



2106 Hiker/Biker Visitor Survey Responses Report

A look at Recent Improvements



Milo McIver area hiker/biker site

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History and background: Please see the 2010, 2012 and 2014 survey results report for the most extensive history hiker/biker sites and the surveys. These reports were based on surveys from all participating State Parks with existing hiker/biker sites. Contact Alex Phillips at alex.phillips@oregon.gov for the earlier reports or more information.

2016 Survey Purpose: The 2016 survey was developed to assess recent hiker/biker improvements in three parks. (Champoeg, Bullards and Milo McIver) so future improvements in the other parks can be designed to meet user needs and likes and not funding unneeded improvements.

Champoeg State Heritage Area: The hiker/biker site improvements included lockers with charging stations inside each locker and a covered shelter with table and counters. A separate smaller shelter was also installed. A bike fix-it station was installed near the center of the entire campground.



Bullards Beach State Park: The hiker/biker site improvements were one of the very first to be installed.



Improvements included a solar charging station with plug-ins located inside lockers, a bike stand (not a complete fix it station) and bike racks.

Milo McIver State Park: The hiker/biker site was moved to a larger and more appropriate location within the park. A covered shelter, a smaller covered shelter with benches, lockers with plug-ins and a bike fix-it station were installed.



Summary of Survey Results

A total of 47 completed surveys were returned with the majority of the responses from Bullards. Not all questions on every survey were answered resulting in most responses not adding to 100%.

Recommendations

Based on responses, OPRD is doing many things right. Respondents wrote many very complimentary comments of park staff and the amenities provided.

Based on survey results, charging stations are the most popular additional amenity. Based on responses, non-recreational campers can be a problem, especially at specific sites, such as Devils Lake State Park and need to be addressed.

Based on responses, future hiker/biker designs are best designed around sharing many of the amenities, such as shelters and tables, yet also provide an individual tent site. Respondents enjoyed the community of sharing shelters and tables and wanted a small individual tent site.

Are you traveling by bicycle or hiking? Check one

Response: 96% of respondents were traveling by bicycle. The 2% of hikers represent one hiker at Milo McIver.

Before this trip, had you ever visited an Oregon State Park hiker/biker campground? (check one)

Response: 67% of respondents had been to an OPRD hiker/biker camp before. At 23%, Bullards had by far the highest number of survey respondents that had not been there before.

Before this trip, did you know about Oregon State Park hiker/biker campgrounds?

Response: A total of 83% knew about hiker/biker campgrounds before this trip. Past survey responses revealed that many people do not know that hiker/biker sites exist and that they do not require a reservation. More promotion is needed to attract more visitors to more campgrounds.

If yes, how did you first learn about Oregon State Park hiker/biker campgrounds?

A very small number of respondents found out about the campgrounds through OPRD's website or brochures. Most checked the option of "other" and filled in one of the following: Adventure Cycling Association maps, blogs and the guide books for riding the Coast route.

If you checked Oregon State Park website or brochure, was the information adequate?

Response: A total of 34% responded yes, but most people did not answer this question.

Which of the following best describes your group type? (check one)

Response: A total of 56% were with friends and family, 34% were solo, but there were no solo responses from Milo McIver. Only 10% were with an organized group. There were no organized group responses from Champoeg.

If you are traveling with a group, how many people are in the group?

Response: Most responses were in the 2- 5 range with one group of 9 and one of 11, both at Milo McIver.

What information did you wish you knew before your trip?

Responses by Park:

Bullards Beach

surVID 16 Size/layout of H/B sites with pictures on the website would be cool.

surVID: 17 How many places are on each H/B site

surVID: 18 The space is so abundant.

surVID: 20 The excellent showers and ? (Compared to European ones!) Electrical device facilities.

surVID: 21 That it's easy to charge my phone at state parks campgrounds.

surVID: 22 Electronic devices can be charged at no cost

surVID: 23 Which sites have charging stations for phones, etc.

surVID: 24 Making available a map of all the Oregon State parks which have a H/B site available

surVID: 28 Condition of campground, location in relation to general population/ residential areas

surVID: 29 Nothing

surVID: 30 How good Oregon H/B sites are

surVID: 33 The beach was a mile away

surVID: 37 The website/brochure prices were out-of-date. It said \$5, and some in north/central were \$6

surVID: 38 How awesome these sites are!

surVID: 39 Which sites had food lockers

surVID: 40 Which camps had power on H/B site

surVID: 43 That the showers in Oregon State Parks are free!

surVID: 44 That the showers are free? I don't really know!

surVID: 45 How far it is from H/B camp to showers/bathrooms

surVID: 46 If more of your parks could have solar charging stations or hospitality centers?

Champoeg

surVID: 1 That there would be charging stations and we would need our own lock for the locker.

surVID: 2 How many sites were located in the hiker/biker camp, which amenities were provided (especially gear lockers), how to find it from the bike path (signs), what items are sold at the visitor center store.

surVID 12 Nothing really. I found it awesome that the H/B had an outlet for charging. The bike repair station is also great.

surVID: 13 What other campgrounds have H/B spots. Maybe ability to search website by H/B. Is there wood/ice available at campground?

surVID: 14 Having used them before, I didn't need anymore information

Milo McIver

surVID: 3 How to reserve the hiker/biker site beforehand. I couldn't online, so reserved a different site. Friendly staff made the needed changes.

surVID: 5 Wish camp hosts would offer keys to locker locks. I forgot to ask.

surVID: 6 I'm sure there was a lot of information on the state park website. Photos of the campsites are always nice and knowing if there are cooking shelters

surVID: 7 If there were suitable spots to hang my hammock

surVID: 11 Bike routes from the Portland area would be helpful

Was it easy to locate the hiker/biker campsite once you entered the park?

Response: A total of 81% responded that it was easy. The following is the write-in comment responses by park:

Bullards Beach

- As long as park officers give us a map it's all good! And the signage is good.
- I'd like to think that if they are easier to find, e.g. larger, more visible signage, that this would increase risk of theft exposure.
- Just to allow for closer access from highway to park where possible I suppose.....
- More signs to showers and restrooms on the path
- No.
- No. The rangers are superb at every site. They are an asset to your organization.
- Nope!
- Pretty simple. Ranger was helpful when we checked in.

Champoeg

- Have its location reflected on signage (the same as other camping areas are, ie A & B loops)
- Have it marked on map
- Signs were good

Milo McIver

- Make sure to have signage from all parts of state park campground, not just the main entrance
- More signs/a sign at the beginning of camp loop
- I've been here before so knew where the camp was. Past visit we had to show camp host where the new one was.
- Markings from S. River Lake Road. More clear signs from group camp-maybe an "up" arrow. Both have benefits
- More trail signs
- The individual camping sites could be marked more clearly

Which type of hiker/biker camp do you prefer? (Check only one)

- Hiker/biker camp with small individual sites
- One large hiker/biker site as a shared space

Responses: 29% preferred communal 49% preferred small individual sites. The survey did not give an official option for a write-in answer, but 13% wrote-in "both"

Write in Comments by park:

Bullards Beach

- I prefer a combination of a solo spot surrounded by others. Privacy is nice but the tables to be shared create community
- Common space with tent only.

Champoeg

- Either is good

Milo McIver

- We enjoy both
- With a group shelter
- The set-up here is great with communal cooking space and individual tent sites.

Did you use any of the following amenities provided at the hiker/biker site?

- Group Shelter
- Bike fix-it station (bike stand with basic tools and pump)
- Electrical plug-ins for charging devices
- Food and gear storage lockers
- Fire pit
- **Group Shelter:** 33% responded yes, 28% responded no and 40% responded that a group shelter was not present (the not present responses were probably from Bullards)

Bike Fix it station: 33% responded positively to using the fix it station, but 21% reported it was not present, possibly due to Champoeg's fix it station located near the entrance to the campground and not in the hiker/biker site.

Plug Ins: 85% responded positively to using the charging station

Lockers: 74% responded yes to using lockers

Fire pits: 49% responded yes to using fire pits, 4% responded that they were not present

How did the amenities you used improve your enjoyment of the site and/or increase the comfort of your stay?

Responses by Park:

Bullards Beach

surVID: 16 It was great to be able to charge electronics.

surVID: 18 Charging station means we don't need long stops in town to charge. Wish we knew about fix-it station before we left. It is great.

surVID: 20 Electrical plug-ins! Ear phones and cell phone and Garmin.

surVID: 21 Charging station in the lockers are awesome

surVID: 22 All! No site along coastal Washington has any of the amenities listed above. I don't believe California sites do either.

surVID: 23 Charging station, food storage. I love the bike fix-it station. I just didn't happen to need it this time. Hot showers!

surVID: 24 The bike stand was really useful to make the little repairs I had to do on my bicycle easier. The electrical plug-ins as well were useful.

surVID: 25 Loved charging station

surVID: 26 Charging station and food storage is very convenient

surVID: 27 All the state park campsites we visited are just fine

surVID: 28 I could get charged up in a safe locked cabinet! Bike rack lock up stations are great!

surVID: 29 Everyone has electrical devices. It's important to be able to charge them.

surVID: 30 Don't plant cacti on the grass outside of H/B sites! Ouch!

surVID: 31 Great to have a place for food and being able to charge electronic devices

surVID: 32 Very useful!

surVID: 33 I could charge all my devices without having to stay near them. It was warm around the fire, and allowed different groups to mingle.

surVID: 35 The charging station close to the tent site that could be locked were great

surVID: 36 Hot showers!

surVID: 37 Storage lockers helpful for critters. Pump handy when there was one

surVID: 38 So great to have the lockers and the charge stations

surVID: 39 Charging station helpful - food locker is essential

surVID: 40 Electrical plug-ins, lockers, group shelter

surVID: 41 Nice to be able to plug things in but some sort of secure place is nicer

surVID: 42 Food lockers eliminate raccoon raids! Charging station is very nice

surVID: 43 Food lockers were great. Would have used the charging stations if I hadn't just charged my stuff in

surVID: 44 Didn't use them, but knowing they are available is good!

surVID: 45 Food lockers! So much easier to keep food safe. Charging stations.

surVID: 47 Had everything we need to be comfortable and enjoy our activity

Champoeg

surVID: 1 The bike fixing station was great for pumping up my tires. The hot showers were great! We used the plug-ins too.

surVID: 2 It was more enjoyable to prepare meals in the shelter, easier to keep food organized (and minimized chance of animals eating it) in the locker and the plug-in was needed - my phone is my time-keeping device and it died the morning I left.

surVID: 12 Nice to get out of the rain while cooking.

surVID: 13 For this stay, we didn't know there were plug-ins, fix it, put in since last visit.

surVID: 14 This is the first one I have been in that had electrical plug-ins for charging. This is very nice.

surVID: 15 Did not have to hang food.

Milo McIver

surVID: 3 This site is fancy and great; I love it.

surVID: 4 More enjoyable, very comfortable, rain protection

surVID: 5 Great to have chargers! And it rained so we used the shelter. Also appreciate having a spot to store food from wildlife. Nice benches at fire pit.

surVID: 6 Group shelter helped to ease anxiety around rain weather forecast. Food and gear

lockers help with critters! Didn't use bike fix-it station, but am very glad it's there!

surVID: 7 Gave me a safe place to leave my stuff while I explored the park

surVID: 8 Ability to charge phones was very helpful. The group shelter was a great break from the rain.

surVID: 9 Kept isolated from the rain

surVID: 10 Love the ability to charge phones

surVID: 11 We loved the lockers and solar chargers! So cool. The shelter would be so nice in the rain.

How did any amenities in the hiker/biker site detract from your enjoyment and/or comfort of your stay?

Bullards Beach

surVID: 16 None.

surVID: 18 No. All great.

surVID: 21 None

surVID: 22 None.

surVID: 24 All the noise from the trash disposal facility just nearby.

surVID: 25 None

surVID: 29 Group shelters would be nice

surVID: 30 Sunset Bay was soggy

surVID: 31 Garbage very close (smells bad and noisy)

surVID: 33 They didn't

surVID: 38 N/A

surVID: 39 Would be nice to have a covered shelter

surVID: 40 No

surVID: 41 Have to worry about my phone being stolen while it is charging

surVID: 43 N/A

surVID: 45 Small/packed-in

Champoeg

surVID: 1 None

surVID: 12 They did not detract.

surVID: 13 No detracting.

Milo McIver

surVID: 6 N/A

surVID: 9 None

surVID: 10 None

Which one amenity from the list above would you want to see in all state parks hiker/biker sites?

Responses: Only responses from Bullards wanted a fix it station at all locations, with only 6% saying so. 44% overall wanted plug ins, and 28% overall wanted lockers.

The exact numbers by park are:

Bullards Beach

	2	4%
Bike fix-it station	3	6%
Electrical plug-ins	16	34%
Group shelter	3	6%
Storage lockers	8	17%

Champoeg

Electrical plug-ins	3	6%
Fire pit	1	2%
Group shelter	1	2%
Storage lockers	1	2%

Milo Mclver

Electrical plug-ins	2	4%
Group shelter	3	6%
Storage lockers	4	9%

Total Surveys Received: 47

Do you have suggestions for improving any of the amenities at the site?

Responses by park:

Bullards Beach

- surVID: 16* Get a bike air pump chained somewhere!
- surVID: 18* No. Oregon has the best H/B sites
- surVID: 19* Shelter with a table. It's very nice to pack the luggage if it's raining.
- surVID: 20* The electrical plug-ins like in Bullards Beach are excellent!
- surVID: 22* USB charging stations/food and gear combo lockers at this site should be available at all H/B sites. Level areas in some sites (or elevated, like planter boxes) for tent set-up.
- surVID: 23* Wifi hotspots
- surVID: 24* The sites should have a facility to wash the dishes and a toilet/shower closer.
- surVID: 26* More picnic tables, more fire pits, mor hammock spots
- surVID: 27* No
- surVID: 28* Sell pad/masterlocks at registration (or rent)
- surVID: 29* I think the list in 13 could add a H/B specific laundry and some full size bike lockers. (Many more comments listed on back of survey form)
- surVID: 30* Bullards Beach is perfect
- surVID: 33* Less shrubbery around the site - limits options
- surVID: 36* Enlarge H/B area
- surVID: 39* Covered cooking shelter

surVID: 40 Sandy ground hard to wheel bikes through and secure tent well
surVID: 41 Put keys on them like swim lockers
surVID: 43 More picnic tables would be nice
surVID: 47 Hot coffee. No.

Champoeg

surVID: 1 None. It was great!
surVID: 12 Nope - everything is great!
surVID: 13 Having wood available for the firepit would be nice as most H/B do not bring their own wood. Would like to see H/B at all state parks. Kill all Poison Oak in immediate camping areas.
surVID: 14 None. It is nice to have the electrical plug-ins so I do not have to sit by the restrooms to charge
surVID: 15 Tried using outlets, but they did not work.

Milo McIver

surVID: 3 No
surVID: 4 2 group shelters or 1 large one
surVID: 5 Better/faster charging ability
surVID: 6 Bigger group shelter or second group shelter if there are a lot of people (more than 6-8)
surVID: 7 More lockers maybe?
surVID: 9 No
surVID: 10 None
surVID: 11 Grey water disposal

List any additional Oregon State Parks where you feel hiker/biker campgrounds would be useful to you in the future.

Bullards Beach

surVID: 16 Bullards Beach, Devil's Lake, Honeyman.
surVID: 19 It would be great if we can find H/B sites each 20 miles.
surVID: 24 All of them!!
surVID: 28 All of them! At least biker sites.
surVID: 29 All of them
surVID: 32 Don't know any
surVID: 37 I don't travel by bike too much, but it's wonderful to have even 1-2 sites set aside for H/B
surVID: 42 I'd like to find one in every park
surVID: 44 Some more on the coast! There's already a bunch, but a few more could be nice.
surVID: 45 More between Port Orford and Brookings
surVID: 47 Sunset Bay's H/B was wet

Champoeg

surVID: 2 Oxbow. Any! Can't afford regular rates & never take a vehicle, so we only camp at locations with hiker/biker sites. It's nice that they're not (often) reservable, so it's not necessary & plan trips months in advance as my work schedule does not allow for.

surVID: 12 Any of the parks that don't currently have H/B sites.

surVID: 13 More in the Willamette Valley, even those without camping (e.g. Willamette Mission).

Tell us anything else we can do to improve your experience at State Parks hiker/biker campgrounds.

surVID: 16 Bike tools and charging abilities at all parks.

surVID: 18 Loved the charging station. Wish they were everywhere!

surVID: 19 Maybe you could sell beer! And Wifi spot.

surVID: 21 Wifi hot spot

surVID:22 Have portable chemical toilets stationed nearby. Some restroom locations have been somewhat distant from H/B sites.

surVID: 23 I have truly enjoyed every experience at a state park here in Oregon. The facilities are well taken care of, staff are friendly and helpful :)

surVID: 24 They are often located in less desirable parts of the parks. It would be interesting to think of H/B as "prime users" of the parks just like any other camper and other access to a great spot of the parks.

surVID:27 Flat shelter spaces

surVID:28 Bike lock stations at campsites. Keep brush low for more safety. Devil's Lake & William Tugman are dangerous & unsafe, especially for a solo woman! Theft is high in these areas! Remove H/B or address issues! (More issues continued on survey form)

surVID: 29 Rent locks for the charging stations

surVID: 30 Free coffee. Ha!

surVID: 34 Had a wonderful/pleasant experience! Will definitely visit again.

surVID: 39 At times the sites aren't in very good locations

surVID: 41 I am out here by myself - that is a factor every time I wal away (bathroom, shower, beach) security improvements

surVID: 42 Sunset Bay H/B site is under water and cannot be used

surVID: 43 It would be nice to have longer/wider bike racks that make it easier to lean loaded touring bikes on. It's currently a bit tricky with the current ones. No big deal though.

surVID: 47 Charging stations in all H/B

Champoeg

surVID: 1 Advertise them more, list it on entrance sign and put it on maps.

surVID: 14 I have been in most of them up and down the coast and they are very good. But the one at Devil's Lake is not very good.

surVID: 15 Have more of them. They are awesome!

Milo McIver

surVID: 4 Very well done! Affordable and extremely nice

surVID: 5 Closer toilet

surVID: 6 There could be a bathroom a bit closer to the hiker/biker site. Also, more protection (trees) over the tent

surVID: 11 Designated bike routes to the park and/or suggested routes on brochure, more fire pits, map of campsites and trails and shelter

If you are interested in receiving additional questions about hiker/biker sites, provide your email here

A Total of eight emails were collected from this question.

Future survey recommendations: Finding a better way to analyze the data would expedite the analysis and allow for easier interpretation of the results. Microsoft Access was used for the 2012-2016 survey results. The results were formatted in a confusing way and answers that were shown as percentages were not consistently shown. Sometimes the percent had shown reflected answers from all parks, other times from individual parks with no way to generate a total.

In the future it would possibly be better to use Excel or to have a more customized Access platform set up.

Surveys that can be filled out during the visitor's stay results in the most useful information. Online surveys are easier to analyze, but would not give the individual site response due to people forgetting which site(s) were visited and response numbers would likely significantly decrease without being able to fill out surveys in the moment.

Non-recreational campers: Several survey respondents wrote additional comments expressing concerns about a few non-recreational campers using hiker/biker sites.

2016 Blank Survey

See attachment next page

2016 total visits per park graph

See next page

2012 - 2106 total visits per park per year graph

See next page



We are conducting this survey to learn about your experiences at Oregon State Park hiker/biker campgrounds. Your input is important and will assist us in improving future experiences at these campgrounds. *Please return completed surveys to the campground registration booth, fee box at pay station or comment box.*

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department recently made improvements to hiker/biker sites at Milo McIver, Champoeg and Bullards Beach State Parks. We are seeking your feedback on these improvements to help us make future changes at these and other hiker/biker sites.

1. Name of the State Park where you are filling out this survey: _____

2. Today's date: _____

3. Are you traveling by bicycle or hiking? (**check one**)

Bicycle Hiking

4. Before this trip, had you ever visited an Oregon State Park hiker/biker campground? (**check one**)

Yes No

5. Before this trip, did you know about Oregon State Park hiker/biker campgrounds?

Yes No

6. If yes, how did you first learn about Oregon State Park hiker/biker campgrounds? (**check one**)

Oregon State Park website or brochure

Discovered a hiker/biker campground during a previous visit to an Oregon State Park

Other (write response) _____

7. If you checked **Oregon State Park website or brochure**, was the information adequate?

Yes No

8. Which of the following best describes your group type? (**check one**)

Solo With an organized group With friends and/or family

9. If you are traveling with a group, how many people are in the group? _____

10. What information did you wish you knew before your trip?

11. Was it easy to locate the hiker/biker campsite once you entered the park?

No Yes

Do you have any suggestions to make it easier to find once you are in the park?

12. Which type of hiker/biker camp do you prefer? (Check only one)

Hiker/biker camp with small individual sites

One large hiker/biker site as a shared space

---Continued on other side---

13. Did you use any of the following amenities provided at the hiker/biker site?

<i>Amenity</i>	Yes	No	Amenity not present
Group Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike fix-it station (bike stand with basic tools and pump)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical plug-ins for charging devices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food and gear storage lockers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire pit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. How did the amenities you used **improve** your enjoyment of the site and/or increase the comfort of your stay?

15. How did any amenities in the hiker/biker site **detract** from your enjoyment and/or comfort of your stay?

16. Which **one** amenity from the **list above** would you want to see in all state parks hiker/biker sites?

17. Do you have suggestions for improving any of the amenities at the site?

18. List any additional Oregon State Parks where you feel hiker/biker campgrounds would be useful to you in the future.

19. Tell us anything else we can do to improve your experience at State Parks hiker/biker campgrounds.

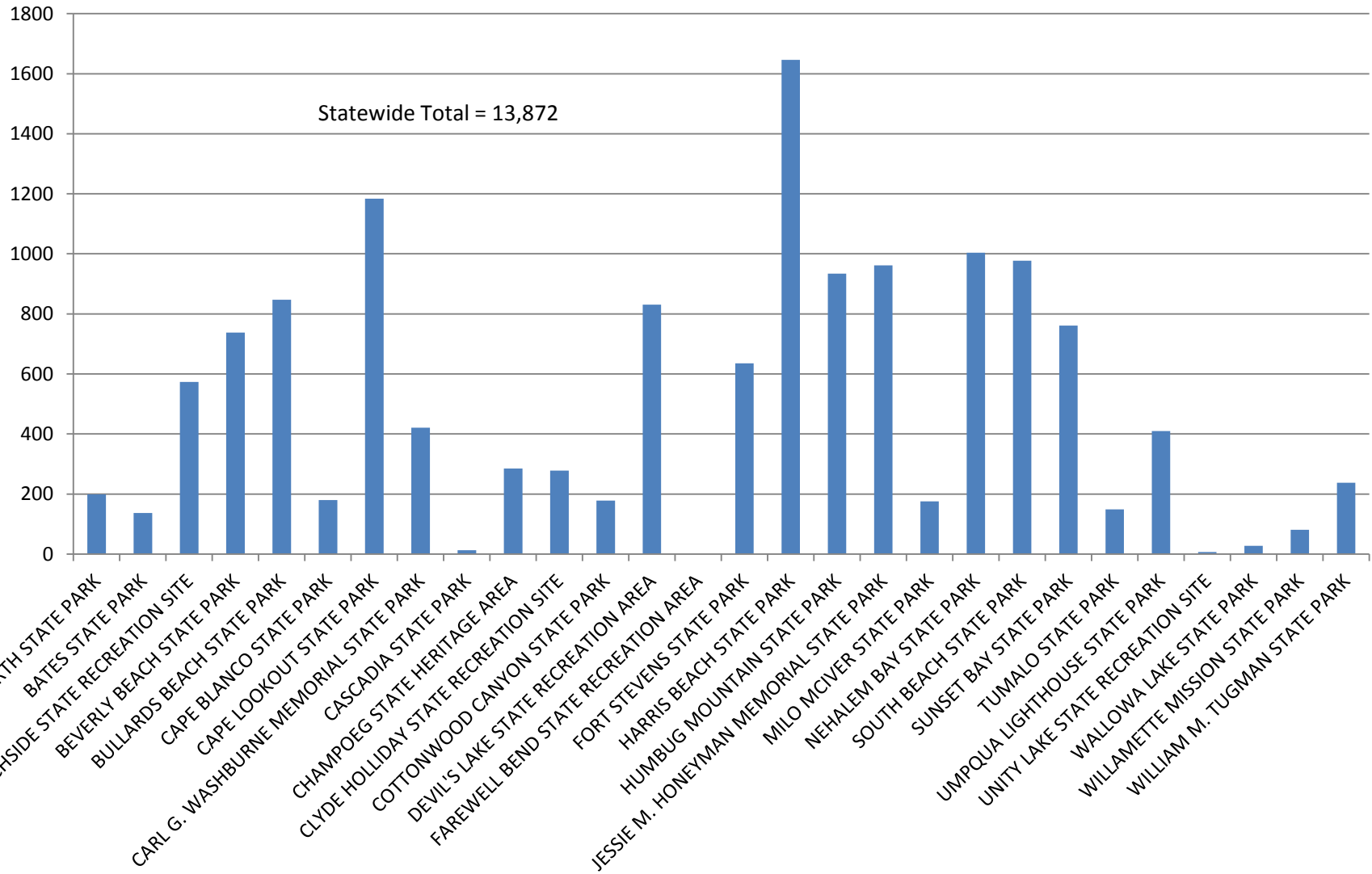
20. If you are interested in receiving additional questions about hiker/biker sites, provide your email here:

Thank you! *Please return completed surveys to the campground registration booth, fee box at pay station or comment box.*

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Hiker-Biker

CY 2016



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Hiker-Biker

CY 2012-2016

