



SECTION 4: DEMAND AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Changes in population growth and changes in the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of residents and visitors need to be assessed before recreation management entities invest significant dollars in planning and developing future recreation facilities and opportunities. Since demand is a function of population and the availability of facilities and opportunities in the area, a demand analysis based on future recreation trends is always necessary. In accommodating an identified demand, the social, physical, facility, and environmental carrying capacities should not be exceeded. Identifying capacity limits will ensure that visitors are provided with a quality recreation experience when visiting the park areas within the county. Population dynamics were presented in “Section 1: Pend Oreille County” and carrying capacities of county park lands were discussed in “Section 3: The Pend Oreille County Park System”.

A demand analysis will guide decision-maker’s efforts to accommodate the many outdoor recreation demands that are being placed on the natural resources in Pend Oreille County. In the sections that follow, national recreation trends will first be explored followed by recreation trends in both the State of Washington and the State of Idaho. There is also a presentation of demographic information pertaining to recreation activities in Pend Oreille County which sheds additional light on parks and recreation activities.

And, of course, it is also important to consider the wishes and suggestions of county residents and visitors. In 2010, Seattle City Light surveyed residents and visitors in the north county region and published results in its Recreation Resource Study. A few of those results that pertain to general county parks and recreation planning are also presented in this section. The steps taken to obtain public opinion concerning parks and recreation in Pend Oreille County by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board were outlined in “Section 2: The Parks and Recreation Planning”. Results of two surveys distributed by the Pend Oreille County Parks and Recreation Board in the summer of 2013 are presented and analyzed in this section as well as results and comments collected at all four of the town hall meetings held in August of 2013.

NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS

FUTURE OF AMERICA’S FORESTS AND RANGELANDS: FOREST SERVICE 2010 RESOURCES PLANNING ACT ASSESSMENT www.fs.fed.us/research/rpa

The 2010 Resources Planning Act (RPA) Assessment published by the United States Forest Service summarizes findings about the status, trends, and projected future of forests, rangelands, wildlife and fish, biodiversity, water, outdoor recreation, wilderness, and urban forests, as well as the effects of climate change upon these resources. The following paragraphs are excerpts from this report. The different “RPA scenarios” mentioned in the paragraphs below are 1) high population growth (scenario A2); 2) low population growth (scenario B2) and 3) good economic growth (scenario A1B).

WILDLIFE AND FISH RECREATION

The American public derives substantial recreational value from the Nation’s wildlife and fish resources. Moreover, participation in recreational activities focused on wildlife and fish is associated with considerable contributions to local economies: hunters and anglers spent \$76.6 billion and wildlife viewers spent \$45.7 billion on equipment and trip-related expenditures in 2006.

Hunting

The total number of hunters grew from 1955 through the 1970s, slowly declined through 1996, and then declined more markedly during the past 10 years.

Fishing

In 2006, a total of 30 million individuals (13 percent of the U.S. population age 16 years and older) participated in recreational fishing and spent 517 million days on the water. Since 1991, the number of anglers has decreased by 16 percent, although the number of days spent fishing increased by 1 percent. Despite these substantial declines, fishing is more popular than hunting, with nearly 2.5 anglers for every hunter.

Wildlife Viewing

Surveys of participants in wildlife viewing began in 1980. The number of nonresidential wildlife viewers—individuals who watched wildlife more than 1 mile from home—declined by 8.1 percent between 1980 and 2006. The number of days devoted to nonresidential wildlife viewing has shown some variation from survey to survey, without a clear direction in trend. Days initially rose by a statistically significant 19 percent from 1996 to 2001, then declined slightly (5 percent) by 2006.

The most popular outdoor activity was viewing natural scenery.

Kayaking and snowboarding showed strong increases in participation between the mid-1990s and mid-2000s.

Conclusions

The economic and ecological effects of changing participation in wildlife and fish recreation are substantial, and understanding these changes is essential if resource managers are to adjust their management goals. The United States has a long history of wildlife and fish recreation, but these recreation patterns are currently shifting. Only 5.5 percent of Americans over the age of 16 currently hunt wildlife and 10 percent view wildlife away from home. Fishing is the most popular activity, with about 13 percent of the population participating in this activity. In the last couple of decades, the number of participants in these activities has shown a general pattern of decline.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor recreation resources are expected to decline on a per-person basis.

1. Outdoor recreation participation continues to grow, but activity choices are changing.
2. Outdoor recreation choices are strongly influenced by socioeconomic characteristics.
3. Future outdoor recreation participation will reflect the preferences of a changing U.S. population.
4. Growing recreation demand may be constrained by recreation resource availability.

Participation Trends

The number of U.S. participants in 50 nature-based outdoor recreation activities increased 7.1 percent between 2000 and 2009, and the number of activity days increased 40 percent (Cordell 2012). Outdoor recreation participation grew dramatically through the 1960s and 1980s. Traditional activities, such as fishing, maintained popularity. Activities such as camping, canoeing, kayaking, and bicycling grew rapidly, influenced partly by improving equipment technology. New activities appeared and there were few declines in participation. The most popular outdoor activity was viewing natural scenery. Activities oriented toward viewing and photographing nature have been among the fastest growing activities, both in terms of number of participants and days of participation. Off-highway vehicle driving realized a 34-percent increase in participants. Several physically challenging activities, such as kayaking, snowboarding, and surfing also had relatively large increases. Although there were increases in the number of participants for the majority of activities during the last decade, there were declines in several activities. Most of the traditional winter recreation activities, with the exception of snowboarding, experienced decreasing participation rates and days of activity.

Activities with decreasing participation rates also exhibited declines in the total number of activity days. In addition, several activities that had increased numbers of participants experienced a drop in total days of activity, indicating that the average number of days per participant declined. Examples included day hiking and horseback riding on trails (Cordell 2012). Kayaking and snowboarding showed strong increases in participation between the mid-1990s and mid-2000s, whereas cross-country skiing and, more recently, snowmobiling have been in decline.

RECREATION PARTICIPATION IN THE FUTURE

Visiting Developed Sites

The activities associated with developed site use include venues popular with all age groups. Per capita participation is currently high and is projected to remain relatively constant across all the RPA scenarios. Days per participant are projected to decline slightly. Incorporating climate variables resulted in consistently lower results, but the effect was quite small across all RPA scenario-climate combinations. Visiting interpretive sites is also popular across all ages and occurs primarily in developed settings. The projections indicate participation rates could increase 4 to 9 percent by 2060 across the RPA scenarios.

Viewing and Photographing Nature

This category includes birding and nature viewing, which adds viewing wildlife and nature, gathering, and nature study. Adult participation in birding averaged 35 percent in 2008. Nearly 81 percent of adults participated in the more broadly defined nature viewing during the same period. The participation rate for nature viewing was projected to increase by up to 4 percent to 2060, whereas the participation rate for birding could vary from a 4-percent decrease to an 8-percent increase.

Backcountry Activities

Backcountry activities are pursued in undeveloped but accessible lands. Challenge activities are often associated with young and affluent adults. The participation rate is projected to increase under all of the RPA scenarios.

Participation in equestrian or trail riding per capita is projected to increase between 2 and 19 percent by 2060 across RPA scenarios.

Participation in off-road driving is projected to stay about the same or decline slightly.

Hiking is the most popular single backcountry activity, with 33-percent adult participation in 2008. By 2060, the participation rate is projected to increase between 3 and 10 percent across RPA scenarios.

The final backcountry activity is visiting primitive areas. The participation rate is projected to decline between 1 and 9 percent across RPA scenarios. Increased population density and declines in wilderness, forest, and rangeland acres per capita appeared to influence the participation rate decline.

Motorized Activities

We considered three categories of motorized activities: off-road driving, motorized water use, and motorized snow use. Participation in off-road driving is projected to stay about the same or decline slightly. The decline can be attributed to lower projected income growth and a greater projected decline in private forest land and rangeland.

Motorized water use has the highest participation rate among motorized activities. The participation rate is expected to increase between 5 and 15 percent in some scenarios and decline under other scenarios.

Motorized snow use (snowmobiling) has one of the largest projected declines in participation rates across all activities. By 2060, rates are projected to decline between 13 and 72 percent.

Hunting and Fishing

The adult hunting participation rate is projected to decline between 22 and 35 percent across RPA scenarios by 2060. Increased education levels, increased population density, diminishing availability of private and public land, and strong negative relationships between growing minority populations and hunting appear to be influencing the decline in participation rate.

Fishing days per participant are projected to fall between 3 and 8 percent. The effect of climate on fishing participation rates was negative, but the effect on days per participant was not consistent across RPA scenarios.

Non-motorized Winter Activities

Developed skiing (including snowboarding) participation rates are projected to increase from 4 to 45 percent across RPA scenarios. Income growth is a strong driver in skiing participation, resulting in the largest increases in the RPA A1B scenario, whereas other scenarios show much more modest increases.

Undeveloped skiing includes cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. With the exception of RPA A1B with no climate effects, participation rates are projected to decline up to 63 percent.

Non-motorized Water Activities

This category consists of various kinds of outdoor swimming, including related activities like snorkeling, surfing, diving, and visiting beaches or watersides. Swimming is the fourth most popular outdoor activity, with a 61-percent adult participation rate.

Floating activities include canoeing, kayaking, and rafting. By 2060, the participation rate is projected to increase slightly without climate effects and to have no change or decrease when climate effects are included.

Conclusions

Public lands are crucial resources for nature-based outdoor recreation. Although the total land area owned by local governments is modest relative to State and Federal Governments, those lands are important for providing recreation opportunities in close proximity to where most of the population lives. The private sector also plays a significant role as both a provider and a facilitator of outdoor recreation opportunities, including as a partner with Federal and State agencies for the development and operation of concessions that supply visitor services.

The outlook for recreation resources is generally for declining opportunities per person. Assuming the public land base for outdoor recreation remains stable into the future; an increasing population will result in decreasing per-person opportunities for recreation across most of the United States. Although there are many other factors involved in recreation supply, it is likely that recreation resources will become less available as more people compete to use them. A major challenge for natural resource managers and planners will be to ensure that recreation opportunities remain viable and grow along with the population. This goal would more than likely be accomplished through management and site attribute inputs and plans, rather than through any major expansions or additions to the natural resource base for recreation. Choices in outdoor recreation activities have changed over time in response to changing preferences, demographics, and recreation opportunities. Overall, there has been growth in nature-based outdoor recreation participation since the last RPA Assessment, continuing a long-term trend.

At the same time, recreation visitation to State parks and Federal lands has not increased at similar rates, indicating that recreationists are also using other recreation resources. The change in recreation preferences at least partly reflects changing demographics in the American public.

The outlook for recreation resources is generally for declining opportunities per person.

As the population ages and becomes more racially and ethnically diverse, it is unclear whether current recreation opportunities will meet future needs. Based on the available data, we still project future growth for most recreation activities.

THE FIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES PROJECTED TO HAVE THE FASTEST GROWTH IN PARTICIPATION RATE ACROSS THE THREE RPA SCENARIOS ARE DEVELOPED SKIING, CHALLENGE ACTIVITIES, EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES, MOTORIZED WATER ACTIVITIES, AND DAY HIKING. IN CONTRAST, THE ACTIVITIES WITH THE LARGEST PROJECTED PARTICIPATION RATE DECLINES ARE MOTORIZED OFF-ROAD ACTIVITIES, MOTORIZED SNOW ACTIVITIES, HUNTING, FISHING, AND FLOATING ACTIVITIES.

Participation rate changes for the remaining activities will be marginal. Several of the activities with projected participation rate growth, such as developed skiing and equestrian activities, tend to require substantial financial commitments. This factor partially explains the low current participation rates and may limit growth in participant numbers depending on the distribution of future income growth.

Climate can affect individual willingness to participate in recreation activities and/or affect recreation resource availability and quality. The climate variables used in the recreation models were limited to those coming directly from the RPA climate projections, or variables derived from those basic variables. Generally, the climate variables used in these recreation models were presumed to affect willingness to participate and frequency of participation directly. Despite the lack of existing data, it is reasonable to expect that climate change will affect resource availability. For example, in the case of hunting and fishing, increasing temperatures will likely affect the distribution of plant and animal species that are fundamental to maintaining fish and game populations. Moreover, changes in precipitation may influence local snow cover and thus affect seasonal availability for activities like snowmobiling and undeveloped skiing. Disentangling the effects of the climate variables on recreation participation is difficult. Further exploration of these direct and indirect relationships, at both local and macro levels, will be fundamental to improving forecasts of recreation behavior in the future.

**OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED STATES—
PROJECTIONS TO 2060: A TECHNICAL DOCUMENT SUPPORTING THE
FOREST SERVICE 2010 RPA ASSESSMENT.**

<http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/40935>

This national assessment report is one of several U S Department of Agriculture Forest Service reports done for the 2010 Renewable Resources Planning Act Assessment. The objectives of this assessment report are to review past trends in outdoor recreation participation and identify whether current participation trends represent a departure from trends previously reported. The intention is also to describe in detail current outdoor recreation participation patterns and compare these patterns across regional and demographic strata. Further, the objectives include describing recreation activity participation on public and private lands and providing projections of outdoor recreation participation out to the year 2060.

Under nearly all of the considered demographic, land use, and climate conditions, recreation participant numbers and days in the field will grow over the next 50 years. Thus, the general outlook for recreation resources is for declining opportunities and access per person.

Activities such as birding and hiking may or may not require expansive contiguous areas for quality experiences, because they are often “edge dependent” or along linear corridors. However, activities typically considered space intensive—horseback riding on trails, hunting, and motorized off-road use—are likely to actually “feel” more congested given the nature of the activity, despite relatively slow growth.

Key Findings

All 17 outdoor recreation activities or activity aggregates will grow in the number of participants over the next five decades. In some cases, the per capita participation growth rate will be near, or even less than one. However, population growth will be large enough under each assessment scenario to ensure that all activities will see growth in the number of adult participants. The five outdoor recreation activities projected to have the fastest growth in per capita participation across the three 2010 RPA Assessment scenarios over the next 50 years are developed skiing (20 to 50 percent), undeveloped skiing (9 to 31 percent), challenge activities (6 to 18 percent increase), equestrian activities (3 to 19 percent), and motorized water activities (-3 to 15 percent). Alternatively, a number of activities will experience a decline in adult participation rates. These include visiting primitive areas (0 to -5 percent), motorized off-road activities (0 to -18 percent), motorized snow activities (2 to -11 percent), hunting (-22 to -31 percent), fishing (-3 to -10 percent), and floating activities (3 to -11 percent). Growth of per capita participation rates for the remaining activities will hover around zero or grow minimally. It should also be noted that in general, activities with low per capita rates of participation such as developed skiing, undeveloped skiing, and

equestrian activities have considerable room for growth, while activities with already high rates, like developed site use, viewing, and swimming have less room to grow their participation rates.

By definition, the activities with the highest rates of growth in participant numbers are the same as those with the highest growth rates in per capita participation because all activities face the same population growth rates. The growth in participant numbers for the top five growth activities are:

Table 8 Growth in Participant Numbers for Five Top Growth Activities

Activity	Growth in participant numbers
developed skiing	68 to 147 percent
undeveloped skiing	55 to 106 percent
challenge activities	50 to 86 percent
equestrian activities	44 to 87 percent
motorized water activities	41 to 81 percent

Similarly, the lowest rates of participant numbers growth are:

Table 9 Activities with Lowest Growth

Activity	Growth in participant numbers
visiting primitive areas	33 to 65 percent
motorized off-road activities	29 to 56 percent
motorized snow activities	25 to 61 percent
hunting	8 to 23 percent
fishing	27 to 56 percent
floating activities	30 to 62 percent

As stated above, it is unlikely that activities with already high participation rates can demonstrate large percentage increases in participant numbers. However, it is obvious that smaller percentage increases in already highly popular activities can mean quite large increases in the absolute number of adult participants.

Assessment Scenarios — The assessment scenarios drive the activity projections through two avenues. First, as the number of participants is a product of estimated per capita participation and population, all estimates are population driven and in many cases, this means that A2, with the largest projected population growth, often correlates with the greatest projected increase in participant numbers. Similarly, B2 with the lowest rate of population growth generally coincides with the least growth for any given activity. However, A2’s population growth influences the per capita participation negatively as most participation models had negative signs on population density which increases with population growth. As well, supply variables such as water area per capita and land per capita, with typically positive influences on per capita participation, saw declines as per capita land and water areas declined with population

growth. In most cases the difference was not enough to offset population growth's influence as a product.

Another important difference emerging in the per capita participation modeling was the effect of income on certain activities like developed skiing, challenge activities, equestrian activities, hunting, and motorized activities. In virtually all these cases, the growth in income under scenario A1B was enough to offset the difference in population growth difference between A2 and A1B, leading to higher rates of growth in participants for A1B. This effect seemed consistent across activities that typically require more capital to effectively participate.

An examination of model results and odds ratio estimates reveals stories similar to previous research into outdoor recreation participation behavior. First, males are more apt to participate in backcountry activities, hunting and fishing, motorized activities, non-motorized winter activities, and floating than females, while the latter are more likely to participate in the viewing activities, swimming, equestrian, and visiting developed sites. Ethnicity is still an important influence on participation. Major minorities including Blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, were almost always less likely than Whites to participate in the various activities examined in this chapter. A notable exception occurred with hiking as Hispanics were more likely than Whites to have participated, assuming all other factors constant. Respondents claiming American Indian, non-Hispanic identity were often more likely than Whites to participate in the remote activities like hunting and fishing, motorized off-road, motorized snow, hiking, equestrian, and viewing.

Education beyond high school resulted in higher participation probability for most activities. However, the level of education varied somewhat. For example, the greater the education level, the more likely one would participate in birding, non-motorized winter activities, backcountry activities, and viewing activities. However, for fishing and hunting, motorized off-road, and motorized snow activities, more than a high school education lowered the probability of participation. Income was positively associated with participation across all activities. However, for some activities like birding, hiking, and hunting the effect was small, while for others, like developed skiing and motorized water use, the effect was large.

As discussed above, the higher rate growth rate of income under assessment scenario A1B was noticeable across a number of activities. Relevant land and water availability per capita generally correlated positively with activity participation. Hence, declines in overall forest and rangeland per capita, federal land per capita, and/or in National Wilderness Preservation System lands per capita induced declines in spatially intensive activities like equestrian, hunting, motorized off-road driving, visiting primitive areas, and viewing. Similarly, participation in water-based activities like swimming, motorized boating, and non-motorized boating were all positively correlated with the per capita availability of water area. Fishing was positively correlated with both water area and

forest and rangeland availability. A seemingly counterintuitive result occurred with the variable indicating whether the respondent lived in a coastal community. Here, participation in fishing, hunting, and viewing were negatively correlated with residence in a coastal county. Such a result could be driven by the fact that coastal population in the country is dominated by highly urban areas. Finally, it should be noted that the model results and projections do not account for factors outside the range of available data such as climate change, new technology, changes in costs, and changes in tastes and preferences.

TRENDS IN PROGRAMMING

“Recreation Management Magazine” is a publication dedicated to providing fitness, sports and recreation information resource for recreation, sports and fitness facility managers. The June 2013 issue features an annual report on the state of the recreation industry. In that report is an article on trends in recreation. A summary of the article (which may also be read on their website) follows.

Parks & Recreation

A Look at Trends in Parks & Recreation

<http://www.recmanagement.com/features.php?fid=201206fe04&ch=6>

Programming

The most common programs found in parks and recreation respondents' facilities include:

Table 10 Most Common Parks and Recreation Programs

Activity/event	% of agencies offering program
holiday events and other special events	78.5
day and summer camps	66.7
arts and crafts	63.6
educational programs	62.8
adult sports teams	62.1
programs for active older adults	57.1
sports tournaments and races	57
fitness programs	56
festivals and concerts	55.2

This represents little change from last year's response, with slightly fewer respondents offering all of these types of programming, with the exception of youth sports teams (offered by 69.9 percent last year).

Slightly more parks respondents in 2012 reported that they had plans to add programs at their facilities over the next three years. In 2011, 34.2 percent of parks respondents had such plans. This number increased to 36.3 percent in 2012. The most commonly planned programs include:

Table 11 Most Commonly Added Programs

Most commonly added programs	Ranking
Environmental education (up from No. 2 on last year's survey)	1
Teen programming (down from No. 1)	2
Fitness programs (no change)	3
Programs for active older adults (no change)	4
Educational programming (up from No. 6)	5
Mind-body/balance programs such as yoga, tai chi, pilates or martial arts (down from No. 5)	6
Holiday events & other special events (no change)	7
Adult sports teams (up from No. 10)	8
Performing arts such as dance, theater and music (down from No. 8)	9
Day camps and summer camps (did not appear on last year's list of top 10 planned programs)	10

Falling off the list from last year were special needs programs, while environmental education continued its rise from the third most commonly planned program in 2010.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION SUMMARY, 2011, 2012 PARKS AND RECREATION DATABASE REPORT

www.nrpa.org/proragis

In 2011, NRPA launched the first-ever national operating ratio database for park agencies. This report represents the first annual compilation of key data for the 2011 fiscal year from participating agencies across the United States. The system, which relies upon agencies to supply their own data through a survey, is still in its early stages—but it offers an informative look at the functions, structures, and budgets of over 200 agencies of various sizes, types, and regions.

Most of the reporting agencies were much larger than the park system in Pend Oreille County and operated and maintained highly developed parks. However, there were several points of interest provided in the report.

- Most agencies earn an average of 41.5% of their revenue from programs and class fees and charges
- 76.6% of all the responding agencies provided fitness programs
- 76.6% offered summer camps
- 70.7% offered senior programs
- 69.7% offered trips and tours

TRENDS IN PLANNING

The last section of the report also provides interesting information concerning projected changes in planning and the way parks and recreations departments are managed.

Table 12 Future Trends in Planning

Past & Current Practices	Future Direction
Departments function as providers of programs, services facilities and lands	P & R Departments function as facilitators of public, non-profit and private recreation opportunities in the community
Departments use public employees to provide operations, maintenance and programming	Departments use non-profit partners, private vendors, and contractors for operation, maintenance and programming
For cost-effective operations and maintenance, smaller parks are eliminated	For child health and obesity issues the goal is to eliminate “Recreation Deserts” by creating smaller neighborhood parks
Park site and mobile programming placed in neighborhoods to ensure social equity goals	Department revenue increase goals seek to offset tax subsidies even at cost of social equity
Departments provide targeted programs and services for vulnerable populations, such as seniors and youth	Reduced federal, state and local funding is reducing departments’ ability to provide for vulnerable populations.
“What market will bear” guides revenue generation strategies for Department	Revenue generation guided by market research and business practices
Acquisition and installation of automated Recreation Management Systems to improve registration services and monitoring	Acquisition and installation of computer-aided Maintenance Management Systems to improve asset management and cost effective maintenance

STATE RECREATION TRENDS

STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning Documents provide data on recreational supply, demand and existing and future needs. The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (AIC) is responsible for recreation planning in Washington State. All the following data is from 2006 Outdoor Recreation Survey, Clearwater Research, August 2007.

The following are summaries and excerpts from **DEFINING AND MEASURING SUCCESS: THE ROLE OF STATE GOVERNMENT IN OUTDOOR RECREATION A STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING DOCUMENT**

http://www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/other_pubs.shtml#rec_trends

Local agency recreation opportunities tend to be service and facility driven (recreation programming, ball fields, courts, pools, trails, and paths). These activities represent behaviors important to the priorities of state government:

- Recreation, especially close-to-home opportunities
- Public health, supported by facilities that encourage physical activity, especially shared use trails, paths, or routes for walking and bicycling, and fields and courts for individual and team sports.
- Personal mobility, supported by facilities such as shared use trails, paths, or routes for walking and bicycling. Local sidewalks, streets, and roads are important for walking, jogging, and bicycling. Local schools are important providers of playgrounds and ball fields.

A survey conducted for this report yielded data on no fewer than 170 activities in 15 major categories, and new variations and specialization in many categories are appearing regularly. The same categories have been used in two surveys. The following table summarizes the results of two surveys.

Table 13 Participation Survey Results 2002 and 2007

RANK	REPORTED IN 2002	REPORTED IN 2007
1	Walking-hiking	Walking-hiking
2	Team-individual sports	Team-individual sports
3	Nature (photography-gardening)	Nature (photography, gardening)
4	Sightseeing	Picnicking
5	Bicycle riding	Indoor activities (classes, events)
6	Indoor activities	Water activities
7	Picnicking	Sightseeing
8	Water activities	Bicycle riding
9	Snow-ice activities	ORV use
10	Fishing	Snow-ice activities
11	Camping	Camping
12	ORV use	Fishing
13	Hunting-shooting	Hunting-shooting
14	Equestrian activities	Equestrian activities
15	Air activities	Air activities

IMPORTANT RESOURCE RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Observing and photographing nature

Nearly a third of the population (31 percent) reports participation, most prominent among adults 50-64. There is less participation among younger people. Women are more likely to participate than men. There is a need for further research on how women might be willing to pay to support non-consumptive fish and wildlife activities.

Sightseeing

Together, Washingtonians went sightseeing more than 12 million times during the survey year. The most prevalent setting for sightseeing was scenic areas. Significantly more sightseeing was done in summer than in fall.

Camping

Current estimates indicate that tent camping is as popular as recreational vehicle camping. Up to 24 percent of the state’s residents will tent camp in July. Recreational vehicle camping peaks in September; at this time about 20 percent of residents participate. Asked whether they would like to do more camping, children and young

adults were most likely to say yes. RCO suggests that providers exercise caution when considering development of places for more recreation vehicle campers. More research is advised.

Hiking

Hiking is popular statewide, with about 20 percent of the population participating. Hiking draws people with higher incomes, and males are more likely to hike than females. Hiking takes place year-round, with summer the most likely season.

Fishing

Data estimates that 16 percent of the state's residents fish from a boat or bank. Fishing is done primarily by men. When asked about the desire to fish more, women were likely to say no. Related research done by the Oregon State Marine Board suggests that women are more likely to go boating if clean sanitary facilities are available. RCO recommends investigation of the needs suggested by women.

Off-road vehicle use

The data showed 13 percent of the state's residents drive 4x4 vehicles for recreation, mostly on roads. The data does not reveal whether the 4x4 vehicles are sport utility vehicles (SUVs) or street legal, off-road ready specialty vehicles. Another 7 percent of residents report using all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), mostly on rural trails, interpreted here as likely a combination of user-made and official trails, mostly on public lands. Off-road motorcycling has roughly 5 percent to 6 percent participation, predominantly male. There is a noticeable spike in the participation of teenage riders.

Hunting

Hunting participation is 6 percent of state residents in peak season, overwhelmingly practiced by men. License sales appear to be steady, but are shrinking as a percent of population. Consistent with national trends, increased participation is highly unlikely as the state's population continues a general rural-to-urban migration.

Equestrian activities

About 4 percent of Washington residents rode horses in an average month in 2006. Riding at stables and grounds was more likely than trail riding. Considering people

reporting all types of riding and settings, the age groups with the highest prevalence of horseback riding were children under 10 (9 percent) and children 11 to 17 (8.3 percent).

IMPORTANT FACILITY-BASED RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Most facility-based recreation is managed by local agencies.

Walking

Walking is hugely popular, with 67 percent participation, common to all ages, in all regions. Most walking happens on the transportation system: sidewalks, streets, roads. People prefer to walk on unpaved paths and sidewalks. When planning trails or paths, it is of interest to know that research done for the Washington Department of Transportation found that the public will support new facilities when they offer a new, safe place to walk. Most walks are short: averaging about 1.9 miles.

Sports

Playground use was measured under the “sport” category, and turned out to be the number one “sport” statewide. Roughly the same numbers of people use playgrounds at parks as at schools. Playgrounds host 34 percent of the population, with girls most likely to use them. More typical sports participation includes swimming at a pool (23 percent statewide participation), basketball (16 percent), soccer (13 percent), baseball (9 percent), football (7 percent), and softball (5 percent). Field sports tend to compete with one another for available facilities, with apparent demand especially high for practice. This explains why the appearance of a relatively new sport with low participation (for example, lacrosse, (with roughly 2 percent statewide participation) will have a relatively high impact on local facilities and programs. Public Attitude Survey of Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning, Gilmore Research, May 2007

Cycling

About 32 percent of the state’s residents report that they bicycle at least once a year. Most riding is done by children ages 10 and younger, and most riding takes place on roads and streets. Only about 4 percent ride on forest or mountain trails, and less than 1 percent ride on overnight or longer tours. A typical bicycle ride is about 6.5 miles.

Water activities

Swimming at a pool is the most popular form of water activity. Next are beachcombing, swimming or wading at a beach, and motor boating.

CONFIRMING THE STATE'S INTEREST IN RECREATION

Recreation offers more than play. Recreation, as physical activity, has a direct contribution to public health. Walking and bicycling contributes to personal mobility. It is in the state's interest to encourage local activity by supporting local facilities. Support of parks and sports facilities is obvious. Less obvious is that support for school facilities including playgrounds and sports fields will result in increased opportunities for recreation and physical activity. A state policy requiring that publicly funded school facilities be made available for after school use is worth exploration. Likewise, encouraging walking and cycling on and to local facilities (e.g., a safe route to school that uses a grade-separated trail) addresses multiple priorities and public benefits.

Challenges

Modest, average participation in individual categories, if considered in isolation, may mask the true impact of recreation. Most activity usually happens "all at once," usually on weekends, in often-unknown combinations of activity types. Some of the activities taking place concurrently on state lands are challenging to manage, while others are conflicting with each other or with the primary purpose of resource management. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission requires reservations months ahead of peak season. The extent of user-made trails on Department of Natural Resource-managed land may be 250 percent or more than the official inventory. As the Department of Natural Resources' practice has been to adapt as many user-made trails into its official system as possible, the potential future budget impact is large. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's wildlife recreation lands often see unintended, undesirable uses, from poaching to garbage dumping. The on-the-ground stress has been summarized by the Office of Financial Management (Priorities of Government, November 2006): "A lack of resources devoted to an on-the-ground management presence at state-owned recreation sites has resulted in un-quantified but potentially significant levels of inappropriate public use and impacts. Examples include informal trails and campsites on trust and wildlife lands that degrade trust assets, create environmental damage and, in extreme cases, result in deaths and injuries to the recreationists themselves."

Equity of Participation (Geographic, Demographic, Socioeconomic)

Access sites and facilities are distributed statewide. Boating facilities, for example, appear to be adequately distributed on a geographic basis. Free and low cost facilities from school playgrounds to sidewalks are found in virtually every community. The Office of Financial Management has evidence that recreation participation is directly related to income and level of education: both higher income and higher levels of education appear to result in higher levels of recreational participation. Similarly, there appears to be a direct relationship between education and recreation participation. The same relationship among income, education, and participation has been noted in other states.

PARTICIPATION IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES BY INCOME

Table 14 Annual Income Recreational Participation

\$0-\$4999	27%
\$5,000-\$14,999	21%
\$15,000-\$24,999	27%
\$25,000-\$34,999	38%
\$35,000-\$49,999	47%
\$50,000-\$74,999	55%
\$75,000-\$99,999	64%
\$100,000-\$149,000	75%
\$150,000 and over	78%

Similarly, there appears to be a direct relationship between education and recreation participation.

PARTICIPATION IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES BY EDUCATION

Table 15 Education Recreational Participation

< High School	16%
High School Graduate	34%
Some College	46%
Bachelor's Degree	61%
Graduate or Professional Degree	64%

DISCUSSION

Most public agencies address the question of income. Access to public recreation sites and facilities is predominantly free or at low cost. Local recreation programs offer discounted rates or other means to encourage people of all incomes and backgrounds to participate. Research into barriers to recreation participation often identifies work schedules and family obligations, as well as lack of facilities close to home. It is known that an urban park's proximity to residential areas has a direct impact on actual use, and that a key barrier to participation for low income people in Washington is lack of transportation to parks and recreation sites. Therefore, site and facility location become a critical issue, one that needs to be measured as a partial surrogate for "equity." Ideally, sites and facilities would be close to where people live, and would be accessible by public transportation, foot, or bicycle.

To estimate the value of volunteer time in grant applications, RCO uses the hourly rates determined by the Employment Security Department. The unskilled labor rate of \$13 an hour may be a suitable average, resulting in a volunteer value of \$3.5 million for State Parks. This compares to State Parks' estimated capital improvement backlog of about \$292 million. While volunteerism is to be valued and encouraged, it appears not to be an adequate measure for recreation. For every volunteer able to contribute a day's worth of labor, no doubt there are countless others who do not have the time, who believe they have contributed through taxes and fees, or who simply have no interest. This measure should be augmented with other measures.

STATE OF IDAHO

Because the entire east boundary of Pend Oreille County borders the State of Idaho, it is important to also review current recreation trends for that state as well. The following are summaries and excerpts from the **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Plan (SCORTP)** which is produced in order to provide an overarching document that identifies the issues and opportunities in outdoor recreation and tourism in Idaho for the next five years. This draft plan has been available for public review for over 60 days and is now under review by Governor Otter prior to delivery to the National Park Service. The report may be accessed at the website listed below.

<http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/draft-scortp-0>

OUTDOOR RECREATION TRENDS: OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITY

Participation Trends of IDAHO Region Residents by Activity Type, 1994 to 2011, Idaho and surrounding states: Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming (Sample size, percent participating, number of people age 16 and older participating, and percent change, 1994-2011.)

Table 16 **Increases in participation in Selected General Activities**

Activity	Percent change
Nature activities	+37
Walking	+34
Visit a beach	+33
Picnic	+31
Canoe/kayak	+30
Non-pool swimming	+29
Bicycle riding	+29
Hiking	+20
Sightseeing	+20
Camp-RV	+20
Off road vehicle riding	+20
Team sports	+12
Backpacking	+8
Equestrian activities	+8
Fishing	-10
Hunting	-21

POPULARITY OF RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Table 17 **Popularity of Water Activities**

Swimming/wading	1
Motor boating	2
Beach combing	3
Canoe/kayak	4
Water ski	5
Water tube	6
Personal watercraft	7
Sailing	8
Scuba diving	9
White water rafting	10
Wind surfing	11
Surfboarding	12

Table 18 **Popularity of Snow and Ice Activities**

Skiing	1
Sledding	2
Snowboarding	3
Snowmobile	4
Ice skate	5
Snowshoe	6

Table 19 Popularity of Types of Camping

Recreational Vehicle	1
Tent/car/motorcycle	2
Bicycle	3
Backpack	4
Boat	5
Canoe/kayak	6

The following paragraph on disc golf was also included in the Idaho SCORPT:

RECOGNIZING A GROWING ACTIVITY-DISC GOLF

Since we have no direct evidence from surveys for participation in the activity, we must rely on indirect evidence. In the case of disc golf, there are three measureable categories that would seem to provide us with good analogs for the activity’s popularity: Number of disc golf courses in the state, number of annual events and the number of Idaho members in the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA). As the chart below indicates, since recordkeeping by the PDGA began in 1999, the number of courses in Idaho has increased by 345 percent. During the same period, the number of events has increased 300 percent and the number of PDGA members in the state has increased 860 percent.

Table 20 Idaho Disc Golf growth

Year	Courses	Events	PDGA Members
1999	9	2	10
2011	40	8	96

While such a dramatic increase in participation by the general public does not necessarily follow the participation in PDGA, there almost certainly is a marked increase in participation. Disc golf does seem to have some staying power given the willingness of park and recreation departments to invest in course construction. Disc golf courses are relatively inexpensive and easy to install. If they do not get sufficient use in a particular area to justify their upkeep, they are easily removed. For these reasons—growing popularity and low cost—the risk of installing a disc golf course would seem to be low.

Some additional information concerning a national recreation survey and a kid’s survey was also available on the Idaho State Parks and Recreation website and is summarized in the following paragraphs.

SELECTED RESULTS IDAHO AND SURROUNDING STATES

<http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/SCORTP/2012%20Selected%20Results.pdf>

THE NATIONAL SURVEY ON RECREATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) is a general population household telephone survey operated by the USDA Forest Service, the University of Georgia and the University of Tennessee. This report presents NSRE data collected between 2005 and 2009 for Idaho and a seven-state Idaho region. Included are outdoor recreation activity participation for people age 16 and older and information from the National Kids Survey. The NKS was conducted between 2007 and 2011. In addition, a table shows the current and projected per capita levels of 8 different recreation resources for Idaho, the Idaho region, and the western states (from North Dakota through Texas and west). These data were adapted from the Forest Service 2010 National Assessment of Recreation and Protected Land Resources.

Participation rate estimates shown are for the seven state region that includes Idaho Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming and Montana.

Table 21 Participation Rates in Western Region

Activity	% Participation rate
Walk for pleasure	87.0
Family gatherings	76.6
View/photo natural scenery	74.1
Gardening or landscaping	68.5
Driving for pleasure	64.4
Visit nature centers, etc.	63.8
Sightseeing	63.0
Attend outdoor sports events	60.7
View/photograph other wildlife	60.1
View/photograph flowers, etc.	60.1
Picnicking	59.4
Day hiking	54.0
Visit a wilderness	50.2
Yard games, e.g. croquet	49.8
Visit historic sites	48.1
Visit a beach	47.0

Developed camping	42.2
Gather mushrooms, berries, etc.	40.2
Running or jogging	38.9
View or photograph birds	38.7
Bicycling	38.5
Attend outdoor concerts, etc.	34.8
Drive off-road	30.7
Swimming in lakes, ponds, etc.	28.2
Outdoor team sports	25.9
Golf	14.9

This publication also discussed results from The National Kids Survey which provides insight on the percentage of kids that participate in outdoor activities and here are the results.

Table 22 Participation Rates of Kids

Activity	% Participation rate
Just playing outdoors or hanging out	83.1
Bike, jog, walk, skateboard	77.6
Team sports	45.6
Listen to music, watch movies outside	44.2
Read, study outside	40.9
Other sports – tennis, golf, etc.	33.2
Hike, camp, fish	32.4
Watch birds, wildlife	25.2
Swim	21.5
Ride motorcycles	14.8
Snow activities	10.2
Other	8.5
Boating, water activities	5.3
Row/kayak/surf	4.5

In general, the kid’s survey indicated kids in non-metropolitan areas participated much more, by far, in outdoor activities than kids in metropolitan areas. It is interesting to note that participation rates in Pend Oreille County in outdoor activities like swimming, hiking, snow activities, boating, kayaking, etc. did seem to be much higher owing to the fact our county is very rural and also due to the large number of rivers, lakes and natural areas in our county.

The survey also determined reasons for not spending time outside. The reasons were internet/texting; listening to music; other; video games; indoor sports; malls; no one to play with; no good access; no transportation; not safe and injured.

COUNTY RECREATION TRENDS

It is very important to look closely at parks and recreation demand and trends in Pend Oreille County. The following section will provide insight on this topic in several ways. The first part will outline the results of the two surveys that were distributed in May and June of 2013, a General Public Parks and Recreation Survey and a “Fun-in-the-Outdoors” youth survey. Those summaries are followed by the public input and comments collected at the four town hall meeting held in the 3rd week of August, 2013. Additionally, this section provides summaries of two other recreation surveys distributed by Pend Oreille PUD and Seattle City Light as part of their relicensing requirements. The final paragraphs provide additional demographic information concerning recreation in Pend Oreille County listed on the NE Washington Trends website.

RESULTS FROM PEND OREILLE COUNTY SURVEYS

The General Public Survey was designed to gather information for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; to discern the opinions of the people who live in Pend Oreille County and visitors who recreate inside Pend Oreille County, on different aspects concerning parks and recreation. An on-line survey was designed and made available through SurveyMonkey during the entire month of June. The complete survey results and a summary may be viewed at <http://pendoreilleco.org/county/survey.asp>

General Public Survey

In question # 1, respondents were asked how they would rate the availability of all areas that provide recreation opportunities in the county including not only county lands but also Federal, State, local and private. People wanted more of the following:

Table 23 **Availability of Facilities/Activities**

	Need More	% of people
Outdoor ed. for youth		77%
Sledding/tobogganing slope		66.5
Environmental Education		66.5
Hiking		63.2
X-country ski		63.3
Swimming		62%
Bicycle touring		60.1
Picnicking		59.2
Tent camping		59%
RV camping		55.5%
Mountain biking		53.6%
Snowshoeing		54.1%

Also, respondents felt that no more was needed of the following activities/facilities:

Table 24 Adequate Facilities and Activities

Don't Need More	% of people
Motor boating	79.6%
Personal water crafting	74.6%
Downhill skiing	72.2%
Golf	62.2%
Hunting	60.5%
ORV Dirt Biking	60.3%
ORV 4 wheeling	58.6%
Fishing	52.6%
Horseback riding	51.3%
Canoe/kayaking	50.3%

Additional comments added perspective on a variety of activities both wanted and not wanted. Four people requested disc/Frisbee golf activities. Several comments addressed “better fishing”. Building connecting trails between communities was mentioned twice. Other comments mentioned vandalism, closure of ATV roads by the Forest Service, need for better recreation guides, loop routes for 4-wheelers, snow mobile trails, swimming pools in north county, a bike and hike trail along the river, wildlife and bird education, bigger skate board park, roller skating rink, public pool in south county, better roadside parking in winter, softball, a guide to day hiking areas, inadequate fish stocking, more historical and natural history sites, bike paths between communities (rail and trail), nude camping, sunbathing and hiking areas, need for an RV dump, more waterfront lodging, more year-round fishing areas, more outdoor sport and photography, need for day camps for kids.

Question # 2 was asked to determine the activities most often participated in the last 5 years. The most popular were:

Table 25 Activities with Highest participation

Activity	% of people participating
Jogging/walking	81.3%
Swimming (Lake or River)	80.0%
Picnicking	71.3%
Fishing	68.3%
Hiking/backpacking	67.0%
Camping	63.5%
Automobile touring	63.0%
Canoeing/kayaking	60.0%
Nature study	59.6%
Bicycling	54.8%
Motor boating/jet skiing	50.4%

The activities participated in the least were:

Table 26 Activities with Low Participation

Activity	% of people participating
Tennis	6.5%
Skateboarding	7.4%
Ice skating	15.2%
Snowmobiling	21.3%
Horseback Riding	23.5%
Archery	25.2%
Golf	32.2%
Environmental Conservation Projects	33.0%
Water skiing/tubing	37.4%
ORV 4-wheeling	38.8%
Hunting	45.7%
Target practice	48.3%

Additional activities mentioned were foraging, visiting historical areas, roller blading, disc golf (4 times), paddle boarding, berry picking, outdoor cooking classes, master naturalist program, softball, baseball, nude hiking and sunbathing, indoor roller skating.

The third question was asked to determine the level of satisfaction residents and visitors had after visiting the 7 county park areas.

Table 27 Levels of Those Satisfied

Areas	% of people visited with satisfaction
Sweet Creek	46.2%
Pend Oreille County Park	41.4%
Pend Oreille River Water Trail	40.3%
Eagles Nest Viewing Area	28.7%
Yocum Lake	28.0%
Ruby Landing	18.2%
Rustler's Gulch	13.1%

Areas that were visited but were not satisfying were:

Table 28 Levels of Those Not Satisfied

Areas	% of people visited that were not satisfied
Pend Oreille County Park	14.8%
Ruby Landing	9.6%
Rustler’s Gulch	8.4%
Yocum Lake	7.4%
Eagles Nest Viewing Area	4.8%
Pend Oreille River Water Trail	4.6%
Sweet Creek	3.0%

Areas that were least visited were:

Table 29 Percentages of People Who Have Not Visited County Parks

Areas	% of people have not visited this area
Rustler’s Gulch	78.5%
Ruby Landing	72.2%
Eagles Nest Viewing Area	66.5%
Yocum Lake	64.6%
Sweet Creek	50.8%
Pend Oreille River Water Trail	55.1%
Pend Oreille County Park	43.8%

Additional comments addressed maintenance on the Sweet Creek Rest Area trail; Pend Oreille County park feeling unsafe; cleaning at Ruby Landing restrooms; more user friendly organizations in Idaho; better parking access at Rustler’s Gulch; need for map of trails; develop trails at Rustler’s gulch; requested better parking and grassy picnic area at Eagle’s nest Viewing Area; more nature signs; maps that show all county lands; too much milfoil in Pend Oreille River; map needed of public boat launches; no information about mid or north county; need gravel at boat launch at Yocum Lake; unpleasant feeling in Pend Oreille Count Park; county park land is not made public; too much logging and disturbance and lots of potential at Pend Oreille County Park and Rustler’s Gulch.

The next question (#4) on the survey was asked to determine how people felt about Pend Oreille County Park. The following chart shows recommended action and % of people agreeing.

Table 30 High Priority Actions for Pend Oreille County Park

Activity	% of people feeling this is a high priority
Improve Restrooms	44.7%
Organize activities	40.0%

Table 31 Moderate Priority Actions for Pend Oreille County Park

Activity	% of people feeling this is a moderate priority
Add/improve parking	48.0%
Improve trail maintenance	46.3%
Better signage	42.3%
Build a picnic shelter	41.5%
Create more trails	39.9%
Improve current camp sites	39.1%

Table 32 Low Priority Actions for Pend Oreille County Park

Activity	% of people feeling this is a low priority
Develop sites for RVs	48.4%
Develop equestrian campground	44.5%
Improve roads	43.3%

Additional comments included 10 people that had not visited the park. Others mentioned enforcing non-motorized policies; more single track dirt bike trails; filthy restrooms; additional regular presence of law enforcement needed; more ORV trails; disc golf; park is not near most of the population; host an art show there; limit logging; redesign trails; control weeds; want nude hiking; survey makes me want to visit all the parks, thanks; improve boat launches on the river; live on my own waterfront so don't use parks; advertise in papers about the park; add a few large RV spaces; don't spend money on it; would attend a ranger talk; build an amphitheater and have music festivals.

Question #5 was asked to help determine what the Board should do with Rustler’s Gulch. There were a high number of undecided votes because Rustler’s Gulch is a new undeveloped area and many residents are not familiar with it.

Table 33 Suggested Improvements for Rustler’s Gulch

Suggestion	Yes	Undecided	No
Create parking lot	52.8%	24.5%	22.7%
Better signage	52.6%	30.8%	16.7%
Develop as a recreation area	47.2%	24.8%	28.0%
Leave this land undeveloped	38.1%	27.7%	34.2%
Continue as motorized	33.3%	17.9%	48.8%
Develop for both motorized and non-motorized	31.5%	23.5%	45.1%

Additional comments included the fact that 12 mentioned they were unaware of this park. Others added comments about horses spreading weed seeds and conflicting with hunting; keep a back-country area; improve road and signs; limit horse trails; don’t like ATV riders; make non-motorized; inform people about this park; keep motorized; keep motorized and non-motorized separate and work with DFW to evaluate opportunities

Yocum Lake was the subject of the next **question (#6)**.

Table 34 Suggested Improvements for Yocum Lake

Suggestion	High Priority	Med. Priority	Low Priority
Build a restroom	63.8%	26.9%	1.54%
Build trails	43.5%	32.5%	24.0%
Better signage	39.4%	38.7%	21.9%
Add parking	24.2%	49.0%	26.8%
Improve the road	31.4%	46.4%	22.2%
Improve boat launch	31.4%	42.5%	26.1%
Build a picnic shelter	30.1%	41.2%	28.8%
Connect with USFS campground	35.7%	37.6%	26.8%
Organize activities	26.3%	31.6%	42.1%

Thirteen people made additional comments that they were not familiar with this area. Others mentioned wanting a picnic area; single track dirt bike trails; maintain primitive use; install garbage containers; work with USFS to reduce wild parties and vandalism; signs about wildlife; really enjoyed it as is; need law enforcement; keep non-motorized and family oriented; too much shooting, littering and crime; human sanitation is a problem; protect loons; nice job on boat launch; need public awareness; maintain road; regular vandalism and trash patrols needed; keep rustic; keep ATVs away from here; don’t feel safe there and too many undesirable people there.

Question #7 was asked to determine what opportunities residents and visitors would like the county to provide on county lands. The most often requested was:

Table 35 Requested Opportunities on County Land

Activity	% of people requesting opportunity
Self-guided nature trails	82.1%
Day use picnic areas	78.6%
Jogging/walking/fitness paths	76.7%
Wildlife viewing areas	76.7%
Overnight campgrounds	74.7%
River/lake swimming access	74.5%
Hiking/snow shoe/x-country trails	73.0%
Outdoor recreation for disabled	72.6%
Touring bike paths	72.5%
Waterfront park	67.6%
Interpretive signs on roads/in parks	64.3%
Tubing/sledding/tobogganing slope	61.4%
Mountain bike trails	60.1%
Nature centers	58.9%
Boat launches	57.7%

The 5 activities/facilities requested least by respondents were:

Table 36 Least Requested Opportunities

Activity	% of people requesting opportunity
Golf courses	26.6%
Ice skating rink	36.4%
ORV motocross trails	38.9%
Zip line	40.9%
Outdoor amphitheater	41.2%

Additional comments addressed the following: support existing museums and work to establish a historical exhibit in north county; bring in non-destructive types of tourism; rowing clubs; disc golf; don't spend money on new projects; more toilets on water trail; outdoor amphitheater; access to water; watchable wildlife center in north county; don't want to pay at public campgrounds; more ball fields; RV dump sites; need waterfront lodging; this question is redundant; don't need to spend a lot of money here; open backcountry to motorized activities; baseball and softball fields; model should be "welcome"; let state and USFS folks provide recreation-leave county lands undisturbed; keep it simple and be realistic; partner with local to promote recreation and tourism.

Question #8 concerned financing parks and recreation in the county. Here are the answers to the following questions:

Table 37

Recommendations on Financing Parks and Recreation in Pend Oreille County

YES	UNDECIDED	NO
<p>83.2% Support parks; they serve the residents; provide jobs and increase tourism and the economy.</p>	<p>12.1%</p>	<p>4.7%</p>
<p>72.1% Establish a non-profit parks and recreation foundation to assist in raising funds and applying for grants.</p>	<p>20.7%</p>	<p>7.2%</p>
<p>60.0% Hire a part-time Parks and Recreation Coordinator to write grants to support parks and recreation.</p>	<p>26.8%</p>	<p>13.2%</p>
<p>50.7% Establish a permanent parks and recreation department.</p>	<p>34.0%</p>	<p>15.3%</p>
<p>39.6% Let parks be paid for by those that use them in the form of fees, permits and licenses.</p>	<p>31.9%</p>	<p>28.5%</p>
<p>17.9%</p>	<p>32.8%</p>	<p>49.3% Let funding from logging revenues on County park lands be the limit for parks and recreation</p>
<p>12.6%</p>	<p>19.6%</p>	<p>67.8% Don't bother with parks and recreation – worry about roads and maintaining county buildings</p>

Additional comments included: would like to have lots of parks and recreation but don't know if our part-time residents are willing to support financially; advertise parks more;

consider establishing a county wide parks and rec district; support a WA income tax; mix fees, fundraising and a small income tax; run the Parks & Recreation department like a business-grant money has too many rules attached; don't let the commissioners take logging proceeds-use 100% for parks and rec.; don't spend any more money; use proceeds from performances for new amphitheater; get revenue from merchandise (kayak rentals; concessions...in a watchable wildlife center in North county; raise property taxes; we don't mind fees but some can't pay; we are running out of trees; fees must be kept low and commissioners need to do work and not hire it out; charge a small \$10 fee to use parks for a year; organize poker rides (snowmobile, horseback, etc.); disc golf; raise taxes; slight sales tax increase and modest tax on tourism; ideas for parks need to be evaluated; make them worth it and they will come; make vacation rental property process easier; invest in campgrounds and day-use areas; tourism is best way to help finance public lands; invest small at first; petition state to add a tax to local licenses; fees are okay but they can't pay for all; use PORTA to assist in planning and development; combine fees, grants, volunteerism and logging-logging done well can improve the site.

Question 9 was an open essay question asking for additional comments. Fifty-one people responded with the following: fees are okay but not sole source; worries about all the people coming in to use the water trail and resource damage; more ORV and horseback trail maintenance needed; want an ORV trail the whole family can ride on; USFS needs to open roads to ATVs; stop damage to the Pend Oreille river – pike fishing was bringing in revenue; allow more open areas where caribou are not ranging; upgrade and improve the arena and use for concerts and other events; bring in tourism; stop equestrian resource damage; need better maps with area regulations; thanks for providing this survey; partner with all other agencies to bring in tourism; don't use timber sales-other communities use taxes; support with municipal bonds; question 13 needed a non-resident property owner category; I am willing to pay higher taxes-parks are important; don't pick on ORV riders with road limits-we pay taxes and should be able to ride anywhere; need loop trails for ORVs; more ORV trails; Parks & Recreation should be self-supporting through logging and fees; no new projects; tourism is the future; keep public lands accessible; watchable wildlife center (look to Kettle Falls as a model); build gun ranges then ban recreational shooting in the county; require ATV to display tag or plate and require an annual license and require proof of safety training; let public in to swim at Diamond Lake – need a nice swimming area somewhere; keep Pend Oreille County park the way it is; need more ball fields for little league and softball; get rid of Discovery Pass for locals; make sure we can use our ATVs on developed roads/trails; disc golf would really work here – cheap, fun, easy to build and can be maintained with volunteers; Parks & Recreation will pay for themselves by attracting tourism; the future is in non-motorized (takes less area; costs less to maintain, gas prices expensive and cost too high for Americans to afford; parks need to be more family friendly; fees are not good here in Pend Oreille county; work with railroad to make a railroad ride/tour stopping at historic sites, picnic areas, shops, restaurants;

build an amphitheater for plays/concerts; develop a renaissance faire, loggers fair, etc.; Parks & Recreation will draw in people-improve prudently to maintain wild-land settings – separate motorized and non-motorized activity; cooperate and promote Rotary Park; people want to recreate on water – make vacation rental process easier; get people to stay here instead of driving through – we have few good places to stay overnight; campgrounds and parks need to be open earlier in spring and later in fall; this county is sportsman’s paradise – keep it open for longer seasons; need a sports complex; small fees are okay; park budget should be small - \$30,000 per year; don’t depend on logging – save trees and let them grow; north county needs more attention; county needs parks; start with small improvements; get “welcome” message out; ambivalence of local and county government is preventing controlled planning (many locals don’t want to share the area with visitors); stop wasting our time and money; property in north county could be ATV friendly campground/park; ATV riding; don’t depend on logging for income.

Providing parks and recreation opportunities in Pend Oreille County will require additional revenue sources. **Question #10** asked what events they thought would be popular and well attended. The top 10 activities thought to be MOST popular were:

Table 38 Recommended Fund Raising Events

Activity	% of people supporting the activity
Fishing derbies	64.1%
Summer camps/events for youth	50.2%
Classes for swimming, sailing, canoeing, kayaking	48.8%
Classes for shooting, archery, hunter’s safety	46.5%
Weekend events for youth	47.0%
Shooting tournaments	46.5%
Tours (motor, bicycle, boat, canoe)	46.1%
Classes for nature study	44.2%
Living history events (logging, pioneer, Kalispel culture)	44.2%
Races (running, boating, bicycle, etc.)	43.3%
Community picnics/celebrations	42.4%

The ten activities thought to be LEAST popular were:

Table 39 Events Recommended Least

Activity	% of people supporting the activity
Classes for tennis, skate boarding, etc.	11.5%
Outdoor events for disabled populations	25.8%
Outdoor events for seniors	25.8%
Coordinate a Master naturalist program	26.3%
Sculpture, art, antique shows	27.2%
Rodeos	30.0%

Outdoor sport tournaments (3 on 3 basketball, volleyball, softball, etc.)	32.7%
ATV rodeos and competitions	33.6%
Horseback riding classes/trips	34.1%
Themed festivals	36.4%

Other ideas included: outdoor sport shows, not RV or gun shows; partner with others that do similar things (Idaho); encourage fun for all; boating safety classes; ATV/ORV poker runs; races that are non-motorized; musical performances; disable veterans competition; fly fishing/fly tying classes; outdoor art sketching/painting classes; outdoor cooking classes, storytelling for families; open story telling for tall tales competition; hold some events in north county; too many events already, keep it simple; people need a nice place to stay to attend functions; anything that promotes non-destructive tourism is a good thing; shooting events should be quiet archery only – no noise; photo contests; largest trees in county search; canoe/kayak races; history reenactments; constant train rides; great ideas but need expanding (spring seminars at bible camp); just leave it alone...not your job to do events; keep it nice or get rid of it; cross-country ski day or weekend; a winter festival; a free lesson and ski day at Wolf Trail or Geo-physical trail; encourage USFS to reapply for Snow-park funding; use ski trails for bike trails in summer; summer recreation festival with water events, kayaking, fishing, SUP (stand up paddle boarding) would be fun.

Question #11 was placed in the survey to recruit potential parks and recreation board members. Out of the 241 respondents, 20 have placed their names along with their contact information stating they have a special interest in parks and recreation and would consider serving as board members.

The purpose of **question #12** was to request names and contact information to create a mailing list of those interested in receiving information about parks and recreation events and activities. This question was optional and respondents were assured that their information would be kept private and confidential. A total of 78 respondents (23%) replied in the affirmative and provided either a postal mailing address or an e-mail address.

Question 13 asked the respondents to describe themselves.

93.6 % were Caucasian

2.6% were Native American

1.7% were Hispanic

0% were African

51.5% were male

47.6% were female

61.8% were full-time county residents

13.3 % were visitors (over 10 times per year)

5.6% were visitors (3-10 times per year)

2.1% were visitors (1-2 times per year)

36.2% were residents in the south part of the county (Newport, Diamond Lake, Sacheen)

16.7% were residents in the north part of the county (Ione, Metaline, Metaline Falls)

9% were residents in the middle part of the county (Dalkena, Usk, Cusick)

68.2% were aged 41-65

21% were over age 65

10.7% were age 19-40

.4% were aged under 19

“FUN IN THE OUT-OF-DOORS” YOUTH SURVEY

Since one of the objectives of the Parks and Recreation Board is to involve the youth of Pend Oreille County in outdoor recreation activities, a “Fun in the Out-of-Doors Survey” for youth was distributed to all three school districts in the county. The survey was an on-line survey that would also give students the opportunity to learn about taking on-line surveys. School principals at Cusick and Selkirk High Schools and the Wellness Director at Newport High School were all eager to participate and the students were allowed to use school time taking the surveys. The youth survey generally asked kids what activities they had participated in, what activities they liked and disliked and several other miscellaneous questions about outdoor recreation. The Wellness Director at Newport High School asked to add a question to let school staffs know what type of fitness activities the kids would like offered by the school. To see the complete survey and a survey summary visit <http://pendoreilleco.org/county/youth.asp>

Survey Results

A total of 378 students ranging from 13-18 years of age completed the survey.

The activities most participated in and additionally that students would like were: (in order of highest percentage of participation)

1. Swimming in rivers and lakes	90.8%
2. Swimming in a pool	90.8%
3. Tubing/sledding	87.2%
4. Tent camping	84.7
5. 4-wheeling	80.5
6. Fishing	77.7%
7. Hiking	74.7%
8. Outdoor cooking/campfire	71.7%
9. Berry picking	66.6%
10. Snowmobiling	66.1%

11. Archery	62.1%
12. Playground activities	61.8%
13. Off road bicycling	60.7%
14. Picnicking	58.8%
15. Hunting	58.5%
16. Ice skating	54.3%
17. Horseback riding	52.3%
18. Canoe/kayak	52.2%
19. Off-road motorcycling	51.8%
20. Star gazing	51.7%
21. Downhill ski/board	49.0%
22. Obstacle courses	46.3%
23. Gardening	37.7%
24. Skateboarding	36.4%
25. Bicycle touring	35.8%
26. Golf	35.6%
27. Tennis	34.3%
28. Cross-country ski	32.2%
29. Backpacking	31.2%
30. Bird/wildlife watching	30.8%
31. White water rafting	28.3%
32. Fitness trails	27.9%
33. Rowing	26.5%
34. Learning county history	26.3%
35. Geo-caching	25.7%
36. Snowshoeing	24.9%
37. Sailing	23.4%
38. Frisbee golf	22.4%
39. Orienteering	16.5%

The activities that kids haven't done but would most like to learn were: (in order of highest percentage wanting to learn)

1. White water rafting	51.1%
2. Sailing	44.1%
3. Frisbee golf	29.7%
4. Geo-caching	29.6%
5. Canoe/kayak	28.3%
6. Snowshoeing	28.2%
7. Fitness trail	27.9%
8. Rowing	26.5%
9. Cross-country ski	26.0%
10. Archery	25.9%
11. Backpacking	25.7%
12. Downhill ski/board	25.1%

13. Orienteering	24.4%
14. Obstacle Course	23.8%
15. Tennis	22.9%
16. Horseback riding	21.5%
17. Snowmobile	20.3%
18. Off-road motorcycling	22.2%
19. Bike touring	19.6%
20. Golf	18.6%
21. Skateboarding	17.9%
22. Hunting	17.6%
23. Off-road biking	15.7%
24. Ice skating	15.4%
25. Bird/wildlife watching	15.4%
26. Learning county history	13.4%
27. 4-wheeling	12.6%
28. Picnicking	11.9%
29. Star gazing	11.1%
30. Gardening	8.6%
31. Berry picking	7.9%
32. Outdoor cooking/campfire	7.2%
33. Hike	7.1%
34. Fishing	4.9%
35. Tubing/sledding	4.9%
36. Playground activities	4.9%
37. Swim in river/lake	3.0%
38. Swim in pool	1.6%

The top ten activities that students had tried but didn't like were: (in order of activities liked least)

1. Gardening	34.7%
2. Learning about the history of the county	32.9%
3. Golf	23.6%
4. Bird/wildlife watching	21.2%
5. Playground activities	21.2%
6. Skateboarding	20.1%
7. Tennis	19.6%
8. Berry picking	18.5%
9. Picnicking	18.1%
10. Ice skating	16.3%

The top ten activities that students have never tried but knew they would not like were: (in order of activity guessed to be liked the least)

1. Orienteering	45.1%
2. Frisbee golf	37.3%
3. Geo-caching	34.3%
4. Snow shoeing	33.7%
5. Backpacking	33.4%
6. Bicycle touring on roads	33.2%
7. Rowing	33.0%
8. Bird/wildlife watching	32.7%

9. Fitness trail	31.2%
10. Obstacle course	25.3%

The students were also asked if there were other outdoor recreation activities they were interested in and there were many responses. In the parenthesis next to the activity is the number of times the activity was mentioned. They include soccer (11), skydiving (10), basketball (8), football (8), beach volleyball (8), activities with pets (7), shooting sports (6), nature photography (5), rock climbing (4), bungee jumping (4), survival skills (4), badminton (4), BMX track (3), scuba diving (3), long boarding (3), softball (3), rafting/floating (3), wake knee-boarding (3), mountain climbing (2), water park/Silverwood (2), surfing (2), water tubing (2), motor boating (2), snow fighting (2), baseball (2), and parkour (2). The remaining activities were mentioned once: outdoor guitar wars, drag racing, Frisbee, fish derby, deep sea fishing, juggling, rope course, wing suit, zip line, hang gliding, mud bogging, hackey sack, skate competitions, rodeo, build forts, gymnastics, hide and seek, capture the flag, nature journaling, martial arts, paint ball, tennis dodgeball and scootering.

Students were asked about their one favorite summer activity. In the parenthesis next to the activity is the number of times it was mentioned. The favorite activities are: swimming (75), camping (37), football (17), 4-wheeling (17), basketball (15), horseback riding (15), bicycling (13), dirt biking (13), soccer (12), water skiing/tubing (11), hiking (11), fishing (10), running (8), wake boarding (6), baseball (6), skateboard (5), golf (5), archery (4), off road motorcycle (4), volleyball (3), tanning (3), hunting (3), softball (3), traveling (2), rodeo (2), juggling (2), mudding (2), and paint ball (2). The following activities were mentioned once: Frisbee, gardening, parkour, surfing, trampoline, shooting, boating, long boarding and airsoft.

Students were also asked about their one favorite winter activity. In the parenthesis next to the activity is the number of times the activity was mentioned. The favorite winter activities were: snowboarding (65), sledding/tubing (65), snowmobiling (50), skiing (18), hunting (10), snowball fights (9), ice skating (6), snow forts/tunnels/igloos (6), building snowmen (3), snow shoeing (3), camping (2) and hockey (2). The following activities were mentioned once: 4 wheeling, IDK, star gazing, campfire, trapping, polar plunge, airsoft, snow angels, snow football and ice fishing.

Students were asked to name one new outdoor summer sport they would like to learn. The number an activity was named is in parenthesis. New summer activities were: white water rafting (16), archery (18), tennis (12), sky diving (10), sailing (12), wake boarding (8), water skiing (9), horseback riding (6), lacrosse (6), hunt (5), swim (8), canoe/kayak (6), golf (8), geo-cache (5), hike (5), soccer (6), skateboard (5), dirt bike (5), IDK (4), beach volleyball (5), scuba dive (4), basketball (3), BMX (3), camp(3), longboarding (4), ORV motorcycle (3), baseball (3), jet-ski (2), camp (2), 4 wheeling (2), rugby (2), skateboard (2), mountain bike (2), fitness trail (2), football (2), fishing (2), and surfing (2). The following were mentioned once: shooting sports, Frisbee golf, pickle

ball, boating, nature photography, pet activities, obstacle course, baseball, larping, star gazing, sand surfing, bull riding, rock climbing and wing suit flying.

Students were asked to name one new winter outdoor sport they would like to learn. The number of times an activity was named is in parenthesis. New winter activities were: snowboard (59), ski (45), snowmobile (21), snow shoe (14), ice skate (15), make igloos/tunnels/snowmen (11), cross country ski (7), ice fish (8), hunt (5), ice sculpting (2), winter camping and polar plunge (2). The following were mentioned once: hockey, big-foot tracking, orienteering, winter survival and bobsledding.

When asked if students would be interested in joining an outdoor adventure club that plans, organizes and then goes out and does fun activities in the parks and forests 173 (49.1%) said that they would not be interested in the club; 113 (32.1%) said they would be interested in a club held after school and 66 students (18.8%) said they would be interested in an adventure club if it were held on weekends. 26 students skipped the question.

The students were next asked about the types of activities they liked, were unsure about or disliked. The activities they liked, in order of liking the most, were: Activities outdoors in the summer when it is warm, 89.1% (319); outdoor field trips during school, 88.4% (320); Spending time near lakes, ponds or streams, 88.0% (323); Spending time out in the forests, 82.0% (300); After school sports, 74.5% (272); Weekend outdoor activities with my family, 74.0% (271); Weekend outdoor activities with other kids, 72.7% (266); Activities outdoors in winter in the snow, 70.8% (257); Summer outdoor nature camps, 58.5% (213); Going to large group picnics, shows and festivals, 56.2% (204); Working on conservation projects ((helping wildlife, planting trees, fixing damaged streams and other activities that help our natural areas), 44.3% (162); Activities where you learn about nature, 43.2% (158) and After school clubs (other than school sports), 40.1% (146). The students were most unsure about after school clubs, working on conservation projects, learning about nature and summer nature camps. The activities they like the least were learning about nature, after-school clubs, working on conservation projects and going to large group picnics.

The Wellness Director of Newport High School requested the addition of a question that would assist her in developing fitness programs provided by the School District.

Students were given the choices of zumba, spin class, aerobics, aerobic dance and karate and then asked if and when they would prefer to participate. The most popular choice was karate during school followed by spin class after school and zumba after school. The next most popular was aerobic dance during school, aerobics during school, karate after school, spin class during school and zumba after school. The activities that were suggested to take place before school were all least popular. Students requested these additional activities: (The number of times the activity was suggested is in parenthesis.) weight lifting (7), yoga (4) team sports (3), soccer (3), running (3),

gymnastics (3), swing dance (3), stunting (cheerleading) (2), tae-kwon-do (2), archery (1), golf (1), and juggling (1.)

There were a total of 378 students participating in the survey. 52.4% (198) were male and 49.9% were female. Of the entire group, 5.8% (22) were aged 10-12; 73.8% (279) were aged 13-15 and 23.8% (90) were aged 16-18. Students from Newport School District completed 48.7% (184) surveys; Cusick School District completed 26.5% (100) surveys; Selkirk School District completed 28.3% (107) surveys and 1.6% (6) were completed by students who are home schooled.

COMMENTS COLLECTED FROM BOOTH AT COUNTY FAIR

The Pend Oreille County Fair opened on Thursday, August 15th and ran through Sunday, August 18th. During these 4 days, the Parks and Recreation Board manned a Parks and Recreation Information Booth. The purpose was to publicize County parks and the new Comprehensive Plan; to disseminate maps and provide other information concerning outdoor recreation opportunities within the County; to receive public comment concerning parks and recreation activities and to expand the County's new Parks and Recreation e-mail/ mailing list. An informational display board was designed and created by Pandi Gruver showing maps and pictures of outdoor recreation activities. An estimated 100 people stopped by the booth to look at displays, take handouts and visit with Board members and staff. Thirteen people signed up to be on the mailing lists. Only two people wrote comments on the comment sheet; one comment recommended that Rustler's Gulch remain open to motorized use and the other recommended no further development at Yocum Lake Wildlife and Recreation District.

Summary

- More horse trails
- Better parking for trailers at trail heads
- Keep Yocum Lake the same – do not develop further
- Provide ORV trails at Rustler's Gulch

RESULTS FROM TOWN HALL MEETINGS

A total of four town hall meetings were scheduled during the 3rd week of August. The town hall meetings were thoroughly advertised by a news release that was sent out to all regional media outlets. **THE NEWPORT MINER** published two nice articles concerning the meetings and a paid ad was placed into the "Hot Box" section the week before the meetings. Bookmarks listing times, dates and places of the meetings were handed out at the County Fair.

Two presentations were developed in preparation for the town hall meetings. The first was a repeating slide show displaying scenic pictures taken throughout the County at various places. The second PowerPoint presentation summarized the new Comprehensive plan; showed the public how they could access the draft plan on the County website, discussed the planned upcoming projects at county sites, related results from the June parks and recreation survey and then finished with implementation strategies.

In addition, a handout was printed for attendees so that they might write down suggestions, opinions and other thoughts during the presentations. People were then asked to return the handout at the end of the evening so Board members and Staff might review the comments.

NEWPORT TOWN HALL MEETING

The Newport Town Hall meeting was held Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. on August 19 at the Box Canyon Meeting Room at the PUD building in Newport. There were 10 people in attendance including County Commissioners, County Staff, Parks and Recreation Board members, the parks and recreation consultant and one interested citizen. The assistant manager for the West Branch of the Little Spokane Wildlife Refuge was also in attendance. The interested citizen was attending the meeting to promote disc golf and a discussion of that activity provided additional information for the Board and Staff to consider. The Commissioners, Board Members and Staff also took this opportunity to discuss the Plan and survey results. One topic of interest to all was the possibility of providing a swimming beach at one of the County owned areas along the Pend Oreille River.

Summary

- Disc Golf Course
- Swimming beach

SACHEEN LAKE TOWN HALL MEETING

The second Town Hall meeting was held at the Sacheen Lake Fire Station which is convenient to a large population of residents in the Sacheen Lake, Diamond Lake and additional areas in the south part of Pend Oreille County. At this meeting on Tuesday evening, August 20th at 6 p.m., there were 8 people in attendance. All were Commissioners, Staff and Board members with the exception of one interested citizen. This meeting also gave those attending to discuss additional topics. A swimming beach was again discussed. After reviewing the survey results it was also determined that perhaps a shooting range would be a welcome addition to county outdoor recreation opportunities. The one member of the public has experience in parks and recreation and made several suggestions to the Board concerning developing the planned non-profit parks and recreation foundation and the use of engineering students from WSU to

assist in park planning. These suggestions were written on the handout and returned to the Board at the end of the evening.

Summary

- Swimming beach
- Shooting range

CUSICK TOWN HALL MEETING

The town hall meeting in Cusick was held at the Cusick Community Center at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21st. There were 2 County staff members, two Parks and Recreation Board members, the Director of PORTA, the Parks and Recreation Consultant and four members of the general public in attendance. After the general presentation, several topics were discussed. The first was the non-motorized designation of Rustler's Gulch Recreation Area. Two persons present were landowners in the area and made it known that they would prefer the non-motorized designation to continue since they enjoy riding their ATVs in the area. The third member of the general public mentioned that he would like to see better access for boats to lakes and rivers in the County.

Summary

- Keep Rustler's Gulch Area open to motorized vehicles
- Better boat launches throughout the county

IONE TOWN HALL MEETING

August 22, 6 p.m. was the date and time of the next town hall meeting held at the Ione Community Center. There were 10 people in attendance: two County Staff members, the Parks and Recreation Consultant, one County Commissioner, two Parks and Recreation Board members and four members of the general public. One of those also happened to be a reporter covering the meeting for **THE NEWPORT MINER**. A variety of topics and interests were discussed.

Summary

- Need bear-proof trash containers at Pend Oreille County Park
- Pend Oreille. County Park toilet on the highway needs additional cleaning
- Consider a skate park for Ione. (Resident mentioned possible funding from Tony Hawk Foundation)
- Disc golf course

OTHER REGIONAL OUTDOOR RECREATION SURVEYS

SEATTLE CITY LIGHT

In 2010, Seattle City Light published results of a recreation survey as part of their **BOUNDARY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC No. 2144) STUDY NO. 21, RECREATION RESOURCE STUDY FINAL REPORT**. Along with a very detailed parks and recreation inventory, there were several items of interest.

- Observers at Sweet Creek Rest Area documented visitation of 4.6 persons per hour during an average day during the summer season
- Sweet Creek Rest Area is operating at well below capacity
- All sites along Boundary Reservoir are also operating well below capacity except for Forebay Campground which is approaching capacity and exceeding it on peak summer weekends
- Visitors at recreation areas in the north part of Pend Oreille County generally stated that crowding was not an issue. (6% stated they felt crowded.)
- Sightseeing and fishing were the most common activities in the north part of Pend Oreille County
- Visitors expressed a high level of satisfaction with recreation areas in and around Boundary Reservoir
- Scenery of north Pend Oreille County was rated very highly
- A large majority of residents in British Columbia do not use Boundary Reservoir
- A recreation inventory found that trails are limited in North County
- The highest future growth rate is expected for picnicking and general day-use
- Need for recreation is expected to grow by 3.3% in the next year (2011).
- Visitation is expected to increase by 30% by 2041
- There is no indication that visitation levels are exceeding or even approaching capacity in the North County area

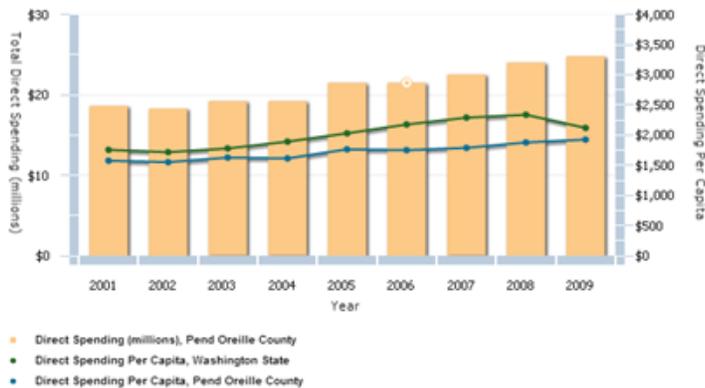
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY PERTAINING TO RECREATION

DIRECT TRAVEL AND TOURISM EXPENDITURES

The best measure of the success of the community's efforts to attract conventions and to increase general tourism is the total money spent by tourists on hotel/motel stays, restaurants, transportation (including airfare), retail shopping, tours, campground revenues, museum visits, etc. The governments of Pend Oreille County can use this visitor and travel spending information to gauge how effective their support of tourism activities has been. Private Service Providers can examine these revenues to make staffing or facility expansion decisions.

Since tourism goods and services are, by definition, purchased by people from outside of the region, their spending represents new dollars injected into the local economy.

Figure 14 Direct Travel and Tourism Expenditures



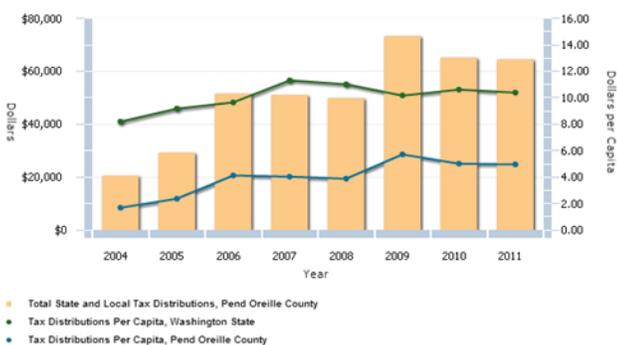
This indicator estimates the direct spending accounted for by tourism and shows the annual rate of change for that spending. It includes spending on transportation, accommodations, food and beverages, groceries, entertainment, and recreation. The series is benchmarked to Washington State. Data come from the Washington State Travel Impacts & Visitor Volume report. Dean Runyan Associates prepares the report for the Washington State Tourism Office of the Department of Commerce.

The estimates of direct tourism spending were produced using the Regional Travel Impact Model (RTIM) developed by Dean Runyan Associates. The estimates given for Washington are comparable to the U.S. Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts produced by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The estimates do not include any secondary, or multiplier effects.

The direct tourism and travel expenditures for Pend Oreille County have continually increased since 2001, reaching \$24.8 million in 2009. This represents an increase of 33% since 2001. Per capita direct tourism and travel expenditures have also risen in Pend Oreille County, increasing by 22% overall. For most of the periods measured, per capita spending in Pend Oreille County has been lower than the State.

HOTEL AND MOTEL LODGING TAX

Figure 15 Total Local Redistribution of State and Local Hotel and Motel Lodging Tax Levies



According to the Washington Department of Revenue, the hotel and motel lodging tax is a tax imposed on consumers for lodging charges for stays of less than thirty consecutive days in hotels, motels, rooming houses, private campgrounds, RV parks, and other similar facilities. Like other taxes, rates for this tax vary by location and not all locations impose this tax. There are two parts to the tax - one levied by the State, and another by the local cities and counties.

Revenues collected from both parts of the hotel motel lodging tax are redistributed by the Washington State Treasurer to the levying counties and cities. Not all of the

taxes collected will be redistributed; some revenue is kept by the State. The revenues returned to the counties are typically used for promoting local tourism activities but also may be used for the construction and/or operation of tourism-related facilities.

This indicator first calculates the hotel and motel lodging tax that is redistributed to Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens Counties and then displays it as a per capita measure. Its path reflects the strength of overnight tourism in the three counties.

The trend is shown for the combined Tri-County area as well as for each individual county. Data come from the Washington State Auditor’s Office. Washington State is offered as a benchmark.

In 2011, total state and local hotel and motel lodging tax distributions for Pend Oreille County were \$64,450; a 215% increase since 2004. However, lodging tax distributions have decreased 12% since 2009. The per capita lodging tax redistribution was \$10.38 at the state level and \$4.96 in the county in 2011; increases of 27% and 195% respectively. The per capita tax distribution for Pend Oreille County in 2011 was \$5.42 less than Washington State; a similar gap has been maintained throughout the period shown.

VISITORS TO COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

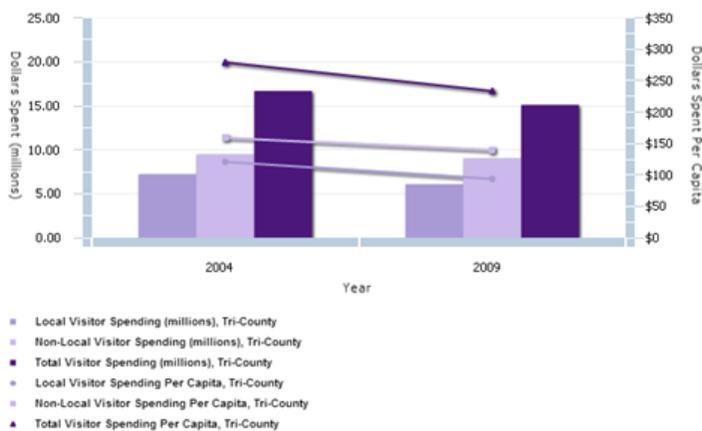
People who come to recreate in the Colville National Forest often spend time and money in the surrounding communities as well as within the boundaries of the national forest. The USDA Forest Service conducts a National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) study at every National Forest every five years that collects data on the annual number

of visitors, the activities they participate in during their visit, whether they spend the night (on or off the National Forest property), and how much money they spend on things like groceries, souvenirs, dinners out, and transportation (both on and off the National Forest). It collects data from visitors who are local (live within 30 straight-line miles from the boundary of the national forest) and non-local (live more than 30 straight-line miles from the boundary of the national forest). All foreign visitors are considered non-local. This knowledge allows the Forest Service and local government, planners, and developers to monitor changes in visitor use and spending trends and adjust plans and budgets to best

meet visitor and community needs.

This indicator looks at the spending aspect of the study. It measures spending in the Tri-County region by local and non-local visitors to the Colville National Forest in several

Figure 16 Total Tourism and Travel Dollars Spend Locally by Visitors to Colville National Forest: Tri-County



categories: lodging, dining out, groceries, fuel, transportation, activities, fees and admissions, and souvenirs. It includes day use visitors and those who stay overnight, both on and off the forest property. It does not include the small amount of spending by non-primary visitors, or those whose destination was somewhere other than the National Forest. Data are displayed as a Tri-County measure since the Colville National Forest covers areas in all three counties. Data come from the National Forest Service.

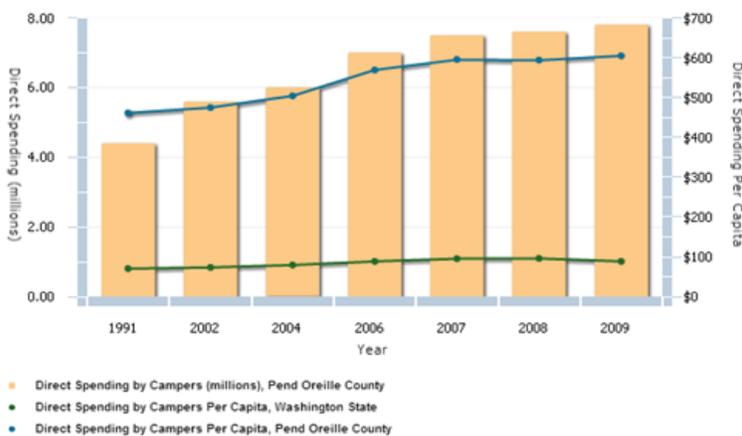
In 2009, non-local visitors to Colville National Forest (CNF) whose destination was CNF spent \$9.02 million, or \$139 per capita. Local visitors to CNF whose destination was the CNF spent \$6.06 million, or \$93 per capita. In total \$15.1 million was spent by visitors whose destination was the CNF, or \$233 on a per capita basis. All measures were down from 2004 levels probably due to the national recession.

It should be noted that a small portion of Kaniksu National Forest is also located in Pend Oreille County. This Forest is administered by the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

TOTAL TOURISM AND TRAVEL EXPENDITURES BY CAMPERS STAYING AT LOCAL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CAMPGROUNDS

This indicator is a good measure of the positive economic impact that a type of tourism can bring to the region. It measures money spent by visitors to local campgrounds on everything from accommodations and food and beverage services, to recreation, transportation, and all other visitor related commodities. It covers the spending activities of people camping in both public and private campgrounds within Pend Oreille County. Private campgrounds are those that are privately owned, or commercial in nature. Public campgrounds are federal, state, and county campsites and recreation

Figure 17 Total Tourism and Travel Expenditures by Campers Staying at Local Public and Private Campgrounds



areas such as those managed by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, the U.S. Forest Service, or the National Park Service.

Spending by campground guests in accommodations and in other business categories (food and beverage services, recreation, transportation, etc.) is estimated using campground specific data, such as the number of campsites, average occupancy of the campsites, visitor counts. These data are supplemented by visitor surveys showing how travelers divide their consumption between accommodations and other purchases.

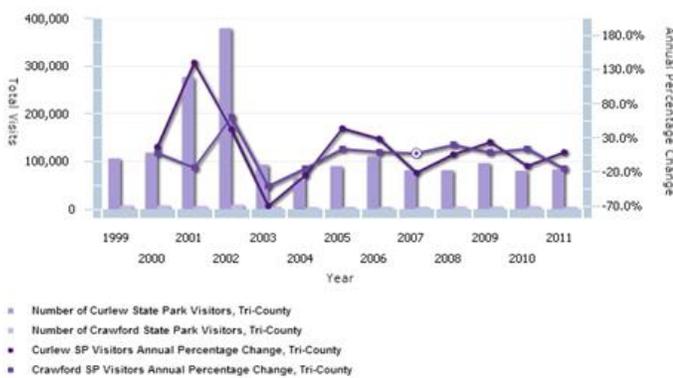
This indicator calculates the total

travel spending by campers staying at public and private campgrounds in Pend Oreille County, as well as the spending per capita to allow a comparison to the State of Washington, the benchmark for this indicator. Data come from the Washington State Travel Impacts & Visitor Volume report. Dean Runyan Associates prepares the report for the Department of Commerce's Washington State Tourism Office.

The total tourism and travel expenditures by campers staying at local campgrounds have increased in Pend Oreille County in 2009, up 3% from the previous year. Overall, the increase has been significant, climbing 77% since 1991, when the graph began. The per capita amount of spending by campers has risen 27% since 2002. In 2009, per capita camper spending in Pend Oreille County was 516 dollars higher than per capita spending at the Washington State level.

TOTAL ANNUAL CRAWFORD STATE PARK VISITOR USE

Figure 18 Total Annual Curlew State Park and Crawford State Park Visitor Use: Tri-County



Part of the tourism draw for Pend Oreille County is Crawford State Park located in the north end of the County. Monitoring

the number of visitors each year to this park is useful for park managers, county planners, developers, and tourism promoters.

Crawford State Park is a 49-acre, forested park. There are no camping facilities; its most prominent attraction is Gardner Cave, the third longest limestone cavern in Washington. This cave is open to the public for tours and is filled with stalactites, stalagmites, rim stone pools, and flow stone. This indicator counts the total number of visitors to Crawford State Park, north of Metaline, WA in Pend Oreille County, and Curlew Lake

State Park, north of Republic, WA in Ferry County. It also tracks the annual percentage change of visitor use at the two parks. This data is courtesy of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

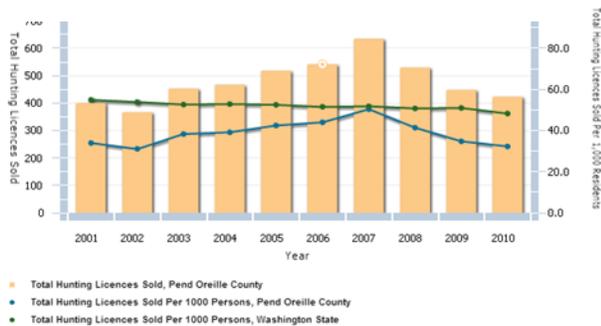
At Crawford State Park, in 2011, the total number of visitors decreased 21.2% from 2010. Since 1999, there has been an overall decrease of 37%. Crawford State Park visitation peaked in 2002 at 9,289.

TOTAL ANNUAL NUMBER OF HUNTING LICENSES SOLD AND NUMBER PER 1,000 RESIDENTS

Hunting and fishing are one of the hallmarks of life in Northeast Washington. Hunters and anglers also play an important economic role in the Tri-County region. The revenue they generate from the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses is spent by the state on managing game animals and their habitats. The local economy is enhanced via spending

on goods and services related to hunting and fishing. Jobs exist because of that spending.

Figure 19 Total Annual Number of Hunting Licenses Sold and Number per 1,000 residents



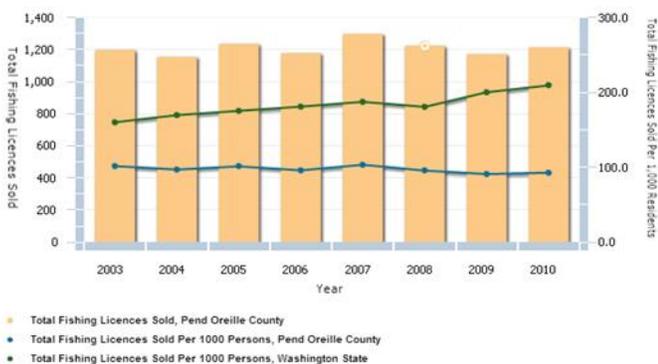
Monitoring the number of hunting licenses that are sold in Pend Oreille County is useful for local governments, businesses, and others because they offer both a history of how much hunting levels have changed and a way to help to predict future needs.

This indicator counts both the total number of hunting licenses sold and the number per person in Pend Oreille County. A per capita count for the State of Washington is offered as a benchmark. Data comes from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Another indicator measuring fishing licenses is also available, see indicator 8.11.

In 2010, 423 hunting licenses were sold in Pend Oreille County, representing a 6% overall increase since 2001. The number of licenses sold per 1,000 persons in Pend Oreille County reached 32.3 per 1,000, compared to Washington State at 48.3 hunting licenses sold per 1,000 persons. Pend Oreille County has consistently seen a lower number of hunting licenses sold per capita than the state.

TOTAL ANNUAL NUMBER OF FISHING LICENSES SOLD

Figure 20 Total Annual Number of Fishing Licenses Sold and Number per 1,000 residents



Anglers play an important economic role in Pend Oreille County. The revenue they generate from the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses is spent by the state on managing game animals and their habitats. They can also impact the local economy via spending on goods and services related to hunting and fishing. Furthermore, jobs exist because of that spending.

Monitoring the number of fishing licenses that are sold in Pend Oreille County is useful for local governments, businesses, and others because the numbers offer a history of how fishing levels have changed and also help to predict needs.

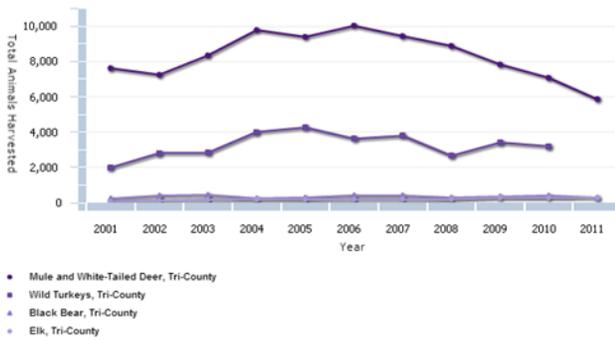
This indicator counts both the total number of fishing licenses sold and the number per person in Pend Oreille County. A per capita count for the State of Washington is offered as a benchmark. Data come from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. In 2010, 1,213 fishing licenses were sold in Pend Oreille County. This represents an increase of 1.3% since 2003. The number of licenses sold per 1,000

persons in Pend Oreille County has been consistently lower than Washington State as a whole. In 2010, Pend Oreille County sold 92 licenses per 1,000 persons while the State sold 209 fishing licenses per 1,000 persons.

TOTAL NUMBER OF GAME ANIMALS HARVESTED

Washington’s wildlife species represent an important resource that provides substantial

Figure 21 Number of Game Animals Harvested Annually in Northeast Game Management Units: Tri-County



recreational, aesthetic, cultural, and economic benefits to Washington citizens and especially Native American people of the area. Monitoring these species is important because it enables scientists to plan effectively for any necessary habitat restoration work, tighter or more relaxed hunting regulations, disease control, etc. Counting the exact number of animals in the wild is difficult at best - there is no census of wildlife. However, counting the number of animals that are killed by hunters each year is much easier. The state of Washington’s Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) manages game populations and publishes a game harvest report every year that counts animals harvested by species and by geographic location.

The species counted here include deer (mule and white-tailed are counted together), elk, wild turkeys, and black bears. Wild turkeys are the only species of the five monitored here that are a non-native species. The wild turkey was introduced to the state of Washington specifically as a game animal beginning in the early 1900s. The WDFW manages all of these game species and their respective habitats with the following goals in mind: to maintain a healthy population that will ensure recreational opportunities such as hunting, wildlife viewing and photography, scientific study, and also to provide for cultural and ceremonial uses by local tribes, all while minimizing threats to public safety and/or property damage.

Washington is divided into various game management units (GMUs) that encompass different geographic regions around the state. Each GMU has its own hunting rules, regulations, and seasonal restrictions that affect the number of animals that can be harvested and what game species may or may not be hunted. There are eight GMUs that fall within or nearly within the boundaries of Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille Counties, which are in-turn part of Region-1 of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the eastern side of the State. The GMUs do not include any of the tribal reservation lands. The eight GMUs covered in this indicator are: 101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 121, and 124.

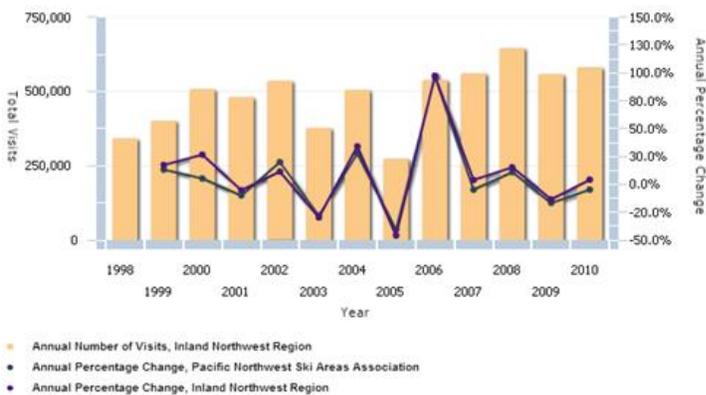
This indicator calculates the number of deer, wild turkeys, black bears, and elk that are harvested each year during the general hunting season within the eight local GMUs and shows the percent change from year to year. Harvest numbers do not include special

permit hunts. Instead of a calendar year, data are gathered for a specific 12 month period - for example, the 2009 data show harvest numbers for July 2008 through June 2009. Data are compiled as a combined measure for the Tri-County region since the GMU boundaries do not follow the county boundaries. Also, the GMUs do not include tribal lands, so animals killed on the reservations will not be included here. No Washington State benchmark is available for this indicator. Data come from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's annual Game Harvest Report. In the Tri-County area 5,862 mule and white-tailed deer were harvested in 2011. This is down from 7,614 in 2001. In 2011, 280 black bears and 304 elk were harvested; these represent increases of 25% and 311%, respectively. During 2010, the most recent year where data is available, 3,197 wild turkeys were harvested, a 61% gain since 2001.

TOTAL ANNUAL INLAND NORTHWEST SKI RESORT VISITS AND ANNUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE: TRI-COUNTY

Winter sports are an important part of the Inland Northwest's recreation and tourism industries. Skiing and snowboarding offer recreation, views, and time with family and friends for residents and visitors alike. Winter sports also generate tourism and related revenue for local economies. These revenues are especially important for the areas surrounding these resorts in the winter season when other warm weather tourism and recreation revenues drop. This

Figure 22 Total Annual Inland Northwest Ski Resort Visits and Annual Percentage Changes: Tri-County



region of the Inland Northwest is home to five major ski mountains: Mt. Spokane (Spokane, WA), Silver Mountain (Kellogg, ID), 49 Degrees North (Chewelah, WA), Schweitzer Mountain (Sandpoint, ID) and Lookout Pass (Wallace, ID). Four of these resorts form Ski the Inland Northwest Rockies, a non-profit trade association that helps to represent the interests of alpine and Nordic ski areas located within the region. These resorts each offer a wide variety of winter sport activities, including groomed

Nordic trails and snow tubing, and cater to the different skill levels of their visitors. This indicator measures the combined number of annual visits to the five resorts, and the rate of change each year. This includes alpine skiers, snowboarders, summer mountain visitors, and Nordic skiers if the mountains have Nordic trails (however, this data isn't always consistently reported). Even though only one resort in the INSA falls within the Tri-County area, this indicator is still useful for local economists, business owners, and planners alike. The benchmark for this series is the Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association (PNSAA). This is a much larger group that includes nearly all the ski resorts in

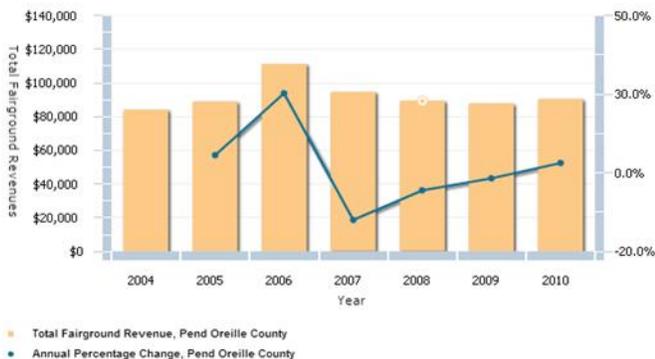
Washington and Oregon, as well as major resorts in Idaho, in Alaska and in northern California.

The total annual number of visits to the Inland Northwest Region's ski resorts has varied greatly since 1998, when the graph began. There was a decrease of 23,219 visits from 2009 to 2010, which was a 4.1% decrease. However, since 1998 visits have increased by 70%. The annual percentage change for the Inland Northwest Region and PNSAA are very similar, as indicated by their graphs.

TOTAL ANNUAL FAIR AND NON-FAIR REVENUES

County fairgrounds host more than just the annual county fair. They are a venue for a

Figure 23 Total Annual Fair and Non-Fair Revenues from the County Fairgrounds



variety of events throughout the year from home and garden shows and craft fairs to agricultural conventions. They usually represent the largest public gathering facility in a rural county. As a result, their events provide important revenue streams for the local county governments. Tracking the changes in that revenue stream from year to year can help county governments plan for future needs.

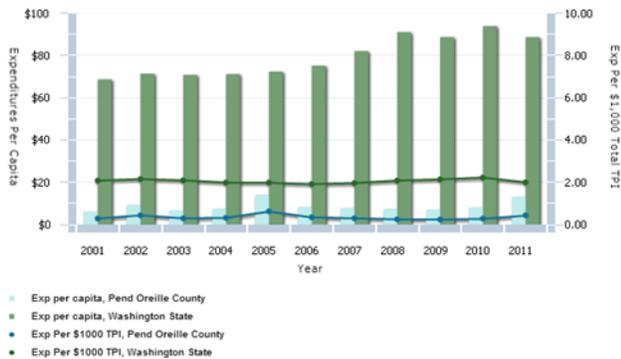
This indicator measures the annual revenues generated at the county fairgrounds from both fair and non-fair events. The annual percentage change is offered in addition to the annual total. Data come from the Auditor's office. Revenues from the Pend Oreille Fairgrounds increased 7% since 2004,

reaching \$90,405 in 2010. This also represents an increase of 3% over the previous year's total revenues.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

Funding for maintenance and activities is one measure of a community's commitment to sustaining a high quality park and recreation system. Parks have long been recognized as major contributors to the physical and aesthetic quality of urban neighborhoods. They provide areas for people to be physically active and enjoy the outdoors, they provide wildlife sanctuaries, and they facilitate social interactions.

Figure 24 Local Government Expenditures for Parks and Recreational Operations per Capita and per \$1000 Total Personal Income



A new, broader view of parks has recently emerged. This new view goes beyond the traditional value of parks as places of recreation and visual assets to communities, and focuses on how policymakers, practitioners, and the public can begin to think about parks as valuable contributors to larger urban policy objectives, such as job opportunities, youth development, public health, and community. Additionally, proximity of private land to parks increases the tax value of that private land, which could increase tax revenue to a community.

The parks in the Pend Oreille County region - such as Pend Oreille County Park - provide space for residents' day-to-day recreational needs, protect environmentally sensitive areas, add aesthetic value, conserve natural resources, and assure public access and enjoyment of some of the area's greatest assets.

This indicator tracks local government expenditures for parks. It does not include state or national park lands within the counties, nor does it include revenues generated at any National Forests or their facilities. It measures the expenditures first on a per capita basis, then as a share of \$1,000 total personal income. The latter measure is one that weights local government spending by the community's ability to pay. Data for this indicator come from the Local Government Financial Reporting System of the Washington State Auditor's office.

In 2011, Pend Oreille County spent \$13.09 per capita on parks and recreation operations, up 114% from \$6.12 in 2001. On a personal income basis \$0.43 was spent per \$1,000 of total personal income, up 53% from \$0.28 per \$1,000 of TPI in 2001.

At the state level, per capita expenditures were much higher, at \$88.61 in 2011. This is up 29% from the 2001 figure of \$68.68. On a personal income basis, \$2.00 per \$1,000 of TPI was spent in 2011; down 3% from the 2001 expenditure of \$2.08.

CONCLUSIONS

The above summaries provide a great deal of thought provoking information that is extremely valuable when planning future projects and activities. The following conclusions are random and not listed in any order of importance.

CONCLUSIONS REGARDING NATIONAL TRENDS

- Hunting and fishing activities are nationally on the decline and sales for hunting licenses in Pend Oreille County reflect that decline. Some of this may be due to hard winters 3 and 4 years ago resulting in lower populations of game animals. However, fishing license sales in Pend Oreille County have remained steady and even slightly increased in 2010, probably due to the large number of lakes and rivers in the county that provide many opportunities for fishing. The County may see reduced fishing activity due to the elimination of pike populations in the Pend Oreille River by the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and the WADFW. However, bass fishing may be improving and take the place of pike fishing in the Pend Oreille River.
- Wildlife viewing is an activity that is becoming more and more popular. With the outstanding wildlife populations in Pend Oreille County this may be an opportunity for attracting tourists and providing tours and/or programs for local residents.
- Winter activities are showing a national decline however local participation is good. Plans to provide winter activities should be carefully reviewed.
- In general, the increasing population will cause increased demand for recreation opportunities. As the Spokane, Post Falls, Spokane Valley and Coeur d'Alene areas become more expensive and more crowded, people will be driving further north to find less crowded opportunities for recreation. Pend Oreille County needs to plan for this possibility. As an example, in the spring of 2013, The West Valley Outdoor Learning Center from Spokane Valley brought students to Pend Oreille County Park rather than to their usual area at Bear Lake Park in Spokane County stating that fees to use the park were now too high and they preferred the more natural setting in Pend Oreille County.
- Five activities to consider promoting in Pend Oreille County are the ones expected to increase at the highest rates: skiing, challenge activities, equestrian activities, motorized water activities and day hiking.
- Education and income levels affect levels of recreation. Pend Oreille County's education and income levels are lower than Washington State's average and planning for recreation activities should reflect that fact. Expensive activities might not do well. The county should do everything possible to provide no cost or low cost activities and might also consider providing discounts for residents when charging fees.

- Many other agencies across the country provide programs through their parks and recreation departments. The programs most often provided are holiday and other special events, day and summer camps, arts and crafts classes and educational classes. If Pend Oreille County is to begin providing programs to help create revenue, these programs should be considered.
- In other parks and recreation programs across the country, the ones most commonly added are environmental education, teen programs, fitness programs, senior programs and other educational programs. It is interesting to note that on the Pend Oreille County General Public Survey, over 77% of the people responding thought the number one activity needed was more outdoor education for youth; environmental education was ranked third with 66.5% of the respondents saying more was needed. It is also interesting to note that on the county youth survey, “learning about nature” was very low on their list of preferred activities. However, “field trips during school” was liked universally by most students. Pend Oreille County should consider working with schools to promote environment education field trips for students and environmental education classes at other times for the general public.
- If current trends continue it is important for the County Parks and Recreation Department to consider facilitating recreation activities rather than providing the actual activity. The County should work with private business and other recreation resource agencies in the county to provide the maximum amount of opportunities for the least expense to the residents.
- Rather than hiring employees, the Parks and Recreation Department should take steps to contract work out to private business, make agreements with private vendors and use non-profit organizations to further the recreational opportunities in the county.

CONCLUSIONS REGARDING STATE TRENDS

- In general, the demand for recreation opportunities will be increasing as the population increases and Pend Oreille County needs to plan for increased demand.
- The top activities to promote will be walking/hiking, team sports, nature photography, picnicking, indoor classes, water activities, sightseeing, bicycling, ORV activities and snow/ice activities.
- Of all water activities, the most popular is swimming. Skiing is the most popular snow activity and the types of camping that are most popular are tent camping (Washington) and camping with recreational vehicles (Idaho). Promotion of these opportunities in the county would be wise.

- Popular activities in Idaho mirrored the popular activities in Washington; walking/hiking, viewing scenery, driving for pleasure and sightseeing were all popular in both states.
- Again, state trends stressed how education and income can determine types of recreational activities and Pend Oreille County should consider those factors when planning for parks and recreation.

CONCLUSIONS REGARDING COUNTY TRENDS

- It is important to note the on-line survey distributed in June throughout the county may not give a complete picture of the recreation participation in Pend Oreille County. Considering it was an on-line survey, responses were limited to those with computer access and skills. Although computers are available in all county libraries, some county residents are not computer literate or have slow dial-up internet connections. Only about a dozen hand written surveys were returned to the Board. On the other hand, the youth survey is completely accurate since the surveys were completed by such a large percentage of students during school time. Secondly, only residents who are particularly interested in outdoor recreation may have made the effort to fill out the survey. Those residents who do not spend time outdoors probably did not fill out the survey and therefore participation rates county-wide could be lower than those shown. It is also important to consider that those people who are interested in outdoor recreation and who took the time to fill out the survey are the same people who are likely to participate in future activities.
- In some aspects, recreation demand in Pend Oreille County seems to be very different from national trends and even state trends, especially in regards to hunting and fishing. This is probably due to: first, the primarily rural lifestyles of most of the residents and second, the abundance of fishing and hunting opportunities throughout the county. When comparing participation percentages the difference is quite noticeable as can be seen in the following examples:

Table 40 National, State and Pend Oreille County Comparisons of Selected Outdoor Recreation Activities

Activity	Participation nationally	Participation state-wide	PO County Adults	PO County Youth
Hunting	5.5%	6%	45.7%	58.5%
Fishing	13%	16%	68.3%	77.7%
Horseback riding	Unknown	6%	23.5%	52.3%
ORV riding (4-wheeler and motorcycle)	Unknown	19%	38.3%	80.5%

These differences must be taken into consideration by the County Parks and Recreation Board when planning projects and activities for county residents.

- The top five opportunities people want more of include outdoor education for youth, sledding/tobogganing slope, environmental education, hiking and cross-country skiing trails. These requests follow current national and state trends.
- Respondents to the survey felt there was no need for additional opportunities for motor boating, personal water crafting, downhill skiing, golfing or hunting. Considering the ample availability for all these opportunities in this region offered by other agencies or organizations, the county should not consider providing more of these opportunities.
- The most popular activities indicate that the county might consider promoting jogging/ walking paths, swimming beaches, picnic areas, fishing access to lakes and rivers and hiking trails.
- According to the respondents on the general public survey, in general, most of the county residents do not use the county parks. A marketing and advertising plan should be developed to let the people know about the parks, especially the new Rustler's Gulch area.
- People showed the most dissatisfaction with Pend Oreille County Park
- People showed the most satisfaction with Sweet Creek Rest Area.
- According to respondents, in Pend Oreille County Park:
 - top priority should be given to improving restrooms and providing nature hikes and other activities at the park. (Improvements to the restroom situation have already been addressed. The old restroom in Pend Oreille County Park has been removed and two new restrooms have been installed.)
 - moderate priority should be given to improve parking, improve trail maintenance, better signage; building a picnic shelter and rail maintenance; building a picnic shelter; creating more trails and improving campsites
- At Rustler's Gulch, respondents requested the creation of a parking lot; better signage and a non-motorized designation for the area
- At Yocum Lake people wanted a restroom, better signage and trails. (Due to the high expense of maintenance, a restroom at Yocum Lake is not recommended at this time.)
- Respondents felt county park land should be used to provide more trails, more day-use picnic areas, walking/jogging trails, wildlife viewing areas, overnight campgrounds and swimming beaches.
- People filling out the general public survey overwhelmingly support parks and recreation; establishing a non-profit foundation to support parks and recreation; organizing community recreation activities to fund parks and recreation and

hiring a part-time employee to coordinate parks and recreation in Pend Oreille County.

- Maximum use of volunteers should be incorporated into the park system. The public supports the idea of a non-profit Parks and Recreation Foundation and therefore, one should be organized as soon as possible. A Master Naturalist program would provide volunteers to teach environmental education programs to youth and general public and provide expertise and manpower to accomplish conservation projects. Initial research shows that there is no Washington State Master Naturalist Program but Pend Oreille County would be able to organize a program under the Master Naturalist Program offered by the State of Idaho. A volunteer camp host should also be recruited for Pend Oreille County Park.
- Respondents felt the most popular activity to raise funds would be fishing derbies; summer camps and events for youth; classes involving water activities; classes for shooting, archery and hunter safety and weekend events for youth.
- Since visiting historical sites, viewing nature and automobile tours are all popular in national and state surveys, it may be worth considering promoting a living history logging camp (listed 9th by county respondents as a popular county event) to highlight forestry, logging and the old growth forest at Pend Oreille County Park and to draw visitors from Spokane. Initial research shows only two major logging history museums in the entire northwest region and one major living history logging camp in the entire West (Tacoma area). Pend Oreille County has a very active historical society and has expressed initial interest in being a partner in this possible venture.
- The County survey of 2013, in general, was a fairly accurate representation of the people of the county. Only slightly more males responded over females. The response came from mostly Caucasians but that matches the make-up of the county. An appropriate percentage of residents from north, middle and south parts of the county responded and highest percentage of respondents were in the age group or 41-65 which again represents the largest age groups in the county.
- Students in the county, in general, didn't want to have to work too hard to have fun nor did they wish to "learn about nature" or work on conservation projects.
- In general, young people in Pend Oreille County are very active in the out-of-doors. Almost all the young people enjoyed swimming; more swimming beaches would be very well received.
- The student's third favorite activity was sledding/tubing. The County might consider a sledding/tobogganing/tubing slope for healthy winter activities.
- Generally, students did not seem to be interested in learning new activities. However, of the students who did, most wanted to learn archery, white water rafting, sailing and tennis, Frisbee golf, geo-caching and canoe/kayaking.
- For a winter sport, young people wanted to learn snowboarding, skiing and snowmobiling.

- Disc golf was mentioned several times on the general public survey, in the Idaho State Parks and Recreation planning guide and at several of the town hall meetings. It may be feasible to create a disc golf course on county land since the initial investment seems to be low and courses can easily be maintained by volunteers.
- An incredible number of students, 179 students out of 378, (51.9%) said they would be interested in joining an adventure club to plan and participate in outdoor activities. The most popular time to meet was after school (133) and meeting on the weekend was second most popular (66). The county should consider partnering with schools and outdoor recreation organizations in the community to sponsor such a club at all three schools in the county. Participation should be high.
- Generally students did not like large group picnics or festivals; working on conservation projects or learning about nature. Adversely, their favorite types of activities were in the summer, spending time near lakes or rivers and field trips during school. Overall, kids just liked having fun in smaller groups.
- The fun in the out-of-doors survey should be very accurate since all three public schools in the county participated and a total of 378 students responded, a high percentage of the county's youth.
- Recreation areas throughout Pend Oreille County are not even approaching capacity except on peak weekends at the USFS Pioneer Park Campground in the Newport area and Forebay Campground on Boundary Reservoir in the north part of the county. The county has the space for many more recreationists and plans and programs should be developed to advertise and attract them.
- The county needs to concentrate on providing quality, well maintained facilities.
- There is no public dump station in the southern part of the county. A dump station may deter campers from the illegal dumping of sewage along roadsides and other areas and also attract campers to stay in the area. The county should consider the possibility of building a dump station at Pend Oreille County Park.
- Demographic information pertaining to recreation in Pend Oreille County shows that the recent economic downturn has taken its toll. However, it also shows there is great potential in attracting visitors to Pend Oreille County once the economy has improved by offering quality recreation opportunities. Again advertising and marketing will make a difference. Once the visitors have been attracted by the county's amazing natural resources, there are needs for quality lodging, restaurants and additional activities to lengthen their stay.
- Visitation to Crawford State Park is declining. Steps should be taken to determine why the decline and reverse the trend.
- Sales of fishing and hunting licenses are consistently lower than other areas in Washington. Although the activities of hunting and fishing are generally in decline, license sales in Pend Oreille County with its vast amounts of public lands and wildlife populations should not be lower than other areas. Some study of this should provide insight into the problem.