

Summary

- This report describes a visitor mapping study conducted in the North Cascades National Park Service Complex from July 28 to August 33, 1985. Data were collected separately in three areas—Hozomeen, Stehekin, and along the North Cascades Highway.
- Data were collected in period visits, which simultaneously measure visitor use by time, location (which zones of the park visitors use), and type (the activities visitors do).
- 217 questionnaires were returned from visitors contacted along the North Cascades Highway. 84 questionnaires were returned from visitors contacted at Stehekin, and 32 questionnaires were returned from visitors contacted at Hozomeen.
- Data on social characteristics indicated that most visitors to all three areas came in small family groups of 1-4 people. A wide variety of age groups and home residences were represented.
- Most visitors stayed only 1 day at Stehekin and the North Cascades Highway. Most visitors to Hozomeen stayed 3 days.
- North Cascades managers divided the park complex into zones they wished to study. Visitors were asked to report their locations, by zone, during each time period. Thus, maps showing the use of each zone are included.
- Necessary activities such as sleeping and eating accounted for many period visits in all three areas. Motorized travel was also a common activity for Highway visitors, hiking/walking for Stehekin visitors, and resting for Hozomeen visitors.
- Comparisons of use by the three key variables—time, location, and activity—are presented in maps, graphs, tables in the results from each area.
- Data were collected on 15 variables. A menu of all two-way comparisons possible with the data is included so that managers can request special analyses of interest to them. Three-way comparisons may also be requested.
- Visitors were asked for suggestions for future planning for North Cascades and for additional comments. 574 separate comments were identified and summarized. These are presented in Appendices C, D, and E.