





Niche Presentation

What is a niche?

- A recreational niche allows us to deliver what the forest is most capable of producing in alignment with what people want while providing for forest sustainability.

How was it developed?

- Using input from the public and Forest Service specialists, and supply/demand market analysis, approximately 25 Eldorado N.F. recreation and resource personnel met with facilitators to develop a:
 - Niche statement (narrative description of the recreational focus of the Eldorado National Forest)
 - Recreation Settings Map (separates the forest into broad areas based on settings, special places, values, activities, opportunities and experiences)

How will it be used?

- The niche will be used as one of five criteria in ranking the Eldorado National Forest developed recreation sites.

What do we want you to do?

- Review the market data, proposed niche statement, setting descriptions and map then let us know if we have captured your interests in our vision of the Eldorado National Forest recreation niche.

Eldorado N.F. Recreation Niche: RS-FMP *focus*



**Niche Statement for the coming decade:
Golden Nugget of the Sierra – Discover and Enjoy**

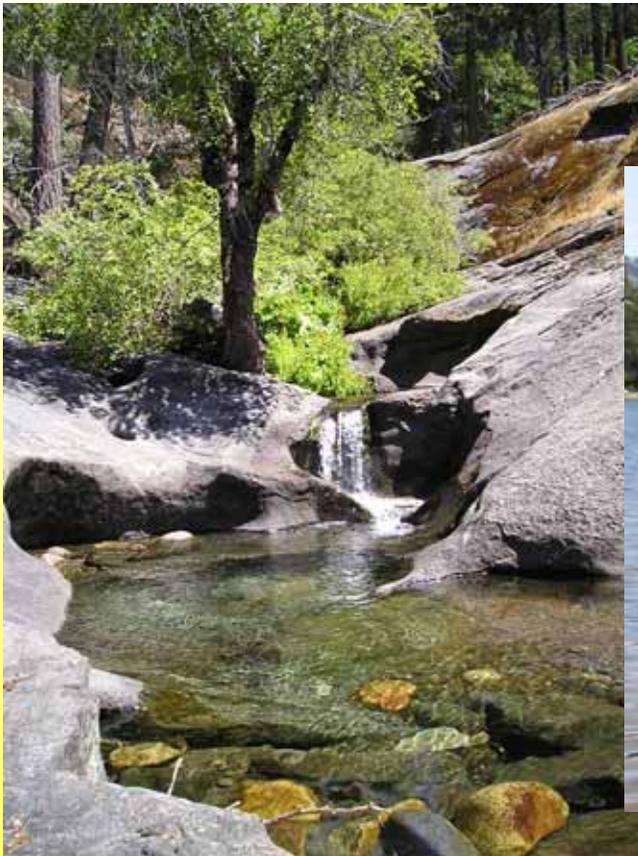


Niche Emphasis:

RS-FMP *focus*



The Eldorado NF offers a wide range of landscapes on a compact footprint of land – foothills with flowing streams, rugged river canyons, reservoirs, high mountain peaks & alpine lakes. 4000 years of human use has defined and enriched the forest. Its place in the Sierra makes it integral to community viability, health and well being.





Today, this gateway forest, pressed by rapidly growing communities, has a continued responsibility to model sustainability, share conservation education and inspire future land stewards.





The spectacular scenery viewed from historic travelways that have crossed the forest for generations, continues to welcome and invite new and long time visitors to turn off the highway into the forest and experience this amazing, resilient place in a safe and well managed way.



Eldorado N.F. Settings

RS-FMP *focus*



Forest-wide Settings, Special Places and Values:



This forest with vast diversity of terrain hosts a high number of people of all abilities per acre. Scenery is spectacular and water – whether reservoirs or rivers – renews the communities downstream and the visitors to the forest. The forest, in spite of it's close proximity to growing urban areas, will remain a place of open space, clean air and healthy ecosystems for future generations.

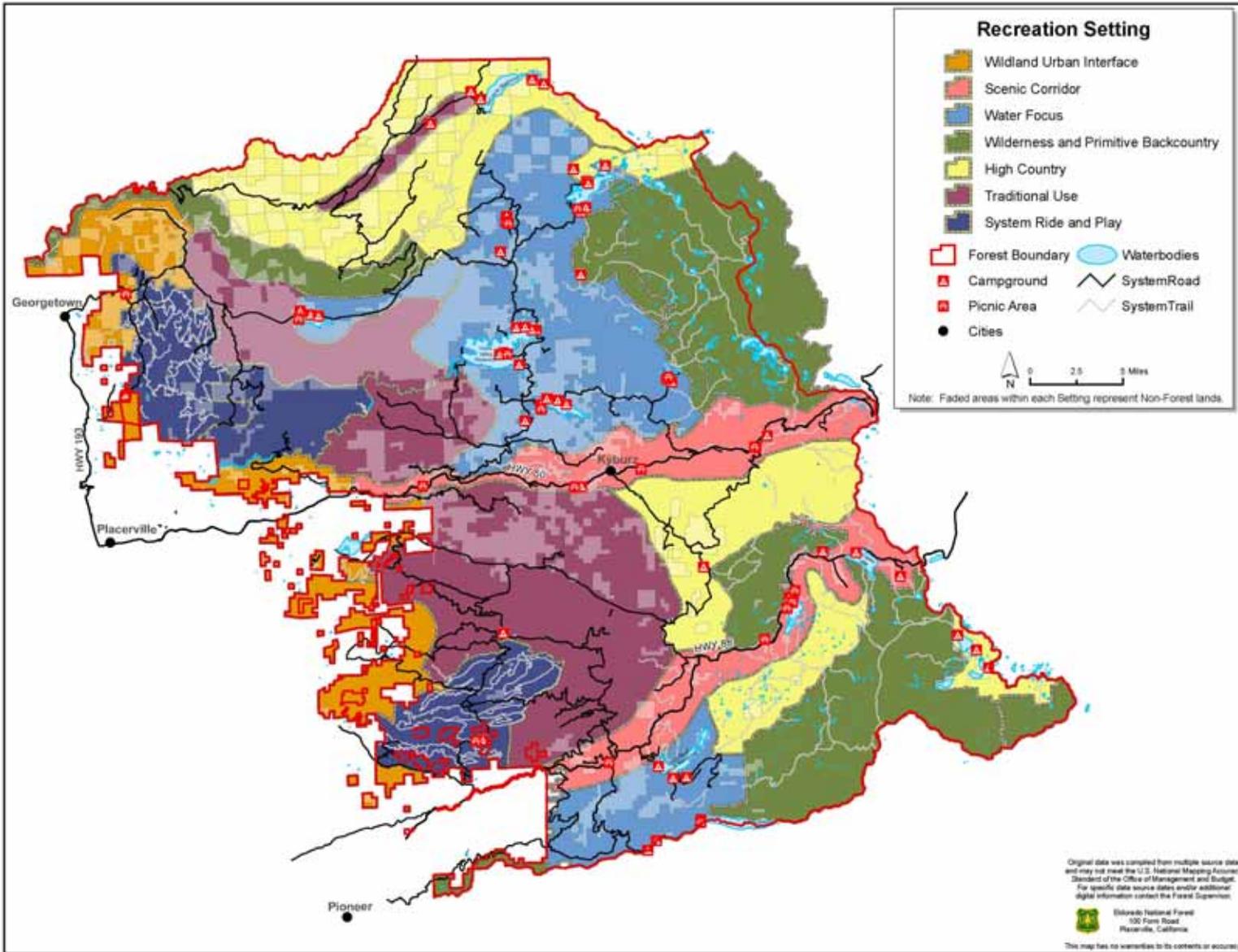
Forest-wide Activities/Opportunities/Experiences:

Easy (quick) access for viewing scenery and water and winter based play and relaxation. New visitors are invited to learn about and enjoy the outdoors. Partnerships with everyone who makes an impact on the forest, help provide these quality recreation opportunities.



Eldorado N.F. Recreation Settings Map

RS-FMP *focus*



Eldorado N.F. Developed Recreation Sites

RS-FMP focus



AMADOR DISTRICT * CAPLES LAKE BS MF COSUMNES CG SILVER LAKE CG COLE CREEK CA LEEK SPRING OS PARDOES POINT PS SILVER BEAR SP HORSE CANYON TH WOODS LAKE TH	DEVILS NOSE BS MOKELUMNE CG SOUTH SHORE CG MARTIN MEADOW CA PEDDLER HILL OS PIPI PG PS ALLENS CAMP TH LAKE MARGARET TH	CAPLES LAKE CG PARDOES POINT CG SUGAR PINE POINT CG CAPLES LAKE FISHING FS SHOT ROCK OS SALT SPRINGS PS CAPLES DAM TH MEISS TH	KIRKWOOD LAKE CG PIPI CG WOODS LAKE CG BEAR RIVER GCG LUMBERYARD PS WOODS LAKE PS CARSON PASS TH SHEALOR LAKE TH
GEORGETOWN DISTRICT HELL HOLE BS HELL HOLE CG * LONG CANYON CA BEAR CREEK PS	STUMPY MEADOWS BS PONDEROSA COVE CG BLACK OAK GROUP CG STUMPY MEADOWS PS	BIG MEADOWS CG STUMPY MEADOWS CG MIDDLE MEADOWS GCG BALDERSON CORRAL TH	DRU BARNER CG UPPER HELL HOLE CG HELL HOLE VISTA OS DONALDSON TH
PACIFIC DISTRICT ICE HOUSE BS YELLOWJACKET BS FASHODA CG LONE ROCK CG PLEASANT CG WENTWORTH SPRINGS CG WRIGHTS LAKE EQUEST CG VAN VLECK CABIN RED FIR GCG WOLF CREEK GCG ANGEL CREEK PS LOON LAKE PS TWIN LAKES TH	LOON LAKE BS AIRPORT FLAT CG GERLE CREEK CG LOON LAKE CG STRAWBERRY POINT CG WEST POINT CG YELLOWJACKET CG BIG SILVER GCG SILVER CREEK GCG CLEVELAND CORRAL IS FASHODA PS WRIGHTS LAKE PS	SUNSET BS AZALEA COVE CG ICE HOUSE CG NORTHSHORE CG SUNSET CG WOLF CREEK CG LOON LAKE CHALET CABIN LOON LAKE EQUEST GCG SOUTH FORK GCG WRIGHTS LAKE IS GERLE CREEK PS LOON LAKE TH	WEST POINT BS CAMINO COVE CG JONES FORK CG NORTHWIND CG WENCH CREEK CG WRIGHTS LAKE CG ROBBS HUT CABIN LOON LAKE GCG WENCH CREEK GCG BIG HILL OS ICE HOUSE PS ROCKBOUND TH
PLACERVILLE DISTRICT CAPPS CROSSING CG SILVER FORK CG BRIDAL VEIL PS PYRAMID CREEK TH	CHINA FLAT CG ELKINS FLAT CA ECHO LAKES SP HARVEY WEST CABIN	LOVERS LEAP CG MET IS CEDAR PARK TH ECHO SUMMIT LODGE	SAND FLAT CG 42 MILE PS FLEMING MEADOW TH

BS = BOATING SITE
 CA = CAMPING AREA
 PS = PICNIC SITE
 IS = INFORMATION STATION
 SP = SNO-PARK

CG = CAMPGROUND
 GCG = GROUP CAMPGROUND
 OS = OBSERVATION SITE
 TH = TRAILHEAD

*Planned for construction



Wildland Urban Interface

- **Low elevation forest interspersed with private ownership adjacent to growing urban populations. It provides multiple access points to the forest for year round recreation. It is a link between communities, the open space for many local communities, and everyday escape with opportunities for everyone. Some inappropriate uses (such as illegal dumping and resource damage from vehicle use) will require a high level of continued management presence.**
- **Day use including hiking/walking, mountain biking, family gathering spots, wood cutting and environmental education. Partners are key to developing and maintaining opportunities in this setting.**



Scenic Corridors

- **Historic Highways 50 and 88 bisect the forest providing spectacular scenery and water access. These highways are a throughway to Lake Tahoe and a gateway to forest learning and enjoyment.**
- **Hwy 50 follows the South Fork of the American River providing, kayaking, fishing and other water play. Highway 50, along with Highway 88 provides access to Wilderness, and are dotted with 100's of recreation residences along with water related camping, driving for pleasure, hiking, scenic viewing and picnicking. Interpretation and education is to be highlighted. Winter activities include alpine skiing, snow play, cross country skiing, and groomed snow mobile trails.**



Water Focus

- **Summer water, winter snow; this high elevation, mixed ownership area includes easy paved access to large reservoirs. These reservoirs are important to recharge and refresh visitors as well as providing water and power to the greater Sacramento area and beyond.**
- **Intensely managed water based, concentrated use with highly developed sites offer traditional reservoir based activities. Scattered low development scale camps, recreation residences under permit and rental cabins are included within the setting. Interpretation, education and visitor information is highlighted. Cross country and backcountry skiing occur during the winter.**



Wilderness and Backcountry

- **Includes the Desolation and Mokelumne Wilderness, the Caples Proposed Wilderness, and some adjacent backcountry areas. These high elevation wildernesses are scenic and dotted with alpine lakes. The Desolation and parts of the Mokelumne have high levels of day use although more remote areas are found further from highway accesses.**
- **Some portions are heavily used and easily accessed from major highways. Day use visitors flock to these areas. Other portions are remote and more difficult to access. Interactions with other visitors are likely in the areas near trailheads and other access points.**



High Country

- **Higher elevation sites with fewer roads and less forest management, this setting is highly desired for its large trees and natural beauty. It includes portions of some roadless areas and eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers.**
- **There are remote trails for 4-wheel driving and hiking. Hunter camps dot the area and winter activities include backcountry skiing and snowmobiling.**



Traditional Use

- **Some of the first forested landscapes encountered as visitors enter the forest. It's a landscape changing through management. The many roads provide easy access for visitors.**
- **Summer visitors from the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley and local communities enjoy this setting for hunting, fishing, gathering forest products, sight-seeing and camping in low development scale camps. Motorized use occurs on some trails and roads.**



System Ride and Play

- **Low elevation landscapes offer seasonal use (spring summer and fall), a short distance from urban and rural communities. Historic mining roads and earlier railroad grades provide some of the current day driving opportunities.**
- **Concentrated motorized use occurs in this setting. Well managed trail systems are available for diverse ridership locally and regionally. Day use facilities support the OHV use. Equestrian and mountain biking routes and some hiking trails are also located in this setting.**



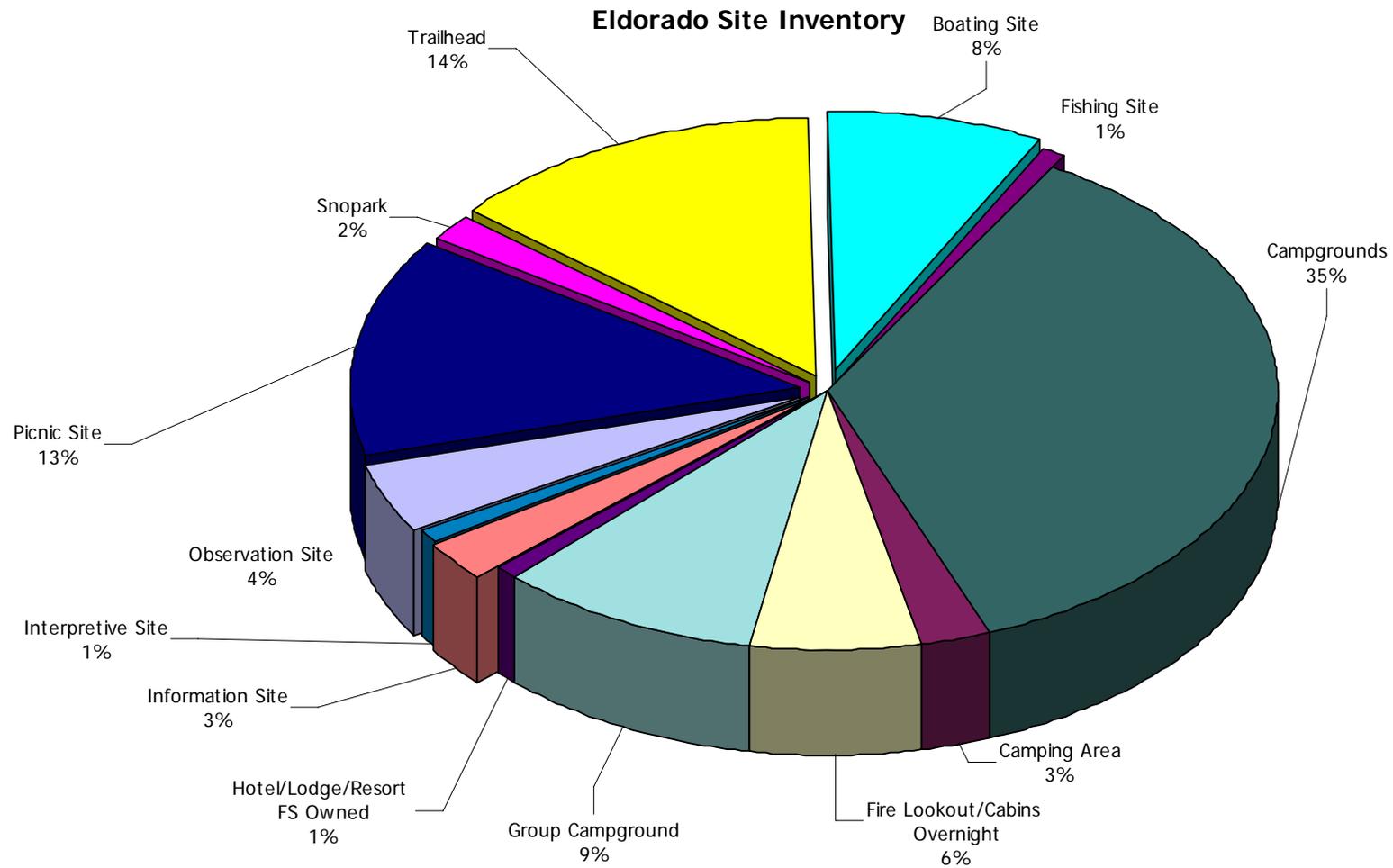
Supply: Forest Recreation Assets

- ♦ Many miles of rivers and streams with good fishing opportunity
- ♦ Water based recreation opportunities
- ♦ Developed recreation opportunities
- ♦ Scenic driving and overlooks; easy access to recreation opportunities year round
- ♦ Winter recreation opportunity, including downhill and cross country skiing
- ♦ Wilderness



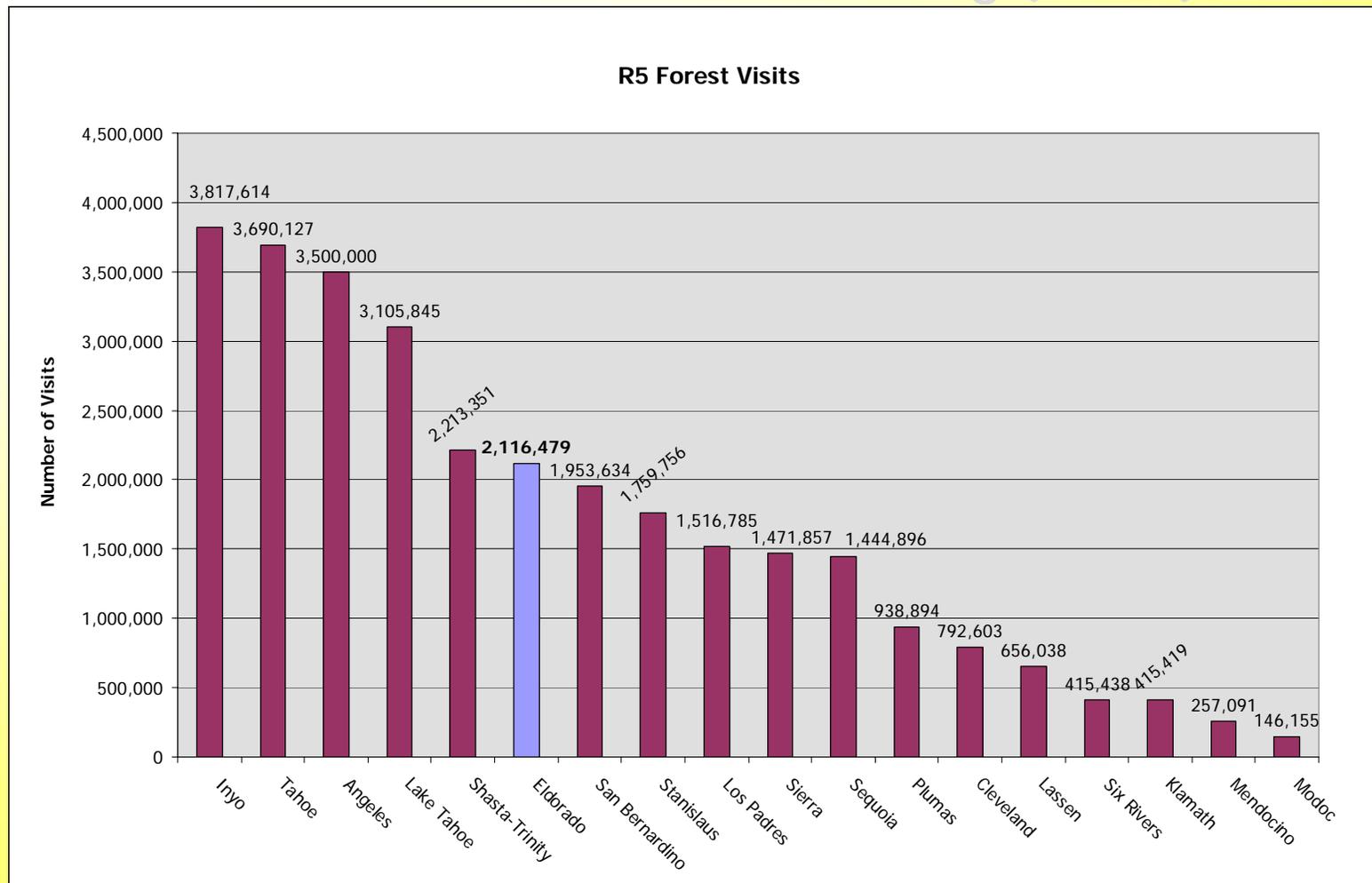


Supply: Forest Recreation Assets



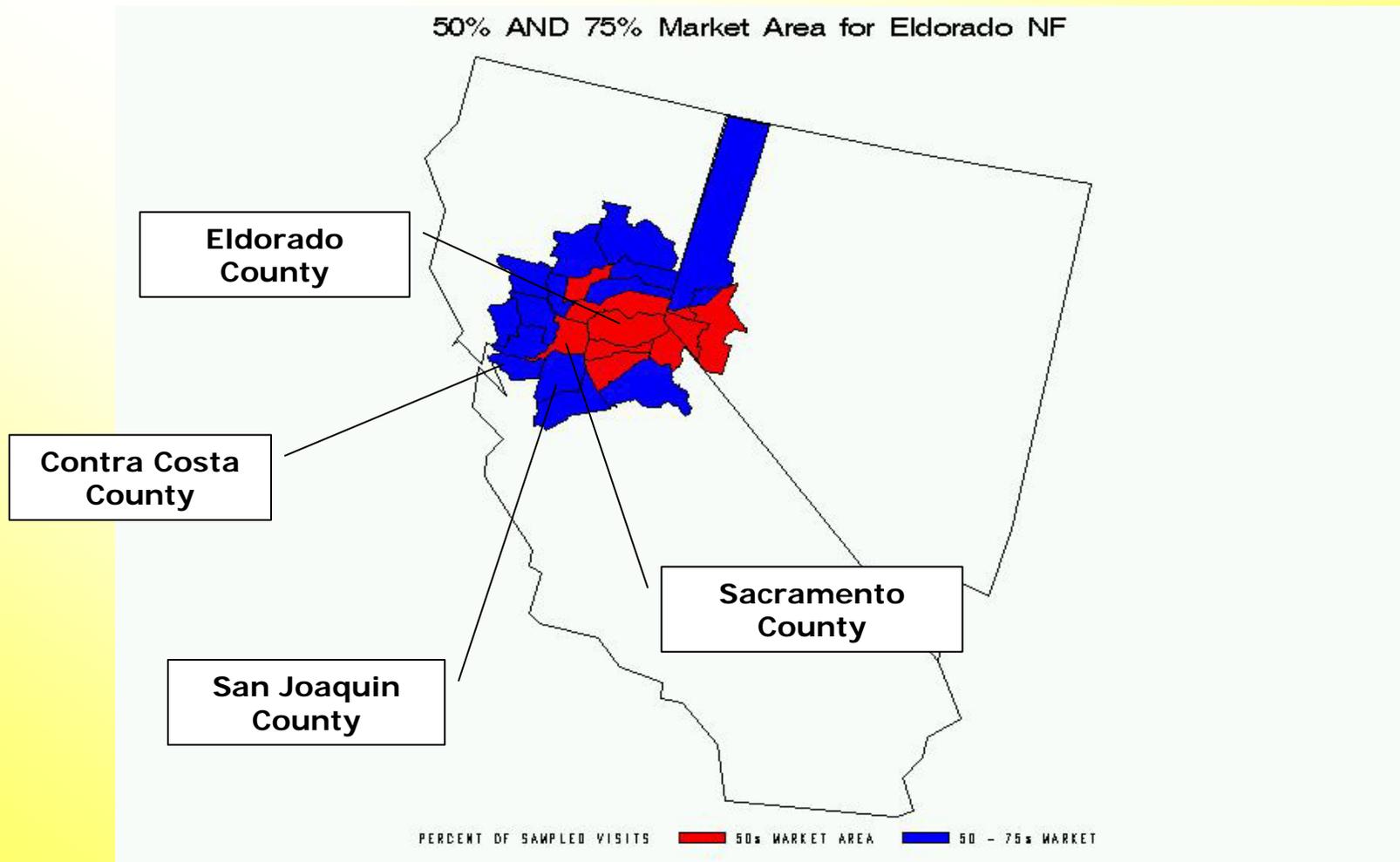


Estimated Annual Use from National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM)





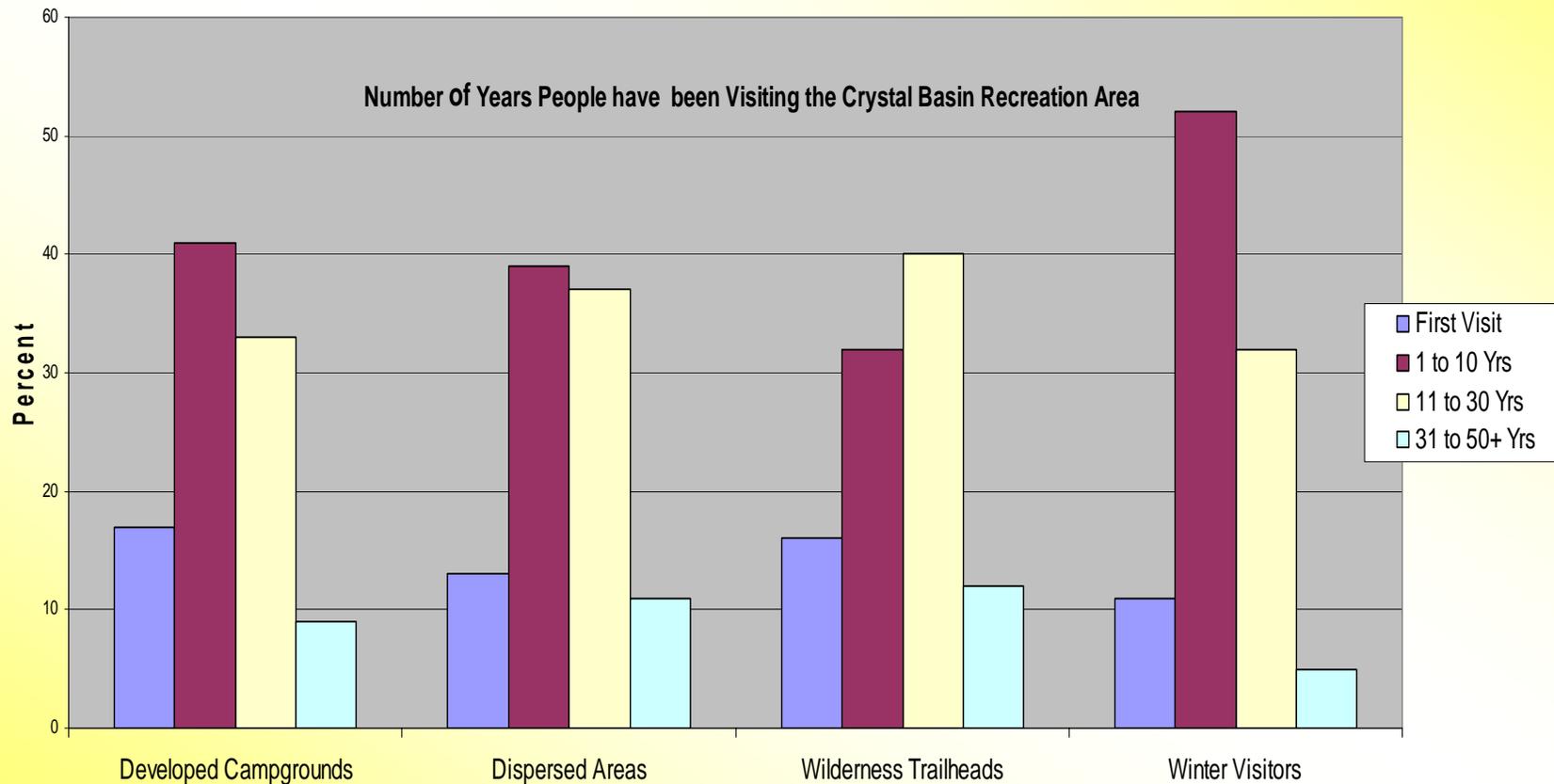
Visitor Market Zone (from NVUM)





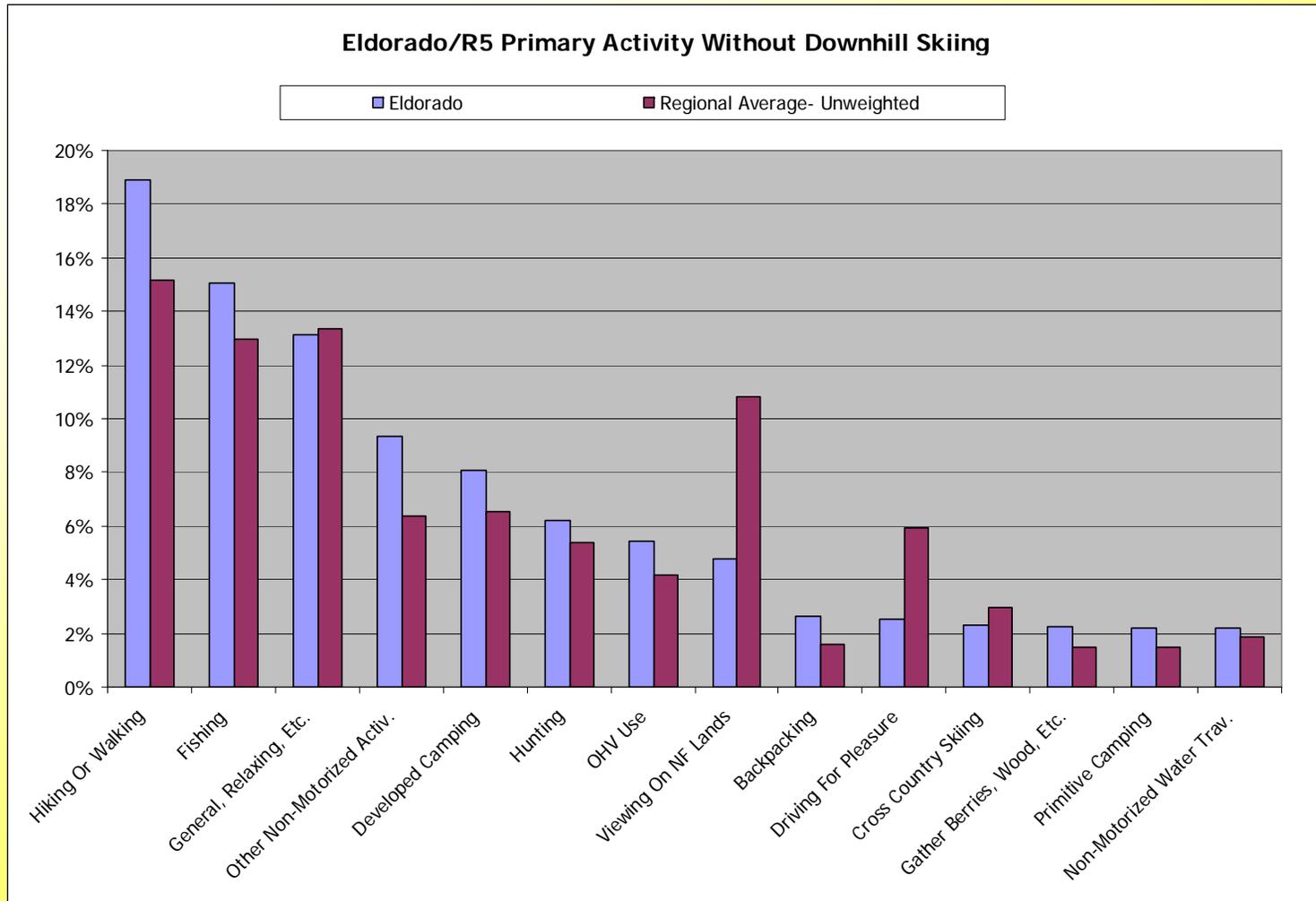
Visitor Characteristics

(Crystal Basin Surveys)



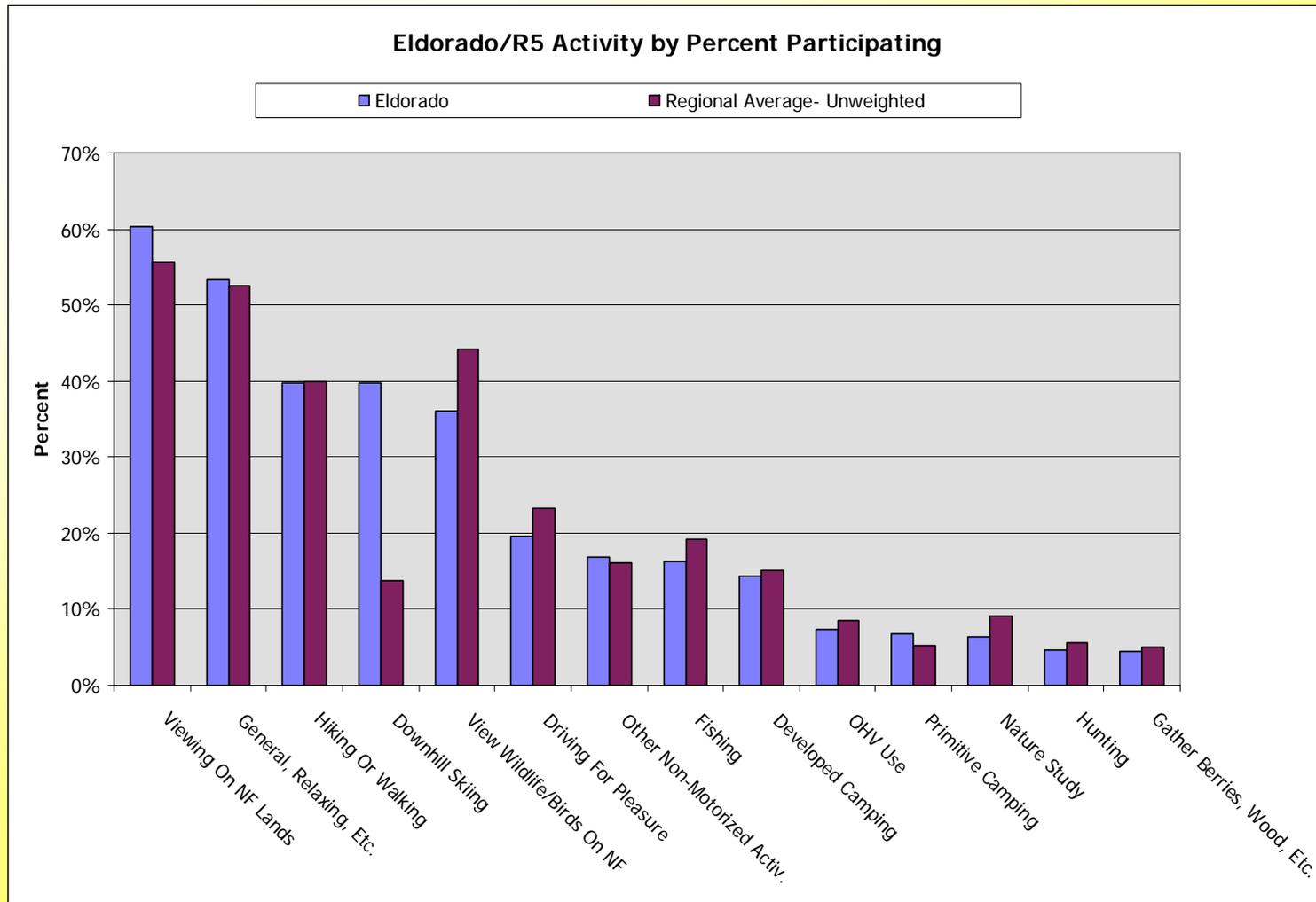


Primary Visitor Activity (from NVUM)



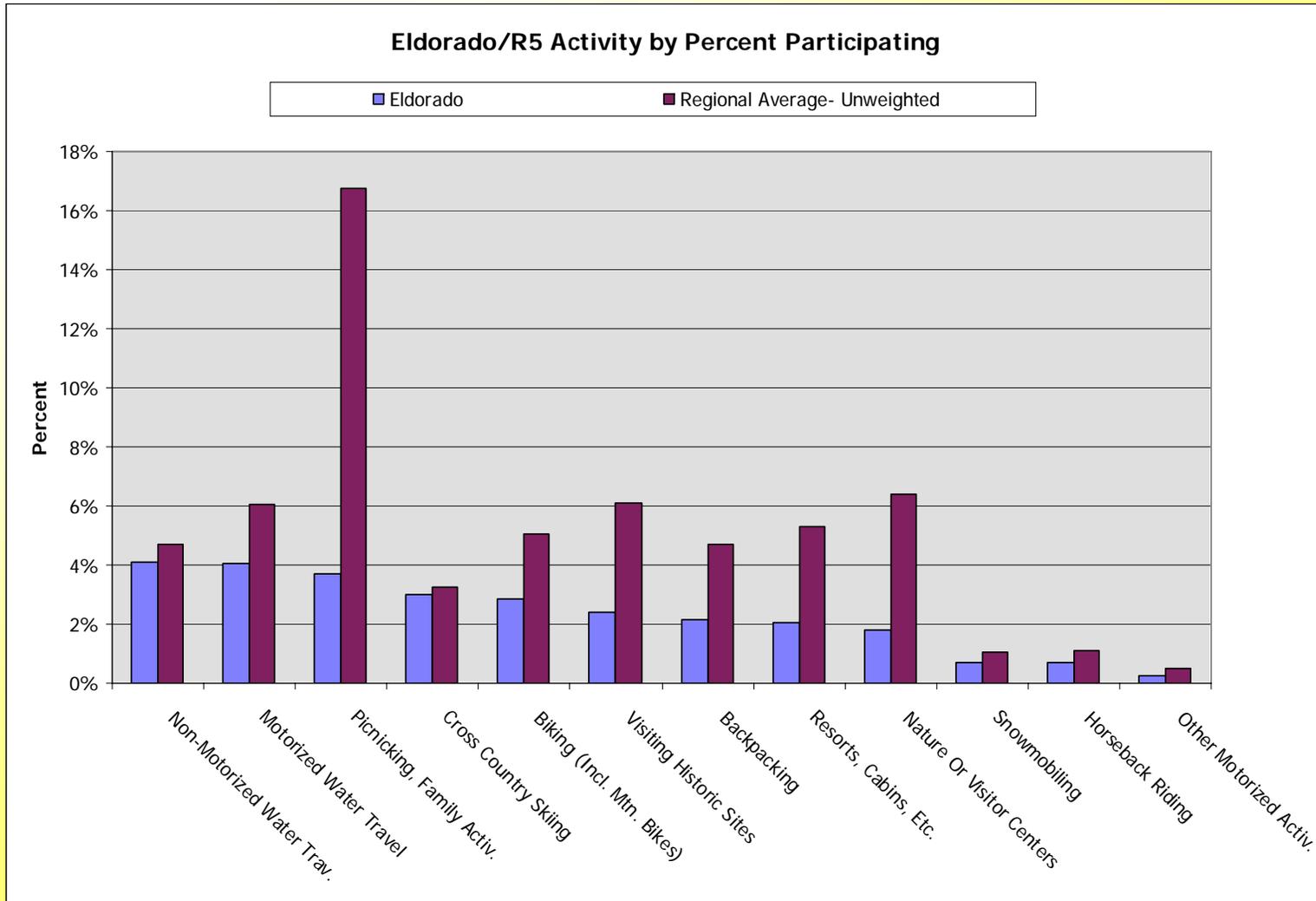


Visitor Activities (from NVUM)





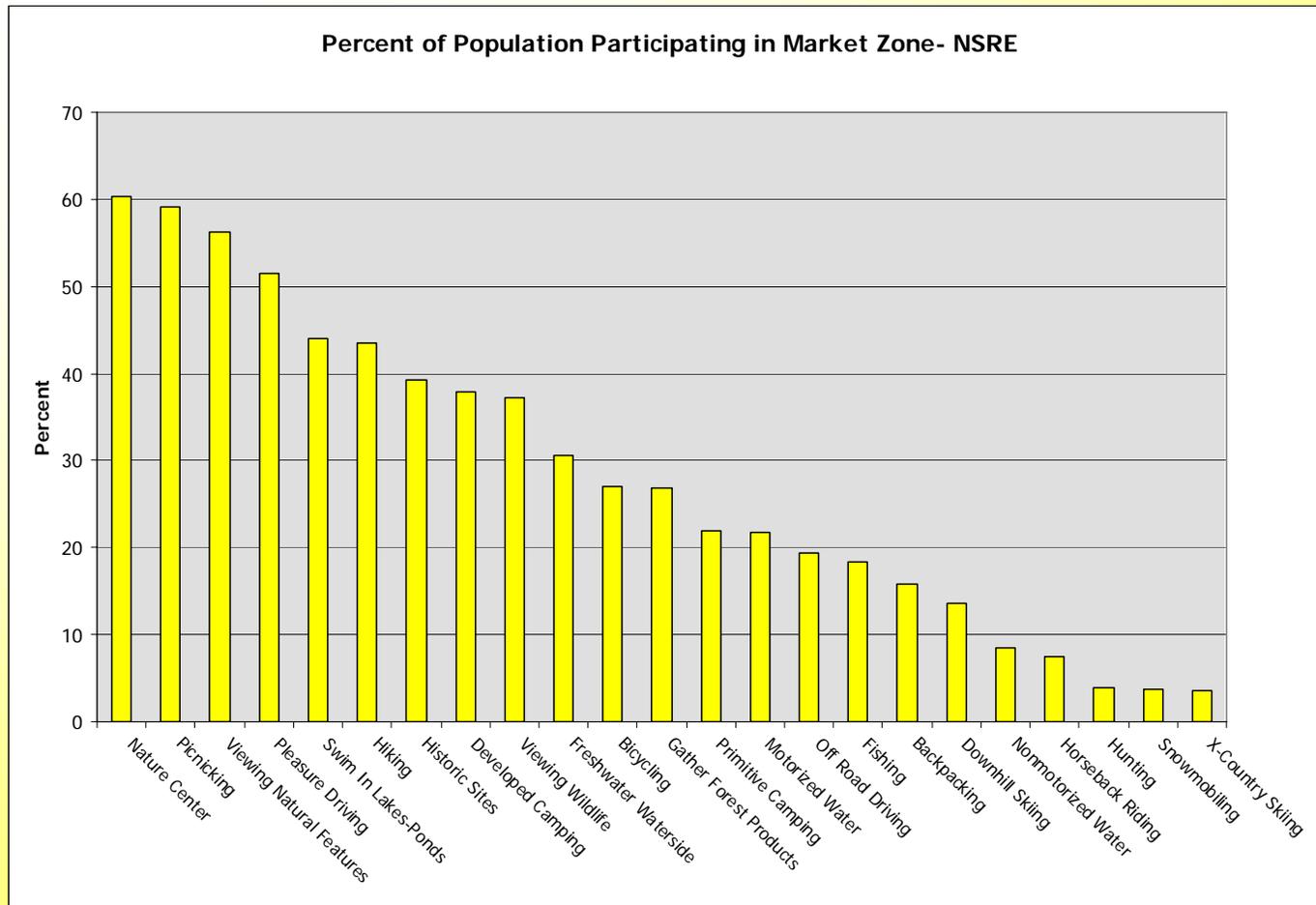
Visitor Activities (from NVUM)





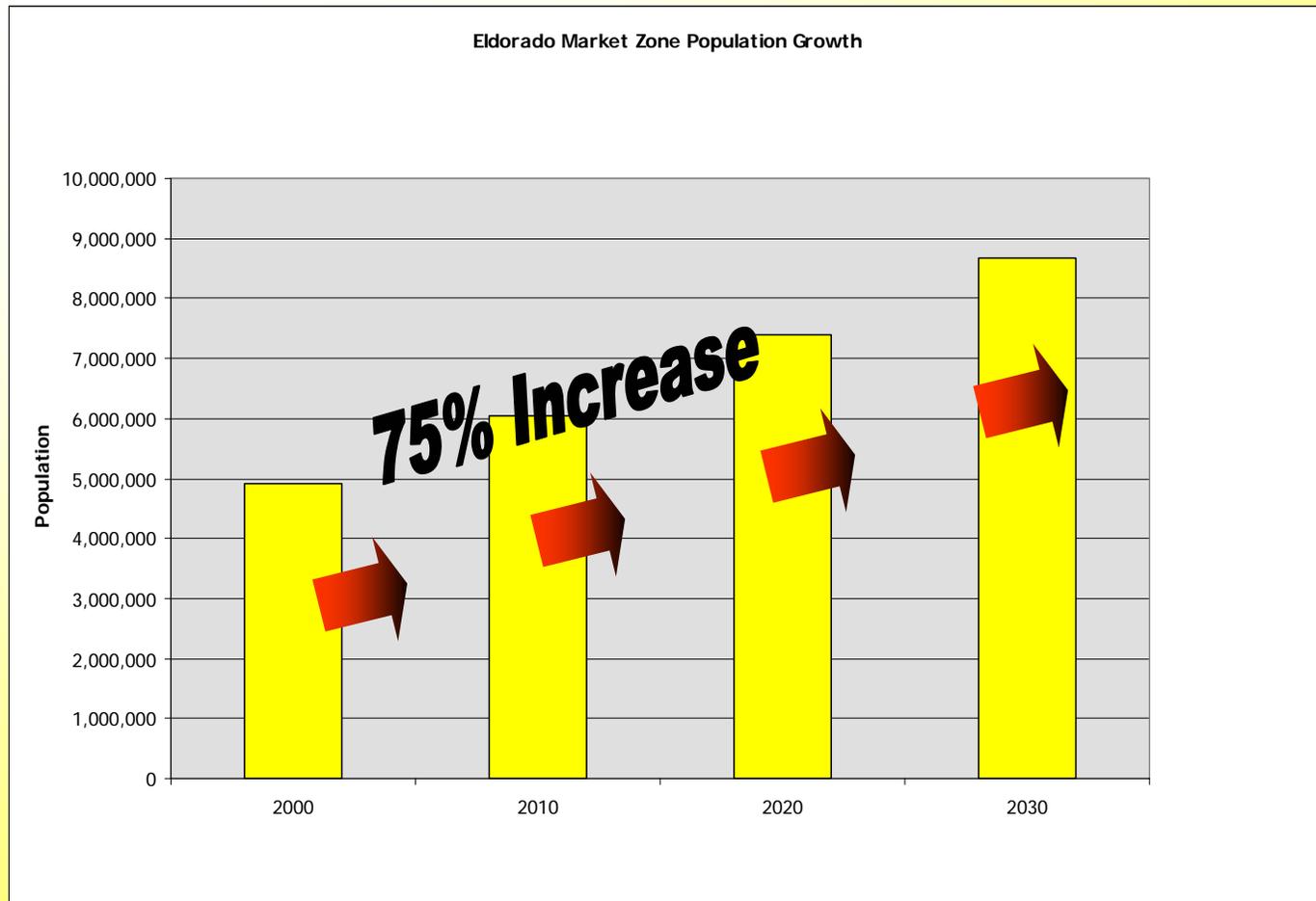
Visitor Activity in the Market Zone

from the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE)





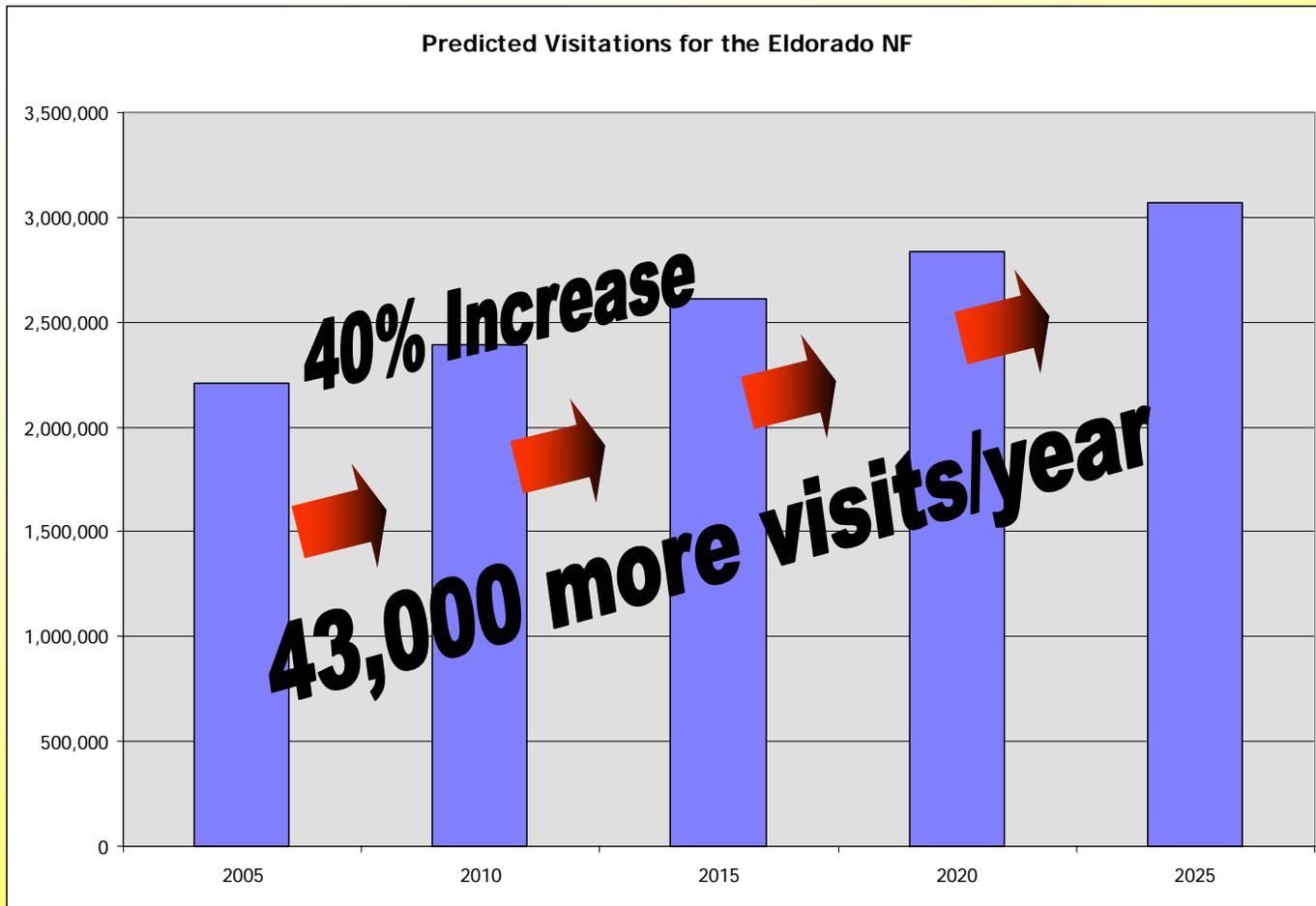
Projected Population Change in Market Zone





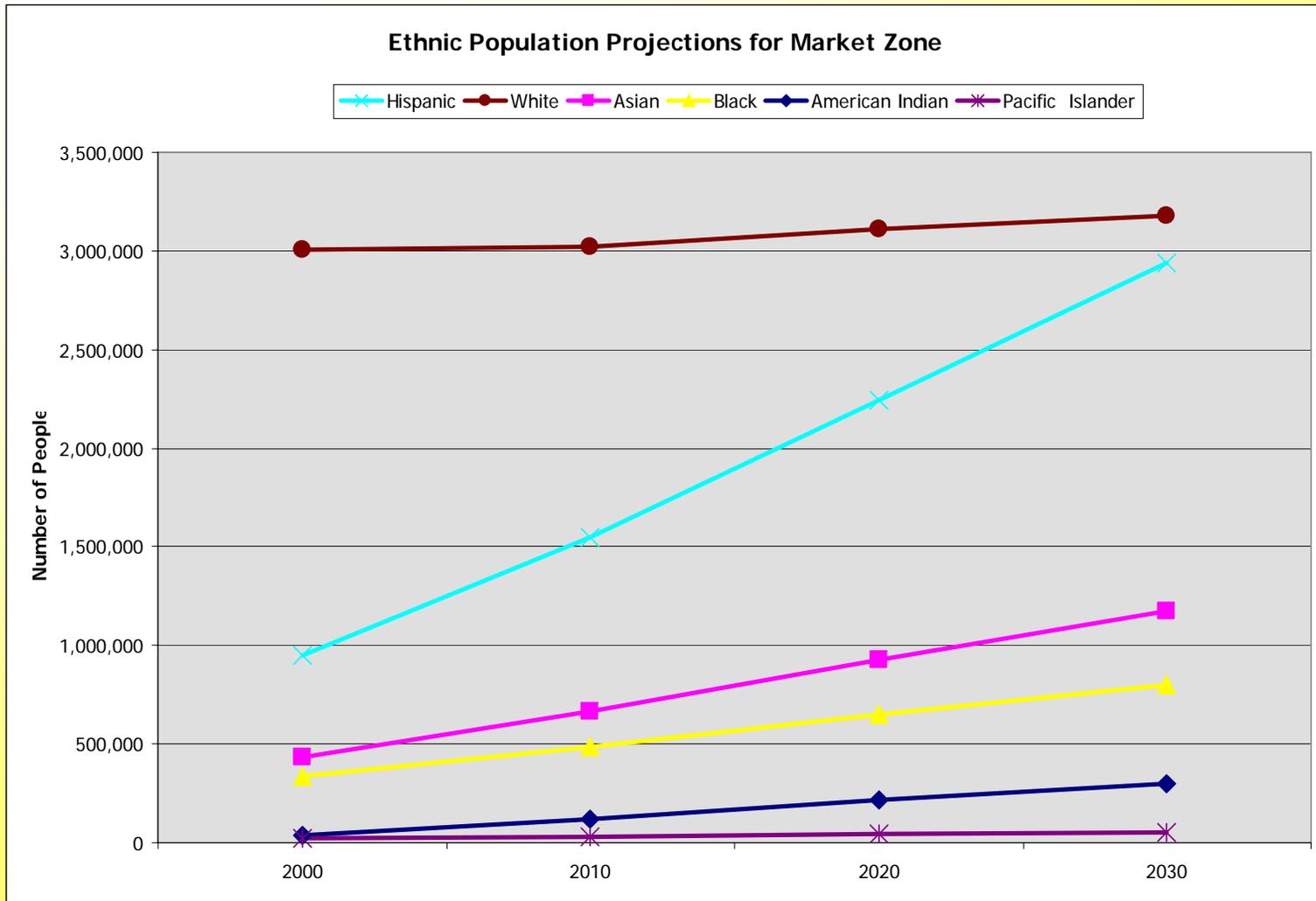
Future Demand

(from Southern Research Station)





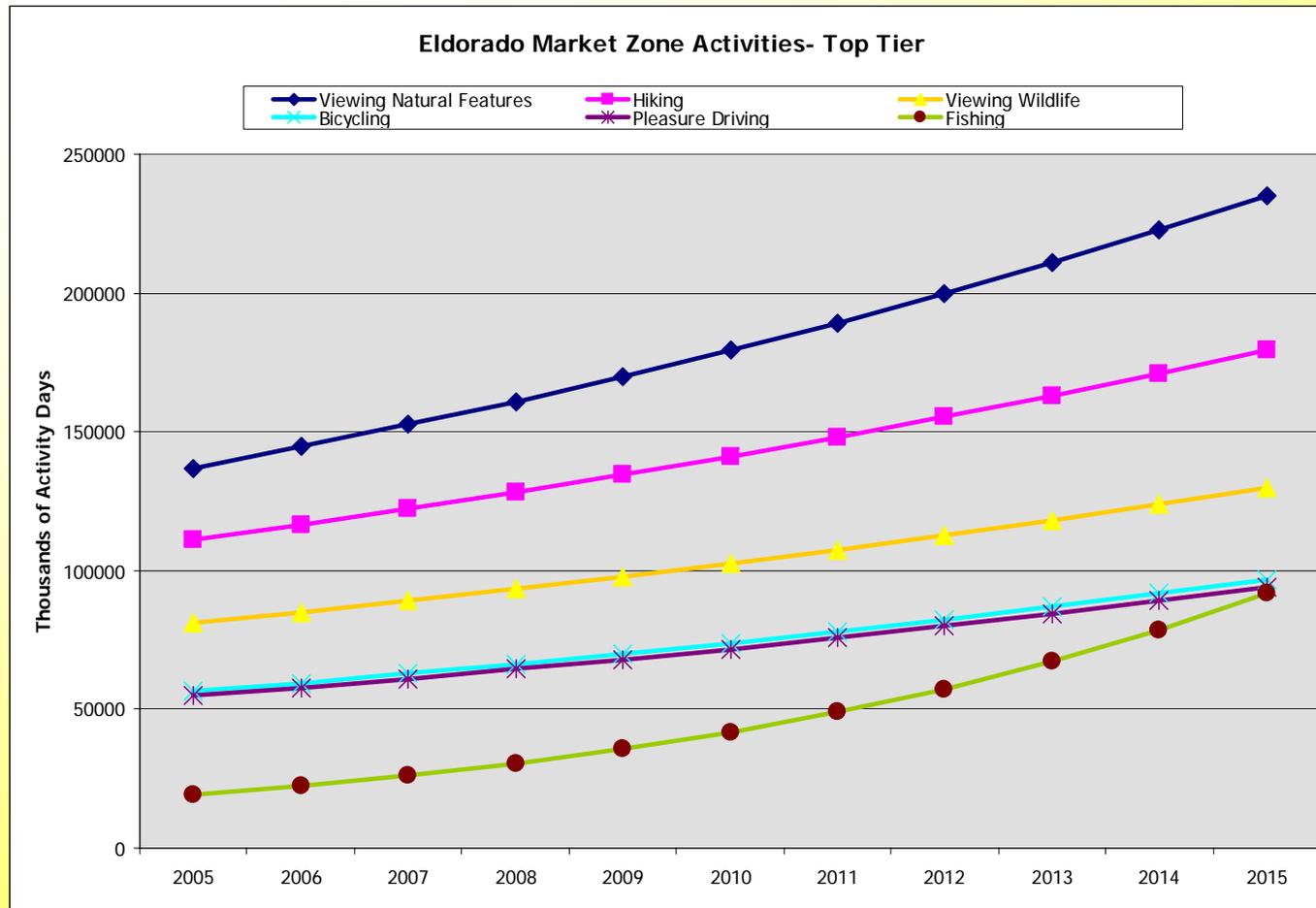
Population Change - Ethnicity (from Census)





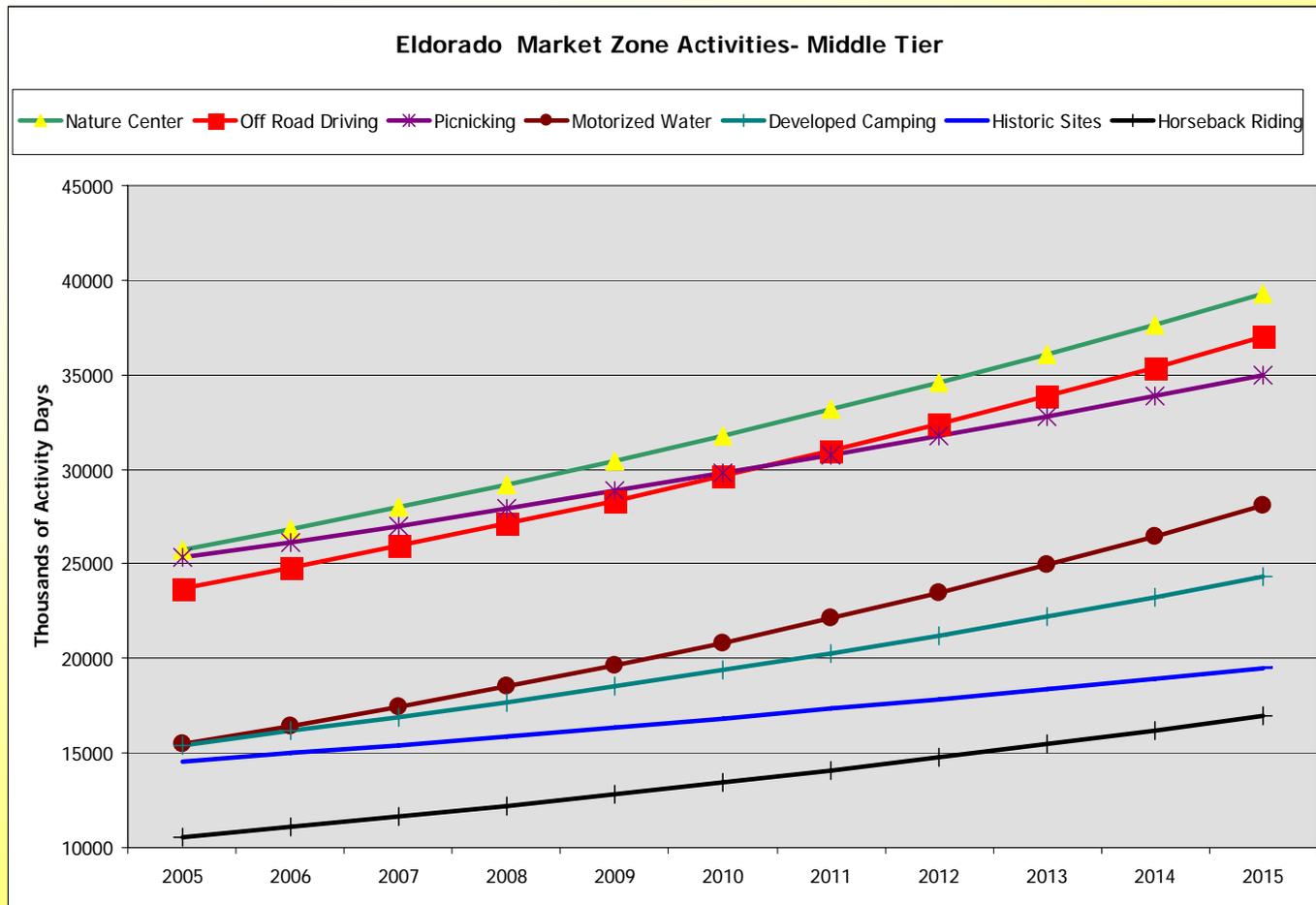
Activity Trends for the Market Zone

(from NSRE)





Activity Trends for the Market Zone (from NSRE)





Please send any comments to www.eldorado_rsfp@fs.fed.us



Thank You