

**Yosemite National Park**  
**Half Dome Trail**  
**Visitor Survey**  
**2012**

**NOTE:** For the purposes of this review and submission the justifications for each question or section of questions is highlighted in a shaded text box above each question. These text boxes will not be printed on the final version of the surveys. The Topic Areas noted are consistent with the currently approved pool questions for the NPS Programmatic Review Process (1024-0224). The questions that are slight variations are denoted as such. Any questions that are outside the general scope of the programmatic review process have been carefully discussed and generally approved by the NPS Information Collection Review Coordinator with understanding that those questions will require further review and consideration by OMB before full determination and approval can be granted.

**TOPIC AREA 3: TRIPC 3 (variation)**

1. Is your hike today part of an overnight backpacking trip or are you a day hiker? (Check one.)

Overnight backpacking trip

Day hiker

Did you stay in the park overnight?  Yes  No

Where are you staying overnight? Check all that apply

Campground in Yosemite Valley

Lodging in Yosemite Valley

Campground in park, outside of the Valley

Lodging/camping outside Yosemite Valley

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Go to Question 3

**TOPIC AREA 3: TBACK 6**

2. If you are an OVERNIGHT BACKPACKER, How many nights did you stay in Yosemite Wilderness during this stay?  1  2  3  4 or more

Did you also stay in the park overnight, outside of Yosemite Wilderness during this stay?

Yes

No

**TOPIC AREA 3: TRIPC 6**

3. How many days will you spend in Yosemite National Park during this visit? \_\_\_\_\_ # days

**TOPIC AREA 3: TRANS 1**

4. How did you travel into the park on this visit?

Car / truck  RV or trailer  Tour bus  YARTS bus

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPIC AREA 3: TRIPC (variation)**

5. How did you travel to the trailhead to start your hike?

Walk/hike  Bicycle  Shuttle bus  Parked at Trailhead/Wilderness Parking

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPIC AREA 3: ACT 1**

**6. On this visit, did you participate in other activities while in the park, besides hiking the Half Dome cables?**

- Yes
- No → Go to Question 7

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing scenery (from outside the vehicle)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping inside park (other than at visitor center bookstore) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking scenic drive   | <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife viewing/bird watching                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Day hiking  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eating in park restaurant                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature study  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stay in park lodging  | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend ranger-led programs                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock climbing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight backpacking   | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting museum   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping in developed campground                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting visitor center                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping in visitor center bookstore                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting wilderness center                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative arts (photography, painting, drawing, writing, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

**TOPIC AREA 2: TPLAN 1**

**7. a) Prior to this visit, how did you and your personal group obtain information to plan your hike for the Half Dome cables trail? Please check all that apply in the left column**  
**b) If you were to visit Yosemite National Park in the future, how would you and your personal group prefer to obtain information about Half Dome cables trail? Please check all that apply in the right column.**

a) Prior to this visit		b) On future visits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Obtained no information prior to visit → Go to part b of this question	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Previous visits	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends/relatives/word of mouth	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel guides/tour books (Please specify: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maps/brochures	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newspaper/magazine articles	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inquiry to park via phone, mail, or e-mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-National Park Service television/radio programs/videos	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yosemite National Park website (www.nps.gov/yose) including video	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	DNC Parks and Resort website: www.yosemitepark.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other websites	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please specify: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>

**c) From the sources you used prior to this visit, did you and your personal group receive the type of information about the hike that you needed?     No     Yes    → Go to Question 8**

**d) If NO, what type of park information did you and your personal group need that was not available? Please be specific.**



**TOPIC AREA 1: VISITHIS 5 (variation)**

8. Including this hike, approximately how many times have you hiked (day and overnight) in the following areas in in your lifetime?

	APPROIMATE NUMBER OF HIKES
The Half Dome Trail	_____
Yosemite National Park	_____
Other park and Wilderness areas	_____

**TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD 1**

9. How crowded did you feel at each of the locations listed below? (Circle one number for each activity/location. If you did not hike at the specified location, check the box in that row)

	Not at all crowded	Slightly crowded	Moderately crowded	Very crowded	Extremely crowded	I did not hike this location
On the trail from Happy Isles to Nevada Falls (via the Mist Trail)	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the trail from Happy Isles to Nevada Falls (via the Panorama Trail)	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the trail from Nevada Falls to the base of the subdome	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the subdome of Half Dome	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climbing the cables	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the summit of Half Dome	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall (entire day)	1	2	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>

**TOPIC AREA 6: EVALSERV 27**

10. There are a variety of ways that visitors have obtained permits for this hike. How did you obtain your permit for hiking the Half Dome Trail today?

- Official online reservation system
- From another visitor while in the park (not on the trail to Half Dome)
- From another visitor while in the park (on the trail to Half Dome)
- From ranger checking permits at the base of the subdome
- From acquaintance before entering park
- On E-Bay or similar online selling site
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPIC AREA 3: TRIPC34 (variation)**

**11. How would you describe your experiences today with your Half Dome Trail hike and associated permit(s)? (Circle one per row or check 'don't know').**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Obtaining a Half Dome trail permit was easy to do.	-2	-1	0	1	2
The official online reservation system is user-friendly.	-2	-1	0	1	2
My hiking experience on the Half Dome trail was not too crowded.	-2	-1	0	1	2
The National Park Service should continue using the permit system.	-2	-1	0	1	2
The current permit system provides opportunities for solitude in Yosemite Wilderness.	-2	-1	0	1	2
The park should offer some permits as first come/first serve to visitors.	-2	-1	0	1	2

**TOPIC AREA 6: OPMGMT6**

**12. People have suggested other ways to manage visitor use on the Half Dome cables trail. Please tell us if you support or oppose these actions. (Circle one per row)**

	Strongly oppose	Oppose	Neither support or oppose	Support	Strongly support
Increase informational signs regarding potential safety/natural hazards at the cables.	-2	-1	0	1	2
Require an orientation (e.g. short video) that emphasizes visitor safety and Leave No Trace principles.	-2	-1	0	1	2
Implement a use etiquette education program regarding use on the cables.	-2	-1	0	1	2
Return to visitor use management conditions prior to the interim permit system	-2	-1	0	1	2
Require all hikers on this trail to use climbing specific equipment (harnesses, cordage, and carabiners) to ascend the cables.	-2	-1	0	1	2
Charge a hiking fee for use of the cables to help pay for hiker education and safety.	-2	-1	0	1	2
Relocate more rangers along this trail to enforce Leave No Trace principles, rules and regulations.	-2	-1	0	1	2

Limit promotion of the cables trail (remove interpretive photos, work with the concessionaire to minimize related souvenir sales, etc.) to reduce use levels on the cables.

-2      -1      0      1      2

**TOPIC AREA 1: AGE 1**

**13. Please tell us a little about yourself and the group you are traveling with today.**

- a) How many people are in your TOTAL HIKING GROUP today?
- b) For the people in your PERMIT GROUP only, please complete sections C through H.

	c) Current age	d) U.S. ZIP code or name of country other than U.S.	e) Number of visits to Yosemite NP
Yourself	_____	_____	_____
Member #2	_____	_____	_____
Member #3	_____	_____	_____
Member #4	_____	_____	_____

**TOPIC AREA 1: RACE/ETH1 and 3 (variation)**

**f. What is your race? What is the race of each member of your PERMIT GROUP? Please check one or more for you and each group member.**

	Yourself	Member #2	Member #3	Member #4
American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black or African American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**g) Are you or members of your PERMIT GROUP Hispanic/Latino? Please check one for each group member.**

	Yourself	Member #2	Member #3	Member #4
Hispanic/Latino	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Hispanic/Latino	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**h) Are you or members of your PERMIT GROUP of Middle Eastern/Arab ancestry/descent? Please check one for each group member.**

	Yourself	Member #2	Member #3	Member #4
Arab/Middle Eastern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Arab/Middle Eastern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Please provide additional comments about ways the Park Service can improve visitor use management and experience on the Half Dome Trail.**

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**Thank you for your help with this survey!  
Please return it to the surveyor.**

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT** The National Park Service is authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1a-7 to collect this information. This information will be used by park managers to better understand visitors perceptions of information along the trail and potential management action the associated with hiking along the Half Dome Trail corridor. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Please do not put your name or that of any member of your group on the questionnaire. The permanent data associated with this collection will be anonymous.

**BURDEN ESTIMATE:** The public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 10 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to: the NPS Information Collection Review Coordinator, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80525.