Dripping Springs Natural Area
Visitor Survey

Introduction

In order for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to comply with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), and better meet the needs of the public; a visitor satisfaction survey was conducted at 24 BLM recreation sites in 13 states during fiscal year 2013 (FY13). The survey was developed to measure each site's performance related to BLM GPRA Goal 3.1 - *Provide for a quality recreation experience, including access, and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources on DOI managed and partnered lands and waters*; and Goal 3.2 - *Provide for and receive fair value in recreation*. The information collected during the survey will also help the BLM better serve the public. The survey collected visitor satisfaction data regarding visitor information (i.e., use of maps, signs, brochures), developed facilities, managing recreation use, resource management, BLM staff and customer service, and educational and interpretive materials.

The results of the visitor satisfaction survey conducted at Dripping Springs Natural Area are summarized in this data report. A description of the research methods and limitations can be found on the next page. Below (left) is a graph summarizing visitor opinions of the "overall quality of recreation experience." The satisfaction measure next to this graph is a combined percentage of "good" and "very good" responses. This is the primary performance measure for GPRA Goal 3.1 and should be used for reporting performance for this goal (NOTE: the satisfaction measure may not equal the sum of "very good" and "good" percentages due to rounding).

The response rate for this site survey was 91%. The graph and satisfaction measure summarizing visitor opinions of the "value for fee paid", which is the primary performance measure for GPRA Goal 3.2, can be found on page 9.

![Overall quality of recreation experience chart]

**FY13 GPRA Satisfaction Measure**

Percentage of site visitors satisfied overall with appropriate facilities, services, and recreational opportunities:

98%

Report prepared by the University of Idaho Park Studies Unit for the Bureau of Land Management, US Department of the Interior
Dripping Springs Natural Area
Research Methods

Understanding the Results

Inside this report are graphs that illustrate the survey results. The report contains 8 categories of data regarding BLM amenities, staff, and services plus selected demographics. Within these categories are graphs for each indicator evaluated by site visitors. For example, the Visitor Information category includes indicators such as “providing useful maps and brochures,” “adequate signs on site for direction,” and so forth. In each category there is a graph entitled “Everything Considered”. This graph is the basis for determining visitor satisfaction for each category and GPRA reporting numbers.

Each graph includes the following information:

- The number of visitor responses for the indicator;
- The percentage of responses which were "very good," "good," "average," "poor," and "very poor;"
- A "satisfaction measure" that combines the percentage of total responses which were "very good" or "good;" and
- An average evaluation score (mean score) based on the following values: very poor= 1, poor= 2, average= 3, good= 4, very good= 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Good</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The higher the average evaluation score, the more positive the visitor response
- Graph percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding

Research Methods

Surveys were distributed to a random sample of visitors at this site during a selected period in FY13. The survey response rate is described on the first page of this report, meaning that 91% of those randomly sampled responded to the survey. The data reflect visitor opinions about this site's facilities, management, services, educational opportunities, and fees during the survey period. Visitor activities and selected demographics were also captured. A representative sample of the general visitor population were surveyed at selected locations. The results do not necessarily apply to visitors during other times of the year, or visitors who did not visit the survey locations on site.

Returned surveys were electronically scanned and the data analyzed. Frequency distributions were calculated for each indicator and category.

All percentage calculations were rounded to the nearest percent.

The survey response rate is described on the first page of this report. The sample size (n) varies from figure to figure, depending on the number of responses.

Caution is advised when interpreting any data with a sample size of less than 30. In such cases, the word “CAUTION!” is included in the graph. This report excludes any indicator with less than 10 responses.

For most indicators, the survey data are expected to be accurate with in ±6% with 95% confidence. This means that if different samples had been drawn, the results would have been similar (±6%) 95 out of 100 times.

For more information about this survey, contact Jennifer Hoger Russell, BLM Survey Project Coordinator at the University of Idaho Park Studies Unit (208) 885-4806
Dripping Springs Natural Area
Visitor Information

Providing useful maps and brochures
FY13: 217 respondents

- Very good: 78%
- Good: 18%
- Average: 2%
- Poor: 1%
- Very poor: 2%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Ensuring public awareness of rules and regulations
FY13: 215 respondents

- Very good: 68%
- Good: 27%
- Average: 5%
- Poor: 1%
- Very poor: 2%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 95%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Providing useful information on the Internet
FY13: 132 respondents

- Very good: 59%
- Good: 28%
- Average: 12%
- Poor: 1%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 87%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Providing adequate signs on site for direction and orientation
FY13: 222 respondents

- Very good: 68%
- Good: 24%
- Average: 6%
- Poor: 1%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 92%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Everything considered: quality of BLM visitor information
FY13: 220 respondents

- Very good: 72%
- Good: 24%
- Average: 4%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.7
Maintaining roads for motorized vehicles
FY13: 214 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13 Satisfaction measure: 88%
Average evaluation score: 4.4

Maintaining trails for non-motorized use
FY13: 216 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13 Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Maintaining a clean site
FY13: 227 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13 Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Maintaining cleanliness of restrooms and other physical facilities
FY13: 209 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13 Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Everything considered: overall condition of developed facilities
FY13: 222 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13 Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.7
Managing the appropriate use of vehicles
FY13: 167 respondents
Rating
Very good 70%  
Good 26%  
Average 6%  
Poor 0%  
Very poor 0%
Proportion of respondents
FY13
Satisfaction measure: 95%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Managing the number of people
FY13: 202 respondents
Rating
Very good 71%  
Good 26%  
Average 2%  
Poor 0%  
Very poor 0%
Proportion of respondents
FY13
Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Keeping noise at appropriate levels
FY13: 204 respondents
Rating
Very good 75%  
Good 22%  
Average 2%  
Poor 0%  
Very poor 0%
Proportion of respondents
FY13
Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Providing sufficient law enforcement presence to prevent crime
FY13: 147 respondents
Rating
Very good 64%  
Good 27%  
Average 9%  
Poor 0%  
Very poor 0%
Proportion of respondents
FY13
Satisfaction measure: 91%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Everything considered: visitor and recreation management
FY13: 218 respondents
Rating
Very good 71%  
Good 25%  
Average 4%  
Poor 0%  
Very poor 0%
Proportion of respondents
FY13
Satisfaction measure: 96%
Average evaluation score: 4.7
Adequately protecting the natural resources

FY13: 222 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 95%
Average evaluation score: 4.7

Ensuring that visitor activities do not infringe on resource protection

FY13: 213 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 93%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Adequately protecting the cultural resources

FY13: 224 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 93%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Everything considered: BLM protection of natural and cultural resources

FY13: 225 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.6
Staff treated me courteously

**FY13: 214 respondents**

- Very good: 94%
- Good: 6%
- Average: 0%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 100%
Average evaluation score: 4.9

Staff demonstrated knowledge about the natural and cultural resources in the area

**FY13: 201 respondents**

- Very good: 89%
- Good: 9%
- Average: 2%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.9

Staff demonstrated knowledge about recreational opportunities in the area

**FY13: 204 respondents**

- Very good: 89%
- Good: 9%
- Average: 2%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.9

Everything considered: performance of BLM staff

**FY13: 214 respondents**

- Very good: 89%
- Good: 9%
- Average: 2%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13: Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.9
Providing quality educational and interpretive material about the resources at this site

FY13: 204 respondents

Satisfaction measure: 94%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Providing stewardship information on how to protect the cultural and natural resources

FY13: 196 respondents

Satisfaction measure: 91%
Average evaluation score: 4.5

Providing a sufficient quantity of educational and interpretive materials about the resources at this site

FY13: 205 respondents

Satisfaction measure: 93%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

Everything considered: interpretive and educational program

FY13: 205 respondents

Satisfaction measure: 92%
Average evaluation score: 4.6
Total fees paid
FY13: 236 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount spent</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No fees</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under $25</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25 - $50</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; $50</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The value of the recreation opportunity was at least equal to the fee asked to pay.
FY13: 159 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Sure</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How appropriate was the fee charged for this site/area?
FY13: 165 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Far too low</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too low</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About right</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too high</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far too high</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commercial Recreation Operations

Quality of Commercial Services
FY13: 22 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Proportion of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY13
Satisfaction measure: 82%
Average evaluation score: 4.3

CAUTION!
Primary activities
FY13: 236 respondents**

- Camping: 3%
- Fishing: 0%
- Hunting: 0%
- Target shooting: 1%
- Sightseeing: 35%
- Picnicking: 22%
- Hiking/walking: 94%
- Swimming: 1%
- Motorized boating: 0%
- Non-motorized boating/rafting: 0%
- Horseback riding: 0%
- Rock climbing: 13%
- Driving for pleasure: 5%
- Bicycling: 2%
- Motorized recreation vehicles: 2%
- Education and interpretation: 10%
- Birdwatching/wildlife viewing: 18%
- Other: 4%

** Percentages do not equal 100 because visitors could choose more than one activity.

Programs (interpretive, walk, tour, exhibit, presentations, etc.)

Quality of program(s) attended
FY13: 34 respondents

- Very good: 74%
- Good: 18%
- Average: 9%
- Poor: 0%
- Very poor: 0%

FY13
Satisfaction measure: 91%
Average evaluation score: 4.6
Dripping Springs Natural Area
Demographics

**Visitor group composition**
FY13: 152 groups

- Adults (18 and over) 62%
- Teenagers (13-17) 32%
- Children (under 12) 0%

**Number of teenagers (13-17) in group**
FY13: 152 groups

- 6 and more 9%
- 3-5 6%
- 1-2 6%
- none 91%

**Number of adults (18 and over) in group**
FY13: 152 groups

- 6 and more 9%
- 3-5 37%
- 1-2 58%
- none 0%

**Number of children (under 12) in group**
FY13: 152 groups

- 6 and more 9%
- 3-5 1%
- 1-2 12%
- none 84%

**Respondent age**
FY12: 206 respondents

- 71 and over 10%
- 61-70 17%
- 51-60 19%
- 41-50 10%
- 31-40 22%
- 22-30 18%
- 18-21 8%

**Gender**
FY13: 200 respondents

- Male 44%
- Female 58%
Report

Dripping Springs Natural Area
Accessibility to Visitors with Disabilities

### Ability to adequately use the facilities
**FY13:** 45 respondents

- **Very good:** 62%
- **Good:** 31%
- **Average:** 7%
- **Poor:** 0%
- **Very poor:** 0%

**FY13:** Satisfaction measure: 93%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

### Ability to access exhibits, waysides, etc.
**FY13:** 47 respondents

- **Very good:** 84%
- **Good:** 20%
- **Average:** 4%
- **Poor:** 9%
- **Very poor:** 0%

**FY13:** Satisfaction measure: 87%
Average evaluation score: 4.4

### Ability to understand the messages
**FY13:** 44 respondents

- **Very good:** 68%
- **Good:** 27%
- **Average:** 5%
- **Poor:** 2%
- **Very poor:** 0%

**FY13:** Satisfaction measure: 93%
Average evaluation score: 4.6

### Ability to use the services in this area
**FY13:** 45 respondents

- **Very good:** 62%
- **Good:** 36%
- **Average:** 2%
- **Poor:** 0%
- **Very poor:** 0%

**FY13:** Satisfaction measure: 98%
Average evaluation score: 4.6