

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 – expiration date 8-31-2014). The questions that are slight variations are denoted as such.

Yosemite Wilderness Study

SECTION 1: These questions ask about your present Yosemite wilderness trip characteristics

TOPIC AREA 1: GR3

1. On this visit to Yosemite wilderness, how many people were in your group, including yourself?
_____ Number of people in your personal group

TOPIC AREA 3: TRIPC11

2. On this visit to Yosemite Wilderness, how long did you and your personal group spend visiting the **wilderness**? (Please list partial hours or days as 1/4, 1/2, 3/4)

____ Number of hours **if less than 24 hours**

OR

____ Number of days **if 24 hours or more**

TOPIC AREA 1: GR5 (*Variation: Modified to specify "in wilderness"*)

3. On this visit to Yosemite wilderness, what kind of personal group (not guided tour/school group) were you with? Please mark (•) **only one**.

Alone

Family

Friends

Family and friends

Other (Please specify: _____)

TOPIC AREA 2: TPLAN5 (*Variation: Modified to specify "in wilderness"*)

4. How did this visit to Yosemite Wilderness fit into your personal group's travel in the park overall? Please mark (•) **one**.

Designated Wilderness was primary destination in the park

Designated Wilderness was one of several destinations in the park

Designated Wilderness was not a planned destination in the park

Don't know

TOPIC AREA 1: GR6; adapted to add outfitter/guide

5. On this visit, were you and your personal group with the following type of groups?

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|----|
| Outfitted and/or Guided group | <input type="radio"/> | Yes | <input type="radio"/> | No |
| School/educational group | <input type="radio"/> | Yes | <input type="radio"/> | No |
| Other organized group (such as business group, Scout group, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | Yes | <input type="radio"/> | No |

TOPIC AREA 3: TRANS6 (Variation)

6. How did you travel during this trip? Please mark (•) **only one**.

- Foot – carrying own gear
- Foot – with stock support (“drop camp”)
- Riding stock (ie. horses and mules)

TOPIC AREA 3: ACT18

7. On **this** visit to Yosemite wilderness, what activities did you and/or your group participate in?

Which of these activities did you participate in? Please mark (•) **all that apply**

- Fishing
- Hiking on trails
- Speed hiking/“fast packing”
- Hiking in a trail-less area (i.e. cross-country)
- Technical mountain climbing (i.e. using ropes and special gear)
- Non-technical mountain climbing (i.e. without ropes and special gear)
- Trail running
- Swimming/water play
- Wildlife viewing/bird watching
- Self-reflection/meditation
- Other (please specify):

TOPIC AREA 4: PREF1 and PREF 2 (Variation: modified to add ‘actual experience’ and wilderness-specific items)

8. Below is a list of possible experiences you may want (prefer) to have while visiting Yosemite wilderness. For each item please **indicate how important the experience was** to you on your wilderness visit AND how much you actually experienced it on this trip. (Circle **two** numbers for each item.)

How much were you *seeking* it? How much did you *experience* it?

	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Moderately	Very much	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Moderately	Very much
To experience a sense of freedom	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To experience solitude	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

Exercise	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To be close to nature	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Mental relaxation	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To experience wilderness opportunities	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To have a feeling of remoteness	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To have a sense of physical challenge	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To spend time with friends or family	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To have a sense that the surroundings haven't been impacted by people	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To have a sense of being away from the modern world	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To be alone	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To feel independence	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To be in a place that is quiet	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To have unconfined recreation, free from rules and regulations	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
To be self-reliant	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION 2: These questions ask you to describe the type of social conditions you encountered during this wilderness trip.

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD15

9. About how many hiking groups did you see per day while you were traveling on the trails during your wilderness trip? (Enter a question mark "?" if you don't remember)

of hiking groups per day while in the wilderness: _____

OR

Did not see any hiking groups

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD15 (Variation)

10. About how many groups did you see riding horses or mules (stock animals) per day while you were traveling on the trails during your wilderness trip? (Enter a question mark "?" if you don't remember)

of stock-using groups per day while in the wilderness: _____

OR

Did not see any stock-using groups

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD 15 (Variation)

11. While you were in the wilderness, on the busiest day, how many other parties of other visitors did you see?

_____groups

How many of these were large parties (say, 10 or more people)? _____

How many of the parties had horses? _____

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD16

12. How many nights were you able to see or hear other visitor groups staying overnight near your campsite during this overnight backcountry trip? (Enter a question mark “?” if you don’t remember). *If you did not stay overnight in the wilderness, go to Question 12.*

Number of nights: _____

OR Did not occur on any night

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWDATT 12 (Variation)

13. If you did camp overnight in the wilderness, what was the maximum number of other groups camped within sight or sound of your campsite on any night? Where did this occur?

_____groups _____camping location

SECTION 3: These questions ask about how the type of social and environmental conditions you encountered during this wilderness trip affected your experience.

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD1

14. Please indicate how crowded you felt in the following locations during this visit to the Yosemite Wilderness

	Not at all crowded	Slightly crowded	Moderately crowded	Very crowded	Extremely crowded
While traveling on trails	1	2	3	4	5
At destinations (such as lakes or viewpoints)	1	2	3	4	5
At campsites (if applicable)	1	2	3	4	5

TOPIC AREA 5: SOUND3, CROWD18

15. The following characteristics of recreational areas can influence the quality of a trip. For each, please indicate how they affected your wilderness experience **on this trip**. If you did not notice an item, circle “nn.”

	How much did it detract from your experience				
	Did not Notice	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Extremely
Noisy groups	nn	1	2	3	4
Large numbers of day hikers	nn	1	2	3	4
Large numbers of stock users	nn	1	2	3	4
Large numbers of backpackers	nn	1	2	3	4
Trail wear and tear	nn	1	2	3	4
Rules that restrict where people can camp	nn	1	2	3	4
Trampled areas where people have camped or walked	nn	1	2	3	4
Large groups	nn	1	2	3	4
Trails that are poorly marked	nn	1	2	3	4
Inconsiderate behavior by other visitors	nn	1	2	3	4
Litter left behind by visitors	nn	1	2	3	4
Area rules/regulations not adequately enforced	nn	1	2	3	4
Human waste	nn	1	2	3	4
Too many rules or regulations	nn	1	2	3	4
Conflict between hikers and stock users	nn	1	2	3	4
Contact with a wilderness ranger or volunteer	nn	1	2	3	4
Having to fill out a permit or registration form	nn	1	2	3	4
Organized groups or outfitted parties	nn	1	2	3	4
Stock manure on trails	nn	1	2	3	4
High Sierra Camps	nn	1	2	3	4
Stock impacts near High Sierra Camps	nn	1	2	3	4
Trampled areas where stock have bedded or grazed	nn	1	2	3	4

SECTION 4: These questions ask about how social conditions in Yosemite Wilderness – on this trip and other trips – have affected your behavior and experiences.

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWD18

16. Please indicate whether (and if so, how often) you have ever done each of the following in Yosemite Wilderness.

	Ever Done?		If yes, how often?				
	No	Yes	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Usually	Always
Visit earlier or later in the season to avoid seeing other people	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5
Visit on weekdays to avoid weekend crowds	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5
Go to trails that are less crowded	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5
Avoid places that have limits on the amount of use	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5
Go to other areas where you are less likely to see other people	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5
Avoid attractions that are crowded	No	Yes	1	2	3	4	5

TOPIC AREA 5: CRWDATT6

17. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about Yosemite Wilderness. (Circle **one** number for each item.)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Even if I see several other people while in Yosemite Wilderness, I can still <u>experience solitude</u> if there are extended periods when I see no other people.	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Even if I see several other people while in Yosemite Wilderness, I can still have a sense of being in wilderness if there are extended periods when I see no other people.	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Even if I see several other people while in Yosemite Wilderness, I can still have a sense of being in wilderness if most of the other people I see are near the trailhead at the beginning and end of my trip	+2	+1	0	-1	-2

SECTION 5: This section asks about your attitudes toward management of recreational use in Yosemite Wilderness.

TOPIC AREA 5: CROWDATT

18. In your opinion what is the maximum **number of groups** per day that would be acceptable for you to see in this part of the wilderness? (Please mark (•) only one.)

- The number of other groups I see doesn't matter to me.
- The number of groups I see matters to me, but I can't specify a number.
- The maximum number of groups per day in this area should be: (check one)

0-2	4-6	8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26	28-30	32-34	36-38	39 +
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOPIC AREA 5: CRWDATT1 (Variation)

19. Yosemite wilderness managers must find an appropriate balance between allowing all people to visit the wilderness when they want and providing opportunities for solitude. In your opinion, which of the four following options strikes the best balance? (Circle one)

- A. *Do not restrict use to manage for solitude* anywhere, even if use is heavy.
- B. *Manage for solitude along a few wilderness trails.* The number of people allowed to use these few trails will be limited, but the majority of trails will have no use limits. These trails without limits may experience higher levels of use over time.
- C. *Manage for solitude on most wilderness trails,* by limiting the number of people using these trails. A few trails will have unrestricted use. Use levels will increase and be high on these trails.

TOPIC AREA 5: CRWDATT9 (Variation)

20. Do you feel that a limit is needed on the number of people using this wilderness, recognizing that your own opportunity to visit this wilderness might be limited in the future? Please mark (•) **only one**.

- Yes, a limit is needed now to LOWER current use
- Yes, a limit is needed now to HOLD at current use
- No limit is needed now, but should be imposed in the future when overuse occurs
- No limit needed now or in the future

TOPIC AREA 5&6: CRWDATT1 (Variation)

21. If the use of this wilderness was very heavy, and controls on use were being considered, please indicate how you would feel about each of the following management policies by circling the appropriate number.

	Strongly Favor	Favor	No Opinion	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Reduce the number of trails and signs so that only those people willing to make the effort could visit the area	1	2	0	-1	-2
Promote other low-use destinations in the park to disperse use	1	2	3	4	5
Allow use to continue to increase without controls	1	2	3	4	5
Provide designated backcountry campsites to concentrate resource impacts from recreation	1	2	3	4	5
Require parking in designated trailhead areas to reduce opportunistic access to trails	1	2	3	4	5

TOPIC AREA 6: OPMGMT 11 (Variation)

22. If the use of this wilderness was very heavy, and controls on use were being considered, please indicate how you would feel about each of the following management policies related to day use by circling one number for each item.

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Limit the number of DAY visitors in the wilderness area					
a. by issuing a limited number of permits on a first- come, first-served basis	1	2	3	4	5
b. by issuing a limited number of permits on drawing (or lottery) basis	1	2	3	4	5
c. by issuing a limited number of permits through a mail reservation system	1	2	3	4	5
d. by issuing a number of permits through an online reservation system	1	2	3	4	5

TOPIC AREA 6: OPMGMT 6 (Variation)

23. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements concerning management of area-specific activity in NPS site. (Circle **one** number for each item.)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
If people feel crowded, use limits should be imposed	1	2	3	4	5	DK
If visitor-caused resource impacts are high, use limits should be imposed	1	2	3	4	5	DK
Use limits should never be imposed even if use is high	1	2	3	4	5	DK
If visitors no longer experience solitude, use limits should be imposed	1	2	3	4	5	DK
More trails should be added to reduce the number of people seen	1	2	3	4	5	DK
The number of trails that allow horseback riding should be reduced	1	2	3	4	5	DK
The number of trails that allow horseback riding should be increased	1	2	3	4	5	DK
The number of trails that allow horseback riding should be reduced	1	2	3	4	5	DK
More trails should be added to reduce the number of people seen	1	2	3	4	5	DK
More trailheads should be added to disperse use away from busy areas	1	2	3	4	5	DK

TOPIC AREA 6: OPMGMT 6 (Variation)

24. Please indicate how you would rate each of the following management interventions to restore natural conditions in Yosemite wilderness, keeping in mind the park's limited budget. (Circle one number for each item.)

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
e. Removing nonnative fish/wildlife species to promote recovery of native species	1	2	3	4	5
f. Removing nonnative plant species to promote recovery of native species	1	2	3	4	5
g. Reintroduction of missing native species using controlled burns	1	2	3	4	5
h. Temporarily closing meadows to promote restoration	1	2	3	4	5
i. Temporarily closing riverbanks to promote restoration	1	2	3	4	5

j. Temporarily closing wilderness campsites to promote restoration	1	2	3	4	5
k. Temporarily closing wilderness locations in the park to promote landscape level restoration	1	2	3	4	5
l. Reducing the facilities provided at High Sierra camps	1	2	3	4	5
m. Removing the High Sierra Camps	1	2	3	4	5

TOPIC AREA 6: OPMGMT 6 (Variation)

25. The following is a list of things that might be provided in wilderness areas. Check how you would feel about each of them in the Yosemite Wilderness. Circle one number for each item.)

	Strongly Favor	Favor	Doesn't Matter	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
More signs indicating places to camp off the trail	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
More campsites	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Hitching racks	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Simple pit toilets	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Simple wooden bridges across large rivers	+2	+1	0	-1	-2

The final questions ask for some information about you, so we can describe the types of people who visit Yosemite Wilderness.

TOPIC AREA 1: KNOW13

26. How familiar are you with the purposes and characteristics of federally designated Wilderness areas? Please mark (•) **only one**.

- Not at all familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Very familiar
- Extremely familiar

TOPIC AREA 3: ACT31 (Variation)

27. Since your first wilderness trip, about how often have you gone on wilderness trips (including this and other wildernesses)? Please mark (•) **only one**.

- Less than once every 2 years
- Less than once a year
- Once a year
- 2-5 times a year
- 6-10 times a year
- More than 10 times a year

TOPIC AREA 3: ACT31 (Variation)

28. How many times have you been to **this Yosemite wilderness destination** before this trip? Please mark (•) **only one**.

Never. (First trip.)

3-5

11-20

1-2

6-10

More than 20

TOPIC AREA 1: VISITHIS4

29. How many years have you been visiting Yosemite wilderness?

_____years

OR

This is my first visit

TOPIC AREA 3: TBACK2

30. About how often have you gone on wilderness trips to any wilderness? *Please mark (•) only one.*

More than once a year

About once every two years

About once a year

Less than once every two years

TOPIC AREA 3: ACT 32

31. Including this trip, how many times have you visited the Yosemite Wilderness? *Please mark (•) only one.*

1

2-3

4-5

6-8

9+

TOPIC AREA 1: AGE1

32. What year were you born? _____

TOPIC AREA 1: GEND1

33. Are you Male or Female?

TOPIC AREA 1: ED2

34. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? Please mark (•) **only one**.

Less than high school

Two-year college degree

Some high school

Four-year college degree

High school graduate

Masters Degree

Vocational/trade school certificate

Ph.D., M.D., J.D., or equivalent

Some college

TOPIC AREA 1: RACE/ETH3

35. What is your race? Please mark (•) **one or more.**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black or African American
- White
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

TOPIC AREA 1: RACE/ETH2

36. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

TOPIC AREA 1: RACE/ETH2 (modified as previously justified in VSP surveys per empirical CA demo refs)

37. Are you of Middle Eastern or of Arab ancestry/descent?

- Yes
- No

TOPIC AREA 1: RES1

38. Where do you live?

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Country (if not US) _____

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