Capacity Determination for Visitor Use in Wilderness

Examples

The Toolbox section at: http://www.wilderness.net provides examples of wilderness planning, visitor use management, and capacity determination for visitor use in wilderness.

To find the examples of wilderness planning including indicators and standards for conditions of visitor use and resource protection go to the wilderness.net Home Page and click on 'Toolboxes'. From the toolbox list select Visitor Use Management or Resource Protection and look for the examples section.

To find the examples of capacity calculation listed below, go to the wilderness.net Home Page and click on 'Toolboxes'. From the toolbox list select Commercial Services (Outfitter-Guides).

- Outfitter-Guide Needs Assessment Checklist – formula based method
- Determining the Capacity of an Area Using ROS – formula based method
- Bighorn NF Needs Analysis and Allocation – formula based method
- San Juan NF Needs Analysis – formula and limiting factor methods

Current examples of numeric capacity determination using standards-based method -

Previous needs to determine numeric visitor use capacity have typically been done during wilderness planning by:

- Capping use at current levels
- Identifying Limits due to by physical setting or facility (parking spaces, camping areas, anchorages, specific attraction site, etc.)
- Setting standards and calculating the capacity in PAOTs based on the number of trail encounters, occupied sites, launches, landings, etc.)