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Survey of the Visitors to DeGray Lake

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SURVEY OF THE VISITORS
TO DE GRAY LAKE

An 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

SURVEY OF THE VISITORS TO DE GRAY LAKE

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.

Groups interviewed containing no males 19 to 59 years-----10
Groups interviewed containing one male 19 to 59 years-----62
Groups interviewed containing two males 19 to 59 years-----20
Groups interviewed containing three males 19 to 59 years---- 7
Groups interviewed containing four males 19 to 59 years---- 1

Total males 19 to 59 years----127

Groups interviewed containing no males 60 years or above-----88
Groups interviewed containing one male 60 years or above-----11
Groups interviewed containing two males 60 years or above----- 0
Groups interviewed containing three males 60 years or above---- 1

Total males 60 years or above----14

Groups interviewed containing no males----- 1
Groups interviewed containing one male-----42
Groups interviewed containing two males-----35
Groups interviewed containing three males----14
Groups interviewed containing four males----- 3
Groups interviewed containing five males----- 1
Groups interviewed containing six males----- 3

Total females----121

Groups interviewed containing no females below 18 years-----74
Groups interviewed containing one female below 18 years-----13
Groups interviewed containing two females below 18 years-----11
Groups interviewed containing three females below 18 years---- 2

Total females below 18 years----41

Groups interviewed containing no females 19 to 59 years-----38
Groups interviewed containing one female 19 to 59 years-----53
Groups interviewed containing two females 19 to 59 years----- 6
Groups interviewed containing three females 19 to 59 years---- 3

Total females 19 to 59 years----74

Groups interviewed containing no females 60 years or above----94
Groups interviewed containing one female 60 years or above---- 6

Total females 60 years or above----6

Groups interviewed containing no females-----32
Groups interviewed containing one female-----39
Groups interviewed containing two females-----13
Groups interviewed containing three females----10
Groups interviewed containing four females----- 5
Groups interviewed containing five females----- 0
Groups interviewed containing six females----- 1

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	other (specify) _____
part of major annual vacation	part of two or more short vacations
several locations (retirees or business)	part of overnight or weekend trip hunting trip

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

First park visit----55
 2-5 days-----18
 6-9 days-----11
 10-13 days----- 4
 14-17 days----- 2
 18-21 days----- 1
 22-25 days----- 0
 26 days or over---- 9

7. Where is your present home?

city county state

12. ~~Check the activities that you and your family do 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 ~~camping~~ miles. hours
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 50 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-----28
- 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:

Blue Collar Workers (mechanics, electricians, carpenters, and factory workers, etc.) interviewed-----	38
Business Men (salesmen, executives, etc.) interviewed-----	21
Retirees interviewed-----	12
White Collar Workers (small business owners, plant foreman, etc.) interviewed-----	11
Educational Personnel (teachers, professors, and consultants) interviewed-----	10
Students interviewed-----	6
Military Personnel interviewed-----	2

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.