

# 2013-2014 Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study: A Visitor Survey on the Salt Lake Ranger District and Surrounding Public Lands SUMMER QUARTERLY REPORT



*Prepared for:*

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

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## **Introduction**

The purpose of this research project is to collect visitor use data (both dispersed use and overall use) on the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, by conducting visitor intercept surveys (on-site interviews) at recreational sites, areas, and trailheads in the Tri-Canyons area (Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood, and Mill Creek Canyons), Parley's Canyon, and 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 via the intercept survey during the 2014 summer quarter (June, July, and August) 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 report is the first of three quarterly reports provided by Utah State's Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism research scientists, and will be incorporated into the final report.

## **Results**

Over the first quarter, 722 visitor intercept surveys were completed with a 68% response rate. Forty sites were scheduled each month—ten sites from each area within the Central Wasatch Mountains: Little Cottonwood Canyon, Big Cottonwood Canyon, Millcreek Canyon,

and the Wasatch Back. Approximately 75% of the scheduled sites were surveyed. Table 1 presents the number of surveys completed at each survey location.

Table 1: Number of surveys completed by site

	Surveys	(Percent of Surveys Completed)
<b><u>Little Cottonwood Canyon</u></b>		
White/Red Pine	6	(.8)
Temple Quarry Trail	46	(6.4)
Lisa Falls	10	(1.4)
Cecret Lake	2	(.3)
Albion Base of Alta Ski Area	26	(3.6)
West Gate	37	(5.1)
Grizzly Gulch	4	(.6)
Bell's Canyon/Lightning Ridge	79	(10.9)
<b><u>Big Cottonwood Canyon</u></b>		
Mill B South/North	22	(3.0)
Butler Fork	54	(7.5)
Cardiff Fork/Mill D South/Donut Falls	21	(2.9)
Guardsman's Pass/Crest Trailhead	9	(1.2)
Bear Trap	3	(.4)
Silver Lake	23	(3.2)
GWT TH at Brighton (i.e., Lake Mary Trail)	21	(2.9)
<b><u>Millcreek Canyon</u></b>		
Big/Little Water	28	(3.9)
Mill Creek Winter Gate	59	(8.2)
Porter Fork	7	(1.0)
Elbow Fork	8	(1.1)
Church Fork	16	(2.2)
Rattlesnake Gulch	3	(.4)
Terraces/Desolation Trail	35	(4.8)
Thaynes Canyon TH	4	(.6)
Neffs Canyon TH	45	(6.2)
Mount Olympus TH	6	(.8)
<b><u>Park City/Wasatch Back/Parley's Canyon</u></b>		
Great Western Trail	5	(.7)
Lamb's Canyon Entrance	17	(2.4)
24/7	1	(.1)
Armstrong	14	(1.9)
Rob's	46	(6.4)
Glenwild	26	(3.6)
Road to WOS	6	(.8)
Quinn's in Round Valley	2	(.3)
Mill D North Fork Trail	31	(4.3)
Total	722	(100.0)

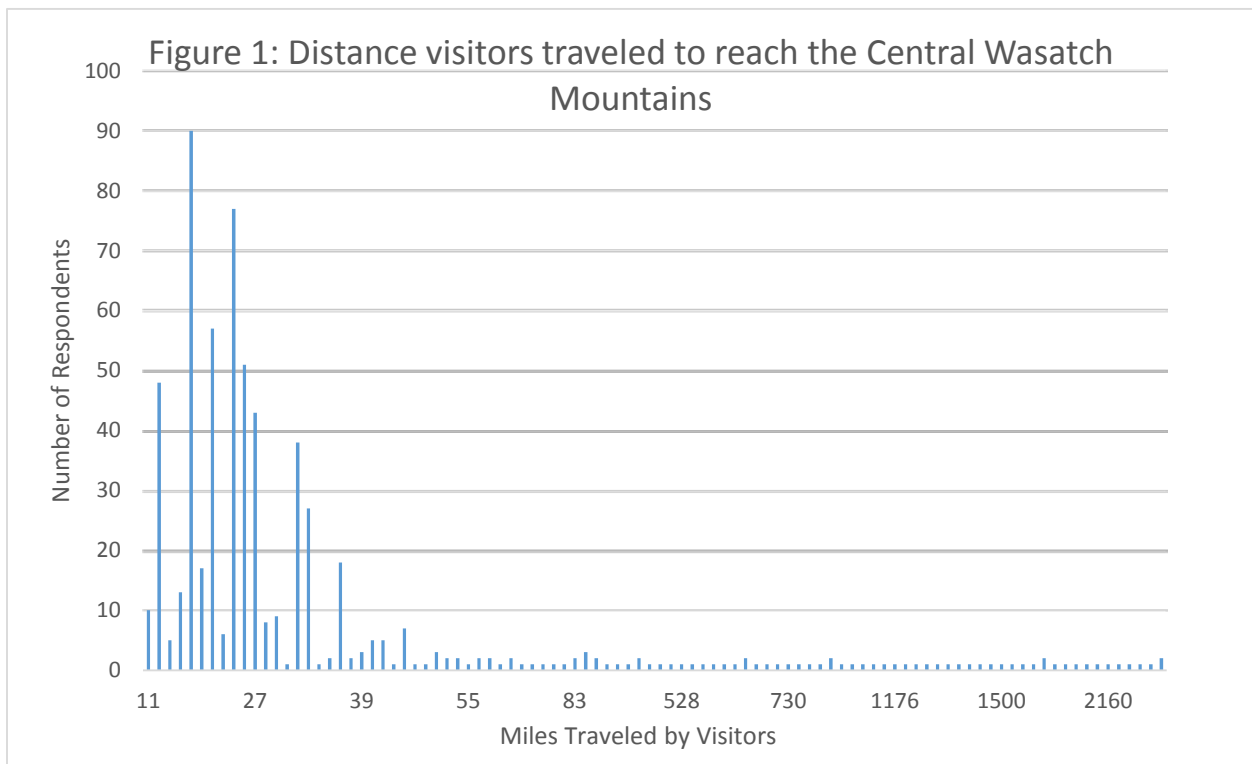
This section follows the format of the intercept survey. Each question on the intercept survey is presented in italics, and is followed by tables, graphs, and explanations of the data.

***Are you a resident of the United States?***

***Yes*** ***If Yes, what is your Home Zip Code?*** \_\_\_\_\_

***No*** ***If No, what Country are you from?*** \_\_\_\_\_

The question above was used to identify how far visitors are traveling to reach the Central Wasatch Mountains (CWM). This analysis was done by calculating the distance each zip code was from a central location (i.e., Brighton Ski Resort) in the Wasatch Mountains. As seen in Figure 1, the overwhelming majority of visitors live fewer than 40 miles from Brighton Ski Resort. The median distance traveled by visitors was 25 miles, and the mean distance was 110 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 was 2,552 miles. Only one visitor traveled to the CWM from outside of the United States—this individual was from Germany. These data show that 84.2% of CWM visitors live fewer than 40 miles from Brighton Ski Resort. However, the CWM do attract visitors from all over the United States. Because the Central Wasatch is better known for the recreational opportunities provided in the winter months, there may be a change in the distribution as people begin to travel farther to ski, snowboard, and engage in other winter recreation activities, especially at the ski resorts.



**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 (67.6%) of respondents spent fewer than three hours recreating during their visit, and 21.3% spent about half the day. Only 4.2% spent the whole day recreating, and .8% spent the night. Twenty-six (3.6%) individuals said they were spending multiple days, which ranged from two to seven 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 respondents who spent multiple day in the CWM.

Table 2: Respondents' Trip Duration

	Number	Percent
Short trip under three hours	488	67.6
About half the day	154	21.3
The majority of the day	30	4.2
Overnight	6	.8
Multiple days	26	3.6
Total	706	97.8

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

	Number	Percent
Two days	4	15
Three days	6	23
Four days	2	8
Five days	4	15
Six days	2	8
Seven days	2	8
Missing	6	23
Total	26	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 (81.5%) of respondents only visited one site during their trip to the CWM. Of the 17.9% that did visit multiple sites during their recreational visit, 39 respondents visited two sites, 26 visited three sites, and 22 visited four 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	Percent
No	569	81.5
Yes	129	18.5
Total	698	100

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

Number of sites visited	Number	Percent
2	39	38
3	26	26
4	22	26
5	6	6
6	6	6
7	2	2
8	1	1
Total	102	100

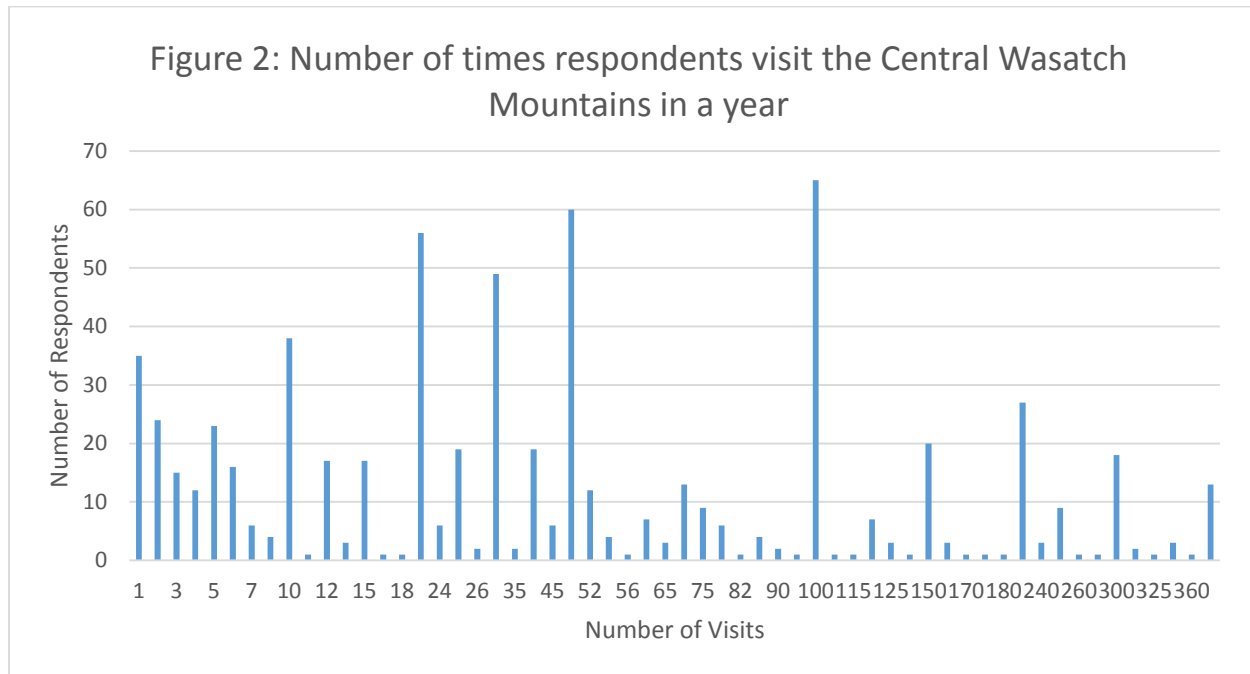
***On average, how many times per year do you visit the National Forest here in the Central Wasatch Mountains? \_\_\_\_\_ times per year***

Respondents were asked, on average, how many times they visit the CWM in a year. The median number of times respondents visit the CWM was 40, and the mean was 70. Table 6 presents the mean, median, standard deviation, and range of days respondents visit the CWM in a year.

The Figure 2 shows the wide range in 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	70
Median	40
Std. Deviation	85
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.*

Just over half (52.7%) of the respondents reporting using both developed and undeveloped areas equally, and 37% said they mostly use undeveloped areas while recreating in the CWM (Table 7). Only 9.2% of respondents said the use developed sites most often. Because this study is mostly focused on dispersed and backcountry use, it is possible that results are skewed toward the visitation habits of the people who use dispersed and backcountry areas more often.

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

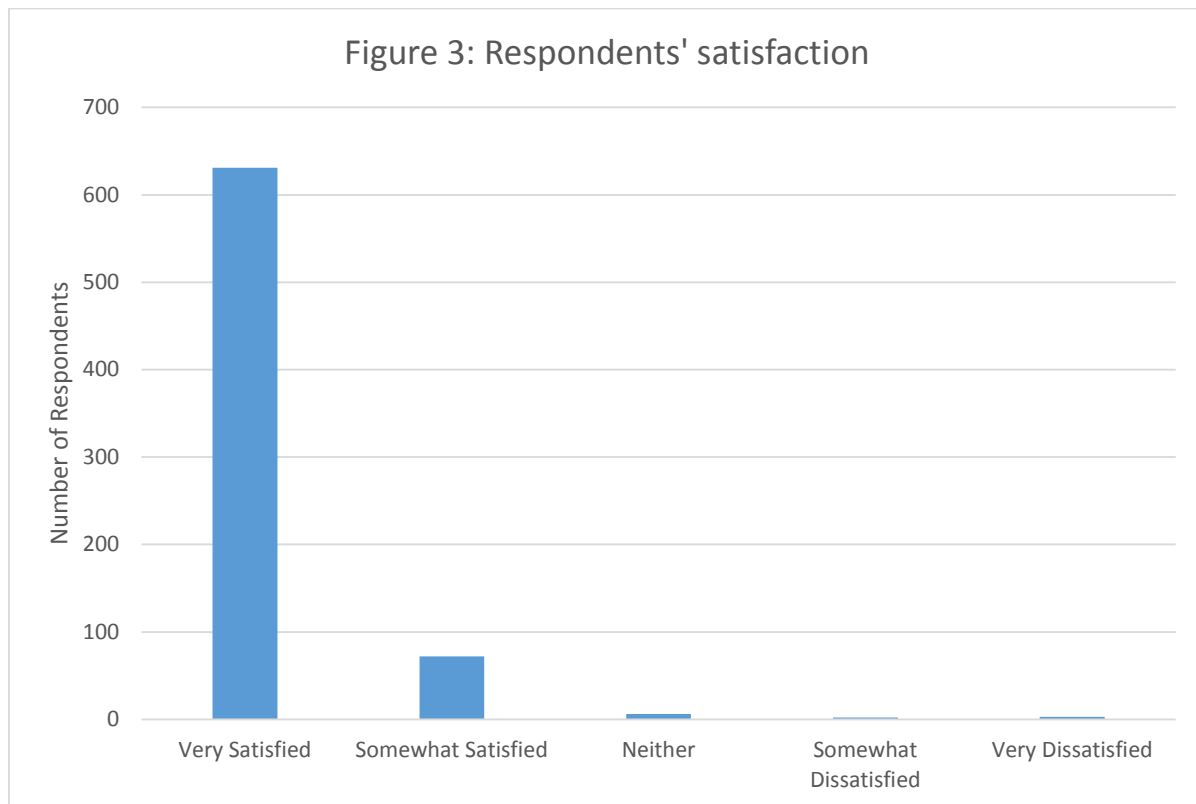
	Number	Percent
Developed	71	9
Undeveloped	267	38
Both	377	53
Total	715	100

**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 (88%) were “very satisfied” with their visit to the CWM, and 10% were “somewhat satisfied.” Less than two percent were “neither satisfied or dissatisfied,” or “dissatisfied/very dissatisfied” (Figure 3).



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

✓	RECREATION ACTIVITIES
<b>NON-MOTORIZED ACTIVITIES</b>	
	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)
<b>MOTORIZED ACTIVITIES</b>	
	Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel or dirt)
	Riding on motorized trails (non-snow, OHV/ATV)
	Snowmobile travel
	Other motorized activities (races, games)
<b>VIEWING &amp; LEARNING—NATURE &amp; CULTURE</b>	
	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
<b>CAMPING OR OTHER OVERNIGHT</b>	
	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)
<b>FISHING &amp; HUNTING</b>	
	Fishing—all types
	Hunting—all types
<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>	
	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)
<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT LISTED? (Please write in below and ✓ to left.)</b>	

The most popular “main” recreational activity participated in by CWM users was hiking (44.9%). Mountain biking (8.4%) was the next most popular recreational activity, followed by walking (6.4%), rock climbing (4.2%), road cycling (3.5%), and trail running (3.5%) (Table 8). From observations by field technicians, it is suspected that “road cycling” is underrepresented in this study’s sample because cyclists are difficult to survey either because they do not use specific trailheads, or they are on the move and unwilling to stop to take the survey.

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

	Number	Percent
Hiking	324	44.9
Mountain Biking	61	8.4
Walking	46	6.4
Rock Climbing	30	4.2
Road Cycling	25	3.5
Trail running	25	3.5
Hiking/Exercising pet(s)	14	1.9
Exercising	10	1.4
Relaxing, hanging out	6	.8
Camping in developed sites (family or group)	4	.6
Fishing	4	.6

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

**Do you know if you are recreating today in a protected watershed?**       Yes  No

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

**Not Familiar**

**Somewhat Familiar**

**Very Familiar**

**1**

**2**

**3**

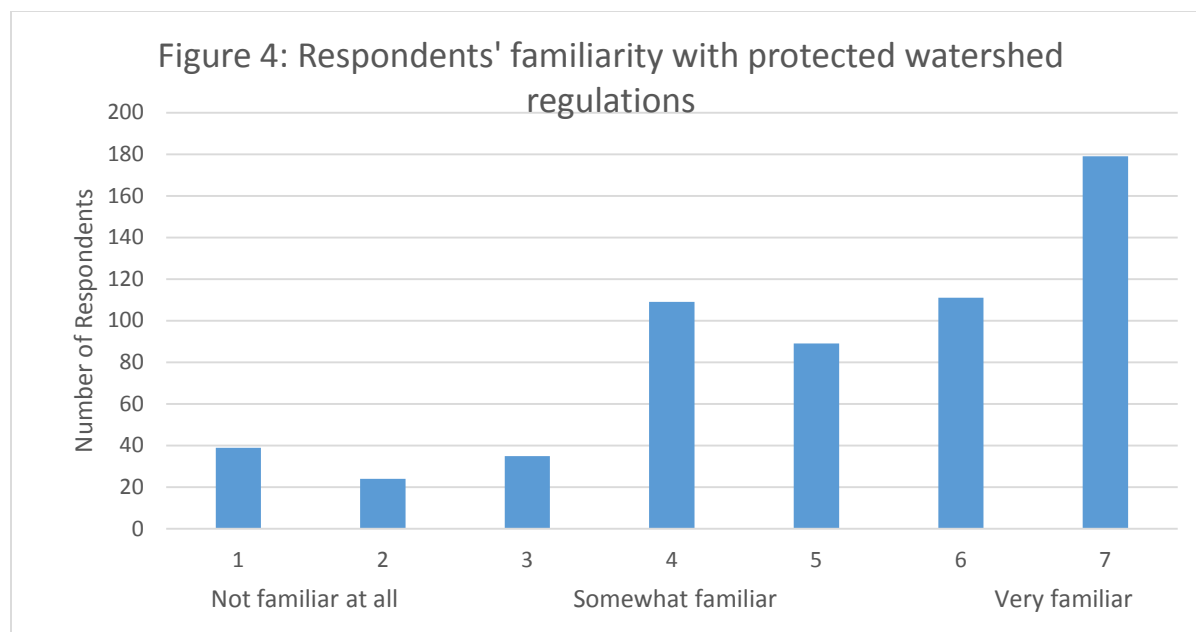
**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

Approximately half of the survey locations used in this study are located in a “protected watershed.” All respondents were asked if they were recreating in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed. Out of the 688 people that responded to the question, 487 (70.8%) said “yes,” they were recreating in a protected watershed, and 210 (29.2%) said “no,” they were not recreating in a protected watershed. Respondents were then asked how familiar they were with the regulations of a protected watershed. The mean for respondents’ familiarity was 4.99, and the median was five, which are just above “somewhat familiar.” Figure 4 presents a histogram with respondents’ self-reported familiarity with protected watershed regulations.



For further analysis, we split the dataset into two groups: those respondents who were in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed and those who were not. Of the respondents who were not in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed, 65% of them believed they were, and 35% were correct in reporting they were not. Of the respondents who were in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed, 74% were correct in reporting that they were, and 26% were incorrect in reporting that they were not. We also examined to see if respondents who were recreating in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed reported themselves as being more familiar with protected watershed regulations. The mean score for respondents who were not recreating in a protected watershed was 4.86, and the median was five. Respondents who were recreating in a protected watershed at the time they were surveyed reported being more familiar the protected watershed regulations (mean = 5.11 and median = 6). Table 9 presents the number and percent of respondents who reported themselves being, or not being in a protected watershed, and Table 10 presents the mean and median scores of respondents' self-reported knowledge of protected watershed regulations.

Table 9: Respondents geographical knowledge of protected watershed boundaries

	Respondent Answer	Number (Percent)
Not in a Protected Watershed	No	119 (35)
	Yes	222 (65)
	Total	341 (100)
In a Protected Watershed	No	91 (26)
	Yes	256 (74)
	Total	347 (100)

Table 10: Respondents self-reported familiarity with protected watershed regulations

	Mean (Median)
Not Protected Watershed	4.86 (5)
Protected Watershed	5.11 (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 that respondents were asked was if they knew the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest had congressionally designated Wilderness areas. Of the 699 respondents who answered the question, 274 (39%) respondents said they did not know if the U-W-C National Forest had Wilderness areas, and 425 (61%) 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 577 who responded to the question, 258 (45%) said “no,” they have not recreated in any of the Wilderness areas, and 318 (55%) said they have. Of the people who had recreated in the Wilderness areas, 88 said they had recreated in the Mount Olympus Wilderness Area, 60 said they had recreated in the Lone Peak Wilderness Area, 71 said they had recreated in the Twin Peaks Wilderness Area, and 105 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 (259). Other popular Wilderness activities reported by respondents were primitive camping (86), backcountry skiing (75), mountain biking (55), rock climbing (44), and trail running (29) (Table 11).

It is difficult to say to what degree, but while coding and entering the data gathered from this question it was obvious that many respondents were confused by the question. An example of this is that “mountain biking” was the fourth most popular Wilderness activity participated in by CWM recreationists. Either there is illegal mountain biking occurring within CWM Wilderness areas or respondents were unclear what “congressional designated Wilderness” really is.

Table 11: Activities respondents reported participating in in Wilderness Areas

	Number
Hiking	259
Primitive Camping	86
Backcountry Skiing	75
Mountain Biking	55
Rock Climbing	44
Trail running	29
Snowshoeing	16
Fishing	13
Backcountry Snowboarding	8
Photography	8
Nature study	6
Relaxing, hanging out	5

Note: Recreational activities that had fewer than five respondents were excluded from this table.

**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:**

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**Did they negatively affect your experience?  Yes  No**

**If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:**

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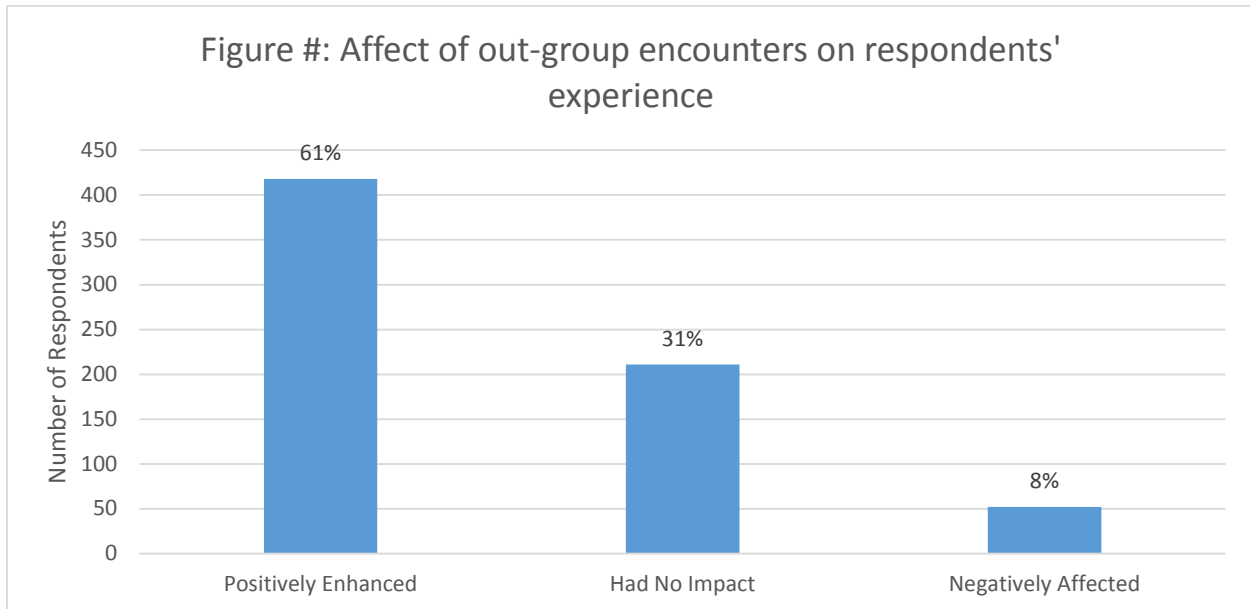
**They neither positively enhanced nor negatively affected my experience.**

The number of encounters experienced by respondents ranged greatly based on sites, day of the week, and time of day. The mean number of encounters experienced by respondents was 14.5, and the median was 10. The number of encounters ranged from 0-200.

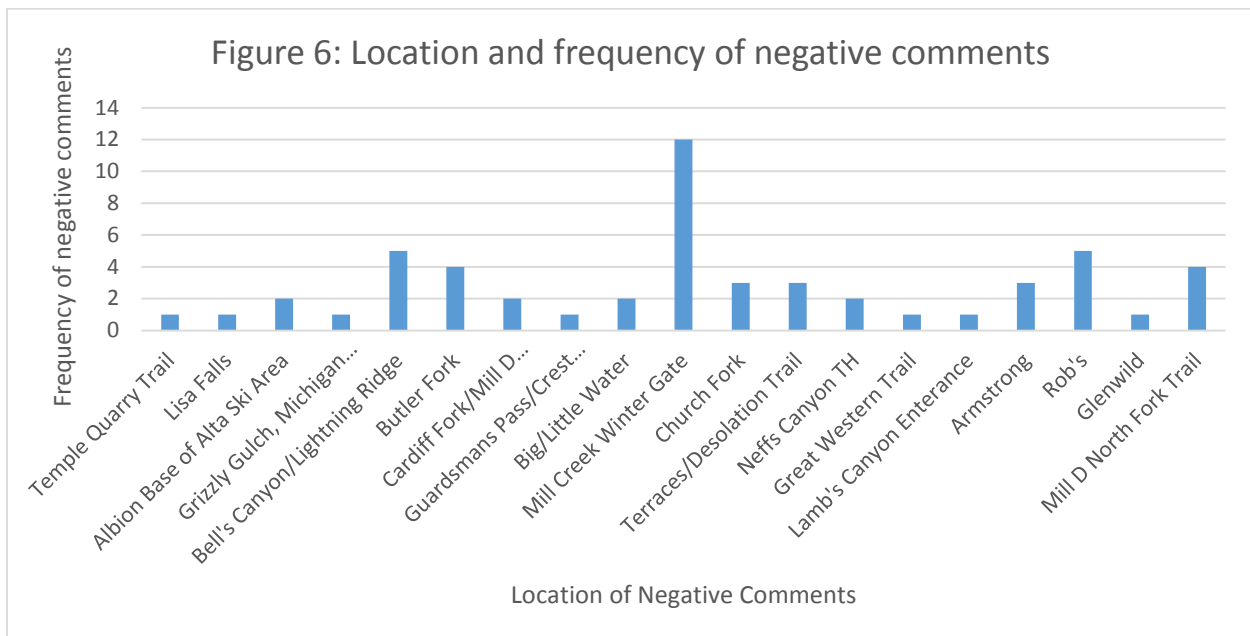
Respondents were asked how the people they encountered affected their experience while recreating. The majority (61%) said the people they encountered positively enhanced their experience, and 31% said the people they encountered had no effect on their recreational experience. Only 8% of respondents said the people they encountered negatively affected their recreational experience. Therefore, 92% 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 5 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 or negatively (negative comments are grouped by location) affected their recreational experience can be found in Appendix D on page 66.



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 6). Mill Creek Winter Gate had the highest number of negative comments (12), followed by Rob's (5) and Bell's Canyon (5). Negative comments grouped by location can be found in Appendix D.



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

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

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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 682 people who responded to the question, 579 (85%) said there were not areas they no longer visit because they have had negative encounters, and 103 (15%) 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.

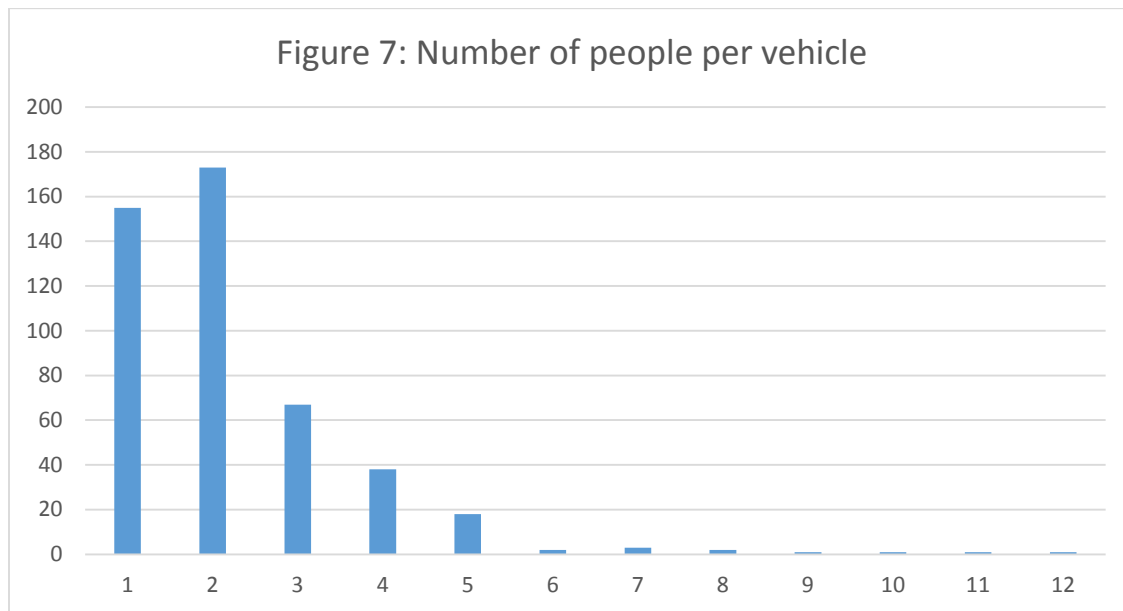
**How did you access the recreation site you are visiting today? (Check one)**

- Personal Vehicle—How many people are in your vehicle today including you? \_\_\_\_\_**
- 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 (90.5%) of respondents used their personal vehicle, 4.4% walked on their own, and 4.3% biked. Only .4% used public transportation, and .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 passengers for personal vehicles was two (mean 2.03), and the range was 1-25 passengers. Table 12 presents the modes of transportation used by respondents to reach their desired location, and Figure 7 presents the number of passengers per vehicle.

Table 12: Respondents' mode of transportation to reach desired recreation location

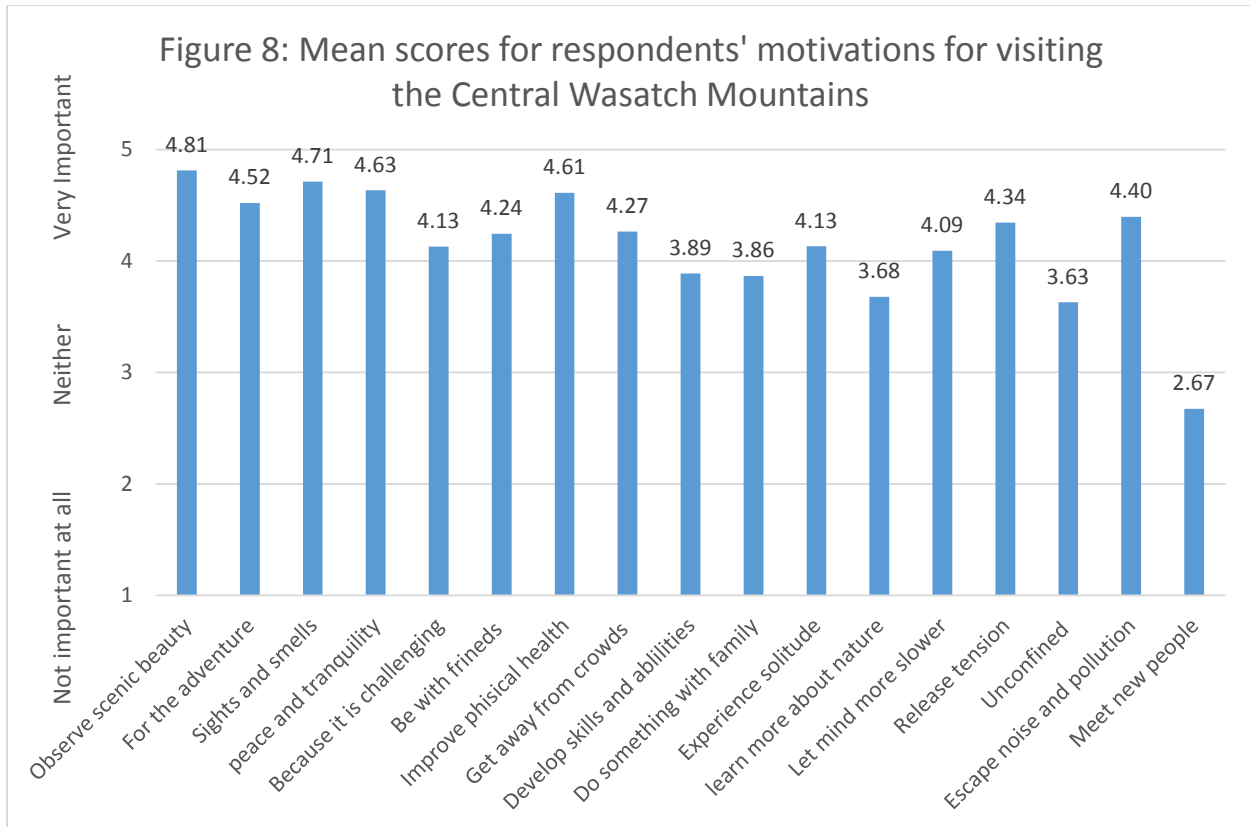
	Number	Percent
Personal vehicle	636	90.5
Public transit	3	.4
Private shuttle	2	.3
Biked on my own	30	4.3
Walked on my own	31	4.4
Total	703	100



**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>
<b><i>Observe scenic beauty</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>For the adventure</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Enjoy the sights and smells of nature</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Experience the peace and tranquility</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Because its challenging</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Be with friends enjoying activities</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Improve my physical health</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Get away from crowds</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Develop my skills and abilities</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Do something with family</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Experience solitude</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Learn more about nature</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Let my mind move at a slower pace</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Release tension</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Be unconfined by rules and regulations</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Escape noise, pollution/bad air quality</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Meet new people</i></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

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. 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,” “be unconfined by rules and regulations,” and “learn more about nature” as the least important motivating factors for recreating in the CWM. Figure 8 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 74.

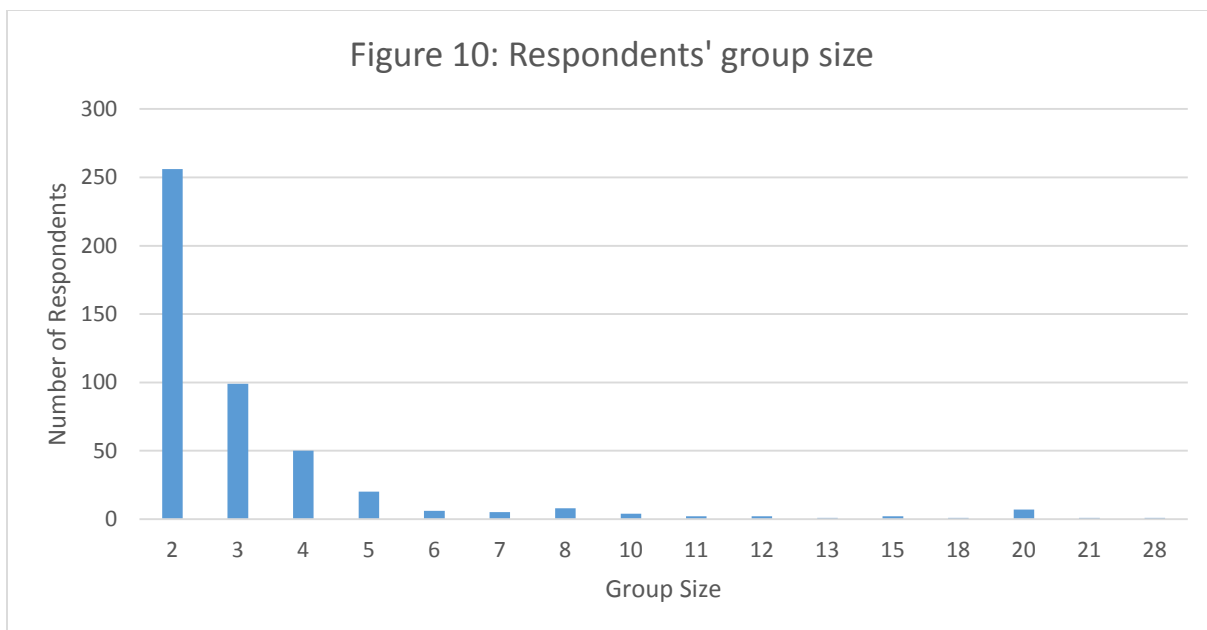
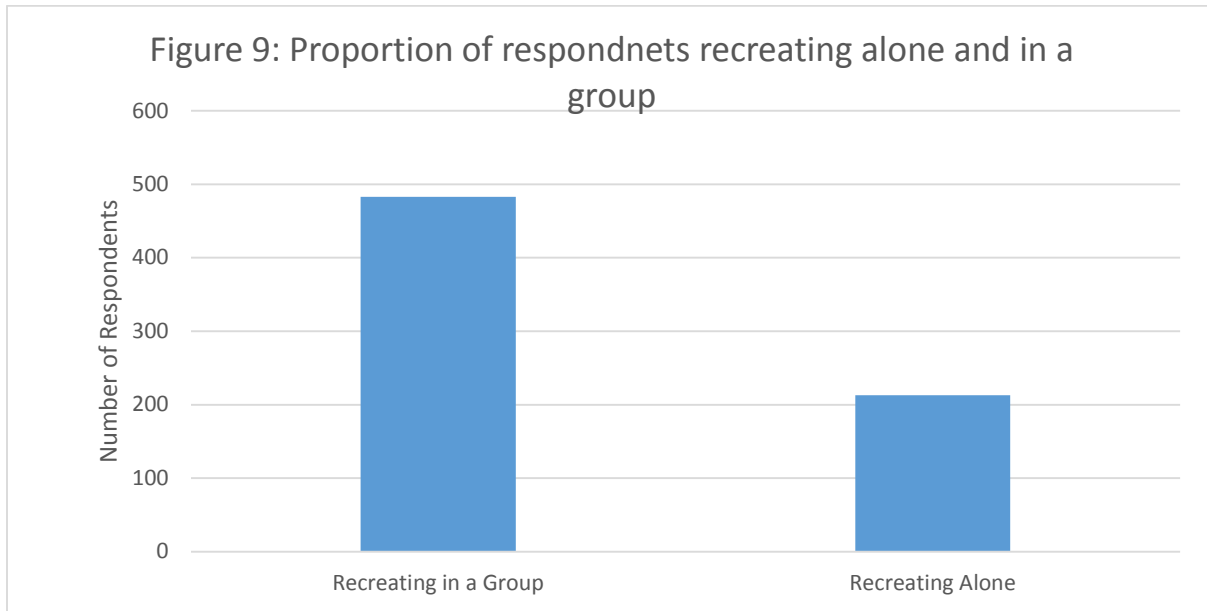
***Are you recreating alone today?  Yes  No***

***If No, how many people (total) are in your group? \_\_\_\_\_ people***

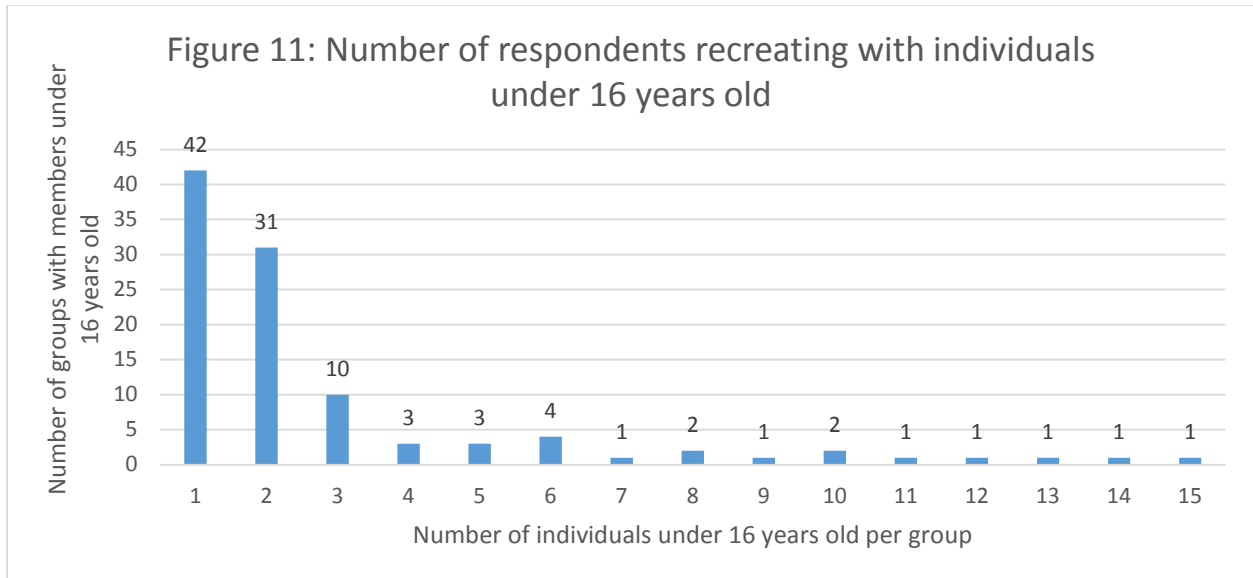
***Of these, how many are under 16 years of age? \_\_\_\_\_ people***

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 the age of sixteen years old. Of

the 696 respondents that responded to the question, 483 (64.4%) said they were recreating in a group, and 213 (30.6%) said they were recreating alone (Figure 9). For respondents who were recreating in a group, the mean group size was 2.68 (median 2), with a range of 2-28 (Figure 10). One hundred and four respondents were recreating with people under the age of sixteen.



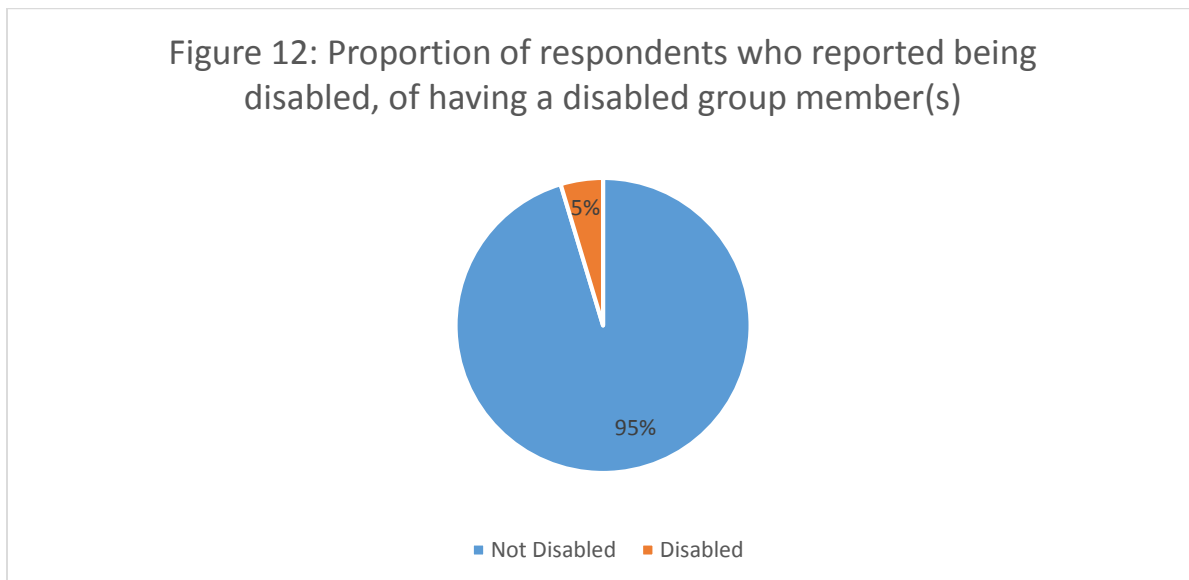
Of the respondents who were recreating with people under 16 years, most had one (42 respondents) to two (31 respondents) people with them that were under 16 years old (Figure 11).



**Does anyone in your group have any disabilities?**  Yes  No

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

Of the 667 who responded to the question, 31 (5%) reported themselves, or someone in their group as being disabled (Figure 12). Twenty-nine responded to the questions asking about the accessibility of the facilities they visited. Twenty-seven said the facilities were accessible, and two said they were not. One of the respondents who said the facilities were not accessible left a comment describing how some facilities are not accessible during the winter months.



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 691 who responded to the question, 35 (5%) were reported themselves as being veterans. The most common area served by these veterans was Vietnam, the second most common were Afghanistan and Iraq. Out of the 35 veterans, four reported being either wounded or disabled. Figure 13 shows the proportion of veterans in this studies sample, and Figure 14 shows the areas where the veterans served.

Figure 13: Proportion of respondents that were veterans

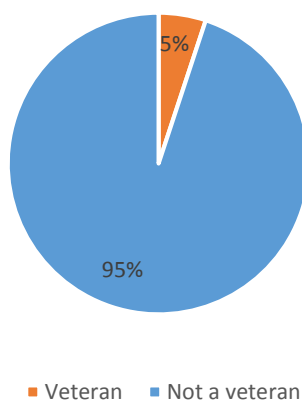
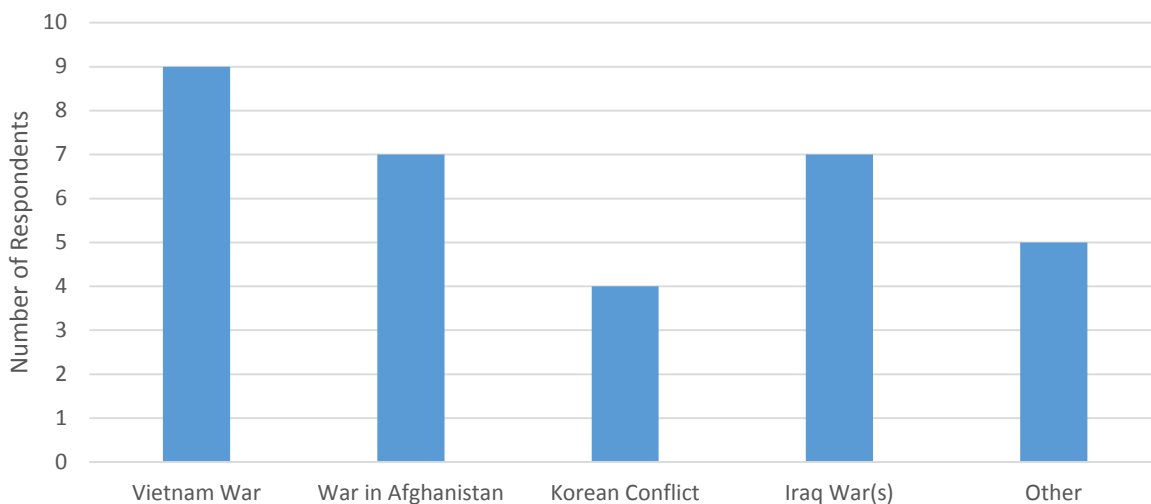


Figure 14: Areas Veterans Served

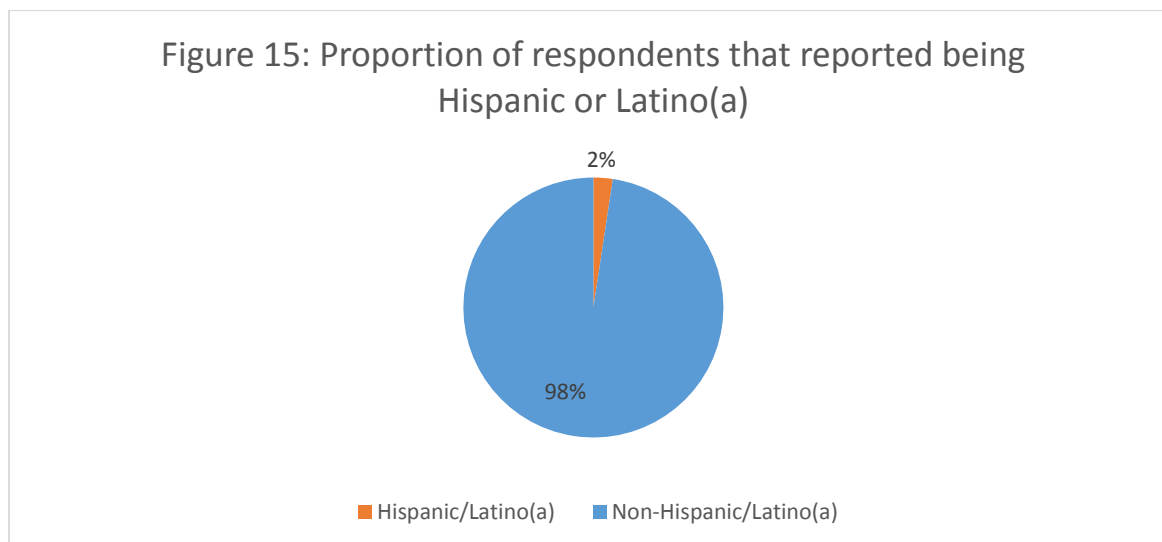




***Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino(a)?***

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

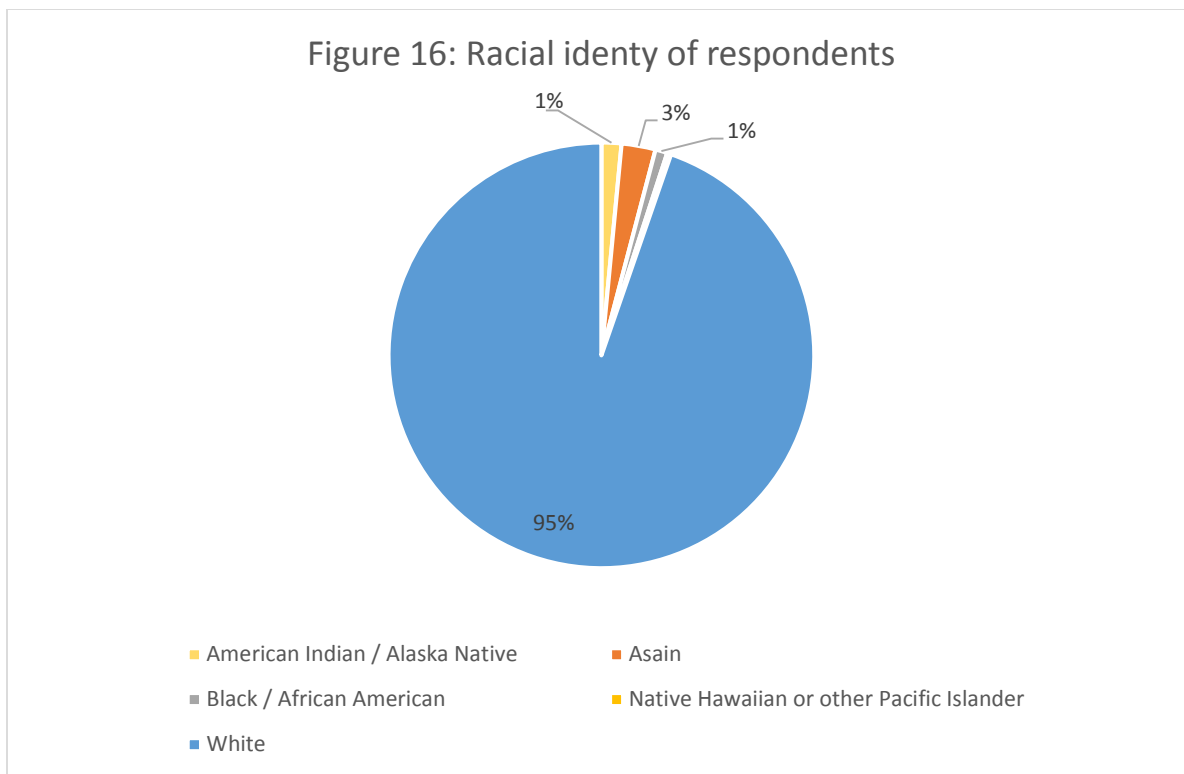
Respondents were asked if they considered themselves Hispanic or Latino(a). Of the 669 people who responded to the question, 16 (2%) identified as Hispanic or Latino(a). Figure 15 presents the proportion of respondents that identified as Hispanic or Latino(a).



***With which racial group do you most closely identify?***

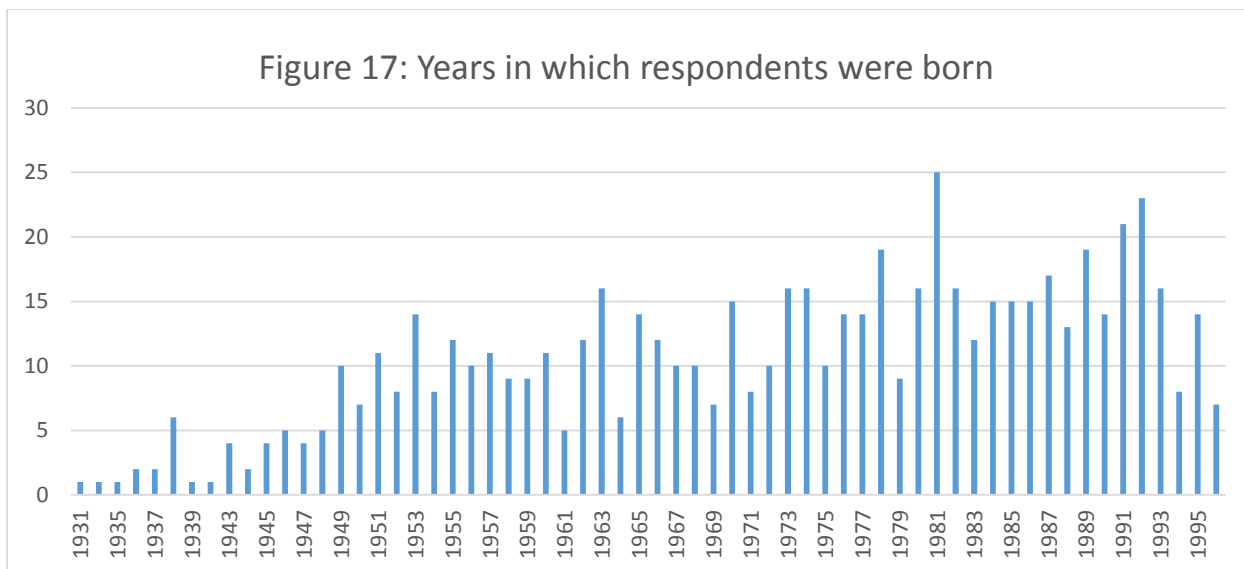
- American Indian/Alaska Native***  
 ***Asian***  
 ***Black/African American***  
 ***Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander***  
 ***White***

Respondents were asked which racial group they most closely identified, and 95% identified as “white.” “Asian” (3%) was the next most common racial groups respondents identified as, followed by “American Indian/Alaska Native” (1%) and “Black/African American” (1%). Figure 16 presents the proportions of races that respondents most closely identified.



***In what year were you born?*** \_\_\_\_\_

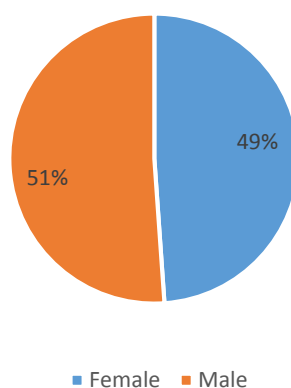
Figure 17 presents the wide distribution of ages that recreate in the CWM.



**What is your sex:**  Male  Female

The proportion of males (51%) and females (49%) that recreate in the CWM is very close to equal (Figure 18).

Figure 18: Proportion of male and female respondents

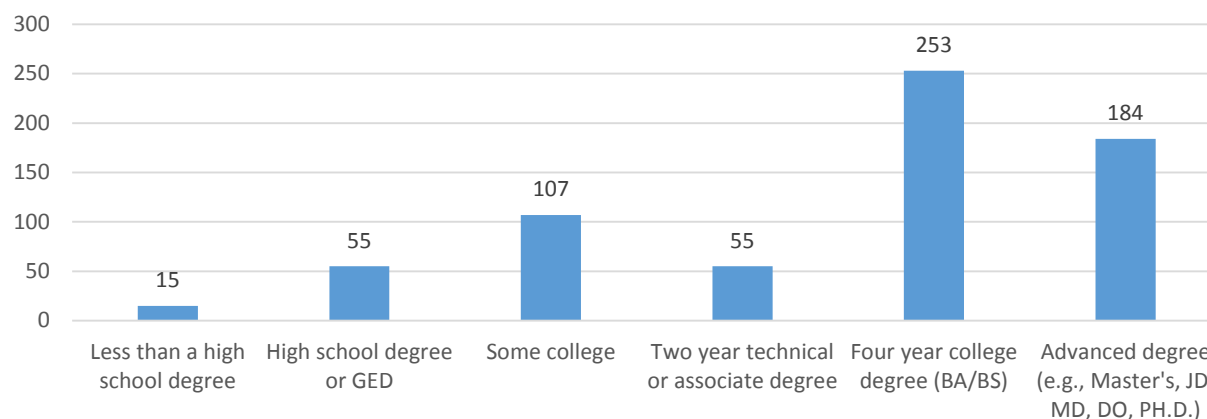


**What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?**

- 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 (37.8%) or an advanced degree (27.5%). Figure 19 presents the respondents highest level of formal education.

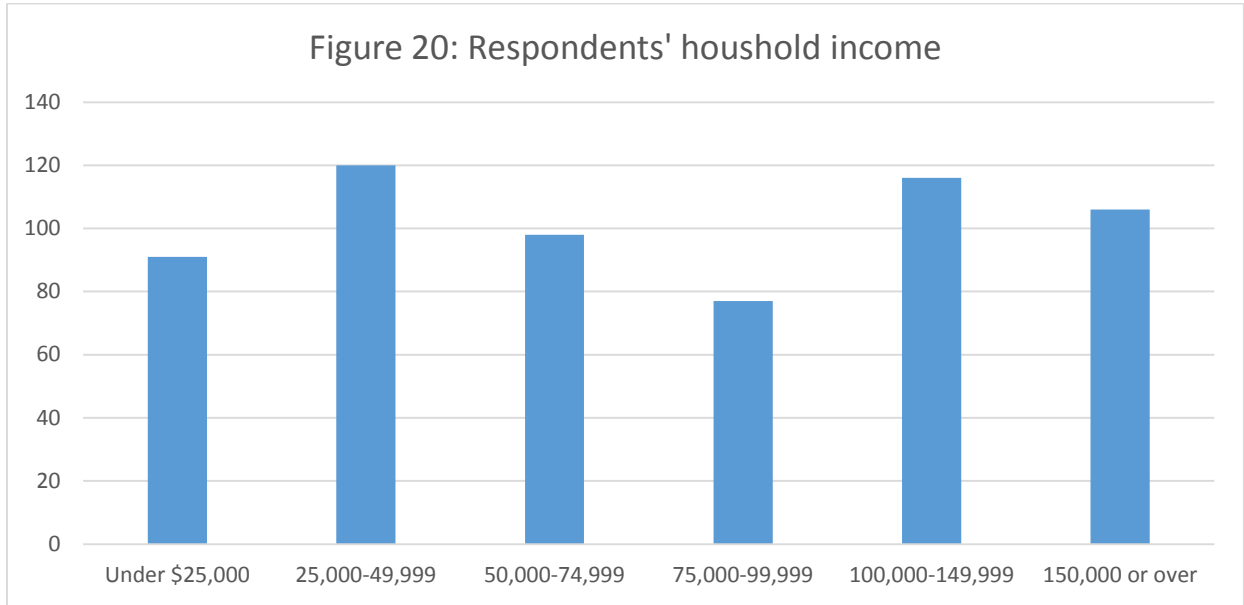
Figure 19: Respondents' highest level of formal education



**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

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?***

Make more trails accessible to bikes.

Add access fees to Big & Little Cottonwood Canyons, similar to Mill Creek. This would reduce traffic to those that really want to enjoy the canyons, not just drive through.

Less dogs/pets and trash

Enforce regulations better because the area is heavily used. There is a lot of litter and dogs of leash.

Enforce regulations better.

Don't fence things off so much

Charge lighter fees for more development on the trails to keep people from wondering

Clear out some of the broken/dead trees and burn or make mulch out of it. Better trail signs and mileage markers

Need better trail maintenance and better trail signage (mileage and directions).

On and off days for all trail: bikers and hikers

Stop selling land to developers. I come here to get away from it all, not to have houses in the background of my pictures.

Better parking management--spread out traffic over more sites via development and advertising.

No Skilink!!!

Dogs off of leashes feels dangerous. Should be able to pay with a card, not just cash and the Mill Creek fee station.

The management is good.

More dog access should be granted

Stop spraying chemtrails across the mountains.

Write tickets to the owners of dogs in the watershed!!! Increase fines for dogs in the watershed.

People with dogs have ruined outings several times.

Place markers to indicate mileage on the trail.

More garbage pickup.

Never use leaf blowers at any picnic or other sites--they are noisy and polluting. Where winter gate is closed there should be a posted speed limit of 10-15 mph for cars and bikes. Cars go 30 mph and bikes go 30-50 mph and it is very dangerous for pedestrians.

More signs that picnic tables are close by. We kept walking thinking we'll run into picnic tables and couldn't find any.

More control with the dog poo.

Increase mountain bike access. Preserve backcountry skiing (limit resort expansion)

No mining or drilling.

Stop charging so much just to enter an area. There are too many fees

More frequent trail markers.

Clean the restrooms more often.

More signs! I get lost sometimes. Besides that, nothing.

More signs and a little less litter.

Don't build any more buildings, ski lifts, or roads in the Wasatch--getting crowded. We need space for trails for people to enjoy.

Less road work

Could you pave the road up to Silver Lake?

Honestly, I have really enjoyed the changes and focus on developed trail areas, camp grounds, and litter control. I have noticed more signs as well at trail areas. Anything to make it easier for people to find and enjoy areas.

Enforce leash rule in Mill Creek. Provide more picnic parking in Mill Creek.

Dog off leash

Keep them clean/safe.

Change bikers' fees and regulate bikers.

Allow dogs to go more places. Being able to walk my dog off leash makes the walk much more enjoyable for both the dog and me. Make the trail signs more legible by highlighting the letters in white.

No development, please!

Fewer motorized vehicles

More restrictions on mountain bikes on hiking trails. Too many, not all, of them are disrespectful & not team player

Nothing. They do a GREAT JOB.

More open space.

STOP SKI LINK

They do a great job.

More parking areas?

Let dogs in the watershed, maybe just certain days or certain hours. I'm very limited where I can take my pup. I don't like hiking without here so it limits me.

Educate people on respecting nature.

Can't think of anything!

Thank you so much for keeping this area so nice and beautiful

No Helicopters

More dog friendly where possible.

Stop entertaining development proposals - leave it alone! - Stop removing difficult sections of trails

Better picnic site maintenance.

Protect/use areas

They are doing good.

Better Maintenance or better markings on trails. Some are hard to find while hiking.



Require Alta to allow Snowboarders

Make Little and Big Cottonwood NOT watershed

Clean up the trash! I leave none, others should be aware too.

Charge visitors extra if they have dogs in Millcreek Canyon. Dog people should pay extra to cover dog costs. - Limit number of dogs that can come (2 dogs per person). - Have a day where no dogs are allowed per week. - Mountain bikers should yield to hikers and they pose threats to hikers. Bikers are too aggressive

Stop "Ski Link"

Keep it wild

Dogs off leash

Stricter on people building fires and people that do not pick up their pet feces.

Nothing, I think they are doing very good job as it is.

More trails

Allow dogs to be in the car when driving through and just give a massive fine if they are spotted outside of the car.

Have drink stands / beer

Have some trails & hikes for dogs (Not anywhere near watershed areas.)

Preservation and prohibition of future development please.

More accessible information about rules & regulations

Stop development!

Decrease development in cottonwood canyons

Educate local police on policies better. Last summer I had an issue with my friend's service dog being told we can't hike Doughnut Falls with the dog. The cop wrote us a ticket but called us when he found out he was wrong.

Enforce the rules equally with everyone no matter how much you make

No powderbirds. More trail for better dispersal.

Have some trails that don't allow mountain bikes.

Ask people to clean up doggy bags

Allow for more dog-friendly off leash areas.

More dog areas

Patrol the "no dogs allowed" rule better. I see dogs on the trail all the time

Traffic control on ski days. Traffic in canyon

Less is more, we love this land & will manage it & maintain it because we love it.

Doing good job

Put trail maps in a protected (plastic covered?) post at the trailhead

Educate people on using the land responsibly

Improve trails in some areas

Offer even more single-track areas to recreate in.

Try to balance the demand, which is increasing, with the quality of the experience. Concentrate certain uses in specific areas.

Allow more permits for guiding companies. More public picnic areas in Uinta Mountains, not just private camping areas.

Possibly alternate days for hikers and bikers on busy trails like Spiro.

Keep trails improved

More trails that bikes can't go on for old dogs

Allow dogs in the rest of the Wasatch. - Enforce the rules for motorized use, including heliskiing. - No resort expansion or new lifts

More space on roads for runners/walkers. Close winter gates once or twice per week.

Better road space for walkers & runners close winter gate some days a week for bikes and runners.

Pretty great signage & trail maintenance.

More maps

More maintenance of over-grown trails

Tighter enforcement of dog leash days in Millcreek

Keep them undeveloped

Love what you do! Thank you

You are doing great

No extra chair lifts

Separate/segregate mountain bikers from hikers. Keep everything casual - i.e. no leash laws

Better manage traffic in the Cottonwoods

Do not let the ski areas build more lifts! (Ski-link!) Save what we have! Take care of it - more taxes are ok.

More trails

Keep developers out

Mile markers

Mile Markers Please!

Allow dogs in BCC & LCC

Have water in campgrounds. Reduce the price of use.

Have the use of running water in camping areas, and recreation areas

Drinking fountains

More trash cans, more drinking water

Garbage cans and dog bags.

More pet access

Better lobbying against Republicans

Bikers need to yield as posted

Enforce littering fines in Uintas at lakes

Prevent major ski resort expansion. Include bicycles in wilderness areas and preserve habitat for hunting and fishing.

Please stop managing wilderness--including wildlife. Start managing humans. It's so disappointing to see the destruction people inflict on wild areas. In order for those areas to stay that way, people need to stop over-managing and let the plants and animals do their natural thing.

You do a great job!

Don't restrict our dogs in this area.

Keep up the good work

Good job

Stop ski resort expansion

Less tickets for dog owners. Non-bike traffic trails should be open for off leash every day.

Better and more parking

Let dogs up more canyons

I like what they are doing.

Less bikes

Wider roads

Restrooms at trailheads. Better trail marking.

Do not connect all of the resorts. Provide more group transportation.

Keep it clean

I'd like to see the mountains remain natural. It was disappointing to see housing development while on my hike.

Trail maps or information to be more easily accessible. I know there are more trails I just don't know where they are.

Mark Bell's Canyon better.

I think there're doing great! Just don't try to develop some of the underdeveloped areas. It's nice to have both.

Nothing, everything was beautiful.

Keep on keeping on. I love the mountains!

No dogs, no guns on public parcels of land.

More parking.

Trim trail.

Better bike paths going up canyon.

More bathrooms

Open up gates during the winter (at the trails)

No graffiti

Need to educate children on the importance of the Wasatch National Forest. Balance users.

Trail improvements

Doing great

More balance. People get ticketed for trespassing private land to access popular national forest destinations, people get ticketed for swimming in the river yet Alta/Snowbird continue to develop, expand with little regulations or checks and balances. Snowmobilers and ATVs continue to disregard watershed areas and yet the forest service does.

More maps. More off-leash dog areas (in nature as opposed to dog parks).

Tent only campgrounds! More hiking only trails. Better education on mountain biking vs. hiking.

I believe hikers get right-of-way!

Get more money to protect the mountains.

Easier to fuel trails

I would ask them to keep making trails.

I think they are managed perfectly

Let us swim!

Have more organized info about where you can and can't hunt

911 call better response time - my friend died in this canyon 5 weeks ago when I was with her. Took them an hour to get here.

Fix Temple Quarry bike trail

Fix Temple Quarry

Fix Temple Quarry bike trail

Keep them safer for women

I don't think I know enough to give helpful feedback

Keep more open space. Protect animals that should live here. Continue to provide places where people can communicate with nature and enjoy having their pets with them off leash

No more helicopter skiing or resort expansion please!

Make more trails

Keep development to a minimum

Show environmentally friendly areas for trail building

Protect from development

Develop more trails in upper Millcreek. Put one from overflow lots to big water

Expand ownership / conservation of more forest land / expand efforts to protect established forest land.

Make sure they stay minimally developed. -increase road biking access/lanes. -keep out commercial development. -any homes/structures adjacent to national forest must pay a wildfire tax

Fewer dogs or none at all!!!

Let dogs up Big/Little Cottonwood Canyon or open some trails to allow dogs

The toilet was visited and had toilet paper - Thank you! They do a great job. I have no advice.

Make Alta and Deer Valley allow snowboarders!

Better trash control. Better signs - I feel like someone who has lived in UT their entire lives put up the signs so they are either inadequate for information or point to things too late.

It's beautiful up here!

You do a great job.

They do a good job. Keep it up.

Are you going to let the marsh grow into Silver Lake? -Try to protect the large-old-growth trees from the beetles.

More camping without pavement. Fewer rules

Artificial lures only for fishing.

Keep up picnic areas, more access for disabled so they can experience the "whole" panorama, and access around lake so they can also enjoy what may be lost since disability.

No ski link!!! Need to be more aware of wildlife and endangered species like boreal frog.

Please protect the Central Wasatch from any future expansion or development. Make improvements to existing trails and structures as needed.

No more development! Less traffic.

Allow easier access to commercial/non-profit permits for companies and organizations.

I think it is great the way it is.

Limit development, create new trails. Do not charge for access or trail use.

Charge use fees either a general tag for the whole area or for each canyon. Don't allow cars in the canyons but establish a transit service.

No Skilink

Improve mountain bike trails. Save the backcountry skiing from evil doers. Protect watershed.

Balance priorities between use and users

Open as much as possible to as many uses as possible. Designate areas for UTV/ATV or other activities that are disruptive. LOVE to ski and showshoe.

Put the Lark Mary trail back by the creek.

More Restrooms.

Minimize motor vehicles. No rifle hunting.

Better maintained trails

Limit usage of such vehicles as snowmobiles and ATVs

Keep trails open.

No Skilink!

You do excellent!

Nothing, everything was great. I love that I could bring my dog!

Not right now

Allow more opportunities for dogs or help create specific user friendly areas besides Millcreek.

As a past employee, they do a great job with the lack of funding they have to work with.

Keep trails open

Please do what you can to keep nature undeveloped and not overly crowded, yet well cared for.

Keep things wild. Keep things free. Relaxed laws on policing. Let people be stewards of the land. Keep "Big Brother" behind the scenes as a silent partner. People come to the mountains to relax and de-compress. I've seen harassment & entrapment by our police. We don't need police crawling through the brush with night vision goggles spying on the activities of campers.

Better trail markings

Dog friendly climbing

No allow skilink. More public transportation during summer.

Please keep it protected, minimize development, and maximize trails for non-motorized use.

Eliminate human powered vehicles especially heli-ski operation. Do no permit any further expansion of ski areas.

More roadside parking to spread out users. **NO MORE SKI AREA EXPANSION!!!**



Keep them the way they are, please!

Signs & maps on trails.

Make pathways more clear

Stop pushing paper & get into the field.

No toll up Millcreek

Keep fighting the developers and fools and keep this jewel the treasure it is for all who know it.

Increase law enforcement presence to encourage less trash & misuse.

Less development, more wild

Further restriction of motorized vehicles to the public lands. Improved public transportation to the canyons and Park City area.

Charge for parking when less than 3 people are in the car at ski resorts in winter.

Charge for parking at ski resorts for vehicles with < 3 people (Like Jackson Hole) - No silly developments across the Wasatch crest

Possession of firearms for personal protection. No one uses them on their lands for protection but the right to have one in my possession should not be infringed upon. Regulating agencies care more about protecting wolves or bears that might endanger my children then they care about the lives of my children.

Allow dogs in wilderness watershed areas

Would not change anything

How often do you go up the trails to clear fallen trees?

Please provide water at the campsites

Make them paid for by federal taxes so that everyone--even people hated by Republicans--can enjoy them. Keep bikers off trails. Garbage service. Bus service--keep all other cars out of the canyons.

Limit dogs in Mill Creek--charge fee for each dog.

I'd ask them to allow dogs off leash on odd days in the winter past the gate that is closed.

More parking areas

I like what they do

Keep up the good work

Keep doing what you are doing! Thank you!

Give our lands back to the state. Locally we can manage our lands better than the federal government agencies, and maintain liberty and wealth by eliminating corruption and waste.

Less rocky trails

Charge a small fee that could be used for trail improvements and facilities.

More clearly marked trails from main roadway--Temple Quarry took us a bit to find (we just lucked into it).

In BCC install separate bike/run path to keep pedestrians off the streets--like in Moab.

Ensure continued and increased access for mountain bikes.

Better trail markers and access. More integrated topo maps.

Clean the restrooms on a regular basis at the Desolation trailhead. Re-vegetate and enhance the areas overused by picnic groups and families in Mill Creek Canyon.

Enable climbing access

Trains or shuttle system like Zion canyon in the cottonwoods

Beer at summit

Keep it clean and peaceful

Maintain nature. Mark trails and maps

Dogs

Don't allow HELI SKIING!!!!

Don't sell off recreation areas.

No ski link

I think it is managed well. It's just unfortunate when people write on signs or don't know how to respect the land.

Put more markers on trails.

Pretty happy with the way things are, we met two rangers who were very nice and informative on the Desolation trail

Give me a job at the camp site

More wilderness stop development

Cut back on vegetation growing over the trail & block off side trails

Encourage more LNT Education!

Legalize the herb in Utah. Skilink is a bad idea.

Make people control their dogs.

Maybe better signs, it was hard to get to.

Nothing

The trail between Red Pine & Tanners Flat should've never been closed & ruined. When the Little Cottonwood Canyon closed congressionally that was ridiculous.

Let Alta do what they want to do! Manage as they will.

Continue to advocate for multiple use - limit development & regard smart decisions for a sustainable future.

Do more. Keep up the good work!

Allow to drive through the watershed with a dog in the car. We like to cut through the Heber area and don't like to loop around. We don't know the damage a dog can do if it never gets out of the car.

Thanks for maintaining trails. Dog areas are important! More dog areas the better!

More mt bike and hiking trails

What is currently being done is great!

More mountain bike trail access

Add modern bathrooms up BCC at the park and ride

Prohibit any more development in Alta or any areas being considered. No Skilink or linking resorts together.

None, keep it up!

Less regulation

No Skilink!

One-way trails.

A place to get trail maps, maybe?

Try to enforce people staying on the trails in order to prevent unnecessary erosion.

Enforce speed limits on cars on the roads.

Open the roads earlier. Allow snowmobiling. Alta allow Snowboards.

More mountain bike trails. Change right of way so hikers yield to bikers.

Additional funding is needed for facility improvement.

Lower the taxes on the cabins in Mill Creek Canyon along with user fees

Just keep people informed on safety and wildlife education.

Stay Based

Let us swim in the lakes. Protected watersheds that doesn't allow us to swim is a nuisance and seems unnecessary.

Give me more trails.

I am not happy with all of the graffiti. It saddens me that people are so unkind and ruin our mountains' natural beauty.

I think they do a good job

Keep development out, i.e., ski resort expansion, HELI skiing, etc.

Do NOT give in on Protection of Existing protected areas and all wilderness protections whenever possible. - Provide Dog Trails. At present only Millcreek is reasonably available.

Teach.

Make nicer trails and put up trail signs so its easy to find climbing trails.

Dogs on leashes

Limit access. No more ski resorts. Lift areas are already used up.

Keep more open space for recreation!

Bring the Interconnect between the ski resorts. Place fee booths on every canyon. In non-wilderness areas build more mt bike trails.

Keep up the good work.

Consider tolls in popular areas

Nothing, everything is good.

More markings before trailheads and pull-outs. We missed like three because we didn't see them until we had passed.

I'm not here enough to know

Have poo bags with people with dogs

Allow more access for educational organizations by making it easier to obtain permits. The process is extremely frustrating and not consistent with other agencies.

Keep up the good work!

Keep it as is.

Have a bike path up Millcreek.

I believe the US Forest Service does an awesome job in it management and maintenance of the areas.

Make sure to preserve the plants and animals

I'm happy with what I feel Utah has.

They are doing an outstanding job.

More water spigots at campsites.

Local control

No Skilink!

You have done a great job up here!

Stop building

Stay current--markers and plaques are hard to read.

Trim the trails, parts of them are overgrown

Mount Olympus summit needs trail markers at the top. Ask county search and rescue. Crowds? Need fees but not too steep to discourage us

More current map of local TH Area(s)

Make people clean up after themselves & their dogs!

Enforce leash laws, and prevent Skilink

Nothing, nature should be left alone with just a little help to keep it clean.

Keep up on regulations to manage growing crowds to protect our natural resources.

Biking (mc) too much / not enough regulation

Preserve the way it is. Protect water

Leave local experts to maintain and care for these canyons (Wasatch).

Doing great!

Handicap accommodations. Dog accommodations.

BCC is kept really nice.

Change traffic planning in cottonwood canyons. The greater valley is growing and need better planning for future. Charge similar to Jackson for parking

To organize cleanup crews to pick up trash and glass that is broken. I do it when I can, to protect more land.

I like the Central Wasatch today. I ask that any future development be well thought out and limited.

Keep over development of the Wasatch out.

Well managed for the amount of use it gets

Maps & more details

Sara maxwell 336-407-0228 lives at pine tree call for road signs. Serenity tax? No motorcycle after 9pm. Charging for recreational use up the canyon except for residents, more animal signs, pedestrian crossing & speed limit signs in high population - doughnut falls - where homes are

Manage mountain bikers better

No car (vehicle) days

I find my experience pretty good. It's a big mountain range and as Salt Lake becomes more popular, trail encounters will increase. I'm worried about air quality. Work on better, easier, faster, and more convenient public transportation.

Thanks!

Too complex a question to answer here

Put more trash cans out. Too many people litter in our beautiful mountains.

They do a great job.

More trails

## **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?***

Better signs/education to present problems

Change leash laws in Mill Creek (no dogs off leash allowed).

It is okay if the path is not paved

A lot more people are coming

Clean out stream beds of fallen trees and debris.

SkiLink is bad news!

Stop residential/commercial development. You're killing our mountains. They're becoming no longer beautiful.

Thanks!!

No "one Wasatch" ski lift system.

Continue to regulate dog access.

You are doing a good job. Thanks!

All bathrooms should be open for use even when the winter gate is closed--there are many people using the area, especially on weekends, to protect the watershed. We pay to use the canyon so the rangers (FS personnel) should attend to the restrooms.

It was great.

Keep up the great work.

It's a great place.

The Wasatch Crest Trail should alternate uphill vs. downhill traffic (similar to Mill Creek). Some days foot only and other days bikes only.

Good work!



Thanks for all those who keep our mountains a fun and enjoyable place to recreate.

Great area and a good place to ride

There should be better trails/wider shoulders for road bikers in the main Wasatch canyons. People don't see bikers and people die. This is a heavily used area for road bikers, and things need to be safer.

Make sure they stay clean and neat (trails) for other hikers and people who have a desire for other activities.

I'm satisfied with the rules to keep everything clean and pristine without crossing the line to strict head mistress rules for their own sake.

I know there is a lot to do and I know that water control and fire control are huge in Utah. I have liked a lot of what I have been seeing done lately. Anything to keep these areas clean, friendly, and available. I love Utah's recreation areas.

Have more management. Conservation corps to maintain trails. Educate users. Limit further development. Promote trail multi use for all. Not just developers.

Get a shuttle bus.

Please don't let developers ever move it. Keep it pristine. I don't mind paying for using Millcreek.

LESS is BETTER :-)

No more development. Thank you!

Forest Service does a great job!

Change survey format too long & uses lots of paper :-)

Love them. Keep them open to use.

No

Just pups.

Let wolves back to Utah.

Good work.

See above: leave it alone - it's been developed enough.

Better maps at the trailheads & info stops!

I love Millcreek Canyon. I live very close and enjoy its quick access. I am very pleased with my ability to bring my dog because he is also my motivation to walk.

Millcreek specifically - off leash dogs are a concern when I run and ski - they can get in my way & trip me especially when skiing down and could cause serious accident - plus pet owners need to clean up after their pets! (I do own a dog myself!)

It's the best!

I feel this was pretty well kept, no trash that I've seen

I see a lot of people with dogs in watershed areas.

Thank you we love our Utah Mountains!

Great survey! Kudos to Elliot.

Want to know what dog poop/urine is doing to water in Millcreek. -People are leaving their dog poop baggies along the trail and that shouldn't happen.

Leave it alone

Again, well managed and well maintained.

Protect as much land as possible!

Keep protecting the wilderness areas so we can continue to enjoy  
A few more sign posts would be helpful - particularly when false trails go off the side of the main.

Leave our mountains/forests in their natural state.

Thank you for gathering public interest.

As a mountain biker I share similar goals with many other outdoor enthusiasts. I appreciate wilderness areas but would also appreciate alternatives to full blown wilderness designation as this excludes me from many areas. Thank you!

Ban tele skiers

Could have a community take care of it.

No TV ads for use

Thank you so much for providing us the opportunity to enjoy these mountains.

Continue doing what they're doing. Maintain conditions & keep the trails open and maintained.

More protection; keep development in the valleys

Keep protecting!

This is a unique & precious resource - don't ruin it thru commercialism

Over populated

Make more trails.

Pattern to Millcreek regulations. But need to make people more aware. Watershed protection awareness.

Less environmentalists trying to close down areas.

Keep up the good work

Nothing more important than saving it

Very important to protect them

Please continue to protect and enhance the remaining wild, open spaces

Keep it undeveloped leave any remaining space for the animals, plants and solitude

We should all respect and take care of the mountain for the future generations.

I like the improvements they've made to Millcreek Canyon using the entrance fee. The odd/even bike days work great.

Thank you

Widen road for cyclists.

No more development.

Keep up the good work

I just hope environmental education increases in this world. People think they appreciate it, but they are sometimes the worst perpetrators when it comes to trashing a wilderness area or not educating themselves on important issues that affect the wild areas they attest to "loving."

Thanks!

i.e., nobody is biking Alexander Basin

I would love a bike lane or trail for road bikes. My husband nearly got hit today.

Great place!

No, please keep up the good work.

Thank you!

Nice job!

Keep up the good work

No more skiing

There were broken beer bottles up toward the lake. I'm worried a child might fall and hurt themselves.

I would like more places where I can bring my dogs and horses.

No One Wasatch.

Please email me.

Little to nothing. The forest service seems to have the best interest of resorts and politicians in mind and not the local population.

Lose the watershed

Protect wildland but have good service

Balance protection and economic health of areas.

Keep up the good work! Thanks for taking care of our lands.

No more lifts in the Wasatch

So grateful for the upkeep of the trails.

I'm so grateful for everything that has been done to preserve & protect wilderness here.

Leave it alone!

I just want the mountains to stay clean and healthy, and for the wildlife and areas to stay protected.

Well, despite that my father makes all his money developing mountain real estate, I would ask that harsher regulations be put forth.

No everything is great

Thank you for making it accessible to us locals and for maintaining it!

The one Wasatch plan seems useful, but we don't need it. People need to drive in and out of them

Canyons so they remember why we protect this wilderness area.

No more ski resort expansion. NO skilink.

Thanks. Enjoy the beauty.

Love nature and its beauty. If I could I would live here.

Keep doing what you are doing.

I would be disappointed if the backcountry skiing was reduced because of resort expansion and/or some kind of ski kink. I also think Snowbird should not be allowed to run a rollercoaster in the Wasatch.

Add bridges across creek crossing for trails.

Keep development out

Thank you!

The governor is an ass hole!

Please keep our lands public!

No! :)

Not now

Make it possible for ticket violation money and other user fees to actually go back into our forest, not the federal budget. Millcreek is the only one that has its funding go back into that canyon.

Little and Big have to rely on the national budget.

Keep up the good work

Educational programs developed. For "Anti-Pollution" Give a Hoot Don't Pollute"

It's a big plus for SLC to have this so close to downtown. I'd like to see more public transportation - possibly explore closing it to cars in the winter to improve air quality.

More enforcement of dog restrictions and better signage about dog restrictions.

No motorized vehicles on trails

Stop so much development, save the backcountry

Keep the Land Public! Resorts currently here are plentiful and further development is unnecessary and undesirable!

Better transportation infrastructure during peak seasons such as in winter.

Keep it wild, expand wilderness areas if possible. Limit or stop ski resort expansion.

Continue to keep motorized traffic off of trails. They are ruining the southern Wasatch.

Less rocky trails

Thanks!

People are dirtier than dogs, so we should allow dogs on leashes. Thanks!

More forethought in meeting/balancing long term recreational goals.

Great service project

Keep it protected

Please continue to protect nature areas and balance recreational use

Allow dogs

Keep this area the way it is.

I would like to see bike lanes put in on the main roads of the canyons.

Keep snowboards & bikes out of Alta :-)!

One Wasatch is a very bad idea!

I love it!

More protection, less development. Buy land & save it.

Impressed by how well cared for forests/picnic area campsites are

Please protect forests. Please curtail mass development. Mtn bike trails are good. Please don't allow ski link!

Continue to allow dogs on trails off leash

A few more signs to show the correct trail.

Why is having dogs in a watershed a problem?

No more lifts or impacts on backcountry skiing areas

Pro climbers clubs. Less granite quarry. Clean trash from ski hills.

It concerns me that by the time Little Cottonwood River meets the city the stream bed is dry. Meaning that water never reaches the Great Salt Lake, which is a great contributing factor to the Great Salt Lake drying up.

It saddens me to see Lisa Falls deteriorating more and more each year.

Love them. Let's take care of them

The importance of keeping this area wild is felt and I hope it continues to be a protected pristine area

The fee system has measurably improved Millcreek Canyon. I endorse it.

Keep it Green.

Keep up the good work.

Pro interconnect

Mildly concerned about Vail being in town and PCMR being taken over. I feel most jobs should remain stable and recreation be minimally affected.

We're glad the firefighters are close and available. The UCC folks were very friendly.

I love the repaved parts. SO nice!

Pave pull-outs for motorcycles on Highway 65

The Wasatch Mountains are one of my favorite places on earth. I have grown up recreating in them and plan on continuing doing so for the rest of my life. Save our Canyons and Fuck Skilink!

Provide more educational opportunities for children. Get low-income kids out here to experience the beauty and tranquility.

Thanks for all you do!

No Skilink!

Thanks

Love the snow.

For a first time experience it was fantastic!

Keep up the good work!

Wasatch should be left as is now. No destruction for building more corporations.



Thank you for what you do.

Do not let the state take over federal lands in Utah they will sell it off for oil. No interconnected ski resorts. Space is limited, land is precious, it's a destructive marketing gig. We don't want it.

Thank you for your sacred caring and love for nature.

Keep LOCAL users input in mind as well as national and tourists. Keep in mind impacts of future development and still leave plentiful area to escape any development.

The big mall on the top of Hidden Peak Alta/Snowbird is a terrible idea.

I like that heli skiing though I will never go.

It is great.

Thanks for your service in protecting mamma earth.

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

Friendly

Passive

People were nice

They were all friendly.

Smile and friendly

Nice. Stepped aside. Said "hello."

Great folks

They were nice

Safety

Very nice

Very friendly

Everyone was friendly.

Cordial

People were friendly

Pleasant people. Wished me a good hike.

He was doing same thing I was doing

Enjoy talking to others

Just fun to see other people.

Riding together

Friendly, happy, polite

Respectful of bikers on the road

They had this awesome survey

They are always in a good mood

Enough people to feel safe hiking alone, but not so many people to be crowded or disturbing.

Good conversation

Social interaction

It's good to see other people on the trails

They were all positive

Safety

Trail maintenance is better with a certain threshold number of people

Positive attitude, friendly conversation

Good to know other enjoy it as much as me

Everyone was pleasant, but didn't enhance the experience

Pleasant

Kind and friendly

Friendly

Friendly

Nice and friendly people

They were polite.

It was nice to see other people enjoying the same thing.

Friendly

Friendly

Very friendly conversation

We pay for it, we all use it.

We all love nature, relaxing, and fun.

They were friendly

Chit chat

Always great to see others on the trail.

Friendly, enjoy nature

They were nice people

Good to see other people enjoying the same things.

People are usually friendly on this trail.

They are friendly, provide tips about the area

Friendly

Social

Very friendly & encouraging

Usually very friendly interactions.

Not a lot of people out, which is nice.

Friendly passing.

Friendly "hellos"

Good to see someone on the trail...

Other hikers don't venture more than 3 miles from the trailhead. I saw no one for most of my 12 mile hike/run.

Nobody on the trail.

Friendly

Lots of people using the resource. Exercise.

They also had a black lab puppy

Companionship, however brief

More people = more protection from development and privatization.

Nice people

Friendly

Friendly

Chatted with them

Lovely and polite people with respect to nature

They were motivating

Cute dogs

I like Laura

Fellow climbers

Friendly and engaging conversation.

Smiled

Friendly

I like seeing hikers

Friendly

Nice people

Enjoying nature

Did not matter

Local knowledge

They were friendly

Polite helpful

Polite

Super nice

Happy, friendly

Sociability & dogs

Friendly

Friendly

Bumped into friends from my neighborhood

Friendly

Friendly, nice conversation

Friendly

Rather have less bikers

Seeing children out here

Friendly

People offered to help fix my flat; general friendliness

Glad to see others using the mountains.

Two of them, yes, fun, happy, and not shy.

Told us where to turn off

Good and happy.

Were nice

Happiness

Giving hiking directions & encouragement

Friendly

Nice

Make it more enjoyable, nice to talk to

Care about environment

Friendly, gave directions

Chatting, this interview

Something to talk about

Friendly

Being friendly

Friendly greetings, smiles, friendly conversation

Friendly & encouraging

Friendly, similar interest in nature

Friendly

Climbing helpers

Friendly

"Good morning" and smiles

Friendly, helpful

Said hello!

Friendly and Engaging

Folks are friendly

Very friendly and supportive

Friendly contact

Friendly. Seeing others enjoying the outdoors makes it more fun.

Good conversations.

Nice, gave us bug spray, friendly, talkative

Kindness

They were pleasant to talk to.

Said hello

Friendly with cute dogs

They were really cool

I knew some from where I live

Just nice to talk to people occasionally.

Super friendly--all climbers

Courteous and did not play music.

Friendly, social, polite, share trail

People offered to help with bike flat

Nice, conversation

Friendly

There weren't many people.

Trail wasn't over-run

Said "hello." moved over and they were friendly.

Happy people

Friendly and knowledgeable about the area.

Smiling faces

They were friendly and helpful.

Very encouraging.

They helped us by giving directions.

They were nice and helped out.

Nice conversation

They gave us directions, and they were friendly.

Friendly

Helped with directions, nice to have been so few people, felt like we had the canyon to ourselves.

Directions, Greetings.

Very cordial

Talking about trail moose.

Happy and friendly

Friendly--great to see families bringing kids.

It was fun to spend time with them.

Spent time with my son and taught him about climbing.

Love it when I see no one but people were very nice.

Busy, but nice people

Pleasant greeting

Friendly visited talked about the rain we're walking in today

It's nice to know others enjoy the forest too

Friendly



Good Conversation

Good to see people enjoying the outdoors

Indifferent

More people experience it

Friendliness, dogs played

Polite chat

They are all happy

More homies to climb with

Had an extra pad

Very friendly

She knew the trail better than I did.

Makes us feel safe as women

Everyone is friendly

Pleasant exchange of greetings

Friendly

They smiled

Saying hello, and shared info about the trail

Kind, respectful, friendly

Just overall friendly

Friends of mine

I like people

Privacy with so few people

Talked about common climbs and upcoming trips

Shared conversation and bug repellent.

Love seeing people enjoying the wildlands.

Just greeting

Friendly.

Smiled, said hi, interacted w/ our dogs

I feel that most people that are out here are here for the same reason that I am here for.

They were nice people.

Good to see others enjoying the trails.

Nice to see kids out hiking

Great to see people getting active.

It was nice seeing people in nature enjoying themselves.

Some friendly, some not

Ok to be expected

Smiles

Everyone smiled & was friendly

Saw others out exercising

Good vibes, good attitudes

Friendly atmosphere, feel safe

Friendly

Positive attitudes

Friendly

Nice friendly people

Nice talking, sharing our enjoyment

Happy and nice

Use of trails

Just nice to see people out exercising

Friendly, nice people

Because I thought I was the only one up there.

Friendly interactions

Nice people

Nice people

No difference

Saying "hello"

Little kid with cool overalls

Nice friendly

Helped my lads climb

Good to see friendly faces

Very friendly

Very nice

Nice enough

It's awesome that people get out, but the quieter the better.

Too many would detract

Good to talk with people with like/interests

Friendly

Said hello. Positive interaction. Dogs were playful

Friendly

Friendly

Pleasant

People are happy to be out hiking

Nice to talk to

Friends

Nice people (cute girl) friendly dogs

I like people

Respect the trail

Park Police was good at giving directions

A friendly hello - always nice

Nice

Nice to see other mountain bikers

They are exercising! :)

I still prefer solitude

Kind, respectful

Friendly

Friendly

All people come up here are usually very spiritual and kind

Pleasant

I like seeing people out exercising

I like seeing people on the trail my husband hates it

Most have dogs which I like to pet

I enjoy seeing people appreciate the mountains

Very friendly

People are friendly & nice also the dogs

Feeling of safety

We talked about the trail and Utah - very nice people

Nice to see others

Pleasant hellos on the trail

It is cool seeing other people enjoy nature.

Nice people - hikers that I spoke with

Nice people

I come here for quiet

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

#### Appendix #: Negative comments sorted by location

Location	Comments
Temple Quarry Trail	The fewer people I see up here the more I like it.
Lisa Falls	I like solitude
Albion Base of Alta Ski Area	Left trash and were loud
	Sometimes they scream and pick wildflowers, or go off trail.
Grizzly Gulch	Seeking isolation - seeing others is negative.
Bell's Canyon/Lightning Ridge	Crowd the trail while I run, too slow
	Crowded
	I like feeling like I'm the only one on the trail.
	Just crowded.
	Too many on this trail lately
Butler Fork	I prefer solitude, poor trail etiquette.
	Minimally
	Poor trail etiquette
	They were loud
Cardiff Fork/Mill D South/Donut Falls	Smoking on trails, littering
	Very crowded
Guardsman's Pass/Crest Trailhead	I love everyone is out, I liked it more when fewer people
Big/Little Water	Roads were crowded
	Too many
Mill Creek Winter Gate	A lot of poo-bags from dogs.
	Bikers going too fast--30-50 MPH
	Bikers too fast
	Bikes buzz by too fast.
	Bikes speeding down road passing hikers too closely. Dogs off leash on odd day. Dog poop left on road/trail.
	Dogs off leashes, Cyclists passing dangerously
	I just want it all to myself.
	It wasn't crowded enough to interfere
	Mill Creek is too crowded.
	Rude road bikers, dog poop and trash
	Too many people

	Too much traffic. Bikers go too fast.
Church Fork	Although I like to come up when less people are likely to be around
	like solitude
	They were cute
Terraces/Desolation Trail	Traffic
	We couldn't park anywhere we wanted to.
	Yelling
Neffs Canyon TH	I like solitude. That being said, living in a major metropolitan area, the people I encountered were friendly & respectful of the area.
	I prefer sparsely populated trails
Great Western Trail	I prefer solitude.
Lamb's Canyon Entrance	Little crowded
Armstrong	Crowded
	I'm trying to get away when I am out here, not see other people.
	Smoker!
Rob's	But I have almost been run over by mountain bikes not giving way or alerting us
	Cyclists are getting more aware of hikers, but younger cyclists still can come barreling down the trail, unaware or uncaring of other trail users
	Mt bikers in the way--one guy came too fast.
	Mt bikers not slowing down
	They deserve to be here too
Glenwild	Hate when people don't respect the rules of the trail
Mill D North Fork Trail	Bikes need to slow down.
	I just like being alone.
	Two of them, no. Littered, wrote with side walk chalk on walls and hogged climbs.
	Writing on the climbing wall with chalk and leaving garbage.

## **Appendix E: Places and reasons respondents no longer visit**

More like, frequent less

Mill Creek less often because of restrictive dog and mt. bike rules, and Dog Lake isn't for dogs anymore.

American Fork Trails now allow motorcycles & have ruined the trail for cyclists

Corner canyon bikes are rude! :(

No weekends

Skiers from Canyons negatively affected areas along Millcreek Ridge (Upper Bear Trap, Desolation lake, Power Park, Willows) Do not Backcountry here anymore because of this

Trails along the front (trash). Boy Scouts destroy wilderness.

Some areas in LCC because people break-in to vehicles that are parked in pull-outs.

Bikers suck

I try to avoid downhill mountain bikers on my hikes

Horses and ATVs are a major turn off.

There's some gross trashy homeless camps in the foothills around SLC

I cannot hike in some places because of too many careless mountain bikers

Silver lake in the winter people are rude and snobbish

I avoid some trails that are heavily mountain biked

Lake Mary above Brighton, Upper Millcreek because of the quantity of people

Pason Canyon - I wanted to cry. The trash, litter was unbelievable! Seriously. Everywhere in campgrounds/fire pits/picnic sites, lake - polluted.

Alta Perimeter in winter too many helicopters & heli skiers

Millcreek canyon. Mountain bikers on several occasions almost ran me over or knocked me off the trail!

Just too crowded, all over

Sometimes trails can be very crowded and it can be deterring.

Any place with ATV's



Too many people & horses

I wish there were only tent sites in wilderness. I don't like generators.

Rock climbing areas crowded - storm mountain dogwood

We don't use Mill Creek for picnics due to crowds.

Big Cottonwood Canyon--Donut Fall Trail, Guardsman's Pass road/trail, and Mt Olympus.

Trail above the University of Utah Hospital that goes to City Creek. Too much hiker-mountain biker conflict, and too many people.

The old picnic area about half the way up Little Cottonwood. Vandalizers have painted the rocks--it's ugly.

Past the gate in the winter in Mill Creek Canyon because of heavy dog traffic and poop.

Mill Creek Canyon on the weekends is VERY busy.

Big Willow Little Willow--agro people.

Only negative is people who litter and don't clean up after or control their dogs and bikers with bad trail/road habits

Parts of Uintas and American Fork where there are a high number of ATVs and snowmobilers.

Millcreek on weekends

Mill Creek is getting very busy.

Parts of Mill Creek--too many dogs

Mary's Trail at Brighton.

Any area that allows groups or recreational vehicles.

The Cottonwood canyons because they don't allow dogs.

First hiking place on the left side in Beg Cottonwood. There are too many young people going there to drink.

Mueller Park

Mid mountain trail

Heavily visited areas or during busy hours campgrounds

Spruces Campground—campground hosts enforce bizarre rules such as no parking in campsites (extra cars) for more than 15 min. As far as I can tell this forces people to park on the roadside when parked

Just visit them differently

I just plan a little more so I avoid busy days.

Spray painters.

Big water trail--mt bikers; pipeline trail--Millcreek--mt bikers; big cottonwood canyon--me bikers.

Millcreek Canyon Picnic Area

City creek canyon - car broken into.

Too many cyclists and we hikers always have to stop and move off the trail to let them pass

Heavy bike use

Trails around the University of Utah. Too many hipsters who think "day hikes" count as hiking. They lack knowledge or wilderness courtesy.

Mill Creek on the weekends.

Mill Creek trails and picnic areas.

Alta, LCC is a Junk show. Put in better public transit & charge for parking!

Some sport climbing areas. Trad (traditional) climbers are more respectful of the out of doors--leave it cleaner when they leave.

Mid-mountain trail, pc - too many mountain bikers

Bells Canyon - Too many people

Busy climbing areas

Millcreek part the gate in winter can be frustrating. Also LCC auto traffic in winter.

Places where people have their dogs off leash.

Areas with ATVs and dirt bikes.

Lake Trail (over growth)

Too many mountain bikers on some trails to enjoy running. Ridge trail up BCC to Millcreek

Too many campers Albion Basin

Mountain bikes, Ridge Trail

Though there are places that we try to avoid. LCC & Millcreek both need restrict driving & better transportation.

Snake Creek / Backcountry skiers / Because of Helicopter

Millcreek, too crowded, no parking, needs a shuttle

We don't hike anywhere biking is permitted

I no longer go to picnic areas because I was telling people to clean up after themselves and we got into words.

Aggressive drive in upper Millcreek canyon from users with no respect detracts from going up there. LCC is difficult to get to in winter suggest better public transit and planning

Dogwood rock climbing area.

Mt. Olympus trail, on weekends most of the popular trailheads, e.g. White Pine, Spruces, Cardiff, Mill B

Don't attempt the top of Mill Creek--Dog Lake--because there's rarely parking and too much traffic up there.

Mill Creek Canyon. Irresponsible and disrespectful dog owners walk their dogs off leash on the days where leashes are required. Dog waste bags and litter on the trails.

Areas that my activities are not welcome. Not only is it disrespectful but I find when I encounter those types of people they are less friendly e.g., hikers of the age of 45.

But sometimes some wreck less bikers are unnerving

Too crowded areas like bike days in Mill Creek.

Upper Uintas in the winter because of snowmobiles. I don't go anywhere there are four-wheelers.

Storm mountain. Too many people. Dangerous climbers

Some trails because of too many dogs

Donut Falls - too busy

Corner Canyon. Too many mountain bikers going too fast.

If I don't have a dog - I avoid Millcreek - Also certain Mountain bike trails

It depends on day of the year not location

Timpanogos - WAY too crowded

Mill Creek Canyon--dog owners ignore leash rules, especially on "on-leash" days.

Millcreek hikes, too many dogs

Salt Lake Slips at Storm Mountain because there are many unsafe climbers.

Campgrounds because they are too crowded

Visit it less often only at low use times. Upper Millcreek

Stay away from Rainbow group and disappointed how many users leave such a trashy mess.

Alta ski resort, they don't give snowboarders the respect and public land they deserve. Deer Valley too

Corner canyon. Too many bikes!

Sometimes too crowded in summer / no parking

Too much development. Too much public land turning private.

Traffic in the cottonwoods

Mt. Olympus

Depends on dog, but for example avoid the Wasatch crest on weekends

Fuck those kids who spray paint the cool rocks

Many BCC & Mt Olympus trails too crowded, hard to park

Trash & snowmobiles, ATV's - Daniel's Summit Area

I have decreased my time using Neff's Canyon because of "dogwalkers" who have 5 or more dogs unleashed. This is a system of not enough places for dogs to go unleashed. We need more "dog parks"

I prefer weekdays; weekends are too busy everywhere these days

Millcreek - Dogs

I try not to hike during popular times of day in Millcreek due to crowds.

Some areas too busy on weekends

Mill Creek Canyon - dogs

Backcountry skiing in the upper Cardiff Fork, Days Fork, Silver Fork areas - far too many people, whether experienced or not, and far too many scary experiences due to sheer numbers and under-headedness.

Resorts - too crowded. Millcreek on weekend - too crowded.

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



## Appendix G: Survey Instrument

### Visitor

### Intercept Survey

### Salt Lake Ranger District

### Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

#### Surveyor Introduction:

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

#### To Be Completed by Surveyor:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: M Tu W Th F S Su

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Surveyor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surveyor's Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Yes  No (No = Refusal)

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

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

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

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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. Do you know if you are recreating today in a protected watershed?  Yes  No

If Yes, 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?

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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)

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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:

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Did they negatively affect your experience?  Yes  No

If Yes, in what ways? Please describe:

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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 affect your recreational experience?  Yes  No

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

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

- Personal Vehicle—How many people are in your vehicle today including you? \_\_\_\_\_
- 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?

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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)

If Yes, would you be willing to participate in a more detailed mail survey or e-mail survey? We are very interested in learning more about the recreational experiences of Hispanics on the National Forest.

Yes  No

If Yes, please provide the following information:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

(please write clearly)

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**