



## Public Use Statistics - Monthly Report January - September 2007

### Recreation Visits

Units of the National Park System received 223.7 million recreation visits in January-September 2007.<sup>1</sup> This was a 1.3% increase in recreation visits, or 2.8 million more visits than in 2006. The summer season of June-September was quite favorable to the NPS as it received 4.5 million more visits than last year. The Intermountain Region had the largest year-to-date increase (+4% or +1.4 million visits) while the Southeast Region had the largest decrease (-1% or -0.6 million visits).

The largest year-to-date increases (in thousands) in recreation visits were reported at:

|                                      |      |                                      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Golden Gate National Recreation Area | +437 | Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway | +281 |
| Lincoln Memorial                     | +324 | National World War II Memorial       | +245 |
| Yellowstone National Park            | +284 | Yosemite National Park               | +234 |

The largest year-to-date decreases (in thousands) in recreation visits were reported at:

|                                    |        |  |      |
|------------------------------------|--------|--|------|
| National Mall & Memorial Parks     | -1,307 | Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historic Park | -147 |
| Blue Ridge Parkway                 | -1,098 | Mount Rainier National Park                    | -133 |
| Lake Mead National Recreation Area | -212   | Ross Lake National Recreation Area             | -130 |

The following September changes in visitation (in thousands) over the same month in 2006 are notable:

|  |            |   |
|--|------------|---|
| Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument    | -26 (-59%) | September 2006 was very high.                     |
| Ford's Theater National Historic Site  | -16 (-45%) | The Theater is closed for renovation.             |
| John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Park | +70 (+55%) | Traffic re-routed from Yellowstone National Park. |
| Fire Island National Seashore          | +34 (+54%) | September 2006 was very low.                      |

### Non-Recreation Visits (Commuters)

Units of the National Park System received 123.9 million non-recreation visits in January-September 2007. The 0.4% decrease in non-recreation visits was 550,000 fewer commuter visits than in the same time period in 2006. Natchez Trace Parkway reported 754,000 fewer commuters, while George Washington Memorial Parkway reported 349,000 more commuters. Saguaro National Park reported 325,000 fewer commuters due to construction.

### Overnight Stays (Year-to-Date)

Yellowstone National Park had 137,200 more overnight stays in their Concessioner Lodging and Camping. Lake Mead National Recreation Area had -44,200 fewer Concessioner Campground overnight stays and -24,900 fewer Non-recreation overnight stays in their trailer village. Big Cypress National Preserve still has

<sup>1</sup> NPS Public Use Statistics Office, preliminary data, 2007. Data are adjusted for delinquent reports and comparisons are made against the same time period in 2006.

some of its campgrounds closed (-9,200 Tents & RVs). Grand Canyon National Park reported 53,900 more Concessioner Lodging, 10,200 more Concessioner Camping and 20,500 more Backcountry stays, while reporting -20,700 fewer RV overnight stays. Great Smoky Mountains National Park reported 33,900 more overnight stays in Tents and RVs. Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway reported 89,800 more Backcountry stays due to an improved method of counting. Channel Islands National Park reported -95,700 fewer overnight stays aboard boats and 27,100 fewer Non-recreation overnight stays, while Glen Canyon National Recreation Area reported 102,500 more overnight stays aboard boat due to an improved method of counting their boats.

**Change in Overnight Stays in NPS Units 2006-2007**

(January-September 2007, numbers in thousands)

| <b>Overnight Stay Category</b> | <b>Year-To-Date 2006</b> | <b>Year-To-Date 2007</b> | <b>Difference</b> | <b>% Change</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Concessioner Lodging           | 2,921                    | 3,100                    | +179              | +6              |
| Concessioner Camping           | 1,103                    | 1,245                    | +142              | +13             |
| Tents                          | 2,579                    | 2,668                    | +89               | +3              |
| Recreational Vehicles          | 1,788                    | 1,777                    | -11               | -1              |
| Backcountry                    | 1,469                    | 1,557                    | +88               | +6              |
| Groups & Boats                 | 1,798                    | 1,803                    | +5                | 0               |
| Non-recreation                 | 271                      | 220                      | -51               | -19             |

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Public Use Statistics Office Web site: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/stats>

Social Science Program Web site: <http://www2.nature.nps.gov/socialscience>