



Mission Statement of the Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism:

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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Report Summary

The Winter Report presents the data collected in the Central Wasatch Mountains (CWM) during the months of December, January, and February. The two previous quarterly reports—summer and fall—presented nearly identical data. This showed that the study is producing consistent results, and it also showed that little changed in *who* was recreating in the CWM, and *how* they were recreating in the CWM. One explanation for why there were so few difference could be placed on the unusually warm, dry fall season, which continued throughout the winter. The effects of the warmest and least snowy winter on record have undoubtedly affected the use patterns in the CWM, but to what extent, at this time, is unknown.

There are more differences in the data presented in this report than seen between the summer and fall reports; however, many variables are still nearly identical. For example, the people using the CWM during the winter are still mostly *locals*, with 82.6% living within 40 miles of Brighton Ski Resort. The time visitors spent recreating did not change, with the majority still only spending a few hours when they visit. Levels of visitor satisfaction were still outstandingly high, with 82.6% being “very satisfied” with their visit to the CWM, and the majority of respondents still said the people they met recreating positively enhanced their experience.

One large difference in the winter data was the types of recreation taking place. Hiking was still the most common activity participated in by visitors, but the number of visitors hiking decreased from 53% in the fall to 29%. There was a large increase in winter activities like backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing, but warm weather and little snow may account for why hiking was still the most common activity. There was also an overall decrease in the diversity of recreational activities taking place during the winter.

There was a slight shift in the demographics of CWM visitors over the winter. For example, the proportion of people with advanced degrees (i.e., Master’s and/or PhDs) exceeded the number of people with Bachelor’s degree, and the proportion of winter visitors that had a household income of over \$150,000 increased. The proportion of white males recreating in the CWM also increased.

Even though it was a record-breaking warm winter, it still seemed to deter family activities. There was a 50% decline in the number of visitors under 16 years old, and the motivation of “do something with family” as a reason for visiting decreased. As also seen in the fall, there was another decrease in the number of visitors with disabilities—a decrease to 1.7%.

The number of out-group encounters decreased again to a median of seven (mean = 10.7), which shows a decrease in overall visitation during the winter months. And lastly, an increased number of visitors used their personal vehicles to reach their destinations in the CWM—96% drove personal vehicles.

Many of these changes were expected with the colder, less favorable winter conditions, in addition to access being more difficult, conditions being more dangerous, and an increase in activities that require more expensive and technical equipment (e.g., backcountry skiing). If this

winter were more comparable to past winters, these changes would have most likely been even stronger.

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 the 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 **2014-2015 winter quarter (December, January, and February)** 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 in which 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 third quarterly report provided by Utah State University's Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism research scientists, and will be incorporated into the final report.

Results

With the third quarter complete, we are now entering the final quarter of the scheduled data collection period for the Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study. Over the third quarter, 612 visitor intercept surveys were completed, which totals 2,003 surveys that have been 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 62% of the scheduled sites were surveyed, which is lower than last quarter's 77%. Cold, winter weather and the holidays can be attributed to why fewer sites were surveyed this quarter than the previous two. Because of these factors, it was harder to find volunteers to donate their time. Since the weather has been warming, the rate at which volunteers have been signing up to cover sites has increased. Table 1 presents the number of surveys completed at each survey location over the winter quarter.

Table 1: Number of surveys completed by site

	Surveys	(Percent of Surveys Completed)
<u>Little Cottonwood Canyon</u>		
White/Red Pine	68	(11.1)
Lisa Falls	16	(2.6)
Grizzly Gulch	66	(10.8)
Wildcat Base of Alta Ski Area	5	(.8)
West Gate	4	(.7)
Bell's Canyon/Lightning Ridge	41	(6.7)
<u>Big Cottonwood Canyon</u>		
Mill B South/North	26	(4.2)
Butler Fork	16	(2.6)
Cardiff Fork/Mill D South/Donut Falls	19	(3.1)
Guardsman's Pass TH	13	(2.1)
Spruces	26	(4.2)
Mineral Fork	4	(.7)
Silver Lake	4	(.7)
Mill D North Fork TH	5	(.8)
<u>Millcreek Canyon</u>		
Mill Creek Winter Gate	108	(17.6)
Porter Fork	22	(3.6)
Church Fork	17	(2.8)
Rattlesnake Gulch	5	(.8)
Thayne's Canyon TH	16	(2.6)
Neff's Canyon TH	69	(11.3)
Mount Olympus TH	16	(2.6)
<u>Park City/Wasatch Back/Parley's Canyon</u>		
Lamb's Canyon	12	(2)
Rob's	15	(2.5)
Road to WOS	7	(1.1)
Unknown	12	(2)
Total	612	(100.0)

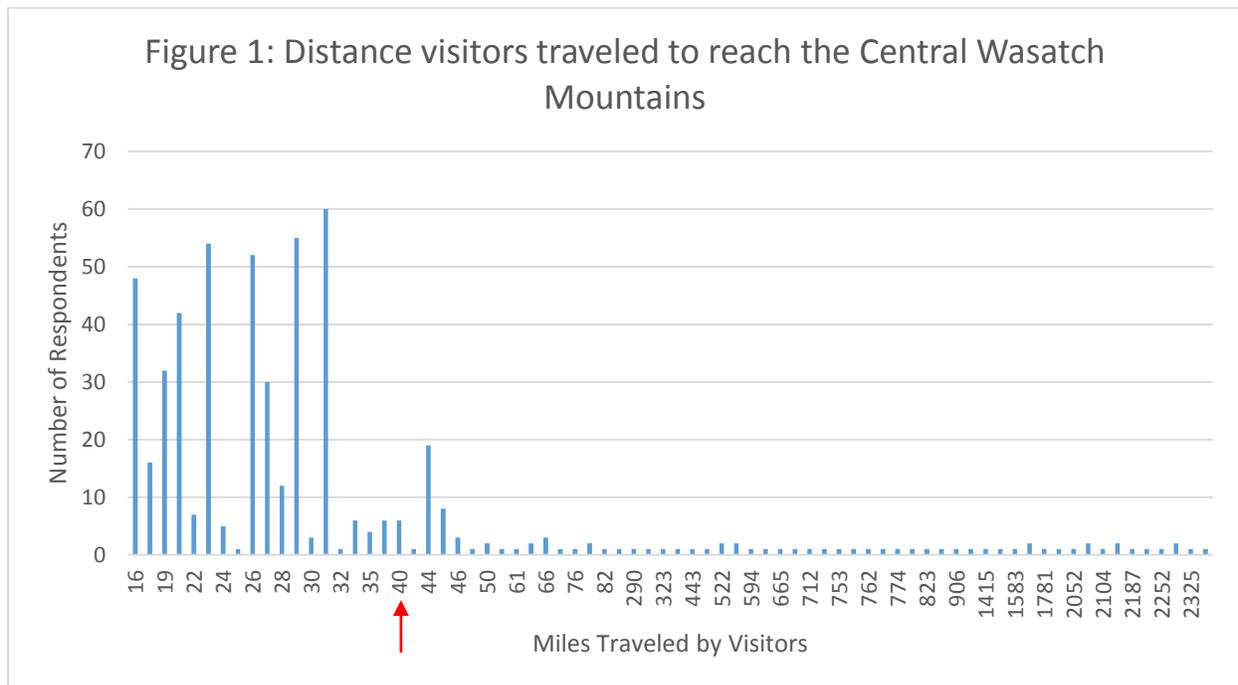
This section follows the format of the intercept survey. Each question on the intercept survey is presented in italics, and is followed by tables, graphs, and interpretations of the data.

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 27 miles (median distance for the summer quarter was 25, and the median for the fall was 26 miles), and the mean distance was 131 miles (mean for the summer quarter was 110, and fall was 133 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 2,361 miles. Over the winter quarter, only one respondent was from outside of the county—this individual was from Mexico. These data show that 82.6% of CWM visitors live fewer than 40 miles from Brighton Ski Resort (summer = 84.2%; fall = 82.4%). These data are near identical to the first and second 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 (66.7%) of respondents spent fewer than three hours recreating during their visit, and 20.7% spent about half the day. Only 8.3% spent the whole day recreating, and 0.5% spent the night. Twenty-three (3.8%) individuals said they were spending multiple days, which ranged from two to 150 days. Table 2 presents the amount of time respondents are recreating during their visit, and Table 3 present 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	400	66.7
About half the day	124	20.7
The majority of the day	50	8.3
Overnight	3	0.5
Multiple days	23	3.8
Total	600	100

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

	Number	Percent
Two days	3	16.7
Three days	1	5.6
Four days	2	11.1
Five days	2	11.1
Six days	1	5.6
Seven days	3	16.7
Fourteen days	2	11.1
Fifty days	1	5.6
One hundred and ten	1	5.6
One hundred and twenty	1	5.6
One hundred and fifty	1	5.6
Missing	5	Not included
Total	18	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 (84.8%) of respondents only visited one site during their trip to the CWM. Of the 15.2% that did visit multiple sites during their recreational visit, 32 respondents visited two sites, 24 visited three sites, nine visited four sites, and four 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	508	84.8
Yes	91	15.2
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	32	41.6
3	24	31.2
4	9	11.7
5	4	5.2
6	2	2.6
8	1	1.3
10	2	2.6
12	1	1.3
Missing	2	.2.6
Total	84	100

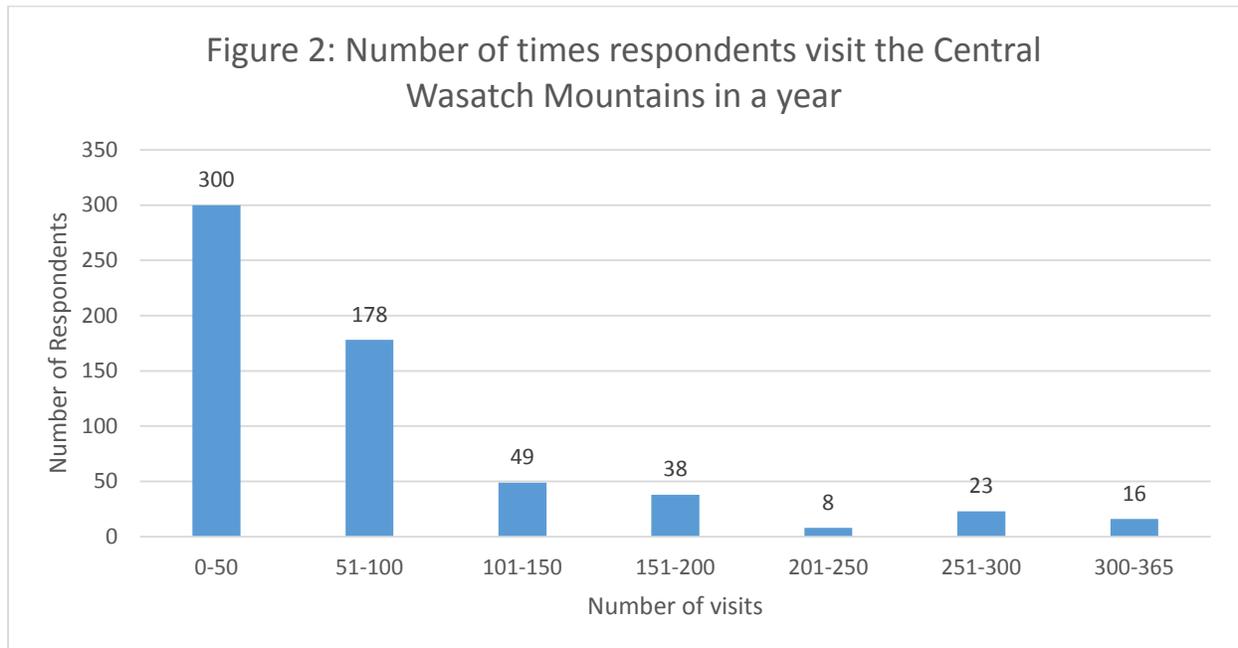
On average, how many times per year do you visit the National Forest here in the Central Wasatch Mountains? _____ times per year

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 50 times, and the mean was 84.4 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 left 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	84.8
Median	50
Std. Deviation	85.6
Minimum	1
Maximum	365



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 (50.6%) of the respondents reporting using both developed and undeveloped areas equally, and 42.8% said they mostly use undeveloped areas while recreating in the CWM (Table 7). Only 6.5% of respondents said they use developed sites most often.

Because this study is mostly focused on dispersed and backcountry use, it has been suspected that the results are skewed toward the visitation habits of the people who use dispersed and backcountry areas more often. Therefore, over the winter quarter we started surveying four ski resorts in the Central Wasatch: Brighton, Solitude, Alta, and Snowbird.

When comparing the two datasets—**dispersed/backcountry users** and **ski area users**—we can see that approximately half of both dispersed/backcountry users and ski area users use both developed and undeveloped areas equally. However, when we compare the two datasets on the proportion of people who use developed areas most often and undeveloped areas most often, we see there is a large difference: *dispersed/backcountry users* use *undeveloped areas* much more frequently than ski area users, and *ski area users* use *developed areas* more frequently.

There are two explanations for these differences: first, the ski area dataset is composed of many visitors who traveled long distances to reach the CWM, and if they traveled to the CWM to ski at the resorts, then it would make sense that they visit developed areas more often because the developed areas are what brought them; second ski area users—both those who live close and those who live far away—tend to use developed sites more often when recreating in the CWM. This is just one brief example of how the two datasets differ. There are many areas where comparisons can be made between these two datasets, but there are limited resources. Both datasets have the ability to be extremely useful for future decision making; however, direct and thoughtful questions will need to be asked to ensure quality analysis and outputs are produced to answer those questions.

Table 7 presents the types of areas both dispersed and backcountry users and ski area users use when recreating in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

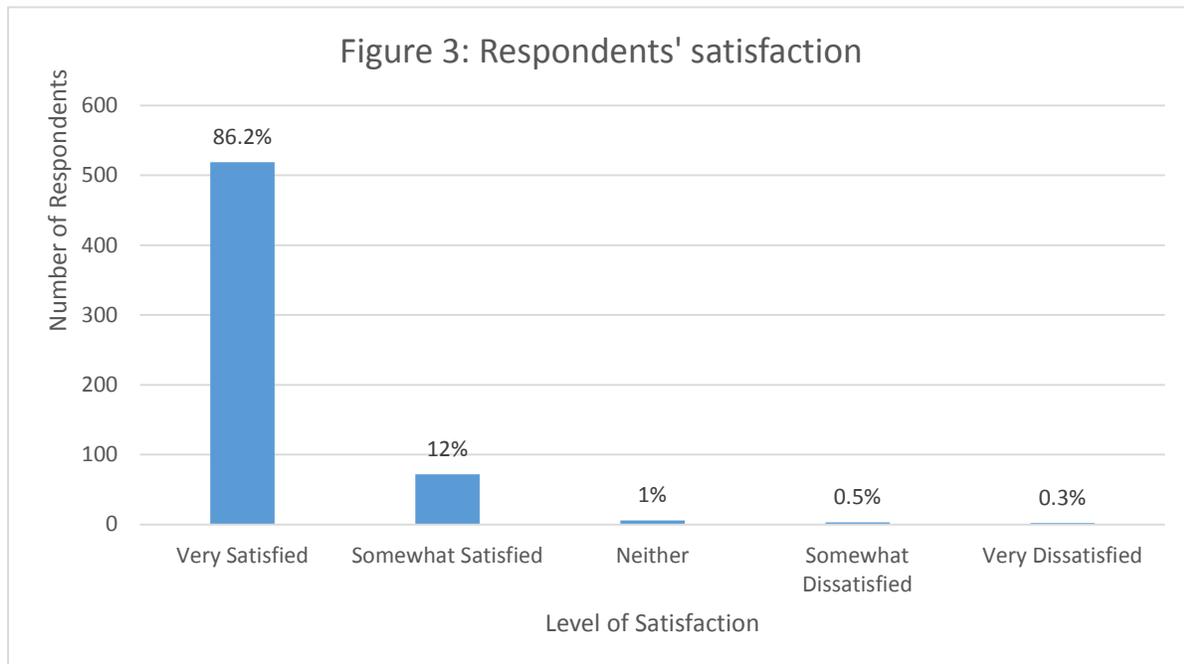
Table 7: Proportion of respondents who use developed and undeveloped areas

	Number	Percent
<u>Dispersed/Backcountry Users</u>		
Developed	39	6.5
Undeveloped	258	42.8
Both	305	50.8
Total	602	100
<u>Ski Area Users</u>		
Developed	214	48.4
Undeveloped	18	4.1
Both	210	47.5
Total	442	100

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 (86.2%) were “very satisfied” with their visit to the CWM, and 12% were “somewhat satisfied.” Less than two percent were “neither satisfied or dissatisfied,” or “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.

Seventy 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 542 respondents that provided quality data. Of the 542, 116 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 = 426). Table 9 however, includes **all** the activities respondents reported participating during their visit to the CWM (N = 542).

Just as in the first report, the most popular “main” recreational activity participated in by CWM visitors was hiking (29%) (53% of fall respondents participated in hiking). The second most popular activity was backcountry skiing (27.7%), followed by snowshoeing (11.3%), cross-country skiing (11%), and walking and walking/exercising pets (4.5%) (Table 8). An important note to make is the data reported in Tables 8 and 9 were collected during the 2014-2015 winter season, which was the warmest and least snowy winter on record for the CWM. Opportunities to hike in much of the CWM—especially in lower elevations—were abundant. If the snowpack were greater and more comparable to past years, it could be assumed that hiking would appear below the winter activities in Tables 8 as the main reason for visiting the CWM.

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

	Number	Percent
Hiking	124	29.1
Backcountry skiing	118	27.7
Snowshoeing	48	11.3
Cross-country skiing	47	11.0
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	19	4.5
Walking	19	4.5
Backcountry snowboarding	11	2.6
Sledding, tobogganing	11	2.6
Trail running	8	1.9
Downhill Skiing (Resort)	7	1.6

Note: Recreational activities that had fewer than four respondents were excluded from this table. N = 426

Table 9 includes all of the activities respondents reported participating in. Hiking (49.8%), exercising (28.6%), backcountry skiing (26.2%), and walking (23.2%) were the most common activities. Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc. (17.9%) was

the next most common activity, followed by relaxing and hanging out (16.6%), escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc. (15.9%), and hiking/exercising pet(s) (15.9%).

Table 9: All activities in which respondents participated

	Number	Percent*
Hiking	270	49.8%
Exercising	155	28.6%
Backcountry skiing	142	26.2%
Walking	126	23.2%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc	97	17.9%
Relaxing, hanging out	90	16.6%
Escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc	86	15.9%
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	86	15.9%
Snowshoeing	77	14.2%
Cross-country skiing	62	11.4%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc	61	11.3%
Downhill Skiing (Resort)	37	6.8%
Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel, or dirt)	30	5.5%
Sledding, tobogganing	22	4.1%
Rock Climbing	16	3.0%
Backcountry snowboarding	15	2.8%
Trail running	14	2.6%
Picnicking or family day gatherings in developed sites	12	2.2%
Visiting a nature center, nature trail, or visitor center	11	2.0%
Mountain Biking	10	1.8%
Nature study	8	1.5%
Resorts, cabins, or other accommodations (Forest Service or Private)	6	1.1%
Visiting historic sites	6	1.1%
Snowboarding (Resort)	4	0.7%
Road Cycling	4	0.7%
Primitive camping—backpacking in unroaded areas	4	0.7%
Ice Climbing	3	0.6%
Snowmobiling	3	0.6%
Fishing	3	0.6%
Gathering mushrooms, berries, firewood, or other natural products	2	0.4%

*Percent was calculated from N = 542

they were *not* in a protected watershed. To eliminate this confusion, the question was reworded. The goal of this question is to test if visitors know if they are recreating in a protected watershed, and the wording of the question has presumably generated some inconsistent results. Therefore, the question has been reworded to the following:

“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.”

The data presented in this report does show differences from the summer and fall reports in respondents’ knowledge of *watershed boundaries and regulations*—winter respondents seem to be more knowledgeable about protected watersheds. For example, the percentage of respondents who were *not* recreating in a protected watershed and reported that they were was 65% during the summer and 67.5% in the fall. The data from winter respondents showed that only 43.4% of respondents thought they were in a protected watershed when they were not. If changes were only seen in these percentages, it would suggest the rewording of the question was accountable; however, winter respondents were all-around more accurate in identifying if they were or were not in a protected watershed, and also reported being more knowledgeable about protected watershed regulations.

The percentage of respondents in a protected watershed that were incorrect in thinking they were not in a protected watershed went down from the summer (26%) and fall (24.9%) to 11.3% in the winter. When respondents are in a protected watershed, the original question is more straightforward, and does not provoke confusion on how to answer; therefore, it can be assumed that these responses are more reliable. In addition, respondents reported having more knowledge of watershed regulations in the winter (median = 6) than in the summer (median = 5) and fall (median = 5). More will be known when the next quarter’s data is analyzed, but from what has been seen thus far, it can be assumed that winter respondents are more knowledgeable about protected watershed boundaries and regulations than summer and fall respondents.

Table 10 presents the number and percent of respondents who reported themselves being, or not being, in a protected watershed, and Table 11 presents the mean and median scores of respondents’ self-reported knowledge of protected watershed regulations.

Table 10: Respondents geographical knowledge of protected watershed boundaries

	Respondent Answer	Number (Percent)
Not in a Protected Watershed	No	155 (56.6)
	Yes	119 (43.4)
	Total	274 (100)
In a Protected Watershed	No	34 (11.3)
	Yes	267 (88.7)
	Total	301 (100)

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

	Mean (Median)
Not Protected Watershed	5.26 (6)
Protected Watershed	5.40 (6)

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 591 respondents who answered the question, 168 (28.4%) respondents said they did not know the U-W-C National Forest had Wilderness areas, and 423 (71.6%) 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 556 who responded to the question, 223 (40.1%) said “no,” they have not recreated in any of the Wilderness areas, and 333 (59.9%) said they have. Of the people who had recreated in the Wilderness areas, 101 said they had recreated in the Mount Olympus Wilderness Area, 101 said they had recreated in the Lone Peak Wilderness Area, 29 said they had recreated in the Twin Peaks Wilderness Area, and 124 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 (70.6%). Other popular Wilderness activities reported by respondents were backcountry skiing (38.5%) and primitive camping (18.6%) (Table 12).

Table 12: Activities respondents reported participating in in Wilderness Areas

	Number	Percent*
Hiking	235	70.6%
Backcountry skiing	128	38.4%
Primitive camping (backpacking in unroaded areas)	62	18.6%
Rock climbing	47	14.1%
Trail running	45	13.5%
Mountain biking	41	12.3%
Snowshoeing	31	9.3%
Cross-country skiing	17	5.1%
Backcountry snowboarding	12	3.6%
Fishing	12	3.6%
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	12	3.6%
Viewing/photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc.	11	3.3%
Viewing/photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.	7	2.1%
Picnicking	6	1.8%
Walking	4	1.2%
Hunting	3	0.9%
Road cycling	1	0.3%
Non-motorized water travel (canoe, kayak, raft, sail)	1	0.3%
Sledding, tobogganing	1	0.3%
Nature study	1	0.3%

*Percent was calculated from N = 333

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

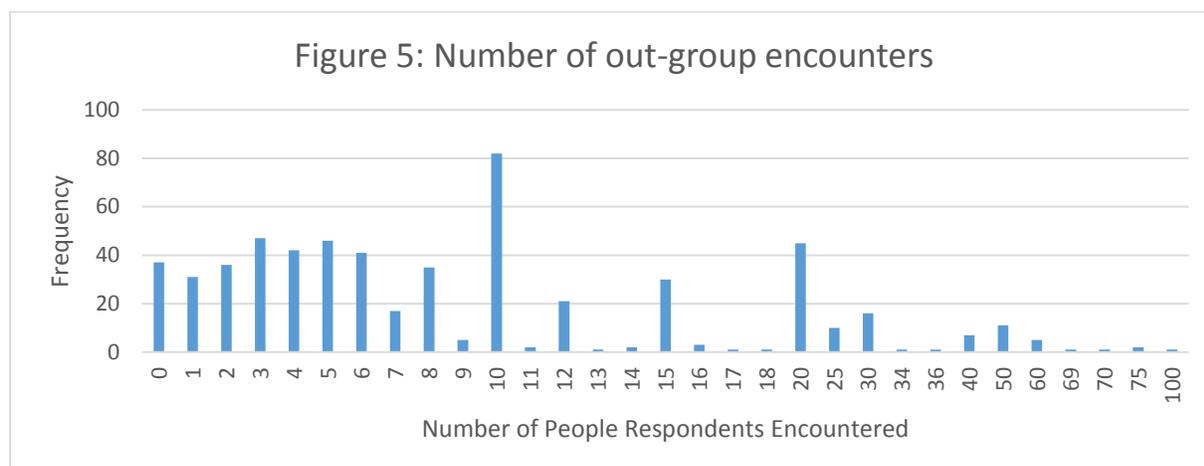
If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

Did they negatively affect your experience? Yes No

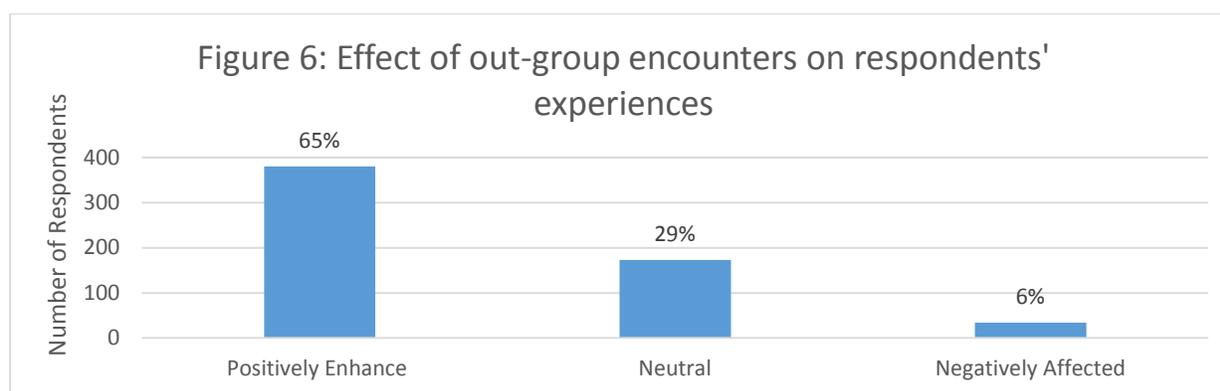
If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

They neither positively enhanced nor negatively affected my experience.

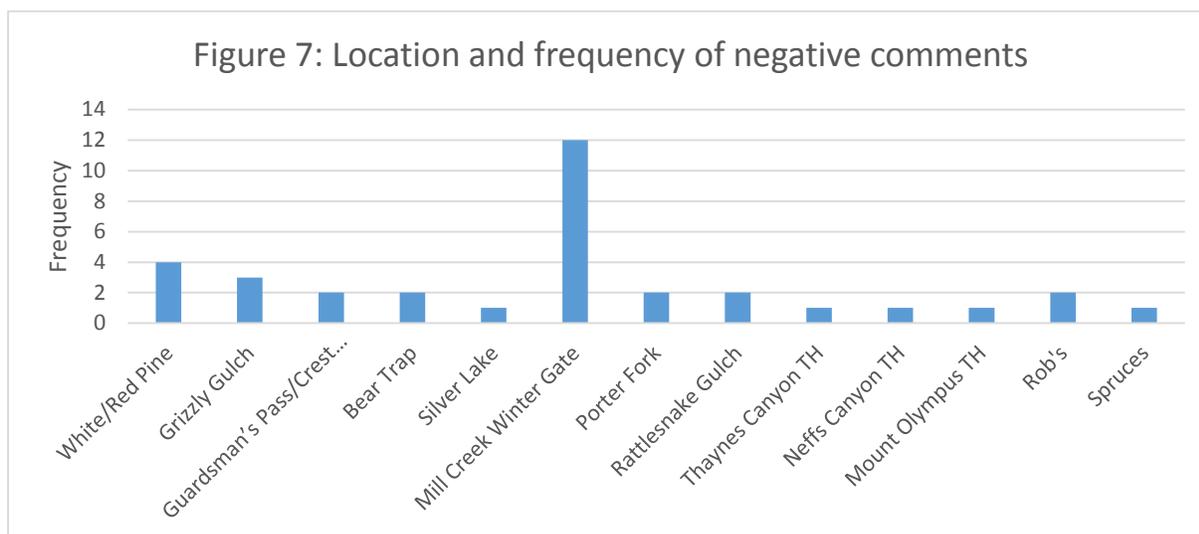
The number of encounters experienced by respondents ranged greatly based on site, day of the week, and time of day. The mean number of encounters experienced by respondents was 10.7, which is down from the fall's report with a mean of 11.89, and summer's report with a mean of 14.5. The median was seven. The number of encounters ranged from 0-100. Figure 5 presents the number of out-group encounters respondents had while they were recreating in the Central Wasatch Mountains.



Respondents were asked how the people they encountered affected their experience while recreating. The majority (65%) said the people they encountered positively enhanced their experience, and 29% said the people they encountered had no effect on their recreational experience. Only 6% of respondents said the people they encountered negatively affected their recreational experience. Therefore, 94% 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 51), and comments explaining how respondents' out-group encounter negatively affected their recreational experience can be found in Appendix D on page 59 (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). Millcreek Winter Gate had twelve negative comments, which was far more than any other site. Negative comments grouped by location can be found in Appendix D on page 59.



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 593 people who responded to the question, 470 (76.8%) said there were not areas they no longer visit because they have had negative encounters, and 123 (20.1%) 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 60).

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

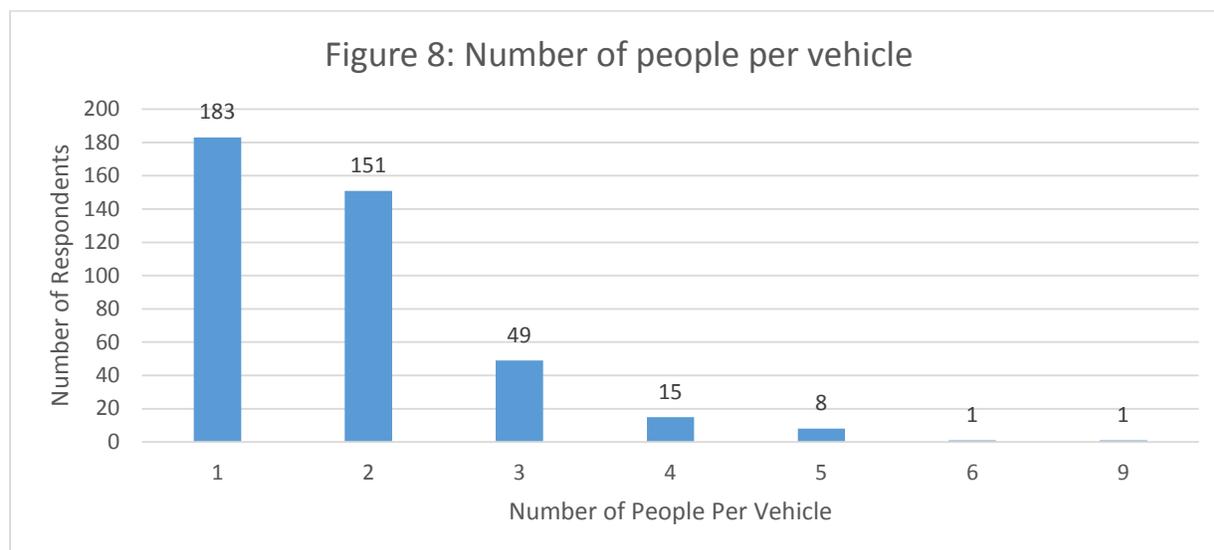
Walked on my own

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 location. The majority (95.8%) (92.7% over the fall) of respondents used their personal vehicle, 2.9% walked on their own, and 0.3% biked. Not one respondent used public transportation, and 0.3% 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 one (mean = 1.16) (this is fewer than the fall's report where the median number of passengers was two with a mean of 1.67), and the range was 1-9 people. Table 13 presents the modes of transportation used by respondents to reach their desired location, and Figure 8 presents the number of people per vehicle.

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

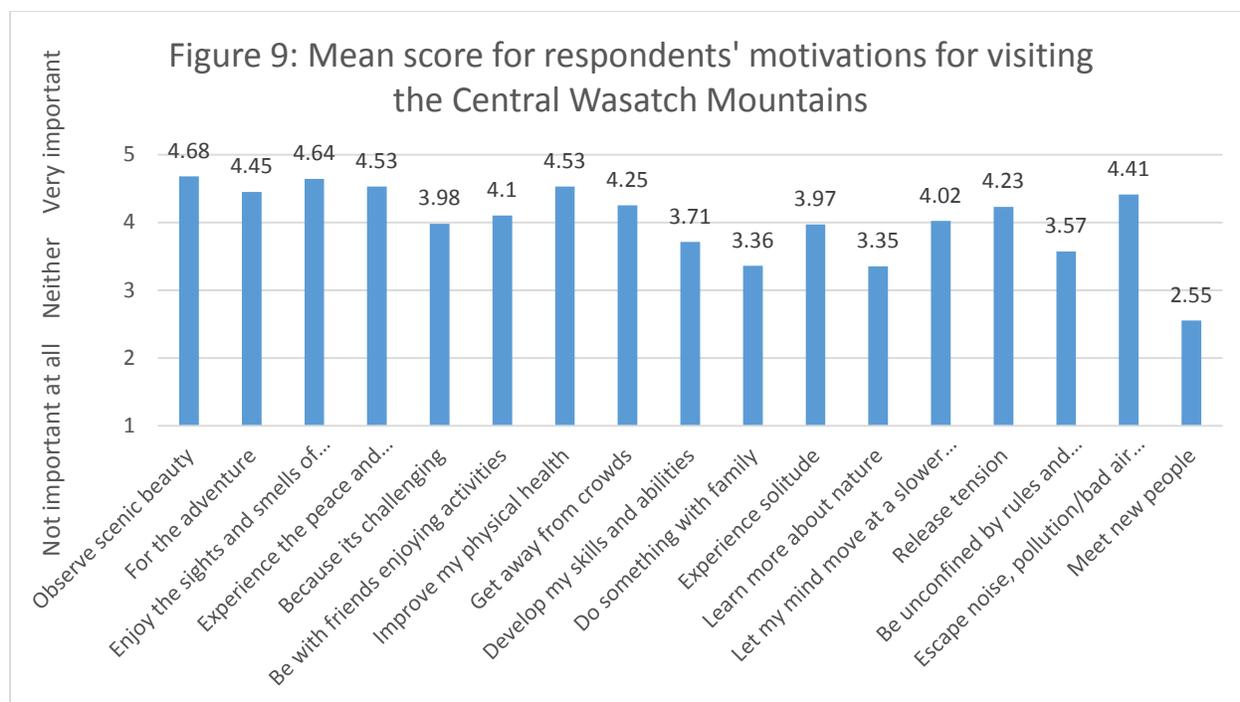
	Number	Percent
Personal vehicle	566	95.8
Private shuttle	2	0.3
Biked on my own	2	0.3
Walked on my own	18	3
Motorcycle	3	0.5
Total	591	100



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”, “learn more about nature”, “do something with family”, 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?

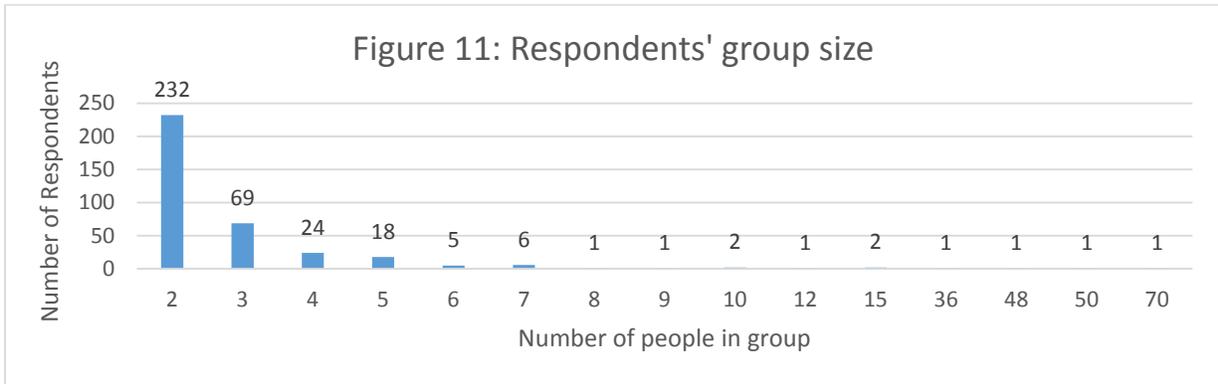
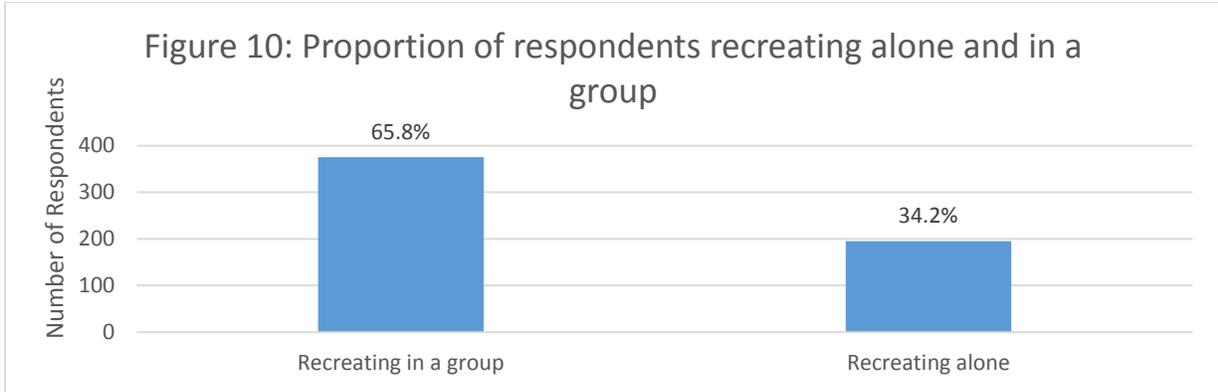
The word map on the cover page of this report was developed from the frequency of words respondents used to describe their personal feeling toward the CWM. The website named *Tagul* was used to develop the word map. For a larger image of the word map, please refer to Appendix F on page 65.

Are you recreating alone today? Yes No

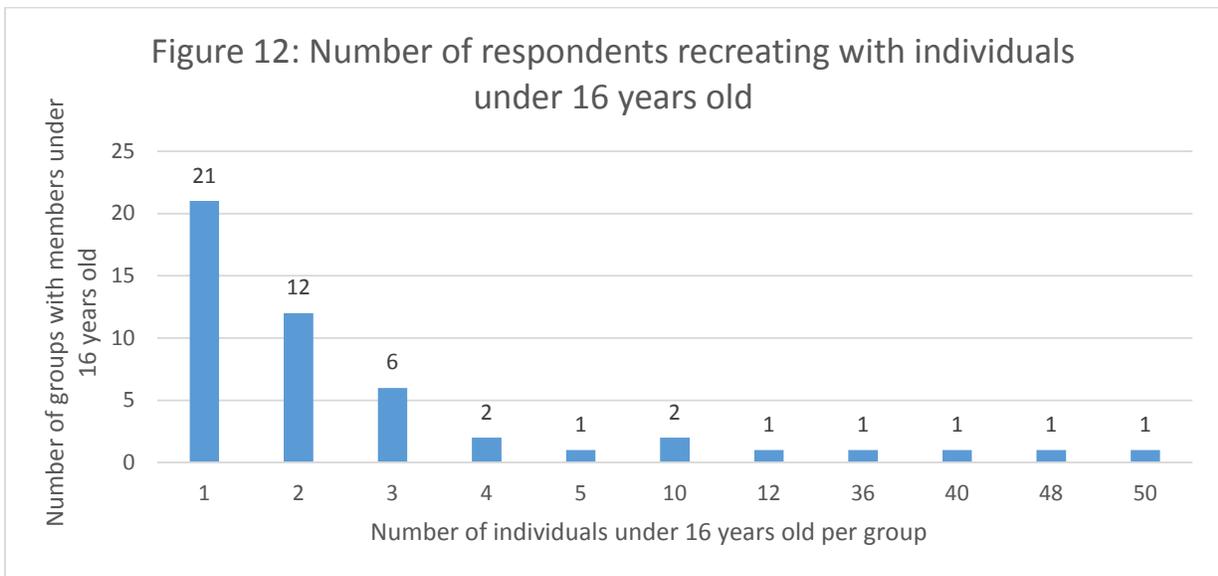
If No, how many people (total) are in your group? _____ people

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 or age. Of the 57 who responded to the question, 375 (65.8%) said they were recreating in a group, and 195 (34.2%) said they were recreating alone (Figure 10). For respondents who were recreating in a group, the mean group size was 2.16 (median 2), with a range of 2-70 (Figure 11) There was a significant decrease in the number of people under 16 years old; only forty-nine respondents were recreating with people under the age of sixteen compared to the fall's 104.



Just over 9% of respondents were recreating with people under 16 years old. Most had one (42.9%) to two (24.5%) people with them who were under 16 years old (Figure 12).

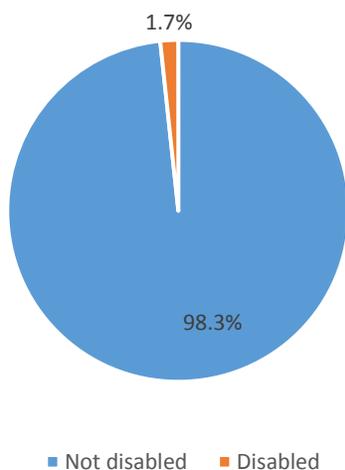


Does anyone in your group have any disabilities? Yes No

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

Of the 590 who responded to the question, 10 (1.7%) reported themselves, or someone in their group as being disabled (Figure 13). Over the summer, 5% of respondents reported themselves, or someone in their group as being disabled. During the fall, there was a nearly fifty percent decrease (2.5%) in the proportion of disabled visitors, and during the winter, the percentage dropped again to 1.7%. Respondents were asked if the sites and facilities they visited were accessible, two of the ten said they were not. No comments were left describing why the area was not accessible.

Figure 13: Proportion of respondents who reported being disabled, or having a disabled group member



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 591 who responded to the question, 33 (5.6%) reported themselves as being veterans. The most common area served by these veterans was Iraq (40%), the second most common was Vietnam (36%). Out of the 33 veterans, six 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

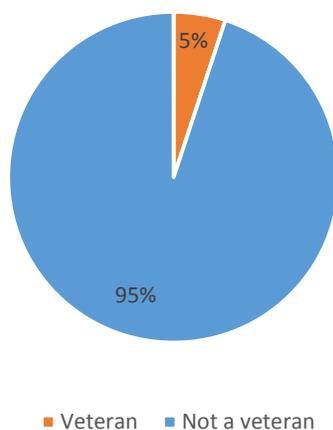
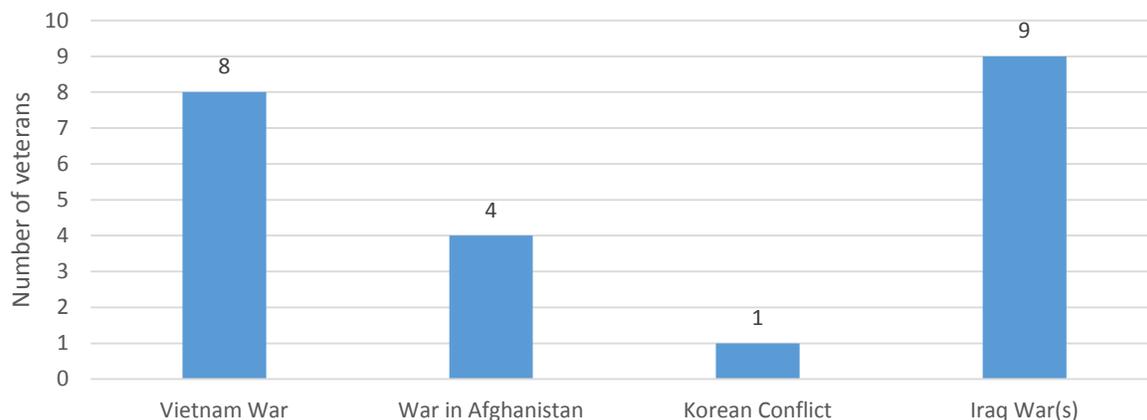


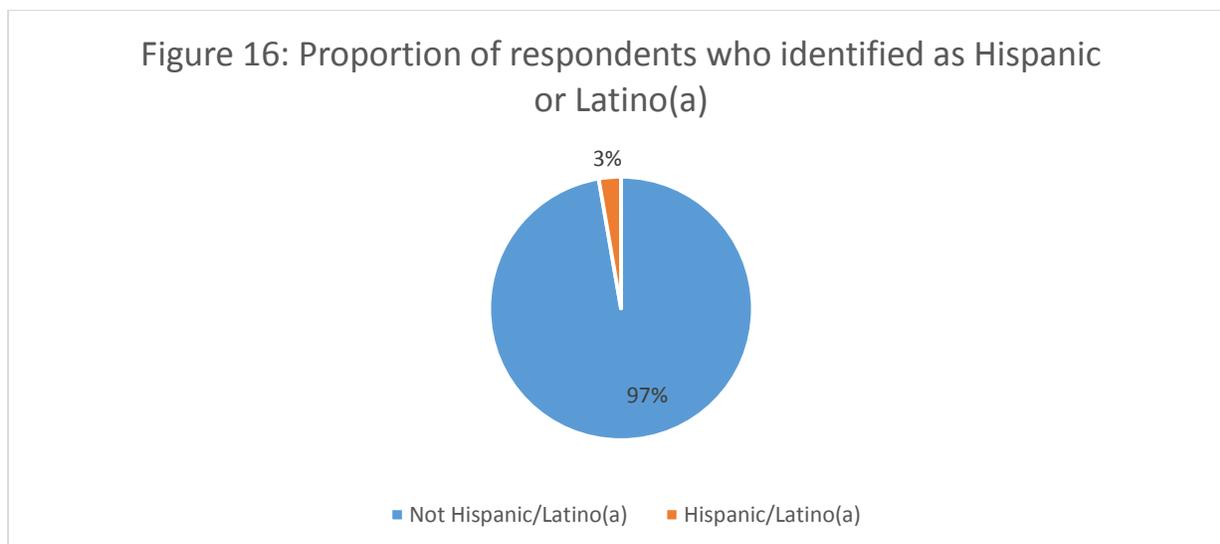
Figure 15: Areas veterans served



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 591 people who responded to the question, 16 (3%) identified as Hispanic or Latino(a). Figure 16 presents the proportion of respondents that identified as Hispanic or Latino(a).

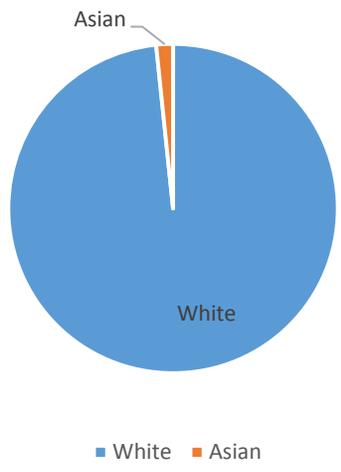


With which racial group do you most closely identify?

- 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 98.4% identified as “white.” “Asian” (1.6%) was the next most common racial group respondents identified. One respondent identified as “American Indian/Alaska Native”, one identified as “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander”, and two identified as “Black/African American. Figure 17 presents the proportions of races that respondents most closely identified.

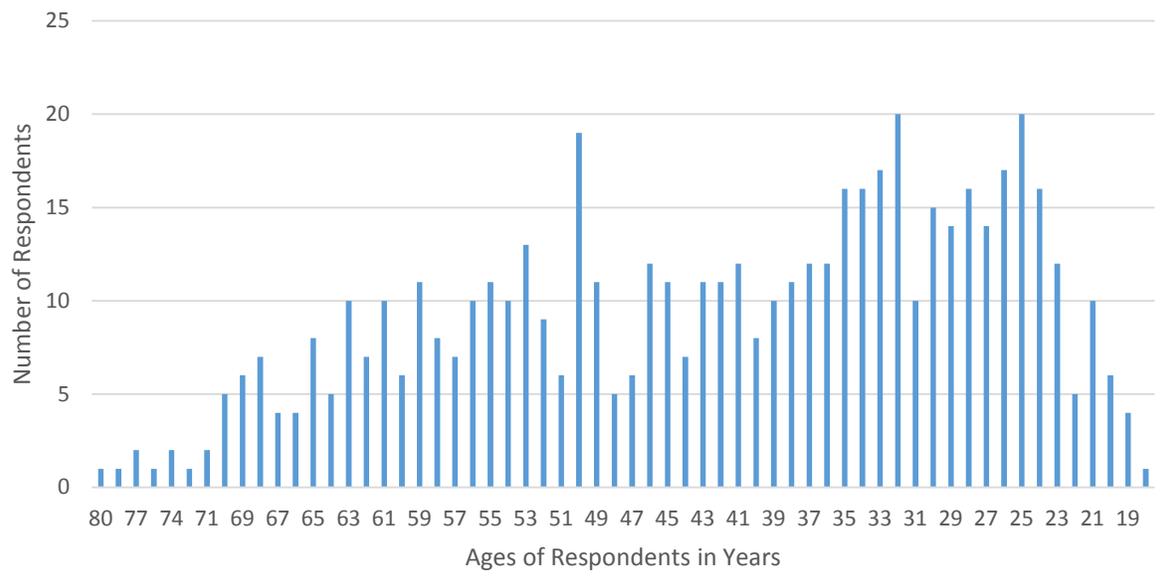
Figure 17: Racial identity of respondents



In what year were you born? _____

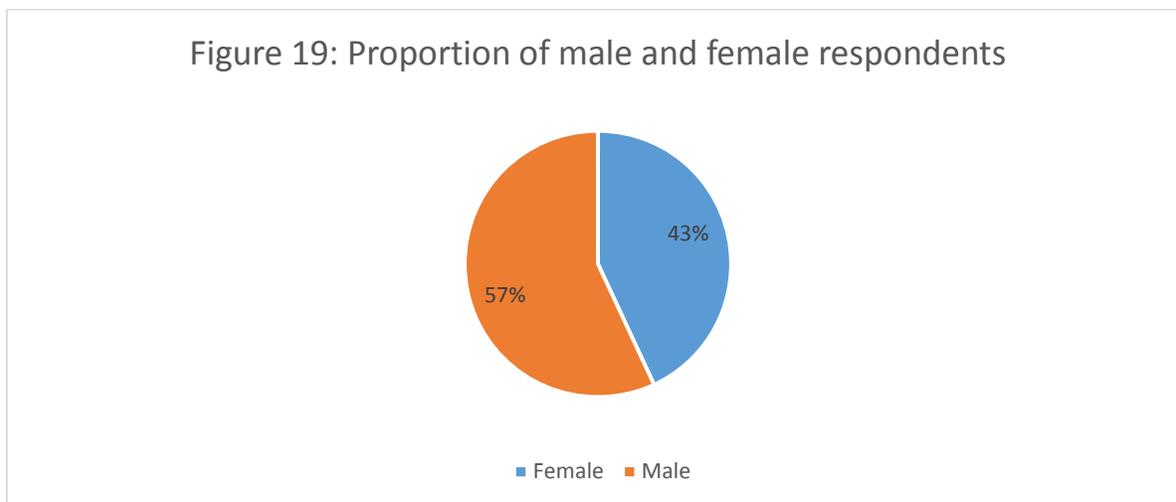
The mean age of respondents was 42 years, and the median was 40. Figure 18 presents the wide distribution of respondents' ages.

Figure 18: Respondents' ages



What is your sex: Male Female

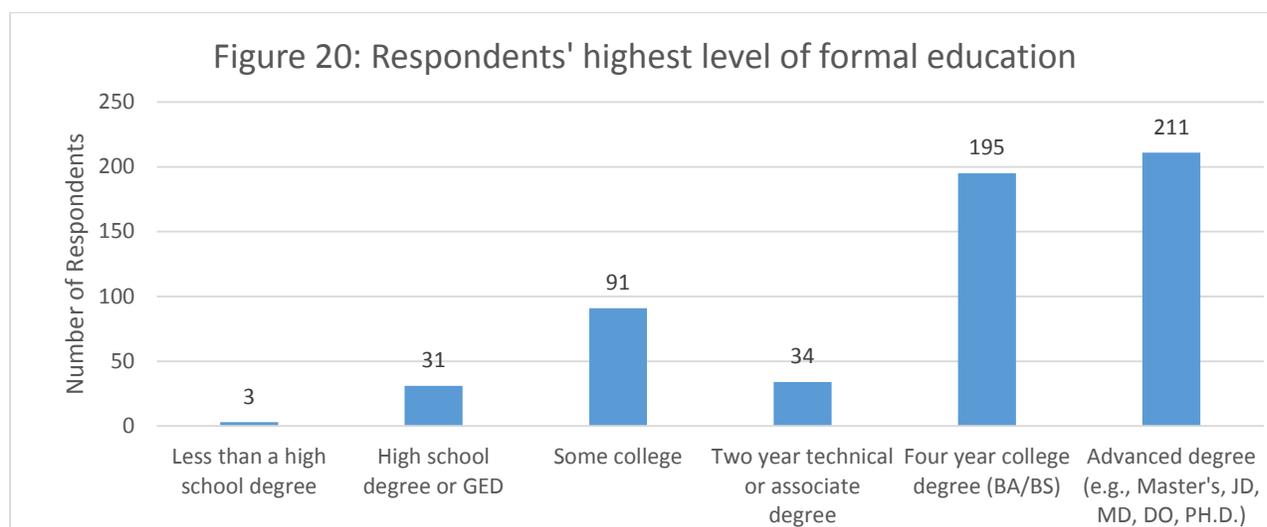
The proportion of male respondents increased during the winter to 57%, which is up from the 54% in the fall, and 51% during the summer (Figure 19).



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.)

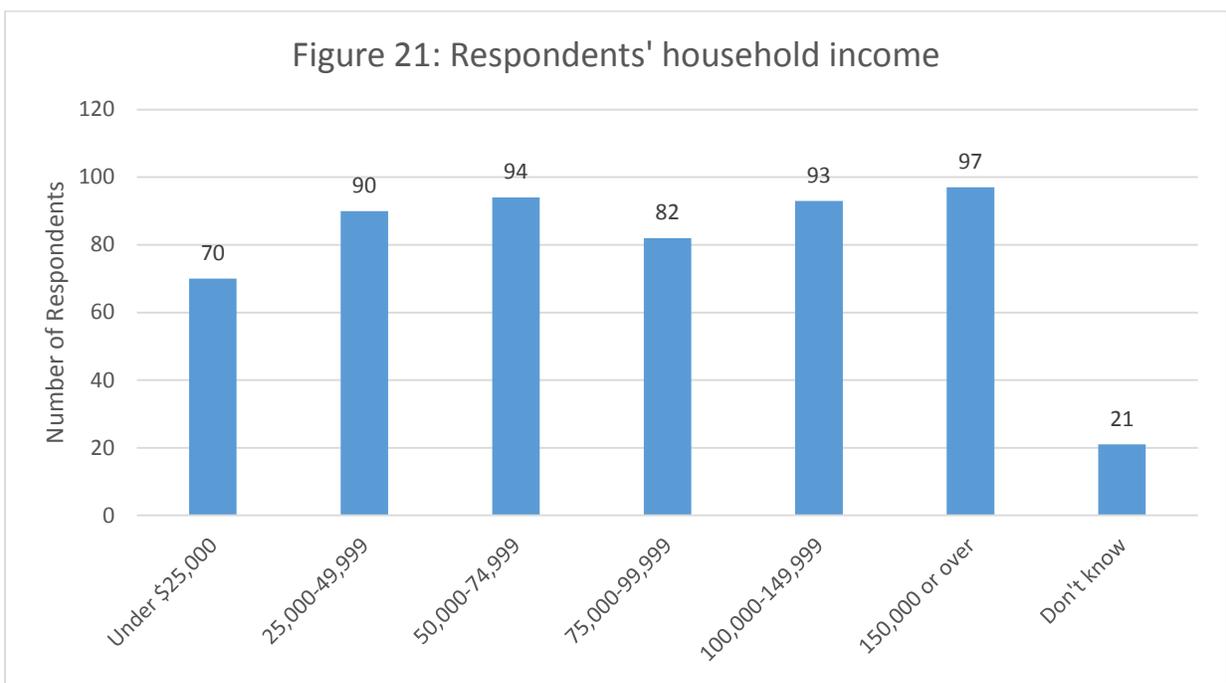
The majority of respondents reported having a four year college degree (35%) or an advanced degree (37%). Figure 20 presents the respondents highest level of formal education.



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 where dogs are allowed & snowmobiles are not.

A few trails could have better markings and info for new hikers.

Add more hiking trails. Bring more separation between Mt bikers and hikers.

Additional signs.

Advertise.

All areas off leash for dogs!

Allow dogs.

Allow dogs.

Allow dogs - More public transportation to decrease car use up here.

Allow dogs - at least in some areas some of the time.

Allow dogs in all campgrounds.

Allow dogs in more areas.

Allow dogs in more areas/canyons. Don't close upper Millcreek most of the year.

Allow dogs in more areas.

Allow dogs more places.

Allow dogs more trails more days.

Allow more permits for guide service. Increase trail budget for maintenance and construction.

Limit ski area expansion.

Allow snowmobile access on designated trails.

As few people as possible.

Ask the people who use the land, not the corporations. Why do resorts have the right to kick people off public lands?

Balance.

Be more proactive about educating the public about the value of preserving open space and underdeveloped, wild places.

Be sure people with dogs have only friendly dogs. Make bikers pay too! They pollute & throw trash & wreck up trails.

Better (cheaper) public transport up Big & Little Cottonwood Canyons.

Better dog info. More signage.

Better enforcement with dog clean-up.

Better handle crowds/parking.

Better marked trails.

Better marking of trails.

Better public transport.

Better security in parking areas.

Bike lane in Millcreek Canyon.

Block ski area expansion.

Build snow sleds over roads. May be an issue for UDOT.

Can you please put more trail markers at different points along the trails?

Can't think of anything at the moment.

Cancel One Wasatch -> horrible idea.

Change OSV restrictions for Private Land Owners.

Clarity around where I can fish.

Cleaner air.

Close the gate in Millcreek on bike (even) days through the summer.

Compulsory public transit to access canyons. No single-driver cars on weekends.

Conservation, not preservation.

Continue as it. Keep things the way they are! Already beautiful.

Continue developing trails for hiking/running.

Continue improving trails.

Continue to allow the people to use this land as opposed to allowing corporations to profit off of it.

Continue to balance USE!!

Continue to have off leash areas for dogs. Odd/even in canyon for dogs and mountain bikes.

Continue to maintain trails, more off leash options.

Control speeding. Clearly advertise dog-off leash days.

Control vehicle traffic.

Control vehicles and motorcycles a little better. Where they are allowed.

Create more dog parks -- of leash. Add another garbage can.

Create more mountain bike trails. I know they have to make a living, but I would like to see heli skiing restricted/not allowed.

Develop more mountain bike trails. Make bowhunters feel more welcome.

Dirtbike trails.

DNR could provide more accurate info on hunting regulations. I got a different answer about the legality of rifle hunting in Lamb's each time I talked to a different person.

Do not allow motorcycles on trails through the wilderness.

Do not expand access.

Do not let One Wasatch happen! No lifts on public use areas!

Do not let private interest direct the management.

Do NOT put in any more lifts linking ski resorts. Get better public transportation instead!

Dog free days. Dog poop enforcement.

Dogs not on a leash can be scary, but I like the new rule.

Doing a good job!

Doing a great job--keep it up!

Doing a great job!

Doing a great job.

Don't allow any additional ski resort expansion.

Don't be bullied or pressured by proponents of development. The real economic benefits lies in conserving our watershed.

Don't be paranoid about dogs that are civilized and under control.

Don't expand ski resorts. No One Wasatch.

Don't let ski resorts expand. Preserve the wilderness feeling/experience.

Don't see anything wrong.

Don't charge to park @ Spruce's in summer. Don't lock gate @ lower parking, particularly when there is no snow (Mill B). Let us park overnight at Spruce's. Bus service up the canyon.

Educate kids in K-7 to respect this place. The other ones don't.

Educate on Leave-No-Trace and staying on trails. Possible public education seminars?

Educate the public about how little Wilderness there is compared to people in the Wasatch. Teach people why this makes Leave-No-Trace the standard to use when using these areas.

Encourage more areas where people can enjoy water access with pets.

Encourage public transportation.

Enforce dog leash laws.

Enforce dog regulations more.

Enforce leash laws and dog poo.

Enforce the rules.

Enlist citizens who recreate to help maintain trails. More improved trails.

Ensure you don't cave into commercial interests - continue to serve the public and keep land rather undeveloped.

Everything is great. Please maintain the "no dog" rule in Big/Little Cottonwood canyons.

Everything is great

Exclude motorized vehicles when appropriate.

Fast and efficient public transportation. Develop entertainment/lodging at canyon bottoms for tourists.

Fee based management (i.e., more trail signs and trail maintenance). Busses in the summer.

Fee for canyon access to keep up areas.

Fewer cars driving up the canyons.

Fewer cars. Light rail--no mandatory parking areas.

Fewer fees.

Fewer ski lifts. Less private land. More public transportation.

Fight against any further development of USFS lands for ski resorts (Ski Link, etc.).

Fix trails. Add new trails.

Further restrict snowmobile and snowcat access to cabins that are on inholdings.

Get rid of Powderbirds--heli doesn't belong in the Central Wasatch. Develop volunteer/youth trails maintenance programs.

Get rid of all motorized vehicles.

Get rid of all snowmobilers in the Central Wasatch.

Get rid of all snowboards.

Give us more snow. Everything else is good.

Greater enforcement of cleaning up after dogs in mountain, primitive character land.

Groom/set ski tracks more often. More education about staying off the tracks, more off leash areas.

Happy with their job.

Have more of a residence. Seems that the rangers are hired help, live in building more that are outside. This survey is a great start.

Have people manage dogs better.

I can't think of anything.

I don't really like the heli skiing. If they would use less avalanche control that would make me feel safer. Definitely stop One Wasatch or Ski Connect.

I just moved to SLC and am not familiar with the area.

I think you guys are doing a great job.

I wish I didn't have to pay to go up AF canyon.

I wish more money were available to put rangers on busy trails/areas. Helps keep people on their best behavior. I realize the money will not be available.

I wish we could fix the mine tailings.

I would ask for more online information about the trails such as information about native plants & animals, their seasonal habits, etc.

I would encourage them to keep ski resorts within their existing boundaries & not allow further development in or across public lands.

I wouldn't mind a better Big Cottonwood hut system.

I'd have to think about that, oh yeah, No Ski Link!!!

I'm perfectly content.

If anything, allow use of the rivers (private property access in rivers).

Improve trails for summer. Keep ski resorts boundaries in check. Get private parcels to be public. Improve parking/protect bouldering--good job on getting rid of Grist Mill.

It drives me crazy when people leave their dog poop in bags on the side of the trails.

It got really icy near the end, maybe melt that.

It would be nice to be more dog friendly but it's understandable that we are in the watershed. Also, it would be a lot nicer to lower ski resort day passes. It would be nice to have environmentally friendly transportation up canyons (especially Millcreek Canyon).

It's good the way it is.

Just keep on keeping things clean.

Keep current balance between resorts and backcountry use.

Keep development away from natural resources.

Keep development our development.

Keep doing what you do. More Leave-No-Trace signage.

Keep doing a good job.

Keep it accessible.

Keep it beautiful, undeveloped, scenic, and free.

Keep it going for the tax money you already receive from me!

Keep it Natural & Undeveloped.

Keep it public.

Keep more available during winter.

Keep motorized use out. More wilderness designations!

Keep people more informed.

Keep resort development as it is.

Keep resort skiing boundaries where they are.

Keep restrooms open all year.

Keep ski areas confined to current boundaries.

Keep the Millcreek gate open later.

Keep the primitive areas primitive. No new ski areas develop. We have enough.

Keep the remote feeling. Development is inevitable, but keep it minimal. The fact you are 20 min. from downtown and feel like you are in secluded mountains is what make the Wasatch so incredible.

Keep them open. Thank you.

Keep trails in good shape.

Keep undeveloped areas wild. Make accessibility for people from all socioeconomic classes a priority. Increase education about the benefits of wilderness areas. Improve public transportation in the mountains.

Keep up the good work!

Keep up the good work.

Keep public access and no more development. NO ONE WASATCH.

Learn more about distance to locations.

Leave it as is.

Leave it as it is. Better signage--elevation and peak names.

Leave them alone.

Less tree management in the name of fire management - these are forests for a reason - no more new trails, too many people ruin experience - Be sure to remember these forests are wildlife habitat too.

Less motorized access--like helicopters in the winter.

Less motorized vehicles.

Less motorized vehicles!

Less motorized use.

Let dogs in our canyons.

Let me bring my dog to Lake Blanche.

Let skiers hike uphill at resorts. Resorts are on public lands.

Light rail up LCC then tunnel to Brighton & PC. Light rail down Parley's.

Like it like it is.

Limit ATVs. Enforce dog laws.

Limit commercial development.

Limit development of the remaining undeveloped areas please. Leave things as they are now in undeveloped areas.

Limit growth & development. Encourage more shuttles & fewer cars.

Limit resort expansion. Keep snow machines out.

Limit ski resorts. Allow dogs.

Limit the snowmobiles and helicopters, and don't interconnect the ski areas.

Limit/Eliminate snowmobiles/ATV travel. Do not develop Guardsman's Pass. No Ski Link--No One Wasatch. Ban heli-skiing.

Love areas with dogs off leash. Just don't limit this. Other than that, I love it here.

Maintain cross country ski tracks.

Maintain no ski area expansion.

Maintain wilderness characteristics. Clear, kind direction at Spruce's Campground.

Make it less for people. Make them work for getting up mountains. Don't build stairs.

Make more places off-leash friendly.

Make room for everyone and lots of hobbies. Open up cabins and yurts for permit in Millcreek Canyon.

Make same areas more accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Make sure it is maintained well.

Make the resorts keep their current boundaries. Work with resorts to enable safe rewarding uphill traffic.

Make your distance mileage on your trail head sign accurate. All of your new signs are incorrect. They are based on trailheads that started at different places.

Management of vehicles.

Mass transit as only option up Cottonwood Canyons.

Mileage markers on trails.

Monitor ATV usage on singletrack.

Monitor graffiti abuse.

More actively enforce road closures.

More bike trails.

More dog friendly areas!

More designated areas for dogs.

More dog access.

More dog access. More public transportation.

More dog accessible areas. I understand watersheds, but really....animals poop too. Enforce owners to clean up after their pets instead of restricting access for those of us who are responsible.

More dog accessible places!

More dog areas!

More dog areas. Better Trails.

More dog friendly.

More dog friendly areas i.e. permits for watershed - More parking.

More dog friendly trails, please!

More dog friendly trails.

More education for multiuse trail users, particularly mountain bikers.

More enforcement of dogs on leash policy.

More motorcycle trail options in Wasatch Mountains in SL County.

More mountain bike trails in Big and Little Cottonwoods. No linking canyons via ski lifts etc...

More off leash dog areas.

More off-leash areas for dogs.

More parking.

More parking if possible. More dog only trails for odd days.

More parking in Big and Little Cottonwood.

More parking.

More places where dogs are allowed off-leash.

More public transportation.

More restrooms and running drinking water.

More severe fines for dog remains (I have two dogs--let's be more responsible).

More trailheads.

More trails.

More trails - especially bike trails. Less commercial building. Limit ski area expansion. Limit heliskiing areas/days and or trips. Oppose "One Wasatch." Police the dog restrictions especially in Millcreek where the compliance is negligible.

More trails and shuttles.

More trash cans along the big trail.

More trash containers and pick-up.

More trashcans, often there is trash on the trail.

More trashcans.

Mountain biking in watersheds. Keep working to get more youth / families into the forest!

Mt. bikers are dangerous to others—often.

My main issue would be about dogs in other canyons. I come hike the majority of the time because I love running with my dog. I wish there was a way to have dogs in other canyons as well.

Need more areas for dogs.

Need more places we can hike w/ dogs off leash - very restricted.

No change.

No changes.

No comment, I'm a new resident.

No construction, less development in general, be ethical, make sound decisions.

No development.

No dogs on the Millcreek skate ski trail.

No further development of backcountry areas, esp. by big ski resorts - NO further lifts/chair access. Partner with Mountain trails Foundation in Park City to link SLC side trails with PC trails

No Interconnect please!!!

No Interconnect.

No more building allowed. Maybe think of alternative transportation up + down canyon such as light rail or better more covenant busing system. Up Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons.

No restrictions on dogs - clear some brush on trails.

No more development!

No more development.

No One Wasatch.

No opinion.

No resort expansion.

No ski area expansion.

No Ski Link.

No ski resort expansion! Reduce motorized use.

No ski resort expansion. No motorized use.

No Snowboarding at Alta!

No suggestions.

Non-motorized users are the largest user group. Policies should reflect that, not the belligerent nature of industry money of the motorized user group.

Not enough information now to ask.

Not sure. They seem to be doing a pretty great job.

Nothing I can think of. Great job! Thank you!

Nothing, I prefer to leave it the way it is.

Nothing, it's perfect here.

Nothing, the hike was great!

Nothing--they are doing a great job!

Open more areas to Mt bikes. They do less damage than horses.

Open up more watersheds to dogs. Maintain the wilderness open space - you cannot make more - bigger ski areas are not better and overuse degrades the environment for people and the wildlife that depend on it.

Open up more wilderness lands to things like mountain biking. Why not?

Open up some space for dogs.

Permanently preserve.

Plans to protect remaining wilderness, not allow Skilink/One Wasatch or related concepts that will cause more development in Wasatch.

Please conduct surveys under a heat lamp / fire.

Please don't sell any land. Keep it public. Can you do this?

Please don't build in non-resort areas (i.e. Ski Link)!

Please give consideration to the spirit and health of nature. With high pressure on sensitive land, place more restrictions on development. We need you Forest Service! You need to put your foot down & resist "one Wasatch." You need to be "vocal" in support.

Please preserve the natural character of the Wasatch. Please improve trail maintenance on upper Mill B North Trail, Desolation Trail, and parts of Twin Lakes Trail.

Post trail maintenance dates.

Preserve the public lands to local residents.

Pretty good. Can't think of anything - Parking is good

Pretty happy, good folks, good people out here. I would like a ban on external speakers. I don't want to hear other people's music. Head phones are cool, but speaker phones suck.

Prioritize protection of dispersed and non-motorized recreation and recognize it is not compatible with developed or motorized recreation. Plan for climate change. Minimize cars in canyons.

Protect backcountry areas & undeveloped areas - better trail maintenance.

Protect from development.

Protect wilderness. Decrease overcrowding. Develop trails.

Protect wilderness. No more development. No Ski Link. No resort growth.

Provide more funding to very high visitation in Cottonwoods to improve management.

Provide more space for dogs to run off leash.

Provide soap in bathrooms. Allow dogs (upgrade water treatment).

Public transit in the BCC and LCC canyons.

Public Transit system up the canyons.

Put breaks on ski resort expansion. Stop charging fees--these forests are already mine as a taxpayer. Build more trails to disperse trail users. Put out the message that Forest Service and land agencies are severely short of money.

Put in trails or light-trains up Big & Little Cottonwood - instead of the cars.

Quite happy!

Reach out for volunteers.

Realistic expansion & control the Big Resort Punch for "vail" expansion into the Wasatch Front.

Really nothing. I think they are pretty great.

Really slow money collection at Millcreek station on holidays. All the cars idled and polluted. The line of cars was 50+ long. The person watching the shed was so slow and would not change their system to go any faster.

Regulations are too much and too many rules.

Relax, let more people enjoy without shutting down areas to multiuse. I love minimalist backpacking but I also enjoy enduro cross motorcycle and I am alarmed at the loss of places in which to enjoy that activity.

Remove development, enjoy recycling, highway department.

Restrict development.

Restrict motorized access, close areas to ATV/motorcycles. Improve Parking areas/picnic areas to concentrate access and get folks out of their vehicles.

Restrict Wasatch Powderbird or other heli-skiing. Continue to allow dogs in Millcreek Canyon, and allow mountain bikes every other day.

Retire snowmobiles from this area.

Rid them of Snakes :-)

Running water.

Say no to ONE Wasatch/Skilink. Keep current backcountry areas wild.

Seems super good, maybe more finance.

Set aside more public land for primitive camping. It's maintained with our tax money, we should be able to camp anywhere for a day or two.

Set up a shuttle system for people wanting to recreate in Millcreek Canyon.

Shuttles up the canyon to reduce traffic.

Snow shed over roads. Prevent road closures. More gas-x(?) avalanche control--better than artillery.

So many people! Dusty trails. Give them a rest once in a while. Trampled! Building Mountain. No more homes!

Stay at night.

Stay green.

Stay the heck out.

Stop developing forests and public lands.

Stop developing it.

Stop developing our backcountry.

Stop development.

They are doing a great job.

They are doing great.

They are getting too restrictive.

Too much dog poop up Millcreek.

Too much traffic--make buses free.

Trail marks so you have checkpoints. An app for trail map.

Trails maintenance and monitoring to avoid erosion, short-cutting, and trails degradation.

U.S. Forest Service, BLM, etc: Do not let the state of Utah take over our federal lands. Fight it with everything you've got!

Understand watershed, but if there was a program to license well-behaved dogs & responsible owners, there are many areas we would love to go, but as "dog-people", can't. We love Millcreek Canyon so much for its dog friendly approach.

Vote for more trail work.

Why aren't there more dog trails?

Why is there no one-way, downhill bike trails that can be shuttled? Will you build some? Would you support private groups building downhill tracks in Grand Junction with the Forest Service?

Winter closures gates should only be closed when necessary.

Work on cleaning graffiti in LCC.

Year-round open restrooms.

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?

A challenging balancing act with no easy answers.

Awesome.

Balance.

Bathrooms smell.

Better maps / know how to locate them on the internet.

Better public transportation (i.e. train/trax) would be nice during winter to reduce traffic.

Bust the graffiti artists.

Charge a reasonable fee (\$10) to drive private autos up Big and Little Cottonwood canyons. Use the funds to establish more parking and buses. Do not allow any more ski area expansion. One Wasatch concept is a very bad plan and will only benefit a few rich individuals while destroying the peace, tranquility & water for the masses.

Continue to manage usage as it gets heavier use. Thank you volunteers for what you do! We love it!

Do not build Interconnect. Keep Guardsman's Pass un-plowed.

Doing a good job.

Doing a great job

Doing a great job :-)

Doing great!

Doing Great!

Don't develop this area!

Don't develop!

Don't develop; no Ski Link!

Don't let ski areas expand. They should stay in their current boundaries.

Eliminate development.

Enforce mountain bike regulations.

Expansion of the ski areas would throw off the whole balance of recreational areas in the Wasatch. They already take up too much land. Many of the trailheads see a great deal of activity especially Grizzly Gulch.

Get people to clean up their poop (dog poop).

Good protection. Maybe some wildlife sanctuary.

Great experience. Really appreciate those who run it!

Great job!

Great job. Keep it up. Thanks.

Great place to visit.

I am happy to see you out here surveying the users. It seems as though many decisions in the Wasatch NF are made on assumptions.

I am so grateful that there are wild, public lands to hike. Thank you!

I do not want "One Wasatch."

I do not want to see additional ski area development.

I don't like the idea of One Wasatch. There is enough development lift-served skiing in the Wasatch. Now it is time to conserve.

I hope that the remains undeveloped primitive areas of the Wasatch be preserved and protected from development. No ski link. NO One Wasatch. No ambitious travel plans that involve trains/cables.

I hope to always have access to this beauty--not mass transit.

I like to fly to remote old airstrips in SE Utah to hike, please don't limit that access. Thanks!

I love the wild.

I support a helicopter free Wasatch (except for emergency rescue)!

I think we probably have enough developed ski areas at this point. Let's preserve the rest of the Wasatch for hiking and backcountry use.

I wish more areas were accessible to dogs. I wish there was more public transit avail.

I wish you guys had more funding

Implementing fees in Little Cottonwood.

Improve land protections and stop interconnection of the canyons & Wasatch back. Stop One Wasatch.

Interested in Mountain Accord hope the old mining tunnels can be used for transportation.

It needs to last generations. If it changes and gets overused as much as it has in the past 10 years, there won't be anything to enjoy in another 10.

Job well done.

Keep building single track trails.

Keep doing awesome stuff!

Keep everyone informed of rules and it will help everyone out.

Keep it accessible.

Keep it beautiful & undeveloped.

Keep it open!

Keep it pure & natural. Don't over manage.

Keep more land protected as Wilderness areas.

Keep protecting it; do not allow any more development outside of existing developed areas.

Keep resorts at bay. No more development in the Wasatch.

Keep the backcountry undeveloped + consider bus service in summer + fall in Cottonwoods to lower traffic.

Keep them as they are. Minimum ski resort development.

Keep thinking at least 50 years into the future. Will there be cars in the canyons?

Keep up the good work.

Keep up the good work and keep everything clean like it is!

Keep up the good work! Thank you.

Keep up the great work

Less management & development, more protection such as wilderness designation.

Let's get lots of mountain biking trails!

Limit ski resort expansion.

Love it!

Love them.

Love this place!

Maintain a balance between development and undeveloped areas - don't let balance change to more development!

Make a decision!

More bike trails. Reroute on Mill D is stupid and negatively affected the forest.

More dog access & there should be a resource population growth balance. I don't want to raise my child in "Beijing" quality air in 12 years!

More fee-free camp sites.

More park and rides @ canyon bottoms/base. Let pets ride into those locations where they are allowed. Charge fee to drive up Cottonwood Canyons

More protection, less development, and more management.

More protection. We don't want to turn into Colorado. Keep the Wasatch wild.

More public transportation options would be great. I would pay an access fee for the year.

More signs for watershed.

Need some rules for road-bikers in Millcreek Canyon. No enough room on busy days

Nice mountains.

No additional ski area expansion. Ten times the number of busses with good parking lots.

No construction.

No development.

No Interconnect.

No interconnect between Park City & Little Cottonwood (No Skilink) - Huge detriment to back county. Don't expand Grizzly Gulch.

No more development to connect resorts.

No more ski resort expansion.

No One Wasatch.

NO One Wasatch.

No Ski Link, No Ski Link, No Ski Link.

No ski link!

No snowmobiles/ATVs.

No, good work in your management. Can I get a job here at the Forest Service?

No. Love the Mountains!

Noise management.

Nope.

Nope. Thanks for keeping the mountains beautiful.

Nor more ski area expansion.

Not at this time, but thanks for this opportunity.

Oppose creation of a Millcreek City that extends to the border with Summit County.

People are attempting to buy nature. They are ruining our Wasatch - Voice greater support for leaving what is left the way it is - Rails in the canyons - no car - no more chairlifts! Too many backcountry skiers - why do we want to only accommodate the wealthy. Toll roads? Carpooling?

Please allow less private development to destroy the mountains.

Please continue to participate in the Mountain Accord. Do everything possible to enhance the protection of the Wasatch.

Please make more jobs and volunteer options available. Closer ties to community.

Please protect as much as possible and steer away from private development.

Please protect for future use for me and my family. Very important to the quality of my life.

Protect more wilderness. Stop Ski Link.

Protection against commercial development.

Rail service interlinking BCC/LCC/Park City.

Same level of restriction. No interconnect. More protection.

Save the Wasatch.

Say no to One Wasatch!

Seems well done.

Shut down trails when they are wet to prevent erosion.

Slow/stop resort expansion--even though I love the resort.

Stop One Wasatch.

Stop One Wasatch!

Stop One Wasatch.

Stop ski area expansion, including "One Wasatch."

Stop Ski Link.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you for NOT having a fee for entrance.

Thank you for all of the trail maintenance and camping facilities.

Thank you for all the hard work!

Thank you for all you do!

Thank you for all you do.

Thank you!

Thank you.

Thank you. I would like a better knowledge of all the possibilities, such as in one good map.

Thanks.

Thanks for all of your hard work.

Thanks for all you do!

Thanks for all you do! Keep up the good work!

Thanks for all you do.

Thanks for doing an amazing job!

Thanks for doing this!

Thanks for the new ski track sign!

Thanks for the survey.

Thanks!

The Cottonwoods need protection against increasing traffic to Park City.

There has been a significant increase in backcountry skiers/boarders, so it would seem justifiable to ban helicopter skiing. This type of noise and pollution is simply inappropriate for such a heavily used area as the Wasatch.

These mountains are the reason why I live in Utah.

They are fantastic recreation opportunity. Please do not approve Ski Link or lift connected resorts.

They need to be protected.

Think we/you are doing an amazing job.

Too many signs on road. More poop stations.

Traffic use in the future.

Try to find the most effective and economic solution.

Use of the rivers through private property should be accessible.

Very against One Wasatch project.

Very beautiful and a great place to spend time.

Very clean!

We appreciate you guys! Thanks!

We love it!

We love the mountains.

Well maintained and my favorite part of living in Utah.

When I pay to enter a common Forest area I feel there should be more garbage receptacles

Would like more places for dogs. Feel like USFS lets ski areas have their way too easy.

Yes, approve further wilderness in the Wasatch such as Mt Olympus wilderness.

You do great work, Thanks!

You're doing a good job.

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

All enjoy beautiful spots.

All fellow dog walkers--fun for all to play.

All friendly, respectful.

All having a good time.

All pleasant to be out.

All were pleasant & well-behaved.

Ambivalent--always fun to see dogs interact.

Beautiful day and environment.

Big smiles.

Broke trail.

Chatted about terrain, lines, conditions...Community!

Common interests.

Communicated with what we are skiing.

Communication about snow condition.

Conversation.

Cool information! Spreading the stoke.

Cool personality, welcoming.

Did not see anyone else.

Discussing dogs.

Dog friends.

Encouraged two young men to go to the top.

Enjoy seeing other people.

Enjoying nature, like us!

Enjoying the same activity, friends talk.

Everyone cheerful despite rain, mixed rain/snow.

Everyone happy to be there.

Everyone was friendly.

Friendly.

Friendly banter.

Friendly exchange with like-minded people.

Friendly.

Friendly.

Friendly & courteous.

Friendly and all dogs played.

Friendly and knowledgeable.

Friendly and respectful.

Friendly and smiling.

Friendly chat.

Friendly chats.

Friendly chatting.

Friendly conversation.

Friendly conversation.

Friendly conversation. Dogs played together briefly.

Friendly folks on the lift; courteous skiers.

Friendly greetings.

Friendly hellos, helped when fell.

Friendly Nice.

Friendly people nice dogs.

Friendly people, enjoying wilderness hiking together.

Friendly people, not too many people.

Friendly socializing.

Friendly welcome.

Friendly, dog friendly hikers.

Friendly, good beta.

Friendly, happy, and having a good time.

Friendly, happy, like minded.

Friendly, kind people.

Friendly, said hello.

Friendly, said hello.

Friendly, similar passion, love the outdoors.

Friendly/gave me this survey and info about snow plows.

Friends.

Friendly.

Friendly & outgoing.

Friendly interaction.

Friendly, positive.

Fun for our dog to play with theirs.

Fun sharing experiences on the trail, places to see.

Fun to see other dogs + people having fun.

Fun to see others enjoying the wild.

Fun to talk - see other dogs.

Gave advice and directions. They were friendly and pleasant.

Glad to see other enjoying.

Good attitude.

Good company.

Good company.

Good conservation.

Good conversation.

Good energy.

Good info on snow and weather. Everyone happy about snow.

Good nice folks, nice to be alone though.

Good to see people out and about.

Good to see people out enjoying the woods and mountains.
Greeting like-minded people.
Happy nice people.
Happy to be out.
Having a few other people around is good for safety.
Help set skin track.
Helped me find sunglasses I dropped.
Helped us find where we were going.
I came here to ski with my dogs.
I like seeing other people.
I like seeing people out in unpopulated areas like the Cottonwoods.
I like to see more people.
I love dogs!
I saw a neighbor & we chatted pleasantly.
Interaction, sharing information, and observations.
It was good to see friendly people enjoying the beautiful day.
It's fun to see people along the way and chat.
It's fun to see people outside playing.
It's raining, so what! Happy faces!
Just being friendly.
Just conversation.
Just exchanging pleasantries.
Kind.
Kind people.
Kind, happy people are enjoying the outdoors.
Met skier in parking area--great company for most of the day!
Most smile, say hello, dogs play.
My dog loved it.

Nice.

Nice "hi."

Nice conversation.

Nice friendly.

Nice people.

Nice people.

Nice people.

Nice to see other happy people exercising.

Nice to see other on the trail.

Nice to see other people & dogs out.

Nice to see others recreating.

Nice to see people enjoying nature.

Nice to see people out.

Nice to see people out/friendly.

Nice to see people using the outdoor resources.

Nice walk and area.

No distractions or noise.

One is always nice and friendly.

Opportunity to fill out this survey.

Other dogs.

Peaceful.

People are usually very friendly.

People enjoying the mountains.

People were congenial & nice.

Pleasant hellos.

Police, enjoyed nature.

Positive Attitude, friendly strangers.

Positive attitude.

Respectful of dog rules.

Safety in numbers.

Safety/helpful if encounter problems.

Said "hello."

Said "hi."

Said "hi."

Said "hi" and were pleasant.

Said hello / good morning.

Said hello.

Saying hi, friendly greetings.

School groups were showing them, and talking about, watersheds and animals in the area.

Seeing happy = happy time

Shared info.

Sharing mutual interests.

Sharing similar experiences.

Skin track is in.

Skin track was in.

Smile.

Smile and a brief hello to someone who enjoys your similar lifestyles.

Smile and help with directions.

Smiles.

Smiles and "hellos."

Smiles, saying hello.

Smiles/chat/giggles.

Socializing--community w/ people that enjoy the same things.

Solitude.

Solitude, quiet.

Some people are cool.

Out enjoying the skiing.

Sparse.

Spreading holiday cheer, even in the rain.

Spreading stoke - good vibes.

Stop to talk, nice people. Had nice dogs for mine to play with.

Talked.

Talked about snowbikes.

Talked about trail conditions.

Talked w/ them.

They are friendly.

They did not get in the way.

They didn't take up the entire trail.

They encouraged exercising by their example of it.

They respected the trail and had proper equipment.

They seemed happy to be outside, and happy to see me and my dog.

They set a track (ski).

They smiled and greeted.

They were all friendly.

They were enjoying being outside - Happy & in good mood!

They were happy to be working or skiing.

They were having a good time.

They were nice.

They were nice people.

They were smiling and so were their dogs.

They were talkative.

Told us about a cave and had pups with them.

Very friendly.

Very friendly.

Very friendly people.

Very friendly.

Very happy and cheerful.

Visited.

Visited with neighbor.

We discussed lines to ski.

We have known each other for years.

We know most of the early hikers here.

We're all in for the fun!

Welcome

Were on main road - good to know if we were in backcountry and there was an emergency.

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

Location	Comments
White/Red Pine	Busy area.
	Just want to be alone!
	Too many.
	Tracked up good lines.
Grizzly Gulch	Reducing solitary experience with nature
	They ski the lines I want to ski.
	Too many of them.
Guardsman's Pass/Crest Trailhead	2-stroke snowmobile smoke.
	Snowcat noise.
Bear Trap	Lack of solitude.
	Taking my ski turns.
Silver Lake	Some people are not as cool.
Mill Creek Winter Gate	Crowded.
	Dogs chasing and growling at me.
	I like solitude.
	I selfishly prefer to have it all to myself
	Like to feel alone in wilderness.
	No grumps today.
	People that don't like dogs.
	Skiers gave no warning when coming up behind us, it was dangerous.
	Smoking.
	Some asshole who hated dogs and fun.
	Took up the entire trail, and left dog poop.
	Walking in ski tracks, blocking trail, and leaving dog waste.
	Porter Fork
DOG POOP! Dog crapped right by me--no clean up.	
Rattlesnake Gulch	They weren't very friendly.
	Too many people. I prefer quiet and solitude opposed to crowded trails.
Thaynes Canyon TH	Dogs on the skate track/doggie bags.
Neffs Canyon TH	Sometimes in summer trails get busy
Mount Olympus TH	Today most people were behaving responsibly. Note - other times, people can be irresponsible; littering, making loud noises, swimming in the watershed
Rob's	A lot of folks fail to pick up after their dogs.
	Prefer fewer people.
Spruces	Not today, but usually I like fewer people.

Appendix E: Places and reasons respondents no longer visit

Alta and Mill B South.

Alta, Snowbird, Solitude--too many people in the winter and no allowance for uphill skiing.

I make location decision based on how busy they may be.

American Fork. Too many motorcycles on trails.

Anywhere close to the road on a weekend!

Areas adjacent to ski resorts.

Areas dominated by ski resorts - Solitude and Alta & Snowbird.

Areas where quads illegally ride on single track.

Areas where snowmobiles are allowed, they are noisy death machines.

Albion Basin.

Avoid Mineral Fork in summer due to ATV's; avoid Catherine's Pass/Dry Fork in winter due to snowmobiles interactions & too many people.

Baker Spring in Porter Fork--Wasatch Powder Birds heli ski operation--I avoid all contact with them. They should not be allowed to operate up there.

Bell's Canyon is too busy on the weekends.

Biking trails--Desolation Lake.

Brighton ski resort, because of obnoxious snowboarders.

Brighton ski resort, lower Millcreek trails on busy weekend.

Busy areas like the top of Millcreek and busy dog days in Albion Basin.

But rarely go into Cottonwood Canyons due to no dog rules.

Canyon's Resort.

Cardiff Fork especially Cardiac Bend/Ridge ski areas.

Cardiff - snow machines. Snake Creek - snow machines.

Cardiff and Silver Fork.

Cardiff Fork--snowmobiles. Grizzly Gulch--crowded.

Cecret Lake @ Alta (summer). Skate track in Millcreek on weekends (winter).

Certain trails on mountain bike and dog days.

Corner Canyon--bikers are dangerous to our horses.

Crowded areas.

Crowded places.

Developed areas are very populated/used heavily.

Developed campground - prefer pristine wilderness.

Development for ski area expansion.

Dog Lake.

Dog Lake--people not following dog rules and making mountain biking difficult.

Dog Lake--too many dogs--change name.

Don't like to hike on Mtn Bike days in Millcreek

Don't remember the name - my dog was attacked by another there.

Ferguson, Millcreek, Grandeur.

Ferguson Canyon--smells like dog poop.

Generally avoid Cardiff due to crowds and snowmobiles.

Grizzly gulch—crowded.

Grizzly Gulch, too crowded with backcountry skiers.

Guardsman, winter -> snowmobiles.

Guardsman's--snowmobiles

Heavy traffic/busy backcountry/Little Cottonwood/Big Cottonwood.

Heavy use hiking areas such as Bell's Canyon.

High impacted areas which are advertised in the media. I look for areas with less traffic.

I avoid LCC on busy days.

I avoid Mill B in summer due to number of people.

I avoid places where there is heavy snowmobile use because they are not as peaceful or pleasant.

I avoid them when crowded. Avoid places where there are snowmobiles.

I don't come to Millcreek often because of how many people there are.

I go at different times to avoid people.

I seek more isolated areas but the Wasatch Front is a crowded place--that affects my decision on where to go daily.

I still hike up Neff's but, I had a dog owner use me and my dog as bait practice with my back away from him. That really angered me.

I still visit, but I hate seeing graffiti in the Cottonwood canyons.

I try to avoid dog days.

I try to avoid trails that are frequented by mountain bikers in the summer. To scary/dangerous!

I try to only go to Millcreek on off-peak times--really early if it's a weekend or a holiday.

I typically do not enjoy being with a large group of people. Came for peace and solitude.

I usually avoid bike days or heavily used bike trails. Most are courteous, but I always seem to encounter some bad apples.

In the winter, I do not recreate or visit where there is developed resort skiing. Also, I do not visit Mineral Fork in BCC during summer because of ATVs.

Just try and avoid popular places during peak use.

Killyon Canyon & the hike left of that Neighborhood acts like they own it and bully people - had to call police.

Litter multiple places.

Little cottonwood trail next to Quarry Canyon trail. Over the past 5-years people have spray/painted/graffiti on the rocks.

Mill Creek--too many dogs off leash.

Millcreek - too many people irresponsible with their dogs. A trail in Big Cottonwood Canyon motorcycles passed us on our hike bad mix of uses.

Millcreek Canyon.

Millcreek Canyon.

Millcreek Canyon--bicycle rider on an odd day got mad because I had my dogs off leash on a dog friendly trail.

Millcreek Canyon: too many dogs off leash.

Millcreek on weekends.

Millcreek trails.

Millcreek--mountain bikers.

Millcreek--too many people to comfortably hunt grouse.

Millcreek--too many people.

Mineral Fork in Summer - ATV's (noise, odor) Dry Fork, Snake Creek, Guardsman pass, Catherine's pass, Wasatch Back = Snowmobiles (noise, odor) Peak 9990/Bear Trap = Ski life accessible, crowded.

Monitors area Backcountry WPB have been flown over 4+ times.

Motorized use is awful because of noise and trail damage.

Mt Olympus Trail--too many aggressive dogs/owners.

Mt. bikers in Millcreek Canyon.

No but I worry about the one Wasatch Ski Link

Not a fan of dogs off leash in Millcreek Canyon.

On weekends only--I avoid most all of the major trailheads. I'm retired and go mostly on weekdays.

Overused places.

Parleys nature reserve, too many fences.

Peak 10CT20(?)--too many snowmobiles.

Provo River--or maybe I visit during times over the week/year when it is less crowded.

Random sites in LCC are being littered on too much.

Rarely go up Superior because it is too crowded.

Rarely visit Cardiff—snowmobilers.

Recreational resorts.

S-Curves.

Scott's Pass/Wasatch Crest Trail (extremely high use).

Ski resorts and the most popular trails.

Snowbird.

Snowbird - Mineral Basin backcountry access from resorts.

Snowbird. Corporate, over developed, ruins scenery.

Some chode tried to chop up a tree.

Tanner Dog Park—areas blocked off near stream.

Tanner Park.

The Cottonwoods and Millcreek.

The hot spots in Spanish Fork--broken glass, etc...

The US Forest Service & Alta Ski lifts.

There are places I avoid because they are notoriously crowded, but I have never had a bad experience.

They colony, on any newly develop crap on east side, and any ski area.

Timpanogos/American Fork--dirt bikes.

Too many people for good skiing. Grizzly, Alta side country.

Too many people.

Top of Millcreek--no parking!

Upper Days, Mineral, Cardiff in winter because of Wasatch Powder Birds.

Upper guardsman road in BCC too many snowmobiles.

Upper Millcreek because of dogs.

Upper Millcreek on off leash days. Too many dogs to trail run.

Upper Millcreek--too many bikes.

Vail. Avoid crowds

Wasatch Crest Trail. As a trail runner I have encounter very uneducated rude bikers who get driven up by the shuttle bus and have not learned the trail etiquette.

Wasatch front areas protected by watershed.

Where dogs are not allowed.

Where ever Power Birds are flying!!!

Where there are ATV.

Where there are too many ATV.

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