1974

Survey of the Visitors to DeGray Lake

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Ouachita Baptist University

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SURVEY OF THE VISITORS
TO DE GRAY LAKE

Am Honors Special Studies
Presented to
Dr. Joe Nix
Ouachita Baptist University

In Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Course
Honors 481

by
Marsha Ann Ellis
April 30, 1974
This Honors Special Studies has been done in order to determine pertinent information concerning the visitors who come to De Gray Lake. The surveys were begun on March 9, 1974, and completed on April 13, 1974, with exactly 100 people having been interviewed. The questions asked on the survey were derived from information sent out from the Arkansas State Park Commission. The areas surveyed included several camping and boat docking areas within 10 to 15 miles driving distance of Arkadelphia. The results of the survey were obtained by coding the information, running it through the key punch, and through the sorter, and then tabulating the data. These results are given on the following pages, with special emphasis given to question 4., which is concerned with the number of people in each vehicle.

In a study of the processed data, several facts emerge which are interesting to note. A few of these are listed below.

(1) The majority of the people interviewed spent one night in the park on the visit during which they were interviewed.

(2) The majority of the groups interviewed consisted of one family unit— a couple, either with or without children.

(3) The majority of the groups interviewed included no males below 18 years of age, one male 19 to 59 years of age, and no males 60 years or above.

(4) In the majority of the groups interviewed there were only one or two males.
(5) The majority of the groups interviewed included no females below 18 years of age, one female 19 to 59 years of age, and no females 60 years of age or above.

(6) There were either no females or only one female in the majority of the groups interviewed.

(7) Ninety-one per cent of the groups interviewed were either at the lake visiting on a one day trip or on over night visit.

(8) For fifty-five per cent of the groups interviewed, the visit during which they were interviewed was their first visit to the park.

(9) The majority of the interviewees were from outside of Clark County. (70%)

(10) Eighty-eight per cent of the interviewees live within 100 miles of the park.

(11) Ninety-one per cent of the heads of the households interviewed had at least a tenth grade education.

(12) Forty-six per cent of the interviewees were in pick-up trucks at the time of the interview.

(13) Most of the groups interviewed were involved in quite a lot of fishing. (89%)

(14) None of the groups interviewed went swimming.
DE GRAY QUESTIONNAIRE
TALLY SHEET

1. Did you stay overnight in this park last night?  yes  no
   Yes----39
   No-----61

2. Are you going to stay overnight in this park tonight? yes  no
   Yes----49
   No-----51

3. Which one of the following best describes the group in your vehicle?
   
   - one family with children
   - two families with children
   - one couple only
   - two or more couples
   - organized group (troop, team, club, etc.)
   - one person alone
   - other (specify)

   One family with children--------39
   Two families with children---- 5
   One couple only-----------------23
   Two or more couples------------ 5
   Organized group (troop, team, club, etc.)-------- 3
   One person alone------------- 9
   Other------------------------16

4. How many people are in this vehicle?
   Male: below 18 years
          19 to 59 years
          60 years or above
   Female: below 18 years
          19 to 59 years
          60 years or above

   Total number

   Total males----196
   Groups interviewed containing no males below 18 years-------67
   Groups interviewed containing one male below 18 years--------22
   Groups interviewed containing two males below 18 years-------6
   Groups interviewed containing three males below 18 years---- 2
   Groups interviewed containing four males below 18 years----- 1
   Groups interviewed containing five males below 18 years----- 1
   Groups interviewed containing six males below 18 years----- 1

   Total males below 18 years----55

   - 3 -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>62</td>
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<tr>
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<td>20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total females 19 to 59 years</td>
<td>74</td>
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<td>94</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total females 60 years or above</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<tr>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups interviewed containing six females</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total interviews----100
Total people----317
Groups containing one person---- 9
Groups containing two people-----41
Groups containing three people----19
Groups containing four people-----14
Groups containing five people-----4
Groups containing six people-----7
Groups containing seven people----1
Groups containing eight people----2
Groups containing nine people-----2
Groups containing ten people-----1

5. What kind of visit is this for you?

One day outing or trip -------------45
Part of major annual vacation---------2
Several locations (retirees or business)---3
Other--------------------------------0
Part of two or more short vacations-----4
Part of overnight or weekend trip------46
Hunting trip----------------------------0

6. How many days have you used this park in 1974?

First park visit
2-5 days
6-9 days
10-13 days
14-17 days
18-21 days
22-25 days
26 days or over

7. Where is your present home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>city</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>state</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

12. How long have you and your family been going together in the park?
   Interviewees who live outside Clark county---70
   ACTIVITY
   TIME SPENT

8. How many miles, by the most direct route, is the park from your home______ miles.
   Camping ________ hours
   Interviewees living less than 100 miles from the park_________88
   Interviewees living over 1,000 miles from the park___________1
   Interviewees living less than 5 miles from the park__________2
   Interviewees living less than 20 miles from the park_________29
   Interviewees living between 20 and 50 miles from the park_____18
   Interviewees living between 50 and 75 miles from the park_____8
   Interviewees living between 75 and 100 miles from the park_____13
   Interviewees living between 100 and 200 miles from the park____5
   Interviewees living between 200 and 500 miles from the park____2
   Interviewees living between 500 and 1,000 miles from the park___3
   Interviewees involved in fishing____________________89

9. What does the head of your family do for a living?
   ____________________________________________
   occupation (write-in)
   Non-computable.

10. How many years of education has the head of your household completed?
   1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
   17 or more graduate work

   Heads of households interviewed having a 6th grade or below education____4
   Heads of households interviewed having a 7th to 9th grade education____5
   Heads of households interviewed having a 10th to 12th grade education____43
   Heads of households interviewed having had 1 to 2 years of college____17
   Heads of households interviewed having had 3 to 4 years of college____16
   Heads of households interviewed having done post graduate study______15

11. Which best describes your vehicle?

   pick-up shell camper        auto only
   pick-up trailer (boat or camper)       auto-boat
   other (specify)       auto-trailer or camper

   Pick-up shell camper____12
   Pick-up trailer_________34
   Other__________________7
   Auto only______________15
   Auto-boat______________24
   Auto-trailer or camper___8
The results of a tally done manually on question 8.

are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Description</th>
<th>Number Interviewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Collar Workers (mechanics, electricians, carpenters, and factory workers, etc.)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Men (salesmen, executives, etc.)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirees</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Collar Workers (small business owners, plant foreman, etc.)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Personnel (teachers, professors, and consultants)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Personnel</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results of this survey questionnaire would vary with the seasons of the year. Therefore, to be more completely valid and reliable, the survey would need to be distributed over a twelve month period.