

NEWS ^{DEC 8 1977} from the Forest Service

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Visitor Days Top 10 Million in 1976;
650,300 in Primitive Areas and Wildernesses

MISSOULA, Montana--Outdoor recreation visits to Northern Region National Forests of Montana, northern Idaho, North Dakota, and western South Dakota have increased from 8,962,400 visitor days in 1965 to 10,667,900 in 1976.

(Visitor day = 12 hours; i.e., 1 person for 12 hours; 12 people for 1 hour; 2 people for 6 hours, etc.)

Last year, visitors spent a total of 650,300 visitor days in the Region's eight wildernesses and four primitive areas.

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Enclosures: Northern Region National Forests, visitor days, 1965-1976 (2 pages).
Wildernesses and primitive areas, visitor days, 1965-1976 (2 pages).

Applicants for all U.S. Department of Agriculture programs will be given equal consideration without regard to race, color, sex, creed, or national origin.



Visitor Days* Use - Calendar Year - RIM

Northern Region National Forests (Net Acres)	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Beaverhead (2,114,577)	407,800	452,500	424,900	390,000	282,800	287,800
Bitterroot (1,576,065)	332,700	413,700	407,000	481,400	489,800	321,000
Clearwater (1,675,388)	822,900	829,400	732,200	764,600	786,600	832,100
Custer (2,448,176)	774,200	518,800	416,300	363,900	562,500	538,200
Deerlodge (1,185,084)	707,200	529,500	554,700	577,500	689,900	723,200
Flathead (2,363,392)	787,400	472,200	486,500	479,300	475,000	511,600
Gallatin (1,726,707)	1,187,900	1,508,900	1,251,300	1,331,100	1,428,300	1,526,500
Helena (972,408)	282,800	347,800	317,300	330,300	396,800	539,700
Idaho Panhandle (3,203,475)	1,885,100	1,569,600	1,502,000	1,724,200	1,599,600	1,760,700
Kootenai (1,826,327)	709,200	717,900	761,000	326,900	358,100	304,400
Lewis and Clark (1,835,264)	322,800	401,100	409,500	439,700	488,800	576,700
Lolo (2,091,043)	404,000	451,800	431,000	524,500	926,800	964,700
Nezperce (2,205,782)	338,400	563,600	539,000	683,800	767,400	906,500
<u>Total</u> (25,223,688)	8,962,400	8,776,800	8,232,700	8,417,200	9,252,400	9,793,100

*Visitor Day = 12 hours; i.e., 1 person for 12 hours; 12 people for 1 hour; 2 people for 6 hours; etc.

Visitor Days* Use - Calendar Year - RIM

Northern Region National Forests (Net Acres)	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Beaverhead (2,114,577)	304,400	308,900	339,300	337,100	351,600	395,800
Bitterroot (1,576,065)	366,600	401,900	378,500	466,200	434,500	388,100
Clearwater (1,675,388)	820,200	812,900	691,600	788,500	887,100	828,600
Custer (2,448,176)	453,600	540,300	492,500	530,700	539,000	645,800
Deerlodge (1,185,084)	853,200	863,700	805,300	800,700	826,500	858,100
Flathead (2,363,392)	768,000	664,600	665,500	735,700	773,500	791,200
Gallatin (1,726,707)	1,676,500	1,707,800	1,586,000	1,698,500	1,799,300	1,866,300
Helena (972,408)	524,400	601,700	567,000	578,900	197,100	235,900
Idaho Panhandle (3,203,475)	1,903,000	1,996,000	1,447,100	1,115,700	1,155,500	1,272,000
Kootenai (1,826,327)	304,700	318,700	325,300	332,700	353,600	371,900
Lewis and Clark (1,835,264)	620,900	643,300	708,200	720,700	758,200	893,600
Lolo (2,091,043)	1,072,800	900,100	1,232,000	1,304,200	1,243,400	1,416,600
Nezperce (2,205,782)	744,200	734,100	704,100	660,300	574,900	704,000
<u>Total</u> (25,223,688)	10,412,500	10,494,000	9,932,400	10,069,900	9,894,200	10,667,900

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Visitor Days* Use - Calendar Year - RIM

Northern Region
Wilderness

(Net Acres)	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Anaconda-Pintlar (157,874)	29,700	33,900	31,100	25,700	23,600	18,500
Bob Marshall (949,356)	109,400	65,200	64,700	70,600	66,300	114,500
Cabinet Mountains (94,272)	9,800	11,300	12,800	9,600	11,100	9,300
Gates-of-the-Mountains (28,562)	500	1,800	500	800	1,700	1,900
Hells Canyon (69,744)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mission Mountains (73,877)	5,000	11,400	8,500	10,100	6,000	5,300
Scapegoat (239,236)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Selway-Bitterroot (1,232,310)	<u>108,300</u>	<u>124,300</u>	<u>129,400</u>	<u>152,200</u>	<u>187,400</u>	<u>178,700</u>
<u>Total</u> (2,845,291)	262,700	247,900	247,000	269,000	296,100	328,200
<u>Primitive Areas</u>						
Absaroka (63,308)	11,800	8,800	11,800	13,200	12,200	15,000
Beartooth (226,601)	85,400	35,100	36,900	38,200	51,700	45,000
Salmon River Breaks (215,681)	65,100	89,000	65,800	80,300	80,700	75,200
Spanish Peaks (50,436)	<u>9,300</u>	<u>7,200</u>	<u>8,100</u>	<u>14,400</u>	<u>22,000</u>	<u>16,900</u>
<u>Total</u> (556,026)	171,600	140,100	122,600	146,100	166,600	152,100
GRAND TOTAL (3,401,317)	434,300	388,000	369,600	415,100	462,700	480,300

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Visitor Days* Use - Calendar Year - RIM

Northern Region
Wilderness
(Net Acres)

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Anaconda-Pintlar (157,874)	21,700	24,700	26,300	30,900	31,600	31,000
Bob Marshall (949,356)	105,900	115,300	106,600	89,300	124,700	142,000
Cabinet Mountains (94,272)	11,500	19,300	14,000	18,900	21,400	19,600
Gates-of-the-Mountains (28,562)	2,100	2,200	1,300	1,400	2,300	3,100
Hells Canyon (69,744)	--	--	--	--	--	22,500
Mission Mountains (73,877)	9,600	12,900	18,900	22,600	38,400	47,100
Scapegoat (239,236)	--	--	16,400	19,700	15,300	41,400
Selway-Bitterroot (1,232,310)	<u>148,500</u>	<u>136,800</u>	<u>113,900</u>	<u>146,700</u>	<u>133,500</u>	<u>195,700</u>
<u>Total</u> (2,845,291)	299,300	311,200	297,400	329,500	367,200	502,400
<u>Primitive Areas</u>						
Absaroka (63,308)	15,500	15,500	15,700	15,600	15,600	16,000
Beartooth (226,601)	107,300	110,800	68,400	82,100	69,800	103,400
Salmon River Breaks (215,681)	74,500	75,000	59,100	33,200	13,200	14,000
Spanish Peaks (50,436)	<u>16,200</u>	<u>17,300</u>	<u>15,800</u>	<u>12,700</u>	<u>13,500</u>	<u>14,500</u>
<u>Total</u> (556,026)	213,500	218,600	159,000	143,600	112,100	147,900
GRAND TOTAL (3,401,317)	512,800	529,800	456,400	473,100	479,300	650,300

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2 people for 6 hours; etc.