



# ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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July 26, 2010

To: Persons interested in HJR 15 study summary on tourism and recreational access  
From: Hope Stockwell, research analyst  
Re: Public comment received

Attached to this memo is a packet of information given to the Environmental Quality Council at its July 22, 2010 meeting during the public comment portion of the EQC's agenda item regarding the final HJR 15 study summary. This packet was provided by Kerry White, executive board member of the group Citizens for Balanced Use. Mr. White commented on the study summary, stating his group agrees with the following input provided by members of the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council (page 4 of the study summary):

- revenue generated by all recreation and tourism-related activities is larger and has a greater impact on Montana's overall economy than revenue generated by hunting; and
- providing public access for recreational and tourism-related activities through a state administered program rather than private enterprise restricts landowner liability under 70-16-302, MCA.

Mr. White asked the EQC to consider legislation to expand the types of recreational activities for which landowners can receive monetary compensation and still enjoy restricted liability under 70-16-302, MCA. The EQC took no action at its July 22, 2010 meeting.

Table of Cumulative Effects on Motorized Recreationists							
Action	Acres Affected	Miles before	Miles after	Miles closed	% closed	Mitigation of Motorized Losses	
Sleeping Giant BLM	7,900	29.0	21.6	7.4	25.52%	No	
Elkhorn Management plan	300,000			75*	50%*	No	
Clancy-Unionville TP	33,000	136.0	108.0	28.0	20.59%	No	
North Belts TP	250,000	370.4	164.9	205.5	55.48%	No	
South Belts TP	83,000	173.6	140.2	33.4	19.59%	No	
Beaverhead-Deerlodge FP	3,364,000						
Roads		4,157.0	4,053.0	104.0	2.50%	No	
Motorized trails**		1,237.0	1,037.0	200.0	16.17%	No	
Gallatin NF TP	1,807,000						
4x4 Roads		417.0	347.0	70.0	16.79%	No	
ATV and motorcycle trails***		680.0	145.0	535.0	78.68%	No	
Little Belt, Castle, and Crazy TP	1,050,000						
Roads		1,546.7	740.3	806.3	52.14%	No	
ATV trails***		226.0	208.0	18.0	7.96%	No	
Motorcycle trails		658.0	443.0	215.0	32.67%	No	
Rocky Mountain Front TP	391,700						
Motorized Trails		209.0	74.0	135.0	64.59%	No	
Badger-Two Medicine TP	130,000	190.6	8.6	180.0	94.44%	No	
Dillon RMP BLM	901,000	2,102.0	1,342.0	760.0	36.16%	No	
Butte RMP BLM	307,300	629.3	416.9	212.4	33.75%	No	
Helena area		52.2	9.8	42.5	81.42%	No	
Blackfoot TP	376,000	**					
Divide TP	155,000	**					
Custer NF Beartooth TP	580,000						
Roads		225.0	210.0	15.0	6.67%	No	
Motorized trails		341.0	267.0	74.0	21.70%	No	
Custer NF Ashland TP	437,000	**					
Custer NF Sioux TP	436,000	**					
Bitterroot NF TP	1,589,000	**					
Upper Missouri River Breaks RMP	378,000	592.0	404.0	188.0	31.76%	No	
Whitetail-Pipestone TP	185,700	679.0	406.0	273.0	40.21%	No	
Bruce Creek to Napa Point TP	141,990	60.0	40.0	20.0	33.33%	No	
Keep Cool Hills Management Plan	14,500	20.0	0.0	20.0	100.00%	No	
Owyhee Front Travel Plan BLM	484,873	834.0	398.0	436.0	52.28%	No	
Salmon Challis NF Travel Plan	4,359,000						
Motorized trails		1,110.0	838.0	272.0	24.50%	No	
Tellico OHV area	6,000	39.5	24.0	15.5	39.24%	No	
Moab RMP BLM	1,822,562	6,199.0	3,693.0	2,506.0	40.43%	No	
Monticello RMP BLM	1,800,000	3,069.0	2,820.0	249.0	8.11%	No	
Richfield RMP BLM	2,100,000	4,315.0	3,739.0	576.0	13.35%	No	
Greater Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Plan	5,893,000				25%*	No	
Cabinet-Yaak-Selkirk Grizzly Plan	2,918,400	3,008.0	2,811.0	197.0	6.55%	No	
Big Snowy Mountains TP*	150,000			100*	50%*	No	
Targhee NF TP	1,789,000						
Inyo National Forest TP	1,977,000	3,725.0	2,934.0	791.0	21.23%	No	
Kootenai NF Three Rivers RD*****	638,000	661.0	500.0	161.0	24.36%	No	
KIPZ Forest Plan	5,513,000	**					
Lolo Forest Plan	2,083,000	**					
WMPZ Forest Plan	6,043,000	**					
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>50,494,925</b>	<b>37,691.3</b>	<b>28,343.3</b>	<b>9,348.0</b>	<b>24.80%</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>Other Significant Measures of Closed Motorized Opportunities</b>							
Yellowstone NP snow machines****		1400	318	1082	77.29%	No	
National Forest Cross Country opportunity (acres)	192,300,000	192,300,000	0	192,300,000	100%	No	
BLM Cross Country opportunity (acres)	258,000,000	258,000,000	100,000*	257,900,000	99.40%	No	

Notes:

- \* estimated impact
  - \*\* underway with expected significant impact
  - \*\*\* additional impact associated with significant loss of quality trails and substitution with roads
  - \*\*\*\* number of snow machines
  - \*\*\*\*\* All motorized trails closed
- Source: CTVA tabulation

## Imbalance of Non-Motorized versus Motorized Trails in Region 1

Region	Forest	District	NFS Acres	Current Status	Projected Date for Designation	Existing NFS Roads	Existing NFS Roads Open to Motor Vehicle Use	Existing NFS Trails	Existing NFS Trails Open to Motor Vehicle Use	Existing NFS Trails Open to Motor Vehicle Use (Single-Track)	Currently Open to Cross-Country Motor Vehicle Use	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Madison	705,985	Existing	12/7/2006	613	520	675	171	45	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Wisdom	426,760	Existing	7/8/2006	538	504	569	268	134	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	WiseRiver	451,647	Existing	7/8/2006	445	428	452	183	127	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Butte	164,270	Existing	12/8/2006	339	336	64	58	11	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Jefferson	422,982	Existing	12/8/2006	585	559	258	180	70	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Dillon	568,539	Existing	7/9/2006	818	757	271	50	0	0	
1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Ponder	639,856	Existing	12/9/2006	1,092	1,053	473	197	106	0	
1	Biglertoot	All	1,589,876	Existing	12/9/2006	2,613	2,236	1,564	790	758	0	
1	Clearwater	All	1,828,034	Open	2/9/2006	4,218	260	1,652	697	547	1,439,939	
1	Custer	Beartooth	580,544	Open	10/8/2006	323	226	288	8	6	16,000	
1	Custer	Sioux	163,577	Existing	9/9/2006	403	392	0	0	0	0	
1	Custer	Ashtland	436,546	Existing	9/9/2006	775	751	0	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	Shayenne	70,340	Existing	9/6/2006	166	145	37	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	GrandRiver	101,717	Existing	9/7/2006	426	426	7	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	Medora	524,685	Existing	9/9/2006	1,002	891	87	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	McKenzie	500,781	Existing	9/9/2006	954	910	57	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	Denbigh*	640	Existing	9/7/2006	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	DakotaPrairieGrasslands	Sours*	130	Existing	9/7/2006	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	Flathead	SpottedBear	1,037,083	Existing	9/7/2006	290	102	1,084	40	40	0	
1	Flathead	SwanLake	361,024	Existing	9/7/2006	1,017	368	247	106	97	0	
1	Flathead	HungryHorse	433,752	Existing	9/8/2006	640	260	334	39	39	0	
1	Flathead	GlacierView	309,297	Existing	9/8/2006	581	231	196	28	28	0	
1	Flathead	TallyLake	230,716	Existing	9/9/2006	926	549	141	48	48	0	
1	Gallatin	All	1,850,027	Existing	8/6/2006	1,825	804	2,108	737	457	0	
1	Helena	Townsend	274,000	Existing	9/7/2006	719	414	228	45	13	0	
1	Helena	Lincoln	376,000	Existing	9/8/2006	563	437	229	71	22	0	
1	Helena	Helena	325,000	Existing	9/8/2006	865	559	232	32	3	0	
1	IdahoPanhandle	CDARiver	726,362	Existing	8/7/2006	3,706	1,077	365	253	150	0	
1	IdahoPanhandle	StJoe	869,266	Open	6/8/2006	2,251	873	888	323	306	656,991	
1	IdahoPanhandle	Sandpoint	908,000	Open	11/8/2006	888	164	259	89	74	887,403	
1	IdahoPanhandle	BonnarsFerry	409,000	Open	11/9/2006	979	142	316	84	61	180,282	
1	IdahoPanhandle	PriestLake	382,000	Open	12/9/2006	1,189	363	276	65	55	223,934	
1	Kootenai	Rexford	298,100	Open	9/9/2006	1,187	491	181	0	0	3,300	
1	Kootenai	Fortine	259,800	Existing	9/9/2006	1,001	751	235	12	12	0	
1	Kootenai	ThrooRivers	609,100	Open	9/9/2006	2,225	493	379	252	252	42,000	
1	Kootenai	Libby	620,000	Existing	9/9/2006	2,622	1,470	610	96	96	0	
1	Kootenai	Cabinet	432,200	Open	9/9/2006	895	413	270	172	172	3,000	
1	Lewis&Clark	RockyMtn	782,618	Existing	6/8/2006	120	106	1,069	380	64	0	
1	Lewis&Clark	Judith	377,144	Existing	12/8/2006	446	391	294	204	149	0	
1	Lewis&Clark	Musselshell	309,780	Existing	12/8/2006	570	495	188	153	67	0	
1	Lewis&Clark	BeltCir/WSS	529,775	Existing	12/8/2006	694	578	273	256	216	0	
1	Lewis&Clark	LC-InterpCir	27	System	9/8/2000	0	0	2	0	0	0	
1	Lolo	All	2,083,569	Existing	1/9/2006	6,171	2,288	2,276	480	40	0	
1	NezPerce	All	2,224,108	Open	10/9/2006	3,846	2,000	2,900	954	787	900,000	
<b>Totals</b>			<b>26,254,657</b>			<b>51,306</b>	<b>26,259</b>	<b>22,042</b>	<b>7,521</b>	<b>5,052</b>	<b>4,352,849</b>	
							Miles of Open Road per Square Mile =	0.51				
							Total Roads and Trails Open to Non-Motorized Use, Miles	73,343				
							Non-Motorized Trails, Miles =	14,521				
							Non-Motorized Trails, % =	65.88%				
							Motorized Trails, miles =	7,521				
							Motorized Trails, % =	34.12%				
							Trails Open to Motorcycles %	22.92%				

<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohw/>

[http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohw/travel\\_mgmt\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohw/travel_mgmt_schedule.pdf)

Note that this data was assembled in 2006 does not reflect the motorized closures that have occurred in the last 3 years. The percentage of non-motorized trails is even higher than 65.88% now.

## Table of Wilderness Visits to Montana National Forests versus Multiple-Use Visits

<b>Forest</b>	<b>All Site Visits (000's)</b>	<b>Wilderness Visits (000's)</b>	<b>Wilderness Visits (%)</b>	<b>Multiple-Use Visits (%)</b>
Beaverhead-Deerlodge	1,377	15	1.09%	98.91%
Bitterroot	731	122	16.69%	83.31%
Custer	845	12	1.42%	98.58%
Flathead	1,514	24	1.59%	98.41%
Gallatin	1,650	46	2.79%	97.21%
Helena	508	3	0.59%	99.41%
Kootenai	1,400	32	2.29%	97.71%
Lewis & Clark	536	26	4.85%	95.15%
Lolo	1,494	24	1.61%	98.39%
	10,055	304	3.02%	96.98%

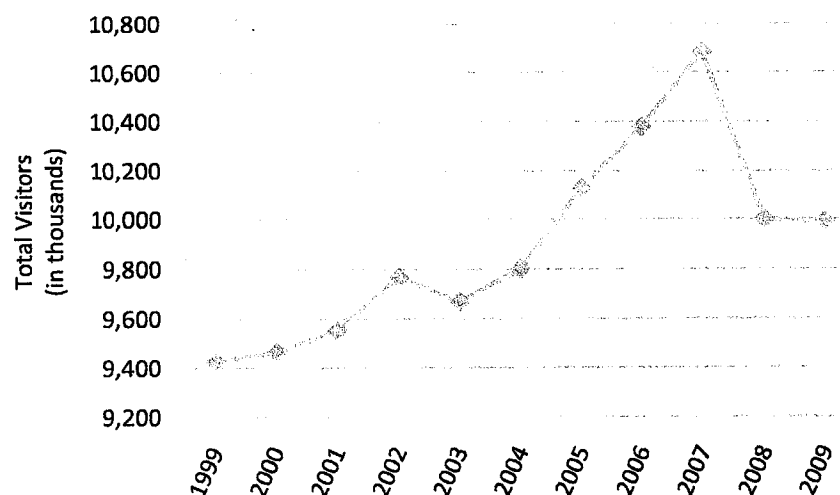
[http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/nvum/revised\\_vis\\_est.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/nvum/revised_vis_est.pdf)



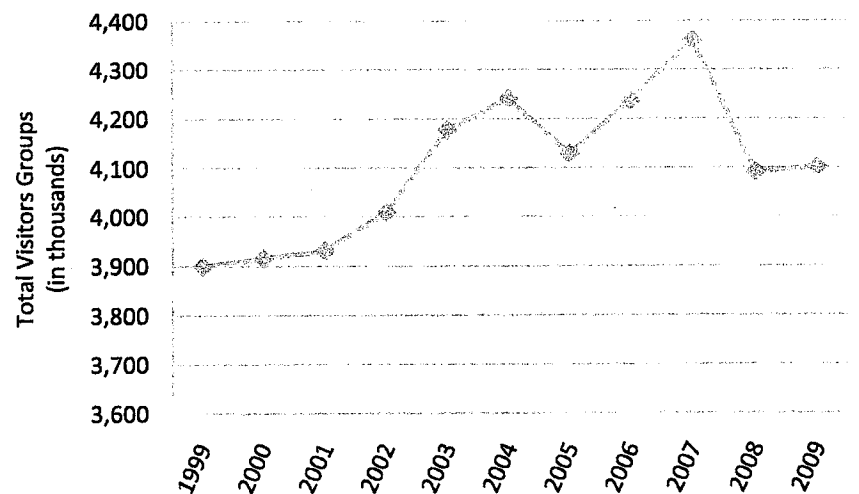
# 1999-2009 Montana Nonresident Traveler Visitation Trends

June 2010  
Kara Grau, M.S.

### Nonresident Visitors



### Nonresident Travel Groups

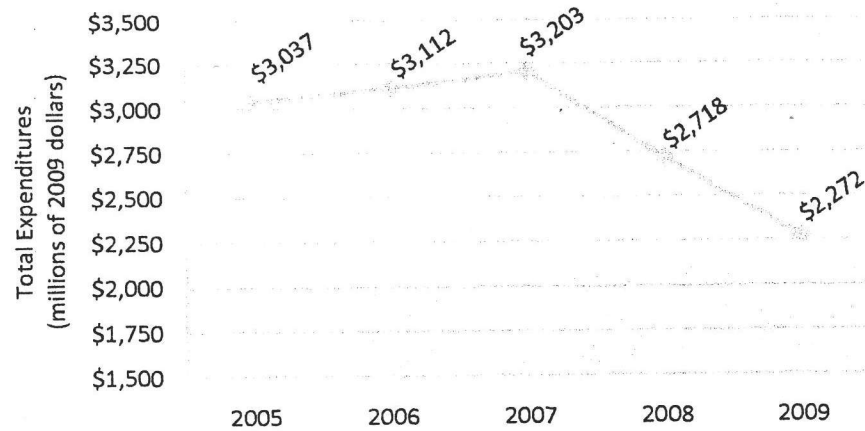


Nonresident Traveler Visitation Trends	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Nonresident Visitors (in thousands)	9,428	9,465	9,552	9,767	9,670	9,800	10,126	10,378	10,684	10,000	9,992
% Change from Previous Year	1.6%	0.4%	0.9%	2.3%	-1.0%	1.3%	3.3%	2.5%	2.9%	-6.4%	-0.1%
% Change from 1998	1.6%	2.0%	2.9%	5.2%	4.2%	5.6%	9.1%	11.8%	15.1%	7.8%	7.7%
Nonresident Travel Groups (in thousands, 2.44 people per group <sup>1</sup> , 2009; 2.45, 1999-2008)	3,900	3,916	3,931	4,009	4,177	4,241	4,129	4,236	4,360	4,092	4,101
% Change from Previous Year	1.6%	0.4%	0.4%	2.0%	4.2%	1.5%	-2.6%	2.6%	2.9%	-6.1%	0.2%
% Change from 1998	1.6%	2.0%	2.4%	4.4%	8.8%	10.5%	7.6%	10.3%	13.6%	6.6%	6.8%

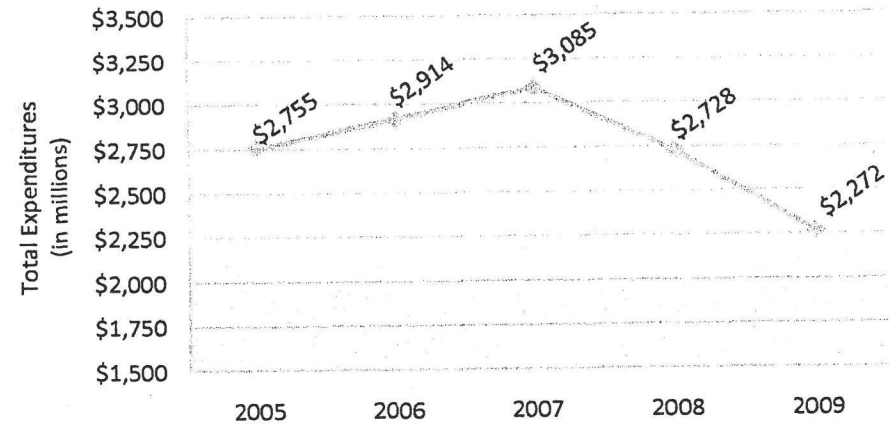
<sup>1</sup>2009 group size is an average of Q1 & Q2, 2005 and Q3 & Q4, 2009 group sizes.

## 1999-2009 Montana Nonresident Traveler Expenditure Trends

### Total Inflation-Adjusted Expenditures



### Total Actual Expenditures



Nonresident Traveler Expenditure Trends	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total Inflation-adjusted Expenditures</b>											
(in millions of 2009 dollars <sup>1</sup> )	\$2,062	\$2,071	\$2,090	\$2,154	\$2,193	\$2,232	\$3,037	\$3,112	\$3,203	\$2,718	\$2,272
% Change from Previous Year	1.6%	0.4%	0.9%	3.1%	1.8%	1.8%	N/A <sup>3</sup>	2.5%	2.9%	-15.2%	-16.4%
% Change from 1998	1.6%	2.0%	2.9%	6.1%	8.0%	9.9%	N/A <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Actual Expenditures (in millions)</b>	\$1,596	\$1,656	\$1,719	\$1,800	\$1,874	\$1,958	\$2,755	\$2,914	\$3,085	\$2,728	\$2,272
% Change from Previous Year	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	4.7%	4.1%	4.5%	N/A <sup>3</sup>	5.8%	5.9%	-11.6%	-16.7%
% Change from 1998	3.8%	7.7%	11.8%	17.1%	21.9%	27.4%	N/A <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). 1982-1984=100.

<sup>2</sup>2009 expenditure estimate is based on Q1 & Q2, 2008 expenditure estimates (derived from 2005 spending patterns), adjusted (-18%) for changes in the economy, and Q3 & Q4, 2009 estimates.

<sup>3</sup>Comparison to previous years is not advisable due to changes in model data.