2014-2015 Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study: Follow-Up E-Survey

FINAL REPORT

Prepared for:
Save Our Canyons, Salt Lake City, and the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

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# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table of Contents</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Tables</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Figures</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Similarities and Differences in Follow-up and Intercept Respondents</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow-up Survey Results</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties in which respondents live</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Wasatch Mountains’ impact on respondents’ lifestyle</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational activities</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ favorite recreational activities in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ visitation frequency</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ percent of exercise from outdoor recreation</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health benefits from Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance and performance of Central Wasatch Mountain management</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking and transportation</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-Canyon use fee</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solitude</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ biggest benefit from the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental orientation</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic impacts</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimation of local economic impacts</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average expenditures</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct expenditures</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic contributions</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic impact summary</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents’ total spending on recreation goods</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendices</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: Benefits respondents receive from Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Comments</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C: Word map of respondents’ favorite recreational activities in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D: E-Survey</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of Tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Table Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Visitors’ Expenditure in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Total Direct Expenditure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Economic Contribution of Non-Local Visitors in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Fiscal Impacts of Non-Local Visitation in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List of Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Figure Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miles traveled to reach the Central Wasatch Mountains by all e-survey respondents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Being able to access the Central Wasatch Mountains is important to my lifestyle and quality of life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The access to recreational opportunities is an important reason why I live in this area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>I would think about moving more often if there were fewer outdoor recreation opportunities nearby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>There is not enough access to public lands in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>I am glad there are congressionally designated Wilderness areas in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Central Wasatch Recreation Activity Overview: Number of Respondents and Frequency of Visitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Activity Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Respondents’ Frequency of Visitation in the Central Wasatch Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Percent of Respondents’ Exercise that Comes from Recreating Outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>I feel more patient with myself and others after recreating outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>When I am recreating I eat less than if I stayed home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>I do some of my best thinking when I am recreating outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Outdoor recreation is the best way for me to relieve my stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Recreating on public lands plays a large role in my mental and physical well-being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>If there were fewer opportunities to recreate outdoors on nearby public lands I would be less healthy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There should be more opportunities for children to recreate outdoors on public lands ..........................................................18

Satisfaction and Importance .........................................................................................................................................................20

There should be more opportunities to use public transportation to access recreation sites in the Central Wasatch ..................................................................................................................................................21

Recreation use should be redirected from high-use to low-use areas to spread people out more evenly ..........................................................21

The Park-and-Ride transportation system should be expanded to have more pick-ups outside of the canyons ..................................................................................................................................................22

There should be more parking in high-demand areas ..................................................................................................................22

Informal parking spaces on road shoulders should be eliminated ..........................................................................................22

Road shoulders should be widened to increase bicycle safety ..................................................................................................23

More electronic signs should be installed to help inform canyon users ..................................................................................23

Parking fees or canyon passes should be considered for canyon users ..................................................................................23

Tri-Canyon users’ willingness to pay for annual parking fee/vehicle pass .............................................................................25

Being able to get away from people and experience solitude is important to me ..............................................................................26

It’s hard for me to get away from people and experience solitude when recreating in the Central Wasatch ..................................................................................................................................................26

Too many people recreate in the Central Wasatch ..................................................................................................................................................27

Actions should be taken to reduce the number of people that can recreate in the Central Wasatch at a given time ..................................................................................................................................................27

There have been times that I have not been able to participate in the recreational activities I wanted to because there were too many people ..................................................................................................................................................27

We are approaching the limit of the number of people the earth can support ..................................................................................................................................................29

Humans have the right to modify the natural environment to suit their needs ..................................................................................................................................................29

The balance of nature is delicate and easily upset ..................................................................................................................................................30

Humans will eventually learn enough about how nature works to be able to control it ..................................................................................................................................................30

Direct, Indirect and Induced Effects ..................................................................................................................................................32

Respondents’ Annual Spending on Recreation Goods ..................................................................................................................................................38
Introduction

The purpose of this research was to collect visitor use data (both dispersed use and overall use) on the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, by conducting visitor intercept surveys (on-site interviews) at recreational sites, areas, and trailheads in the Central Wasatch Mountains. Additionally, for those respondents agreeing to participate, a more-detailed, follow-up e-survey was administered.

Visitor use data do exist for the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest from the USDA Forest Service’s National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) program. The two goals of NVUM are 1) to estimate the number of people who use National Forests and Grasslands, and 2) to gain information about visitation, recreation activities, demographics, visit duration, visitor satisfaction, and visitor spending related to recreational use on National Forests and Grasslands (USDA Forest Service, 2013). The issue with NVUM data is the sampling design produces sample sizes too small to make inferences in sub-forest areas, such as individual ranger districts. Therefore, this research addresses many of the same topics as NVUM using a similar sampling design, but focuses on the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. In addition, this research addresses topics specific to the Central Wasatch Mountains via the e-survey.

By scaling down from the whole Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to just the Salt Lake Ranger District, this research will provide visitor use data useful for the Salt Lake Ranger District, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake and Summit Counties, and Mountain Accord, a multi-phase initiative that seeks to make critical decisions regarding the future of the Central Wasatch Mountains, made up of a collaboration of public and private interests, including state and local governments, federal agencies, and businesses and grassroots organizations. The research is being supported and funded by Save Our Canyons, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the beauty and wildness of the Wasatch mountains, canyons, and foothills, in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service, Salt Lake City, and Mountain Accord through a contract with Utah State University’s Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (IORT) to conduct this research.

This report presents the results from the Follow-Up E-Survey. The four main foci of the follow-up survey were 1) transportation in the Central Wasatch Mountains, 2) environmental conditions, 3) recreation, and 4) the economic impact of spending by visitors to the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Methods

The Salt Lake Ranger District, Save Our Canyons, and other stakeholder groups decided on forty-four locations in the Central Wasatch Mountains (CWM) where visitor intercept surveys were to be conducted. Many of these sites were also sampled during the Forest Service’s NVUM in 2011-2012. These sites represent high, medium, and low use at both developed and undeveloped recreation areas. This study did however have a dispersed and backcountry use emphasis, so a greater proportion of the survey sites were backcountry access points.
The CWM were broken into four zones: Little Cottonwood Canyon, Big Cottonwood Canyon, Millcreek Canyon, and the Wasatch Back. Each month, forty sites—ten from each zone—were chosen at random, along with the day and time the sites would be surveyed (e.g., September 17th—Big Cottonwood Canyon—Bear Trap—1200 to 1600).

Intercept surveys were administered by volunteers from Save Our Canyons and other stakeholder groups, along with two Utah Conservation Corps (UCC) Field Coordinators, who also trained and managed these volunteers. UCC Project Field Coordinators were trained and managed by the Project Manager of Utah State University’s Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (IORT).

People who participated in the intercept survey were asked if they would be willing to participate in a follow-up survey. If they agreed to participate, a follow-up e-survey was emailed to them two to three weeks after they completed the intercept survey. Over the duration of this twelve-month project, 2,442 intercept surveys were completed. Of these, 1,013 people agreed to participate in the follow-up survey. Because of 32 illegible email addresses, 981 follow-up surveys were sent, and of these 981, 342 (N = 342) respondents completed the survey, for a response rate of 34.86%, deemed quite acceptable for e-surveys. However, not all 342 respondents responded to every question on the e-survey, so the N varies for each question.

The follow-up survey was administered using Qualtrics, an online platform used to design and disseminate e-surveys. The topics covered in the follow-up survey are as follows: 1) how the CWM impact respondents’ quality of life; 2) recreational activities and frequency of participation; 3) visitation frequency; 4) health benefits respondents gain from outdoor recreation; 5) satisfaction/importance of national forest management; 6) transportation and parking; 7) willingness to pay a canyon access fee; 8) expenditures related to CWM visits; 9) quality of solitude; and 10) the environmental orientation of respondents.

Data collected were exported from Qualtrics and entered into the statistical software Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) for analysis.

Similarities and Differences in Follow-up and Intercept Respondents

Before examining the data from the follow-up survey, independent-samples t-tests were conducted to see if the people who completed the follow-up survey differed from the people who only completed the intercept survey. We looked for differences in demographics, knowledge about the CWM, and use patterns.

There were no statistically significant differences between those who took the follow-up survey and those who did not in: race t(2152) = 1.854, p = .064; sex t(2231) = -.301, p = .763; length of time spent recreating t(2354) = .270, p = .787; number of sites visited while recreating t(2255) = -.575, p = .566; and site preferences (developed or undeveloped sites) t(497.9) = .657, p = .512.

There were statistically significant differences in some other variables when comparing these two groups. For example, those who took the follow-up survey were, on average, four years younger (mean age of 40 years old compared to 44) than those who did not t(2170) = -
4.633, \( p < .001 \), they achieved a slightly higher level of formal education \( t(539) = 5.642, p < .001 \), and had a slightly higher household income \( t(580.8) = 2.83, p = .005 \). They also lived, on average, approximately 60 miles closer to the CWM \( t(545) = -3.02, p = .003 \), visited 30 more times a year \( t(440.1) = 5.548, p < .001 \), were more familiar with protected watershed boundaries \( t(476.9) = 2.362, p = .019 \) and regulations \( t(2118) = 5.581, p < .001 \), and were more familiar with the CWM’s congressionally designated Wilderness Areas \( t(497.2) = 5.518, p < .001 \). They were also much more likely to have visited the Wilderness areas in the CWM \( t(461.6) = 8.603, p < .001 \). Lastly, those who took the follow-up survey were more likely to be recreating alone when they were surveyed \( t(449.5) = 2.890, p < .001 \).

The areas where those who took the follow-up survey and those who did not differed the most were in how close they lived to the CWM, how many times they visited during the year, and their familiarity with the CWM’s designated Wilderness areas, which is most likely a result of their increased familiarity due to the frequency they visit. It is not necessarily a surprise to see these differences between the two groups—those who did and those who did not complete the follow-up survey. Those who visit more and live closer most likely have more of a vested interest in the CWM, and would like to provide their opinions on matters relevant to the CWM. Given the results of the independent-samples t-tests, it is clear that the sample used in this report—those who completed the follow-up survey—is not completely representative of all CWM visitors; however, they are also not that different. Many of the mean scores that had statistically significant differences were not far apart, so even though there were differences between the two groups, these differences in many variables were only slight.

Even though this report does not necessarily present a fully “representative” sample of all CWM visitors, the responses to question and feedback provided in comments represents those who tend to visit more often, live closer, and who are overall more familiar with the CWM. Given their high frequency of visitation and familiarity, the information provided by these respondents is very valuable. The mean number of visits for respondents is approximately two-three times per week, which provides these recreationists with a lot of time to observe and experience the conditions of the CWM, the flow of visitors, and any issues that are present.

Concerns have been voiced that the backcountry use emphasis of this research will skew the results towards the opinions of those who only use backcountry areas, and it will not represent the people who utilize the developed recreation areas in the CWM. However, when examining these data, we can see respondents listed “resort skiing” as their second most favorite recreational activity in the CWM, which shows that most respondents use and enjoy the developed recreation opportunities as well, specifically the ski resorts. In addition, when we look at the areas these respondents use most often, we see that just over 50% use both developed and backcountry areas equally, and 7% said they use mostly developed areas. To gain a better understanding of the areas and activities these respondents use, please refer to Table 7a/b on pages 10-11.
Follow-up E-Survey Results

Do you live in Salt Lake County, Summit County, or other?

The majority of respondents who completed the follow-up survey were from Salt Lake County (N = 284, 82.6%). Only 23 (6.7%) respondents were from Summit County, and 37 (10.8%) were from some other county. Of the respondents who did not live in Salt Lake County or Summit county, the mean distance traveled was 475.78 miles (median = 83 miles), with a range of five to 1,817 miles. Miles traveled to reach the CWM by all e-survey respondents are displayed in Figure 1 below.

![Figure 1: Miles traveled to reach the Central Wasatch Mountains by all e-survey respondents (N = 305)](image)

We are interested in how important the Central Wasatch Mountains are for choosing to live where you do. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

Respondents who lived in Salt Lake County or Summit County were given five statements, and asked to rank them on a scale from 1 “strongly disagree” to 10 “strongly agree.” Figures 2 through 6 below present the distributions of responses to these statements. The title for each figure is the statement to which respondents were asked to respond.
Figure 2: Being able to access the Central Wasatch Mountains is important to my lifestyle and quality of life (N = 289)

Figure 3: The access to recreational opportunities is an important reason why I live in this area (N = 289)
Figure 4: I would think about moving more often if there were fewer outdoor recreation opportunities nearby (N = 289)

Figure 5: There is not enough access to Public Lands in the Central Wasatch Mountains (N = 287)
Respondents strongly agreed with all of the statements except the following one: “There is not enough access to public lands in the Central Wasatch Mountains.” The responses to this statement were widely distributed, with a mean score of 5.11 and a median of 5. From the comments, it can be seen that the ease of access is why most respondents love the Central Wasatch Mountains. Later in the survey, respondents were asked to name the biggest benefits they receive from the CWM, and the dominant theme was access to recreation, beauty, nature, exercise out-of-doors, and the benefits from the access such as improved mental and physical well-being.

There were half as many comments referring to the limitations of access in the CWM; however, these comments were unsolicited unlike the benefits respondents receive. The two most frequently mentioned limitations of access were development and parking. When respondents referred to development, they were concerned that ski resort expansion and housing/hotel development has, and will possibly further reduce the current amount of access available. The two comments below illustrate this:

“I feel that the ability to find solitude in the Wasatch Mountains is becoming more difficult due to over development. Everyone should have access to enjoy the mountains, not just the rich who can afford the hotels and cabins! The Wasatch Range really isn’t very large and I feel that it is important to protect it because once it’s lost it’s lost forever.”

“The ski resorts currently occupy a significant portion of the most scenic areas and best ski/snowboard terrain in the Central Wasatch. Ski resort expansion will further restrict access to public lands (even if the lifts are technically on private land), eliminate some of the most popular backcountry ski terrain in the Wasatch, tarnish the natural/scenic quality of the area, and impact the environment in a negative way.

The two main limitations to access from parking were because parking areas for trailheads were full, and that there are not enough parking areas in the winter. The comments below illustrate these two points:
“PLEASE, PLEASE consider a shuttle system for Millcreek, especially during summer weekends!!! I suggest pickup at Skyline High School starting Friday evening through Sunday. A nominal fee, and only allow cars up the canyon for special occasions like restaurant use and weddings/receptions. Parking and even trying to turn around at Big Water is near impossible and very frustrating!! I have stopped trying to access those trails on weekends until Sunday evening during summer months.”

“There needs to be resolution of parking needs for winter backcountry users in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Currently, many trails are not easily accessible because of lack of plowed pullouts that already exist and are evident in summer, and ‘no parking’ signs posted in many critical areas that could easily be plowed.”

Another, but less frequently mentioned comment was the restrictions on dog access. Some respondents said they would like more places close by to take their dogs hiking in the mountains. Some respondents also said they would just like more trails.

Overall, the comments from this study present access as being one of the CWM’s strongest benefits. One respondent said, “I moved from Phoenix to Salt Lake City to have the benefit of using the Central Wasatch area. It is the primary reason that I am still living in Salt Lake City.” Another said, “If the mountains were not here and easily accessible for recreational activities I would not have moved here with my family from Oregon. The mountains are amazing!” To see all of the comments please refer to Appendix A and B.

The high level of agreement with the other statements suggests the Central Wasatch Mountains are an important factor for respondents’ quality of life and reason for living where they do.

Over the past 12 months in the Central Wasatch Mountains, what recreational activities have you participated in, and how often do you participate in them?

To gain a better understanding of respondents’ activities and frequency of participation, respondents were asked to identify their activities and how many times they participated in them over the last twelve-months. Respondents were given a scale to rank how frequently they participated in each activity over the last twelve months: did not participate; 1-4 times; 5-9 time; 10-14 times; 15-20 times; more than 20 times. Taking this approach, we were able to measure 1) how many respondents participated in specific recreational activities, 2) how frequently they participated in them, and 3) the total number of activity days for which these respondents accounted.

In Figures 7a and 7b, the green line represents the number of respondents who participated in each recreational activity in the last twelve months. The bars in Figures 7a and 7b represent how frequently those respondents participated in each of the recreational activities identified. Note the bars are percentages of the total number of people who participated in the activity.

From Figures 7a and 7b, we can get a better understanding of how many people participate in an activity, but also how frequently those people participate in that activity. For
example, in Figure 7a, there are nearly the same number of people who skied at a resort and visited a nature center/visitor center; however, when we look at how frequently respondents participate in these two activities, we can see that 36% of people who ski at resorts in the CWM have done it over twenty times in the last twelve months. When we examine how frequently respondents visit nature centers/visitors centers, we can see that 67% have visited only one to four times in the last twelve months.

This leads to Figures 8a and 8b: Activity Days. It is important to note that activity days are not synonymous with visits. This is because in one visit, a person can participate in multiple activities, such as walk their pet(s), hike, and exercise all at the same time. The frequencies in Figures 8a and 8b present an approximate number of how many times respondents participated in each activity in the CWM over the last twelve months. To use resort skiing and visiting nature/visitor centers, even though approximately the same number of respondents did both, when we look at the frequency respondents participated in the two activities and calculate the number of activity days, we see that respondents account for 2,435 resort skiing activity days, and only 1,023 visiting nature/visitor center activity days. This is because respondents tend to visit the resorts many times over the year, and only visit a nature/visitor center once or twice.

Activity days are calculated by taking the total number of respondents who participated in an activity, separating them out into how frequently they participated in the activity, and multiplying the respondents in each subgroup by the frequency used to define these subgroups. For example, 209 respondents reported walking their pet(s) in the CWM in the last twelve months. When stratifying these 209 respondents into their frequency subgroups, we see that 30 have walked their pet(s) 1-4 times, 22 have walked their pet(s) 5-9 times, 23 have walked their pet(s) 10-14 times, 14 walked their pet(s) 15-20 times, and 120 have walked their pet(s) more than 20 times. By taking the number of respondents in each frequency subgroup and multiplying it by the median of each frequency subgroup (i.e., 1-4 times = median 2.5 times; 5-9 times = median 7 times; 10-14 times = median 12 times; 15-20 times = median 17.5 times; and more than 20 times = 21 times), we get the number of activity days in each group (e.g., 30 respondents multiplied by 2.5 (median number of times they walked their pet(s)) = 75 activity days for the 1-4 subgroup). The final step is adding all of the activity day subgroups together to get the total number of times these 209 respondents walked their pets in the CWM. After all these steps are completed, we can see that these 209 respondents have walked their pets approximately 3,270 times over the last 12 months—3,270 activity days for walking pet(s). Figures 8a and 8b present the activity days for each recreational activity.
Figure 7a: Central Wasatch Recreation Activity Overview: Number of Respondents and Frequency of Visitation (N = 318)
Figure 7b: Central Wasatch Recreation Activity Overview: Number of Respondents and Frequency of Visitation (N = 318)
Figure 8a: Activity Days

- Hiking: 5359
- Exercising: 5336.5
- Walking: 4404.5
- Relaxing / hanging out: 4167
- Walking / exercising pet(s): 3439.5
- Viewing / photographing scenery: 3270
- Viewing / photographing wildlife: 3203.5
- Resort Skiing: 2502
- Mountain Biking: 2435
- Driving for pleasure: 1998.5
- Road Cycling: 1901.5
- Backcountry Skiing: 1798
- Snowshoeing: 1670.5
- Rock climbing: 1223
- Cross-country skiing: 1182.5
- Visiting a nature center: 1073.5
- Visiting historic/paleontological sites: 1023
- Swimming: 930.5
**What would you say are your top 1-3 favorite recreational activities in the Central Wasatch Mountains?**

The word map shown below, and displayed on the cover page of this report, presents the recreational activities respondents listed as being their one to three favorite in the Central Wasatch Mountains. The size of the activity word is related to how often respondents mentioned it. For example, the majority of respondents said hiking was their favorite recreational activity in the Central Wasatch Mountains, and therefore it is the largest. Resort skiing was the second most mentioned favorite activity, followed by mountain biking and trail running, and a host of other activities. The website Tagul was used to develop the word map. For a larger image of the word map, please refer to Appendix C on page 67.

![Word Map Image](image)

**On average, how often have you visited the Central Wasatch Mountains over the past 12 months?**

Over the last twelve months, 80% of respondents reported visiting the CWM at least once a week, with 55% visiting 2-3 times per week. Figure 9 presents how often respondents visit the CWM.
In the past 12 months, what percentage of your exercise has come from outdoor recreation?

Respondents were asked what percentage of their exercise comes from outdoor recreation. Of 311 respondents, 63% reported getting at least 80% of their exercise from outdoor recreation. Forty-one percent of respondents said they get 90-100% of their exercise from outdoor recreation, and 22% said they get 80-89% of the exercise from outdoor recreation. Figure 10 presents the percent of exercise respondents get from outdoor recreation.
The following questions are focused on the health benefits you receive from recreating outdoors on public lands. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

To gain a better understanding of the health benefits respondents gain from recreating outdoors on public lands, they were given a series of statements and asked to rank how much they agreed with each one. Respondents highly agreed that recreating outdoors on public lands: 1) helped them feel more patient with themselves and others; 2) eat less; 3) think better; 4) relieve stress; and 5) improve their mental and physical well-being. Respondents also agreed if there were fewer opportunities to recreate outdoors on public lands they would be less healthy, and there should be more opportunities for children to recreate outdoors on public lands. Figures 11 through 17 present respondents’ levels of agreement with each health statement.
Figure 13: I do some of my best thinking when I am recreating outdoors (N = 317)

Figure 14: Outdoor recreation is the best way for me to relieve my stress (N = 317)

Figure 15: Recreating on public lands plays a large role in my mental and physical well-being (N = 317)
For the Central Wasatch Mountains, please rate how satisfied/dissatisfied you are with the following items, and then rate how important those items are to you.

Respondents were asked to rank how satisfied they are with a variety of aspects related to forest management and forest conditions, and then they were asked to rank how important each item was to them. Both satisfaction and importance were measured using a five-point Likert scale: very dissatisfied—very satisfied and very unimportant—very important. Data are presented in Figure 18.

These data are also helpful in understanding what respondents see as most important. In this case, the top three most important aspects for respondents regarding the CWM are 1) scenery, 2) environmental conditions, and 3) trail conditions. When examining these data, it is important to note areas where importance is higher than satisfaction. These can be indicators of areas where the needs and expectations of people are not being met, and perhaps management
can respond to make things better. For example, 1) environmental conditions, 2) availability of parking, 3) trail conditions, and 4) trail signage are all areas where respondents’ level of importance exceeded their level of satisfaction.

Environmental conditions was the first category where importance exceeded respondents’ level of satisfaction. It also tied “scenery” as being one of the most important aspects about the CWM. Environmental conditions ranked in the top five categories for respondent satisfaction. When looking at the comments, large-scale development is identified by respondents as one of the aspects that decreases the environmental quality of the CWM. Dog poo bags and trash are also mentioned as aspects that decrease environmental quality.

Of all the categories given to respondents to rank, availability of parking ranked the lowest in respondent satisfaction. The next section of this report presents findings related to transportation and parking in the CWM with data showing high levels of support for increased opportunities for public transportation and more parking in high-demand areas. Data also show respondents highly disagreed that informal parking spaces in the CWM should be eliminated. In addition, we also saw in a previous section that parking issues were related to dissatisfaction with regards to access in the CWM. Given these findings, availability and parking in the CWM is an issue that should be given a great deal of attention.

Trail conditions and trail signage were the last two categories were importance exceeded satisfaction. Trail conditions ranked the fourth highest in respondent satisfaction, but trail signage ranked quite low. When referring to trail conditions, respondents mentioned overgrown trails, an abundance of social trails, and “trails need work.” Comments were also made by respondents about not knowing where the “main trail” was, and accidently deviating from the main trail onto social trails. Trail signage has been suggested to elevate this issue. In addition to trail identification markers, respondents also suggested mileage markers on the trails to identify how far they have gone.

Note in Figure 18, respondents indicated a greater level of satisfaction than importance for the following aspects for the CWM: adequacy of signage; road conditions; scenery; parking lot conditions; cleanliness of restrooms; condition of developed facilities; feeling of safety; helpfulness of Forest Service personnel; interpretive/educational displays; value of fees; and availability of recreation information.
With respect to transportation and parking in the Central Wasatch Mountains, please indicate how much you agree with the following statements.

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with a variety of statements regarding transportation and parking in the CWM. Respondents were given a ten-point Likert scale which ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree. There was a high level of agreement among respondents that: 1) there should be more opportunities to use public transportation to access recreation sites in the CWM; 2) the Park-and-Ride system should be expanded to have more pick-up points outside of the canyons; 3) informal parking spots should not be eliminated; and the highest level of agreements was 4) road shoulders should be widened to increase bicycle safety. Respondents were more neutral with regards to: 1) redirecting recreational use from high-demand areas to low-demand areas to spread use more evenly; 2) adding more parking in high demand areas; and 3) adding additional electronic signs to inform canyon users. Respondents were somewhat split on the topic of 4) implementing parking passes or canyon fees for canyon users, although 56% expressed some level of agreement, 34% expressed disagreement, and 10%
were neutral. Figures 19 through 26 present respondents’ levels of agreement with the parking and transportation statements.

**Figure 19:** There should be more opportunities to use public transportation to access recreation sites in the Central Wasatch (N = 303)

**Figure 20:** Recreational use should be redirected from high-use to low-use areas to spread people out more evenly (N = 301)
Figure 21: The Park-and-Ride transportation system should be expanded to have more pick-ups outside of the canyons (N = 299)

Figure 22: There should be more parking in high-demand areas (N = 300)

Figure 23: Informal parking spaces on road shoulders should be eliminated (N = 292)
Figure 24: Road shoulders should be widened to increase bicycle safety (N = 301)

![Bar chart showing responses to road shoulders widening question]

Figure 25: More electronic signs should be installed to help inform canyon users (N = 294)

![Bar chart showing responses to electronic signs question]

Figure 26: Parking fees or canyon passes should be considered for canyon users (N = 292)

![Bar chart showing responses to parking fees question]
If a parking fee or vehicle pass were implemented for Tri-Canyons (Mill Creek, Big Cottonwood, and Little Cottonwood) recreationists, in order to encourage carpooling and transit use, and assist in operating and maintaining parking areas, how much would you be willing to pay as an annual fee? (Mill Creek Canyon currently charges $3 per vehicle/per day or $40/year.)

Respondents were asked how much they would be willing to pay for an annual Tri-Canyons pass. As seen in Figure 26 above, respondents were split on the issue of implementing a canyon pass or parking fees (mean = 5.66, median = 6), although 56% expressed some level of agreement. Given the distribution of Figure 26, we can see respondents were polarized towards the ends of the scale—strongly agree or strongly disagree—and there was a cluster in the middle. However, when asked if they would be willing to pay an annual fee, only nineteen of 290 said they would be unwilling to pay any amount for a Tri-canyon pass. The mean amount respondents were willing to pay was $48.84, and the median was $42.50, which is just above the price for an annual pass for Mill Creek Canyon. Figure 27 presents the amount respondents were willing to pay for a Tri-canyon pass.

In the comments, there is more support for fees than opposition. Respondents who supported a fee did so because they wanted to encourage carpooling and public transit use, see more hiking trails and trail maintenance, decrease the number of people, and keep the overall area better maintained and safer. The comments below illustrate these points:

“I think the fee has been a very positive thing for Millcreek Canyon (cleaner, safer) and I wouldn't mind seeing it instituted more broadly.”

“If higher access annual fees would be directly applied to developing more hiking trails into the backcountry and were open to hiking with my dogs, I would gladly pay a whole lot more.”

“Daily fees or passes for Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons will encourage more use of public transportation with more pick-up locations/park-and-rides.”

“Need more public transit and higher fees for personal vehicles to discourage single occupancy cars and to assist in funding parking lot development, especially in BCC and LCC.”

“As long as these funds were collected and used in the Tri-canyon area ONLY, and careful planning, transparent budgeting, and accounting maintained, I would support such fees.”

Respondents who opposed a use fee did so because they thought the fee would restrict/discourage access for those with less financial resources, and some were opposed to the notion of paying a fee to use public land. The comments below illustrate these two viewpoints:

“While I can easily afford to pay for an access pass, I believe this fees are a regressive tax that disproportionately affect lower-income people, denying them opportunities to familiarize themselves with the benefits of spending time in nature. I therefor strongly disagree with any proposal for a tri-canyon fee.”

“The trails do seem to be getting crowded, but I also feel like everyone should have access to public lands, including those too poor to pay entrance fees or for parking.”
“I do not believe fees should be required to access our canyons and national forests.”

“I do not support financial obstacles to access such as fees and I strongly oppose fees for use of outdoor recreation.”

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements with respect to your experience with solitude in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Being able to experience solitude is an important motivation for people using public lands, and it is also something that public land managers strive to provide when managing these lands. To gain a better understanding of how CWM visitors value solitude, and are able to experience solitude, they were asked to rank multiple statements addressing the importance of solitude, their ability to experience solitude, and if actions should be taken to increase the possibility of experiencing solitude in the CWM. As seen in Figure 28, being able to get away from people and experience solitude is very important to respondents (mean = 9.01, median = 10). When respondents were asked if it is hard for them to experience solitude in the CWM (mean = 4.8, median = 5), and if there were too many people in the CWM (mean = 4.7, median = 5), respondents were generally neutral. Respondents were also asked if there are occasions when they are not able to participate in their desired recreational activity because there were too many people, and the majority of respondents disagreed (mean = 3.7, median = 3). Lastly, respondents were asked if actions should be taken to reduce the number of people who can recreate in the CWM at a given time, and most respondents disagreed (mean = 3.2, median = 3).

From this series of statements, we can see solitude is very important to respondents, but when asked if their solitude is impeded by the number of people recreating in the CWM, most respondents did not have strong feelings either way, and were mostly neutral. We can also see the number of people recreating in the CWM is not deterring respondents from participating in
their desired recreational activities, and 74% disagree that actions should be taken to reduce the number of people who can recreate in the CWM at a given time. Figures 28 through 32 present respondents' level of agreement to the statements regarding solitude in the CWM.

Figure 28: Being able to get away from people to experience solitude is important to me (N = 300)

Figure 29: It's hard for me to get away from people and experience solitude when recreating in the Central Wasatch (N = 299)
Figure 30: Too many people recreate in the Central Wasatch (N = 299)

Figure 31: Action should be taken to reduce the number of people that can recreate in the Central Wasatch at a given time (N = 297)

Figure 32: There have been times that I have not been able to participate in the recreational activities I wanted to because there were too many people (N = 298)
What would you say is the biggest benefit you receive from the Central Wasatch Mountains?

In response to this statement, the most frequently used words were **exercise, nature, health, and beauty**. The next two were **physical and mental**. When looking at how these words were used by respondents when describing the benefits they receive from the CWM, a very dominant theme emerges: the biggest benefit respondents receive is **being able to exercise and improve mental and physical well-being by recreating in the easily accessible nature and beauty of the Central Wasatch Mountains**. One respondent sums this up well by saying the biggest benefit received is “mental and physical well-being from exercising in the beauty of the Wasatch Mountains.” Another said, “Recreation and everything it creates (peace, relaxation, exercise, health, stress relief, and perspective on life).” See these comments and others in Appendix A.

Environmental Orientation

The statements found in Figures 33 through 36 are used to determine respondents’ environmental orientation, i.e., biocentric or anthropocentric (Dunlap & Van Liere, 1978). The terms biocentric and anthropocentric are used to define how people view nature. Gagnon-Thompson and Barton (1994) define people who are biocentric as “individuals [who] value nature for its own sake and, therefore, judge that it deserves protection because of its intrinsic value” (p.1). In contrast, the people with an anthropocentric orientation are individuals who feel “the environment…has value in maintaining or enhancing the quality of life for humans” (emphasis added) (p.1).

For the sake of respondents’ time, only four of the original fifteen statements originally developed by Dunlap and Van Liere were included in this survey. Even with fewer statements used, the distributions of responses to these four statements show most respondents are on the biocentric side of the spectrum. Figures 33 through 36 present respondents’ level of agreement with statements used to measure environmental orientation.

Throughout this survey we can see the biocentric orientation of respondents present itself. For example, in the Importance-Satisfaction table, respondents ranked “scenery” and “environmental conditions” as the two most important aspects of the CWM. In addition, the words “nature” and “natural” are some of the most frequently used words in respondents’ comments. When describing the benefits they receive from the CWM, respondents commonly refer to the access and exposure to nature, the natural beauty, and the ability to get away and experience solitude in a natural setting. In the general comments, some respondents say it is important to expose more people to nature and the natural environment so their appreciation for it will grow. Respondents also express a lot of concern about protecting the natural areas the CWM have left.

In the comments, there is also a strong resistance to additional development in the CWM. There is a threshold when respondents discuss development; there is a great level of support for small-scale development that is focused on recreation, such as trails, parking areas, public transit, trail signage, etc., but there is little to no support among respondents for more ski lifts, housing
developments, ski resort expansion, etc. Two respondents were in support of connecting the ski reports via ski lifts/tram lines, but the overwhelming majority was opposed to any new large-scale development. The comment below illustrates this point:

“Stop One Wasatch! No more ski resort development. The ski resorts currently occupy a significant portion of the most scenic areas and best ski/snowboard terrain in the Central Wasatch. Ski resort expansion will further restrict access to public lands (even if the lifts are technically on private land), eliminate some of the most popular backcountry ski terrain in the Wasatch, tarnish the natural/scenic quality of the area, and impact the environment in a negative way.”

![Figure 33: We are approaching the limit of the number of people the earth can support (N = 300)](image)

![Figure 34: Humans have the right to modify the natural environment to suit their needs (N = 299)](image)
Figure 35: The balance of nature is delicate and easily upset (N = 300)

Figure 36: Humans will eventually learn enough about how nature works to be able to control it (N = 300)
Visitor Expenditures and Economic Impact Analysis

One topic of interest addressed in the Follow-Up E-Survey was visitor expenditures related to CWM visits resulting in economic activity and impact. The analysis of visitor expenditure data is based on responses from the 303 respondents (21 non-local residents and 282 local residents) who completed the e-survey and answered one question:

For your last recreational visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains, how much did you spend on the following items?

- Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, etc.
- Camping
- Restaurants and Bars
- Groceries
- Gasoline and Oil
- Local Transportation (bus, shuttles, etc.)
- Entry, Parking, or Recreation Use Fees
- Recreation and Entertainment (Guides, Equipment rentals)
- Sporting Good Purchases
- Souvenirs
- Clothing
- Other items purchased for your last recreational visit

Estimation of Local Economic Impacts

The following economic impact analysis based on collected visitor expenditure data was conducted by Dr. Man-Keun Kim, Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Economics, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Utah State University, and we acknowledge his important contribution to this research and report.

Economic impacts or contributions are based on visitors’ expenditures associated with visiting the CWM. Expenditures include food and beverages purchased at restaurants or grocery stores, gasoline and oil, purchasing sporting goods, lodging (hotel/motel/cabin/camping), equipment and rentals, and other transportation expenses. Expenditures affect the local and regional economy through the inter-relationships among different sectors or industries of the local economy. Input-output (IO) analysis traces the indirect effects and induced effects through the economy, resulting in the multiplier effects. Multipliers can be described through the following definitions:

- **Direct effects** (or direct expenditures) are the changes in the industries associated with visitors (direct) expenditure. We have direct impacts from hotel/motel/cabin lodging, grocery purchases from the local stores, restaurants, gasoline purchases, equipment rentals, local transportation (bus, shuttles), etc.
- **Indirect effects** are the changes in inter-industry purchases as these respond to the new demands of the directly affected industries. The direct effect creates increases in economic activity for additional businesses (in the region) that support these direct industries.
- **Induced effects** are the increases in household income expenditures generated by the direct and indirect effects. In other words, induced effects are created as the new income
generated by the direct and indirect effects is spent and re-spent within the local economy.

- **Total economic contribution** (total effect) is the sum of direct effects, indirect effects, and induced effect, and the **multiplier** is the ratio of the total effect to the direct effect.

Figure 37 demonstrates these inter-industry impact and induced effects.

Figure 37: Direct, Indirect and Induced Effects

In order to estimate the local (e.g., county) industry output, labor income and employment generated by visitors’ expenditures in the CWM, as previously identified, questions about expenditures were asked in the e-survey. Expenditures were broken down into types of spending such as food and beverage, lodging, transportation (e.g., purchasing gasoline), equipment and rentals, etc., as these economic sectors generate different numbers of jobs per dollar of spending and have different multipliers. The regional economic model that calculates the direct, indirect, induced and total effects builds upon models using IMPLAN (Impact analysis for PLANning, [www.implan.com](http://www.implan.com)).

Economic impact analysis focuses on the “new money” that is attracted to the CWM (Salt Lake and Summit Counties), so subsequent analysis focuses upon the expenditures made within the CWM by visitors from outside of the Salt Lake County and Summit County region, identified as “non-local” (living 40+ miles outside of Brighton Resort). That is, the visits and expenditures by local residents, identified as “local,” are not included in the analysis assuming that these expenditures would have been made within the region anyway (redistribution resulting from direct spending).
Average Expenditure

As previously identified, only 21 non-local visitors (N = 21) completed the follow-up e-survey and answered the question, *For your last recreational visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains, how much did you spend on the following items?*, estimating their spending in the 12 different expenditure categories. As the size of the samples (number of respondents) increases the distribution of means (average expenditures) becomes normal and variability (standard deviation) decreases substantially. A small N of 21 is not enough to say that the average expenditure from the e-survey is the true expenditure as the expenditure distribution is not normally distributed. However, through the use of “bootstrap simulation” involving resampling with 5000 replications, confidence intervals (or bands) are able to be computed utilizing the existing sample data. These confidence bands tell us how close the average expenditure is to the true expenditure. Bias corrected confidence intervals are reported here (low and high) because the expenditure distribution is not normally distributed and mean there is a 95% probability that the true average expenditure is somewhere between the lower and upper bounds.

Based on analyses, average expenditure of non-local visitors during their last recreational visit to the CWM was estimated to be $305.76 (95% confidence interval with low of $100.25 and high of $642.37) per trip (Table 1). Purchases from retailers, including groceries, food and other goods, were $99.52 ($21.91; $212.61), the largest combined expenditure category for the non-local visitors, followed by lodging (hotels, motels & camping) at $80.95 ($23.81; $176.19). In restaurants, non-local visitors spent $53.81 ($25.71; $93.10) per trip on average. For comparison, local visitors spent a total of $82.97 ($43.68; $149.65) on average (Table 1) spending significantly less in all of the expenditure categories, as would be expected.
### Table 1: Visitors' Expenditure in the Central Wasatch Mountains (Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Category</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>95% low</th>
<th>95% up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Local</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n = 21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging (hotels/motels/other)</td>
<td>80.95</td>
<td>23.81</td>
<td>176.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas station/convenience stores</td>
<td>33.10</td>
<td>19.29</td>
<td>49.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment rental &amp; leasing</td>
<td>15.05</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>42.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail – groceries</td>
<td>50.71</td>
<td>19.05</td>
<td>97.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail – sporting goods, etc.</td>
<td>27.86</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>68.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail – souvenirs, clothing, etc.</td>
<td>20.95</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>61.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant and bars</td>
<td>53.81</td>
<td>25.71</td>
<td>93.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry, parking, or recreation fee</td>
<td>22.38</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>52.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local transportation (bus, shuttles, etc.)</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$305.76</td>
<td>$100.25</td>
<td>$642.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Local**                                     |         |          |         |
| n = 282                                       |         |          |         |
| Lodging (hotels/motels/other)                 | 13.37   | 5.53     | 29.30   |
| Gas station/convenience stores                | 18.64   | 10.83    | 31.30   |
| Equipment rental & leasing                    | 1.19    | 0.18     | 3.34    |
| Retail – groceries                            | 13.87   | 8.13     | 24.33   |
| Retail – sporting goods, etc.                 | 14.96   | 7.90     | 24.98   |
| Retail – souvenirs, clothing, etc.            | 5.60    | 2.40     | 10.02   |
| Restaurant and bars                           | 9.30    | 5.06     | 17.20   |
| Entry, parking, or recreation fee             | 5.75    | 3.61     | 8.51    |
| Local transportation (bus, shuttles, etc.)    | 0.29    | 0.04     | 0.67    |
| **Total**                                     | $82.97  | $43.68   | $149.65 |

1 May not sum to total due to rounding.

2 Confidence intervals were derived from the bootstrap simulation (resampling) with 5000 replications; the bootstrap allows estimation of the sampling distribution (expenditure distribution) to compute the confidence interval using the sample data themselves. Note that bias corrected confidence intervals are reported here because expenditure distribution is not normally distributed.

### Direct Expenditure

As stated, economic impact analysis focuses on the “new money” that is attracted to the Central Wasatch Mountains from outside of Salt Lake County and Summit County (40+ miles outside of the Brighton Resort area). Using the expenditure information collected in the e-survey, we estimated the total direct expenditure related to non-local visitors assuming that there are 5.7 million visitors annually in the Central Wasatch Mountains (http://mountainaccord.com). Assuming 18% of visitors are non-local using the survey results, we estimate 1.026 million visitors spent $305.76 on average. Total direct expenditures were then estimated to be slightly under $314 million ($313.71 million total; low of $102.85 million, high of $659.12 million). Table 2 presents these direct expenditure estimates with the 95% confidence intervals.
Table 2: Total Direct Expenditure (millions of dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Category</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>95% low</th>
<th>95% up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lodging (hotels/motels/other)</td>
<td>83.05</td>
<td>24.43</td>
<td>180.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas station/convenience stores</td>
<td>33.96</td>
<td>19.79</td>
<td>51.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment rental &amp; leasing</td>
<td>15.44</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>43.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail – groceries</td>
<td>52.03</td>
<td>19.55</td>
<td>99.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail – sporting goods, etc.</td>
<td>28.58</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>70.11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail – souvenirs, clothing, etc.</td>
<td>21.49</td>
<td>4.40</td>
<td>63.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restaurant and bars</td>
<td>55.21</td>
<td>26.38</td>
<td>95.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entry, parking, or recreation fee</td>
<td>22.96</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>53.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local transportation (bus, shuttles, etc.)</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$313.71</strong></td>
<td><strong>$102.85</strong></td>
<td><strong>$659.12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 May not sum to total due to rounding.

**Economic Contribution**

The economic contribution of non-local visitors’ expenditures on the Salt Lake Ranger District in Salt Lake and Summit Counties is estimated in Tables 3 and 4. Total value of economic output associated with expenditures by visitors from outside of the CWM is $559 million ($182 million; $1,177 million). This translates to an effective multiplier of 1.78, which is reasonable for a relatively small economic region. That is, every dollar spent in the CWM by non-local visitors generated $1.78 totally in regional economic activity.

The total value-added (regional output) generated by this increased level of output is estimated to be $353 million ($116 million; $741 million) (Table 3). This is smaller than the industry output figure because it represents only the amount of income and taxes retained in the region. A component of the total value-added impact generated estimated the impact on labor income at $222 million ($73 million; $465 million) (Table 3) which accrues to 6,382 (2,081; 13,383) full- and part-time jobs. Tax revenue generated by this increased level of output, labor income, and value added is estimated to be $47.1 million ($16 million; $98 million) for state/local government and $48.3 million ($16 million; $101 million) for the federal government (Table 4).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Industry Output (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Value Added (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Labor Income (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Employment (persons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>0.058</td>
<td>0.029</td>
<td>0.012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.02; 0.12)</td>
<td>(0.01; 0.06)</td>
<td>(0.00; 0.02)</td>
<td>(0; 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>0.420</td>
<td>0.332</td>
<td>0.151</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(0.14; 0.88)</td>
<td>(0.11; 0.70)</td>
<td>(0.05; 0.32)</td>
<td>(0; 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>5.919</td>
<td>3.874</td>
<td>1.108</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1.92; 12.45)</td>
<td>(1.26; 8.15)</td>
<td>(0.36; 2.33)</td>
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<td>Construction</td>
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<td>1.389</td>
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<td>(0.52; 3.53)</td>
<td>(0.44; 2.96)</td>
<td>(7; 49)</td>
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<td>9.318</td>
<td>2.752</td>
<td>1.523</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>(0.94; 5.69)</td>
<td>(0.52; 3.15)</td>
<td>(7; 39)</td>
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<td>Wholesale</td>
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<td>7.036</td>
<td>4.127</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(2.47; 15.70)</td>
<td>(2.33; 14.81)</td>
<td>(1.37; 8.69)</td>
<td>(18; 117)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>151.390</td>
<td>111.620</td>
<td>76.823</td>
<td>2,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(51.74; 315.95)</td>
<td>(39.18; 230.08)</td>
<td>(26.50; 159.60)</td>
<td>(781; 5373)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>11.004</td>
<td>6.007</td>
<td>4.252</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3.22; 23.36)</td>
<td>(1.69; 12.73)</td>
<td>(1.20; 9.01)</td>
<td>(19; 141)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRE斯¹</td>
<td>211.350</td>
<td>131.399</td>
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<td>(61.23; 463.18)</td>
<td>(38.12; 287.67)</td>
<td>(22.55; 169.09)</td>
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<td>Accommd² &amp; Food Services</td>
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<td>81.269</td>
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<td>(54.45; 300.16)</td>
<td>(29.50; 163.32)</td>
<td>(18.17; 97.19)</td>
<td>(739; 3731)</td>
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<td>Government</td>
<td>8.416</td>
<td>6.915</td>
<td>6.147</td>
<td>95</td>
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<td>(2.76; 17.72)</td>
<td>(2.27; 14.56)</td>
<td>(2.01; 12.94)</td>
<td>(31; 199)</td>
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<td>$352.888</td>
<td>$221.892</td>
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<td>(182.35; 1177.04)</td>
<td>(115.94; 741.30)</td>
<td>(73.17; 465.30)</td>
<td>(2,081; 13383)</td>
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Numbers in parentheses are 95% confidence intervals.

¹ FIRE斯 = Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Educational services and other services
² Accommd = Accommodations
³ May not sum to total due to rounding.
Summary

Based on the data collection from 2,442 intercept surveys administered to recreational visitors at 40 different sites in the CWM over the duration of this twelve-month study, with 342 respondents completing the Follow-Up E-Survey, and of these, 303 respondents (21 non-local residents and 282 local residents) answering the visitor expenditure question, For your last recreational visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains, how much did you spend on the following items?, an analysis of the data was conducted in order to conduct an economic impact analysis. This economic impact analysis focused on “new money” attracted to the Central Wasatch Mountains, and consequently the analysis focused on expenditures made by visitors from outside the regions (non-local visitors; N = 21). Reported expenditures by these visitors was associated with particular economic sectors so that impact analysis could be conducted utilizing IMPLAN (Impact analysis for PLANning, www.implan.com). The analysis found that average total expenditures per non-local visitor was estimated to be $305.76.

The annual visitation to the Salt Lake Ranger District of the Central Wasatch Mountains was estimated at a total of 5.7 million visitors. Assuming 18% of visitors are non-local, aggregate expenditures by these visitors was estimated to be $313.71 million. Using IMPLAN, total value of economic output associated with expenditures by these visitors from outside the region is $559 million and this translates to an effective multiplier of 1.78. Out-of-region visitor expenditures generate between $222 million in income accruing to 6,382 full- and part-time employees in the region (in Salt Lake and Summit Counties). Tax revenue generated by this increased level of output, labor income, and value added is estimated to be $47.1 million for state/local government and $48.3 million for the federal government. Even though less than twenty percent (18%) of visitors to the CWM are non-local, their estimated trip expenditures demonstrate the importance of the CWM as an economic driver for the region. In addition, with 82% of visitors (4.67 million) considered to be local and spending on average $82.97 per trip, an
additional $387.85 million in direct spending contributes to overall economic activity generated from visitation to the CWM in the region.

E-Survey respondents were also asked, *How much have you spent in the past 12 months on recreation goods such as equipment, gear, maps, supplies, etc? (a rough estimate will suffice).*

The estimated amount respondents spent annually on recreation goods ranged greatly from $0 to $55,000, with mean spending of $1,692 and a median of $600. Although it is challenging to specifically determine and interpret the economic effect of this spending, it is evident that spending on recreation goods enabling visitors to the CWM to engage in recreational activities is substantial and contributes to the recreation economy locally, regionally, nationally, and even globally. Respondents’ spending on outdoor recreation goods is presented in Figure 27.

![Figure 38: Respondents' Annual Spending on Recreation Goods (N = 275)](image-url)
References


Appendices
Appendix A

What would you say is the biggest benefit you receive from the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Assessable natural area close by.
15 minute drive to the outdoors.
A big old smile.
A break from the heat and crowds.
A place to de-stress and unwind.
A rugged, somewhat wild place very close to my home where I can experience natural beauty and recreate.
Ability to recreate outdoors and simultaneously enjoy all of the benefits of a city.
Access.
Access.
Access and ability to work in the mountains.
Access to great recreational opportunities.
Access to the outdoors.
Access to wilderness areas, hiking trails, exercise, and fresh air.
Access to world class recreation. Employment.
Access, snow, and terrain.
Adventure and social interaction.
An active lifestyle.
Beautiful natural area.
Beautiful scenery which is rapidly being eroded by ski resort development.
Beauty.
Being able to enjoy such a variety of hiking options.
Being able to exercise myself and my dog freely.
Being able to exercise outdoors in a beautiful environment.
Being able to get away and think.
Being able to participate in multiple outdoor activities minutes from home.
Being able to recreate outdoors without spending hours in traveling time.
Being close to nature.
Being so close to the mountains.
Better mental and physical health.
Calms the mind and works the body.
Clean Air.
Clean air, exercise, and nature.
Close accesses to stellar backcountry skiing and climbing.
Close recreation/camping.
Communing with nature.
Convenient outdoor recreation for my family and pets.
Ease of access.
Easy access to backcountry snowboarding terrain.
Endless recreation opportunities close by.
Enjoying the natural beauty while getting exercise.
Enjoy nature.
Enjoying nature, solitude, and de-stressing.
Enjoying the beauty.
Enjoying the natural world and exercise for me, my family and my dogs.
Enjoyment.
Enjoyment of nature - to get out of the city.
Enjoyment of nature which leads to improved mental and physical health.
Enjoyment of the mountains.
Escape from city population, pollution, and heat.
Escape from the city into a natural setting, free from development, noises, and trappings of civilization.
Escape, exercise, and relaxation.
Everything that an outdoor lifestyle affords a person.
EVERYTHING. They are the main reason I'm still in Salt Lake.
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise
Exercise and balance.
Exercise and enjoyment.
Exercise and experience of the natural beauty.
Exercise and healthy atmosphere.
Exercise and recreation.
Exercise and rejuvenation.
Exercise and solitude.
Exercise and stress reduction.
Exercise and the beauty
Exercise for me and my dogs.
Exercise in an environment that is soothing to the soul.
Exercise in beautiful surroundings.
Exercise in nature.
Exercise, beauty, relaxation, get dogs out, and winter activities.
Exercise, solitude, and beauty.
Exercise. A place to run my dog.
Experience in snowboarding.
Fantastic access to trails within minutes of my house. The value of this is extremely high for my wife and me.
Fitness and De-stressing.
Fitness!
Fresh air.
Fresh air and beautiful surroundings
Fresh air, exercise, and a bangarang view.

Fresh air. Can escape the city/pollution and noise but you get some idiots up there. People who trash the area, bump music as loud as possible, and tear down the flowers and trees leaving it trashy for everyone else.

Getting above the inversion.

Getting away from the city.

Good mental and physical health.

Good physical and mental health and outdoor experiences. Family activities.

Great exercise and mental health.

Great recreation close by that is fun and beautiful.

Happiness.

Happiness.

Happiness.

Happiness, that spills over into all aspects of my life.

Having the amazing and beautiful Wasatch, with its amazing in-bounds and backcountry ski access so close. Having designated wilderness area in my back yard. Being fortunate enough to have a family cabin up Big Cottonwood canyon.

Health.

Health.

Health.

Health.

Health & Well-being. Physical, emotional, etc.!!

Health and Enjoyment.

Health and general well-being...

Health and well-being.

Health and well-being.

Health and well-being.

Health on physical, mental, spiritual levels.

Health, both mental and physical.

Health, both mental and physical.
Health, both physical and mental.
Health/mind benefits from recreating in the mountains.
Healthy living.
Healthy mind and body.
Hiking on the trails--peace of mind and bliss.
Huge variety of benefits, incredible ability of easy access to amazing places a short way from home.
I get to get away from people.
I love experiencing nature and just hiking. I love all the recreational areas that are available and how easy they are to find and get to.
Improved fitness.
Internal peace.
It is a great natural escape.
It relieves my stress from day-to-day life, but also enjoyment from the beauty of the mountains. Getting away from machine/city noise is the best feeling in the world.
It's fun, stimulating and healthy (both mentally and physically) to interact with the natural surroundings.
Its proximity, beauty and scenic grandeur.
It’s an escape from the daily life stresses and air pollution.
Love to trail run in the mountains. Clean air, beautiful views!
Mental & physical exercise.
Mental and physical health.
Mental and physical health from being in nature because I enjoy it.
Mental and physical well-being.
Mental and Physical well-being.
Mental and physical well-being from exercising in the beauty of the Wasatch Mountains.
Mental clarity, stress relief.
Mental wellbeing.
Mental, emotional and physical health.
Mill Creek is closer than any gym so I can workout everyday outside without having to travel far.

My sanity.

Next to a city.

Open air freedom and rejuvenation.

Open spaces.

Outdoor activity/exercise super close to where we live.

Outdoor exercise close to home.

Outdoor exercise, fun, and family outings.

Outdoor recreation with parking that I can drive to and hike or ski out of.

Outstanding recreational opportunities.

Peace.

Peace.

Peace and quiet and fresh air.

Peace and serenity.

Peace and solitude.

Peace of mind.

Peace of mind from running, hiking, walking in the beauty of nature.

Peace, serenity, observing the beauty of the natural world, health and fitness.

Physical activity and stress reduction.

Physical and mental health.

Physical and mental health.

Physical and mental stimulation.

Physical and mental well-being.

Physical exercise and stress relief.

Physical, mental and spiritual health.

Powder skiing baby.

Proximity, ease of access.

Pure happiness, pure life!
Quality of life.
Quality outdoor experience close to home.
Quick access to the outdoors for fun exercise. (Stuff I like to do).
Quick and easy access to some beautiful country.
Recreation.
Recreation.
Recreation.
Recreation and everything that creates (peace, relaxation, exercise, health, stress relief, perspective on life).
Recreation in beautiful scenery.
Recreation.
Recreational.
Regular opportunities to experience beauty.
Rejuvenation.
Rejuvenation, peace of mind, and renewal.
Rejuvenation, clean air, beauty, exercise
Relaxation.
Relaxation and peace of mind.
Sanity and peace of mind, not to mention a way to escape the pollution of major industry. I would move away from Utah if not for the Central Wasatch. I've lived here for 25+ years and if the ski connect or ski link passes happen I will likely move to Montana to find solitude and peace of mind again. DON'T LET THE RESORT MONGOLS RUIN THE CENTRAL WASATCH!! NOT ONE MORE SKI LIFT OR SQUARE INCH OF LAND ALLOTTED!! THIS WILL BE A TRAVESTY OF THE GREATEST NATURE IF CAPITALIST GREED IS ALLOWED TO DESTROY ANY MORE OF THE MOST AMAZING BACKCOUNTRY SKI TERRAIN ON THE PLANET!!!!
Sanity!!!
Scenery.
Scenery and exercise.
Sense of peace; access to natural environment.
Sense of wildness, experience nature and solitude, and outdoor exercise.
Serenity.
Simply being able to enjoy mountains and spend time getting away from life.
Solitude and beauty.
Solitude and exposure to nature.
Solitude and quiet.
Solitude in nature.
Solitude, a place to exercise away from the city.
Solitude, being in nature/outdoors.
Solitude, peace of mind, and clean air.
Solitude, peace of mind, escape.
Spectacular, beautiful nature.
Spiritual and physical renewal.
Spiritual and Physical Renewal.
Stress relief.
Stress relief from mountain biking in mountains.
Stress relief.
Taking my dogs off leash so they can run & romp like dogs are supposed to do.
That it is in my backyard and easily accessible.
That's hard to say----but exercise is the biggest, which gives mental health, physical health, and is why I live here.
The ability to access great outdoor recreation opportunities nearby in a place where I can find a job.
The ability to rapidly get into a wilderness area where there are few people and the environment is not badly degraded.
THE BEAUTY OF THE OUTDOORS WHILE GETTING EXERCISE.
The biggest benefit for me is being able to experience the beauty and peace of the mountains.
The Central Wasatch is my church. It isn't simply a place to recreate, it is a place to feel connected to something bigger than yourself. This is sacred, hallowed ground that must be protected for future generations.
The chance to get away.
The convenience to get away from the city in a short trip.

The mental health benefits of exercising outside.

The mind/body benefits are priceless. No matter how packed with people they get, you can always find a spot. Plentiful.

The mountains. I live for mountains and would not live in Salt Lake if it wasn't at the base of a major mountain range.

The opportunity to enjoy nature, get exercise and feel relaxed.

The pleasure of exploring a dramatic natural environment.

The proximity to wonderful nature while still living in a city.

The solitude and breathtaking beauty that goes with any day on a mountain in the Wasatch.

The stress release from being in nature.

There are actually two benefits that are equally valuable to me: enjoyment of the beauty and scenery of the mountains, and enjoyment of the physical challenges and benefits I get from skiing and hiking.

Time alone in nature with my sweet dog.

Time outdoors connected with nature while exercising and maintaining health. An escape from working hard in the valley. Truly the only healthy lifestyle.

Water.

Water, closely followed by recreation.

Wilderness experience summer and winter. That means minimal people impact and minimal sight lines to development.

Words cannot express how much enjoyment, relaxation, health benefits and balance I get from my outings up Millcreek....every other day! Sharing it with others is part of the deal. Pretending one should be able to experience solitude in a recreation area 15 minutes from a highly sought after recreational metro area is sort of ridiculous. They are the same people who build a house on a bench and are then furious because others do the same thing. More hiking opportunities in other non-watershed canyons would be fantastic. Hikers, cyclists and skiers/snowshoes have a ton more options than dog owners. We are extremely limited more and more every day...extremely frustrating. I truly hope this surveying is not prelude to kicking us out of all the canyons....as we can no longer walk our dogs on the closed road if the snow is gone. That was a very abrupt and unfair decision. I appreciate efforts to improve things for everyone.
Appendix B

Please write any comments you many have that are applicable to the Central Wasatch Mountains below.

Appendix C

A more developed mass transit program would be beneficial for the Central Wasatch Mountains. It would be beneficial for the air, for our thought process (conservation and respect for resources).

Access should always be open and encouraged. Manage increasing use by encouraging carpooling (fees), developing exciting and easy to use public transportation, and recreational zoning (high use areas, compatible uses, etc. - not everywhere needs to be easy to get to) as opposed to permit systems, quotas, etc. Permits are valuable in areas where advanced planned trips are the norm (major rivers, national parks), but not in a forest that is 1,000,000+ people’s primary connection to the natural world and outdoor recreation. How will our society value and protect this landscape when they don't know it and love it first?

Access to the Central Wasatch Mountains should be 100% paid for by public funds so that every citizen can enjoy these resources for free. Charging fees unfairly discriminates against those who have fewer financial resources and limits their access to these public lands.

Are dogs really that great a threat to the environment of the Wasatch? I understand that the majority of the area is watershed, but there needs to be more access to the less crowded areas of the Wasatch for people who enjoy recreating with pets.

As stated earlier, resort expansion needs to stop. The resorts are big enough, and the Central Wasatch is not big enough to be cleared for more runs and lifts. Every time a resort expands, a little more public land access is taken away making the small amount of upper elevation terrain on public land even more crowded. Stop One Wasatch!

At times there are LOTS of people in Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons (the ones I use most). I don't think any major changes are needed to control access. For the most part it will be self-controlling....I know that I avoid going on holidays or when I think it will be really crowded. I really enjoy going in the middle of the week and it is almost empty.

Being in the mountains is an important part of my life!

Bikes should be charged, as vehicles are charged to use the canyons. Continue the odd/even dog off leash days.

By far the best benefit of living in Salt Lake is the close, easy access to the mountains. While I love the solitude and peace they bring at times, everyone has the right to be able to enjoy them. Over development is the greatest threat. Some sort of rail system in the canyons would in the long run do much to help preserve the delicate balance of recreation and conservation.

Dogs should be allowed to go more places in the Wasatch Mountains. Our family's use of the canyons is limited by this.
Dogs should be banned from mountain areas. Owners do not comply with leash rules and every time I go out on the trails their dogs jump on me and all they say is, "she's nice she won't hurt you." Well I don't want them to jump on me. I've been knocked down by dogs off leashed and even bitten. I say ban dogs from the Central Wasatch!

Don’t Fuck This Up!!

Encourage more parking/shuttle configurations, especially upper Millcreek Canyon. Close upper Millcreek road to cars at least every other day.

Good to see thought and actions are being taken to improve and sustain my favorite place to be.

Great area near a major city. Great to restrict hunting and dogs. Need to preserve as much of a wilderness as possible. Strongly disagree with the Interconnect idea for skiing.

Hiking off leash with our dogs up Millcreek Canyon is one of the main reasons why we purchased a home in Olympus Cove. We are becoming increasingly concerned that this benefit will be taken away because of a few bad apples and a few outspoken critics of the policy. There are so few places where we can take our border collies off leash to get the exercise they need and not be sequestered in some horrible dog park. We strongly believe that the alternate day off-leash regulations work well for all sides of the issue. If our ability to hike off leash with our dogs in Millcreek Canyon is taken away I would consider moving.

Hope a use fee is instituted, as I do not like freeloading. Crazy idea - require users to pack everything out, including excrement. I don't know how much such a policy would do for water quality, but it would reinforce an understanding of our responsibilities in the wilderness. Hope we can get more public transit, with extended service hours.

Hope that we can preserve what we have left!!

I agree with canyon use fees which would hopefully limit Wasatch use to preserve wilderness and habitat.

I am concerned with the number of people in the backcountry, especially on week-ends, as compared to the 70s when I moved here, but most of the time it's the parking lots that are full. Usually people spread out, or I can find areas of lesser use. I am very concerned with the amount of trail cutting that is evident on trails. More people using trails but without a sense of how to care for trails, it seems. I also am concerned with the number of dogs in dog allowed areas and recently Brighton area "locals" disregarding dog permits and allowing them to be on hikes, off-leash. I would be in favor of a transportation system that is frequent, affordable, and stops at lesser known areas in the canyon; perhaps also a direct to the resorts. In regard to a pass system, I would support that and hope it might positively affect graffiti, trailhead thefts, and excess traffic up the canyons, but please, continue to offer senior discounts! Last thought...no One Wasatch! We need no more ski expansion and development.

I am here by the presence of my family and have been since birth. Utah as a whole is an amazing geographical, geological, anthropological place. Certainly those aspects keep me here, and if I needed to move I would take into account what I would be leaving behind, but family
and friends would also be a consideration. I appreciate your efforts to evaluate public use of public lands, which should stay in the hands of the federal government, thank you.

I am here in SLC because of the Wasatch Mountains! An endless source of enjoyment and meditation.

I am highly disappointed that I never see the leash laws in Mill Creek Canyon enforced. I pay my entrance fee, I follow the bikes on even-numbered days only rule, and EVERY time I bike the Dog Lake Trail on even numbered days, I have to dodge several dogs off-leash. Also, the parking to picnic area ratio in Mill Creek Canyon is terrible. There are often plenty of picnic sites available, but nowhere to park. Thank you.

I am interested in finding more opportunities to allow well behaved dogs to be off leash on trials that are not protected watersheds. I regularly hike up Neff's Canyon and see many dogs. Almost all the dogs (and owners) are friendly and well behaved. I hear people complain about the poop but I think percentage wise most people are picking it up. I support and would use public transportation to visit Millcreek, Big and Little Cottonwood canyons. There are many days when I have to park on the side of the road in Millcreek especially to hike Grandeur Peak. The shuttle at Albion Basin during wildflower season is a good start but it needs to run more often on the weekends. The new Z trail linking with the Mt Olympus trail is great. I would like to see more access to hiking from neighborhoods by adding trail heads such as Ferguson Canyon.

I am strongly opposed to connecting all the current ski resorts, especially plans involving connecting the resorts of the Wasatch Back with those of Big Cottonwood Canyon, and those of Little Cottonwood Canyon to those of Big Cottonwood. This eliminates and compromises the extremely accessible wilderness and backcountry unique to the Wasatch.

I believe easy access to the mountains is hugely important. Time in nature fosters a more connected, aware and "green" population. Limiting access with parking passes will only serve to increase the disconnect between much of our culture and nature. I believe that I am a generally good and thoughtful person largely because of the time I have spent outside and in the mountains. I want everyone to have easy access to that same learning experience/practice.

I cannot overstate the importance of the Central Wasatch to me.

I completed a survey earlier as I was finishing up my master's degree---I finished soon afterwards and have been much more active since March/April. So some of my answers may not seem compatible from my previous survey. I just went on a great hike last night----bliss! STOP SKI LINK!!!!!!! It would completely destroy our mountains. AND it's unethical. No subdividing Mill D. Stop it!!!!

I do 90% of my recreation in the mountains on weekday mornings and realize that Saturday and Sunday are extremely crowded in campgrounds, picnic sites and trailhead parking areas. I don't know the resolution to this problem and that's why I steer clear on those days.

I do not support financial obstacles to access such as fees and I strongly oppose fees for use of outdoor recreation.
I feel that increased use of the Wasatch is inevitable. However, one's desire and attempts to use the public space available to all should come with a certain burden of knowledge, skill and awareness of how to reduce one's impact.

I feel that the ability to find solitude in the Wasatch Mountains is becoming more difficult due to over development. Everyone should have access to enjoy the mountains, not just the rich who can afford the hotels and cabins! The Wasatch Range really isn’t very large and I feel that it is importance to protect it because once it’s lost it’s lost forever.

I have been, am, and will continue to be sick and tired of the number of motorized (ATV, snowmobile) vehicles that are essentially allowed access to virtually every mile of roads and trails in the Wasatch and the lack of enforcement of existing laws banning their use on trails designated "no motorized vehicles." Far too often ATVers simply ignore existing signs and do as they damned well please with essentially no fear of repercussion (the Scott's Pass area for example). I often ski up the East Canyon road. There is a tiny sign near the gate at bottom of canyon instructing snowmobiles to keep to the right and skiers to the left. Snowmobilers routinely and purposefully drive over the ski track and why not?? No one is monitoring the scene. I routinely see employees of the state and their trucks at the parking lot, usually sitting around doing nothing. I have yet to see one of them walk up the road, much less confront the bad boys on their bad machines. I would like to believe most mobilers would honor the signs indicating "no motorized travel." I realize manpower for enforcement is limited but more could be done with available resources. I sincerely appreciate the work forest service employees do in light of their atrocious pay scale. Thanks to Utah State University for taking the time to do this survey.

I have friends who live or lived in Texas where private individuals own vast amounts of land. This makes it next to impossible to recreate on those lands. If we privatize lands currently controlled by the federal government, we'll forever lose our ability to enjoy our beautiful open spaces.

I hope that no BIG changes are made in Millcreek Canyon, especially in regards to taking our dogs off leash hiking. I belong to a group of people who are responsible dog owners seeking to exercise our dogs off leash while we get fresh air, get away from it all and socialize. We keep losing places to do so. Dog owners number in the many and yet our needs don't seem to count for much. Granted, some dog owners are not as responsible but they are a very small percentage. We pay taxes, and contribute to our communities in many ways. And yet we are being pushed out of the recreation areas one by one. It is one of the big things that could cause me to consider moving out of state, to someplace like Colorado, where they cater to dogs and their owners. (They haven’t forgotten that our money is green and spends just like non-dog owners’ money does. Utah doesn’t seem to have seen the light in that respect.)

I live in San Diego most of the year but come to Salt Lake City and spend three months of winter in the Central Wasatch recreating, primarily backcountry skiing. There are lots of places I could spend my winter vacations pursuing my passions but I love everything about the Central
Wasatch, mostly its easily accessed backcountry. Please don't develop the backcountry areas of upper Little Cottonwood!

I live on the Wasatch Front for a number of reasons and will not leave it again (25 years chasing jobs around the planet is enough). There are times when the overcrowding of our mountains is horrific. I'll never go anywhere near Mt. Timpanogos on a Saturday in the summer again! The Boston Marathon is lightly attended by comparison. But I've rarely run into that kind of crowd in Big and Little Cottonwood (or Millcreek) canyons. Albion Basin however is approaching overcrowding in mid-summer, sometimes during the week. Maybe use fees would reduce this. But when something is crowded, there are always choices where one can go to find the cherished solitude many of us find paramount to our lives here in Utah. I'm hopeful that will remain true for the balance of my lifetime.

I love and respect our canyons. I think educating people in this area should be ongoing. Nature walks by the Forest Service would be a great influence. Nature hikes by the Forest Service would also be valuable. I haven't minded the fee up Millcreek Canyon because it's so important to provide trash receptacles, especially for people who have dogs. I'd like to see the off-leash area restored to the area beyond the winter closed gate on odd days in the winter.

I love Millcreek because the road half way up the canyon is closed for half of the year. It is not a commercial canyon like the Cottonwood Canyons. I am so happy it remains a little untouched from development. I enjoy all of the canyons but it seem people just want to keep developing and building anywhere they can. We only have these natural resources for so long before we alter them. I appreciate the work that is being done to preserve them and trying to keep the canyons beautiful. We all must share and do our part to keep them that way.

I love our mountains. What would be most helpful would be to put more trail markers (mileage, direction, etc.) just like they do in the East. They make a small insignificant mark on trees (blue) that lets you know you are on the correct trail.

I love the mountains. I love living so close to them.

I love the Wasatch Mountains!

I love the Wasatch. I lived in the Salt Lake area for many years and always love visiting my dad in Emigration Canyon and going skiing at the resorts and skate skiing with him at Solitude.

I love them and I appreciate your efforts to make it a better experience for all.

I moved from Phoenix to Salt Lake City to have the benefit of using the Central Wasatch area. It is the primary reason that I am still living in Salt Lake City.

I moved to Utah because of the access to the Wasatch. It has closer access to large mountains than any major city I've seen.

I support the idea of designating the Central Wasatch as a National Monument. Also, hunting and fishing should be outlawed to protect wildlife and ecology. Charge a daily parking fee at resorts for under three people in cars. It works in Jackson where they shuttle via bus from the
HWY 22 / Teton Village junction. Charging a fee for canyon passes does not deter people from driving up solo in the canyons. Thanks!

I think more pressure should be put on dog owners to follow the rules (Millcreek): more tickets, etc.

I think the fee has been a very positive thing for Millcreek Canyon (cleaner, safer) and I wouldn't mind seeing it instituted more broadly. It shouldn't be expensive, because I believe it should be accessible for all income groups. There have been numerous times in the winter when the Cottonwood Canyons Park and Ride lots was full. Increasing parking and public transit up the canyons would be great.

I think we all need to realize that nature is what WE are composed of. Let’s be more respectful.

I thought the survey questions were vague in many of the questions. I do not depend on the Forest Service to take care of the forest though I am a very high frequency visitor, and have been for many years. I never see forest service personnel except very infrequently in the parking lot or in a forest service car. I think car access needs to be severely curtailed. UTA caters only to the developed recreation services, such as the resorts. The price for the mountain non-developed areas is dismal. The price is ridiculous. There are no season passes available for non-developed recreation only resort use. UTA leadership needs replacement. White Pine parking lot is very dangerous. UDOT has ignored me for years on the issue of visibility of cars turning down canyon. A horrible accident is going to occur and UDOT and the county sheriff should be held liable as they ignore this very dangerous condition. You cannot see an upcoming car until the last second.

I want to see a very limited, if any, new development. More public transportation and fees.

I was helped in the winter by Chase Lamborn, he dug me out of a deep snow bank! He is really nice, and it inspired me to volunteer, and interact more with the Wasatch forest, and Millcreek canyon!

I was only visiting so my experience in the park's population throughout the year is very limited.

I went for a hike in Big Cottonwood Canyon last weekend - there was a traffic jam entering the canyon - lots full, people everywhere, parking everywhere....not a public bus to be seen and no room in the park-and-ride for people to carpool.

I would like more trails opened to accommodate motorcycle and ATV recreation in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

I would like to see more bus stops in summer and winter. Perhaps a combined drive / bus pass could be offered.

I would use public transit all the time if you could bring your dog on the bus. I hate driving alone up Mill Creek Canyon. It feel very wasteful but it is important for me to be outside with my dog.

I'm glad Utah is not Colorado. Outdoor recreation is very big in Colorado but in Utah I feel it's a very small portion of the population that enjoys outdoor activities.
I'm not a transportation planner, but it's very obvious to me that a train system should be built in the Cottonwood Canyons - eventually it will be a necessity... let's get on with it for the 100+ year solution. This is the best choice for connecting the resorts if that has to be done. Tunnels are not new technology.... if Snowbird can do it in a summer it's doable for interconnection. Take the funding for "One Wasatch" and put it into a long term solution that can connect to a realistic transportation system.

I'm retired and can plan my activities where I avoid crowds so over use and parking problems are not an issue for me. I do know that trails like Blanche Lake, Donut Falls, Dog Lake, etc. are very crowded on weekends and holidays.

If there was a fee implemented for use of the canyons I feel that the purchase of a season pass at the resorts and taxes paid by SLC homeowners should be taken into consideration when it comes to a cost. There should be a “locals’ rate” so to speak. Just like persons who live in a city get a reduced rate on a membership to the city rec center. And there should be a light rail system connecting BCC, LCC, and PC via a tunnel. It would greatly reduce the amount of traffic and parking issues in the canyon.

If higher access annual fees would be directly applied to developing more hiking trails to the backcountry and were open to hiking with my dogs, I would gladly pay a whole lot more. The Wasatch Mountains are beautiful and there are too many areas that could be made accessible with a small hiking trail. Also, a lot more $$ should be directed at educating the public about responsible dog ownership and what it entails. So that the bad apples don't spoil the experiences for the rest of responsible pet owners.

If Mueller Park is part of the Central Wasatch Mountains, the fee is ridiculously high. We never go there to have a picnic because of this. We will usually drive down to Mill Creek instead.

If the mountains were not here and easily accessible for recreational activities I would not have moved here with my family from Oregon. The mountains are amazing!

It is imperative that development be limited. By that I mean no new hotels, commercial enterprise or housing development. By limiting development there is more room for visitors to the open space. More economic development raises the base number of canyon users and limits accessibility for those not participating in commercial enterprise.

It is important that we do not love the Central Wasatch to death. Nor should we turn it into an outdoor amusement park by building so much infrastructure it harms the environment, the ability to find solitude and the scenery. I have had an annual pass to Millcreek Canyon for more than ten years and would gladly pay twice as much. If people want a good or service they expect to pay for it. Similarly, if people want to enjoy our public lands they should bear the cost their visit imposes on the land and on the management of that land.

It's a wonderful place.

Keep ATVs off Public Land as much as possible!
Keep development to present levels; no ski resort expansion outside present borders. Minimize auto traffic by developing a transit system that is affordable, and provides regular stops at all trailheads. Increase parking capacity at mouths of canyons.

Keep up the good work! High five!!

Love the mountains! Keep up the good work.

Love the Wasatch.

More efforts need to be made to reduce traffic in the canyons, esp. during the winter months.

MORE FREQUENT, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS NEEDED. DO NOT BUILD MORE PARKING LOTS. CHARGE PEOPLE UNLESS THEY CARPOOL. ALLOW DOGS ON BUSES. MILLCREEK SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY CARS IN IT. SAME WITH BIG AND LITTLE COTTONWOOD.

More opportunity for moderately rolling cross-country ski trails would be nice if there is suitable terrain. East Canyon is nice, but you have to contend with noisy snowmobiles. Wider shoulders on the roads for bicycles and running.

We have fine access and more motorized access isn't necessary. We need to keep this place clean.

More snow, less people, and all I want is to bring my dog up the canyons!!

My concern with making public access to the Wasatch Range easier, is that it tends to facilitate greater opportunities for those less educated (or dedicated) in terms of respecting the environment to interact directly-with direct results. I support people getting out and creating a bond with nature, I've just seen too many areas "destroyed" by those who don't care. It saddens me, and I avoid those areas/people.

My husband and I choose the times and locations at which we hike or snowshoe specifically to avoid the most crowded times and places. We nearly always go first thing in the morning on the weekends and visit the busiest places only on weekdays.

My vote goes for high user fees for entrance into the canyons for non-locals and a reduced rate for locals. The difference between no fee and fifteen dollars to drive up the canyon for a family that has traveled across the country or even the globe is negligible, however it could be a significant source of revenue for the area. I think a more reasonable rate should be applied for locals because we don't want to discourage travel necessarily because of one's financial situation. However, no one is going to pay three dollars to drive up the canyon, drink some beers, throw the cans on the ground and spray-paint some boulders.

My worst fear with some of the new projects that have been proposed for the canyons is losing nature and losing the ability to get away from it all. I think if a paid parking pass is implemented then we will lose the privilege of enjoying nature, and especially for those who can't afford it. I do believe that if we expand parking lots and the ability for more people to get in the canyons that the nature that most of us adventurers love will be destroyed and ruined for our future
generations to enjoy. The mountains are perfect and beautiful the way they are now and changing, even the idea of changing, how they are now is sad, and it’s unfortunate that it is even being discussed. I hope that enough people will come forward to resist change in the mountains that we love.

Need more off leash areas.

NO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ANY KIND IN THE CENTRAL WASATCH!!! ZERO

No lifts outside of current ski resort boundaries. No trains up the canyon. No more motorized use.

No more resort expansion! No more heli skiing!

On the last question. "Humans will learn to adjust to their environment..." Not in Utah it seems. We have more and more backcountry users and more traffic on the roads. Yet the state wants to create more lifts and give resorts more terrain, which will take away backcountry skiing. Furthermore the transportation is fairly inadequate, yet marketing stunts to connect mountains via lifts gets the media attention. Connecting ski resorts won't reduce traffic or pollution, it's a joke. We need better buses and/or trains, and perhaps a backcountry skiing permit to limit the jokers out there.

Parking and traffic issues often undermine the benefit of the wilderness experience.

Paying a fee to use public land is dumb. Raise taxes.

People know how to control nature, they are just too lazy to do it. Smoking cigarettes, leaving trash behind, not exercising, eating poorly, driving all the time, not carpooling, etc.....

Please do not ruin Days Fork by increasing awareness of the trailhead. It is one of the few remaining that doesn't attract the masses.

Please address the permitting issues that have been so pervasive with commercial and educational organizations. This NF is far behind those in the rest of the country. Outdoor education is imperative for the future health of people and the mountains themselves. Adequate access to permits for educational purposes is vital and the current status quo of dubious policies regarding permitting is baffling.

Please develop a bus system for the canyons with convenient access and frequency that can respond to changes in demand.

Please get shuttles running in the canyons, and take more actions to control invasive plant species.

Please keep a strong effort to keep the Wasatch accessible and open for recreating without disturbing too much of the natural and wilderness landscape. The natural and wilderness areas are very important. Please leave vast amounts of area for only human-powered access (backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, etc.). Our wild, undeveloped lands are the most valuable and important of all. Thanks for your efforts.
PLEASE, PLEASE consider shuttle system for Millcreek, especially during summer weekends!!! I suggest pickup at Skyline High School starting Friday evening through Sunday. A nominal fee, and only allow cars up the canyon for special occasions like restaurant use and weddings/receptions. Parking and even trying to turn around at Big Water is near impossible and very frustrating!! I have stopped trying to access those trails on weekends until Sunday evening during summer months.

Please protect the natural undeveloped areas. This is why I live here. The natural is only natural once; tamper with it and its gone forever.

Please start to allow dogs into your "watershed". The notion that they are disallowed really is ridiculous. I don't go into BCC and LCC because of it. Also, I don't go into LCC too much because of noise from the canyon road.

Pro ski resort interconnect, tax it and use the money to improve the Central Wasatch.

Promotion of the Central Wasatch is unnecessary and probably harmful to residents and the environment. Private business should be capped from further growth/expansion.

Protect the beavers, they are important to the ecosystem (informative pbs show, on "Nature" I believe). Daily fees or passes for Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons to encourage more use of public transportation with more pick-up locations/park-and-rides. Consider every other day road closure in upper Millcreek on "bike days" with possible shuttle option for pedestrians to upper trailheads. Put in hiking trails along road from gate to upper canyon trails to get pedestrians off of road when parking extends down the canyon from upper lots on busy days of summer.

Re: questions about limiting the number of participants in some areas to enhance the visitor experience, I agree with a permit to limit participation in certain circumstances, such as hiking the Zion Narrows or Subway--but, don't know if there are any such super-high-quality areas in the Central Wasatch Mountains--maybe some trials should have limited entry. But, questions about who administers such a permit system are difficult. I completed the original portion of this survey at the mouth of the Porters Fork road. Millcreek Canyon and Porter's Fork specifically withstand a tremendous amount of multiple use and things tend to work out well. There is one significant problem, however, that the Forest Service exacerbates with its signage--off-leash dogs. Dogs are allowed off-leash in the canyon generally every other day. But, Porter's Fork is considered a residential area where a leash is always required. Most dog owners take their dogs up Porter's Fork without a leash. The signage at the mouth of the Canyon does not properly inform dog owners that a leash is ALWAYS required in Porter's Fork. There is a small sign to this effect. But, there is another sign which describes the every-other-day program in the canyon generally. At best, this leaves dog owner's confused, since the second sign has nothing to do with Porter's Fork. At worst, it gives dog owners an excuse to have their dogs off-leash. The vast majority of the conflicts between cabin owners and dog owners have to do with whether or not dogs are on-leash. The Forest Service should remove from the Porter's Fork area the sign regarding the leash situation in Millcreek Canyon generally. It should erect a larger sign stating that all dogs in Porter's Fork must always be on-leash regardless of the regulations for Millcreek...
Canyon. This one simple thing would certainly not "fix" the off-leash problem, but it would take the best possible steps in the direction of fixing the problem.

Reducing automobile traffic in the Central Wasatch would improve upon my recreational experiences.

Regarding solitude or too many people in the mountains, I actually like to see a few people on the trails. Makes me feel safer to see someone occasionally.

SLC and the Central Wasatch offer an almost unheard of access to the benefits of urban living so close to wilderness. Very honestly, I had never considered moving to an urban environment. The only reason this happened was because of the access to the outdoors that SLC offers. If this access is diminished, destroyed or becomes expensive for average or low income people, the benefit of living here would be gone and so would I! I am worried that there is so much emphasis on accommodating the ski industry that their needs will supersede the needs of the earth and the natural environment. What a shame this would be since climate change may well see the end of the ski industry in the next 50 years. Why are we talking about doubling the population in the Salt Lake Valley when we have failed to adequately address the air quality in the valley? Why are we putting "the horse before the cart" as they say. First things first: clean up the air, manage growth responsibly, improve public transportation, etc.

Stop any ski expansion.

Stop One Wasatch! No more ski resort development. The ski resorts currently occupy a significant portion of the most scenic areas and best ski/snowboard terrain in the Central Wasatch. Ski resort expansion will further restrict access to public lands (even if the lifts are technically on private land), eliminate some of the most popular backcountry ski terrain in the Wasatch, tarnish the natural/scenic quality of the area, and impact the environment in a negative way.

Thank you for conducting this survey. I am heartened to see evidence of so much care being demonstrated toward this treasure.

Thank you for doing a great job of surveying people regarding the Central Wasatch Mountains! We feel very lucky to have access to such beautiful places, and find that we are generally able to get a sense of solitude even in more populated/high-traffic areas.

Thank you for doing this.

Thank you for examining this issue. I have not yet experienced a survey on an issue that so directly affects my life, the reason I live here, and my well-being. I wish you good luck.

Thank you for the survey, I would like to be able to see the results if possible.

Thank you for your research. I was born in Utah and plan on retiring in Utah and I cherish my canyons.

Thank you.
Thanks for asking for my feedback! I like the survey and am a researcher myself so nice work!
Thanks for gathering input. Please get it into the right hands.
Thanks for helping provide access to our beautiful mountains!!

Thanks so much for the survey! I love the Wasatch and appreciate a thoughtful approach to management. Dispersed recreation (skiing, hiking, rock climbing) is of huge demand and it is important that those uses get adequate representation alongside commercial uses (ski areas, guide services, etc.).

The absolute best way to provide the most people with an outdoor recreational experience is to maintain Wilderness protection. Wilderness protection does not lock up the resource, it enhances it for a greater number of people. It is the true meaning of multiple use. My usage profile reflects my age of 77 years. When younger climbing and backcountry skiing were paramount. Hiking is the best single use of the wonderful Central Wasatch.

The availability of trail maps online is a good feature. A printable version is important.

The bathrooms need to remain open in the winter, there are still lots of people up there and they have to use trails, etc. It is disgusting to find human waste in the outdoors with bathrooms locked! Additionally, I have seen several young women at Brighton all ready to get wedding photos taken only to find out that the bathroom by the Nature Center is locked. They then have to change into their wedding gowns with others trying to shield them from public view. It's ridiculous to have the bathrooms locked. Please, please, please, leave them open - at least in the high occupancy areas like Brighton and Millcreek Canyon.

The biggest problem is the encroachment of development into further areas of the Wasatch Mountains. It is a relatively small area with many people competing for its use. Allowing further development of any kind, whether it is ski resorts, helicopters, right of ways for interconnect plans, etc. just continues to spoil the natural environment that many of us want to continue to enjoy. I would fully support MORE wilderness areas to protect the Central Wasatch from further destruction of its natural beauty.

The campsites should be kept open longer.

The Central Wasatch Mountains are used on an annual basis by athletes training in endurance sports. The high altitude, combined with available areas in which to train, is very valuable. Endurance athletes from the US train in the Central Wasatch on a regular basis, and many groups of athletes from Canada and further abroad visit the area on an annual basis for training purposes. As one such athlete, I have found my time in the Central Wasatch to be a very valuable part of my training.

The Central Wasatch Mountains need to be maintained as a family friendly escape from the city. Bus transportation into Mill Creek would be damaging. As it stands, if you want solitude, go when you can park. Sending the bus up the canyon would result in large groups of people entering the trails at one time. Large groups tend to think as a group and group think affords the individual the ability to do the wrong thing for the environment and they are too loud in the tree
line. No busses into Mill Creek, please. A stop near the bottom for bikers would be good. Mountain bikers would not have to ride their bikes on roads to get there, nor would they need the parking spots in the canyon.

The Central Wasatch Mountains should be preserved as a resource for all, without additional residential and commercial development.

The Central Wasatch seems to be pretty well managed. There is always room for improvements but overall it is run pretty smoothly. I would hate to see any changes that are aimed at restricting or limiting access.

The federal government should put more effort into maintaining public lands and resources. The taxes we already pay should cover most of the costs. I am opposed to private concessionaires operating campgrounds and picnic areas. I do not believe fees should be required to access our canyons and national forests. Camping fees should ensure clean, safe campgrounds with all fees going to the Forest Service.

The Forest Service Fees and Taxes placed on cabin owners in Millcreek Canyon are horrendous. Taxes on my home in Murray are far less. My family has been in this canyon for generations and now people are being priced out. Would be one thing if the cabin owners actually owned the land, had year round access, roads plowed in winter, garbage removal, but they do not have any of that! Millcreek Canyon is in desperate need of a bike path/lane added for uphill traffic. A nice rumble strip barrier between car traffic and the bike path would also be nice to alert drivers to the fact that they are drifting into the bike lane. Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons would benefit from a narrow gauge cog rail line. After spending many months in the Swiss, Italian, Bavarian and Austrian Alps I have seen the benefit of such rail lines. Reduces the number of vehicles in the canyons and provides great access to recreational resorts and places in the mountains. This would be a MUCH better use of $$ than the awful idea of building trams to connect all the resorts. That will do NOTHING to reduce vehicle traffic in the canyons and will have very little benefit to the local population who does not ski or snowboard.

The majority of problems facing the Wasatch arise because of the large population increase in the valley. I lived here 20 years ago for 13 years. I moved away and recently returned. Sadly, the use of the canyons is well beyond what I believe they can manage without being crushed from abuse. I found that some of my favorite hikes are now open to ATVs, this was very upsetting. I don't go hiking to listen to people, hear motors, or have to dodge an ATV going too fast on a single-track trail. The Crest Trail is so full of mountain bikers, even on the wrong days, that they are a danger to themselves and certainly to slow hikers. I was there when rangers were present, and implored them to simply enforce the rules that exist (it was not a biking day), and they didn't do anything. Why have rules if they're not enforced?

The Mountain Accord plan should be disregarded. If anything should be done regarding visitors of the Central Wasatch, there should be limits set to how many people can visit specific areas daily. First, figure out how many people can safely enjoy the area without disrupting the natural environment any more than we already have. This basically means that where we are now with development, go no further. If anything, figure out total capacities for the facilities that are
already there, and set up counter tolls at the entrances to the canyons that allow no further entry once capacity has been reached until someone leaves. It's very simple; money means nothing to the natural world, and it shouldn't mean the world to us.

The natural beauty of this area is astounding and I would be pleased to see increased effort to keep it this way, as well as raised awareness for keeping it pure. Thank you for your efforts.

The number of people in the greater Salt Lake area will continue to grow and since Utah has decidedly little to no interest in promoting sustainable development on a state level, some entity needs to help protect the Wasatch from overgrowth and over use. I find this primarily comes in the form of traffic. This is not the greater Denver area and many of us would prefer it not become anything like it. There are lots of users, particularly in the winter and the canyons themselves have no room to grow. Come up with motivation to reduce traffic and better solutions to move people up the mountains. The same for Millcreek in the summer - I would hate to see any road or parking expansion, but as the only dog friendly canyon, everyone wants to be at the top of the canyon all summer to beat the heat, drivers are ignorant to the presence of bicyclists and are dangerously aggressive when trying to find a parking spot. I don't know the good answer to this one, as everyone would want to bring their dog or bike on a shuttle, but perhaps it can be done. There is more than enough terrain for people, I don't find the trails obnoxiously crowded yet, but the choke point seems to be vehicle traffic, both in winter and summer.

I am more than happy to pay to recreate and enjoy an area, but I am often upset that the money I pay to recreate in American Fork is used to build facilities and pay employees for the user groups that I have the least in common with (OHV users, RV's, and large campers).

The trails do seem to be getting crowded, but I also feel like everyone should have access to public lands, including those too poor to pay entrance fees or for parking.

The upper section of road in Mill Creek is so narrow! I hope that it was widened last summer in the construction that went down. It also needs more parking up there for the Dog Lake trail.

The USFS seems WAY underfunded in this Ranger District. I think a better managed and designed trail system would do wonders to accommodate increases in use. Public Transit options do too much to reach out into the valley and not enough in the canyons. Would love to see more frequent transit options from a canyon mouth hub (near the Swamp lot or 6200 south lot) so that I could recreate without being so limited by infrequent bus times. While I love the wilderness areas, I think they are a bit of a misnomer due to their proximity to the city. I think we should focus on managing the high use through trail networks and facilities that are well built around the transit system, and create incentives to limit driving. I would love to ride the bus but if I'm deciding between my Subaru which gets 32 mpg with gas at 2-2.50 a gallon, vs 4.50 a trip on the bus, it's a no brainer. The bus should be free, and I should be required to pay to get up, just like Millcreek. If there is a pass, I'm not sure it would do much for the congestion as everyone would just buy the pass. I think the traffic problems have been greatly helped by the two downhill lanes at snowbird entry 1. I think that the police should do more to enforce the snow tire law (extreme weather ties only) which would keep many 4x4s with bald tires from getting in accidents during snowstorms and causing four hour delays.
There are a lot of people who utilize our mountains. In my opinion, not enough take full advantage of them. The Antidepressant rate would be a lot lower if they did. Thanks for the survey!! :)

There are way too many cars in the Tri-canyons. More public transit and high fees for personal vehicles to discourage single occupancy cars and to assist in funding parking lot development, especially in BCC and LCC.

There should be more monitoring and heavier fines for littering and allowing dogs in the Wasatch. Sadly, idiots of Salt Lake think they are entitled and trash the place for everyone else.

These surveys are difficult with the built in questions. I do believe there should be shuttles and possibly a pass system - much like the Mirror Lake Highway system. There are many people that seem to go up the big three canyons and throw garbage around. Maybe a pass system would help. While I would like less people up the canyons when I go up to recreate, I am not sure how to limit this - where I don't limit myself out of the loop. I am open to discuss this. Other than skiing, I often recreate on weekdays when there are less crowds, and in less popular areas to avoid people. I often hike and recreate in odd seasons also to avoid crowds.

This is a complicated issue with many underlying issues. Although I am a huge advocate for environmental sustainability, I am also a huge advocate for getting people outdoors and it's amazing that the mountains are so close. I feel everyone should go and enjoy them. If people desire solitude, then they must seek more remote areas. This particular area is wonderful for city dwellers to escape city life. The effects of use can have negative impacts, so of course we must try to figure out how to minimize that. That gets down to altering the behavior. More parking would be awesome, but perhaps because there is a shortage people are already reducing the number of vehicles they bring up the canyon. The parking lots at the base are wonderful. It's hard to get people to ride the buses because they are not convenient or super cheap. If they were either or both of those things, MAYBE people would utilize them.

This is such an incredible place. I have lived here a year and appreciate it every day. Sometimes too much planning and organizing of people can harm things more than allowing people to just enjoy nature as it is, there is a balance that needs to be watched. Where I used to live in another state, I had a favorite hiking place in a rural area outside of Seattle. I remember one day a "planning group" from Seattle showed up and was walking around discussing new parking ideas, trail improvements and new signage. It struck me then how odd it was that they were not there to consult with the actual hikers that used the trail every day. They were not interested in the opinions of those that used the recreation the most. If they would have asked us what was needed we would have been happy with a load of gravel placed at the bottom of the hill to each carry up a bucket full to fill the potholes left after it rained. Pretty simple and inexpensive. There was already a "local" system in place and people that watched over it to maintain the trails. I think it would have come as quite a surprise to them. I appreciated the day I was completing my hike at Bell’s Canyon and was asked to give input on what I thought, even though I am new to the area, I have a great appreciation when those in charge actually ask for the input of those that use the trails the most. Thank you.
Trailheads need restrooms.

We are blessed to have such a wonderful region to enjoy!!!!!!!

We don't have the opportunity to visit the Central Wasatch Mountains very often. We would very much like for them to remain the beautiful natural setting they are now.

We need a balance of equal access to these public areas & preservation of the nature.

We need more bike access trails and less commercial and residential development.

We need more places to take our dogs!!!!!!

We need to control the number of cars going up the canyon in both summer and winter...especially in the winter.

What a well thought out survey! There are places in the Central Wasatch that are getting beat out from too much use...but my thoughts are that it is better to have "sacrificial" areas which in turn leaves others that get less use. Many of the trails need work.

What about having taxes and the (ski resorts) subsidize public transportation in the canyons and increase the number of buses. It would be great having buses make stops up and down the canyons at all popular hiking/skiing recreating spots every 30 min during daylight hours (and more often for high traffic times)?

While I appreciate the proximity of the Wasatch, I recognize its being so close to a major metropolitan area means that it will be heavily impacted. I don't necessarily want to limit access, as I think everyone should be able to enjoy the same benefits regardless of wealth, etc., yet do see the need to protect the canyons from overuse.

While I can easily afford to pay for an access pass, I believe this fees are a regressive tax that disproportionately affect lower-income people, denying them opportunities to familiarize themselves with the benefits of spending time in nature. I therefore strongly disagree with any proposal for a tri-canyon fee.

With Multiple approaches to trails people would not clog the trailheads as they do during 'high' season now. Needing more loops, trailheads, and intersections.

Would enjoy more dog friendly areas so that we are able to spread out and the trails aren't as busy.

Would like to see more Forest Service and SLC public works people who are trained to deal with the public and have expertise in various scientific disciplines such as geology, botany, trail construction, maintenance and repair, etc. There needs to be resolution of parking needs for winter backcountry users in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Currently, many trails are not easily accessible because of lack of plowed pull outs that already exist and are evident in summer, and 'no parking' signs posted in many critical areas that could easily be plowed. Plowed pull outs that are well marked would not hamper plowing in winter if enough care is taken and sufficient funds provided through paid parking passes for canyon use year round. There are many places around
the country that use season parking stickers. As long as these funds were collected and used in tri-canyon area ONLY, and careful planning and transparent budgeting and accounting maintained, I would support such fees. Additional needs: enforcement of canyon and watershed rules, stewardship education of public, trail maintenance by seasonal employees. Would like to see promotion of dispersal of use away from Tri-canyon area, and more permitting and controlled use by large organized groups who cause excessive degradation of alpine ecosystems. Small individual groups do the same. I'm seeing less and less compliance of rules relating to camping, and watershed due to ignorance and/or arrogance. This is very concerning.

Would like to see wilderness preservation as top priority. No more ski area expansion.
Appendix C: Word map of respondents’ favorite recreational activities in the Central Wasatch Mountains.
Appendix D

E-Survey

Q1: Do you live in Salt Lake County, Summit County, or other?

- Salt Lake County
- Summit County
- Other (Respondents who select “other” were directed to Q2 and then to Q4. Respondents who selected “Salt Lake County” or “Summit County” skipped Q2 and moved on to Q3.)

Q2: Approximately how many miles do you live from the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Q3: We are interested in how important the Central Wasatch Mountains are for choosing to live where you do. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

- ___ Being able to access the Central Wasatch Mountains is important to my lifestyle and quality of life.
- ___ The access to recreational opportunities is an important reason why I live in this area.
- ___ I would think about moving more often if there were fewer outdoor recreation opportunities nearby.
- ___ There is not enough access to Public Lands in the Central Wasatch Mountains.
- ___ I am glad there are Congressionally designated Wilderness Areas in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Q4: Over the past 12 months in the Central Wasatch Mountains, what recreational activities have you participated in, and how often did you participate in them? (see next page)
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<td>Ice climbing (8)</td>
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<td>Downhill skiing (Resort) (9)</td>
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<td>Snowboarding (Resort) (10)</td>
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<td>Cross-country skiing (11)</td>
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<td>Backcountry skiing (12)</td>
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<td>Backcountry snowboarding (13)</td>
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<td>Snowshoeing (14)</td>
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<td>Sledding and/or tobogganing (15)</td>
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<td>Races, endurance events, etc. (16)</td>
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<td>Driving for pleasure on roads (paved, gravel, or dirt) (17)</td>
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<td>Riding motorized trails (OHV / ATV (18)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viewing / photographing wildlife, birds, fish, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viewing / photographing natural features, scenery, flowers, etc.</td>
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<td>Visiting historic and prehistoric sites / areas</td>
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<td>Nature study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visiting a nature center, natural trail, or visitor center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camping in developed sites (family of group sites)</td>
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<td>Primitive camping (motorized in roaded areas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primitive camping (backpacking in unroaded backcountry areas)</td>
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<td>Resorts, cabins, or other accommodations in the Central Wasatch</td>
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<td>Fishing (all types)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunting (all types)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Picnicking or family day gatherings in developed sites (family or group)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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</table>
Gathering mushrooms, berries, firewood, or other natural products (32)
Relaxing, hanging out (33)
Escaping heat, noise, pollution, etc (34)
Exercising (35)
Walking / exercising pet(s) (36)
Other (37)
Other (38)
Other (39)

Q5: What would you say are your top 1-3 favorite recreational activities in the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Q6: In the past 12 months, what percentage of your exercise has come from outdoor recreation?

_____ Percent of exercise comes from outdoor recreation.
Q7: On average, how often have you visited the Central Wasatch Mountains over the past 12 months?

- Daily
- 2-3 Times a Week
- Once a Week
- 2-3 Times a Month
- Once a Month
- Once Every 2-3 Months
- Once Every 4-6 Months
- Once a Year
- Less Than Once a Year

Q8: The following questions are focused on the health benefits you receive from recreating outdoors on public lands. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

_____ I feel more patient with myself and others after recreating outdoors.
_____ When I'm recreating I eat less than if I stayed home.
_____ I do some of my best thinking when I'm recreating outdoors.
_____ Outdoor recreation is the best way for me to relieve my stress.
_____ Recreating on public lands plays a large role in my mental and physical well-being.
_____ If there were fewer opportunities to recreate outdoors on nearby public lands I would be less healthy.
_____ There should be more opportunities for children to recreate outdoors on public lands.

Q9: For the Central Wasatch Mountains, please rate how satisfied/dissatisfied you are with the following items, and then rate how important those items are to you. (Not Applicable indicates you have no experience with this item.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Satisfaction</th>
<th>Importance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adequacy of signage in the Central Wasatch Mountains (1)</td>
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<td>Condition of roads in the Central Wasatch (paved and dirt) (2)</td>
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<td>Item</td>
<td>Satisfaction</td>
<td>Importance</td>
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<td>Scenery in the Central Wasatch (3)</td>
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<td>Condition of the natural environment (4)</td>
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<td>Availability of parking (5)</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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<td>Parking lot conditions (6)</td>
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<td>Cleanliness of restrooms (7)</td>
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<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Condition of developed facilities (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Condition of Forest trails (9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequacy of signage on Forest trails (10)</td>
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<td>Feeling of safety (11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helpfulness of Forest Service employees (12)</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Availability of interpretive/educational displays, signs, and exhibits (13)</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Value for National Forest fees paid (14)</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Availability of information on recreation on the Forest (15)</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
<td>○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q10: With respect to transportation and parking in the Central Wasatch Mountains, please indicate how much you agree with the following statements.

_____ There should be more opportunities to use public transportation to access recreation sites in the Central Wasatch.
_____ Recreational use should be redirected from high-use to low-use areas to spread people out more evenly.
_____ The Park-and-Ride transportation system should be expanded to have more pick-ups outside of the canyons.
_____ There should be more parking in high-demand recreation areas.
_____ Informal parking spaces on road shoulders should be eliminated.
_____ Road shoulders should be widened to increase bicycle safety.
_____ More electronic signs should be installed to help inform canyon users.
_____ Parking fees or canyon passes should be considered for canyon users.

Q11: If a parking fee or vehicle pass were implemented for Tri-Canyon (Mill Creek, Big Cottonwood, and Little Cottonwood Canyons) recreationists, in order to encourage carpooling and transit use, and to assist in operating and maintaining parking areas, how much would you be willing to pay as an annual fee? (Mill Creek Canyon currently charges $3 per vehicle/per day or $40/year.)

_____ Annual Pass Fee for Tri-Canyon use (4)

Q12: For your last recreational visit to the Central Wasatch Mountains, how much did you spend on the following items?

_____ Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, etc. (1)
_____ Camping (2)
_____ Restaurants and Bars (3)
_____ Groceries (4)
_____ Gasoline and Oil (5)
_____ Local Transportation (bus, shuttles, etc.) (6)
_____ Entry, Parking, or Recreation Use Fees (7)
_____ Recreation and Entertainment (Guides, Equipment rentals) (8)
_____ Sporting Good Purchases (9)
_____ Souvenirs (10)
_____ Clothing (11)
_____ Other items purchased for your last recreational visit (12)

Q13: How much have you spent in the past 12 months on recreation goods such as equipment, gear, maps, supplies, etc? (a rough estimate will suffice)
Q14: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements with respects to your experience with solitude in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

______ Being able to get away from people to experience solitude is important to me.
______ It’s hard for me to get away from people and experience solitude when recreating in the Central Wasatch Mountains.
______ Too many people recreate in the Central Wasatch Mountains.
______ Actions should be taken to reduce the number of people that can recreate in the Central Wasatch Mountains at a given time.
______ There have been times that I have not been able to participate in the recreational activity I wanted to because there were too many people.

Q15: What would you say is the biggest benefit you receive from the Central Wasatch Mountains?

Q16: Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements.

______ We are approaching the limit of the number of people the earth can support. (1)
______ Humans have the right to modify the natural environment to suit their needs. (2)
______ The balance of nature is delicate and easily upset. (3)
______ Humans will eventually learn enough about how nature works to be able to control it. (4)

Q17: Please write any comments you may have that are applicable to the Central Wasatch Mountains below. You are now finished with this survey! Thank you for your time!