

Visitor Services Project
Delaware Water Gap
National Recreation Area
Report Summary

- This report describes the results of a study of visitors to Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area during July 22-30,1989. Six hundred forty-eight questionnaires were distributed and 457 returned, a 71% response rate.
- Volume 1 profiles Delaware Water Gap visitors. Volume 2 has their comments about the park and their visit. A summary of these comments is included in both volumes.
- Fifty-four percent of visitors were in family groups. Thirty-six percent of visitors were 26 to 40 years old. Thirty-nine percent of visitors were on their first visit to Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.
- Visitors from foreign countries composed 1% of the visitation to Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Eighty-nine percent of American visitors came from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.
- Forty-seven percent of visitors stayed four hours or less in the park, while 16% of visitors stayed 13 hours or more. Sightseeing (56%) and picnicking (35%) were the most common activities of visitors.
- Thirty-five percent of visitor groups stopped at the Dingmans Falls Visitor Center, 28% stopped at the Peters Valley Craft Village and 21% stopped at Dingmans Ferry Access.
- Fifty-five percent of visitors obtained information about the park from previous visits, 42% from friends and/or relatives and 29% from maps.
- Fifty-one percent of visitors used the road signs and 46% used the park staff for interpretive/information services. Both the park staff and the road signs received high usefulness ratings.
- Thirty-nine per cent of the visitors reported that they attended the Peters Valley Craft Fair. Fifty percent of those who attended said that this was the primary purpose of their visit.
- Visitors liked the scenic beauty of the park, the well maintained and/or clean park facilities and the peace and tranquility. They disliked traffic, the lack of signs to points of interest and unclean restrooms.
- Visitors made many more general comments about their visits to the park.

For more information about the Visitor Services Project, please contact Dr. Gary E. Machlis, Sociology Project Leader, University of Idaho Cooperative Park Studies Unit, College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, Moscow, Idaho 83843 or call (208)885-7129.