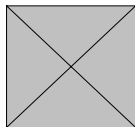


To: Simon, Benjamin[benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Ann Miller[ann_miller@ios.doi.gov]
From: English, Don -FS
Sent: 2017-06-12T07:39:39-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Bears Ears NM data call
Received: 2017-06-12T07:39:53-04:00

[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Ben:

The 35,000 visits for the FS are based on a pro rata technique that allocates FS forest-level visit estimates to subportions of the forest according to the number of NVUM sites that are within the subportion. So it only includes FS visits. I cannot speak to whether the BLM estimate already includes FS recreation; I was assuming that it did not.



Donald English, PhD
NVUM Program Leader

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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Simon, Benjamin [mailto:benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 09, 2017 3:05 PM
To: English, Don -FS <denglish@fs.fed.us>
Cc: Ann Miller <ann_miller@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Bears Ears NM data call

Hey Don,

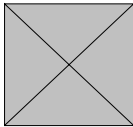
The most important question here is the extent to which the 35,000 visits might be double counted with the BLM visits. Do you have any sense about the extent of possible double counting? Would it be better to use a range when we present the econ contribution information (low end would be just the BLM visits, high end would be BLM+FS visits).

Ben

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Schmidt, Jaime T -FS** <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us>
Date: Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 6:46 PM
Subject: RE: Bears Ears NM data call
To: "Miller, Ann" <ann_miller@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Simon, Benjamin" <benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov>, "Bowman, Randal" <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov>, "Bustam, Tinelle D -FS" <tbustam@fs.fed.us>

Your question does make sense Ann and I'm forwarding it to our National Visitor Use Monitoring Program Manager Don English to include with his answer to you earlier related question. I feel fairly confident that his answer will be 'yes', the 35,000 visits refer to our estimated visits on national forest and within the monument, but we'll wait for Don to verify. Thanks.



Jaime Schmidt
National Trail Program Manager

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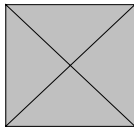
From: Miller, Ann [mailto:ann_miller@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 08, 2017 3:35 PM
To: Schmidt, Jaime T -FS <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us>
Cc: Simon, Benjamin <benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov>; Bowman, Randal <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov>; Bustam, Tinelle D -FS <tbustam@fs.fed.us>
Subject: Re: Bears Ears NM data call

Thanks Jaime! I have one more clarifying question. The FS edits indicate that there are an estimated 35,000 visits to the national forest. I just want to confirm that that is the estimate of visits within BENM boundaries, because the response to the data call indicated that there are an estimated 350,000 annual recreation visits to the entire forest, but that estimates by Ranger

District are not available. Basically I just want to make sure that the 35,000 is an estimate of visits to the NF within BENM boundaries, and that the 350,000 is a separate estimate of total recreation visits (and not that an extra zero was added in the data call response). I hope that makes sense.

Ann

On Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 6:07 PM, Schmidt, Jaime T -FS <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us> wrote:
Hi Ann— we're having out folks take a look and will get back with you soon. Thanks.



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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Miller, Ann [mailto:ann_miller@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 08, 2017 2:15 PM
To: Schmidt, Jaime T -FS <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us>
Cc: Simon, Benjamin <benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov>; Bowman, Randal <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Bears Ears NM data call

Thanks Jaime. We have just a few more questions (this includes questions based on the FS edits):

1. Can you give us some more information on where the estimates for economic contributions for combined BLM and FS recreation came from? Is there a way of ensuring that there is no double-counting in the levels of visitation to FS and BLM land? (That is, do we know if the 35,000 visits to the FS part of BENM do not in any way overlap with the recreation visits data we have from BLM for the monument area?)
2. I think we should probably use 2016 grazing fees in this since we are talking about 2016 levels of activity. What was the FS 2016 grazing fee? Can you provide us with a citation along with this information?
3. You mentioned that there was a thinning project outside of the monument - was this the

Johnson-Verdure Stewardship Project or a different stewardship project? The information we received from the data call indicated that the Johnson-Verdure Stewardship Project was within monument boundaries, and that is how we presented that information in the BENM review. I understand that there has been no commercial timber activity but are there sales values for the sale of permits for Christmas trees, firewood, and wood for posts?

Thanks!
Ann

On Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:02 PM, Schmidt, Jaime T -FS <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us> wrote:
Ann— please see Forest Service answers to your questions below. Apologies for the delay, but we've been pressed for time and availability of our subject matter experts. These answers have also generally been incorporated into the Forest Service's recommended edits (submitted today) to DOI's draft interim economic report on Bears Ears. Thanks and please let me know if you have additional questions.

The monument designation did not cause any change in grazing or timber harvest activities. As such, the Forest Service has not seen any change since designation and does not anticipate any future change in grazing or timber harvest activities within the monument.

1. For grazing, is it possible to provide AUMs billed? I believe the information provided is only AUMs permitted.

The Forest Service permits livestock grazing by AUMs and bills grazing fees by head months (HM).

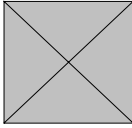
There are nine Forest Service allotments wholly or partially contained within BENM. These allotments include 11,061 permitted head months within the monument. In 2016, the portion of allotments within the monument were billed a total of 7,335 HM. This occupancy has remained consistent over the past 5 years, with annual fluctuations on average of less than 15% percent due to the actual amount of grazing use each year.

The attached paper, provided for reference, provides an expanded explanation of head months and animal unit months along with a table.

2. For timber, is it possible to provide further detail on production such as the dollar value of sales?

There have not been any recent timber harvest activities within the area of the monument from which to gather comparable value estimates. Although up to 53,000 acres of the BENM is designated as suitable for timber production under current Manti-La Sal National Forest management direction, being designated as suitable does not mean there are actual timber projects occurring. The most recent, nearby project was located outside of the monument and

was for thinning under a stewardship contract.



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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Miller, Ann [mailto:ann_miller@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 05, 2017 10:03 AM
To: Schmidt, Jaime T -FS <jtschmidt@fs.fed.us>
Cc: Simon, Benjamin <benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov>; Bowman, Randal
<randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Bears Ears NM data call

Hi Jaime,

Thank you for the information you provided for our data call regarding Bears Ears National Monument. We have a couple of follow-up questions:

1. For grazing, is it possible to provide AUMs billed? I believe the information provided is only AUMs permitted.
2. For timber, is it possible to provide further detail on production such as the dollar value of sales?

Thanks!
Ann

--

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