
Visitor Services Project Mojave National Preserve Report Summary

- This report describes part of the results of a visitor study at Mojave National Preserve during April 5-13, 1997. A total of 671 questionnaires were distributed. Visitors returned 527 questionnaires for a 79% response rate.
- This report profiles Mojave National Preserve visitors. A separate appendix has visitors' comments about their visit; this report and the appendix contain a comment summary.
- Half of the visitors (50%) were in family groups. Forty-eight percent of Mojave National Preserve visitors were in groups of two; 20% were alone. Three percent of visitors were in organized tour groups; 5% were with an educational group. Many visitors (44%) were aged 36-55 and 12% were aged 15 years or younger.
- Among Mojave National Preserve visitors, 7% were international visitors. They were from Canada (30%), United Kingdom (18%), Germany (17%) and 12 other countries. United States visitors were from California (69%), Nevada (12%), Washington (2%), 36 other states, Washington, D.C. and Saipan.
- Over one-half of the visitors (54%) were repeat visitors to Mojave National Preserve. More than half of the visitors (61%) stayed less than one day. Over one-fourth (29%) stayed three to four days. Common activities at Mojave National Preserve were sightseeing (61%), driving paved roads (56%), driving unpaved roads (51%), nature study (49%) and day hiking (41%).
- Visitors identified the other places they visited or planned to visit during this trip to Mojave National Preserve. The most listed places were Las Vegas, Nevada; Joshua Tree National Park, California and Baker, California. The places where most visitors started and ended their trip on the day(s) they visited Mojave were Las Vegas, Nevada; Twentynine Palms, California and Barstow, California.
- The most visited places in Mojave National Preserve were Kelso Depot (66%), Kelso Dunes (57%) and Hole-in-the-Wall Campground (35%). The southern end of Kelbaker Road was the most used entry (33%) and exit (32%) from the park.
- For the use, importance and quality of services and facilities, it is important to note the number of visitor groups who responded to each question. The most used services or facilities by 412 respondents were the roads (78%), directional signs (57%), park brochure/map (47%) and restrooms (45%). According to visitors, the most important services were RV camping (90% of 30 respondents), roads (85% of 292 respondents), directional signs (79% of 222 respondents) and the park brochure/map (79% of 187 respondents). The best quality services were ranger-assistance from employees (87% of 115 respondents), Baker Visitor Center (81% of 64 respondents) and picnic area (81% of 37 respondents).
- During this visit, the average visitor group expenditure within a one hour drive of the preserve was \$108. The average per capita expenditure was \$33. The median visitor group expenditure (50% of groups spent more; 50% spent less) was \$40.
- Over three-fourths of the visitors felt the preserve was "not at all crowded" in the number of people (80%) and vehicles (77%) present during their visit. Seventy-one percent of the visitors felt "very safe" during their preserve visit. The three most important features/qualities of the preserve which visitors identified were wilderness/open space, solitude/quiet and clean air.
- Most visitors (76%) rated the overall quality of services in the park as "good" or "very good." Visitors made many additional comments.

For more information about the Visitor Services Project, please contact the
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