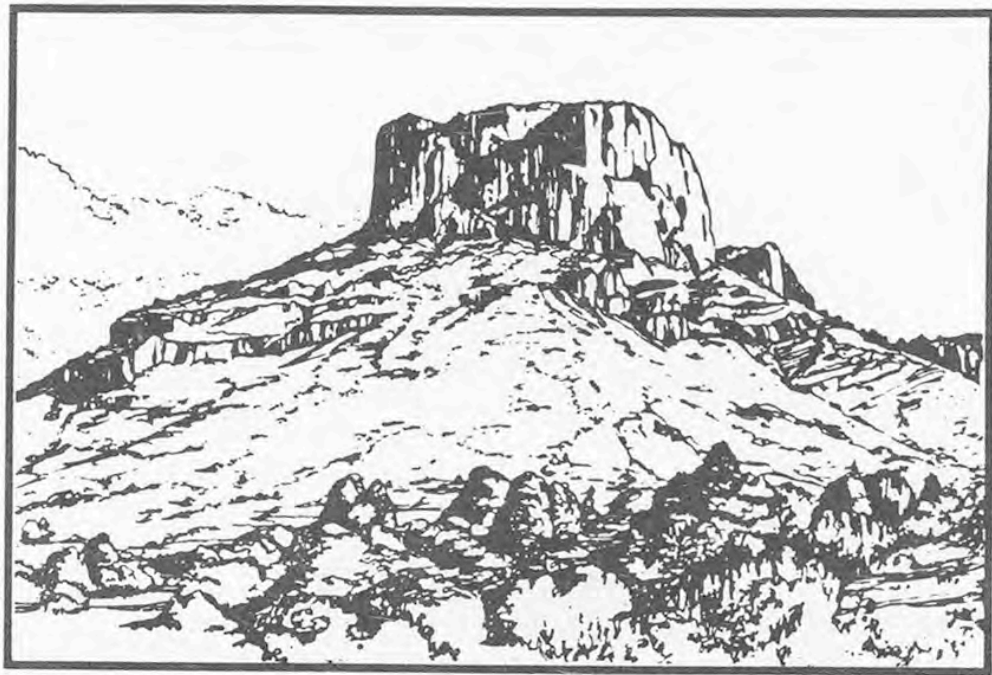


Big Bend National Park Visitor Study



**The
Visitor Services
Project**



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Big Bend National Park
Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River
Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834

April 1992

Dear Visitor:

Thank you for participating in this study. Our objective is to learn about the expectations, opinions, and interests of visitors to Big Bend National Park. This will assist us in our efforts to better manage Big Bend National Park, and to serve you, the visitor.

This questionnaire is only being given to a select number of visitors. Your participation is very important! It should only take a few minutes of your time during your visit.

When your visit is over, please complete the questionnaire. Then, seal it with the sticker provided on the last page and simply drop it in any U.S. mailbox.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Gary E. Machlis, Sociology Project Leader, Cooperative Park Studies Unit, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83843.

We appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Arnberger
Superintendent

DIRECTIONS

One adult in your group should complete the questionnaire. It should only take a few minutes. When you have completed the questionnaire, please seal it with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox. We appreciate your help.

PRIVACY ACT and PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT statement: 16 U.S.C. 1a-7 authorizes collection of this information. This information will be used by park managers to better serve the public. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Your name is requested for follow-up mailing purposes only. When analysis of the questionnaire is completed, all name and address files will be destroyed. Thus the permanent data will be anonymous. Please do not put your name or that of any member of your group on the questionnaire. Data collected through visitor surveys may be disclosed to the Department of Justice when relevant to litigation or anticipated litigation, or to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting a violation of law.

Burden estimate statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 12 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20014-7127; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project, 1024-0099, Washington, D.C. 20503.

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VISITING BIG BEND

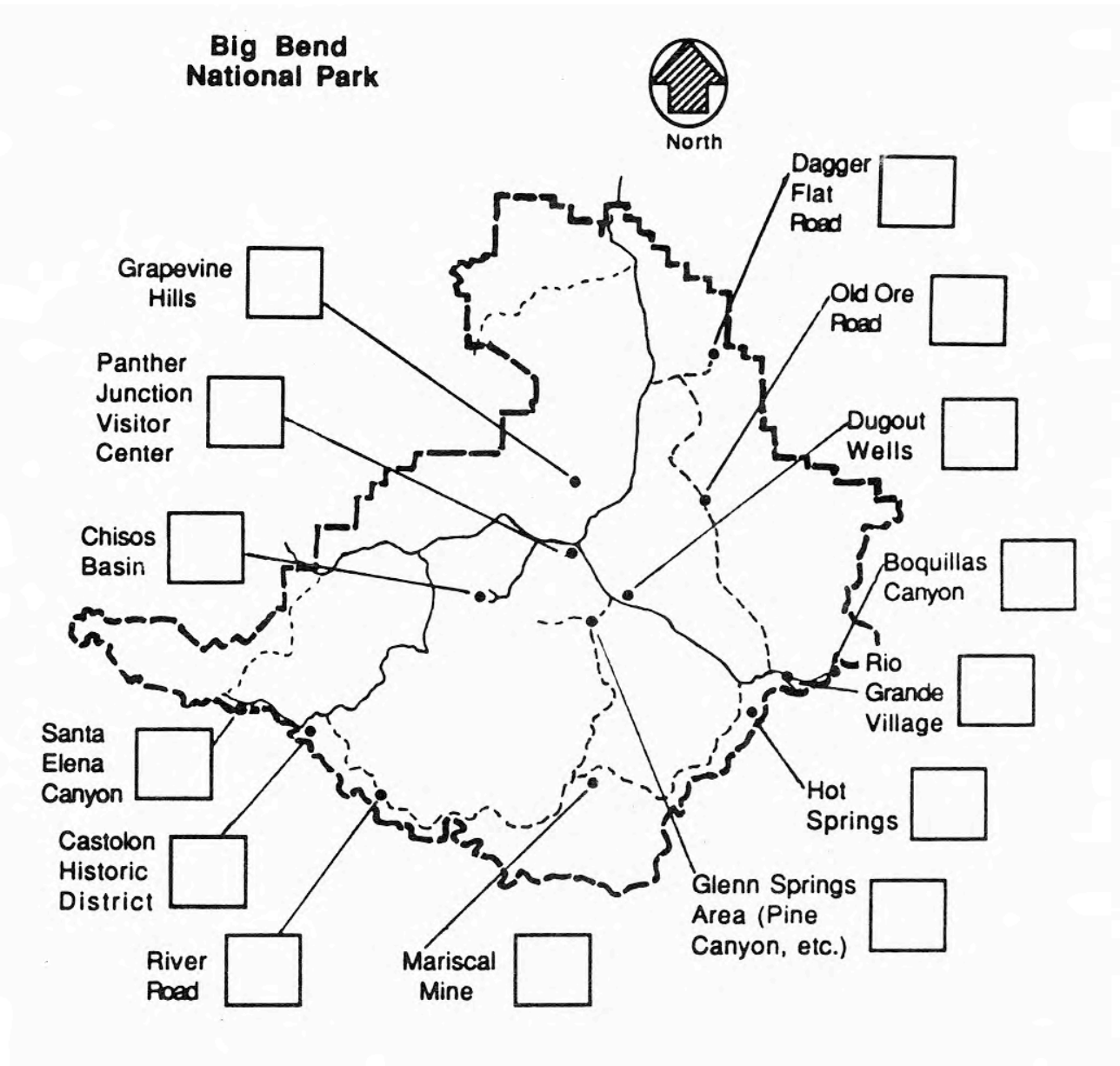
1. Prior to this visit, how did you and your group get information about Big Bend National Park? Please check (√) **all** that apply.

- _____ DID NOT GET INFORMATION PRIOR TO VISIT - **GO ON TO QUESTION 2**
- _____ ADVICE FROM FRIENDS OR RELATIVES
- _____ PREVIOUS VISIT(S)
- _____ TRAVEL GUIDE/TOUR BOOK(S)
- _____ MAPS OR BROCHURES
- _____ NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE ARTICLE(S)
- _____ WRITTEN INQUIRY TO PARK
- _____ TELEPHONE INQUIRY TO PARK
- _____ OTHER (Please specify: _____)

2. Please check the places you and your group traveled through, visited or will travel through during this visit to Big Bend National Park. Please check (√) **all** that apply.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| _____ ALPINE | _____ FT. STOCKTON |
| _____ MARFA | _____ MARATHON |
| _____ STUDY BUTTE | _____ SANDERSON |
| _____ TERLINGUA | _____ FT. DAVIS |
| _____ PRESIDIO | _____ BOQUILLAS, MEXICO |
| _____ LAJITAS | _____ SANTA ELENA, MEXICO |
| _____ BLACK GAP WILDLIFE AREA | |
| _____ BIG BEND RANCH STATE NATURAL AREA | |
| _____ STILLWELL'S RANCH/PARK/MUSEUM | |

3. On the map below, please check the sites you and your group visited during this visit to Big Bend National Park. Simply check (✓) the box beside each place you visited. If you did not visit a site, leave the box blank.



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YOUR ACTIVITIES

4. On the list below, please check all of the activities that you and your group did during this visit to Big Bend National Park. Please check (√) **all** that apply.

_____ VIEW SCENERY

_____ VISIT VISITOR CENTER(S)

_____ BIRDWATCH

_____ DAYHIKE ON TRAILS

_____ DAYHIKE CROSSCOUNTRY (not on trails)

_____ ATTEND RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

_____ OVERNIGHT BACKPACK

_____ CAMP ALONG BACKCOUNTRY ROAD

_____ BICYCLE ON PAVED ROADS

_____ BICYCLE ON UNPAVED ROADS

_____ RAFT/CANOE/BOAT

_____ FISH

_____ HORSEBACK RIDE

_____ PICNIC

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

YOU AND YOUR OPINIONS

5. On this visit, how much time did you and your group spend at Big Bend National Park?

If **less** than 24 hours: _____ NUMBER OF HOURS

If 24 hours **or more**: _____ NUMBER OF DAYS (Please list the nearest 1/4 day, e.g. 2-1/4, 2-1/2, etc.)

6. How many people were in your group?

_____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE

7. What kind of group were you with? Please check (✓) **only one**.

_____ ALONE

_____ FAMILY

_____ FRIENDS

_____ FAMILY AND FRIENDS

_____ GUIDED TOUR GROUP

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

8. For you and your group, please indicate:

	CURRENT AGE	U.S. ZIP CODE OR NAME OF FOREIGN COUNTRY	# TIMES VISITED (INCLUDING THIS VISIT)
YOURSELF	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #2	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #3	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #4	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #5	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #6	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #7	_____	_____	_____

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9. a) Please check (✓) the visitor services which you and your group **used** during this visit to Big Bend National Park.

b) Next, for only those services which you and your group **used**, please rate their **importance** from 1-5 using the list below.

c) Finally, for only those services which you and your group **used**, please rate their **quality** from 1-5 using the list below.

1=EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	1=VERY GOOD QUALITY
2=VERY IMPORTANT	2=GOOD QUALITY
3=MODERATELY IMPORTANT	3=AVERAGE QUALITY
4=SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	4=POOR QUALITY
5=NOT IMPORTANT	5=VERY POOR QUALITY

Use service? (✓)		Importance? (1-5)	Quality? (1-5)
_____	PARK BROCHURE/MAP	_____	_____
_____	PARK NEWSPAPER (<i>Big Bend Paisano</i>)	_____	_____
_____	VISITOR CENTER PERSONNEL	_____	_____
_____	VISITOR CENTER SALES PUBLICATIONS	_____	_____
_____	VISITOR CENTER EXHIBITS/SLIDE SHOW	_____	_____
_____	RANGER/VOLUNTEER-LED PROGRAMS	_____	_____
_____	SELF-GUIDED NATURE TRAILS/ROADS	_____	_____
_____	ROADSIDE EXHIBITS	_____	_____
_____	BULLETIN BOARDS	_____	_____
_____	SAFETY INFORMATION BROCHURES	_____	_____
_____	OTHER INFORMATIONAL BROCHURES	_____	_____
_____	EMERGENCY SERVICES	_____	_____
_____	HORSEBACK RIDES	_____	_____
_____	COMMERCIAL RAFT/CANOE TRIPS	_____	_____

10. a) Please check (√) the maintenance or concession services or facilities which you and your group **used** during this visit to Big Bend National Park.

b) Next, for only those services which you and your group **used**, please rate their **importance** from 1-5 using the list below.

c) Finally, for only those services which you and your group **used**, please rate their **quality** from 1-5 using the list below.

- 1=EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
- 2=VERY IMPORTANT
- 3=MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4=SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT
- 5=NOT IMPORTANT

- 1=VERY GOOD QUALITY
- 2=GOOD QUALITY
- 3=AVERAGE QUALITY
- 4=POOR QUALITY
- 5=VERY POOR QUALITY

Use service? (√)		Importance? (1-5)	Quality? (1-5)
_____	HIGHWAY DIRECTIONAL SIGNS	_____	_____
_____	DEVELOPED CAMPGROUNDS	_____	_____
_____	UNPAVED ROADS	_____	_____
_____	RESTROOMS	_____	_____
_____	TRAILS	_____	_____
_____	PICNIC AREAS	_____	_____
_____	PARKING AREAS	_____	_____
_____	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY	_____	_____
_____	GARBAGE DISPOSAL	_____	_____
_____	SERVICE STATIONS	_____	_____
_____	CAMPER STORES	_____	_____
_____	MOTEL IN CHISOS BASIN	_____	_____
_____	RESTAURANT/GIFT SHOP IN CHISOS BASIN	_____	_____
_____	SHOWERS/LAUNDROMAT	_____	_____

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



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11. On this visit, what were you and your group's reasons for visiting Big Bend National Park? Please check (✓) **all** that apply.

- _____ SCENIC VIEWS/DRIVES
- _____ DESERT EXPERIENCE
- _____ RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (hiking, river trips,
horseback rides, etc.)
- _____ EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
- _____ FAVORABLE WEATHER
- _____ SOLITUDE/QUIET
- _____ INTERNATIONAL BORDER/CULTURE
- _____ WILDERNESS ENVIRONMENT/OPEN SPACE
- _____ VISIT NPS AREA
- _____ VISIT BIOSPHERE RESERVE
- _____ VIEW PARK WILDLIFE
- _____ OTHER (Please specify: _____)

12. If you and your group stayed overnight in Big Bend National Park or the surrounding area (within 100 miles, i.e. Alpine, Marathon, Marfa, Presidio or closer), please write the number of nights you spent in each type of accommodation inside and outside the park.

**# NIGHTS
INSIDE BIG BEND**

**# NIGHTS
OUTSIDE BIG BEND**
(within 100 miles)

- | | |
|---|-------|
| _____ MOTEL/HOTEL | _____ |
| _____ CAMPGROUND WITH HOOKUPS | _____ |
| _____ CAMPGROUND WITHOUT HOOKUPS | _____ |
| _____ BACKCOUNTRY/PRIMITIVE CAMPSITE | _____ |
| _____ OTHER (Please describe: _____
_____) | _____ |

13. During this visit, how much did you and your group spend for lodging, travel, food, and other items inside Big Bend National Park and outside the park (within 100 miles)? Please write "0" if you did not spend any money.

INSIDE PARK

OUTSIDE PARK

(within 100 miles)

\$ _____	LODGING (motel, camping, etc.)	\$ _____
\$ _____	TRAVEL (gas, air/bus/train fare, etc.)	\$ _____
\$ _____	FOOD (restaurant, groceries, etc.)	\$ _____
\$ _____	OTHER (tours, film, gifts, books, etc.)	\$ _____

14. Big Bend National Park educational programs address topics such as biology, geology, history, environmental concerns and so forth. What topics would be most important to you and your group during a future visit? Please be specific.

15. Is there anything else you and your group would like to tell us about your visit to Big Bend National Park and the surrounding area?

Thank you for your help! Please seal the questionnaire with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.

STAMP

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

**Visitor Services Project
Cooperative Park Studies Unit
Department of Forest Resources
College of Forestry, Wildlife and
Range Sciences
University of Idaho
Moscow, Idaho 83843**