

# McKenzie River Trail Visitor Survey



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Survey Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

# McKenzie River Trail Visitor Survey

These questions ask about your recreational visit to the McKenzie River area today.

1. How long is this visit to the McKenzie River area? *[approved NPS]*

\_\_\_\_ Number of hours **if less than 24 hours (go to question 4)**

**OR**

\_\_\_\_ Number of days **if 24 hours or more (go to question 2)**

2. If your trip is more than one day, where are you staying while visiting the McKenzie River? *[new question]*

developed Forest Service campground

private residence

motel

Other (please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

3. How many days will you spend during this trip within 50 miles of here? *[new question]*

\_\_\_\_\_ days

4. On this visit, how many people (adults and children) are in your group, including yourself? *[approved NPS]*

\_\_\_\_ Number of people in your personal group.

5. Where did you start your trail trip today? *[new question]*

\_\_\_\_\_

6. On this visit to the McKenzie River Trail, were you and your personal group with any of the following types of groups? *[approved NPS]*

Outfitted and/or guided group

Yes

No

School/educational group

Yes

No

Other organized group

Yes

No

(such as business or Scout group, etc.)

7. On **this** visit to the McKenzie River, what activities did you and/or your group participate in? (Check all that apply.) .) *[approved NPS]*

- fishing from the river bank
- hiking on trails
- mountain biking
- trail running
- Swimming/water play
- Wildlife viewing/birdwatching
- Self-reflection/meditation
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

8. Please indicate how your recreation experience in the McKenzie River area today affected you. *[approved NPS format; items specific to this study]*

To what extent did this experience...	Not at all							Very much
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Lead you to feel relaxed and refreshed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Help you connect with family and friends	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Help you connect with new people	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Help you escape your daily life and its demands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Reduce the stress you feel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Increase your happiness	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Increase your self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Enhance your sense of yourself and who you are	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Provide inspiration through the area's natural beauty	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Enhance your outdoor skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Provide adventure, thrill, and excitement	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Enhance your sense of freedom and independence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Improve your overall quality of life	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Improve you physical health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Bring back good memories by visiting places you've been to before	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Help you feel connected to the natural world	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Strengthen your desire to take care of this forest area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Motivate you to do volunteer work in your community	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

**These questions ask how different things you may have encountered affected the quality of your recreational visit to the McKenzie River area today.**

9. About how many *groups of hikers* did you see today while you were hiking/biking?

[approved NPS]

# of hiking groups: \_\_\_\_\_ OR  Did not see any hiking groups

10. About how many *groups of mountain bikers* did you see today while you were hiking/biking? [approved NPS]

# of biking groups: \_\_\_\_\_ OR  Did not see any biking groups

11. Please indicate how crowded you felt in the following locations during this visit to the McKenzie River. If an item does not apply to your trip, please circle "NA." [approved NPS]

	Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded			Moderately Crowded		Extremely Crowded		NA
While traveling on trails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NA
At destinations (such as viewpoints)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NA
At campsites	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NA

12. Please indicate whether (and if so, how often) you have ever done each of the following in reference to the McKenzie River. [approved NPS]

	Ever Done?		If so, 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

13. The following characteristics of recreational areas can influence the quality of a trip. For each item you noticed, please indicate (1 to 7) how they affected your wilderness experience **on this trip**. If you did not notice an item, circle "nn." [1996; approved NPS format, with site-specific items]

	Not Noticed	How much of a problem was it?					
		Not at all	Slight	Moderate	Big		
Conflict between boaters and anglers*	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Large numbers of day users	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Trail wear and tear	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Rules that restrict where people can camp	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Trampled areas where people have camped or walked	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Large groups	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Trails that are poorly marked	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Inconsiderate behavior by other visitors	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Large numbers of overnight users	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Area rules/regulations not adequately enforced	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Litter left behind by visitors	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Too many rules or regulations	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Human waste	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Contact with a wilderness ranger or volunteer	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Having to fill out a permit or registration form	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Commercially outfitted or guided parties	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Conflict between anglers*	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Erosion at popular stopping points	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Presence of human waste or toilet paper	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Lack of adequate parking at launches	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							

Special events, such as marathons, on the McKenzie River Trail	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Unsafe or discourteous behavior by bikers along the McKenzie River Trail	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Unsafe or discourteous behavior by hikers along the McKenzie River Trail	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Encountering large groups of bikers along the McKenzie River Trail	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
Encountering large groups of hikers along the McKenzie River Trail	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							
The number of shore anglers	nn	1	2	3	4	5	6
7							

\* 1996 items

**These questions ask for your views about how recreational use should be managed on the McKenzie River Trail.**

14. The following is a list of management actions that might be taken along the McKenzie River. Please indicate your support or opposition for each. *[approved NPS format; 1996 items]*

	Strongly Favor	Favor	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Provide more information to visitors about appropriate behavior	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Provide new permanent toilets	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Educate visitors about trespass on private land	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Add more river rangers for enforcement					
Increase parking at existing trailheads	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Limit group size for hiking parties	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Limit group size for mountain biking parties*	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Begin charging user fees to offset management costs.	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Limit the number of hikers if most visitors feel crowded	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Limit the number of mountain bikers if most visitors feel crowded	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Implement a "one-way" travel policy for bikers on the McKenzie River Trail*	+2	+1	0	-1	-2
Prohibit 'events' like marathon runs along the McKenzie River Trail*	+2	+1	0	-1	-2

\* New items

15. What is the maximum amount of time it is acceptable to be in sight of other trail users on this stretch of the McKenzie River Trail? *[modified 1996]*

0 - 10—20 - 30 - 40 - 50 - 60 - 70 - 80 - 90 - 100 Percent of the time

OR

\_\_\_ time in sight of other visitors matters to me, but I can't specify a number  
 \_\_\_ time in sight of other visitors doesn't matter to me.

16. If McKenzie River managers were to base their decisions about use limits on the opinions of users, what is your opinion about the maximum **number of groups** per day it is acceptable to see on this stretch of the McKenzie River Trail? (Mark one.) *[Similar to approved NPS; used in USFS wilderness studies]*

- 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:  
0—2—4—6—8—10—12—14—16—18—20—22—24—26—28—30—32—34—36—38—40-->40  
(Make a mark on the line)

17. 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? *[used widely in USFS wilderness studies]*

- 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

#### Individual and Socio-Demographic Questions

The following questions ask for some information about you so we can describe the types of people who recreate on the McKenzie River.

18. How important is the McKenzie River to you as a place to recreate? (Mark one.) *[1996]*

19. What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ *[approved NPS]*

20. Are you  Male or  Female? *[approved NPS]*

21. What is your zipcode? \_\_\_\_\_

22. How far do you live from this stretch of the McKenzie River? *[new question]*

\_\_\_\_\_ miles

23. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (Mark one.) *[approved NPS]*

- Less than high school
- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Vocational/trade school certificate
- Some college
- Two-year college degree
- Four-year college degree
- Masters Degree
- Ph.D., M.D., J.D., or equivalent



24. How many times have you visited this section of the McKenzie river for recreation before this trip? [1996 survey; modified from approved NPS]

- Never. (First trip.)                       11-15                       51-100  
 1-5     16-20                       More than 100  
 6-10     21-50

25. What year did you first visit this part of the McKenzie River for recreation? [1996]

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Economic Valuation</b>
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26. For the following categories, please estimate how much you personally will spend for your entire trip within 50 miles of here. Please include advance payments, such as for lodging or guides. [new question]

- \$\_\_\_ Motel, lodge, cabin, B&B, etc.
- \$\_\_\_ Camping
- \$\_\_\_ Restaurants & Bars
- \$\_\_\_ Groceries
- \$\_\_\_ Gasoline & Oil
- \$\_\_\_ Local Transportation (bus, shuttle, etc.)
- \$\_\_\_ Recreation & Entertainment (include guide fees and tips, equipment rental)
- \$\_\_\_ Equipment, souvenirs, clothing, & other miscellaneous purchases

27. In total how much did you personally spend on this entire trip, from the time you left home until you return home? [new question]

\$\_\_\_\_\_