

Missouri-Madison Project 2021-2022 Recreation Visitor Study Report

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NorthWestern[®]
Energy



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Summary

- A recreation visitor survey was conducted in 2021-2022 during the 15-week peak recreation use season (Memorial weekend through Labor Day week) at NorthWestern Energy’s Missouri-Madison Hydroelectric Project.
- Fifty-seven recreation sites and two trail systems associated with the Project were included in the study. Survey technicians sampled each site about 18 times at various times of day and days of the week.
- Surveys from 1,288 recreation visitors were collected, with 60% of personally-contacted visitors participating in the survey (88% of sample came from personally-contacted visitors; remainder from survey cards left on unattended vehicles).
- Results indicate that recreation sites meet the needs for facilities and opportunities for public recreation, and that visitors perceive the recreation sites to be in good condition.
- Auto/RV camping, non-motorized boating, and angling – either from shore, by wading, or from a boat - were the most popular primary activities overall.
- Convenient locations, good fishing, easy access, and scenic beauty were the most common reasons visitors chose a site.
- Satisfaction with various site attributes was high, as was overall site satisfaction (4.1 on a 5-point scale) and overall trip satisfaction (4.2 on a 5-point scale).
- A small portion (13%) of visitors felt that facilities were lacking at recreation sites, with a need for more available restrooms most commonly mentioned.
- The median age of visitors (aged 16 or older) was 45 years. Most (69%) visitors were from Montana, while 30 percent were from other US states.
- Nearly one-third (32%) of visitors were using the recreation site for the first time, while more than two-thirds (68%) were repeat visitors. Visitors with previous experience had generally visited more than 10 times.
- The median group size at recreation sites was three people and children comprised nearly one-third of visitors groups.
- Overnight use (51%) was about equal with day use (49%), and overnight users generally stayed 3 nights.
- Crowding was not an issue, with average responses being less than “slightly crowded.”
- Very few (3%) of respondents reported experiencing conflicts at recreation sites, and most visitors felt rules are adequately followed and enforced.
- Overall, the studies indicate relatively few changes in visitor use or opinions over the last twenty years. Visitor group and trip characteristics have remained consistent. Activities engaged in have remained consistent over time or follow national trends. Satisfaction ratings remain high and, in many cases, improved over prior studies, while ratings of crowdedness are at an all-time low in the Corridor.

- Visitors to sites in the Hebgen-Madison Region tended to:
 - be about half Montana residents and half non-residents,
 - more commonly be repeat visitors that stayed overnight for 3 nights,
 - visit for camping, fishing, and non-motorized boating opportunities, and
 - be highly satisfied and feel uncrowded.
- Visitors to sites in the Hauser-Holter Region tended to:
 - be from Montana,
 - be repeat visitors that stayed overnight for 3 nights,
 - visit for camping, boating, and swimming, and
 - choose the site due to its convenient location.
- Visitors to sites and trails in the Great Falls Region tended to:
 - be from Montana,
 - be repeat day users,
 - enjoy walking/hiking/running as well as boat angling and non-motorized boating, and
 - be highly satisfied and feel the least crowded.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) monitors recreation use associated with its Missouri-Madison Hydroelectric Project (Project), which is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as Project #2188. Recreation monitoring helps NorthWestern Energy and its recreation management partners, including the United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP), and several counties, cities and towns, better understand recreation use associated with the Project and provide appropriate facilities and opportunities to the recreating public.

The visitor study is a key component of public recreation monitoring and provides NorthWestern and its stakeholders with information about use of Project-related recreation sites and is an important monitoring element of the Project's adopted recreation plan, as amended¹. The study also provides information for periodic recreation reporting to FERC and is required as a condition of the Project's FERC license.

The 2021-2022 visitor study largely replicated previous studies conducted in 1995, 1999, 2003, 2008 and 2014. The study was conducted in cooperation with staff from NorthWestern, USFS, BLM, MFWP, local governments and other interested parties.

1.2 Modifications from Past Studies

Previous studies of recreation visitors to the Project were conducted to provide current information for completion of FERC's Form #80, which aimed, in part, to quantify visitor use that occurs within the FERC project boundary. The visitor survey collected information to understand the portion of visitor use that occurred within the project boundary and how visitors used recreation sites (activities, length of stay, etc.). Coupled with volume estimates collected by automatic traffic and trail counters, NorthWestern was able to complete FERC Form No. 80 (Form 80) with confidence and accuracy. In order to provide current information for FERC Form #80, past visitor surveys coincided with the Form 80 reporting cycle, which changed from a 4-year interval (1999 – 2003) to a 5-year interval (2008) to a 6-year cycle (2014).

FERC Order No. 852², issued December 20, 2018, eliminated Form 80 reporting requirements and thus the interval for data collection was dependent only upon the Comprehensive Recreation Plan included in the 2188 License. NorthWestern aimed to simplify the planning and normalize the workload associated with recreation visitor survey data collection at its projects. As such, the Missouri-Madison Recreation Visitor Survey was distributed over a three-year study period. In year 1 (2020), the survey was planned to be conducted in the Hebgen-Madison Region, in year 2 (2021) the study was planned in the Hauser-Holter Region, and in year 3 (2022) the study was planned for the Great Falls Region. Due to pandemic-related restrictions, the 2020 effort was delayed to 2021, so the study timeframe was 2021 (surveys were conducted in the Hebgen-Madison and Hauser-Holter Regions) and 2022 (surveys were conducted in the Great Falls Region). NorthWestern believes that breaking the study up over multiple consecutive years does

¹ 165 FERC 62,094 Order Approving Recreation Plan Amendment, issued May 14, 2018.

² 165 FERC ¶ 61,256 Elimination of Form 80 and Revision of Regulations on Recreational Opportunities and Development at Licensed Hydropower Projects.

little to impact the accuracy of the data collected, meets the intent of the monitoring effort as described in the Comprehensive Recreation Plan, and achieves the goal of collecting current and pertinent visitor information to ensure that needs of the recreating public in the Missouri-Madison Corridor are being met.

Additionally, NorthWestern voluntarily collects visitor volume data at recreation sites throughout the corridor each year to supplement the visitor use information, satisfaction, and opinions obtained by the periodic visitor surveys.

While considering a renewed approach to the recreation visitor survey, NorthWestern met with stakeholder agencies to review and refine the survey instrument and the implementation schedule. While the instrument had been largely unchanged since the initial studies were conducted to support development of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan in the mid-1990s, there was desire to transform the former paper booklet survey to a digital form. To do so would require shortening the survey in order to avoid greatly impacting visitor experiences with an expectation to complete a long survey during their recreation outing. Therefore, some elements of the former instrument were removed, a few additional elements were added to reflect current issues, and the form was programmed onto digital tablets for the 2021-2022 study.

Finally, previous visitor surveys were only administered at recreation sites specifically tied to the Project. In the case of Project reservoirs, this set of sampling locations produced a well-rounded set of data related to public recreation on Project reservoirs. On Project rivers, however, that wasn't always the case. On the Madison River, for example, only one recreation site between Hebgen and Madison Reservoirs was included in the survey in 2008 and 2014, in spite of the fact that more than 15 access sites exist on this world-renowned trout fishery, because only one site is specifically tied to the Project. The same was true for the Lower Madison (downstream of Beartrap Canyon), where only one access site was included in the visitor survey in spite of more than 10 access sites that existed. Therefore, in order to produce a more comprehensive picture of the recreation landscape in the Corridor as a whole, sampling was expanded in the most recent study to include more river access sites.

1.3 Study Overview

The study area included the major recreation sites associated with the nine hydroelectric developments that comprise the Project. The hydro developments and their respective recreation sites begin on the Madison River near West Yellowstone and continue downriver to Fort Benton on the Missouri River³.

Fifty-nine public recreation sites – including the two trail systems near Great Falls - were included in the study. They range from informal, dispersed-use sites to highly-developed facilities. For discussion purposes, the term “Corridor” refers to the all of the recreation sites that were included in the study. These sites are grouped within three geographic regions (Regions) along the Madison and Missouri Rivers (Figure 1):

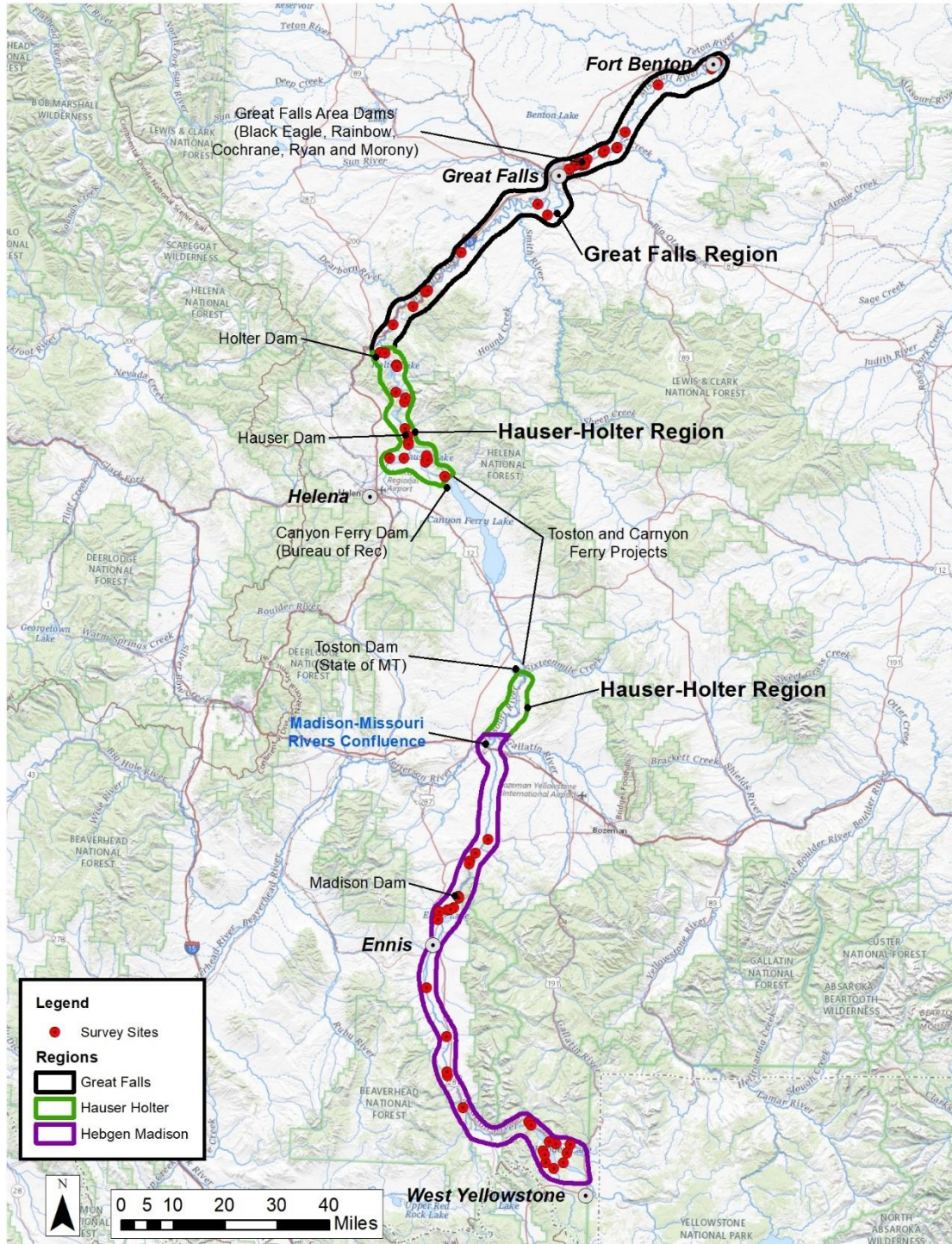
- Hebgen-Madison Region, including Hebgen Lake, Ennis Lake, and the Upper and Lower Madison Rivers.
- Hauser-Holter Region, including Hauser and Holter Lakes.

³ Excluding the State of Montana's Toston Project and the Bureau of Reclamation's Canyon Ferry Project.

- Great Falls Region, including the Missouri River downstream of Holter Dam, the five Great Falls-area reservoirs, and the Missouri River downstream of Great Falls to the Fort Benton Boat Launch.

Appendix B includes information about the recreation sites and regions included in the study.

Figure 1: Missouri-Madison Corridor and Three Study Regions



Visitors were sampled on randomly-selected days between the Friday preceding Memorial Day through the Thursday after Labor Day (5/28 – 9/3 in 2021, and 5/27 – 9/8 in 2022), which is the peak recreation use season. Each recreation site was sampled about 18 times at various times of day and days of the week between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 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, and 60 percent of personally-contacted visitors participated in the study.

In total, 1288 visitors participated in the survey. Results from the 2021-2022 visitor survey provide information about visitor characteristics, site use, crowding, satisfaction, opinions about facilities, problems encountered, and other factors.

1.4 Report Organization

The remainder of this report is organized into three sections:

The *Study Methods* section describes the objectives of the visitor study and the sampling framework. Recreation site locations are included in *Appendix B* and the visitor survey questionnaires are included in *Appendix C*.

The *Visitor Survey Results* section presents summary study results organized by geographic region. Detailed results for each region and sub-region are included in *Appendix A*.

The *Trends* section presents a comparison of 2021-2022 results to results from previous studies.

2 Study Methods

2.1 Survey Goal and Objectives

The primary goal of the study was to assist resource managers in monitoring recreational use at sites associated with the Project. To the extent possible, the visitor study replicated previous surveys in order to evaluate trends and patterns in recreation use.

Survey objectives were to collect and update information about the recreation site visitor's:

- Previous use of the site (number of visits, years).
- Current use of site (length of visit, group size).
- Reasons for visiting.
- Recreation activities engaged in at the site.
- Need for additional facilities.
- Perceptions of crowding.
- Satisfaction with site, facilities and conditions, and overall trip.
- Geographic origin.

2.2 Study Area

The study area included the major recreation sites associated with the nine Project developments. Fifty-seven recreation sites and two trail systems near Great Falls were included within the study. Information about the recreation sites included in the study is included in *Appendix B*.

2.3 Population of Interest

The population of interest consisted of all recreationists aged 16 years or older who visited the selected recreation sites from the Friday before Memorial Day through the Thursday after Labor Day each year (May 28 - September 3, 2021, and May 27 – September 8, 2022).

2.4 Sampling Framework

The primary objectives of the sampling framework were to:

- Arrive at a sample that was representative of typical recreation use at the surveyed recreation sites during the sampling period.
- Use methods that allowed results to be aggregated across sites to characterize recreation within geographic regions.

Collecting sufficient data to allow high statistical confidence in site-specific results (about 400 cases at each site) was impractical if not impossible, even with the most rigorous sampling approach. Sufficient data were gathered to allow reasonable confidence in results from each of the regions (i.e.- the aggregation of results from sites within a region).

In order to meet study objectives and replicate methods used in previous studies, study personnel contacted visitor groups at the survey sites and asked them to complete a questionnaire about

their trip. The survey questionnaires (included in *Appendix C*) and methods of contact were largely the same as used in previous studies in the Missouri-Madison Corridor.

2.5 Selecting Sampling Events

Stratified systematic random sampling was used to create the sampling framework. Each of the geographic regions was considered independently of the others.

Every day of the 15-week data collection period was eligible to be selected for sampling. Dates were selected so that sampling at each site was dispersed throughout the days of the week and hours of the day. Each sampling day was assigned one of two, 6½ hour sampling timeframes: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm or 2:30 - 9:00 pm.

Sites were clustered based on travel routes and proximity to each other. One cluster of sites and a starting point was selected for each sampling day. The starting point was systematically rotated to ensure the goals of the sampling framework were achieved and that each site was visited on all days of the week and in early and late hours of the day. In some cases, there was extensive travel time to a site, and in some cases launching watercraft to access boat-in sites was required. While travel time between the sites during the sampling timeframe was unavoidable, travel to the starting site and from the last site of the day was performed outside of the 6½ hour sampling time block. After the basic sampling framework was constructed, several adjustments were made as needed to ensure that sites were sampled during various site-day-time combinations.

The implemented sampling schedule constituted 1435 total hours, of which about 915 hours were spent administering the survey onsite (the remaining hours were spent traveling between sites). Survey technicians made an average of 18 visits to each recreation site and spent an average of 50 minutes at each site on each visit, resulting in an average of 15 total hours spent sampling at each site throughout the study.

2.6 Visitor Sampling

On each day selected for sampling, a survey technician began conducting the survey at the designated starting site and time. The technician remained at the site for a minimum of 30 minutes, until all groups had been contacted, or until the maximum timeframe of 2 hours was reached.⁴ At that point, the technician proceeded to the next recreation site in the rotation and repeated the sampling. If a technician was able to complete two full rotations of sites in the designated cluster of sites in one day, the sampling timeframe automatically ended.

Reasonable attempts were made to include one individual (aged 16 years or older) from each group of visitors present or arriving at the survey site during the sampling timeframe. 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 NorthWestern or agency employees or volunteers, were excluded from the sample. Survey personnel approached visitor groups, informed them of the survey's purpose and asked them to participate.

In order to limit the amount of participation of any one person or group in the study, a group was interviewed only once at each survey site or once per trip during the study period. In other words, once a person or group was interviewed at a site at any time, they were eliminated from

⁴ In order to avoid over-sampling of large sites, technicians sampled one site a maximum of two hours at a time and then moved to the next site in rotation.

future sampling at that site. However, they could be included again at other sites during a different trip. For the purposes of this study, a trip was defined as any number of consecutive hours or days recreating within the study area.

Groups of visitors were approached by the survey technician on site, informed of the survey's purpose and asked to participate. The survey respondent was randomly selected from the group based on the most recent past birthday. If the selected person chose not to participate, the interviewer repeated the selection process excluding that person. The number of recreation groups that refused to participate in the survey was recorded for response rate calculation.

If a group declined participation in the onsite survey, they were asked to participate in an Internet version of the survey when their trip ended. Situations that precluded on-site completion of the questionnaire were: inclement weather, visitors engaged in activities that would have been inappropriately interrupted (wade angling, jogging, etc), visitors just entering a site and not yet having the site/trip experience to report, or the potential respondent refusing to complete a questionnaire onsite but agreeing to complete an online questionnaire after their trip.

Survey invitation cards were used in an attempt to solicit survey participation from recreationists using trailhead and boat launch parking areas. Since the majority of visitors to these sites were engaged in activities away from the parking area, survey technicians placed a card on vehicle windshields that solicited participation in the Internet survey and provided instructions. Because recreationists at trailheads and boat launches were not contacted in person, it was impossible to gather contact information from them to conduct follow-up contacts if they did not participate in the survey.

3 Visitor Survey Results

3.1 Response Rates and Sample Sizes

In total, 1288 surveys were completed, with the vast majority (88%) conducted using the onsite iPad questionnaire.

Of the 1,879 visitors personally contacted onsite and asked to participate, 1,133 completed the iPad questionnaire at the site for a response rate of 60 percent for visitors who were personally contacted onsite.

Response to invitations to participate in the Internet survey that were left on unattended vehicles was considerably less. The 838 survey invitation cards placed on unattended vehicles yielded 155 online surveys, resulting in an 18% response rate. This low rate likely resulted from the lack of personal contact with a survey technician, the difficulty in communicating an effective appeal for survey participation on a card, and general disregard to materials left on vehicles.

Nonetheless, the online survey facilitated survey participation of recreationists that would otherwise not have been included in the study, particularly at sites where visitors were often unavailable for personal contact. However, potential non-response bias is a significant issue in the online survey because of the low response. Due to the follow-through required by respondents to participate in the online survey, it is reasonable to assume that to some degree, many visitors in the Internet-based sample had opinions or experiences that they were particularly eager to share. Because these online surveys represented only a small proportion of

the completed questionnaires, they were pooled with the on-site interviews and all questionnaires were analyzed together.

The sample sizes for the Corridor and each of the Regions was sufficient to provide statistical confidence in aggregate results.⁵ Because each recreation site was sampled at about 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 Corridor- and Region-wide recreation.

Table 1: Sample Sizes

| Region | Waterbody/Section | # of responses | % of Regional responses | % of Corridor responses |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | | 609 | 100% | 47% |
| | Hebgen Lake | 199 | 33% | 15% |
| | Upper Madison River | 124 | 20% | 10% |
| | Ennis Lake | 101 | 17% | 8% |
| | Lower Madison River | 185 | 30% | 14% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | | 494 | 100% | 38% |
| | Hauser Lake | 287 | 58% | 22% |
| | Holter Lake | 207 | 42% | 16% |
| Great Falls Region | | 185 | 100% | 15% |
| | Upper Missouri River | 58 | 31% | 5% |
| | Great Falls Non-Trails | 29 | 16% | 2% |
| | Great Falls Trails | 88 | 48% | 7% |
| | Lower Missouri River | 10 | 5% | 1% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | | 1,288 | | 100% |

3.2 Notes on Interpreting Results

At some sites, not all recreation uses were captured in accurate proportions. For example, people participating in boat- or trail-related activities usually were not present at boat launches and trailheads very long before they departed for their activity, while visitors using these sites for picnicking or bank angling were often present at the site and available for sampling. As previously noted, efforts to solicit participation of trail or boat users in the Internet survey via survey invitation cards left on unattended vehicles resulted in a significantly lower response rate than on-site interviews.

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 95% confident that the true proportion is: +/- 2.8% for Corridor results, +/- 4.0% for Hebgen-Madison Region results, +/- 4.4% for Hauser-Holter Region results, and +/- 7.0% for Great Falls Region results.

Repeat site use by visitors was not recorded because visitors were sampled only once at each site over the course of the study period.⁶ As such, to some degree, results under-report site use associated with frequent site visitors, such as area residents or others that visit the same site many times over the season.

Finally, the survey was conducted during the post-pandemic period of 2021 and 2022. People turned to outdoor spaces and recreation sites to escape confinement due to shelter-in-place directives associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, but parameters of social distancing and personal protection had become well established by the study timeframe. Therefore, visitors were more reluctant than in prior study years to engage with survey technicians and participate in the survey. The 60 percent response rate for onsite contacts in 2021-2022 was lower than that in the 2014 (85%) and 2008 (82%) studies, though the 18 percent response rate for the online version of the survey was higher than 2014 and 2008 (13% and 9%, respectively).

3.3 Missouri-Madison Corridor Results

The following section provides results from the 2021-2022 Missouri-Madison Recreation Visitor Survey for the Missouri-Madison Corridor as well as each of the three regions. For more detail and information for the corridor, regions, and sub-regions (individual water bodies), refer to Appendix A.

3.3.1 Group Characteristics

Visitor groups throughout the corridor typically had 3 people. The smallest groups were in the Great Falls Region (2 people) while the largest were in the Hauser-Holter Region (4 people). Children made up more than one-third of group members in Great Falls (36%), 30 percent of group members in Hauser-Holter Region, and 26 percent of group members in Hebgen-Madison Region. Adults aged 65 and over were most prominent in Great Falls Region groups, as were members requiring ADA amenities. Amenities most commonly noted for ADA access were accommodations for mobility impaired individuals (Table 2).

⁶ 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.

Table 2: Visitor Group Composition and Size

| | Total Adults | Adults age 65+ | Children (<18) | Group Size (Median, Mean) | Require ADA Amenities |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 74% | 18% | 26% | 3, 4.6 | 3% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 70% | 14% | 30% | 4, 5.4 | <1% |
| Great Falls Region | 64% | 23% | 36% | 2, 3.6 | 5% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 71% | 18% | 29% | 3, 4.8 | 2% |

3.3.2 Respondent Characteristics

Overall, Montana residents made up 69 percent of all respondents and were most common in the Hauser-Holter Region. Helena, Great Falls, and Bozeman were the most common Montana cities of origin. Montana residents were least common in the Hebgen-Madison Region, where residents from California, Utah, Idaho, and Washington comprised 19 percent of regional respondents. The median age of visitors was 45 years, with the youngest visitors frequenting the Hebgen-Madison Region (Table 3, Appendix A).

Table 3: Visitor Origin

| | % MT Residents | Common MT Cities | Age (Median, Mean) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 51% | Bozeman | 42, 45 |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 88% | Helena, Great Falls | 48, 47 |
| Great Falls Region | 80% | Great Falls | 47, 49 |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 69% | Helena Great Falls Bozeman | 45, 47 |

3.3.3 Trip Characteristics

Repeat visitors comprised about two-thirds (68%) of respondents Corridor-wide. Repeat visitors were most common in the Great Falls and Hauser-Holter Regions (76 percent each), while repeat visitors comprised 59 percent of respondents in the Hebgen-Madison Region. Repeat visitors most commonly made more than 10 previous trips to the site and the majority had been visiting the site for 3 or more years (Table 4).

Table 4: First Time and Repeat Visitors

| | First Visit | Repeat Visit | # Previous Visits by Repeat Visitors | Years Visiting by Repeat Visitors |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 41% | 59% | 1 - 5 = 27% 6 - 10 = 15% 11 or more = 58% | 2 or less = 20% 3 - 10 = 34% 11 or more = 46% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 24% | 76% | 1-5 =25% 6-10 = 18% 11 or more = 57% | 2 or less = 16% 3 - 10 = 44% 11 or more = 40% |
| Great Falls Region | 24% | 76% | 1-5 = 21% 6-10 = 12% 11 or more = 67% | 2 or less = 16% 3 - 10 = 36% 11 or more = 48% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 32% | 68% | 1-5 = 27% 6-10 = 17% 11 or more = 56% | 2 or less = 17% 3 - 10 = 39% 11 or more = 44% |

3.3.4 Length of Stay

Visitors were slightly more likely to stay overnight (51%) than utilize a site for day use (49%), and most commonly stayed for 3 nights. Day use was more prominent in the Great Falls Region, where opportunities for overnight use in the Missouri-Madison Corridor are more limited than in other regions. Overnight use was most common in the Hauser-Holter Region, and daytime users were slightly more common than overnight users in the Hebgen-Madison Region (Table 5).

Table 5: Daytime and Overnight Use

| | Day Use | Overnight Use | # of Nights (Median, Mean) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 55% | 45% | 3, 4.4 |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 40% | 60% | 3, 3.4 |
| Great Falls Region | 58% | 42% | 3, 4.9 |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 49% | 51% | 3, 4.4 |

3.3.5 Activity Participation

Visitors to recreation sites utilized the sites for many types of recreation activities. When visitors reported their primary activity, auto or RV camping was the most common everywhere except the Great Falls Region. Walking, hiking, or running was the most popular activity in the Great Falls Region. Angling – by boat, from shore, or by wading - was the second most popular activity in the Corridor and all three regions, and non-motorized boating (kayak, raft, SUP, canoe, etc) took the third spot everywhere except the Hauser-Holter Region, where powerboating was the third most common primary activity (Table 6, Appendix A).

Table 6: Primary Activities

| Primary Activity | % Hebgen- Madison Region | % Hauser- Holter Region | % Great Falls Region | % Missouri- Madison Corridor |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 12% | 6% | 6% | 9% |
| Boat Angling | 18% | 15% | 14% | 17% |
| Powerboating | 2% | 21% | 1% | 6% |
| Waterski / Tube / Wakeboard | 1% | 4% | 1% | 1% |
| Personal Watercraft | <1% | 1% | 2% | 1% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (kayak, raft, canoe, float tube, drift boat, etc.) | 19% | 4% | 8% | 13% |
| Swimming | 3% | 9% | 1% | 4% |
| Auto / RV Camping | 19% | 26% | 4% | 18% |
| Tent Camping | 8% | 5% | 4% | 6% |
| Picnicking | 1% | 7% | 4% | 3% |
| Walking / Hiking / Running | 2% | 1% | 34% | 9% |
| Biking | -- | -- | 8% | 1% |
| Visiting Historic Sites | 2% | -- | 3% | 2% |
| Nature Study / View Wildlife | 3% | 1% | 6% | 3% |
| Other Activity or Special Event | 11% | 1% | 6% | 7% |

3.3.6 Overall Trip Satisfaction

Respondents provided a ranking related to satisfaction with their overall trip, which was very high, averaging 4.2 on a scale of 1 (not at all satisfied) to 5 (extremely satisfied). Less than 10 percent of all respondents provided a ranking lower than a 4 on the 1 to 5 scale. Hebgen-Madison Region visitors were slightly more satisfied with their trip than visitors to the Hauser-Holter or Great Falls Regions (Table 7).

Table 7: Overall Trip Satisfaction

| | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 4.3 | 1% | 1% | 8% | 50% | 41% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 4.1 | <1% | 1% | 8% | 73% | 17% |
| Great Falls Region | 4.1 | 0% | 0% | 8% | 68% | 24% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 4.2 | <1% | 1% | 8% | 61% | 29% |

3.3.7 Overall Site Satisfaction

Similar to trip satisfaction, overall satisfaction with the recreation site was very high, averaging 4.1 on a scale of 1 (no at all satisfied) to 5 (extremely satisfied), with the lowest average rating, (4.0) in the Hauser-Holter Region (Table 8).

Table 8: Overall Site Satisfaction

| | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|----------------------------------|------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 4.2 | <1% | 1% | 12% | 51% | 36% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 4.0 | 1% | 2% | 11% | 73% | 14% |
| Great Falls Region | 4.2 | 0% | 1% | 10% | 59% | 30% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 4.1 | <1% | 1% | 11% | 61% | 26% |

3.3.8 Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

Respondents rated their satisfaction with a variety of facility conditions using a five-point scale from 1 (not at all satisfied) to 5 (extremely satisfied). The average rating for all respondents was 4.0 or higher for all conditions except the quality of interpretive/educational information (3.8) and the amount of commercial use (3.6). The highest average satisfaction ratings were given to the amount of litter or trash (4.5) and ease of accessing the site (4.4). The largest difference in average ratings among regions was related to the amount of dust on roads within the site, where Hauser-Holter Region respondents rated this condition far better than the other regions, likely because many of the recreation sites in the Hauser-Holter Region have paved roads and thus little dust. The upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities as well as the amount of commercial use were rated 0.5 and 0.6 points lower, respectively, in Great Falls than at least one other region (Table 10).

Table 10: Satisfaction with Site Conditions

| Rating Scale: | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Hebgen-Madison Region Mean | Hauser-Holter Region Mean | Great Falls Region Mean | Missouri-Madison Corridor Mean | |
| Campsite/picnic area conditions | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.3 | |
| Boat dock/boat launch conditions | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.2 | |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 | |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.3 | |

Table 10: Satisfaction with Site Conditions (continued)

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Maintenance of facilities | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.3 |
| Amount of litter or trash | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 4.5 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.3 |
| Behavior of other people | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 4.2 |
| Amount of commercial use | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 3.6 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | 3.8 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| Condition of roads within the site | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Ease of accessing the site | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | 4.4 | 4.2 | 3.9 | 4.3 |
| Number of toilet facilities | 4.2 | 4.2 | 3.9 | 4.1 |

3.3.9 Facilities Lacking

Overall, 13 percent of respondents felt that facilities were lacking at recreation sites within the Missouri-Madison Corridor. Those visitors most commonly reported a need for more available restrooms, though drinking water and electricity were also common. Shade structures or trees were also mentioned in the Hebgen-Madison Region, shower facilities were also mentioned in the Hauser-Holter Region, and trash service was also mentioned in the Great Falls Region (Table 11).

Table 11: Facilities Lacking

| | % That Feel Facilities are Lacking | Common Facilities Mentioned as Lacking |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 16% | More available restrooms Drinking water Another boat ramp Shade structures or trees |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 11% | Electricity More available restrooms Open fish cleaning station |
| Great Falls Region | 14% | More available restrooms Drinking water Trash service |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 14% | More available restrooms Drinking water Electricity |

3.3.10 Primary Reason Site was Chosen

There are many reasons that respondents chose the recreation site they visited, and the convenient location of sites was the most common primary reason among all recreationists. This was especially true in the Hauser-Holter Region. In the Hebgen-Madison Region, good fishing and convenient location were the top primary reasons, while in the Great Falls Region, easy access to and scenic beauty of recreation sites topped the list (Table 12).

Table 12: Primary Reason Site was Chosen

| Primary Reason | % Hebgen-Madison Region | % Hauser-Holter Region | % Great Falls Region | % Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Easy access | 11% | 15% | 19% | 14% |
| Convenient location | 21% | 44% | 10% | 28% |
| Available amenities | 1% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| Good facilities | 1% | 3% | -- | 1% |
| Historical significance | 2% | 1% | 3% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 10% | 10% | 19% | 11% |
| Primitive setting | 1% | 2% | -- | 1% |
| To find solitude | 8% | 4% | 5% | 6% |
| Good fishing | 23% | 15% | 15% | 19% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 23% | 4% | 4% | 17% |

3.3.11 Crowding

Visitors rated the extent to which they felt crowded at the recreation site, on a scale of 1 (not at all crowded) to 5 (extremely crowded). Overall, ratings averaged 1.7, meaning visitors felt less than “slightly crowded” at recreation sites. Crowdedness ratings were lowest in the Great Falls Region (1.5) and the highest, though still very low, in the Hauser-Holter Region (1.8, Table 13).

Table 13: Crowding

| | Mean | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|---------------------------|------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Hebgen-Madison Region | 1.6 | 61% | 22% | 12% | 3% | 2% |
| Hauser-Holter Region | 1.8 | 51% | 23% | 20% | 4% | 2% |
| Great Falls Region | 1.5 | 70% | 16% | 11% | 3% | 1% |
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | 1.7 | 58% | 21% | 15% | 3% | 2% |

3.3.12 Conflicts and Opinions

Overall, only three percent of respondents reported experiencing any conflicts at recreation sites. Most felt that visitors follow the rules and regulations (91%) and that the rules and regulations are adequately enforced (88%). When it comes to consideration of paying launch fees, visitors to Hauser-Holter Region sites are more willing to pay a day use or launch fee (64%) compared to Hebgen-Madison and Great Falls Region (43% each) sites (Table 14).

Table 14: Conflicts Experiences and Opinions about Site

| | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| % of respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 3% | 4% | 2% | 3% |
| % of respondents that feel visitors are following rules and regulations | 89% | 94% | 81% | 91% |
| % of respondents that feel rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 82% | 94% | 80% | 88% |
| % of respondents that are willing to pay a day use or launch fee at the site | 43% | 64% | 43% | 55% |

4 Trends

Recreation visitor studies have been conducted six times on the Missouri-Madison River corridor over a 27-year period (1995, 1999, 2003, 2008, 2014 and 2021-2022). Although the survey methods and questionnaires were generally similar over the years, some changes affect the comparability of some results.

The 2008 study marked the introduction of an Internet-based survey response option, which allowed recreationists who declined to complete a questionnaire onsite to complete a survey online when they returned home. An invitation to participate in the Internet-based survey was also left on the vehicles of recreationists using trailheads and water-access sites, when they were not at the site to be contacted in person. To a large extent, the online survey replaced the mail-return hard copy surveys as an off-site option. Use of the online survey technique allowed groups of recreationists whose use and opinions were not captured on site to participate in the 2008 and future studies.

The recreation sites that were surveyed have changed somewhat over the course of the six studies, with some sites being dropped while others were added. Notably, the 2008 and 2014 studies focused on reservoir sites and sites within the FERC Project boundary and/or Comprehensive Recreation Plan. Within the Hebgen-Madison Region for example, campgrounds and some fishing access sites downriver of the Warm Springs Access site were excluded in 2008 and 2014, as was the Bear Trap Canyon Trailhead. These changes are reflected in the regional results, which indicate more day-use and flat-water recreation participation and less bank and wade angling during those study years. To reflect a more complete analysis of visitor use of the Corridor, some of these sites were added back into the sampling schedule for the 2021-2022 survey.

This section presents results since 2003 for each of the geographic regions. Results for the Hebgen and Ennis Regions (sub-regions of the Hebgen-Madison Region) were presented separately in previous reports, but were combined here wherever possible for comparability. In cases when a question was asked or stated slightly differently between study years, or when types of activities were collected separately in one year and in combination another year, the verbiage or explanation of change is provided in the table of results. A 9-point response scale was used for some questions in prior studies, but was replaced with a 5-point scale in the 2021-2022 study. Prior response averages were converted to reflect responses on a 5-point scale for comparability. Key indicators of recreation use, such as who the visitors are, what activities they pursue and how they feel about the recreation site, were examined for changes.

4.1 Group Characteristics

The size of visitor groups has remained fairly consistent over time (Table 15). In previous years, visitors reported whether their group had disabled member(s) and, on average, about 10 percent of groups did. For management purposes, it's valuable to know what portion of disabled members require ADA amenities, as asked in 2021-2022, and that percentage was an average of 3-4 percent (Table 16).

Table 15: Mean Group Size, 2003 - 2022

| Mean Group Size | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | 2021-2022 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| | 2014 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| | 2008 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| | 2003 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 |

Table 16: Disabled Visitors, 2003 - 2022

| Disabled Visitors | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|---|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Groups with members that require ADA amenities. | 2021-2022 | 3% | <1% | 5% | 2% |
| Groups with disabled members. | 2014 | 8% | 14% | 9% | 11% |
| | 2008 | 7% | 12% | 9% | 9% |
| | 2003 | 9% | 13% | 10% | 11% |

4.2 Respondent Characteristics

The proportion of non-resident visitors has not changed much in the Hebgen-Madison Region, which is reasonable given the proximity to Yellowstone National Park (Table 17). Fewer non-resident visitors were captured in the 2021-2022 study in the Hauser-Holter and Great Falls Regions, which also seems reasonable since the timeframe is post-pandemic and travel for vacation outside of areas closer to home was really just picking up again during the timeframe of the survey. While fewer non-resident visitors were captured during the 2021-2022 study, the post-pandemic timeframe very likely influenced travel, so it is unlikely that a shift in visitor origin will persist over time.

Table 17: Visitor Origin, 2003 - 2022

| Non-Resident Visitors | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | 2021-2022 | 49% | 12% | 20% | 31% |
| | 2014 | 53% | 20% | 32% | 39% |
| | 2008 | 45% | 17% | 26% | 34% |
| | 2003 | 58% | 24% | 37% | 40% |

4.3 Trip Characteristics

The proportion of first time and repeat visitors has also remained fairly constant over the past two decades (Table 18). The proportion of day use and overnight use in the Hebgen-Madison and Hauser-Holter Regions has remained quite consistent, though the current study resulted in more overnight use in the Great Falls Region than in past study years (Table 19). This is due to the addition of MidCanon and Craig Fishing Access Sites on the Upper Missouri River to the study, both of which offer camping.

Table 18: First Visit to Site, 2003 - 2022

| First Visit to Site | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | 2021-2022 | 41% | 24% | 24% | 32% |
| | 2014 | 38% | 26% | 33% | 34% |
| | 2008 | 30% | 22% | 28% | 28% |
| | 2003 | 46% | 27% | 42% | 32% |

Table 19: Length of Stay, 2003 - 2022

| Length of Stay | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Day Use | 2021-2022 | 55% | 40% | 58% | 49% |
| | 2014 | 53% | 39% | 88% | 56% |
| | 2008 | 65% | 47% | 95% | 64% |
| | 2003 | 44% | 54% | 89% | 55% |
| Overnight Use | 2021-2022 | 45% | 60% | 42% | 51% |
| | 2014 | 47% | 61% | 12% | 44% |
| | 2008 | 35% | 53% | 5% | 36% |
| | 2003 | 56% | 47% | 11% | 45% |

Participation rates in many recreation activities remained fairly constant with past trends (Table 20), and most resulting changes are largely attributable to inclusion of more sites in the 2021-2022 sampling. Boat angling was more common in the Great Falls Region in 2021-2022 due to inclusion of more Fishing Access Sites on the Missouri River in the study. Powerboating was somewhat more prominent in the Hauser-Holter Region in 2021-2022 than in past years, and still the highest participation rate of the three regions. Non-motorized boating use has followed national trends, with increases that doubled or tripled compared to prior studies, and increases in biking are also following popularity trends. The increase in swimming in the Hebgen-Madison Region is due to the inclusion of more access sites on the Lower Madison River, which are popular for recreational floating and swimming. Auto or RV camping increased in the Hauser-Holter Region, while tent camping decreased. Since campsites in the region are generally more developed than in the other two regions, and because most sites can be reserved, this trend is not surprising. In the Hebgen-Madison and Great Falls Regions, rates of camping overall – both tent and RV – were higher due to inclusion of more overnight sites in the study in 2021-2022.

Table 20: Activity Participation, 2003 - 2022

| Activity Participation | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Boat Angling | 2021-2022 | 33% | 36% | 21% | 37% |
| | 2014 | 21% | 31% | 6% | 22% |
| | 2008 | 26% | 34% | 3% | 24% |
| | 2003 | 31% | 31% | 2% | 26% |
| Bank or Wade Angling | 2021-2022 | 42% | 33% | 18% | 39% |
| Bank Angling | 2014 | 20% | 28% | 15% | 23% |
| | 2008 | 25% | 23% | 1% | 22% |
| | 2003 | 26% | 23% | 6% | 22% |
| Wade Angling | 2014 | 17% | 6% | 5% | 11% |
| | 2008 | 22% | 7% | 2% | 13% |
| | 2003 | 23% | 12% | 2% | 15% |
| Powerboating | 2021-2022 | 14% | 46% | 5% | 29% |
| | 2014 | 8% | 36% | 1% | 16% |
| | 2008 | 10% | 35% | 1% | 17% |
| | 2003 | 10% | 29% | 4% | 17% |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 2021-2022 | 9% | 21% | 2% | 15% |
| | 2014 | 6% | 19% | <1% | 9% |
| | 2008 | 8% | 19% | <1% | 10% |
| | 2003 | 6% | 16% | 4% | 10% |
| Personal Watercraft | 2021-2022 | 3% | 5% | 2% | 4% |
| | 2014 | 2% | 6% | <1% | 3% |
| | 2008 | 6% | 7% | <1% | 5% |
| | 2003 | 3% | 6% | 2% | 4% |

Table 20: Activity Participation, 2003 – 2022 (continued)

| | Study Year | Hebgen-Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Non-Motorized Boating (kayak, raft, SUP, canoe, float tube, drift boat, etc.) | 2021-2022 | 57% | 46% | 25% | 54% |
| | 2014 | 23% | 10% | 7% | 7% |
| | 2008 | 24% | 8% | 3% | 15% |
| | 2003 | 30% | 34% | 8% | 33% |
| Swimming | 2021-2022 | 40% | 54% | 10% | 48% |
| | 2014 | 25% | 41% | 5% | 26% |
| | 2008 | 27% | 35% | 1% | 25% |
| | 2003 | 17% | 39% | 6% | 24% |
| Auto/RV Camping | 2021-2022 | 38% | 59% | 9% | 48% |
| | 2014 | 33% | 45% | 5% | 31% |
| | 2008 | 23% | 37% | 2% | 24% |
| | 2003 | 40% | 35% | 4% | 32% |
| Tent Camping | 2021-2022 | 20% | 17% | 7% | 20% |
| | 2014 | 15% | 21% | 5% | 15% |
| | 2008 | 13% | 17% | 2% | 12% |
| | 2003 | 13% | 15% | 3% | 12% |
| Walking/Hiking/Running Walking/Day Hiking Walking/Day Hiking Walking | 2021-2022 | 44% | 41% | 54% | 48% |
| | 2014 | 23% | 29% | 40% | 27% |
| | 2008 | 20% | 24% | 54% | 24% |
| | 2003 | 32% | 25% | 44% | 31% |
| Biking | 2021-2022 | 13% | 16% | 18% | 16% |
| | 2014 | 6% | 7% | 11% | 7% |
| | 2008 | 5% | 3% | 17% | 5% |
| | 2003 | 7% | 2% | 12% | 5% |
| Picnicking | 2021-2022 | 29% | 76% | 25% | 52% |
| | 2014 | 26% | 32% | 21% | 27% |
| | 2008 | 21% | 30% | 14% | 24% |
| | 2003 | 24% | 24% | 15% | 22% |
| Visiting Historic Sites | 2021-2022 | 17% | 13% | 9% | 17% |
| | 2014 | 14% | 8% | 27% | 15% |
| | 2008 | 8% | 8% | 20% | 13% |
| | 2003 | 9% | 9% | 33% | 8% |
| Nature Study / View Wildlife | 2021-2022 | 70% | 56% | 85% | 68% |
| | 2014 | 29% | 22% | 29% | 26% |
| | 2008 | 21% | 22% | 35% | 13% |
| | 2003 | 40% | 32% | 28% | 7% |

4.4 Satisfaction and Crowding

Visitor satisfaction, either with the overall trip, recreation site, or specific site amenities, was evaluated based the following 5-point scale:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------|---|----------------------|--|-----------|--|----------------|--|
| Very Dissatisfied | | Dissatisfied | | Neutral / No Opinion | | Satisfied | | Very Satisfied | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | |

Overall trip satisfaction was high, averaging 4.1 or greater in all regions and the Corridor in 2021-2022 (Table 21). While these ratings were slightly lower than in prior years, they are still very positive. Trip satisfaction can be influenced by any number of things, which may or may not be linked to visitor experiences within the Missouri-Madison Corridor.

Table 21: Overall Trip Satisfaction, 2003 - 2022

| Mean Rating | Study Year | Hebgen Region | Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 2021-2022 | 4.3 | | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| | 2014 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| | 2008 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.4 |
| | 2003 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 4.2 |

Overall site satisfaction was also high, averaging 4.1 or greater on a 1-5 scale in all regions and the Corridor in 2021-2022 (Table 22). As with trip satisfaction, ratings of overall site satisfaction were slightly lower than prior study years, but still very positive.

Table 22: Overall Site Satisfaction, 2003 - 2022

| Mean Rating | Study Year | Hebgen Region | Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 2021-2022 | 4.2 | | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| | 2014 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.4 |
| | 2008 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.3 |
| | 2003 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |

Satisfaction with amount of litter or trash received the highest rating of all site elements in the Hebgen-Madison and Hauser-Holter Regions, and one of the highest ratings in the Great Fall Region (Table 23). It's somewhat challenging to compare 2021-2022 results in the Hebgen-Madison Region with prior years due to separation of the Hebgen and Ennis portions of that region in the past, but satisfaction trends are generally about the same for three of the eight metrics and higher than past years for the remaining five. In the Hauser-Holter Region, satisfaction ratings for four metrics were higher than past studies, equal to prior studies for three

metrics, and slightly lower for maintenance of facilities. In the Great Falls Region, ratings for three metrics of satisfaction were the same as prior studies, but lower for the remaining five metrics. This may be due to inclusion of more river access sites in the 2021-2022 study, which have a different type of user group (primarily anglers) at sites with different amenities than the day use and trail sites that comprise the sites included in prior studies in the Great Falls region.

Table 23: Satisfaction with Site Conditions, 2003 - 2022

| Mean Rating | Study Year | Hebgen Region | Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Campsite or picnic area conditions | 2021-2022 | 4.4 | | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.3 |
| | 2014 | 4.6 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.2 |
| | 2008 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| | 2003 | 4.1 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.9 |
| Maintenance of facilities | 2021-2022 | 4.4 | | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.3 |
| | 2014 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.3 |
| | 2008 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.3 |
| | 2003 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 4.2 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | 2021-2022 | 4.3 | | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.3 |
| | 2014 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.3 |
| | 2008 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.2 |
| | 2003 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.1 |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | 2021-2022 | 4.3 | | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.3 |
| | 2014 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| | 2008 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.0 |
| | 2003 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.8 |
| Behavior of other people | 2021-2022 | 4.3 | | 4.2 | 4.0 | 4.2 |
| | 2014 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 4.1 |
| | 2008 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.0 |
| | 2003 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 3.8 |
| Amount of litter or trash Cleanliness of area Cleanliness of area Cleanliness of area | 2021-2022 | 4.5 | | 4.5 | 4.2 | 4.5 |
| | 2014 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 |
| | 2008 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.4 |
| | 2003 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | 2021-2022 | 4.0 | | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| | 2014 | 4.2 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| | 2008 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 4.1 | 3.9 |
| | 2003 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.9 |
| Quality of interpretive / educational information | 2021-2022 | 3.7 | | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 |
| | 2014 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 3.7 |
| | 2008 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 3.6 |
| | 2003 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 3.4 |

Visitor ratings of crowdedness at recreation sites was evaluated based the following 5-point scale:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Not at all crowded | | Slightly crowded | | Moderately crowded | | Very crowded | | Extremely crowded | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | |

Ratings of crowdedness were very positive, averaging 1.8 or less for all regions and the Corridor overall (Table 24). Ratings were the lowest in 2021-2022 in Hebgen-Madison and Hauser-Holter Regions and the Corridor as a whole compared to the past 20 years. The lowest 2021-2022 rating of crowdedness among the three regions was in the Great Falls Region. Recreation sites in the Missouri-Madison Corridor accommodated 20 percent more visitation in 2022 than in 2014⁷, so positive ratings are an indication of effective site management.

Table 24: Rating of Crowdedness at Site, 2003 - 2022

| Mean Rating | Study Year | Hebgen Region | Madison Region | Hauser-Holter Region | Great Falls Region | Missouri-Madison Corridor |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Crowding | 2021-2022 | 1.6 | | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| | 2014 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 1.9 |
| | 2008 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.8 |
| | 2003 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 1.9 |

4.5 Summary and Conclusions

Overall, studies indicate relatively few changes in visitor use or opinions over the last twenty years that are not attributable to changes in methods or study sites, and observed changes align with regional and national trends (such as an increase in non-motorized boating).

Visitor group characteristics have remained consistent, as have trip characteristics such as first time or repeat use and length of stay. Use of recreation sites to accommodate nonmotorized boating and biking has increased, which follows national trends^{8,9}, while other participation levels in many other activities remains high. Increases in RV camping may be attributable to a few factors, such as the aging baby boomer population that enjoy comfortable amenities, along with record sales of RVs during the pandemic¹⁰, which are now being put to use.

⁷ Pinnacle Research & Consulting, February 2023. Missouri-Madison 2022 Recreation Visitor Use Counts. Available at <https://northwesternenergy.com/recreation>

⁸ Statista.com, accessed 7/1/2023. Cycling – Statistics and Facts. Available at <https://www.statista.com/topics/1686/cycling/#topicOverview>

⁹ Statista.com, accessed 7/1/2023. Recreational Boating in the US. Available at <https://www.statista.com/study/10744/recreational-boating-in-the-us-statista-dossier/>

¹⁰ Statista.com, accessed 7/1/2023. Camping in North America – Statistics & Facts. Available at <https://www.statista.com/topics/1319/camping-and-recreational-vehicles/#topicOverview>

Satisfaction ratings remain high and, in many cases, improved over prior studies, while ratings of crowdedness are at an all-time low in the Corridor.

Among other things, the relative sameness of results suggests that the recreation opportunities at the sites attract a relatively stable clientele that are well-matched to the sites. The positive ratings of satisfaction and crowdedness indicate sites are appropriately developed to accommodate the level of use they receive while not detracting from visitor experiences.

Results also support the survey methodology's ability to accurately reflect visitor use and opinions. The overall sameness of results over the six studies suggests high reliability in the questionnaire, which lends credibility to survey results.

Appendix A: Regional Results

***Note: Use bookmarks in PDF viewer
to display links to Appendix A report pages.***

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Missouri-Madison Corridor | A-3 |
| Hebgen-Madison Region | A-7 |
| Hebgen Lake | A-11 |
| Upper Madison River..... | A-14 |
| Ennis Lake | A-17 |
| Lower Madison River | A-20 |
| Hauser-Holter Region | A-23 |
| Hauser Lake | A-27 |
| Holter Lake | A-30 |
| Great Falls Region | A-33 |
| Missouri River (Upper and Lower)..... | A-37 |
| Great Falls Non-Trails | A-40 |
| Great Falls Trails..... | A-43 |

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=1249</i> | Total Adults | 71% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 18% |
| | Children under 18 | 29% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=1221</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 2% |
| <i>n=25</i> | Common Amenities Needed: | |
| | Access for mobility impairment. | |

Size

| | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=1252</i> | Mean | 4.8 |
| | Median | 3 |

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=1128</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 6% |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=1288</i> | Montana | 69% |
| | California | 4% |
| | Utah | 3% |
| | Idaho | 2% |
| | Washington | 2% |
| | Colorado | 2% |
| | Arizona | 1% |
| | Texas | 2% |
| | Other US | 12% |
| | Canada | <1% |
| | Other foreign country | <1% |

Age

| | | |
|---------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=1248</i> | Mean | 47 |
| | Median | 45 |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Helena | 21% |
| Great Falls | 13% |
| Bozeman | 11% |

| | |
|----------|----|
| Billings | 3% |
| Belgrade | 2% |
| Ennis | 2% |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-----|--|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n</i> =1267 | First Visit to Site | 32% | | | |
| | Repeat Visitor | 68% | | | |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | | | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 26% | | 2 or less | 17% |
| | 6 to 10 | 16% | | 3 to 10 | 39% |
| <i>n</i> =805 | More than 10 | 59% | | More than 10 | 44% |

Length of Stay

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|-----|--|---------------|--------|
| <i>n</i> =1137 | Day Use | 49% | | Overnight Use | 51% |
| | | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean |
| | | | | <i>n</i> =547 | 4.4 |
| | | | | | Median |
| | | | | | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n</i> = 1099 | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|-----|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Bank/Wade Angling | 39% | 9% | Auto / RV Camping | 48% |
| | Boat Angling | 37% | 17% | Tent Camping | 20% |
| | Powerboating | 29% | 6% | Picnicking | 52% |
| | Personal Watercraft | 4% | 1% | Biking | 16% |
| | Swimming | 48% | 4% | Visiting Historic Sites | 17% |
| | Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 15% | 1% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 48% |
| | Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 54% | 13% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 68% |
| | | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 22% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n</i> = 1153 | | Not at all Satisfied | Slightly Satisfied | Moderately Satisfied | Very Satisfied | Extremely Satisfied |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | <i>Mean</i> | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| | Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.2 | <1% | 1% | 8% | 61% |
| | | | | | 29% | |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=1233</i> | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Easy access | 89% | 14% |
| Convenient location | 93% | 28% |
| Available amenities | 28% | 2% |
| Good facilities | 69% | 1% |
| Historical significance | 19% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 92% | 11% |
| Primitive setting | 45% | 1% |
| To find solitude | 63% | 6% |
| Good fishing | 54% | 19% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 29% | 17% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n=1244</i> | Yes, facilities are lacking | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| More available restrooms | 21% | |
| Drinking water | 10% | |
| Electricity | 9% | |
| Shower facility | 6% | |
| Trash service | 6% | |
| Open fish cleaning station | 6% | |
| Another boat ramp | 6% | |
| Shade structures or trees | 5% | |

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=992</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | Campsite/picnic area conditions | | | | | |
| Boat dock/boat launch conditions | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | 3.8 |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | | 4.5 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Amount of commercial use | | | | | | 3.6 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | | | | | | 4.0 |
| Condition of roads within the site | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Ease of accessing the site | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.1 |

Site Satisfaction

| <i>n=1258</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.1 | <1% | 1% | 11% | 61% | 26% |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=</i> 1267 | | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----|
| | <i>Mean</i> | | | | | | |
| | Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.7 | 58% | 21% | 15% | 3% | 2% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-----|-------|
| <i>n=1091</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 91% | agree |
| <i>n=1034</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 88% | agree |
| <i>n=1097</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 55% | |

Conflicts

| | | |
|---------------|--|----|
| <i>n=1252</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 3% |
| | Common conflicts: | |
| | Other users rude or disrespectful | |
| | Dogs off leash | |

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=588</i> | Total Adults | 74% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 20% |
| | Children under 18 | 26% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=586</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 3% |
| <i>n=13</i> | Common Amenities Needed: | |
| | Access for mobility impairment | |

Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=589</i> | Mean | 4.6 |
| | Median | 3 |

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=590</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 10% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=610</i> | Montana | 51% |
| | California | 7% |
| | Idaho | 4% |
| | Utah | 5% |
| | Washington | 3% |
| | Colorado | 2% |
| | Arizona | 2% |
| | Texas | 3% |
| | Other US | 20% |
| | Canada | <1% |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=592</i> | Mean | 45 |
| | Median | 42 |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Bozeman | 20% |
| Billings | 4% |
| Ennis | 5% |

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Belgrade | 3% |
| West Yellowstone | 2% |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|-----|
| <i>n=599</i> | First Visit to Site | 41% | | | | |
| | Repeat Visitor | 59% | | | | |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | 1 to 5 | 27% | <i>Years Visiting</i> | 2 or less | 20% |
| | | 6 to 10 | 15% | | 3 to 10 | 34% |
| | <i>n=355</i> | More than 10 | 58% | | More than 10 | 46% |

Length of Stay

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=545</i> | Day Use | 55% | Overnight Use | 45% | |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean | 4.4 |
| | | | <i>n=256</i> | Median | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n=578</i> | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | |
|--------------|---|------------------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------|-----|
| | Bank/Wade Angling | 42% | 12% | Auto / RV Camping | 38% | 19% |
| | Boat Angling | 33% | 18% | Tent Camping | 20% | 8% |
| | Powerboating | 14% | 2% | Picnicking | 29% | 1% |
| | Personal Watercraft | 3% | <1% | Biking | 13% | -- |
| | Swimming | 40% | 3% | Visiting Historic Sites | 17% | 2% |
| | Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 9% | 1% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 44% | 2% |
| | Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 57% | 19% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 70% | 3% |
| | | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 31% | 11% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n=571</i> | | Not at all Satisfied | Slightly Satisfied | Moderately Satisfied | Very Satisfied | Extremely Satisfied | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----|
| | <i>Mean</i> | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| | Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.3 | 1% | 1% | 8% | 50% | 41% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=593</i> | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Easy access | 82% | 12% |
| Convenient location | 90% | 21% |
| Available amenities | 22% | 1% |
| Good facilities | 61% | 1% |
| Historical significance | 16% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 89% | 10% |
| Primitive setting | 42% | 1% |
| To find solitude | 56% | 8% |
| Good fishing | 55% | 23% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 43% | 23% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n=592</i> | Yes, facilities are lacking | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| More available restrooms | | 21% |
| Shade structures or trees | | 13% |
| Drinking water | | 9% |
| Another boat ramp | | 9% |
| Trash service | | 7% |

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <i>n=532</i> | | | | | | <i>Mean</i> |
| Campsite/picnic area conditions | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Boat dock/boat launch conditions | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | 3.7 |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | | 4.5 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Amount of commercial use | | | | | | 3.6 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | | 4.0 |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | | | | | | 3.8 |
| Condition of roads within the site | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Ease of accessing the site | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.2 |

Site Satisfaction

| <i>n=595</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.2 | <1% | 1% | 12% | 51% | 36% |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Perception of Crowding

| | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all | Slightly | Moderately | Very | Extremely |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------|------------|---------|-----------|
| | | Crowded | Crowded | Crowded | Crowded | Crowded |
| | | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| <i>n=599</i> | | | | | | |
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.6 | 61% | 22% | 12% | 3% | 2% |

Opinions about Rules and Regulations

| | | | |
|--------------|--|-----|-------|
| <i>n=537</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 89% | agree |
| <i>n=487</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 82% | agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=590</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 3% |
| | Common conflicts: | |
| | Dogs off leash | |
| | Other users rude or disrespectful | |

Opinions about Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----|
| <i>n=561</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 43% |
|--------------|--|-----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=200</i> | Total Adults | 67% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 20% |
| | Children under 18 | 33% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=197</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 2% |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=200</i> | Mean | 4.6 |
| | Median | 3 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=196</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 2% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=202</i> | Montana | 35% |
| | Utah | 12% |
| | Idaho | 8% |
| | California | 6% |
| | Washington | 5% |
| | Colorado | 3% |
| | Texas | 2% |
| | Other US states | 26% |
| | Canada | <1% |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Bozeman | 11% |
| West Yellowstone | 5% |
| Billings | 4% |
| Belgrade | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=200</i> | Mean | 49 |
| | Median | 48 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=200</i> | First Visit to Site | 50% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 50% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 22% |
| | 6 to 10 | 11% |
| | More than 10 | 67% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 10% |
| | 3 to 10 | 26% |
| | More than 10 | 64% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=196 Day Use 28%

Overnight Use 72%

Nights Mean 4.7
n=138 Median 3

Activity Participation

n=195

| | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> | | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 39% | 9% | Auto / RV Camping | 54% | 25% |
| Boat Angling | 35% | 13% | Tent Camping | 33% | 14% |
| Powerboating | 27% | 2% | Picnicking | 37% | 1% |
| Personal Watercraft | 3% | -- | Biking | 22% | -- |
| Swimming | 37% | 4% | Visiting Historic Sites | 34% | 5% |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 12% | -- | Walking / Hiking / Running | 66% | 3% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 39% | 5% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 80% | 3% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 42% | 16% |

Trip Satisfaction

n=192

| | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.3 | -- | 1% | 6% | 58% | 35% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

n=196

| | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy access | 68% | 5% |
| Convenient location | 84% | 20% |
| Available amenities | 32% | 1% |
| Good facilities | 60% | 1% |
| Historical significance | 18% | 4% |
| Scenic beauty | 92% | 10% |
| Primitive setting | 43% | 1% |
| To find solitude | 61% | 12% |
| Good fishing | 52% | 14% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 51% | 32% |

Facilities Lacking

n=200 Yes, facilities are lacking 15%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:
More available restrooms
Drinking water
Shower facility

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=179</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=195</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.3 | -- | -- | 9% | 51% | 40% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=196</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.6 | 62% | 22% | 12% | 3% | 2% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=176</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 88% agree |
| <i>n=159</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 81% agree |
| <i>n=190</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 35% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=199</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 4% |
|--------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=120</i> | Total Adults | 82% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 29% |
| | Children under 18 | 18% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=120</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 3% |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=120</i> | Mean | 3.5 |
| | Median | 2 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=122</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 21% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=125</i> | Montana | 49% |
| | Utah | 2% |
| | Idaho | 3% |
| | California | 10% |
| | Washington | 5% |
| | Colorado | 2% |
| | Texas | 4% |
| | Arizona | 3% |
| | Other US states | 17% |
| | Canada | -- |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Bozeman | 12% |
| Ennis | 10% |
| Helena | 3% |
| Billings | 2% |
| Belgrade | 2% |
| Cameron | 2% |
| McAllister | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=120</i> | Mean | 50 |
| | Median | 50 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=122</i> | First Visit to Site | 39% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 61% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> 1 to 5 | 24% |
| | 6 to 10 | 8% |
| | <i>n=75</i> More than 10 | 68% |

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> 2 or less | 10% |
| | 3 to 10 | 37% |
| | <i>n=74</i> More than 10 | 53% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=125 Day Use 64%

Overnight Use 36%
Nights Mean 4.2
n=43 Median 3

Activity Participation

n=118

| | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> | | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 66% | 24% | Auto / RV Camping | 36% | 17% |
| Boat Angling | 58% | 47% | Tent Camping | 14% | 3% |
| Powerboating | -- | -- | Picnicking | 13% | -- |
| Personal Watercraft | -- | -- | Biking | 7% | -- |
| Swimming | 19% | -- | Visiting Historic Sites | 12% | -- |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | -- | -- | Walking / Hiking / Running | 32% | 1% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 64% | 3% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 80% | 1% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 22% | 3% |

Trip Satisfaction

n=117

| | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.3 | 3% | 1% | 9% | 39% | 49% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

n=120

| | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy access | 92% | 7% |
| Convenient location | 93% | 12% |
| Available amenities | 17% | -- |
| Good facilities | 47% | 1% |
| Historical significance | 15% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 88% | 7% |
| Primitive setting | 44% | -- |
| To find solitude | 54% | 4% |
| Good fishing | 89% | 53% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 28% | 13% |

Facilities Lacking

n=120 Yes, facilities are lacking 15%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:
 More available restrooms
 Drinking water

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=103</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=123</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.2 | 2% | 1% | 11% | 46% | 41% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=124</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.8 | 52% | 29% | 11% | 3% | 5% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=110</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 94% agree |
| <i>n=98</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 82% agree |
| <i>n=110</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 56% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=120</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 4% |
|--------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=96</i> | Total Adults | 78% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 33% |
| | Children under 18 | 22% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=94</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 5% |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|-------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=96</i> | Mean | 4.3 |
| | Median | 3 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=95</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 2% |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=99</i> | Montana | 61% |
| | Utah | 1% |
| | Idaho | 2% |
| | California | 3% |
| | Washington | 2% |
| | Colorado | 1% |
| | Texas | 4% |
| | Arizona | 2% |
| | Other US states | 19% |
| | Canada | -- |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Bozeman | 18% |
| Ennis | 16% |
| McAllister | 8% |
| Belgrade | 5% |
| Helena | 2% |
| Billings | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|-------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=96</i> | Mean | 43 |
| | Median | 38 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=99</i> | First Visit to Site | 35% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 65% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> 1 to 5 | 23% |
| | 6 to 10 | 20% |
| | <i>n=64</i> More than 10 | 56% |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Years Visiting</i> 2 or less | 17% |
| 3 to 10 | 42% |
| <i>n=64</i> More than 10 | 41% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n</i> =95 | Day Use | 79% | Overnight Use | 21% | |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean | 3.9 |
| | | | <i>n</i> =20 | Median | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n</i> =91 | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 45% | 15% | Auto / RV Camping | 20% | 11% |
| Boat Angling | 24% | 13% | Tent Camping | 8% | 3% |
| Powerboating | 24% | 6% | Picnicking | 46% | 1% |
| Personal Watercraft | 8% | 1% | Biking | 7% | -- |
| Swimming | 58% | 6% | Visiting Historic Sites | 9% | -- |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 17% | 1% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 36% | 1% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 50% | 21% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 70% | 7% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 34% | 14% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n</i> =93 | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.2 | -- | -- | 16% | 50% | 34% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n</i> =99 | One of the Reasons | Primary Reason |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Easy access | 84% | 16% |
| Convenient location | 87% | 16% |
| Available amenities | 9% | 1% |
| Good facilities | 62% | -- |
| Historical significance | 13% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 95% | 12% |
| Primitive setting | 49% | 1% |
| To find solitude | 68% | 10% |
| Good fishing | 52% | 19% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 49% | 24% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n</i> =96 | Yes, facilities are lacking | 17% |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| Commonly Mentioned Facilities: | | |
| More available restrooms | | |
| Another boat ramp | | |
| Drinking water | | |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=87</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=97</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.1 | -- | 2% | 18% | 51% | 30% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=98</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.5 | 70% | 17% | 9% | 3% | -- |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=85</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 87% agree |
| <i>n=76</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 82% agree |
| <i>n=90</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 3% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| <i>n=95</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 3% |
|-------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=173</i> | Total Adults | 76% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 9% |
| | Children under 18 | 24% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=176</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 3% |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=173</i> | Mean | 5.5 |
| | Median | 4 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=178</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 15% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=185</i> | Montana | 63% |
| | California | 7% |
| | Arizona | 2% |
| | Texas | 2% |
| | Washington | 2% |
| | Other US states | 16% |
| | Canada | -- |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Bozeman | 35% |
| Billings | 5% |
| Belgrade | 5% |
| Three Forks | 3% |
| Livingston | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=177</i> | Mean | 38 |
| | Median | 36 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=179</i> | First Visit to Site | 35% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 65% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 36% |
| | 6 to 10 | 20% |
| | More than 10 | 44% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 35% |
| | 3 to 10 | 34% |
| | More than 10 | 31% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=178 Day Use 66%

Overnight Use 33%

Nights Mean 3.7
n=55 Median 3

Activity Participation

n=175

| | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> | | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 29% | 6% | Auto / RV Camping | 28% | 19% |
| Boat Angling | 19% | 8% | Tent Camping | 16% | 6% |
| Powerboating | 1% | 1% | Picnicking | 20% | -- |
| Personal Watercraft | 1% | -- | Biking | 8% | -- |
| Swimming | 47% | 2% | Visiting Historic Sites | 6% | 1% |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 7% | 2% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 30% | 3% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 77% | 45% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 54% | 2% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 21% | 8% |

Trip Satisfaction

n=170

| | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.4 | -- | -- | 7% | 49% | 45% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

n=181

| | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy access | 90% | 20% |
| Convenient location | 96% | 31% |
| Available amenities | 20% | 1% |
| Good facilities | 68% | -- |
| Historical significance | 15% | 1% |
| Scenic beauty | 83% | 10% |
| Primitive setting | 34% | -- |
| To find solitude | 44% | 5% |
| Good fishing | 37% | 14% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 41% | 19% |

Facilities Lacking

n=176 Yes, facilities are lacking 18%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:
Shade structures or trees
More available restrooms
Drinking water

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=168</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 3.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=181</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.1 | -- | 2% | 12% | 55% | 31% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=182</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.6 | 60% | 20% | 15% | 4% | <1% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=167</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 90% agree |
| <i>n=154</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 85% agree |
| <i>n=172</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 45% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=177</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 1% |
|--------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=483</i> | Total Adults | 70% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 14% |
| | Children under 18 | 30% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=457</i> | Require ADA Amenities | <1% |
| <i>n=0</i> | Common Amenities Needed: | |
| | <i>No detail provided.</i> | |

Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=413</i> | Mean | 5.4 |
| | Median | 4 |

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=480</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | <1% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=492</i> | Montana | 88% |
| | Washington | 1% |
| | Colorado | 1% |
| | California | <1% |
| | Other US | 4% |
| | Canada | <1% |
| | Other foreign country | 0% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=477</i> | Mean | 47 |
| | Median | 48 |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|----------|----|
| Helena | 50% | Butte | 3% |
| Great Falls | 12% | Billings | 2% |
| Bozeman | 4% | | |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----|--|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=485</i> | First Visit to Site | 24% | | | |
| | Repeat Visitor | 76% | | | |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | | | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 25% | | 2 or less | 16% |
| | 6 to 10 | 18% | | 3 to 10 | 44% |
| <i>n=367</i> | More than 10 | 57% | | More than 10 | 40% |

Length of Stay

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|
| <i>n=486</i> | Day Use | 40% | Overnight Use | 60% |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean |
| | | | <i>n=267</i> | 3.4 |
| | | | | Median |
| | | | | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n=484</i> | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | |
|--------------|---|------------------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------|-----|
| | Bank/Wade Angling | 33% | 6% | Auto / RV Camping | 59% | 26% |
| | Boat Angling | 36% | 15% | Tent Camping | 17% | 5% |
| | Powerboating | 46% | 21% | Picnicking | 76% | 7% |
| | Personal Watercraft | 5% | 1% | Biking | 16% | -- |
| | Swimming | 54% | 9% | Visiting Historic Sites | 13% | -- |
| | Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 21% | 4% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 41% | 1% |
| | Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 46% | 4% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 56% | 1% |
| | | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 8% | 1% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n=484</i> | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|---------------------------|------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.1 | <1% | 1% | 8% | 73% | 17% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=486</i> | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Easy access | 93% | 15% |
| Convenient location | 97% | 44% |
| Available amenities | 31% | 3% |
| Good facilities | 77% | 3% |
| Historical significance | 16% | 1% |
| Scenic beauty | 92% | 10% |
| Primitive setting | 43% | 2% |
| To find solitude | 63% | 4% |
| Good fishing | 47% | 15% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 11% | 4% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n=477</i> | Yes, facilities are lacking | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Electricity | 22% | |
| More available restrooms | 19% | |
| Shower facility | 13% | |
| Open fish cleaning station | 19% | |

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <i>n=422</i> | | | | | | <i>Mean</i> |
| Campsite/picnic area conditions | | | | | | 4.3 |
| Boat dock/boat launch conditions | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | 3.9 |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | | 4.5 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Amount of commercial use | | | | | | 3.8 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Condition of roads within the site | | | | | | 4.5 |
| Ease of accessing the site | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | | 4.2 |

Site Satisfaction

| <i>n=481</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.0 | 1% | 2% | 11% | 73% | 14% |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=486</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded | Slightly Crowded | Moderately Crowded | Very Crowded | Extremely Crowded |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.8 | 51% | 23% | 20% | 4% | 2% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | | |
|--------------|--|-----|-------|
| <i>n=454</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 94% | agree |
| <i>n=456</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 94% | agree |
| <i>n=477</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 64% | |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=481</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 4% |
| | Common conflicts: | |
| | Other users are rude or disrespectful | |

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=283</i> | Total Adults | 70% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 17% |
| | Children under 18 | 30% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=270</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 0% |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=283</i> | Mean | 5.3 |
| | Median | 4 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=281</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | <1% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=286</i> | Montana | 87% |
| | Other US states | 4% |
| | Washington | 2% |
| | Canada | -- |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Helena | 60% |
| Bozeman | 5% |
| Great Falls | 4% |
| Billings | 2% |
| Butte | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=280</i> | Mean | 48 |
| | Median | 48 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=284</i> | First Visit to Site | 20% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 80% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 23% |
| | 6 to 10 | 20% |
| | More than 10 | 58% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 18% |
| | 3 to 10 | 45% |
| | More than 10 | 37% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=284 Day Use 44%

Overnight Use 56%
Nights Mean 3.7
n=147 Median 3

Activity Participation

n=279

| | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> | | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 32% | 7% | Auto / RV Camping | 57% | 25% |
| Boat Angling | 30% | 12% | Tent Camping | 12% | 3% |
| Powerboating | 39% | 21% | Picnicking | 73% | 7% |
| Personal Watercraft | 4% | 1% | Biking | 17% | -- |
| Swimming | 48% | 12% | Visiting Historic Sites | 12% | -- |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 17% | 5% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 41% | 1% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 44% | 5% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 53% | 1% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 7% | 1% |

Trip Satisfaction

n=285

| | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.1 | -- | 1% | 6% | 75% | 18% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

n=284

| | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy access | 95% | 16% |
| Convenient location | 98% | 50% |
| Available amenities | 32% | 4% |
| Good facilities | 73% | 3% |
| Historical significance | 16% | 1% |
| Scenic beauty | 88% | 6% |
| Primitive setting | 37% | 2% |
| To find solitude | 58% | 2% |
| Good fishing | 41% | 13% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 8% | 3% |

Facilities Lacking

n=280 Yes, facilities are lacking 8%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:
 Electricity
 Shower facility

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=239</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=281</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.1 | <1% | 1% | 8% | 76% | 15% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=285</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.9 | 47% | 26% | 24% | 4% | 1% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=269</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 96% agree |
| <i>n=268</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 94% agree |
| <i>n=279</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 71% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=282</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 1% |
|--------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=200</i> | Total Adults | 70% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 10% |
| | Children under 18 | 30% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=187</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 1% |
|--------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=200</i> | Mean | 5.6 |
| | Median | 4 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=199</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 1% |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=206</i> | Montana | 89% |
| | Other US states | 2% |
| | Colorado | 1% |
| | Canada | 1% |
| | Other foreign country | – |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Helena | 36% |
| Great Falls | 23% |
| Bozeman | 3% |
| Butte | 3% |
| Billings | 2% |
| Missoula | 2% |
| Stevensville | 2% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=197</i> | Mean | 46 |
| | Median | 46 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=201</i> | First Visit to Site | 30% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 70% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 29% |
| | 6 to 10 | 15% |
| | More than 10 | 56% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 12% |
| | 3 to 10 | 42% |
| | More than 10 | 46% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n</i> =202 | Day Use | 35% | Overnight Use | 65% | |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean | 3.1 |
| | | | <i>n</i> =120 | Median | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n</i> =194 | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 34% | 3% | Auto / RV Camping | 61% |
| Boat Angling | 45% | 22% | Tent Camping | 23% |
| Powerboating | 55% | 22% | Picnicking | 81% |
| Personal Watercraft | 7% | -- | Biking | 15% |
| Swimming | 62% | 5% | Visiting Historic Sites | 15% |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 27% | 2% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 40% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 49% | 2% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 61% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 10% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n</i> =159 | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.0 | <1% | 2% | 11% | 71% | 16% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n</i> =202 | One of the Reasons | Primary Reason |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Easy access | 90% | 14% |
| Convenient location | 95% | 36% |
| Available amenities | 30% | 1% |
| Good facilities | 82% | 3% |
| Historical significance | 16% | 2% |
| Scenic beauty | 98% | 15% |
| Primitive setting | 51% | 2% |
| To find solitude | 70% | 6% |
| Good fishing | 56% | 18% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 15% | 4% |

Facilities Lacking

n=197 Yes, facilities are lacking 14%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:

- Electricity
- More available restrooms
- Open fish cleaning station

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=183</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=200</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 3.9 | 2% | 4% | 16% | 68% | 12% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=201</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.8 | 57% | 18% | 16% | 5% | 5% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=185</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 91% agree |
| <i>n=188</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 94% agree |
| <i>n=198</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 69% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=199</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 7% |
|--------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=178</i> | Total Adults | 64% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 23% |
| | Children under 18 | 36% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=177</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 5% |
| <i>n=6</i> | Common Amenities Needed: | |
| | Access for mobility impairment | |

Size

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=179</i> | Mean | 3.6 |
| | Median | 2 |

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=57</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 7% |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=185</i> | Montana | 80% |
| | Arizona | 4% |
| | Texas | 3% |
| | California | 2% |
| | Other US | 5% |
| | Canada | 2% |
| | Other foreign country | <1% |

Age

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=178</i> | Mean | 49 |
| | Median | 47 |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Great Falls | 58% |
| Helena | 8% |
| Bozeman | 2% |
| Billings | 2% |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|-----|
| <i>n=182</i> | First Visit to Site | 24% | | | | |
| | Repeat Visitor | 76% | | | | |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | 1 to 5 | 21% | <i>Years Visiting</i> | 2 or less | 16% |
| | | 6 to 10 | 12% | | 3 to 10 | 36% |
| | <i>n=82</i> | More than 10 | 67% | | More than 10 | 48% |

Length of Stay

| | | | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=57</i> | Day Use | 58% | Overnight Use | 42% | |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean | 4.9 |
| | | | <i>n=24</i> | Median | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n=185</i> | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | |
|--------------|---|------------------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------|-----|
| | Bank/Wade Angling | 18% | 6% | Auto / RV Camping | 9% | 4% |
| | Boat Angling | 21% | 14% | Tent Camping | 7% | 4% |
| | Powerboating | 5% | 1% | Picnicking | 25% | 4% |
| | Personal Watercraft | 2% | 2% | Biking | 18% | 8% |
| | Swimming | 10% | 1% | Visiting Historic Sites | 9% | 3% |
| | Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 2% | 1% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 54% | 34% |
| | Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 25% | 8% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 85% | 6% |
| | | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 6% | 6% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n=97</i> | | Not at all Satisfied | Slightly Satisfied | Moderately Satisfied | Very Satisfied | Extremely Satisfied | |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----|
| | <i>Mean</i> | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| | Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.1 | 0% | 0% | 8% | 68% | 24% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=172</i> | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Easy access | 83% | 19% |
| Convenient location | 46% | 10% |
| Available amenities | 16% | 2% |
| Good facilities | 25% | -- |
| Historical significance | 22% | 3% |
| Scenic beauty | 84% | 19% |
| Primitive setting | 25% | -- |
| To find solitude | 58% | 5% |
| Good fishing | 28% | 15% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 2% | 4% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n=175</i> | Yes, facilities are lacking | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| More available restrooms | 27% | |
| Drinking water | 19% | |
| Trash service | 12% | |

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <i>n=179</i> | | | | | | |
| Campsite/picnic area conditions | | | | | | 4.0 |
| Boat dock/boat launch conditions | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | 3.9 |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | | 4.0 |
| Amount of commercial use | | | | | | 3.2 |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | | 4.2 |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | | | | | | 3.9 |
| Condition of roads within the site | | | | | | 4.1 |
| Ease of accessing the site | | | | | | 4.4 |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | | | | | | 3.9 |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | | 3.9 |

Site Satisfaction

| <i>n=181</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.2 | 0% | 1% | 10% | 59% | 30% |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=181</i> | | Not at all Crowded | Slightly Crowded | Moderately Crowded | Very Crowded | Extremely Crowded |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | <i>Mean</i> | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.5 | 70% | 16% | 11% | 3% | 1% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-----|-------|
| <i>n=99</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 81% | agree |
| <i>n=91</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 80% | agree |
| <i>n=58</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 43% | |

Conflicts

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| <i>n=180</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 2% |
| | Common conflicts: | |
| | Other users rude or disrespectful | |
| | Lack of parking | |

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=68</i> | Total Adults | 80% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 23% |
| | Children under 18 | 20% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=68</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 4% |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|-------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=68</i> | Mean | 3.4 |
| | Median | 2 |

Guide Use

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|
| <i>n=56</i> | Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | 7% |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=68</i> | Montana | 84% |
| | Arizona | 3% |
| | California | 3% |
| | Texas | 2% |
| | Utah | 2% |
| | Washington | 2% |
| | Other US states | 4% |
| | Canada | 2% |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

Most Common Montana Cities/Towns:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Great Falls | 34% |
| Helena | 22% |
| Bozeman | 4% |
| Billings | 4% |

Age

| | | |
|-------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=66</i> | Mean | 50 |
| | Median | 52 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=68</i> | First Visit to Site | 13% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 87% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 24% |
| | 6 to 10 | 15% |
| | More than 10 | 61% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 17% |
| | 3 to 10 | 35% |
| | More than 10 | 48% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

| | | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----|---------------|--------|
| <i>n=55</i> | Day Use | 56% | Overnight Use | 44% |
| | | | <i>Nights</i> | Mean |
| | | | <i>n=24</i> | Median |
| | | | | 4.9 |
| | | | | 3 |

Activity Participation

| <i>n=45</i> | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 44% | 8% | Auto / RV Camping | 24% | 10% |
| Boat Angling | 57% | 36% | Tent Camping | 19% | 10% |
| Powerboating | 13% | 2% | Picnicking | 35% | -- |
| Personal Watercraft | 6% | 5% | Biking | 15% | 2% |
| Swimming | 25% | 2% | Visiting Historic Sites | 12% | -- |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | 4% | 2% | Walking / Hiking / Running | 37% | -- |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 66% | 20% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 58% | 2% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 3% | 3% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n=64</i> | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.1 | -- | -- | 11% | 69% | 20% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=60</i> | One of the Reasons | Primary Reason |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Easy access | 88% | 21% |
| Convenient location | 88% | 18% |
| Available amenities | 24% | |
| Good facilities | 41% | |
| Historical significance | 4% | |
| Scenic beauty | 85% | 10% |
| Primitive setting | 50% | |
| To find solitude | 63% | 7% |
| Good fishing | 74% | 38% |
| Other reason or specific activity | 3% | 6% |

Facilities Lacking

| <i>n=67</i> | Yes, facilities are lacking | 13% |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| Commonly Mentioned Facilities: | | |
| | Drinking water | |
| | Electricity | |

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=68</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 3.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=67</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.0 | -- | 2% | 16% | 63% | 19% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=68</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.9 | 52% | 19% | 21% | 6% | 3% |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=67</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 75% agree |
| <i>n=61</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 74% agree |
| <i>n=56</i> | Willing to pay day use or launch fee at the site | 45% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| <i>n=68</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 2% |
|-------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=27</i> | Total Adults | 63% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 25% |
| | Children under 18 | 36% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=27</i> | Require ADA Amenities | 19% |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|

Group Size

| | | |
|-------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=27</i> | Mean | 4.2 |
| | Median | 3 |

Guide Use

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | N/A |
|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=29</i> | Montana | 66 |
| | Arizona | 10% |
| | Texas | 7% |
| | Colorado | 3% |
| | Other US states | 10% |
| | Canada | -- |
| | Other foreign country | -- |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Most Common Montana Cities/Towns: | |
| Great Falls | 62% |

Age

| | | |
|-------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=27</i> | Mean | 48 |
| | Median | 43 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Site Experience

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------|-----|
| <i>n=28</i> | First Visit to Site | 46% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 54% |
| | <i>Previous Visits</i> | |
| | 1 to 5 | 7% |
| | 6 to 10 | 0% |
| | More than 10 | 93% |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| | <i>Years Visiting</i> | |
| | 2 or less | 7% |
| | 3 to 10 | 47% |
| | More than 10 | 47% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=29 Day Use 100% Overnight Use 0%

Activity Participation

| <i>n=29</i> | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> | | <i>Participated in Activity</i> | <i>Primary Activity</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | -- | -- | Auto / RV Camping | -- | -- |
| Boat Angling | -- | -- | Tent Camping | -- | -- |
| Powerboating | -- | -- | Picnicking | 38% | 24% |
| Personal Watercraft | -- | -- | Biking | 3% | 6% |
| Swimming | 3% | -- | Visiting Historic Sites | 14% | 18% |
| Waterskiing / Tubing / Wakeboarding | -- | -- | Walking / Hiking / Running | 38% | 41% |
| Non-Motorized Boating (canoe, kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, sailboat, sailboard) | 3% | -- | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 45% | 12% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 7% | -- |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n=19</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.2 | -- | -- | 5% | 74% | 21% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n=20</i> | <i>One of the Reasons</i> | <i>Primary Reason</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy access | 69% | 29% |
| Convenient location | 66% | 24% |
| Available amenities | 21% | -- |
| Good facilities | 41% | -- |
| Historical significance | 35% | 10% |
| Scenic beauty | 72% | 33% |
| Primitive setting | 21% | -- |
| To find solitude | 45% | 5% |
| Good fishing | -- | -- |
| Other reason or specific activity | -- | -- |

Facilities Lacking

n=25 Yes, facilities are lacking --

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=28</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 3.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.4 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 3.9 |
| | | | | | | 4.6 |
| | | | | | | 4.7 |
| | | | | | | 4.8 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=27</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.3 | -- | -- | 4% | 67% | 30% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=28</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.2 | 85% | 11% | -- | 4% | -- |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| <i>n=24</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 92% agree |
| <i>n=22</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 91% agree |

Conflicts

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| <i>n=28</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | -- |
|-------------|--|----|

Group Characteristics

Composition

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| <i>n=84</i> | Total Adults | 52% |
| | Adults age 65+ | 19% |
| | Children under 18 | 48% |

Require ADA Amenities

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|
| <i>n=82</i> | Require ADA Amenities | -- |
|-------------|-----------------------|----|

Group Size

| | | |
|-------------|--------|-----|
| <i>n=84</i> | Mean | 3.7 |
| | Median | 2 |

Guide Use

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Used a Licensed Guide or Outfitter | N/A |
|------------------------------------|-----|

Respondent Characteristics

Origin

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=88</i> | Montana | 82% |
| | Texas | 3% |
| | Arizona | 2% |
| | Other US states | 5% |
| | Canada | 2% |
| | Other foreign country | 1% |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Most Common Montana Cities/Towns: | |
| Great Falls | 76% |

Age

| | | |
|-------------|--------|----|
| <i>n=85</i> | Mean | 47 |
| | Median | 44 |

Trip Characteristics

Previous Trail Experience

| | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-----|
| <i>n=86</i> | First Visit to Trail | 24% |
| | Repeat Visitor | 76% |

Frequency of Trail Use by Repeat Visitors (# of visits)

| | < 1 per year | 1-2 per year | 3-5 per year | 6-10 per year | 1-4 per month | 1-3 per week | 3-5 per week | 5-7 per week |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Paved Trails <i>n=55</i> | 20% | 15% | 16% | 13% | 11% | 11% | 6% | 9% |
| Single-Track Dirt Trails <i>n=44</i> | 14% | 16% | 5% | 16% | 18% | 11% | 5% | 16% |

Trip Characteristics (continued)

Length of Stay

n=2 Day Use 100% Overnight Use 0%

Activity Participation

| <i>n</i> =82 | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity | | Participated in Activity | Primary Activity |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Bank/Wade Angling | 5% | 6% | Biking | 17% | 11% |
| Picnicking | 14% | 4% | Riding Scooter | 5% | 1% |
| Visiting Historic Sites | 6% | 2% | Skating | 2% | 1% |
| Photography | 13% | -- | Sightseeing | 48% | 2% |
| Walking / Hiking / Running | 73% | 57% | Nature Study / Viewing Wildlife | 59% | 9% |
| | | | Other Activity or Special Event | 8% | 6% |

Trip Satisfaction

| <i>n</i> =14 | Mean | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Trip Satisfaction | 4.4 | -- | -- | -- | 57% | 43% |

Opinions about Site

Reasons Site was Chosen

| <i>n</i> =76 | One of the Reasons | Primary Reason |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Easy access | 83% | 15% |
| Convenient location | 7% | -- |
| Available amenities | 8% | 4% |
| Good facilities | 8% | -- |
| Historical significance | 31% | 4% |
| Scenic beauty | 86% | 22% |
| Primitive setting | 7% | -- |
| To find solitude | 58% | 2% |
| Good fishing | 2% | -- |
| To exercise | 77% | 51% |
| To commute | 9% | -- |
| Other reason / activity | 2% | 4% |

Facilities Lacking

n=83 Yes, facilities are lacking 18%

Commonly Mentioned Facilities:
More available restrooms

Opinions about Site (continued)

Satisfaction with Facility Conditions

| <i>n=85</i> | Very Dissatisfied (1) | Dissatisfied (2) | No Opinion/ Neutral (3) | Satisfied (4) | Very Satisfied (5) | <i>Mean</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | 3.7 |
| | | | | | | 3.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.5 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.1 |
| | | | | | | 3.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 4.0 |
| | | | | | | 4.3 |
| | | | | | | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | 3.6 |
| | | | | | | 3.7 |

Satisfaction with Site

| <i>n=87</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Satisfied (1) | Slightly Satisfied (2) | Moderately Satisfied (3) | Very Satisfied (4) | Extremely Satisfied (5) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Overall Site Satisfaction | 4.3 | -- | 1% | 7% | 54% | 38% |

Perception of Crowding

| <i>n=85</i> | <i>Mean</i> | Not at all Crowded (1) | Slightly Crowded (2) | Moderately Crowded (3) | Very Crowded (4) | Extremely Crowded (5) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Perception of Crowding at Site | 1.3 | 80% | 14% | 6% | -- | -- |

Opinions about Rules, Regulations, and Day Use or Launch Fee

| | | |
|------------|--|----------|
| <i>n=8</i> | Visitors are following the rules and regulations | 9% agree |
| <i>n=8</i> | Rules and regulations are adequately enforced | 9% agree |

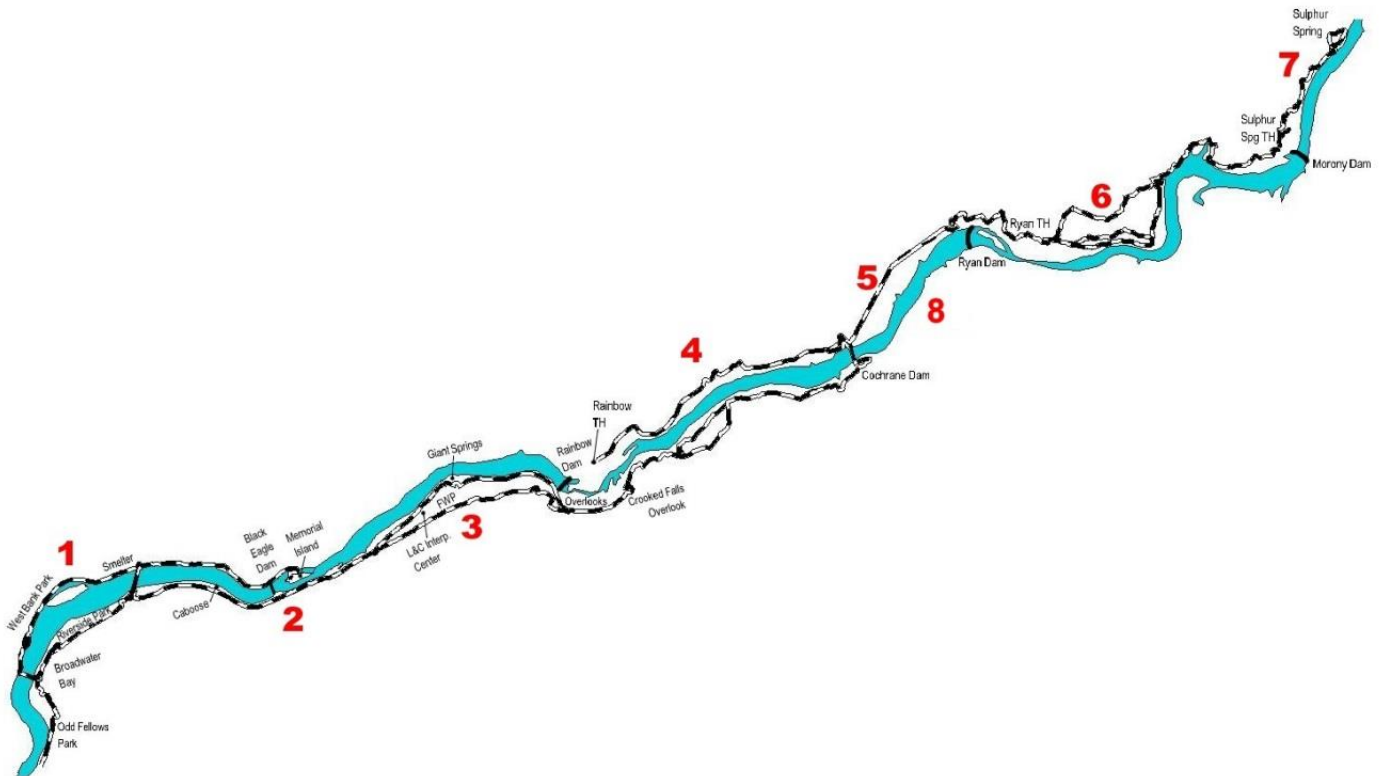
Conflicts

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| <i>n=84</i> | Respondents that experienced conflicts at the site | 2% |
|-------------|--|----|

Trail Segments Used on Trip

n=67

| | | | |
|--|-----|--|----|
| 1. Paved trails on north and south shores, upstream of 9 th Street bridge. | 42% | 5. North Shore Natural Trail between Cochrane Dam and Ryan Trailhead. | 6% |
| 2. Paved trails on north and south shores, between 9 th Street bridge and intersection with Giant Springs Road. | 39% | 6. North Shore Natural Trail including Ryan Trailhead downstream to Morony Dam public access area. | 6% |
| 3. Paved trails on north and south shores between intersection at Giant Springs Road and Rainbow Overlook. | 28% | 7. North Shore Natural Trail including Sulphur Spring Trailhead downstream to Sulphur Spring. | 1% |
| 4. Trails on south shore from Rainbow Overlook to Cochrane Dam and on north shore from Rainbow Trailhead to Cochrane Dam. | 13% | 8. South Shore Trail between Cochrane Dam and Box Elder Creek. | -- |



Appendix B: Study Regions and Recreation Sites

Hebgen-Madison Region

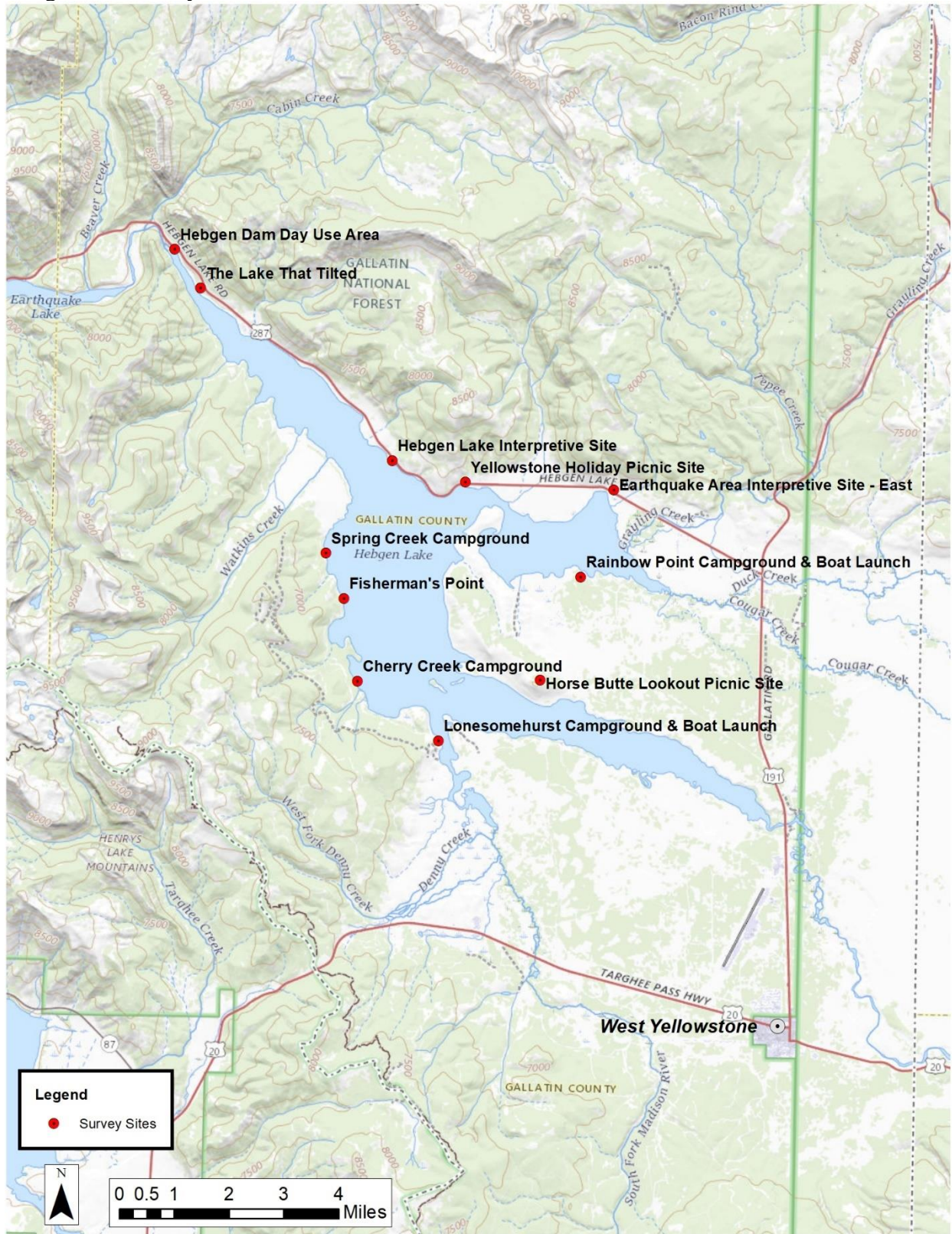
| Hebgen Lake Study Sites | Managing Agency |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Hebgen Dam Day Use Site | USFS |
| The Lake that Tilted | USFS |
| Yellowstone Holiday Picnic Site | USFS |
| Rainbow Point Campground | USFS |
| Horse Butte Lookout Picnic Site | USFS |
| Lonesomehurst Campground | USFS |
| Cherry Creek Campground | USFS |
| Fisherman's Point | USFS |
| Spring Creek Campground | USFS |

| Upper Madison River Study Sites | Managing Agency |
|--|------------------------|
| Lyon's Bridge FAS | FWP |
| Palisades Campground and Boat Launch | BLM |
| McAtee FAS | FWP |
| Varney Bridge FAS | FWP |
| Ennis FAS | FWP |

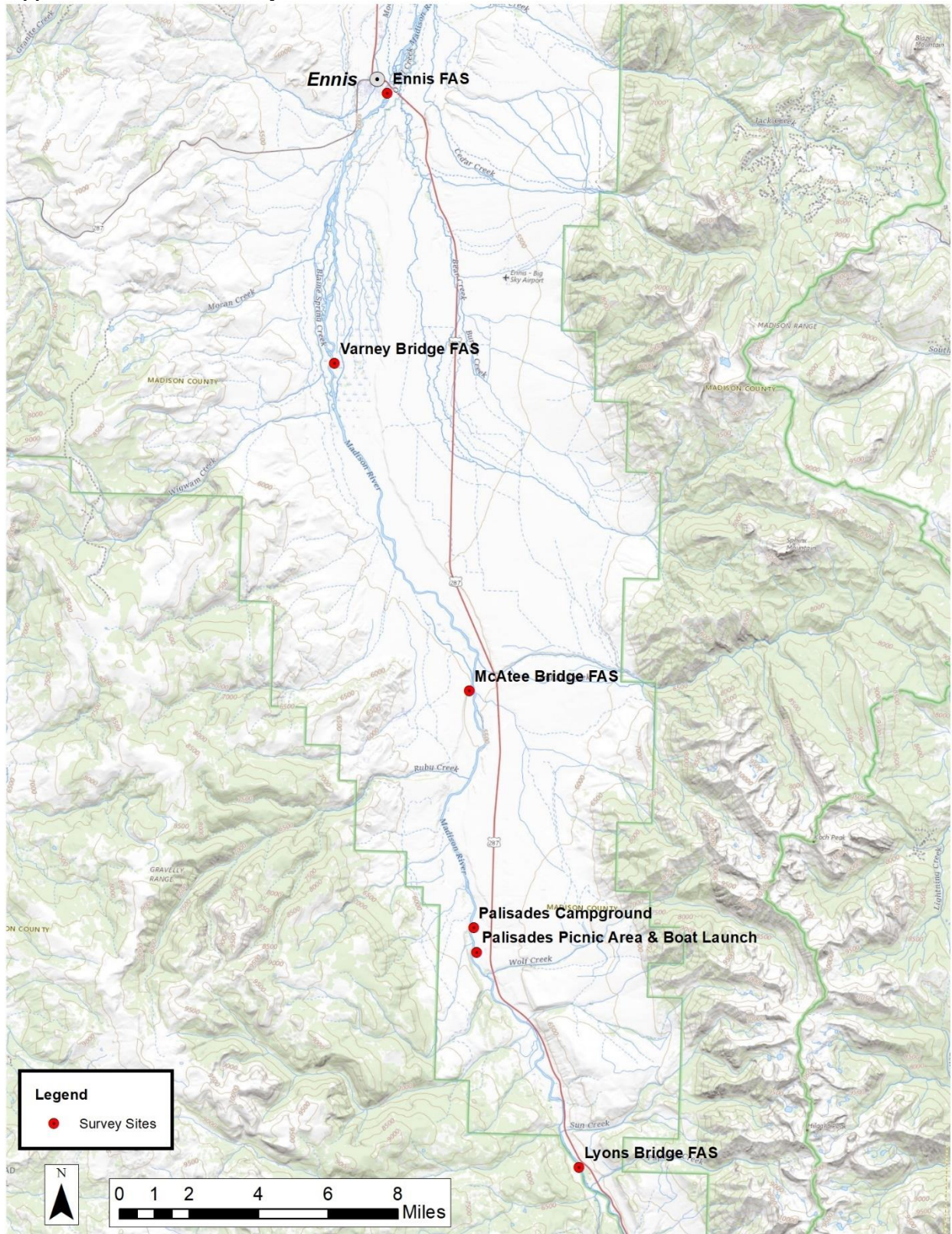
| Ennis Lake Study Sites | Managing Agency |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Clute's Landing | BLM |
| Meadow Lake FAS | FWP |
| Kobayashi Beach | BLM |
| Trail Creek Day Use Site | BLM |
| Fall Creek Day Use Site | BLM |
| Wilderness Boat Launch | BLM |
| Madison Canyon Dispersed Use | BLM |

| Lower Madison River Study Sites | Managing Agency |
|--|------------------------|
| Warm Springs Creek Access Site | BLM |
| Red Mountain Campground | BLM |
| Bear Trap Road and Trailhead | BLM |
| Black's Ford FAS | FWP |

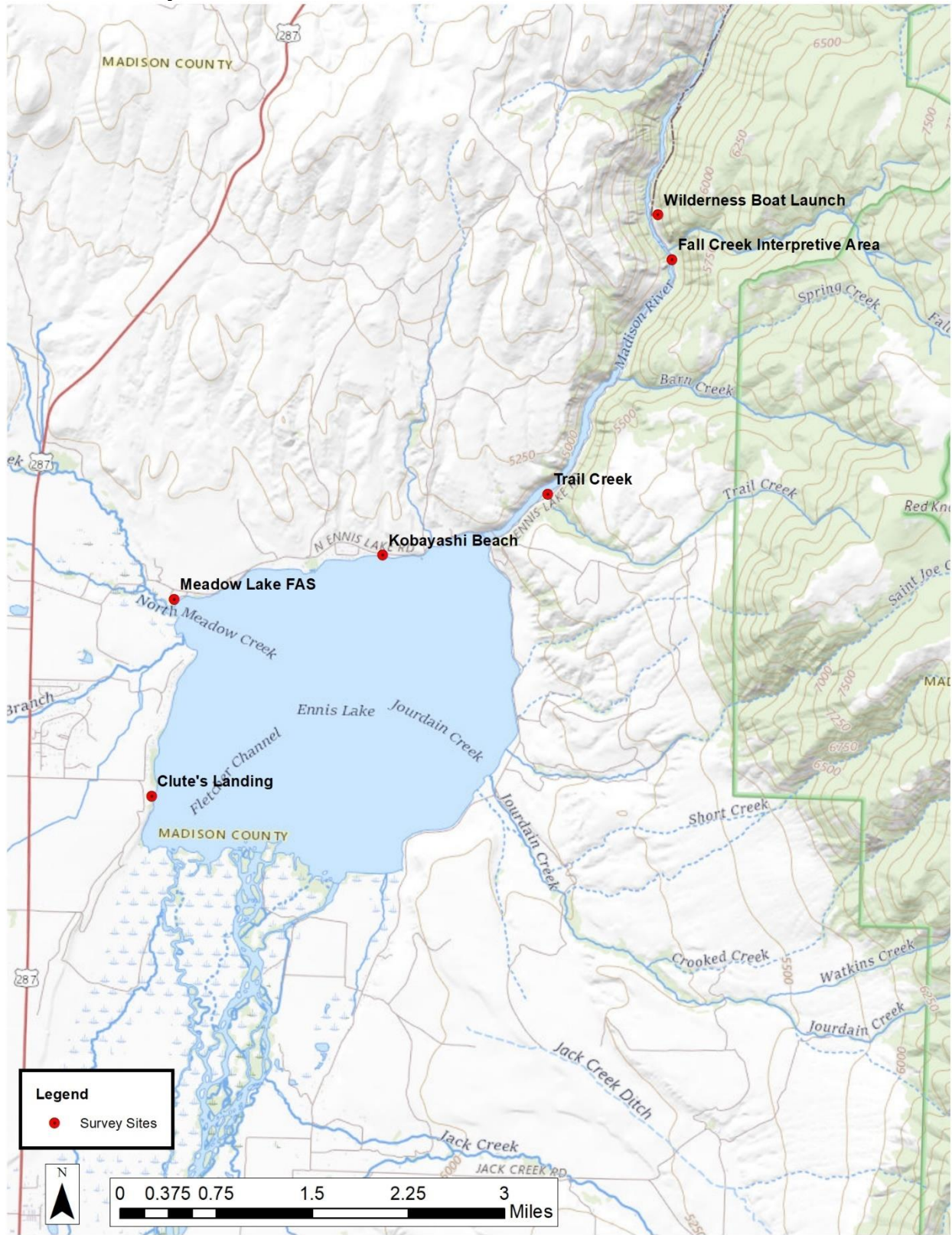
Hebgen Lake Study Sites



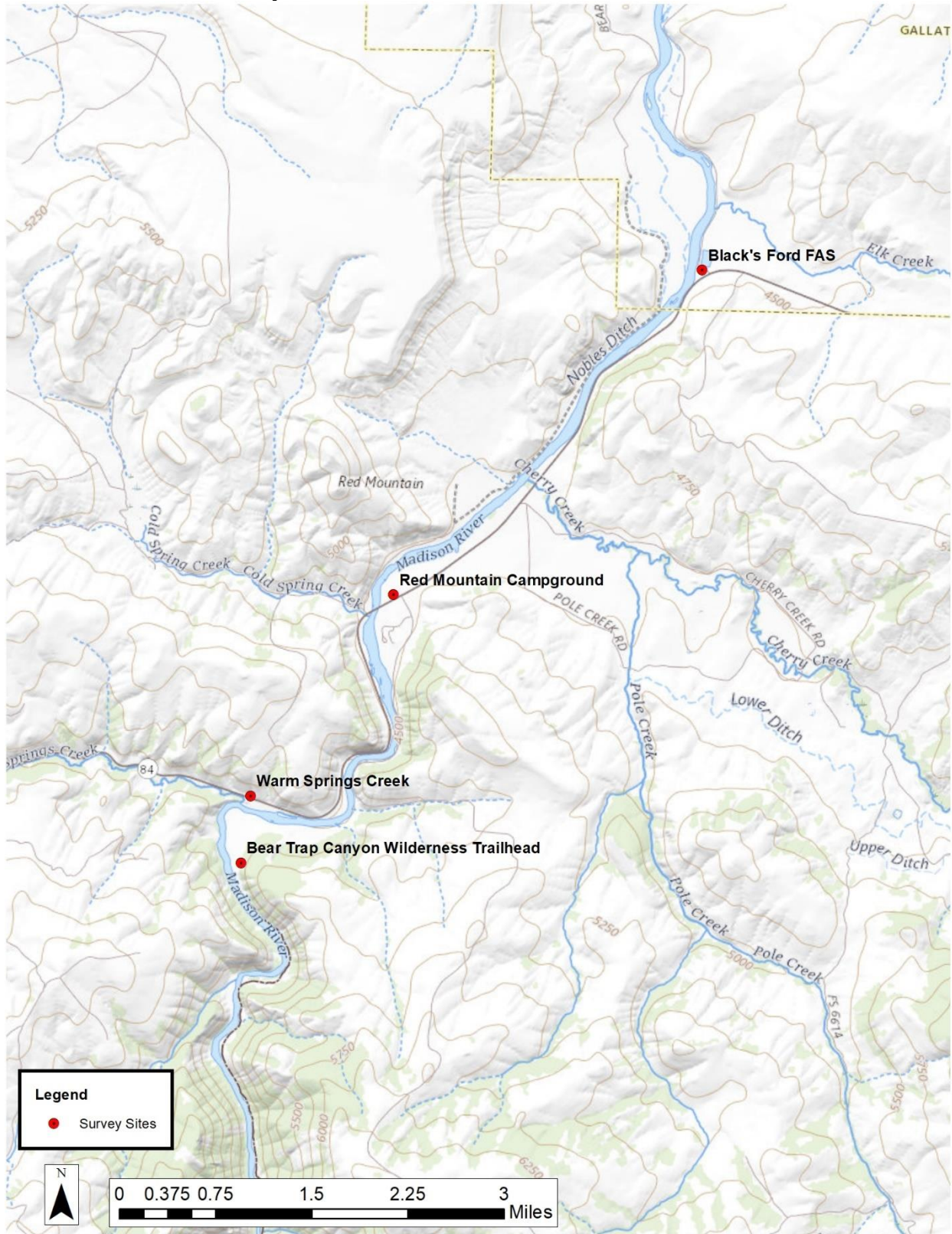
Upper Madison River Study Sites



Ennis Lake Study Sites



Lower Madison River Study Sites



Hauser-Holter Region

Hauser Lake Study Sites

| | Managing Agency |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Riverside Campground | BOR |
| Clark's Bay Day Use Site | BLM |
| Devil's Elbow Campground | BLM |
| York Bridge FAS | FWP |
| Causeway FAS | FWP |
| Black Sandy State Park | FWP |
| White Sandy Recreation Area | BLM |
| Hauser Dam Access Site | FWP/BLM |

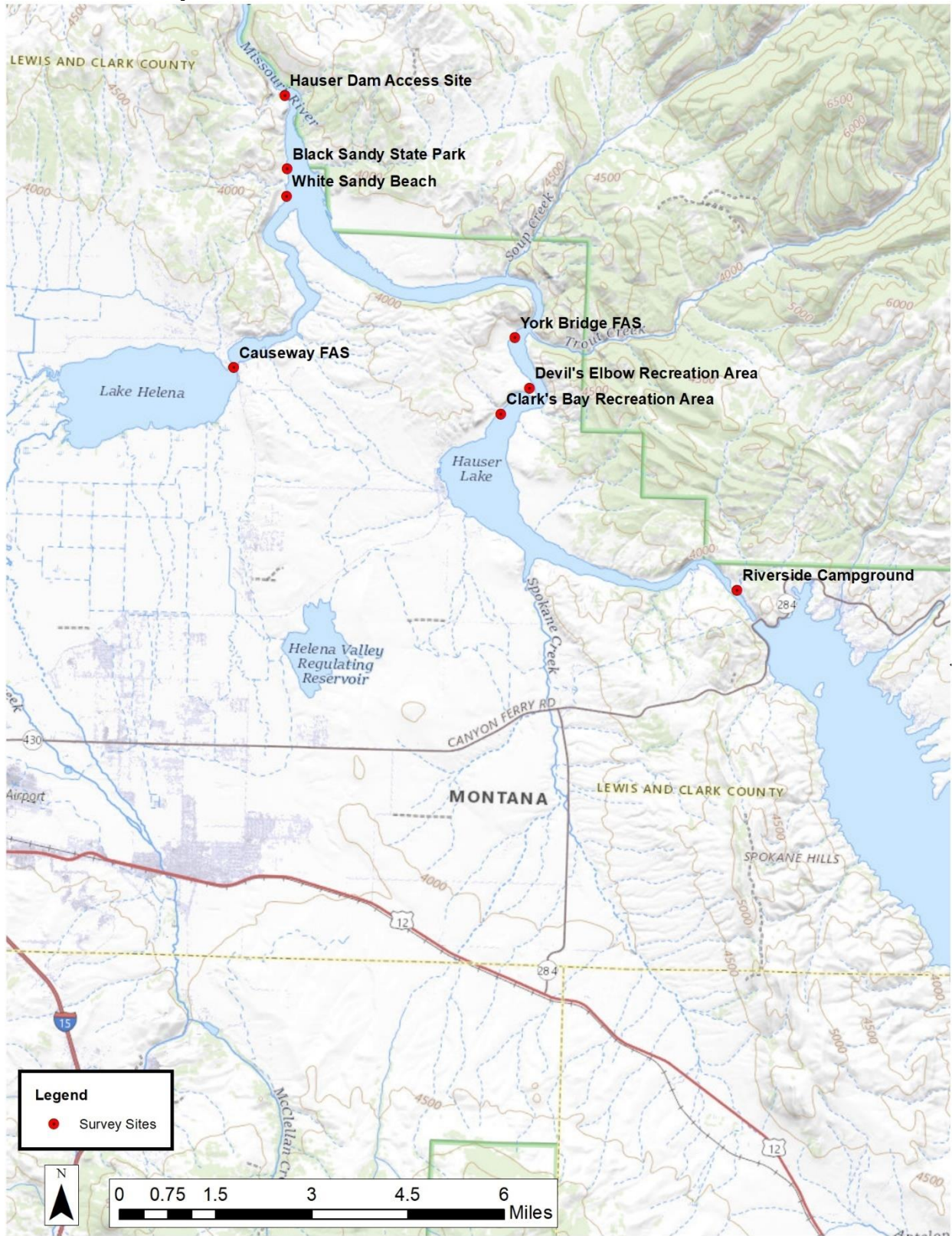
Upper Holter Lake Study Sites

| | Managing Agency |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Beaver Creek Access Site | USFS |
| Coulter Campground | USFS |
| Meriwether Picnic Area | USFS |
| Beartooth Landing Campground | BLM |

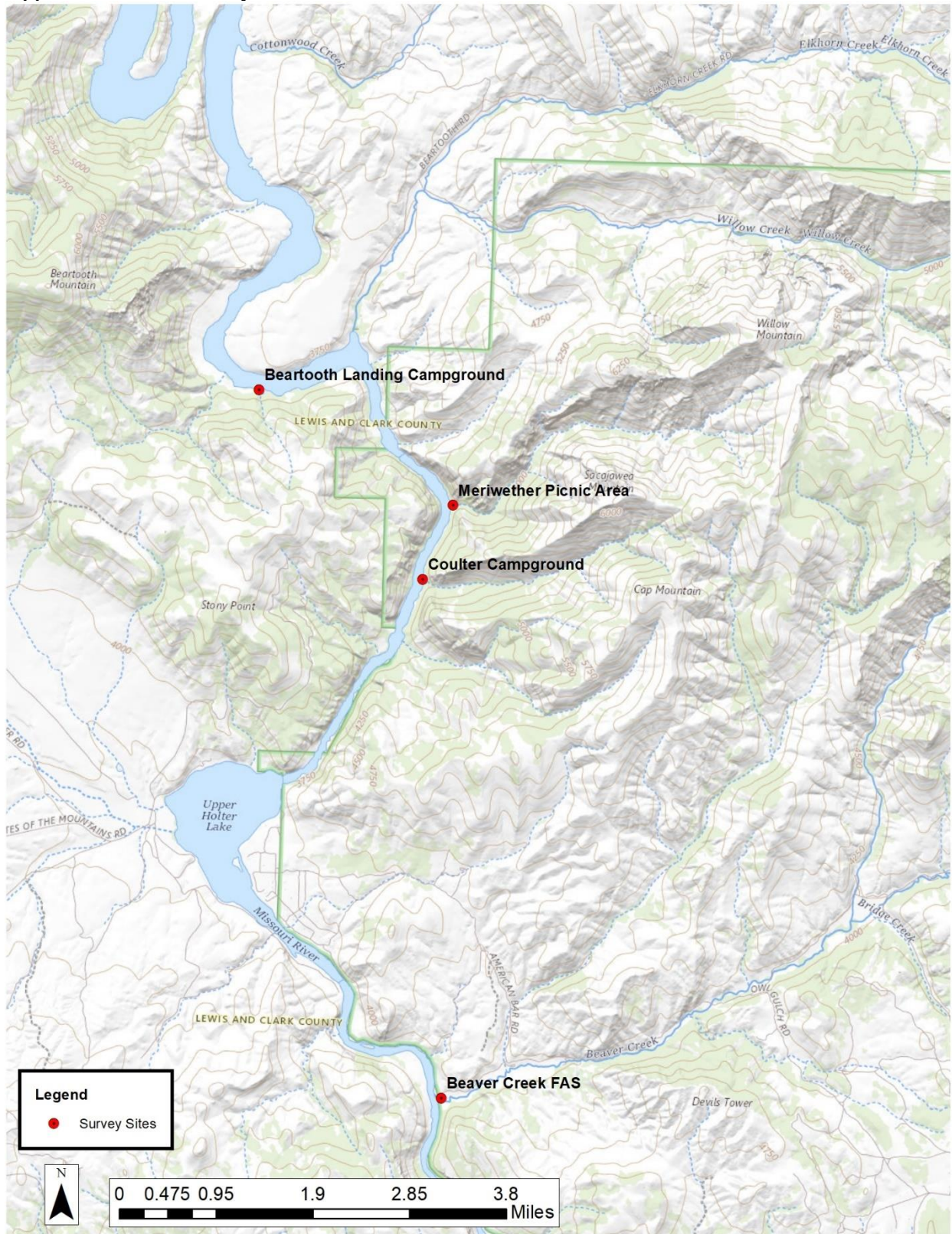
Holter Lake Study Sites

| | Managing Agency |
|--|------------------------|
| Departure Point Day Use and Campground | BLM |
| Log Gulch Campground | BLM |
| Holter Lake Campground | BLM |

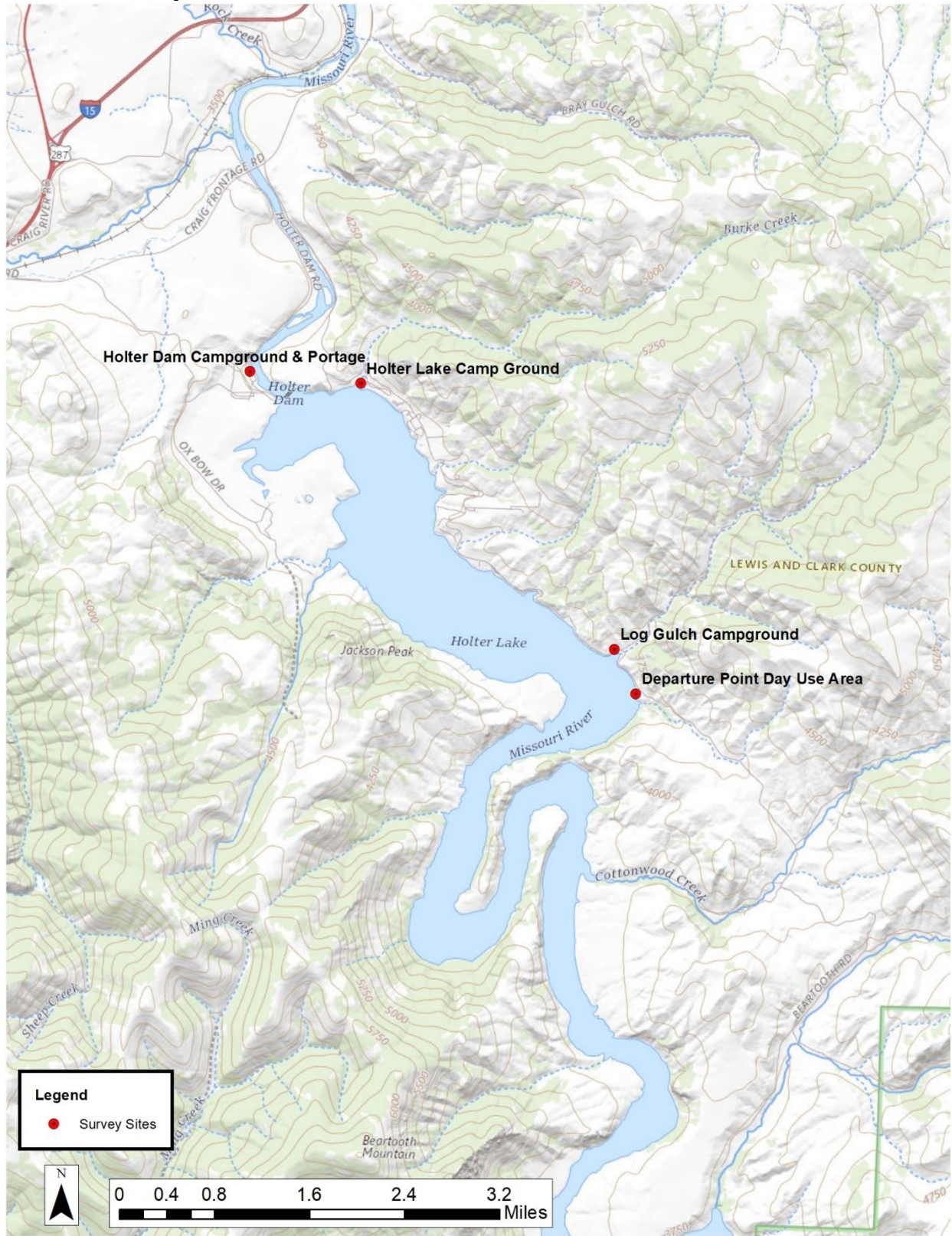
Hauser Lake Study Sites



Upper Holter Lake Study Sites



Holter Lake Study Sites



Great Falls Region

Upper Missouri River Study Sites

Holter Dam Campground, Boat Launch, and Portage
Craig FAS
MidCanon FAS
North Park Access Site
Cottonwood Grove FAS

Managing Agency

BLM
FWP
FWP
Town of Cascade
FWP

Great Falls Non-Trail Sites

Black Eagle Memorial Island
Rainbow Reservoir Boat Launch
Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center
Giant Springs State Park
Rainbow and Lewis & Clark Overlooks
Ryan Island Day Use Area
Morony Dam Public Access

Managing Agency

FWP/NorthWestern Energy
FWP/NorthWestern Energy
USFS
FWP
FWP
FWP/NorthWestern Energy
FWP/NorthWestern Energy

Great Falls Trail Sites

River's Edge Trail, including Crooked Falls Overlook
North Shore Trail (Rainbow, Ryan, and Morony Trailheads)
Sulphur Springs Trailhead

Managing Agency

City of Great Falls/FWP
FWP
USFS

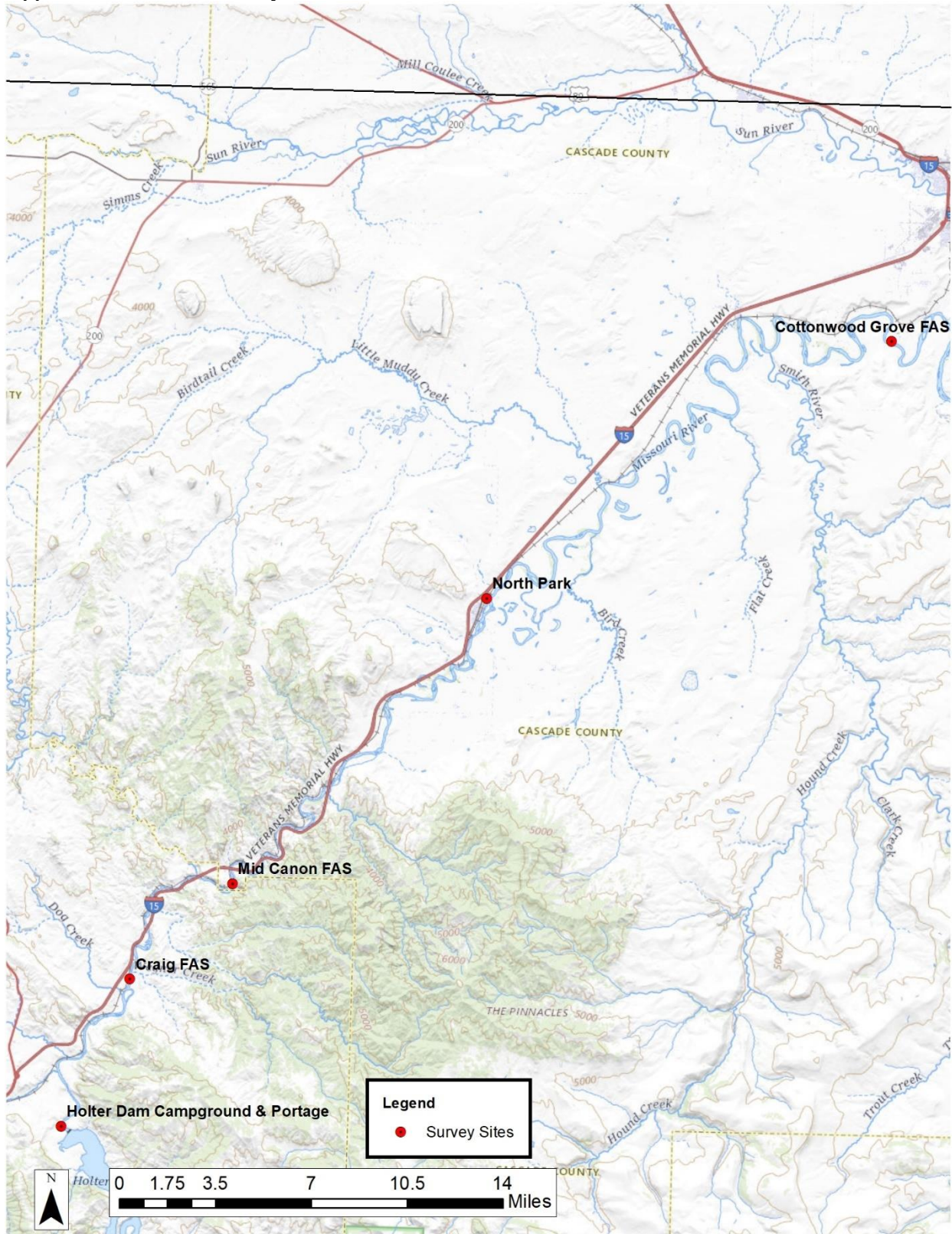
Lower Missouri River Sites

Widow Coulee FAS
Carter Ferry FAS
Fort Benton Canoe Camp
Fort Benton Boat Launch

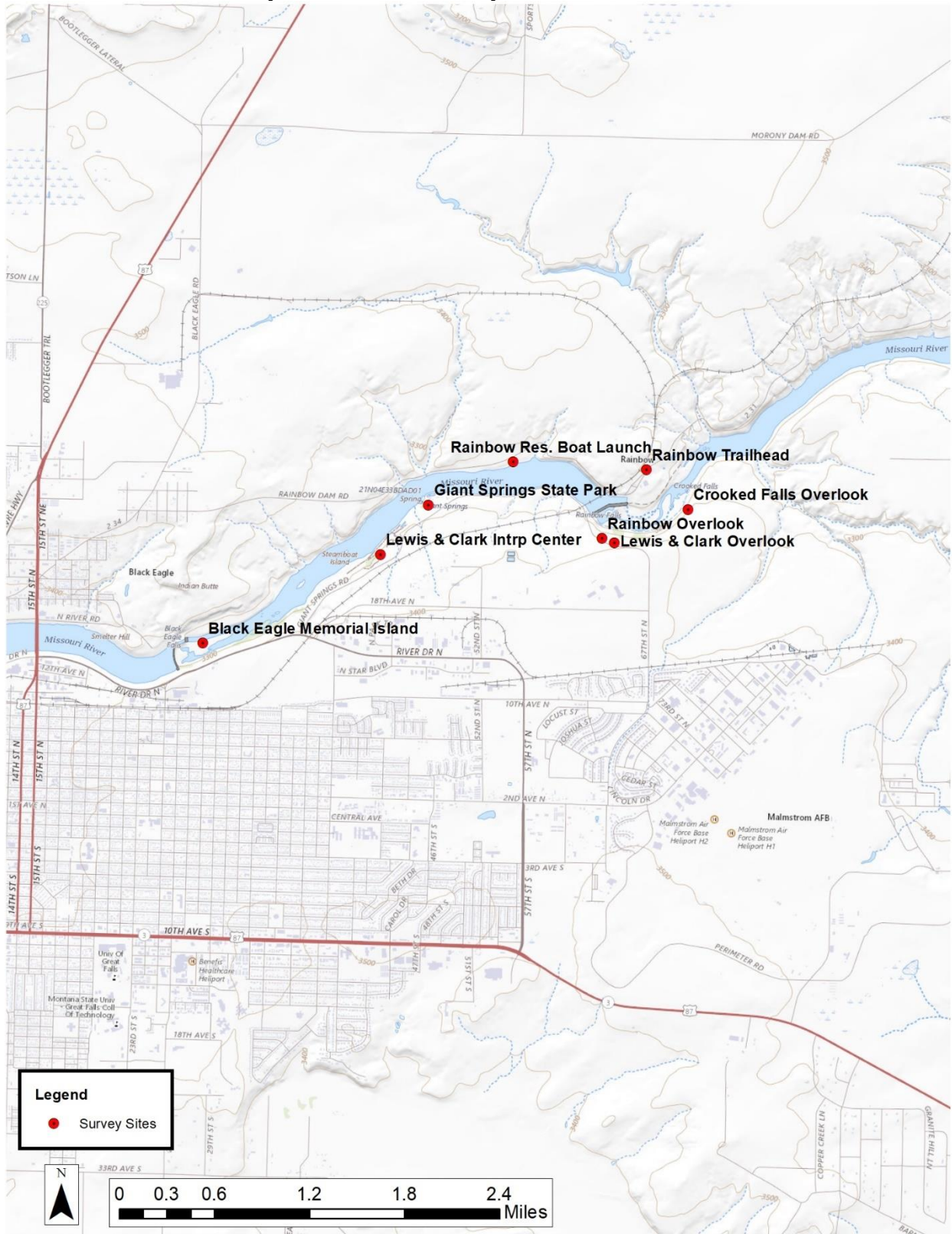
Managing Agency

FWP
FWP
Chouteau County
City of Fort Benton

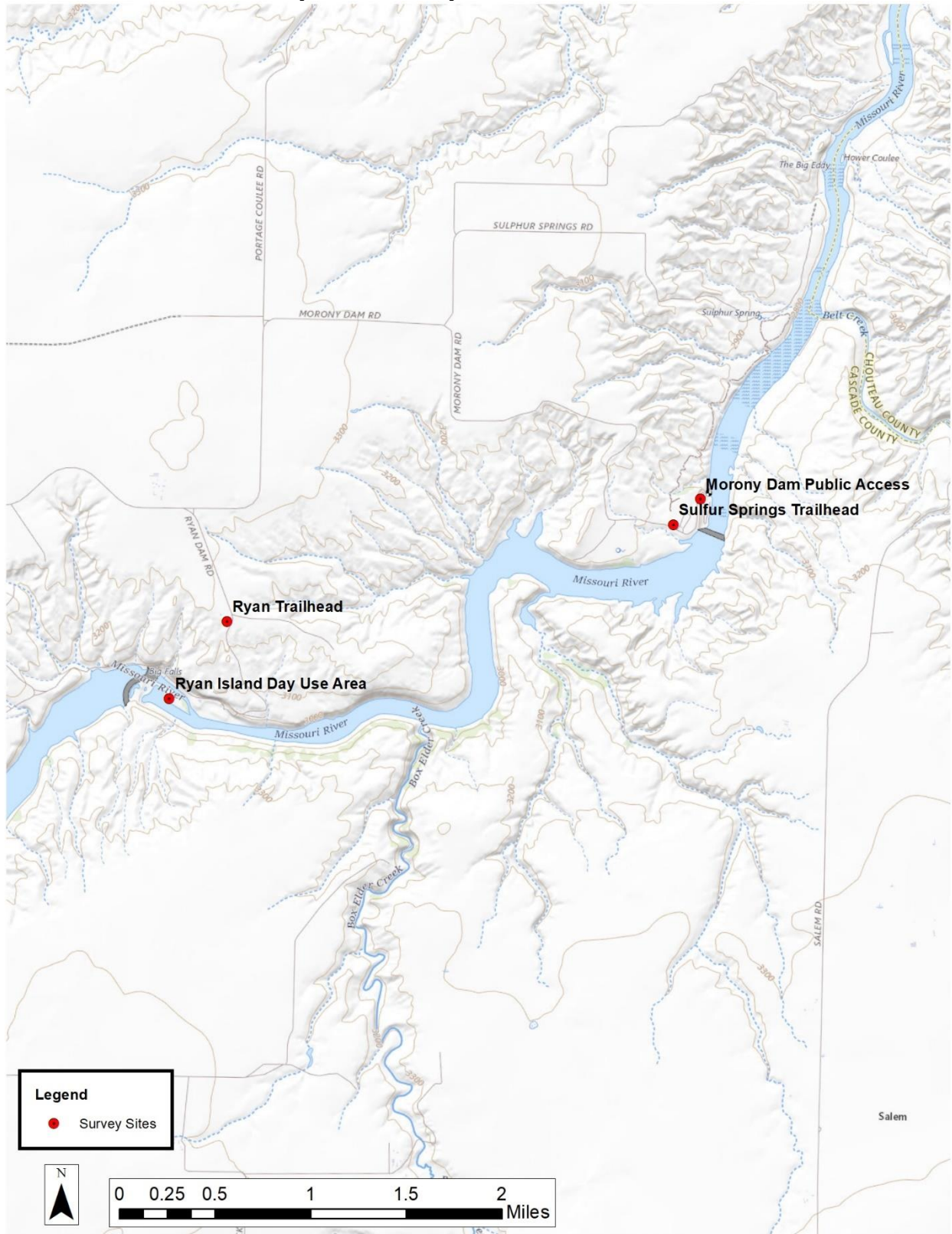
Upper Missouri River Study Sites



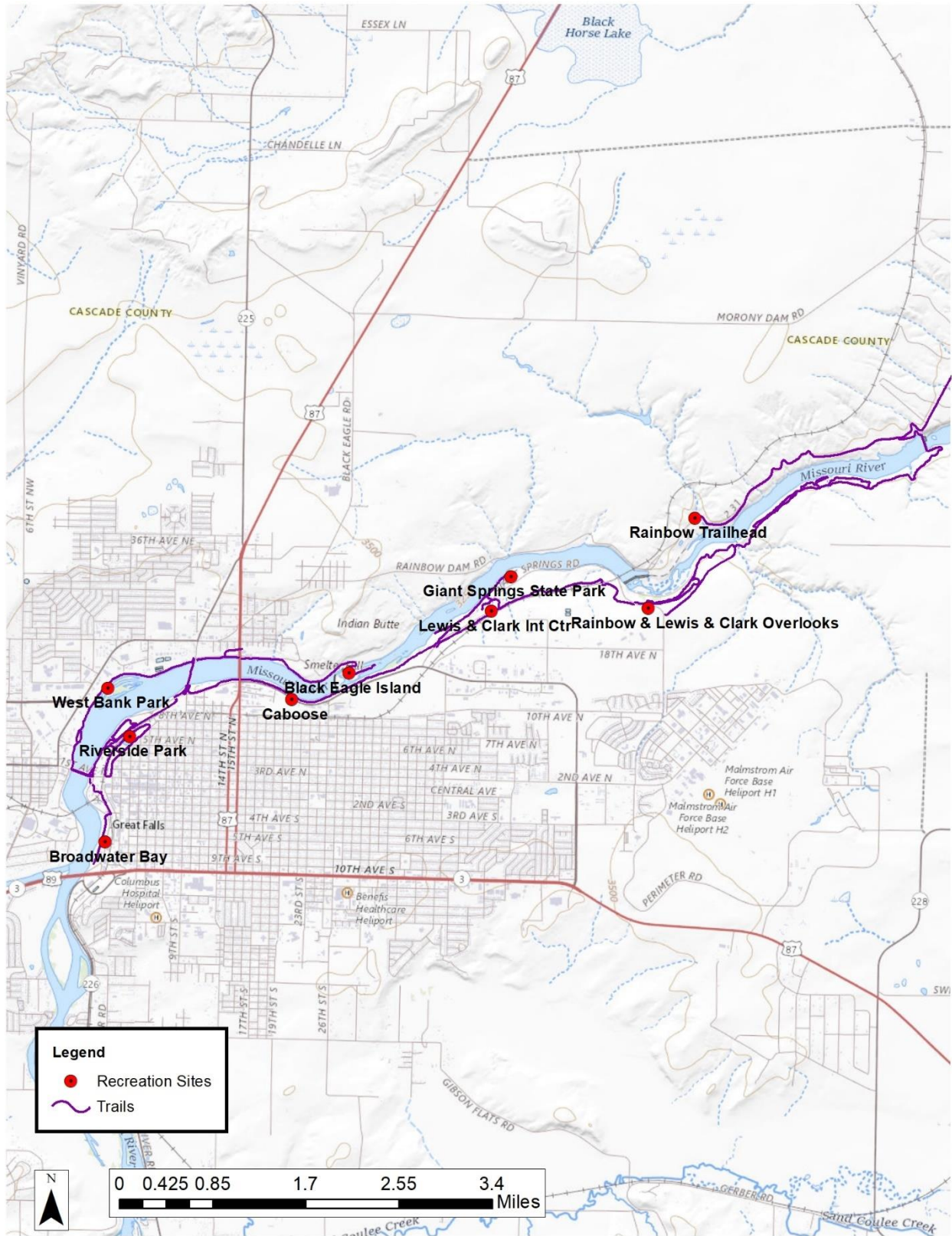
Great Falls Non-Trail Study Sites, Great Falls City Area



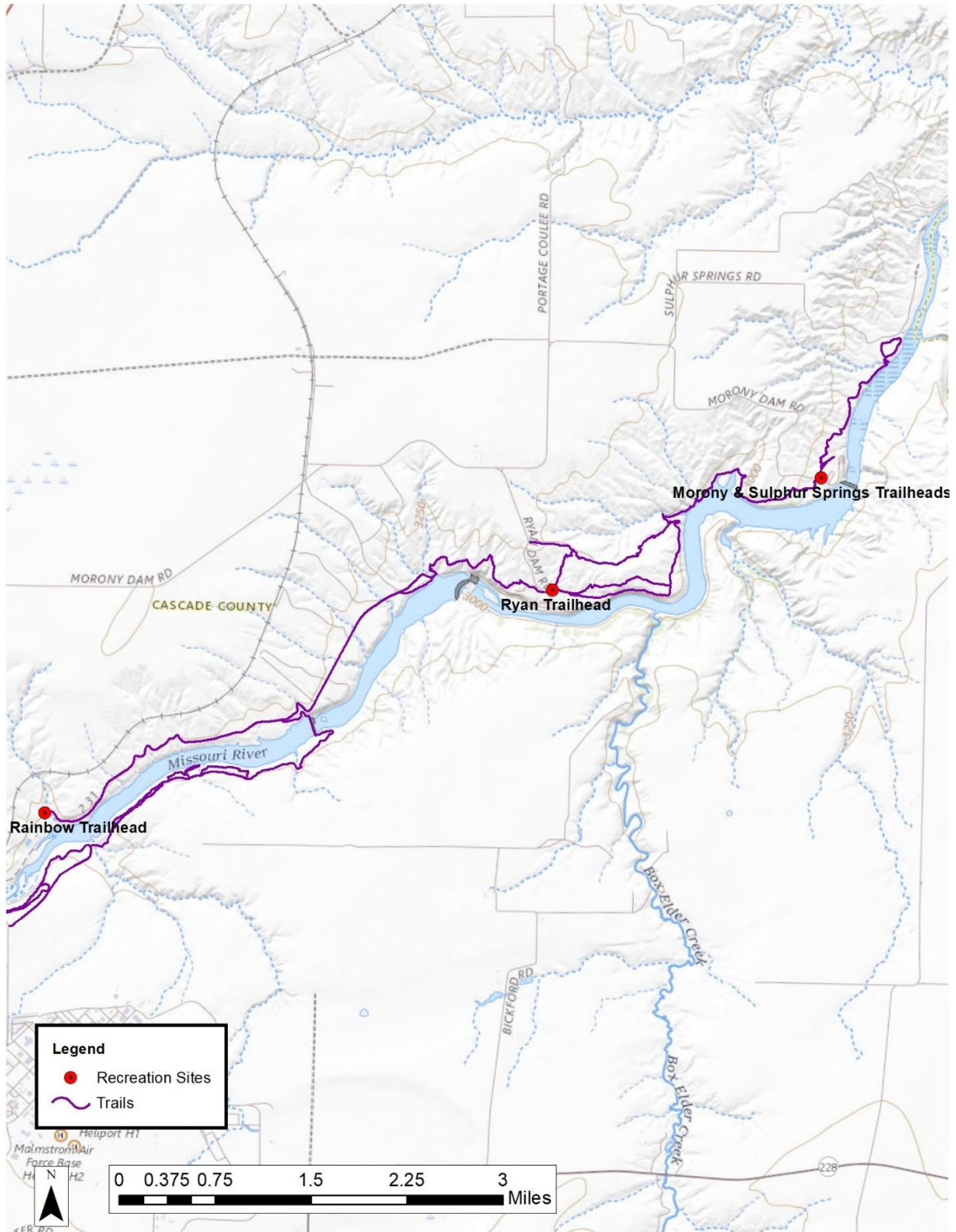
Great Falls Non-Trail Sites, Ryan and Morony Dams Area



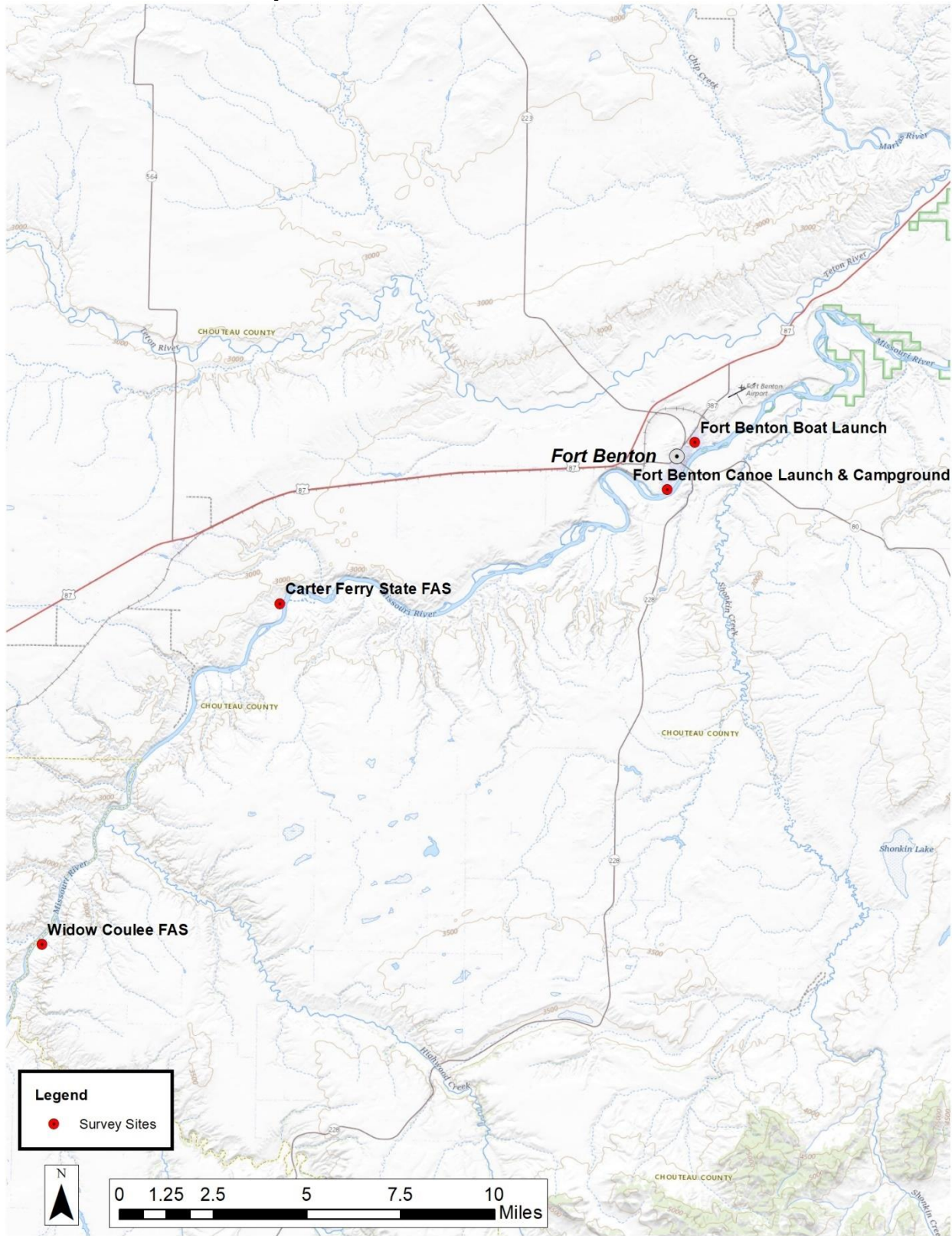
Great Falls Trails, South Shoreline



Great Falls Trails, North Shoreline



Lower Missouri River Study Sites



Appendix C: Survey Questionnaires

Site Questionnaire

The site questionnaire was administered to visitors at recreation sites (all surveyed sites except the Great Falls trails).

Two versions for the site questionnaire were used: an onsite version and an internet version. The two versions were identical except questions were asked past-tense on the internet version since visitors completed it after their trip was over.

Pages C-2 to C-4 contain the onsite version of the questionnaire.

Great Falls Trails Questionnaires

The trails questionnaire was administered to users of the River's Edge Trail and North Shore Natural Trail in the Great Falls area. Two slightly different questionnaires were used, specific to each individual trail system.

Two versions for each trail questionnaire were used: an onsite version and an internet version. The two versions were identical except questions were asked past-tense on the internet version since visitors completed it after their trip was over.

Pages C-5 to C-7 contain the onsite version of the River's Edge Trail and North Shore Natural Trail questionnaires condensed into one form. The only difference in the two instruments on site were the maps for tracing travel routes.

2021-2022 Missouri-Madison Recreation Visitor Survey

| | |
|---|--|
| Date, Time, Site | |
| Is this your first visit to this site? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| How many visits have you made to this site before today? | <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 |
| How many years have you been visiting this site? | <input type="checkbox"/> <1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years |
| On this visit, will you be staying overnight at this site? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| If yes, how many nights? | <input type="text"/> nights |
| Please check all reasons why you chose to visit this site rather than another place. | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy access <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient location <input type="checkbox"/> Available amenities (power, water, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Good facilities (restrooms, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Historical significance of the site <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic beauty <input type="checkbox"/> Primitive setting <input type="checkbox"/> To find solitude <input type="checkbox"/> Good fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Other reason or specific activity (please specify) |
| Please select the one that the MOST IMPORTANT reason you visited this site. | |
| For this trip, please check all activities you will participate in at this site. | <input type="checkbox"/> Auto/RV Camping <input type="checkbox"/> Tent Camping <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting historic sites <input type="checkbox"/> Nature study / Viewing wildlife <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / Running / Hiking <input type="checkbox"/> Biking <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming <input type="checkbox"/> Non-motorized boating (kayak, raft, float tube, drift boat, etc) <input type="checkbox"/> Powerboating <input type="checkbox"/> Waterskiing / wakeboarding / tubing <input type="checkbox"/> Ride personal watercraft (jetski, waverunner, etc) <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing from shore or wade fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing from a boat <input type="checkbox"/> Special event (please describe) <input type="checkbox"/> Other activity (please describe) |
| Please select the one that corresponds to your PRIMARY ACTIVITY. | |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| During this visit, how crowded did you feel at this site? | Not at all crowded | Slightly crowded | Moderately crowded | Very crowded | Extremely crowded |
| | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| If you have comments related to crowding, please enter them here. | | | | | |
| What is your overall satisfaction with this SITE? | Not at all satisfied | Slightly satisfied | Moderately satisfied | Very satisfied | Extremely satisfied |
| | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| What is your overall satisfaction with this TRIP? | (Same scale as above) | | | | |
| Using the following scale please rate your satisfaction with the following conditions at this site. | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Neutral / No Opinion | Satisfied | Very Satisfied |
| | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Campsite / picnic area conditions | | | | | |
| Boat dock / launch conditions | | | | | |
| Quality of interpretive / educational information | | | | | |
| Amount or appropriateness of development | | | | | |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | |
| Amount of commercial use | | | | | |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | |
| Amount of dust on roads within the site | | | | | |
| Condition of roads within the site | | | | | |
| Ease of accessing the site | | | | | |
| Upkeep and cleanliness of toilet facilities | | | | | |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Opportunity to view wildlife | |
| If you have comments related to your satisfaction, please enter them here. | |
| Did you experience conflicts while on your visit to this site today? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| If yes, please describe those conflicts. | |
| Do you think visitors are following the rules and regulations? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Do you feel rules and regulations are adequately enforced? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Do you think amenities or facilities are lacking at this site? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| If yes, please describe what is lacking. | |
| Did you utilize a licensed outfitter or guide on your trip? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Would you be willing to pay a day use or launch fee at this site? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| Total number of adults in your traveling group. | |
| Number of adults over 65 in your traveling group. | |
| Total number of children (under 18) in your traveling group. | |
| Does anyone in your group require ADA amenities? | ___ Yes ___ No |
| If yes, please describe what amenities they require. | |
| What is your age? | ___ Years |
| What State, Province or foreign country do you live in? | |
| What city do you live in? | |
| Do you have any additional comments you wish to share about your experience today? | |
| Thank you very much! Enjoy the rest of your trip! | |

River's Edge Trail and North Shore Natural Trail Recreation Visitor Survey

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Date, Time, Site | | |
| Trace route on the trail map. Mark the current location (I), start (S), end (E), and turnaround (T) points. Use red ink for the first leg and blue ink for the return leg. (Map image provided on iPad and online version of either urban trails or single-track trails, depending on location of intercept). | | |
| Do you live in the Great Falls area? | ___ Yes ___ No | |
| If not, what State, Province, or foreign country do you live in? And what city? | | |
| Is this your first visit to the Trail? | ___ Yes ___ No | |
| [For repeat visitors only] If you visit the Trail regularly, how frequently do you visit during this time of year? (Select the option that most closely describes the frequency of your visits) | | |
| Frequency of Paved Trail Visits: | ___ Less than once per year ___ 1-2 visits per year ___ 3-5 visits per year ___ 6-10 visits per year | ___ 1-4 visits per month ___ 1-3 visits per week ___ 3-5 visits per week ___ 5-7 visits per week |
| Frequency of Single-track Trail Visits: | ___ Less than once per year ___ 1-2 visits per year ___ 3-5 visits per year ___ 6-10 visits per year | ___ 1-4 visits per month ___ 1-3 visits per week ___ 3-5 visits per week ___ 5-7 visits per week |
| Please check all the reasons why you chose to visit the Trail today: | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy access <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic beauty <input type="checkbox"/> For solitude <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife viewing <input type="checkbox"/> To commute <input type="checkbox"/> Historical significance of the site <input type="checkbox"/> To recreate/exercise <input type="checkbox"/> Other attraction (please specify) | |
| Please select the most important reason you visited the Trail today: | | |
| For this trip, please check all activities you will participate in on the Trail today: | <input type="checkbox"/> Sightseeing <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking <input type="checkbox"/> Nature study / Viewing wildlife <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / Jogging / Hiking <input type="checkbox"/> Biking <input type="checkbox"/> Riding a scooter <input type="checkbox"/> Skating <input type="checkbox"/> Photography <input type="checkbox"/> Other activity (please describe) | |
| Please select your primary activity on the Trail today: | | |
| | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|------------------|--|----------------------|--|--------------|--|-------------------|--|
| During this visit, how crowded did you feel on the Trail? | Not at all crowded | | Slightly crowded | | Moderately crowded | | Very crowded | | Extremely crowded | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | |
| Do you have comments related to crowding? | | | | | | | | | | |
| Using the following scale please rate your satisfaction with the following conditions along the Trail. | Very Dissatisfied | | Dissatisfied | | Neutral / No Opinion | | Satisfied | | Very Satisfied | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | |
| Quality of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maintenance of facilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Amount of litter or trash | | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition or degree of naturalness | | | | | | | | | | |
| Behavior of other people | | | | | | | | | | |
| Opportunity to view wildlife | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upkeep of interpretive/educational information | | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of toilet facilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Do you have comments related to conditions at this site? | | | | | | | | | | |
| What is your satisfaction with the Trail overall? | Very Dissatisfied | | Dissatisfied | | Neutral / No Opinion | | Satisfied | | Very Satisfied | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | |
| Do you think amenities or facilities are lacking along the Trail? | ___ Yes ___ No | | | | | | | | | |
| If yes, please describe what is lacking. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Did you experience conflicts while on your visit to the Trail today? | ___ Yes ___ No | | | | | | | | | |
| If yes, please describe the conflicts. | | | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Total # of Adults in your travel group. | |
| # of Adults over 65 in your travel group. | |
| # of Children (under 18) in your travel group. | |
| Does anyone in your group require ADA amenities? | |
| If yes, what ADA amenities are required? | |
| What is your age? | |
| Do you have any additional comments you wish to share about your experience today? | |