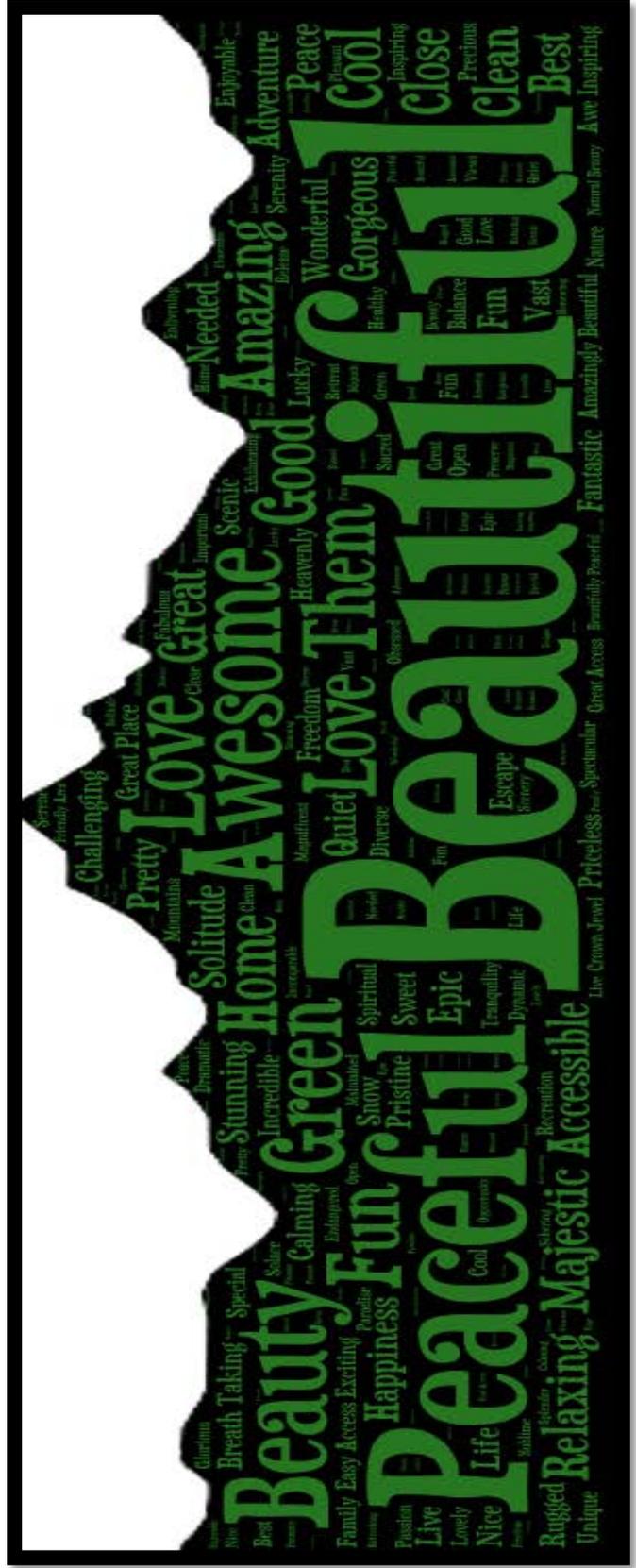
When they let the cows out - Mission Lake.

Where motorized vehicles are allowed.

White pin - Pfeiffer - Mill D South.

Will still visit but have encountered very inconsiderate campers/hikers.

Appendix F: Word map from the following intercept survey question, “If you could choose just one or two words to describe your personal feelings about the Central Wasatch Mountains what would the word(s) be?”



Appendix G: Survey Instrument

Visitor

Intercept Survey

Salt Lake Ranger District

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

Surveyor Introduction:

Hello! I am volunteering to survey visitors using the National Forest here in the Central Wasatch Mountains, as part of a study being conducted by Utah State University's Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism, and we are very interested in learning more about you as a recreationist.

To Be Completed by Surveyor:

Date: _____ Day: M Tu W Th F S Su

Time: _____ a.m./p.m. Location: _____

Surveyor's Name: _____

Surveyor's Telephone Number: _____

1. Your information and perspectives on recreational use in the Central Wasatch Mountains are very important!

Your participation in this survey is voluntary and all of your answers to these questions will be kept strictly confidential.

Would you be willing to take a few minutes to complete this survey?

Yes No (No = Refusal)

2. Then ask, "Is recreation your primary purpose for visiting the Central Wasatch Mountains today?" Yes No

If No, ask "What is the purpose of your visit here today?"

- Working or commuting to work (thank you and end interview)
- Stopping to use the restroom (thank you and end interview)
- Only passing through, going somewhere else (thank you and end interview)
- Some other reason (thank you and end interview)

FLIP PAGE AND HAND SURVEY TO RESPONDENT

Your participation is greatly appreciated, and by participating in this study you are helping in planning for the future of the Central Wasatch Mountains.

The information collected will be useful for the National Forest, Salt Lake City, and Mountain Accord—a multi-phase initiative that seeks to make critical decisions regarding the future of the Central Wasatch Mountains, made up of a collaboration of public and private interests, including state and local governments, federal agencies, and businesses and grassroots organizations.

With a question, when asked, please check (✓) the appropriate box .

3. Are you a resident of the United States?

Yes If Yes, what is your Home Zip Code? _____

No If No, what Country are you from? _____

4. How long are you going to be recreating on this trip?

Short trip under three hours

About half the day

The majority of the day

Overnight

Multiple days – If so, how many? _____ days

5. On this trip, are you planning on visiting any other sites besides this one? Yes No

If Yes, how many other sites are you going to visit? _____ sites

6. On average, how many times per year do you visit the National Forest here in the Central Wasatch Mountains? _____ times per year

7. What types of areas do you use most often when recreating here in the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Developed areas, such as developed campgrounds, picnic areas, ski resorts, etc.

Undeveloped areas, such as trails, dirt roads, rivers and lakes, dispersed camping, wilderness, etc.

I use both developed and undeveloped areas equally.

8. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains today?

Very satisfied

Somewhat satisfied

Neither satisfied or dissatisfied

Somewhat dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

10. Did you recreate in a protected watershed today?

- Yes, I did recreate in a protected watershed, or
 No, I did not recreate in a protected watershed.

How familiar are you with the rules and regulations for recreating in this protected watershed?

Not Familiar			Somewhat Familiar			Very Familiar
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

11. Do you know this National Forest has Congressionally designated Wilderness Areas?

- Yes No

If Yes, have you ever recreated in a Congressionally designated Wilderness Area in this National Forest?

- Yes No

If Yes, what is the name of the Wilderness Area(s) in which you recreated?

- I don't remember the name of the Wilderness Area(s).

What recreation activities do you typically engage in during your visits to Wilderness Areas? (List below)

12. About how many people outside of your group did you encounter (see, talk to, interact with, etc.) while recreating today? _____ people

What do you think about the number of people you encountered while recreating today?

Did they positively enhance your experience? Yes No

If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

Did they negatively affect your experience? Yes No

If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

- They neither positively enhanced nor negatively affected my experience.

13. Are there places in the Central Wasatch Mountains you no longer visit because encounters with other forest users/uses have negatively affected your recreational experience? Yes No

If Yes, please identify the area(s) and explain the type of encounter and why you no longer visit:

14. How did you access the recreation site you are visiting today? (Check one)

- Personal Vehicle—How many people were in your vehicle TOTAL? _____
- Public Transit (bus, TRAX)
- Private Shuttle
- Biked on my own
- Walked on my own
- Other Please describe: _____

15. What motivated you to recreate TODAY?

	Not Important at All	Somewhat Unimportant	Neither Unimportant nor Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Observe scenic beauty	1	2	3	4	5
For the adventure	1	2	3	4	5
Enjoy the sights and smells of nature	1	2	3	4	5
Experience the peace and tranquility	1	2	3	4	5
Because its challenging	1	2	3	4	5
Be with friends enjoying activities	1	2	3	4	5
Improve my physical health	1	2	3	4	5
Get away from crowds	1	2	3	4	5
Develop my skills and abilities	1	2	3	4	5
Do something with family	1	2	3	4	5
Experience solitude	1	2	3	4	5
Learn more about nature	1	2	3	4	5
Let my mind move at a slower pace	1	2	3	4	5
Release tension	1	2	3	4	5
Be unconfined by rules and regulations	1	2	3	4	5
Escape noise, pollution/bad air quality	1	2	3	4	5
Meet new people	1	2	3	4	5

16. If you could choose just one or two words to describe your personal feelings about the Central Wasatch Mountains what would the word(s) be?

17. Are you recreating alone today? Yes No

If No, how many people (total) are in your group? _____ people

Of these, how many are under 16 years of age? _____ people

18. Does anyone in your group have any disabilities? Yes No

If Yes, were the areas and facilities you visited accessible? Yes No

19. Are you a veteran? Yes No

If Yes, where did you see service?

World War II

Korean Conflict

Vietnam War

Iraq War(s)

War in Afghanistan

Are you a wounded or disabled veteran? Yes No

20. Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino(a)?

Yes, Hispanic or Latino(a)

No, not Hispanic or Latino(a)

21. With which racial group do you most closely identify?

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black/African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White

22. In what year were you born? _____

23. What is your sex: Male Female

24. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

- Less than a high school degree
- High school degree or GED
- Some college
- 2 year technical or associate degree
- 4 year college degree (BA/BS)
- Advanced degree (e.g., Master's, JD, MD, DO, Ph.D.)

25. Information about income is important because people with different incomes come to Public Lands for different reasons. What is your annual household income?

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000-\$49,999
- \$50,000-\$74,999
- \$75,000-\$99,999
- \$100,000-\$149,999
- \$150,000 or over
- Don't know

26. We would like to learn more about your recreational experience and your perspectives on planning for the future of the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Would you be willing to participate in a follow-up e-survey, sent to you in a couple weeks after your visit today?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please provide your first name and e-mail address below:

First Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

(please write clearly)

Flip page for question 27 and 28

27. If you could ask the U.S. Forest Service and/or other Public Land Management Agencies to change some things about the way they manage the Central Wasatch Mountains, what would you ask them to do?

28. Do you have any additional comments or thoughts about issues regarding the management, protection, or development of the Central Wasatch Mountains?

**Thank you for your time and thoughtfulness
in completing this survey.**

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

**Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism
Utah State University**