

Thompson Falls Project 2014 Recreation Visitor Study Report

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NorthWestern[®]
Energy



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Summary

- ❑ A recreation visitor survey was conducted in 2014 during the peak recreation use season (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend) at NorthWestern Energy's Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project.
- ❑ Nine recreation sites associated with the Project were included in the study. Sampling occurred on 46 days over the course of the study period and each site was sampled about 53 times.
- ❑ Surveys from 348 recreation visitors were collected. Visitor response to the study was excellent, with 95% of contacted visitors participating in the survey.
- ❑ Fifty-eight percent of visitors were male and 42% were female.
- ❑ The median age of visitors (aged 16 or older) was 49 years and most age groups were well represented.
- ❑ Almost three-quarters (72%) of visitors were from Montana, with nearly half (49%) from Thompson Falls.
- ❑ Twenty-nine percent of visitors were using the recreation site for the first time, while 71% were repeat visitors. Visitors with previous experience had generally visited for 9 years and made 12 visits per year.
- ❑ The median group size at recreation sites was two people.
- ❑ Over two-thirds (68%) of visitors stayed at the site for about one hour or less.
- ❑ Hiking, walking or running were popular activities, with 35% participating. Twenty percent fished from shore and 17% swam. Sixteen percent reported using the site to relax and 10% picnicked.
- ❑ When asked about the importance of various reasons for their visit, being outdoors and enjoying nature were highly rated.
- ❑ Visitors were generally satisfied with recreational development and management, with about three-quarters (74%) preferring to leave things as is.
- ❑ Visitors preferring changes most-often wanted improvements to the site's condition (cleanliness, presence of litter, weeds and invasive species, etc.), additional basic facilities (garbage cans, toilets, benches, picnic tables, etc.), or improved swimming opportunities.
- ❑ Only 4% of visitors reported experiencing problems on their site visit.
- ❑ When given the chance to offer additional comments about the recreation opportunities, most expressed how much they liked the area and their thanks or appreciation.
- ❑ When results were compared to results from the previous visitor survey (conducted in 2008), visitor and trip characteristics were remarkably similar, but significantly fewer 2014 visitors expressed desire for changes to recreation facilities or management.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

NorthWestern Energy monitors recreation use associated with its Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project (Project) as part of its FERC-related recreation responsibilities. Article 406 of the Project's FERC license requires recreational use monitoring and reporting every six years¹ to help determine whether project-induced recreation is being adequately accommodated. Monitoring results also provide information for other periodic FERC recreation reporting.²

Recreation monitoring helps NorthWestern Energy and its recreation management partners, including the City of Thompson Falls, Sanders County, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and U.S. Forest Service, better understand recreation use and issues associated with the Project, and provide appropriate facilities and opportunities to the recreating public.

1.2 Visitor Study Overview

The 2014 study sampled visitors at nine recreation sites associated with the Project (Table 1 and Figure 1). Six of the sites are managed by NorthWestern Energy.³

Visitors were sampled on 46 randomly-selected days between the beginning of the Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day (May 24th through September 1st), which is the peak recreation use season. Each recreation site was sampled about 53 times at various times of day between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Visitor groups were approached on-site and one member (age 16 or over) from each group was randomly selected to participate in the survey. Visitor response was excellent, with 95% of contacted visitors participating in the study. The visitor survey questionnaire was administered as an interview and responses were entered into a tablet computer.

In total, 348 visitors participated in the survey. Results from the 2014 visitor survey provide information about visitor characteristics, site use, opinions about facilities, problems encountered, and other factors.

1.3 Report Organization

The remainder of this report is organized into two sections.

The *Visitor Survey Results* section discusses study results.

The *Study Methods* section describes the objectives of the visitor survey and the sampling framework. The visitor survey questionnaire is included as *Appendix A*.

¹ Recreation monitoring was initially conducted at four-year intervals and transitioned to studies every six years. Previous visitor studies were conducted in 1999, 2003 and 2008.

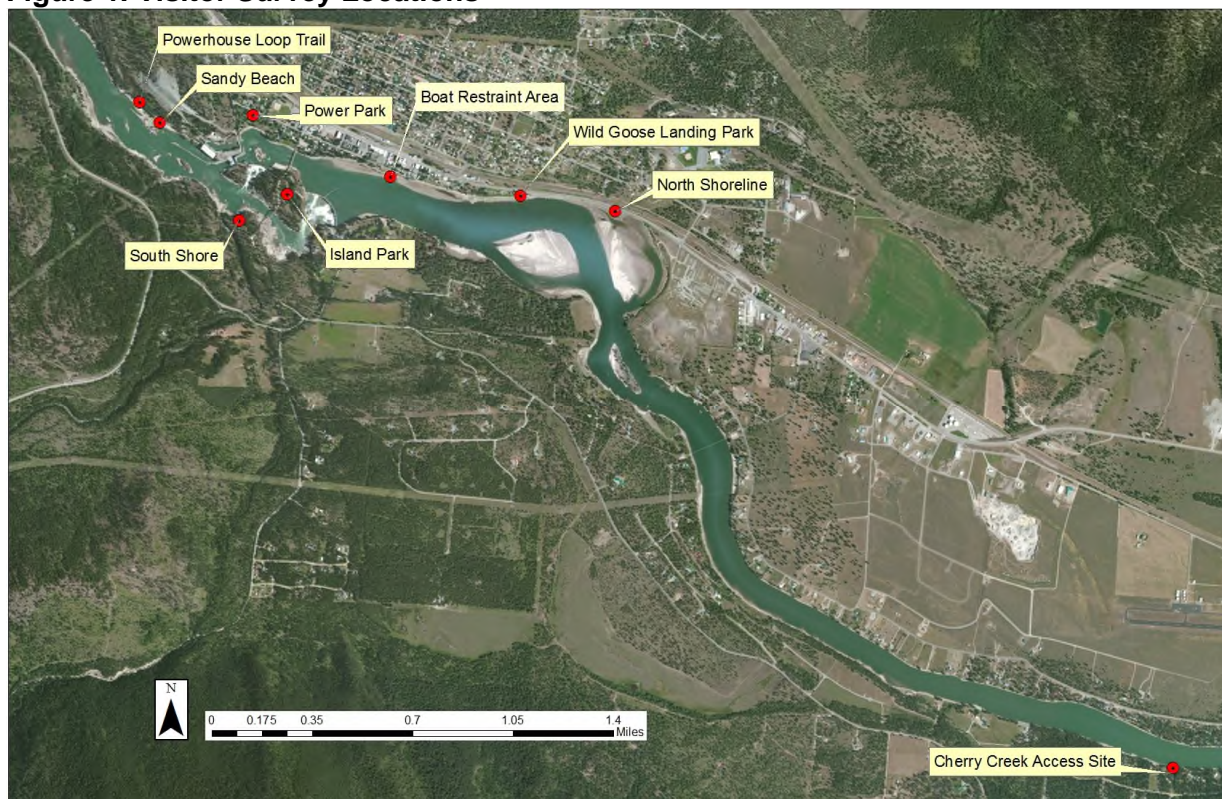
² FERC Form 80 Recreation Reports.

³ A portion of the Powerhouse Loop Trail is managed by NorthWestern Energy and the remainder is managed by other partners.

Table 1. Visitor Survey Sites

Recreation Site ⁴	Management Entity	Surveyed Areas
North shoreline between old mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park	Montana Department of Transportation (highway easement)	Undeveloped and informal use area along north shoreline (and Highway 200) between abandoned mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park
Wild Goose Landing Park	City of Thompson Falls	All areas within park
Boat restraint area (north shore)	NorthWestern Energy	Undeveloped and informal use area along shoreline at the north end of boat restraint
Island Park	NorthWestern Energy	All areas within park
Power Park	NorthWestern Energy	All areas within park
Sandy Beach	NorthWestern Energy	Undeveloped and informal use area downstream of the original powerhouse on the north side of the river
Powerhouse Loop Trail	NorthWestern Energy, Avista, City of Thompson Falls, Rimrock Lodge	Trail segment from Power Park downstream to Rimrock Lodge
South Shore	NorthWestern Energy	Undeveloped and informal use area along south shore of the river between High Bridge and the mouth of Prospect Creek
Cherry Creek Access Site	Sanders County Parks	Water access site on south shore of reservoir at Cherry Creek

Figure 1. Visitor Survey Locations



⁴ Ordered beginning near the old mill site east of the City of Thompson Falls and proceeding counter-clockwise around the study area.

2 Visitor Survey Results

2.1 Response Rates and Sample Sizes

Visitor response to the recreation visitor survey was excellent. Of the 366 visitors asked to participate in the survey, 95% (348 visitors) participated (Table 2). Because of the high response rate, any error in study results related to non-response bias was insignificant.

The sample size of 348 was sufficient to provide reasonable statistical confidence in aggregate results.⁵ Sample sizes at individual recreation sites ranged from a high of 104 at Island Park to a low of eight at Sandy Beach. Four of the nine sites, Island Park, Wild Goose Landing Park, Power Park, and South Shore, contributed over three-quarters (77%) of the sample.

Because each recreation site was sampled at the same intensity (i.e., the time spent sampling at each site was about the same) and response rates at each site were about equal, combined site results provide a reasonable measure of Project-wide recreation.⁶ And also for the same reasons, site sample sizes provide a rough measure of each site's recreation use relative to other surveyed sites.

Table 2. Response Rate and Sample Size by Recreation Site

Recreation Site	Response Rate	Sample Size	Percent of Total
North shoreline between old mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park	97%	29	8%
Wild Goose Landing Park	92%	87	25%
Boat restraint area (north shore)	93%	13	4%
Island Park	99%	104	30%
Power Park	98%	39	11%
Sandy Beach	90%	8	2%
Powerhouse Loop Trail	100%	14	4%
South Shore	97%	37	11%
Cherry Creek Access Site	85%	17	5%
Total	95%	348	100%

⁵ For binomial random variables (e.g., the proportion of visitors that participate in an activity or were first-time visitors), at the worst case where $p=0.5$, we are 90% confident that the true proportion is $\pm 4.4\%$.

⁶ Weighting of site-specific results was not necessary.

2.2 Notes on Interpreting Results

Because of relatively small sample sizes at individual recreation sites, survey results are reported for all sites combined. Site-specific results are not reported, except for responses related to opinions about site facilities or management.⁷

Repeat site use by visitors was not recorded because visitors were sampled only once at each site over the course of the study period.⁸ As such, to some degree, results under-report site use associated with frequent site visitors, such as some area residents or others that visit the same site many times over the season.

Where applicable, results from this visitor study are compared to results from the previous study conducted in 2008. Although most sites were the same in both studies, the mix of sites has somewhat changed, as have some of the recreation amenities at a few of the sites, which potentially makes direct comparison of study results difficult.⁹

2.3 Visitor Characteristics

Fifty-eight percent of recreation site visitors were male and 42% were female (Table 3). This remains almost unchanged from the previous (2008) study, when the male/female proportion was 60/40.

Table 3. Visitor Gender

Gender	
Male	58%
Female	42%

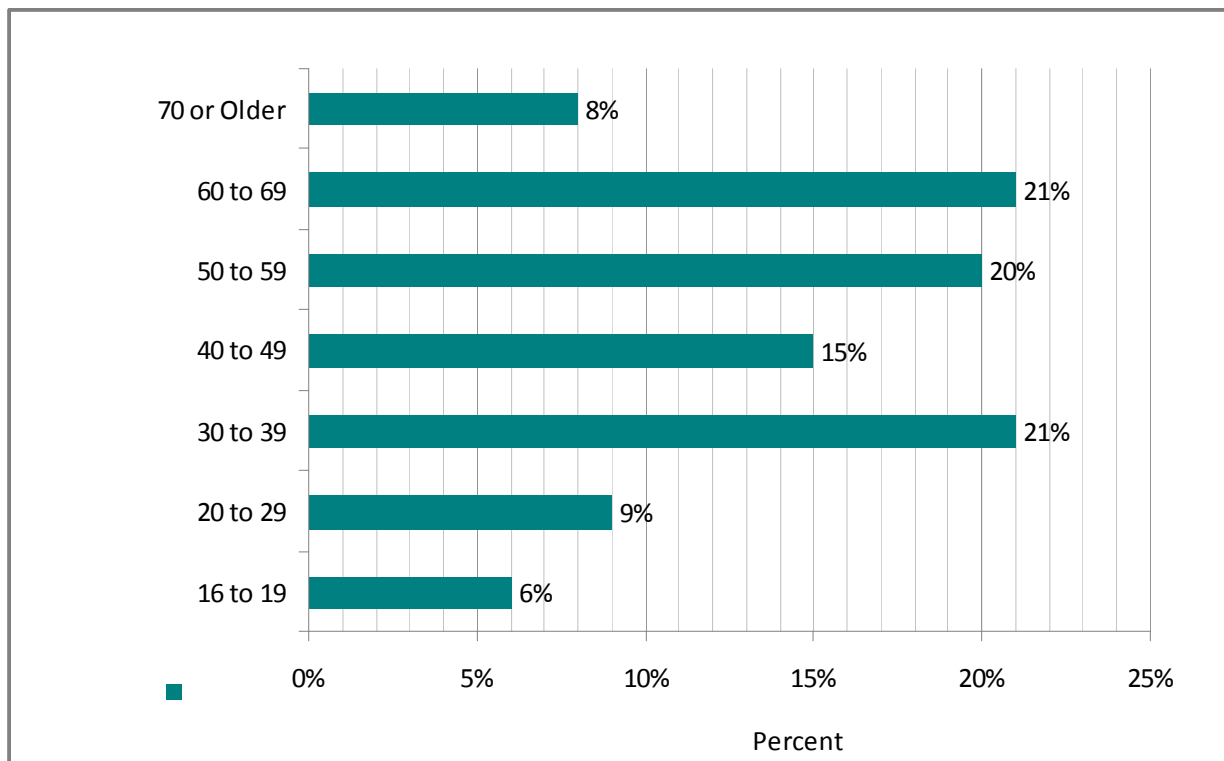
The recreation sites offered opportunities for visitors of all ages, with use relatively well-distributed among age groups over age 30 (Figure 2). Visitor age ranged from 16 (the minimum age included in the study) to 87. The median age of visitors (aged 16 years or older) was 49 years. This is almost identical to the 2008 study, when it was 48.

⁷ This exception was made, although statistical confidence in site-specific results is very low, because it was felt the feedback was useful for site managers.

⁸ Sampling visitors only once at each site ensures that a repeat visitor is not unduly disturbed or burdened by a repeat request for survey participation. Visitors could, however, be sampled again at a different site.

⁹ The 2014 study included the newly established Powerhouse Loop Trail and omitted Thompson Falls State Park and Flat Iron Ridge Fishing Access Site, which were included in 2008. Also, new developments were completed at Island Park since 2008, including reconstruction of the High Bridge (which facilitates travel between the north and south shores), new parking areas on the north and south shores, a fish ladder with viewing area, and interpretive exhibits. Facilities were also added at the Cherry Creek access site.

Figure 2. Visitor Age by Age Category



Although very well-used by local residents, the recreation sites also attract many out-of-area visitors (Table 4). Almost three-quarters (72%) of visitors lived in Montana and nearly half (49%) were from Thompson Falls. Washington state and Idaho also contributed significant numbers of visitors (8% and 7% respectively). Visitor origin remains the same as in the 2008 study, when 71% were from Montana and 48% were from Thompson Falls.

Table 4. Visitor Origin

Origin	Percent
Montana	72%
Thompson Falls	49%
Plains	4%
Trout Creek	3%
Missoula	3%
Other Montana locations	13%
Washington	8%
Idaho	7%
California	2%
Other States	9%
Other Countries	2%

Seventy-one percent of visitors had visited the site previously, while 29% were first-time visitors (Table 5). Not surprisingly, almost all site users (95%) from Thompson Falls were repeat visitors, while users from out-of-state tended to be first-time visitors (62%). Results are very similar to the 2008 study, when 68% were repeat visitors and 32% were using the site for the first time.

Table 5. Previous Site Experience

Site Experience	
Repeat Visitor	71%
First-time Visitor	29%

Repeat visitors had generally been visiting for 9 years and made 12 visits per year (median values). Some local residents reported visiting the site almost daily. Results were nearly identical in the 2008 study, when repeat visitors reported using the site for 10 years and made 12 visits per year.

2.4 Trip Characteristics

The average group size was relatively small, with a median size of two people.¹⁰ Eighty-seven percent of groups had four or less members (Table 6). Group size has remained unchanged from the 2008 study, when the median group size was also two people.

Table 6. Group Size

Group Size	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	25%	25%
2	39%	64%
3	12%	76%
4	11%	87%
5	3%	90%
6	3%	93%
7 or more	7%	100%

¹⁰ A recreation group was defined as any group of individuals, such as family or friends, visiting a recreation site together. Non-recreationists, such as power company or management agency employees or volunteers, were excluded from the sample.

Visitors generally used the recreation site for a short period of time, with over two-thirds (68%) of visitors staying for about one hour or less (Table 7).¹¹ Trip duration was the same in the 2008 study, when the median trip duration was also one hour.¹²

Table 7. Length of Stay

Length of Stay (hours)	Percent	Cumulative Percent
0.5	37%	37%
1	31%	68%
2	15%	83%
3	8%	91%
4	4%	95%
5 or more	5%	100%

2.5 Recreation Activities and Experiences

When visitors were asked about participation in a list of recreation activities they might engage in at the recreation site, hiking, walking or running were most popular, with about one-third (35%) participating (Figure 3). Shore-based water activities were also popular, with 20% fishing from shore and 17% swimming. Sixteen percent reported using the site to relax and 10% picnicked. Although boating-related activities were of interest in the study, only 3% reported being on the water (motorized or non-motorized boating, fishing from a boat, etc.), probably because only two sites¹³ had boat ramps, and it was comparatively difficult to contact visitors using boats.¹⁴

When given an opportunity to report participation in other activities, 22% listed other pursuits.¹⁵ Six percent of visitors were engaged in dog-related activities (playing, walking, exercising, etc.), 5% were at the site for a special event (fireworks, historic re-enactment, reunion, etc.), and 4% mentioned sightseeing.

In the 2008 study, more people reported hiking or walking, picnicking, and boating-related activities.¹⁶

¹¹ Length of stay was rounded to the nearest hour, except for stays of 30 minutes or less, which were recorded as 0.5 hours.

¹² Length of stay for day-use visitors only; overnight use was also recorded in 2008 because of camping at Thompson Falls State Park.

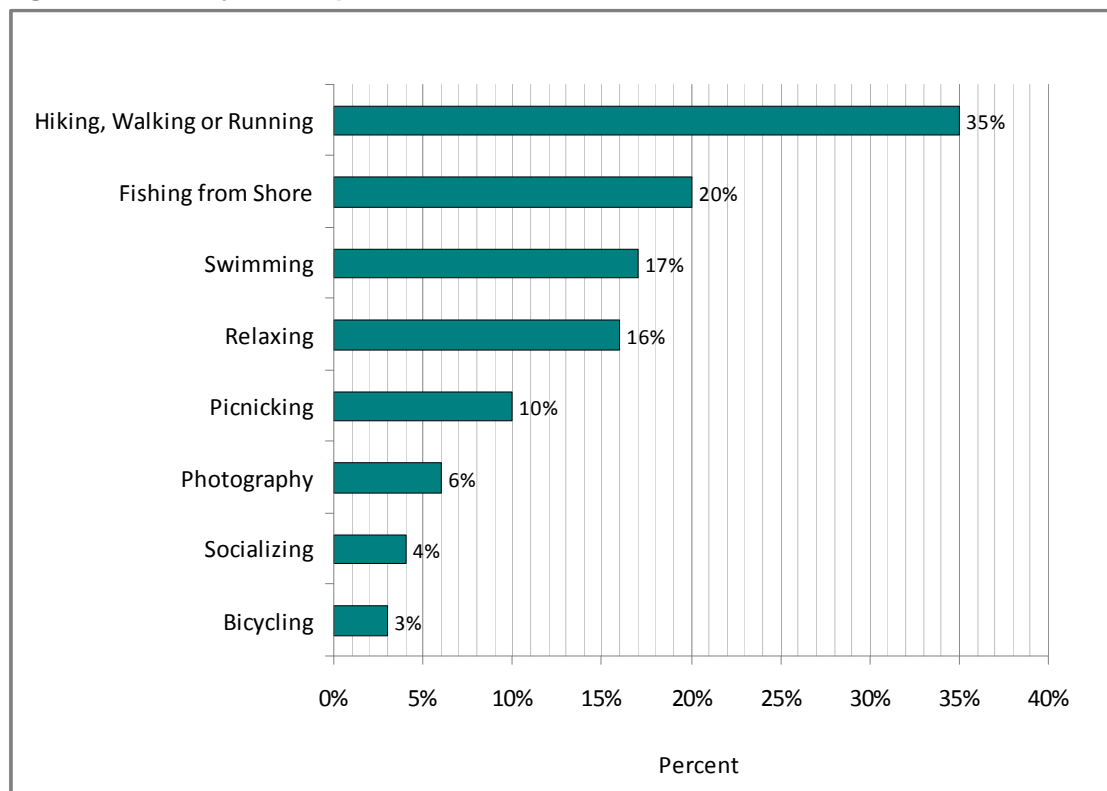
¹³ Wild Goose Landing Park and Cherry Creek Access Site.

¹⁴ Watercraft users are often at a site only for launching or loading and not present at the site for significant amounts of time, making them difficult to contact and include in a sample. Therefore it is likely that boating-related activities are somewhat under-reported.

¹⁵ Because respondents had to take action to list these activities, the true proportion participating in activities other than those previously stated is probably higher.

¹⁶ Probably because Thompson Falls State Park and Flat Iron Ridge Fishing Access Site were included in the 2008 study.

Figure 3. Activity Participation



When asked about the importance of various reasons for their visit, 94% of visitors reported that being outdoors was very or extremely important and 91% said that enjoying nature was very or extremely important (Table 8).

Seventy-nine percent said that being with family or friends was very or extremely important, 68% said that finding some solitude was very or extremely important, and 60% said that excitement was very or extremely important to their visit.

The reasons for visiting from the 2008 study were almost identical, indicating that the experiences people are seeking have remained stable.

Table 8. Reason for Visiting

Reason for Visiting	Not at All Important	Not Very Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
To be outdoors	1%	<1%	5%	25%	69%
To enjoy nature	1%	1%	7%	32%	59%
To be with friends or family	6%	5%	10%	24%	55%
To find some solitude	6%	5%	21%	25%	43%
For excitement	5%	7%	28%	25%	35%

2.6 Opinions on Facilities

About one-quarter (26%) of the visitors preferred to see some changes in recreation development or management at the site (Table 9). This is significantly (17%) lower than the 2008 study, when 43% expressed a desire for changes.

Increased satisfaction with the area's recreation facilities is probably due to enhancements over the previous six years, including: repair and reopening of the High Bridge, development of a parking area at the north entrance to Island Park and a parking area and toilet at the south entrance, development of a fish ladder viewing area and interpretive exhibits at Island Park, toilet replacement and relocation at Island Park, establishment of the Powerhouse Loop Trail, improved boat docks at Wild Goose Landing Park, and development of day-use facilities at Cherry Creek Access Site. After the study was completed in September 2014, trail access below the powerhouse was improved, a toilet and benches were installed along the trail in the Sandy Beach overlook area, and benches were upgraded at Power Park.

Table 9. Need for Changes

Need for Changes	
Leave As Is	74%
Prefer Change	26%

Examining opinions about the need for changes at individual recreation sites can provide valuable feedback to site managers, but readers are cautioned that sample sizes at individual sites are small (ranging from 104 to 8) and statistical confidence in site-specific results ranges from low to essentially non-existent.

When the sites are examined individually (Table 10), Sandy Beach, North Shoreline between old mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park, and Wild Goose Landing Park have the highest proportion of site visitors indicating need for changes at the site.¹⁷ When the study area is examined as a whole, the highest proportion of area visitors requesting changes were at Wild Goose Landing Park. At each site, the proportion of visitors expressing a desire for changes was much less than it was in the 2008 study.

¹⁷ Of these three sites, only Wild Goose Landing Park has developed facilities.

Table 10. Visitors Preferring Changes by Site

Recreation Site	Percent of Site Visitors	Percent of Area Visitors
North shoreline between old mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park (<i>n</i> =29)	48%	4%
Wild Goose Landing Park (<i>n</i> =87)	36%	9%
Boat restraint area (north shore) (<i>n</i> =13)	31%	1%
Island Park (<i>n</i> =104)	14%	4%
Power Park (<i>n</i> =39)	28%	3%
Sandy Beach (<i>n</i> =8)	50%	1%
Powerhouse Loop Trail (<i>n</i> =14)	21%	1%
South Shore (<i>n</i> =37)	19%	2%
Cherry Creek Access Site (<i>n</i> =17)	18%	1%
Total	N/A	26%

Desire for change appears to be largely influenced by negative perceptions of the site's condition (cleanliness, presence of litter, weeds and invasive species, etc.) and desire for additional basic facilities (garbage cans, toilets, benches, picnic tables, etc.). Improved swimming conditions and opportunities were desired at some sites (Table 11). Many of the changes that were requested in the 2008 study have been implemented and are no longer mentioned.

Table 11. Changes Preferred by Site

Recreation Site	Preferred Change	Percent of Site Visitors	Preferred Change	Percent of Site Visitors
North shoreline between old mill site and Wild Goose Landing Park	Clean up	21%	Add beach	3%
	Add garbage cans	7%	Add dock	3%
	Add toilet	7%	Add fire pits, tables	3%
	Add more public access	3%	Add road to pumphouse	3%
	Convert to park	3%		
Wild Goose Landing Park	Remove aquatic weeds	5%	Add benches	1%
	Add parking	5%	Remove goose feces	1%
	Add swimming area/beach	5%	Improve boat ramp	1%
	Add water slide	2%	Add rocks on bank for seats/steps	1%
	Remove invasive species/weeds	2%	Add restroom closer to dock	1%
	Widen road	2%	Add playground equipment	1%
	Improve highway on/off	1%	Add docks (separated)	1%
	Add picnic tables visible from road	1%	Add river current break	1%
	Add native flowering plants	1%	Clean out dead wood	1%
	Add garbage cans	1%	Prohibit swimming from dock	1%
	Add gazebo	1%	Separate swimming/boating areas	1%
	Keep restrooms open late July 4 th	1%	Clean up	1%
	Improve wheel chair accessibility	1%	Remove metal from water	1%
Boat restraint area (north shore)	Add dock	8%	Remove weeds	8%
	Clean up	8%	Smells like pesticide	8%

Recreation Site	Preferred Change	Percent of Site Visitors	Preferred Change	Percent of Site Visitors
Island Park	Add garbage cans	3%	Add more tables and benches	1%
	Add more trails	3%	Add water fountain	1%
	Add signage on highway	2%	Add hand sanitizer in toilet	1%
	Add playground equipment	1%	Do not creosote bridge (smells)	1%
	Add more items to attract tourists	1%	Clean up vandalism	1%
	Enhance parking to attract people	1%	Provide dog clean-up bags	1%
Power Park	Add playground equipment	5%	Add outlets	3%
	Add/improve benches	3%	Add new tables	3%
	Clean out hornet nests	3%	Update kitchen area	3%
	Add hot water in bathrooms	3%	Fix toilets, make doors lock	3%
	Add covered area for performers	3%	Improve siding on building	3%
Sandy Beach	Add benches	25%	Add picnic table	13%
	Add toilet	25%	Remove willows to improve beach	13%
Powerhouse Loop Trail	Widen trail	7%	Make more accessible for seniors	7%
	Add benches	7%	Provide dog clean-up bags	7%
South Shore	Add garbage cans	8%	Pave access road	3%
	Clean up	5%	More policing of vandals and litterers	3%
	Add picnic table	3%	Plan for increased use	3%
	Add more parking	3%	Prefer less users	3%
Cherry Creek Access Site	Add picnic tables	12%	Gravel the parking area	6%
	Clean up	6%	Add playground equipment	6%
	Add diving board	6%		

2.7 Problems during Site Visit

Only 4% of visitors reported experiencing problems on their visit to the site. Reported problems included the presence of trash, environmental conditions (biting insects or non-biting fish, high water), and the behavior of other people (rowdiness, second-hand smoke, people driving fast). A low proportion of people reported problems in the 2008 study also.

2.8 Visitor Comments

At the end of the survey visitors were given an open-ended opportunity to communicate other information they felt managers should know about the recreation opportunities. About one-fifth (21%) of respondents offered additional comments. Some visitors provided information not gathered elsewhere in the survey while others reiterated previous remarks.

Of those commenting, 14% expressed how much they liked the area and/or its recreation opportunities. Eight percent expressed thanks or appreciation, 8% wanted the area left as it was, and 8% wanted garbage cleaned up. Four percent wanted more garbage cans and another 9% wanted other facilities. Seven percent wanted more or better signage and 4% complained about aquatic weeds.

3 Study Methods

3.1 Survey Goal and Objectives

The primary goal of the visitor study was to acquire information that would help recreation managers better understand recreation use and issues associated with the Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project.

Specific survey objectives included acquiring information about the visitor's:

- Previous site use;
- Length of visit;
- Group size;
- Recreation activities;
- Motivations for visit;
- Opinions on the adequacy of recreation facilities;
- Problems encountered, if any; and
- Geographic origin and socio-demographic characteristics.

Objectives of the sampling framework were to:

- Arrive at a sample that was representative of typical recreation use at the sites during the sampling period; and
- Use methods that allow results to be aggregated across sites to characterize recreation within the study area.

Because recreation use in the study area is relatively low, collecting sufficient data to allow high statistical confidence in site-specific results was impractical if not impossible, even with the most rigorous sampling approach.¹⁸ However, sufficient data could be gathered to allow adequate confidence in study area results (i.e., the aggregation of results from all surveyed recreation sites).

3.2 Study Area

The study area was the nine recreation sites identified in Table 1, which are the primary recreation sites associated with the Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Project.

3.3 Population of Interest

The population of interest consisted of all recreationists aged 16 years or older who used any of the nine recreation sites included in the study from May 24th (beginning of Memorial Day Weekend) through September 1st (Labor Day), 2014.

¹⁸ 384 cases would be required at each site to be 95 percent confident that results are within five percent of population values, for binomial random variables at the worst case where $p = 0.5$.

3.4 Sampling Strategy

Visitor interviews were conducted during “sampling events,” defined as randomly chosen time periods to sample at randomly chosen recreation sites. Systematic random sampling was used to select sampling locations and times. The primary objective of the sampling schedule was to arrive at a sample that was representative of typical recreation use during the study period. A secondary objective was to cluster days to increase survey administration efficiency.

Over the course of the study, 245 hours of sampling occurred on 46 days, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Sampling was typically scheduled for 6.5-hour work days, and each site was visited an average of 53 times (31 minutes each visit, on average) during the sampling timeframe. The schedule provided a representative sample of times of the day and days of the week over the course of the 101-day study period.

Reasonable attempts were made to include in the sample one individual (aged 16 years or older) from every group of visitors present at the recreation site during the sampling event. A recreation group was defined as any group of individuals, such as family, friends, or tour group, visiting the recreation site together. Non-recreationists, such as power company or agency employees or volunteers, were excluded from the sample.

Groups of visitors were approached by the survey technician on site, briefly informed of the survey’s purpose and asked to participate. Typically this required the following script:

“Hello, my name is (first name). I’m conducting a recreation survey here for PPL Montana.¹⁹ Would you mind if I asked some questions about your visit to this site? It will only take a few minutes.

If asked for additional information about the survey’s purpose, the survey technician added:

“The information will help land managers better understand your needs and opinions.”

The survey respondent was randomly chosen from the group by selecting the person (aged 16 or older) with the most recent past birthday. If the selected person opted not to participate, the survey technician chose the person with the next most recent birthday, and so on. If no one in the group agreed to participate in the study, the survey technician noted the group refusal for survey response rate calculation.

In order to limit the amount of participation of any one person or group in the study and aid in acquiring a diverse sample, the same person could be interviewed only once at each recreation site during the study period. In other words, once a person had been interviewed at a site at any time, they were eliminated from future sampling at that site, but could be included again at other sites.

The survey technician used a tablet computer (iPad Mini) to administer the survey. The survey questionnaire (**Appendix A**) was programmed into the tablet, which led the survey technician through the sequence of questions, and the technician entered visitor responses directly into the device.

¹⁹ At the time of the survey, the Project was owned by PPL Montana.

Appendix A: Survey Questionnaire

1. Case #: _____ 2. Month/Day: _____ / _____ 3. Time: _____ (24 hour clock)
4. Site: North shoreline (between mill and Wild Goose) Sandy Beach
 Wild Goose Landing Park Powerhouse Loop Trail
 Boat Restraint (north shore) Cherry Creek Access Site
 Island Park South Shore
 Power Park
5. Gender: Male Female
6. _____ "What is your age?"
7. "Where do you live?" City/Town: _____ State: _____
8. "Is this your first visit to this recreation site?"
 Yes No
- ↓
9. _____ "About how many years have you been visiting the site?"
10. _____ "About how many days a year do you visit the site?"
- ↓
11. "How long do you usually stay?" Hours: _____
12. "How long will you stay at this site on this trip?" Hours: _____
13. _____ "How many people are in your group on this trip?"
14. "How do you feel about the recreational development here? Would you like to see the area left as it is or would you prefer any changes?"
- Left as is Prefer changes → "What changes would you prefer to see?"
- ↓
15. Improved: _____
16. Added: _____
17. Removed: _____

"I am going to read a list of five reasons why people participate in outdoor recreation. Please tell me the number on this card (provide card) that corresponds to how important that reason is to you today."

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all important	Not very important	Somewhat important	Very important	Extremely important

- 18. ____ To enjoy nature
- 19. ____ To be with friends or family
- 20. ____ To be outdoors
- 21. ____ For excitement
- 22. ____ To find some solitude

"Which of the following activities are you participating in while at this site?" (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 23. ____ Fishing from shore | 30. ____ Swimming |
| 24. ____ Fishing from a Boat | 31. ____ Picnicking |
| 25. ____ Motorboating | 32. ____ Hiking, walking or running |
| 26. ____ Riding personal watercraft (jetski) | 33. ____ Bicycling |
| 27. ____ Canoeing or kayaking | 34. ____ Photography or nature study |
| 28. ____ Rafting or floating on a tube | 35. ____ Relaxing |
| 29. ____ Waterskiing, tubing or wakeboarding | 36. ____ Socializing |

37. "Have you experienced any problems on this trip to this site?"

No	Yes →	38. "What were they?" _____
↓		_____

39. "And finally, is there anything else we should know about the recreational opportunities here?"

"Thanks very much for your help!"

Respondent Reference Card:

(Used by respondent to assist in answering questions 18 - 22)

