RECREATION

Maximize community benefits from quality and diversity of recreation and tourism

- Physical Works
- Key Questions
- Monitoring Studies
COLUMBIA RIVER WATER USE PLAN: RECREATION

RECREATION

- Maximize community benefits from quality and diversity of recreation and tourism

  - Physical Works
  - Key Questions
  - Monitoring Studies

• Boat ramp improvements
• Woody debris management
RECREATION

Maximize community benefits from quality and diversity of recreation and tourism

Physical Works

Key Questions

• How does reservoir operation affect recreation?

• Do boat ramp projects improve visitor experience?

Monitoring Studies
RECREATION

Soft Constraint Target

- Preferred water level range for summer recreation.

- Reservoir water levels from 1,435 feet (437.4 metres) to 1,440 feet (438.9 metres) from May 24 to Sept 30.

- Lower reservoir levels of 1,424 feet (434 metres) acceptable with boat ramp improvements.
DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

- Submitted Arrow Reservoir Debris Management Strategy in 2013
- Program for remainder of WUP will be based on debris survey in 2015
RECREATION USE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- CLBMON-41 Recreation Demand Study
- CLBMON-14 Boat Launch Use Survey
- Traffic counters, observational counts, and intercept surveys
SAMPLE LOCATIONS
RESPONSES & PROFILES

• 2,628 completed questionnaires
• 73% response rate
• Socio-Demographics (2009-2013 results):
  • Male: 63.9%, Female: 36.1%
  • Average Age: 51.5 years old
  • Average Party Size: 2.6 people
PROFILE: VISITOR TYPE

% of Respondents

- Area Residents: 37.4%
- BC Tourists: 47.4%
- Canadian Tourists: 13.4%
- International Tourists: 1.9%
PROFILE: MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

• Fishing (26.4%)

• Camping (24.2%)

• Swimming (15.8%)

• Boating (14.7%)

• Years of doing their most important activity: 23.1 years

• Years of coming to Arrow Reservoir: 18.6 years
CLBMON-41: RECREATIONAL DEMAND STUDY
INTERIM RESULTS

• Water levels have a moderate effect on visitor use
  • Vast majority (99%) would return based on their experience
  • Vast majority (82%) would return even if water levels were different.
• Water levels explain a small amount of variation in boat launches.
COLUMBIA RIVER WATER USE PLAN: RECREATION

CLBMON-41: RECREATIONAL DEMAND STUDY
INTERIM RESULTS

Number of Boats Launched, Jan to Dec

Number of Boats Launched
(3 year average with standard deviation)
Arrow Lakes – Average Annual Boat Launches (2010-2013)

- Syringa Creek
- Shelter Bay
- Nakusp
- McDonald Ck
- Fauquier
- Edgewood
- Burton South*
- Anderson Pt

*Burton South only represents 2013
CLBMON-14: BOAT LAUNCH USE SURVEY INTERIM RESULTS

- 3 boat launches with pre/post construction data
- Satisfaction increases with upgrades
CLBMON-14: BOAT LAUNCH USE SURVEY
INTERIM RESULTS

Fauquier: Are you satisfied with the condition of the boat ramp facility at this site?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Pre-Construction (n=32)</th>
<th>Post-Construction (n=27)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>45%</td>
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</table>
CLBMON-14: BOAT LAUNCH USE SURVEY
INTERIM RESULTS

Fauquier: Are you satisfied with the condition of the boat ramp facility at this site?

Mean Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Pre-Construction (n=32)</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Construction (n=27)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLBMON-14: BOAT LAUNCH USE SURVEY INTERIM RESULTS

- 3 boat launches with pre/post construction data
- Satisfaction increases with upgrades
- Use may change
CLBMON-14: BOAT LAUNCH USE SURVEY INTERIM RESULTS

• 3 boat launches with pre/post construction data

• Satisfaction increases with upgrades

• Use may change

• Additional facilities or further upgrades are site dependent
SUMMARY

- Satisfaction increases with upgraded boat launches
- Use may change
- Water levels have a moderate effect on recreation – other factors may dominate
- Consistent water levels may be preferred