

# CAMPING AT SASKATCHEWAN LANDING



## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

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December 2009

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this survey was to collect information to evaluate a 14-night maximum length of stay pilot study at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park (SLPP) in an effort to ensure more Saskatchewan residents and visitors have access to campsites. The survey was designed to obtain campers' perceptions of a maximum length of stay at SLPP and to provide further clarity regarding the potential impacts and outcomes of implementing a maximum length of stay at SLPP. In addition, the results of this survey, combined with other information, helped TPCS better understand the potential of using a maximum length of stay as a campground management tool in other provincial parks.

The survey sample was designed in a way to allow for comparisons between those who stayed in maximum stay campsites and those who stayed in campsites with no maximum stay restrictions. Campers with reservations or bookings in Sagebrush Campground (maximum stay campsites) or in an electrified campsite during the peak camping season in Bearpaw Campground (unlimited stay campsites) were included in the sample.

Two approaches were used to invite campers to participate in the survey: 1) Email invitation to an online survey; and 2) Direct mail invitation to complete and return a paper survey. Based on a combination of the two approaches, 1040 campers (Sagebrush: 364; Bearpaw: 676) were successfully invited to participate in the survey. A total of 611 campers (Sagebrush: 203; Bearpaw: 408) completed the survey for a response rate of 58.8%.

The majority of respondents were Saskatchewan residents, employed full-time, and had a household income of \$80,000 or more. The average age of respondents was 48 years. Respondents typically reported having two adults and one child living in their household. One-half of respondents were female.

On average, respondents reported camping 15 nights in Saskatchewan overall in 2009, with 11 of those nights being spent in Saskatchewan provincial parks. Respondents camped for an average of six nights at SLPP in 2009. Over one-quarter of respondents reported camping at regional parks in 2009, while a smaller proportion camped at privately-owned campgrounds.

Three-quarters of respondents indicated that their typical camping group was made up of friends and family, with an average group size of four people. Almost two-thirds of respondents indicated that their camping group included children or youth (18 years or younger).

Three-quarters of respondents indicated that SLPP was the main destination of their trip. The average distance respondents travelled from home to get to SLPP was 193 km. Over one-third of respondents travelled less than 100 km from home to get to SLPP.

Over three-quarters of respondents typically used a travel trailer or fifth wheel when camping at SLPP in 2009. Less than one-half of respondents reported staying in Sagebrush Campground in 2009. Respondents most commonly reported reserving by phone, reserving online, and booking at the park as a walk-up to get their campsite at SLPP in 2009.

Overall, a large majority of respondents reported being satisfied with camping at SLPP in 2009. Almost three-quarters of respondents indicated that they were quite or extremely likely to camp at SLPP in 2010.

Over one-third of respondents reported having trouble getting a campsite at SLPP in 2009. The most commonly reported reasons for this trouble included: campsites with the desired types of

service were not available; no first-come-first-served campsites were available; and no Reserve-a-Site campsites were available. Almost three-quarters of respondents agreed they would have camped more often if it was easier to get a campsite.

Respondents were asked to rate the performance of SLPP in delivering several services and experiences during their camping visits in 2009. With the exception of a few items, respondents rated facility maintenance, campsite attributes, recreation amenities, safety and security, and campsite directions quite high. Cleanliness of bathrooms/showers, privacy of campsites, and proximity of campsites to the beach received lower ratings. Respondents' performance ratings of campsite availability were also lower.

A small proportion of respondents reported leaving their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days while staying at SLPP in 2009. The majority of respondents indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be able to leave their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days.

Respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement with several statements regarding the potential implementation of a maximum stay at SLPP. Less than one-half of respondents agreed that every campsite should have a maximum stay, while the majority agreed having a maximum stay would make it easier to get a campsite. Most respondents agreed that the number of campsites available for long-term campers should be limited and that the majority of campsites should be available for short-term campers. Most respondents also agreed that specific areas of a campground should be designated for long-term camping. Moreover, almost one-half of respondents indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be allowed to stay in a non-seasonal campsite for as many consecutive nights as they want.

Two-thirds of respondents indicated that a maximum stay of 14 nights at SLPP is about right, while over one-quarter of respondents indicated that 14 nights is too short. A smaller proportion reported that 14 nights is too long.

Respondents were asked if a 14-night maximum stay would affect their likeliness of camping at SLPP in the future. The large majority of respondents indicated that they were just as likely or more likely to camp at SLPP if a maximum stay was implemented.

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support with several potential development options at SLPP. The majority of respondents indicated support for boat rental/equipment facilities, a service centre at the marina, and rental cabins. The majority of respondents also indicated that they would use boat rental/equipment facilities and a service centre at the marina if they were available, while smaller proportions indicated they would use rental cabins.

Two comparison groups were created to better understand differences in perception between respondents who stayed in maximum stay campsites (Sagebrush Campground) and those who stayed in campsites where there were no maximum stay restrictions (Bearpaw Campground).

There were no significant differences based on respondents' overall satisfaction with camping at SLPP in 2009. Respondents who stayed in Sagebrush reported higher performance ratings for park facilities compared to those who stayed in Bearpaw. However, it should be noted that all of the facilities (including bathrooms and showers) in Sagebrush Campground were brand new in 2009.

Respondents who camped in Bearpaw were more likely to leave their campsite unoccupied for three or more consecutive nights, compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush. Respondents who camped in Bearpaw were also more likely to indicate that people should be allowed to leave their campsite unoccupied for three or more consecutive nights.

Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw were more likely to indicate that people should be allowed to stay in a non-seasonal campsite in a provincial park for as many consecutive nights as they want. Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw were also more likely to indicate that a maximum stay of 14 nights at SLPP was too short compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush. However, the majority of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that a maximum stay of 14 nights at SLPP was about right.

The majority of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that they would camp the same amount at SLPP if a 14-night maximum stay were implemented. Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw reported being less likely to camp at SLPP if a maximum stay of 14 nights was implemented.

Overall, the results support that the majority of campers favoured a balanced approach that improves availability of short-term camping, while respecting the demand for long-term camping opportunities at SLPP. Generally, respondents who stayed at Sagebrush were more supportive of a maximum stay and opportunities for short-term camping, while respondents from Bearpaw were more supportive of opportunities for long-term camping.

## **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this survey was to collect information to evaluate a 14-night maximum length of stay pilot study at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park (SLPP) in an effort to ensure more Saskatchewan residents and visitors have access to campsites. The survey was designed to obtain campers' perceptions of a maximum length of stay at SLPP and to provide further clarity regarding the potential impacts and outcomes of implementing a maximum length of stay at SLPP. In addition, the results of this survey, combined with other information, helped TPCS better understand the potential of using a maximum length of stay as a campground management tool in other provincial parks.

The pilot project designated 54 campsites in Sagebrush Campground, which had been upgraded to electric for the 2009 season, as maximum stay sites. Campers who registered in these designated sites were limited to maximum stays of 14 consecutive nights during the peak camping season of June 24th through to September 7th. There were no maximum stay restrictions in SLPP's other campgrounds - Bearpaw (electric and non-electric campsites), Nighthawk (seasonal campsites), and Riverside (overflow campsites).

This report presents only the results from the 611 respondents who completed the survey (response rate: 58.8%). The Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport is very grateful to all of the respondents who took the time to participate in this survey.

This report is organized into seven different sections. Section 2 presents the methodology for the study. Sections 3 to 6 present the overall results and Section 7 presents comparisons based on the campground respondents stayed in.

Respondents had the opportunity to provide any additional open-ended comments they wanted to share. Over one-half of respondents (56.3%; 344 of 611) provided additional comments. Generally, the themes that emerged from the comments were consistent with the other data in the report. Comments that capture the sentiments of respondents are highlighted throughout the report in the corresponding sections. These comments are designated with a text box.

## SECTION 2: METHODOLOGY

The focus of the survey was non-seasonal campers who stayed in electrified campsites at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park during the peak camping season (June 24 to September 7, 2009).

In order to better understand campers' perceptions of a maximum length of stay at SLPP and to provide further clarity regarding the potential impacts and outcomes of implementing a maximum length of stay at SLPP, it is important to understand any differences that may exist between those who stayed in a maximum stay campsite and those who stayed in campsites where there were no maximum stay restrictions. As such, the sample was designed in a way to allow for comparisons between those who stayed in maximum stay campsites and those who stayed in campsites with no maximum stay restrictions. Campers with reservations or bookings in Sagebrush Campground (maximum stay campsites) or in an electrified campsite during the peak camping season in Bearpaw Campground (unlimited stay campsites) were included in the sample.

Two approaches were used to invite campers to participate in the survey: 1) Email invitation to an online survey; and 2) Direct mail invitation to complete and return a paper survey. Contact information for both approaches was obtained from the campsite management system for SLPP, which is used for booking campsite reservations and collecting camping statistics.

The data collection period was from September 1st to November 10th, 2009. Campers residing in Regina and Saskatoon were contacted beginning September 22nd to avoid sending surveys to addresses that were included in the two provincial by-elections.

Based on a combination of the two approaches, 1040 campers (Sagebrush: 364; Bearpaw: 676) were successfully invited to participate in the survey. A total of 611 campers (Sagebrush: 203; Bearpaw: 408) completed the survey for a response rate of 58.8%.

**Table 2.1 – Survey Respondents by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw	Overall
Number of Electrified Campsites	54	170	224
Number of Successfully Delivered Surveys	364	676	1040
Number Completed Surveys	203	408	611

The Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch of TPCS was responsible for survey administration, data analysis and report preparation.

### ***Direct Email Invitations***

A total of 465 campers were directly emailed an invitation to participate in the online survey. Of those, 49 emails bounced or were undeliverable, resulting in 416 successfully delivered emails. All 49 campers with bounced or undeliverable email addresses had useable mailing information and were added to the direct mail contact list.

Three reminder-emails were sent to non-respondents at one to two week intervals from the initial email invitation. The initial email and reminder emails all had an embedded link to the online survey. A total of 258 respondents completed the online survey from the email sample for a response rate of 62.0% (258 of 416).

***Direct Mail Invitations***

A total of 641 campers (including those with bad email addresses) were mailed a paper version of the survey, accompanied by a cover letter and postage-paid return envelope. Of those, 17 were undeliverable due to inaccurate contact information, for a total of 624 successfully delivered surveys.

Respondents had the option to return a completed paper survey in the postage-paid envelope or complete the survey online by entering the web address that was provided in the cover letter. Non-respondents were mailed a postcard reminder and replacement survey, two weeks and four weeks after the initial mail invitation, respectively. A total of 353 respondents completed the survey from the mail sample for a response rate of 56.6% (353 of 624).

### SECTION 3: DEMOGRAPHICS

#### **Gender**

One-half of respondents (50.5%) were female.

#### **Age**

On average (median<sup>1</sup>), respondents were 48 years of age (Mean<sup>2</sup>: 48 years; Range: 23 to 84 years).

#### **Aboriginal Status**

A small proportion of respondents (1.9%) self-reported being Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis or Inuit).

#### **Household Size**

On average (median), respondents reported there were 2 adults and 1 child (18 years of age or younger) living in their household (Mean: 2 adults; 1 child; Range: 1 to 5 adults, 0 to 7 children). The majority of respondents (53.2%) indicated they had a child living in their household.

#### **Disability**

A small proportion of respondents indicated someone in their household (8.9%) had a physical or mental condition that limits the amount or kind of activity they can perform.

#### **Employment Status**

Respondents were asked to indicate the category that best describes their employment status in the past year. The majority of respondents (59.6%) were employed full-time.

**Table 3.1 – Employment Status**

	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Employed Full-Time	59.6%
Retired	16.9%
Employed Part-Time	10.5%
Homemaker	8.5%
Other*	7.4%
Full-Time Student	1.5%
Part-Time Student	1.0%
Unemployed	0.2%

\* 'Other' most often included self-employed and farmer

<sup>1</sup> Median – the middle number in a given sequence of numbers, or the point below which 50% of the scores/responses fall.

<sup>2</sup> Mean – the mathematical average of the scores/responses.

**Annual Household Income**

Over one-half of respondents (55.0%) reported having an annual household income of \$80,000 or more.

**Table 3.2 – Annual Household Income**

	Percent of Respondents
Under \$20,000	1.6%
\$20,00 to \$39,999	8.2%
\$40,000 to \$59,999	15.4%
\$60,000 to \$79,999	19.8%
\$80,000 to \$99,999	17.2%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	18.2%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	9.0%
\$150,000 or More	10.6%

**Residency**

Over three-quarters of respondents (77.5%) were residents of Saskatchewan. A smaller proportion of respondents were from Alberta (18.8%) and other provinces/countries (3.8%).

**Table 3.3 – Province of Residence**

	Percent of Respondents
Saskatchewan	77.5%
Alberta	18.8%
Other*	3.8%

\*'Other' commonly included BC, Manitoba, and Ontario.

**Years Residence in Current Community and in Saskatchewan**

On average (median), respondents had lived in their current community for 24 years (Mean: 25 years; Range: 0 to 79 years). Respondents reported living in Saskatchewan for an average of 40 years (Mean: 35 years; Range: 0 to 84 years).

**Community Size**

Respondents most frequently reported living in a community between 10,000 and 29,999 people (23.9%) and in a community of 50,000 people or more (20.6%).

**Table 3.4 – Community Size**

	Percent of Respondents
Acreage	6.4%
Farm	16.0%
Up to 500 people	8.3%
500 and 1,999 people	7.4%
2,000 and 4,999 people	8.9%
5,000 and 9,999 people	4.6%
10,000 and 29,999 people	23.9%
30,000 and 49,999 people	3.9%
50,000 people or more	20.6%

## SECTION 4: CAMPING IN SASKATCHEWAN

### ***Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Camped at in 2009***

Over one-third of respondents (38.5%) indicated that they visited more than one provincial park in 2009. Aside from SLPP, respondents most frequently camped at: 1) Cypress Hills (16.7%); 2) Pike Lake (4.4%); and 3) The Battlefords (4.1%).

A small proportion of respondents (2.6%) identified 'other' locations, which commonly included regional parks.

**Table 4.1 - Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Camped at in 2009**

	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Saskatchewan Landing	100.0%
Cypress Hills	16.7%
Pike Lake	4.4%
The Battlefords	4.1%
Meadow Lake	3.6%
Buffalo Pound	2.9%
Rowan's Ravine	2.6%
Douglas	2.6%
Other	2.6%
Danielson	2.3%
Echo Valley	2.1%
Greenwater Lake	2.1%
Moose Mountain	2.0%
Duck Mountain	1.8%
Good Spirit Lake	1.6%
Candle Lake	1.6%
Emma Lake	1.3%
Makwa Lake	1.0%
Crooked Lake	0.8%
Narrow Hills	0.7%

### ***Number of Nights Camped at Saskatchewan Provincial Parks in 2009***

On average (median), respondents reported camping 11 nights in Saskatchewan provincial parks in 2009 (Mean: 19 nights; Range: 1 to 150 nights).

**Camping Outside of Saskatchewan Provincial Parks in 2009**

Respondents were also asked to indicate if they camped in Saskatchewan at places other than provincial parks. Over one-quarter of respondents (30.0%) reported camping at regional parks in 2009, while a smaller proportion (20.5%) camped at privately-owned campgrounds.

Of those respondents who camped at regional parks, they camped for an average (median) of five nights at regional parks (Mean: 7 nights; Range: 1 to 38 nights).

**Table 4.2 - Camping Outside of Saskatchewan Provincial Parks**

	Percent of Respondents	Median <sup>1</sup>	Mean <sup>1</sup>
Regional parks	30.0%	5	7
Privately-owned campgrounds	20.5%	5	7
Other locations*	11.5%	4	6
National parks	8.3%	4	5

<sup>1</sup>Of those who camped at each location; \* other locations commonly included private lot/residence.

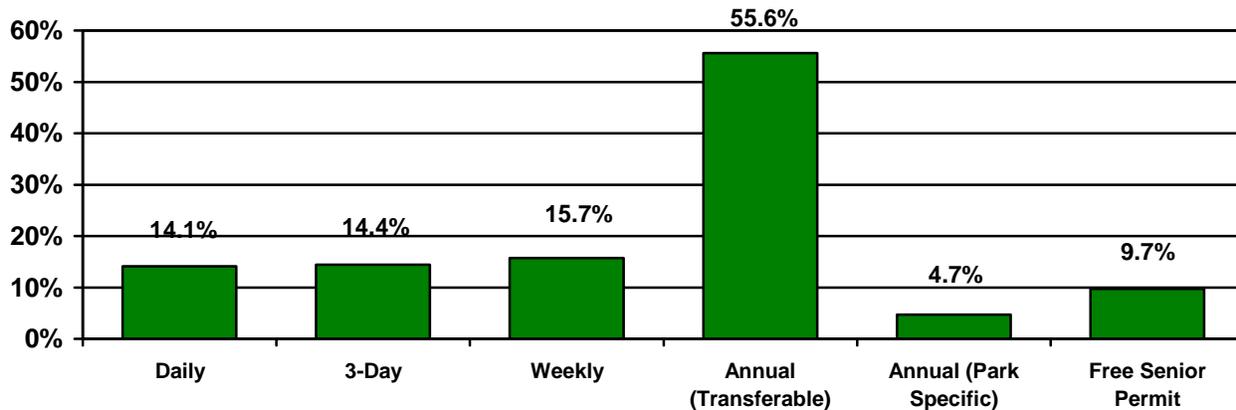
**Nights Camped in Saskatchewan Overall**

Respondents reported camping 15 nights, on average (median), in Saskatchewan overall in 2009 (Mean: 24 nights; Range 1 to 150 nights). Over one-half of respondents (57.1%) did all of their camping in Saskatchewan at Saskatchewan provincial parks in 2009. Over three-quarters of respondents (78.7%) did at least one-half of their camping in Saskatchewan at Saskatchewan provincial parks in 2009.

**Vehicle Entry Permits Purchased in 2009**

Respondents were asked to select all of the vehicle entry permits they have used in 2009. The majority of respondents (55.6%) reported using annual transferable entry permits.

**Figure 4.1 – Vehicle Entry Permits Purchased in 2009**



**SECTION 5: CAMPING AT SASKATCHEWAN LANDING PROVINCIAL PARK**

***Nights Camped at SLPP***

Almost one-third of respondents (31.4%) indicated that 2009 was the first year they camped at SLPP. Over one-third of respondents (36.8%) indicated that they have camped at SLPP at least once during each of the past three years.

On average (median), respondents reported camping six nights at SLPP in 2009 (Mean: 17 nights; Range: 1 to 150 nights). Over one-third of respondents (39.7%) did all of their camping in Saskatchewan at SLPP in 2009, while almost two-thirds of respondents (62.1%) did at least one-half of their camping at SLPP in 2009.

**Table 5.1 – Nights Camped at SLPP**

	Median	Mean
2009	6	17
2008	3	16
2007	3	13

***Stayed in Sagebrush Campground***

Less than one-half of respondents (41.5%) indicated that they stayed in the Sagebrush Campground at least once in 2009.

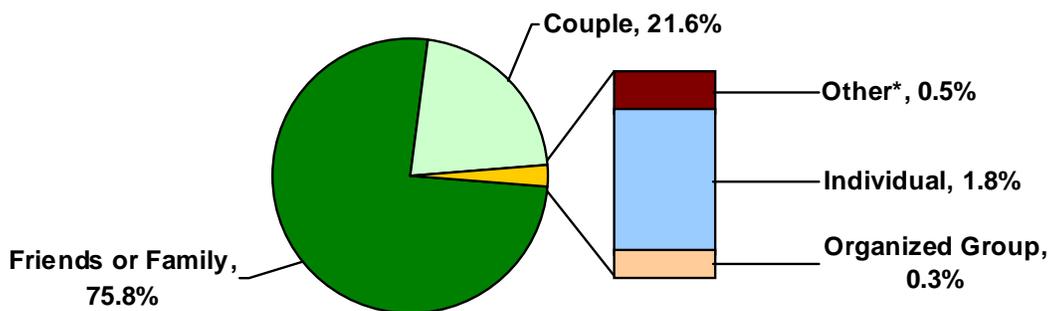
***Transferred from Sagebrush to Bearpaw***

Of those respondents who stayed in the Sagebrush Campground at least once in 2009, a small proportion (17.7%) indicated that they tried to transfer to Bearpaw Campground (Transferred to Bearpaw: 9.1%; Put name on waiting list, but never transferred: 8.6%).

***Type of Camping Group***

Three-quarters of respondents (75.8%) indicated that their camping group was typically made up of friends and family while camping at SLPP in 2009.

**Figure 5.1 – Type of Camping Group**



\*Other – no unique responses were commonly reported.

***Number of People in Camping Group***

On average (Median), camping groups consisted of 4 people (Mean: 5 people; Range: 1 to 88 people).

**Age Makeup of Camping Group**

Respondents were asked to identify all of the age groups that typically made up their camping groups. Over two-thirds of respondents (69.6%) indicated that their camping group included those aged 35 to 54 years. Almost two-thirds of respondents (60.2%) indicated that their camping group included children and youth (18 years or younger).

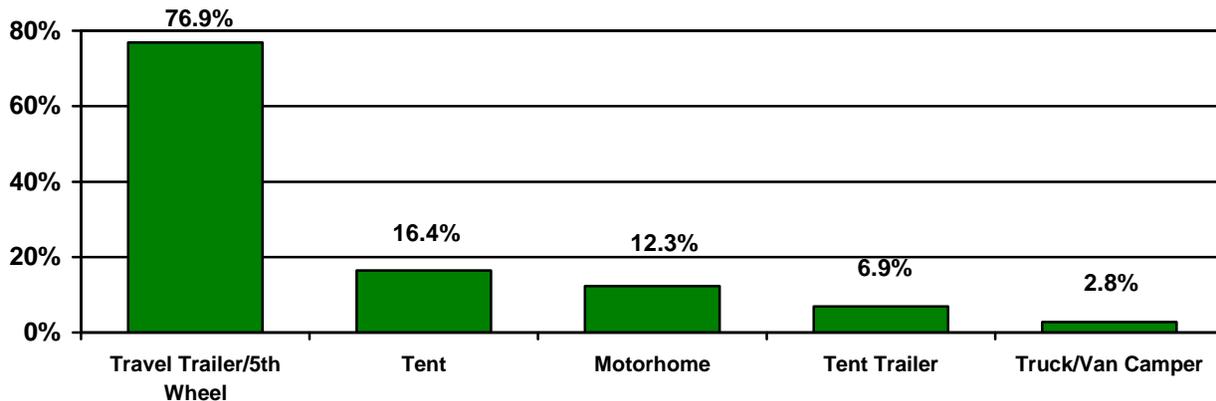
**Table 5.2 – Age Makeup of Group**

	Percent of Respondents
0 to 5 years	27.5%
6 to 13 years	41.2%
14 to 18 years	21.1%
19 to 34 years	35.5%
35 to 54 years	69.6%
55 to 64 years	28.8%
65 or older	20.0%

**Type of Camping Unit Typically Used**

Respondents were asked to indicate the types of camping units they typically used when camping at SLPP in 2009. Over three-quarters of respondents (76.9%) reported using a travel trailer or fifth wheel.

**Figure 5.2 – Type of Camping Unit Typically Used**



**Other Items Desired at Campsite**

Respondents were asked to indicate all of the things they would like to park/set-up in their campsite aside from their typical camping unit. The most frequently reported items included: 1) Vehicle used to pull camping unit (74.8%); 2) Extra tent (48.8%); and 3) Extra vehicle (47.1%).

**Table 5.3 - Other Items Desired at Campsite**

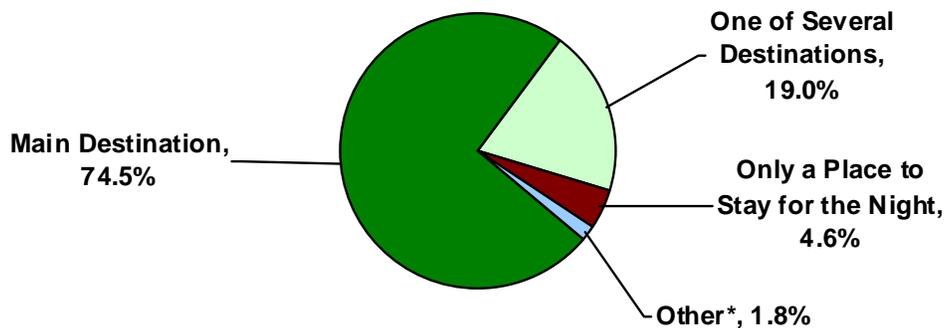
	Percent of Respondents
Vehicle used to pull camping unit	74.8%
Extra tent	48.8%
Extra vehicle	47.1%
Screened shelter	42.4%
Power boat trailer	39.4%
Satellite dish	16.4%
Extra equipment trailer	4.3%
Canoe/kayak	3.6%
Motorcycle	3.3%
Golf cart	3.1%
Other	1.3%

*No 'other' unique responses were commonly reported.*

**Distance Travelled and Main Destination of Trip**

The average (Median) distance travelled from home to get to SLPP was 193 km (Mean: 267 km; Range: 10 km to 3500 km). Over one-third of respondents (36.8%) travelled less than 100 km from home to get to SLPP. Three-quarters of respondents (74.5%) indicated that SLPP was the main destination for their trip.

**Figure 5.3 – Main Destination for Trip**



*\*Other' – no unique respondents were commonly reported.*

**Methods Used to Book a Campsite at SLPP**

Respondents were asked to indicate all of the methods they have used to get a campsite at SLPP in 2009. The most frequently reported methods included: 1) Reserved by phone (44.5%); 2) Reserved online (38.6%); and 3) At the park as a walk-up (32.6%).

A small proportion of respondents (4.0%) indicated 'other' booking methods, which most commonly included having a friend book the campsite.

**Table 5.4 - Methods Used to Book a Campsite at SLPP**

	Percent of Respondents
Reserved by phone	44.5%
Reserved online	38.6%
At the park as a walk-up (first-come-first-served)	32.6%
Reserved in person during prior visit	7.5%
Other	4.0%
Reserved by mail or fax	2.0%

**Participation in Outdoor Recreation at SLPP**

Respondents were asked to identify the outdoor recreation activities they participated in during their camping visits to SLPP in 2009. The most commonly reported activities included: 1) Campfire activities (71.8%); 2) Swimming/beach activities (63.8%); and 3) Fishing (52.4%).

A small proportion of respondents (6.5%) identified 'other' activities, which commonly included relaxing, spending time with friends/family, walking, and park entertainment/amphitheatre.

**Table 5.5 - Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities**

	Percent of Respondents
Campfire activities	71.8%
Swimming/beach activities	63.8%
Fishing	52.4%
Motorized boating	50.4%
Driving to view scenery/sightseeing	46.8%
Golf	46.0%
Waterskiing, tubing, or wakeboarding	37.6%
Day hiking	32.4%
Picnicking	25.2%
Nature photography	17.0%
Biking on groomed trails	16.5%
Cultural or historical visit	11.5%
Backpacking (e.g., overnight hiking)	10.0%
Learning about nature (e.g., bird watching/viewing wildlife)	7.4%
Other	6.5%
Canoeing or kayaking	2.8%
Spiritual/restorative	2.5%
Guided tour(s)	1.8%
Sailing	1.0%
Extreme mountain biking	0.7%
Horseback riding	0.5%

**Left Camping Unit Unoccupied for Three or More Consecutive Days**

Overall, a small proportion of respondents (16.3%) reported leaving their camping unit unoccupied at least once for three or more days while staying at SLPP in 2009.

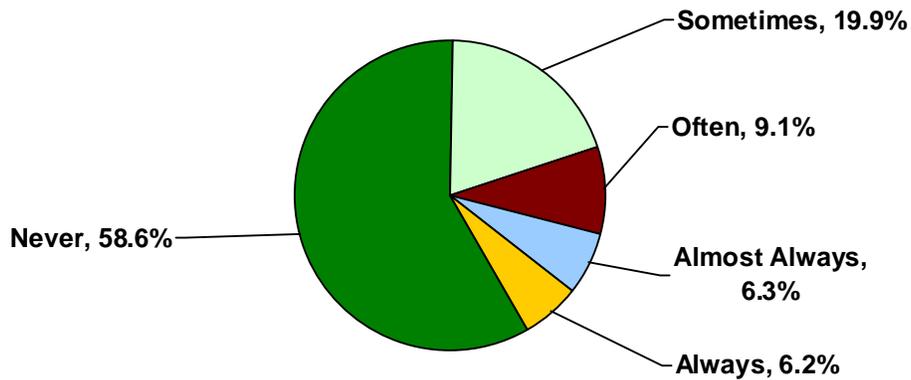
**Table 5.6 - Left Camping Unit Unoccupied for Three or More Consecutive Days at SLPP**

	Percent of Respondents
Never	83.7%
One time	5.4%
Two times	2.1%
Three or more times	8.7%

**Had Trouble Getting a Campsite at SLPP**

Overall, less than one-half of respondents (41.4%) reported having some trouble getting a campsite at SLPP in 2009.

**Figure 5.4 – Had Trouble Getting a Campsite at SLPP**



Several respondents provided open-ended comments regarding the current reservation system. The responses typically focused on the difficulty booking specific or multiple campsites, frustrations with the reservation process opening January 1<sup>st</sup> each year, and general frustrations with the reservation process. The following comments capture the sentiments of these respondents.

*“I find it extremely frustrating that I no longer can get a campsite without having to reserve it at 12:01 a.m. on January 1st each year online. At that time I do not always know for sure when I can plan my holiday and always hope it works out for the best.”*

*“When booking multiple sites I had to phone for each site separately, it would have made more sense to do it in 1 phone call. It would also be nice to be able to book specific sites.”*

Respondents (41.4%; n=242) who indicated that they had some trouble getting a campsite at SLPP were asked to identify the reason they had trouble getting a campsite. The most frequently reported reasons included: 1) Campsite with desired type of services was not available (70.1%); 2) No first-come-first-served campsites available (61.9%); and 3) No Reserve-a-Site campsites were available by phone (60.8%) or online (57.4%).

Over one-third of respondents (38.3%) agreed that there were 'other' reasons they had trouble getting a campsite, which commonly included being unable to secure a site for all of the desired dates/not willing to move to get all of the desired dates.

**Table 5.7 - Type of Trouble Getting a Campsite**

	Percent of Respondents
Campsite with desired type of service was not available (e.g., full-service, electrical)	70.1%
No first-come-first-served (walk-up) campsites available	61.9%
No Reserve-a-Site campsites available phone	60.8%
No Reserve-a-Site campsites available online	57.4%
Difficult to get through to the Park over the phone	44.9%
Other reasons	38.3%
Available campsites did not meet other needs (e.g., size of campsite)	33.2%
No campsites close to desired amenities were available (e.g., service centre, beach, playground)	27.9%

*Percent of Respondents who agree or strongly agree.*

#### **Likelihood of Camping if it Was Easier to Get a Campsite**

Almost three-quarters of respondents (72.7%) agreed or strongly agreed that if it was easier to get a campsite at SLPP they would have gone camping more often.

#### **Views of SLPP Amenities and Services**

Respondents were asked to rate the performance (1-Very Poor to 5-Excellent) of SLPP in delivering several services and experiences during their camping visits in 2009. Respondents rated the performance of SLPP's facility maintenance quite high, with the exception of the cleanliness of bathrooms/showers (69.2%). Ratings of campsite attributes were also quite high. However, respondents rated the privacy of campsites (59.1%) and the proximity of campsites to the swimming/beach area (44.5%) much lower.

Less than one-half of respondents rated the availability of walk-up campsites (38.9%) and ease of booking multiple campsites (40.3%) as good or excellent. One-half of respondents (50.9%) rated their ability to book the type of campsite they prefer as good or excellent, while over two-thirds of respondents rated the availability of electrical campsites (68.5%) and secure, on-site trailer storage during the camping season (73.1%) as good or excellent.

Over three-quarters of respondents rated each of the items related to recreation, safety and security, and campsite directions as good or excellent.

Table 5.8 – Views of SLPP Amenities and Services

	Percent of Respondents (good/excellent)
<b>Facility Maintenance</b>	
Facilities that are accessible to all visitors	92.2%
Cleanliness of campground	90.7%
Clean/litter-free facilities	87.5%
Very well maintained facilities	82.2%
Very well maintained bathrooms	75.0%
Cleanliness of bathrooms/showers	69.2%
<b>Campsite Attributes</b>	
Quality of picnic tables in campsite	87.7%
Quality of firepit/bbq	84.6%
Proximity of campsite to bathroom/shower	83.2%
Sufficient size of campsite	81.1%
Privacy of campsite	59.1%
Proximity of campsite to swimming/beach area	44.5%
<b>Campsite Availability</b>	
Secure, on-site trailer storage during camping season	73.1%
Availability of electrical campsites (no water or sewer hookup)	68.5%
Ability to book the type of campsite I prefer	50.9%
Ease of booking multiple campsites (e.g., adjacent campsites)	40.3%
Availability of walk-up campsites (1st-come, 1st-served)	38.9%
<b>Recreation</b>	
Accessible recreation areas	82.8%
A wide variety of recreation opportunities	79.3%
Clean swimming/beach areas	78.2%
<b>Safety and Security</b>	
No evidence of vandalism	88.5%
Rules/regulations that are enforced	78.6%
<b>Campsite Directions</b>	
Clear directions to campsite	85.6%

A large proportion of respondents provided open-ended comments regarding the amenities and services at SLPP. Most of these responses were regarding campsite availability, enforcement of rules and regulations, facility maintenance, customer service and seasonal camping.

**Campsite Availability:** Many respondents commented on the need for more electrified campsites and full-service campsites at SLPP. Respondents also suggested a need for more walk-up campsites (first-come, first-served) and for improved availability on weekends and on short notice.

*“It's frustrating trying to get an electric site at the landing, with the extra electric at Sagebrush it was better. Maybe the solution is more electric sites.”*

*“Too difficult to get a spot on weekends on short notice.”*

*“Some consideration should be given to developing a # of full service campsites. Many retired people will not go to campgrounds unless full service is available.”*

**Enforcement of Park Rules and Regulations:** Comments regarding enforcement typically focused on noise disturbances, campsite encroachment, issues regarding pets, and general enforcement of rules and regulations.

*“The noise control was none, dog poop all around, owner's should be responsible for cleaning up.”*

*“We have also noticed the lack of enforcement of the printed rules that are supplied to the campers (i.e., parking or driving on grass areas etc.) We are totally disappointed with the way our park has been policed the past few years and this has to be addressed or we will stop using this park.”*

**Facility Maintenance:** There was a balance between positive and negative comments from respondents regarding the condition of park facilities. Many of the negative comments focused on the cleanliness of bathroom and shower facilities and the condition of the trailer dumping stations.

*“There are many positives about your park and I don't want to be negative but the conditions of the shower houses this year was deplorable. Cleaning was scattered and ineffective. Otherwise, your staff does a great job!”*

*“I think Sask. Landing is very well looked after but one area of concern is the dumping station for trailers. The area needs to be smoothed with a grader and several yards of gravel spread on each side of the tanks. This will need maintenance during the camping season to keep it smooth. It's very distasteful trying to empty your holding tank kneeling or standing in someone else's sewer water.”*

**Customer Service from Park Staff:** Several respondents commented on the customer service they received from park staff. The positive comments far outweighed the negative comments, as most were very pleased with the service they received from park staff.

*“Park staff were very friendly & accommodating.”*

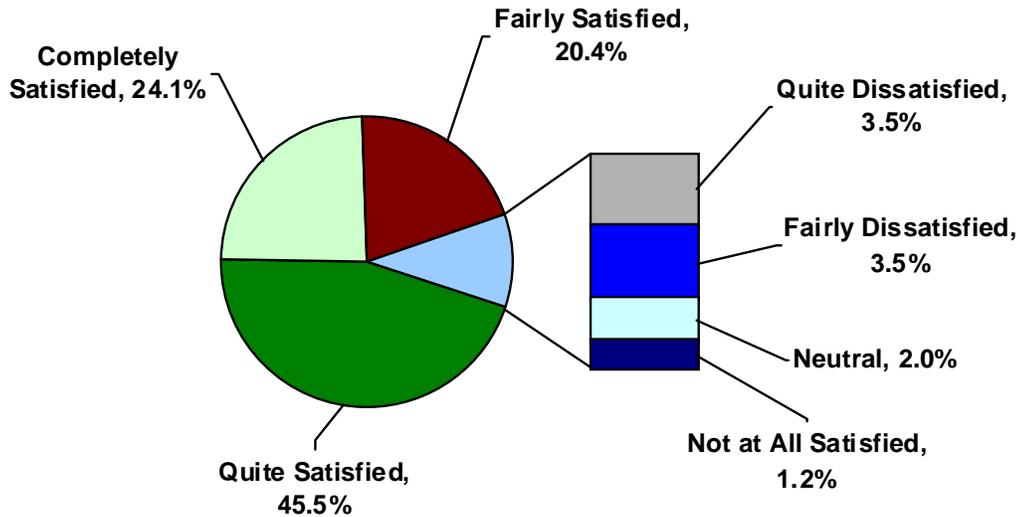
**Seasonal Camping:** Although there were no specific questions in the survey regarding respondents' views of seasonal camping, several respondents commented on the need for more seasonal campsites and the fairness of the current lottery process. The comments also suggested that some respondents had difficulty differentiating between designated seasonal campsites and campsites that are occupied by campers paying the daily camping fee for the entire season.

*“As far as the seasonal camping goes, I would like to see it run more like the big-game draw. Those who get drawn get put to the bottom of the pool and you keep moving up every year that you apply. If you don't apply, you drop down to the starting level. That would make it more fair to those of us who apply every single year and never get drawn while others are getting drawn every other year or apply once and get drawn.”*

**Overall Satisfaction with Camping at SLPP in 2009**

Respondents were asked to rate their level of satisfaction (from 1-Not at all satisfied to 7- Completely satisfied) with camping at SLPP in 2009. A large majority of respondents (90.0%) reported being satisfied with camping at SLPP in 2009.

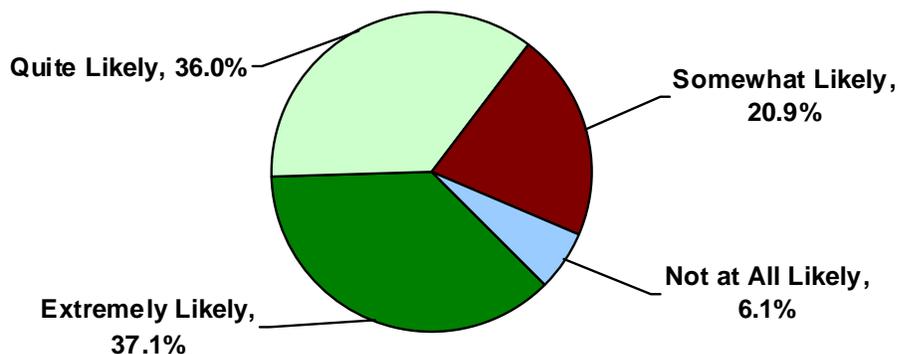
**Figure 5.5 – Satisfaction with Camping at SLPP**



**Likeliness to Camp at SLPP in 2010**

Almost three-quarters (73.1%) of respondents indicated they would be quite or extremely likely to camp at SLPP in the next year (2010).

**Figure 5.6 - Likeliness to Camp at SLPP in 2010**



Respondents (27.0%; n=164) who indicated that they were somewhat likely or not at all likely to camp at SLPP in 2010 were asked to provide an open-ended comment to explain why. A total of 158 of the 164 respondents provided comments. The majority of these comments were categorized into five themes.

***Desire to Camp at Other Parks/Locations:*** The largest proportion of responses was related to respondents' desire to camp at other parks or locations. Respondents typically reported wanting to experience camping at a variety of different locations or that they will be camping at a location closer to their home. The following comments capture the sentiments of these respondents:

*"We like to visit different parks in different areas and will probably try some other place we have not been before."*

*"The distance from our home to this park is the main reason why we wouldn't return in 2010. We can find similar facilities closer to home."*

***Travel Plans Not Yet Determined:*** Many respondents indicated that they have not yet made any vacation plans for next year (2010). The following comments capture the essence of this theme:

*"We don't make plans that far ahead. We're spur of the moment people."*

*"Haven't made our travel plans yet, but we do enjoy camping and golfing in Saskatchewan"*

***Campsite Availability:*** Several respondents indicated that it is too difficult to get a campsite at SLPP or that they are unable to get the type of campsite they desire (e.g., electric or full-service). The following comments capture the concerns of these respondents:

*"There were not enough electrical sites available which we needed for our trailer."*

*"It all depends if I can get a serviced site – with the RVs of today, Sask Parks need to get out of the 60's and full service sites."*

*"The availability of sites with the services we need has been virtually nil the last 3 years we have tried."*

***Quality of Campsites:*** Several respondents identified reasons related to the quality of the campsites at SLPP. These reasons typically included a lack of privacy, the small size of campsites/lack of clearance for trailers, and the inconvenience of trailer hook-ups. The following comments capture the sentiments of these respondents:

*"Campsites are too open and not enough privacy due to lack of trees etc."*

*"Site was too short and sloped road to back which makes it very inconvenient to unhook and hook up trailers"*

*"We were in Bearpaw and it was like camping on a road as our trailer was set up on the road."*

**Enforcement:** Enforcement issues were highlighted by several respondents. These responses typically focused on noise disturbances, people leaving their campsite unoccupied for extended periods of time, and campsite encroachment. The following comments capture the essence of this theme:

*“Very noisy, stereos loud till 2 am, park [person] drove around in CO car [and] was scared to get out and tell them to shut up.”*

*“The people who do not occupy their [sites] should have to leave so the people who would love to take their family camping could!!!”*

*“This park has allowed people to take the first come first serve sites for the entire season. There seems to be no control on the amount of stuff people can have in there site, many of the sites now have no under brush left because people have just trampled it. If we want our parks to remain for years to come then we need to look after them now, if the practices of this park continue then there won't any thing left for the future.”*

## SECTION 6: VIEWS OF POTENTIAL CAMPING POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

### **Views of Absentee Campers and Length of Camping Stays**

Just over one-half of respondents (52.7%) indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be able to leave their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days. Smaller proportions of respondents indicated that this should never be allowed (29.6%) or that this should always be allowed (17.7%).

Almost one-half of respondents (46.9%) indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be allowed to stay in a non-seasonal campsite for as many consecutive nights as they want. Smaller proportions of respondents indicated that campers should always be allowed to stay as long as they want (29.3%) or that campers should never be allowed to stay as long as they want (23.8%).

**Table 6.1 - Views of Absentee Campers and Length of Camping Stays**

Should people be allowed to...	Always Allowed	Sometimes (if demand is low)	Never Allowed
Leave their camping unit unoccupied for 72 or more consecutive hours in a non-seasonal site	17.7%	52.7%	29.6%
Stay in a non-seasonal campsite as many consecutive nights as they want	29.3%	46.9%	23.8%

One of the most frequently identified topics in the open-ended comments was about campers leaving their campsites unoccupied for extended periods of time. Several respondents identified frustration with this practice, while others indicated that they felt compelled to do this if they wanted to get a campsite at SLPP.

*“The problem is not long term campers, the issue is those campers that hold the site long term and are not actually in the site. We spend the entire vacation in the site. I believe you need to address absentee campers before limiting stays. There needs to be a balance between short term, long term and seasonal camping. Cancelling the long term camping penalizes families like ours that enjoy your park. I understand enforcement is difficult but there must be a compromise”*

*“We felt compelled to start paying for a campsite in May even though we were not going to use it until July. We did this because we did not think we would be able to camp this summer if we did not put a tent down to secure our spot. It was an enormous cost to us. But this is how we always spend our summers.”*

*“I feel that allowing people to leave their camper in a campsite (nonseasonal) for the whole season is not fair. Many of us can't afford to do this and when we want to camp we can't get a campsite of any kind. We personally know people that took units down to the park as soon as it opened and left them there. Then they would go back when they felt they had time. Some people were actually there at the campsite in the park very few days...that can't help the people running the store, marina or golf course...we can't afford to spend \$22 a night for 90 to 120 days to keep a site that we might use maybe 10. I thought the parks were for everyone not just for people with money.”*

**Length of a Maximum Stay**

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they thought a maximum stay of 14 nights was too short, too long, or about right for SLPP. The majority (65.5%) of respondents indicated that a maximum stay of 14 nights is about right. Over one-quarter (28.3%) of respondents indicated that the 14 night maximum stay was too short while a small proportion (6.2%) reported that it was too long.

**Agreement with Statements regarding a Maximum Stay**

Respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement (from 1-Strongly Disagree to 5-Strongly agree) with several statements about potentially implementing a maximum stay at SLPP. Less than one-half of respondents (44.5%) agreed that every campsite should have a maximum stay, while the majority (65.2%) agreed that having a maximum stay would make it easier to get a campsite.

The majority of respondents agreed that the number of campsites available for long-term campers should be limited (68.6%). Just over one-half of respondents (52.4%) agreed that the majority of campsites should be available for short-term campers. However, most respondents also agreed that some campsites should be designated for long-term camping (65.5%) and that specific areas of a campground should be designated for long-term camping (59.2%).

**Table 6.2 - Agreement with Statements regarding a Maximum Stay**

	<b>Agree/ Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Disagree/ Strongly Disagree</b>
The number of campsites available for long-term campers should be limited	68.6%	11.6%	19.8%
Some campsites should be designated for long-term campers (>14 nights)	65.5%	12.1%	22.4%
Having a max stay would make it easier to get a campsite	65.2%	17.3%	17.5%
Specific areas of a campground should be designated for long-term campers	59.2%	17.4%	23.4%
The majority of campsites should be dedicated to short-term campers	52.4%	22.9%	24.7%
Being able to have the same campsite for as long as I want is important to me	50.1%	24.3%	25.6%
Every campsite should have a maximum stay	44.5%	17.9%	37.6%
Campsites closest to the swimming area/beach area should only be available to short-term campers	40.6%	31.8%	27.6%
Having a max stay would make camping at SLPP more attractive for me	39.0%	32.0%	29.0%
If there is high demand for camping at SLPP then the seasonal camping programs should be eliminated	38.6%	22.1%	39.4%
If seasonal camping is allowed, then there should be no maximum stay	37.2%	29.8%	33.0%
Campsites closest to the shower/bathrooms should only be available to short-term campers	28.7%	36.0%	35.3%
There should be no restrictions on where long-term camping is allowed	26.0%	21.6%	52.3%

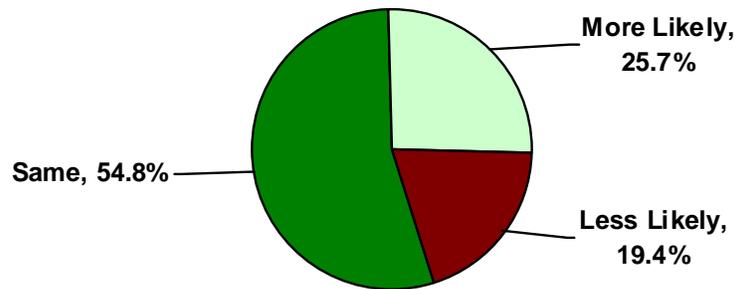
Several respondents provided open-ended comments regarding the 14-night maximum stay at SLPP. There was a balance between those who supported a maximum stay, those opposed to a maximum stay, and those who supported a maximum stay in a limited area of the park. There also appeared to be some misconceptions regarding the 14-night maximum stay. Some of the comments suggested there were respondents who believed a maximum stay was going to be implemented for all of the campsites at SLPP.

*“I truly believe that there should not be a maximum length of stay for any of the provincial parks. Designating a small amount of sites for a 14 night stay is fine as you did at SLPP; however, we should still have the option of staying at the park for longer periods of time if that is what we do for our holidays.”*

**Likeliness to Camp if a Maximum Stay was Implemented at SLPP**

Respondents were asked if a 14 day maximum stay would affect their likeliness of camping at SLPP in the future. The majority of respondents (80.5%) reported they were as likely (54.8%) or more likely (25.7%) to camp at SLPP if a maximum stay was implemented.

**Figure 6.1 - Likeliness to Camp if a Maximum Stay was Implemented at SLPP**



**Awareness of 14-Night Maximum Stay Pilot Project**

Almost one-half of respondents (45.6%) reported they were aware of the 14-night maximum stay pilot project. Respondents who were aware of the pilot project were also asked to indicate how they heard about it. The most frequently reported responses included: 1) Friends or family (46.5%); 2) Saskatchewan Parks website (25.0%); and 3) Print media (20.8%).

**Table 6.3 - How Respondents Heard about the Maximum Stay Pilot Project**

	Percent of Respondents
Friends or family	46.5%
Saskatchewan Parks website	25.0%
Print media (e.g., newspaper)	20.8%
Radio	15.1%
From parks staff during my stay	10.2%
From parks staff when I phoned for reservation/check on availability	9.2%
From parks staff when I registered	6.3%
Television	5.3%
Other	5.3%
Signage at SLPP	3.9%

*‘Other’ common responses included direct correspondence received from Parks.*

**Views of Boat Storage at SLPP**

Respondents (50.9%; n=311) who indicated that they had participated in sailing or motorized boating at SLPP in 2009 were asked to rate their level of agreement (from 1-Strongly Disagree to 5-Strongly Agree) with several statements regarding boat storage at SLPP. The majority of respondents (70.1%) indicated that they would prefer to store their boat at their campsite. The majority of respondents (60.8%) also agreed that if SLPP had a secure area to store their boat, they would use it. A smaller proportion of respondents (45.3%) agreed that they would pay for a slip to store their boat.

**Table 6.4 - Views of Boat Storage at SLPP**

	Percent of Respondents
I would prefer to store my boat in my campsite	70.1%
If SLPP had a secure area to store my boat, I would use it	60.8%
I was able to get a slip at SLPP to store my boat this year	47.1%
I would pay for a slip to store my boat	45.3%
I would rather remove my boat each night than pay for a slip	44.0%
Renting a slip at SLPP is too expensive	33.5%
Even if they were free, I would not use a slip to store my boat	20.8%
No rental slips were available when I tried to rent one this year	22.2%

*Percent of Respondents who agree or strongly agree.*

**Potential Development Options at SLPP**

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support (from 1-Strongly Opposed to 5-Strongly Support) with several potential development options at SLPP. The majority of respondents indicated support for boat rental and equipment facilities (67.0%), a service centre at the marina (61.6%), and rental cabins (56.8%).

Respondents were also asked if they would use the option if it were provided at SLPP. The majority of respondents indicated that they would use a service centre at the marina (72.0%) or boat rental/equipment facilities (59.5%) if they were provided at SLPP. Less than one-half of respondents indicated that they would use each of the other development options if they were provided at SLPP.

**Table 6.5 - Support and Use of Potential Development Options at SLPP**

	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Would Use It
Boat Rental and Equipment Facilities	67.0%	30.6%	2.5%	59.5%
Service Centre (shower, flush toilets) at the Marina	61.6%	33.7%	4.7%	72.0%
Rental Cabins	56.8%	32.8%	10.4%	39.3%
Additional Rental Slips at the Marina	48.9%	48.1%	3.0%	46.8%
Motel/Lodge	40.3%	37.8%	21.8%	25.2%
Multi-Unit Rental and/or Timeshare Developments	29.0%	42.4%	28.5%	17.2%

A number of respondents provided open-ended comments regarding the need to expand the marina and boat launch at SLPP.

*“The other comment that I would like to make is regarding the marina at SLPP. Some sort of expansion needs to occur at the launch, or the old section of the boat launch needs to be reopened. We came across quite a few near altercations because people were getting frustrated and impatient. At the very least, it might be worth considering making one dock for launching and one for docking with the other two open for either.”*

## **SECTION 7: COMPARISONS BY CAMPGROUND STAYED IN**

In order to better understand campers' perceptions of a maximum length of stay at SLPP and to provide further clarity regarding the potential impacts and outcomes of implementing a maximum length of stay at SLPP, it is important to understand any differences that may exist between those who stayed in a maximum stay campsite and those who stayed in campsites where there were no maximum stay restrictions.

Two comparison groups were created to better understand differences in perception between respondents who stayed in a maximum stay campsite (Sagebrush Campground) and those who stayed in a campsite where there were no maximum stay restrictions (Bearpaw Campground). This section presents the results of these comparisons. Only the results of variables that have statistically significant differences are presented below.

- 1) **Sagebrush (maximum stay)** – includes respondents who indicated that they stayed in the Sagebrush Campground at least once in 2009 (n=245);
- 2) **Bearpaw (no maximum stay)** – includes respondents who stayed in electrified campsites in the Bearpaw Campground and did not stay in the Sagebrush Campground in 2009 (n=345).

### ***Demographics***

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with 17 demographic variables. There were no significant differences by age, gender, aboriginal status, activity limitation, household size, household income, community size, years lived in current community, years lived in Saskatchewan, province of residence, or with six of the seven employment status variables (full-time employment, unemployment, retired, homemaker, full-time student, and part-time student).

A higher proportion of respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (13.9%) were employed part-time compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (6.5%).

### ***Camping in Saskatchewan***

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with the number of provincial parks or recreation sites that respondents camped at in 2009 and the number of nights respondents camped in Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan provincial parks in 2009. There was no significant difference with the number of provincial parks visited by respondents. Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (Mean: 23 nights; Median: 12 nights) camped for more nights in Saskatchewan provincial parks in 2009 compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (Mean: 14 nights; Median: 10 nights).

### ***Vehicle Entry Permits Used***

Comparisons were made based on the type of entry permits respondents used to get into the park in 2009. There was a significant difference with one of the six variables related to entry permits. Respondents who camped in Sagebrush (13.9%) were more likely to use a Free Saskatchewan Senior Permit to get into the park compared to those who stayed in Bearpaw (5.8%).

**Camping at SLPP**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with the number of nights respondents camped at SLPP and whether 2009 was the first year respondents camped at SLPP. On average (mean), respondents who stayed in Bearpaw spent more nights at SLPP in 2007, 2008 and 2009 than respondents who stayed in Sagebrush. There was no significant difference by campground stayed in with the proportion of respondents who indicated that 2009 was the first year they camped at SLPP.

**Table 7.1 - Camping at SLPP by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush		Bearpaw	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
2009	11 nights	7 nights	22 nights	6 nights
2008	9 nights	2 nights	20 nights	3 nights
2007	7 nights	3 nights	16 nights	3 nights

**Participation in Outdoor Recreation at SLPP**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with outdoor recreation participation at SLPP in 2009. There were significant differences with four of the 20 activities. Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw were more likely to participate in swimming/beach activities, sailing, waterskiing, and tubing or wakeboarding, while respondents who stayed in Sagebrush were more likely to participate in nature photography.

**Table 7.2 – Activities Participated in at SLPP by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Swimming/Beach Activities	60.0%	68.1%
Waterskiing, Tubing, or Wakeboarding	32.7%	42.0%
Nature Photography	20.8%	14.2%
Sailing	0%	1.7%

**Camping Group**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with respondents' type of camping group, size of camping group and age make-up of the group. There were no significant differences.

**Type of Camping Unit**

There were no significant differences based on the type of camping unit respondents typically used while camping at SLPP in 2009.

**Other Items Desired at Campsite**

Comparisons were made based on other items that respondents desired at their campsite in addition to their camping unit. There were significant differences with one of the 10 items. A higher proportion of respondents who camped in Bearpaw (51.9%) reported wanting an extra vehicle at their campsite compared to those who camped in Sagebrush (40.8%).

**Left Camping Unit Unoccupied for Three or More Consecutive Days**

A higher proportion of respondents who camped in Bearpaw (22.4%) reported leaving their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days, compared to those who camped in Sagebrush (8.2%).

***Trouble Getting a Campsite***

There were no significant differences by campground stayed in with the amount of trouble respondents had getting a campsite at SLPP in 2009. There were also no significant differences based on the type of trouble respondents had getting a campsite at SLPP in 2009.

***Likeliness to Camp if it was Easier to Get a Site***

There were no significant differences based on respondents' levels of agreement that they would camp more often if it was easier to get a campsite at SLPP.

***Distance Travelled and Destination of Trip***

There were no significant differences by campground stayed in with the distance respondents travelled to SLPP or whether SLPP was the main destination of their trip.

***Satisfaction with Camping at SLPP***

There were no significant differences by campground stayed in with respondents' overall satisfaction with camping at SLPP in 2009.

***Likeliness to Camp at SLPP in 2010***

There were no significant differences based on campground stayed in with respondents' likeliness to camp at SLPP in 2010.

***Methods Used to Book a Campsite at SLPP***

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with booking methods used to get a campsite at SLPP in 2009. There were significant differences with four of the six booking methods. Respondents who stayed in Sagebrush were more likely to have reserved by phone, as a walk-up, or during a prior visit, while respondents who stayed in Bearpaw were more likely to have reserved online. It should be noted that campsites in Sagebrush Campground were not available for reservation until June 8, 2009, whereas campsites in Bearpaw Campground were available for reservation January 1, 2009.

**Table 7.3 – Methods Used to Book a Campsite at SLPP by Campground Stayed In**

	<b>Sagebrush</b>	<b>Bearpaw</b>
Reserved by Phone	53.9%	38.3%
At the Park as a Walk-up (first-come-first-served)	42.9%	25.5%
Reserved Online	28.6%	46.7%
Reserved In-person during Prior Visit	10.2%	5.5%

**Views of Park Amenities and Services**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with respondents' performance ratings of several amenities and services offered at SLPP in 2009. There were significant differences with six of the 23 amenities and services. Generally, respondents who stayed in Sagebrush reported higher performance ratings for park facilities compared to those who stayed in Bearpaw, but lower levels of performance regarding clear directions to the campsite and the proximity of the campsite to the swimming/beach area. It should be noted that all of the facilities (including bathrooms and showers) in Sagebrush Campground were brand new in 2009.

**Table 7.4 - Views of Park Amenities and Services by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
No evidence of vandalism	91.9%	85.9%
Very well maintained facilities	85.9%	80.1%
Very well maintained bathrooms	78.8%	72.5%
Clear directions to campsite	75.6%	91.8%
Cleanliness of bathrooms/showers	74.4%	66.1%
Proximity of campsite to swimming/beach area	30.6%	53.8%

*Percent of respondents who rated amenity/service as good or excellent.*

**Should People be Allowed to Leave their Camping Unit Unoccupied**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with respondents' views of whether people should be allowed to leave their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days. Just over one-half of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be allowed to leave their camping unit unoccupied for three or more consecutive days. A higher proportion of respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (22.8%) indicated that people should always be allowed to leave their campsite unoccupied compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (10.9%).

**Table 7.5 - Should People be Allowed to Leave their Camping Unit Unoccupied by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Yes, Always Allowed	10.9%	22.8%
Sometimes Allowed (if demand is low and there are lots of sites)	55.0%	50.8%
Never Allowed	34.1%	26.4%

**Should People be Allowed to Stay in a Site for as Many Nights as they Want**

Almost one-half of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that, if demand is low and there are lots of campsites available, people should be allowed to stay in a non-seasonal campsite for as many nights as they want. A higher proportion of respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (32.5%) indicated that people should always be allowed to stay in a non-seasonal campsite in a provincial park for as many consecutive nights as they want, compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (25.9%).

**Table 7.6 - Should People be Allowed to Stay in a Site for as Many Nights as they Want**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Yes, Always Allowed	25.9%	32.5%
Sometimes Allowed (if demand is low and there are lots of sites)	45.1%	47.5%
Never Allowed	29.0%	20.0%

**Length of a Maximum Stay**

The majority of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that a maximum stay of 14 nights at SLPP was about right. A higher proportion of respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (34.5%) indicated that a maximum stay of 14 nights at SLPP was too short compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (19.9%).

**Table 7.7 – Length of a Maximum Stay by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Too Short	19.9%	34.5%
About Right	71.4%	61.1%
Too Long	8.7%	4.4%

**Agreement with Statements regarding a Maximum Stay**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with several statements regarding the potential implementation of a maximum stay at SLPP. There were significant differences with eight of the 13 statements. Generally, respondents who stayed at Sagebrush were more supportive of a maximum stay and opportunities for short-term camping, while respondents from Bearpaw were more supportive of opportunities for long-term camping.

**Table 7.8 - Agreement with Statements regarding a Maximum Stay by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
The number of campsites available for long-term campers should be limited	76.5%	62.4%
The majority of campsites should be dedicated to short-term campers	59.0%	46.4%
Every campsite should have a maximum stay	47.9%	42.1%
Being able to have the same campsite for as long as I want is important to me	46.9%	52.8%
Campsites closest to the swimming/beach area should only be available to short term campers	45.2%	37.3%
Having a maximum stay would make camping at SLPP more attractive for me	44.0%	36.2%
If there is high demand for camping at SLPP then the seasonal camping program should be eliminated	41.7%	36.0%
There should be no restrictions on where long-term (more than 14 nights) camping is allowed	20.1%	31.1%

*Percent of respondents who agreed or strongly agreed.*

**Likelihood to Camp at SLPP if a Maximum Stay is Implemented**

The majority of respondents from both comparison groups indicated that they would camp the same amount at SLPP if a 14 night maximum stay were implemented. Respondents who stayed in Bearpaw (24.8%) reported being less likely to camp at SLPP if a maximum stay of 14 nights was implemented, compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush (12.8%).

**Table 7.9 - Likelihood to Camp at SLPP if a Maximum Stay is Implemented by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Less Likely	12.8%	24.8%
Would Camp Same Amount	57.5%	52.3%
More Likely	29.6%	22.8%

**Awareness of Pilot Project**

There were no significant differences based on respondents' awareness that SLPP was piloting a maximum stay of 14 nights.

**Views of Boat Storage at SLPP**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with respondents' agreement with several statements regarding boat storage at SLPP. There were no significant differences.

**Potential Development Options**

Comparisons were made by campground stayed in with respondents' support for several potential development options at SLPP. There were significant differences with two of the six options. A higher proportion of respondents who camped in Bearpaw supported rental cabins and boat rental/equipment facilities as potential development options for SLPP, compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush.

**Table 7.10 – Support Potential Development Options by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Rental Cabins	50.9%	60.1%
Boat Rental and Equipment Facilities	61.7%	70.8%
Additional Rental Slips at the Marina	48.9%*	

\*Overall percentage was reported because there was no significant difference by campground stayed in.

Comparisons were also made based on whether respondents would use each development option if it were available at SLPP. Two of the six options were significantly different. A higher proportion of respondents who stayed in Bearpaw indicated that they would use boat rental/equipment facilities and additional rental slips at the marina compared to those who stayed in Sagebrush.

**Table 7.11 – Use of Potential Development Options by Campground Stayed In**

	Sagebrush	Bearpaw
Boat Rental and Equipment Facilities	52.8%	64.9%
Additional Rental Slips at the Marina	39.9%	51.2%
Rental Cabins	56.8%*	

\*Overall percentage was reported because there was no significant difference by campground stayed in.