Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks

Annual Park Recreation Visits (2000-2016)
The Basics:
- Economic contribution;
- Visitor spending in gateway communities -- 60 miles of a park;
- Statewide contribution

“The 60-mile radius method results in some relatively large local gateway regions, especially in some western states where counties are large. Because of this, there is the potential for including some areas that are not intrinsically linked to the local economies surrounding each park. Efforts are underway to improve local gateway region definitions.”
Example form from NPS Visitor Study at: *Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site*

19. For your personal group, please estimate all expenditures for the items listed below for this visit to Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS and the surrounding area (within 50 miles of the park). Please write "0" if no money was spent in a particular category.

a) Please list your personal group’s total expenditures inside Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS.

b) Please list your personal group’s total expenditures in the surrounding area outside the park (within 50 miles of the park).

**NOTE:** Surrounding area residents should only include expenditures that were just for this trip to Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
<th>a) Inside park</th>
<th>b) Outside park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spent no money (●)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodge, hotel, motel, cabin, B&amp;B, etc.</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping fees and charges</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide fees and charges</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurants and bars</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groceries and takeout food</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas and oil (auto, RV, boat, etc.)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other transportation expenses (rental cars, taxis, auto repairs, but NOT airfare)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission, recreation, entertainment fees</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other purchases (souvenirs, books, postcards, sporting goods, clothing, donations, etc.)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Go to (b)" or "Go to (c)"

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![Map of Yellowstone National Park with 60 Mile Buffer](image)

Proportion of Visitors
- 0%
- <1%
- 1% - 5%
- 5% - 10%
- >10%

INSTITUTE FOR TOURISM & RECREATION RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
Where is there value in this information?

- Marketing and tourism?
- Transportation management?
Where is there value in this information?

• Marketing and tourism?
• Transportation management?
• Land management?
• Community economic development?
• Impact on local economies
• Impact on Roadways
  • Congestion
  • Collisions/Incidents
• Impact on local public lands and other natural amenities

=> Impact on the management of local resources.
Why are visitors coming to Montana?
• 35% Vacation/Recreation
• 30% Passing Through
• 18% Visit Friends/Family
• 12% Business
• 5% Other

Visitors on average stay 4.5 nights?
• 34% In Yellowstone Country
• 34% In Glacier Country
• 12% In Southwest Montana
• 10% In Southeast Montana
• 9% In Central Montana
• 2% In Missouri River Country
• 35% Hotel
• 23% Home of Family/Friend
• 12% Private Campground
• 9% Public Lands Campground
• 21% Other

2.1 Million nights spent in Public Land Campgrounds
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction:
• 13% of all nonresident visitors

Visitors on average stay 5 nights?
• 76% In Yellowstone Country
• 10% In Glacier Country
• 5% In Southwest Montana
• 6% In Southeast Montana
• 2% In Central Montana
• <1% In Missouri River Country

• 36% Hotel
• 20% Private Campground
• 14% Public Lands Campground
• 13% Rented Cabin or Home
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:
• Glacier National Park
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:
• Glacier National Park
• Little Bighorn Battlefield
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:

- Glacier National Park
- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- National Bison Range
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:
- Glacier National Park
- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- National Bison Range
- Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:

- Glacier National Park
- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- National Bison Range
- Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
- Big Hole Battlefield
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:
- Glacier National Park
- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- National Bison Range
- Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
- Big Hole Battlefield
- Missouri River Breaks National Monument
Vacation/Recreation with YNP as main attraction also traveled to:

- Glacier National Park
- Little Bighorn Battlefield
- National Bison Range
- Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
- Big Hole Battlefield
- Missouri River Breaks National Monument

As well as:

- Montana State Fish Wildlife & Parks
  - State Parks
  - Fishing Access Sites
- Hot Springs
Why Do we care?

- Yellowstone may be the primary attraction, but visitors do a lot more than just visit the park.
  - Economic contribution likely does not follow a simple circle around the park.
    - Networks
    - Attractions/Centers

- Not only should Park officials be concerned with transportation management within the Park, but local and state managers must be concerned with the transportation management that is largely influenced by visitors:
  - In gateway communities
  - Between major attractions
• Impact on local economies
• Impact on local public lands and other natural amenities
• Impact on Roadways
  • Congestion
  • Collisions/Incidents
# Safety on Montana’s Roadways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fatality Crash Information</th>
<th>Montana Highway Patrol</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crashes</td>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>Crashes</td>
<td>Deaths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (1/1-8/28)</strong></td>
<td>135</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Out of State Vehicle Involved</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alcohol Suspected</strong></td>
<td>61</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Montana Highway Patrol*
Next Steps

- Expansion of routing from respondents to visitor population
- Expand to all visitors in Montana
- Overlay of incident locations and visitor routing
Thank you!

www.itrr.umt.edu
Field of Influence

Proportion of Visitors
- 0%
- <1%
- 1% - 5%
- 5% - 10%
- >10%
Field of Influence
Influence Zone

- Impact on local economies
- Impact on Roadways
  - Congestion
  - Collisions/Incidents
- Impact on local public lands and other natural amenities

=> Impact on the management of local resources.