

NSRE

2000 UPDATE

NATIONAL SURVEY ON RECREATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

September 27, 2000



To date Versions I, II, III, and IV of the **NSRE 2000** have been completed. Version IV's data were collected from late February, 2000 through July, 2000. This version contained questions relating to people's recreation participation, wilderness values and opinions, leisure lifestyles, environmental values and opinions, and demographics. A total of 5, 004 interviews were collected for Version IV.

Version IV's data, along with data from Version I, II, and III have been examined for differences in demographic profiles between those surveyed and the overall population of the country. Differences were found to warrant weighting the data. The weighting strategy used a combination of multi-variate and multiplicative weights accounting for age, race, sex, education, and urban/rural differences. This weighting adjustment assures better estimates of recreation participation and trends across the general population. Some initial results (both weighted and unweighted) for version's 1 through 4 are available for viewing at our web-site: <http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends/nsre.html>

Initial analysis of Version's I through IV data reveals that outdoor recreation participation in America, in general, has continued to increase over the last five years, with the simple (low cost) activities (e.g., walking, bicycling, hiking, picnicking, family gatherings etc.) increasing the most. Furthermore, the American people continue to show a strong interest in viewing natural scenery and wildlife, visiting nature centers and trails or just being out-of-doors and driving for pleasure.

Version V of the **NSRE 2000** was started in late July, 2000 and is now very close to completion with more than 4,980 interviews in hand. This version contains questions pertaining to people's recreation participation (with particular regard to fresh and saltwater activities, agricultural and farm related activities), sightseeing, use of bicycling helmets (by adults and children), and demographics.

Version VI of the **NSRE 2000** has recently been pilot tested and data are now being collected. Version VI was begun in September, 2000 and is expected to be completed in early November, 2000. To date, Version VI has almost 100 completed interviews. Version VI contains questions pertaining to people's recreation participation, leisure lifestyles, wilderness values and opinions, national forest values and opinions, and demographics.

NSRE 2000 is being administered through two survey centers: the Human Dimensions Research Laboratory and the Social Science Research Institute at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. To date, 34,000 hours of interviewing have been spent on data collection alone.

For further information regarding the content, progress and results of the NSRE 2000 survey, contact Gary T. Green on (706)-559-4269 or gtgreen/srs_athens@fs.fed.us. Information may also be obtained at <http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends/>