



State of the science—outdoor recreation trends, economics, and interests

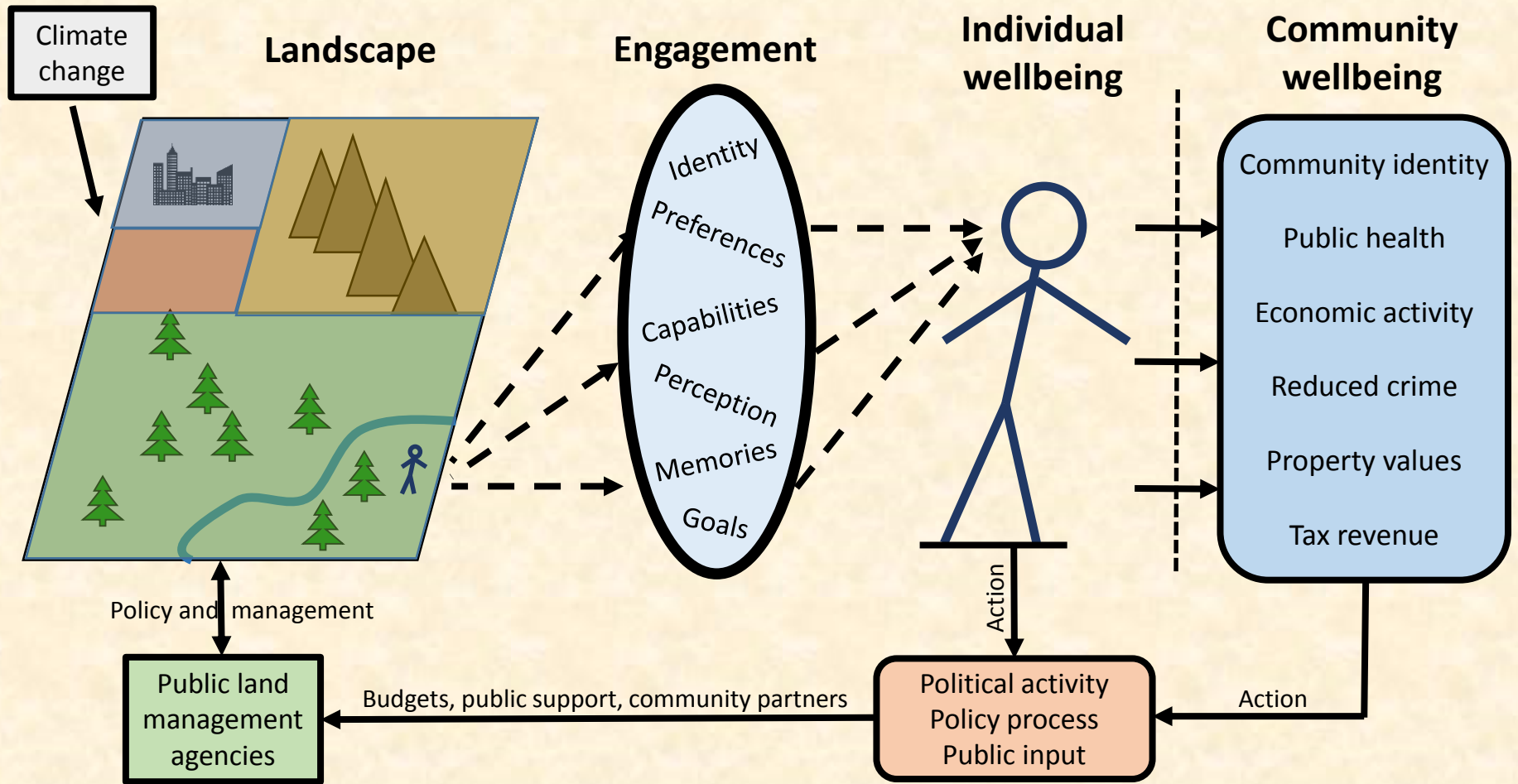
Eric M. White
Research Social Scientist
Pacific Northwest Research Station

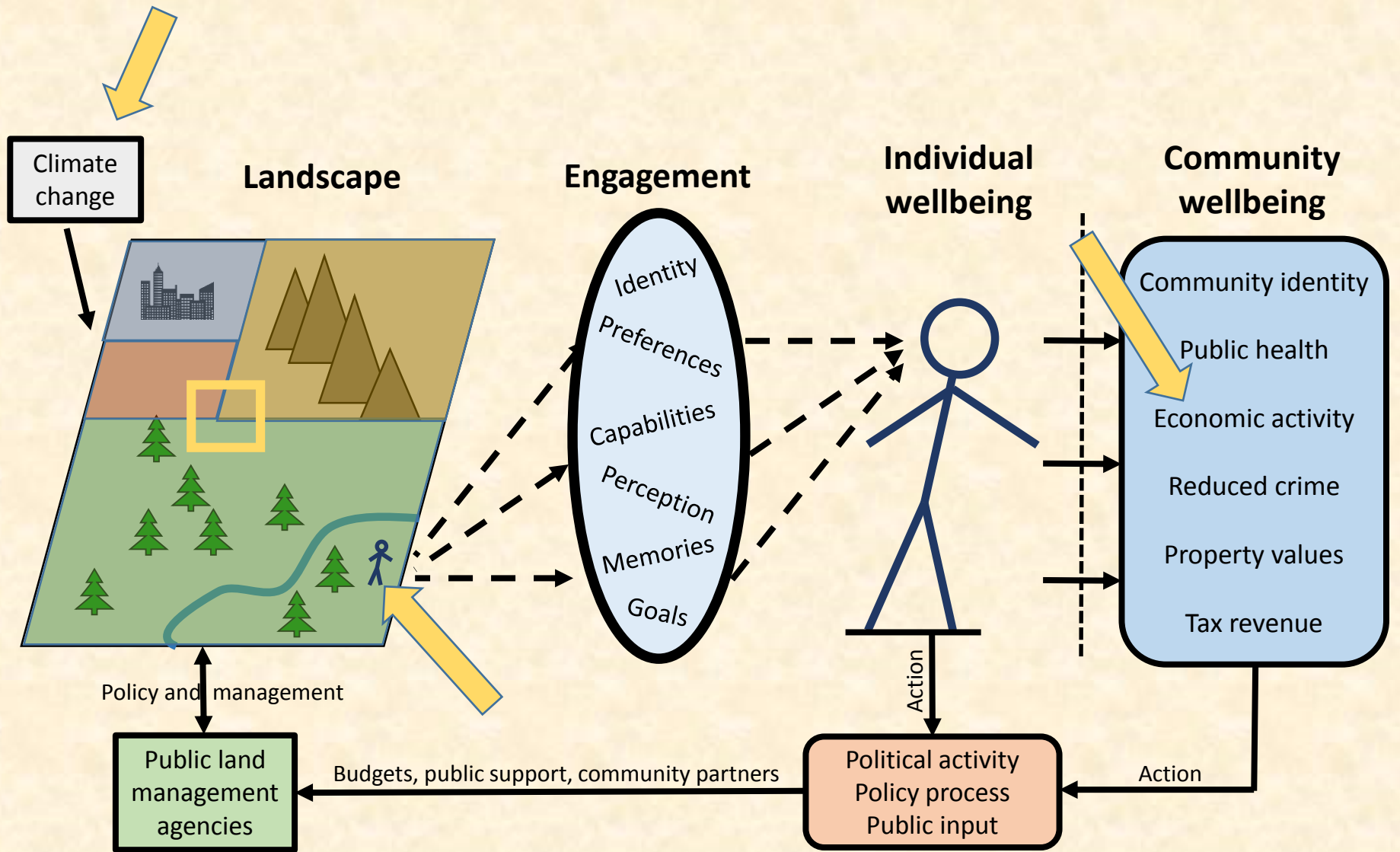


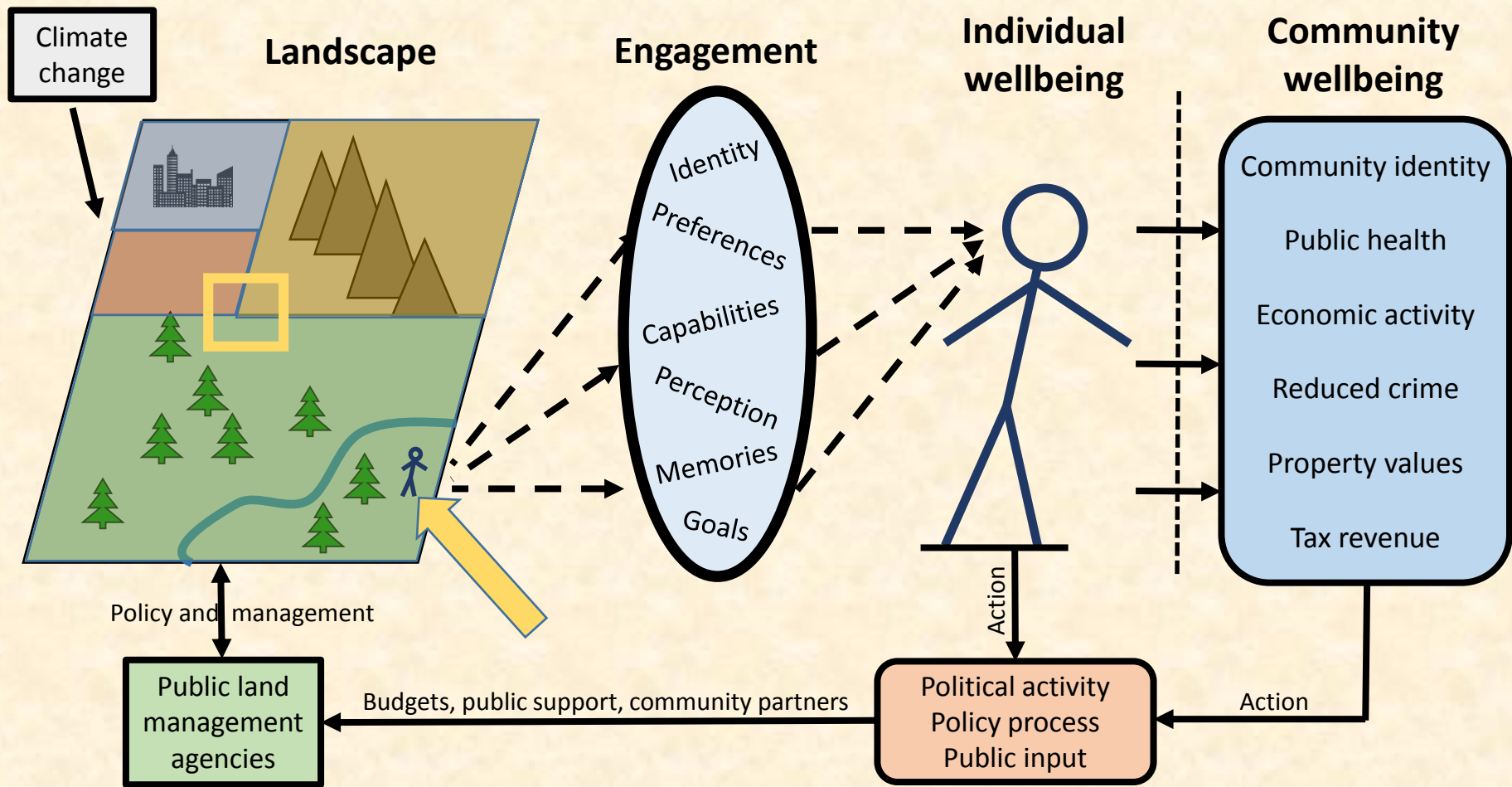
Snapshot

State of the science—outdoor recreation trends, economics, and interests

Eric M. White
Research Social Scientist
Pacific Northwest Research Station







Oregon and Washington residents



- Approximately 95% of residents participate in at least one outdoor recreation activity
- About $\frac{3}{4}$ of residents walk on local trails/paths
- Slightly more than half go on day hikes on trails
- Between 34% and 50% view nature and wildlife
- About 25% fish and about 10% hunt
- 3-11% participate in OHV recreation

Sources:

http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2017_Oregon_Resident_Outdoor_Recreation_Survey.pdf;
<https://www.rco.wa.gov/StateRecPlans/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Assessment-of-Demand.pdf> 6

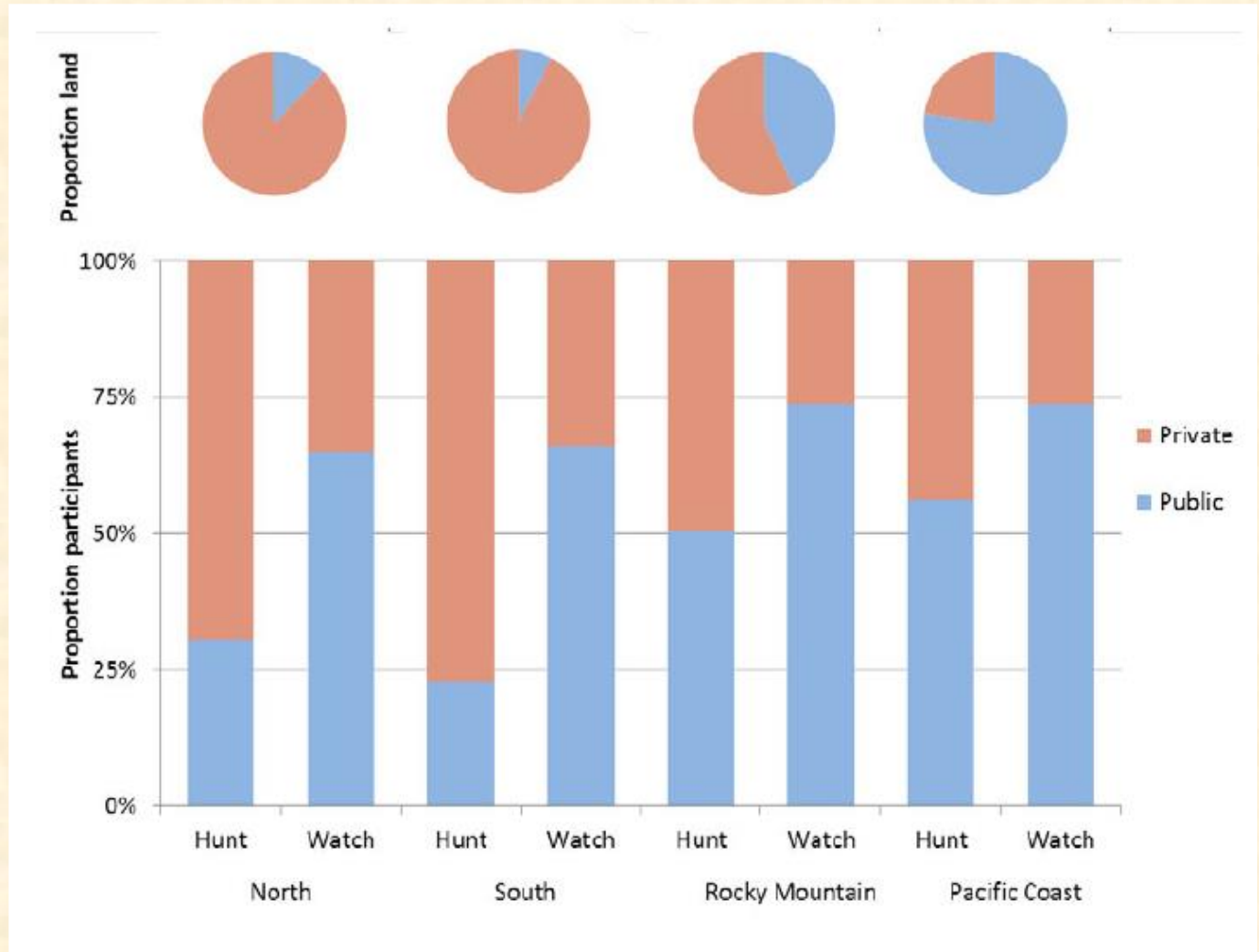
Many land ownerships providing opportunity



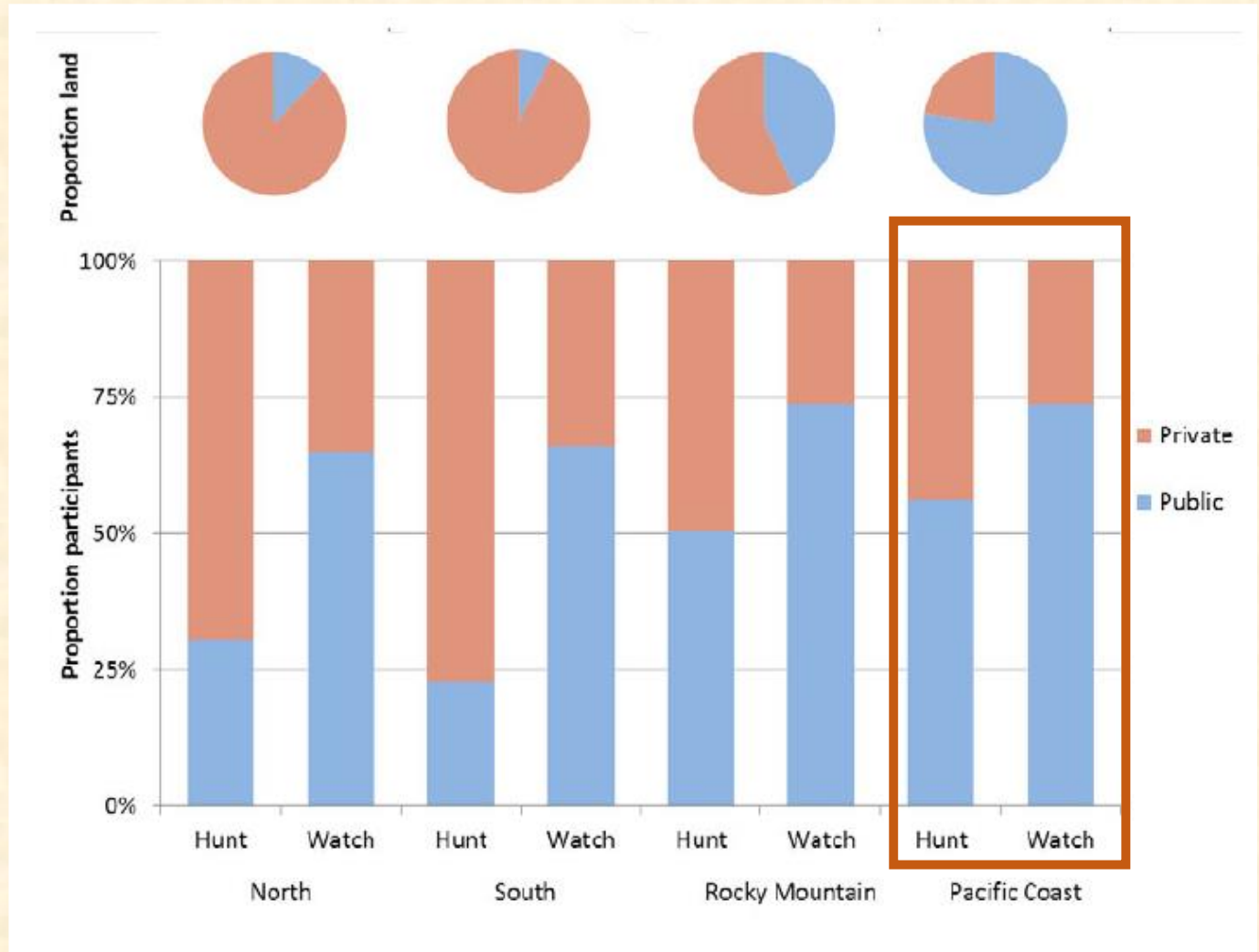
Ownership	Hiking	Camping	Freshwater fishing	Hunting
Washington DNR	55%	29%	32%	44%
State parks	70%	58%	44%	7%
Federal lands	40%	31%	22%	28%
Local lands	23%	16%	22%	8%
State wildlife area	35%	21%	52%	31%
Privately-owned	18%	33%	16%	50%

Sources: <https://www.rco.wa.gov/StateRecPlans/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Assessment-of-Demand.pdf>

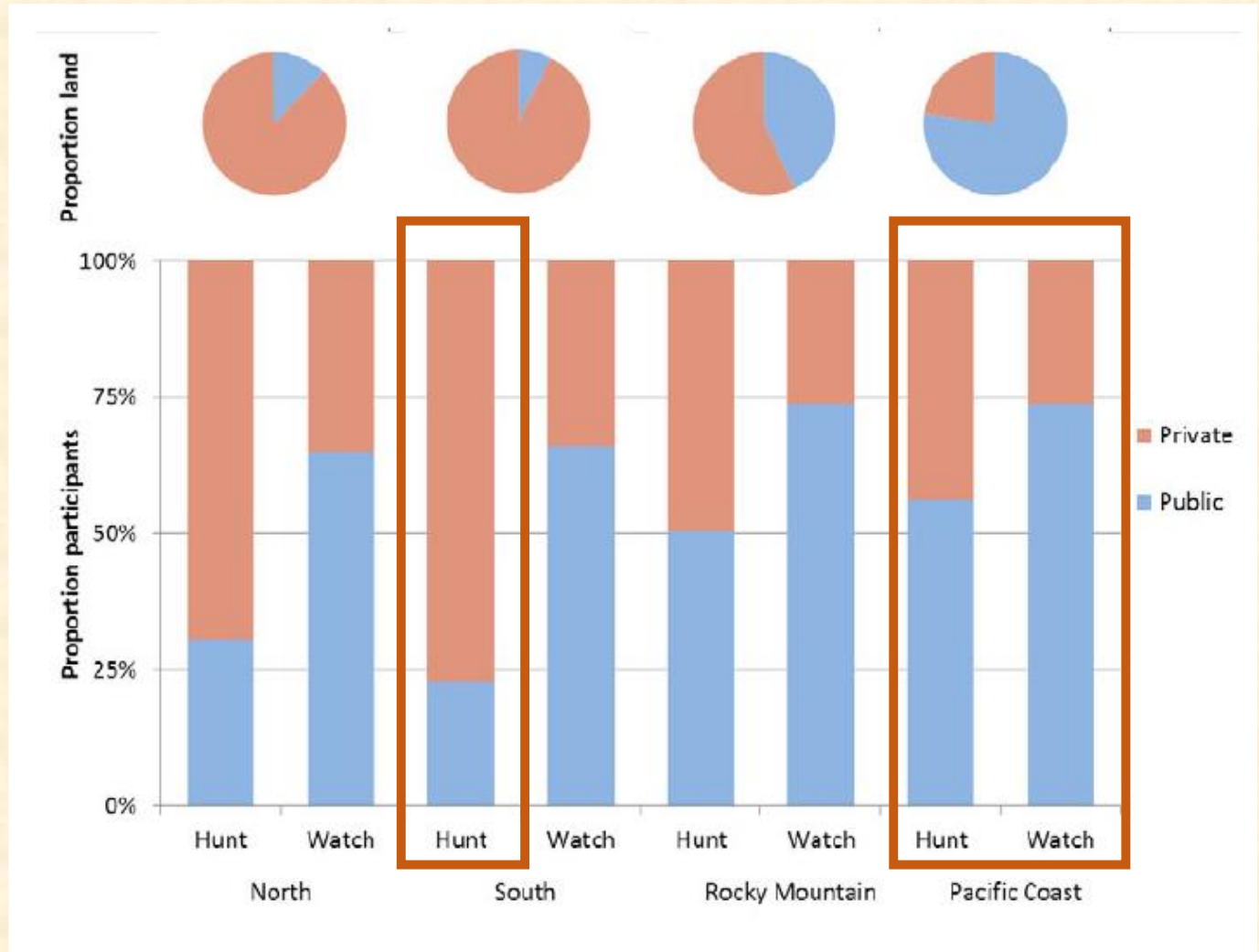
Use of public and private lands



Use of public and private lands



Use of public and private lands

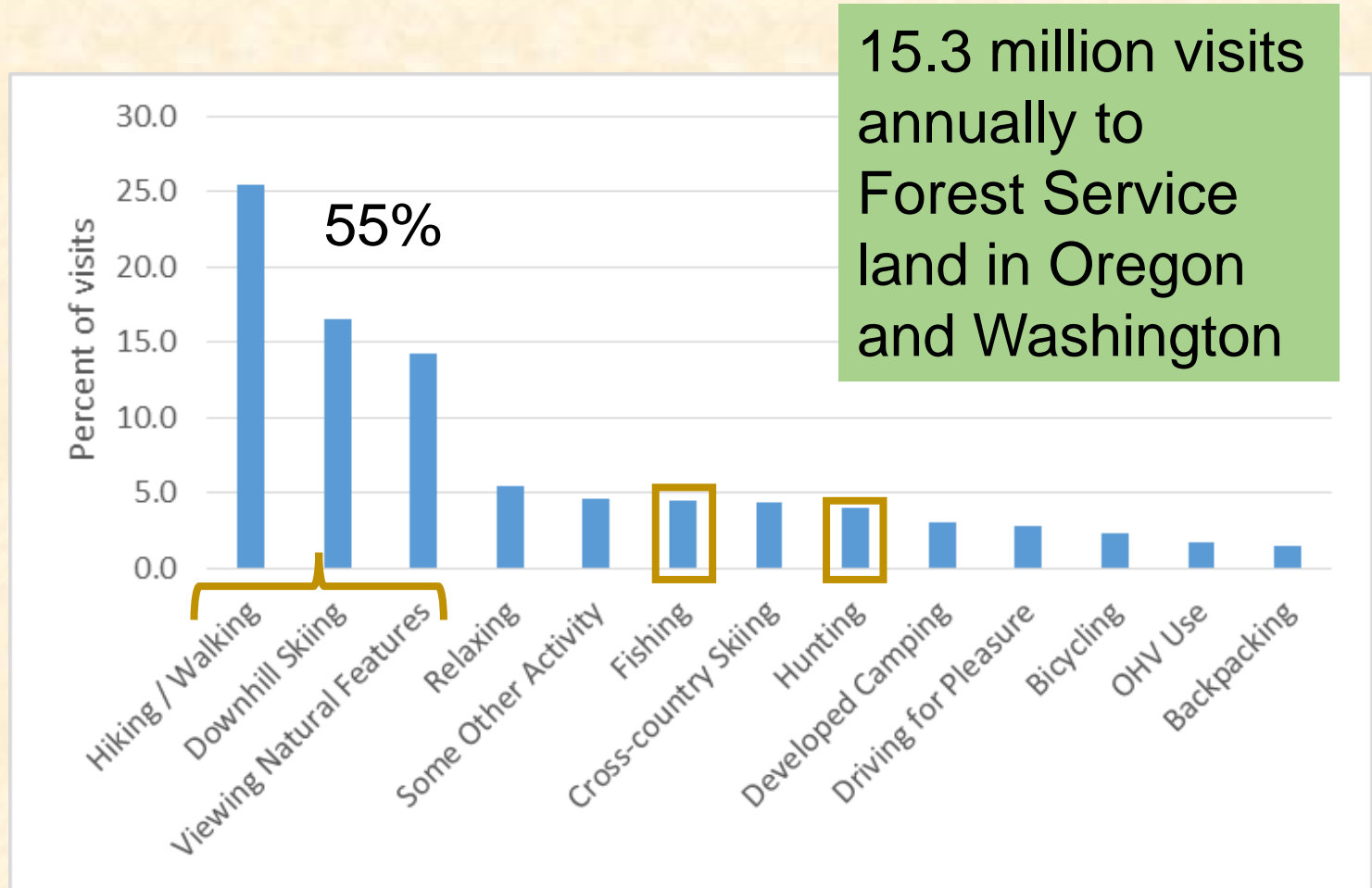


Federal lands recreation use



Agency	Visits annually (millions)
National Park Service	331
Bureau of Land Management	65
Fish and Wildlife Service	50
Bureau of Reclamation	30
Forest Service	146
<u>Army Corps of Engineers</u>	<u>267</u>
Total	891

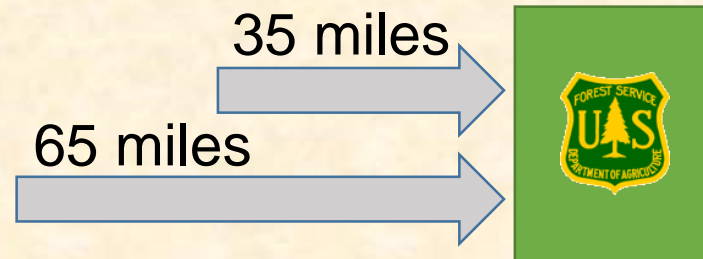
Forest Service recreation in Oregon and Washington

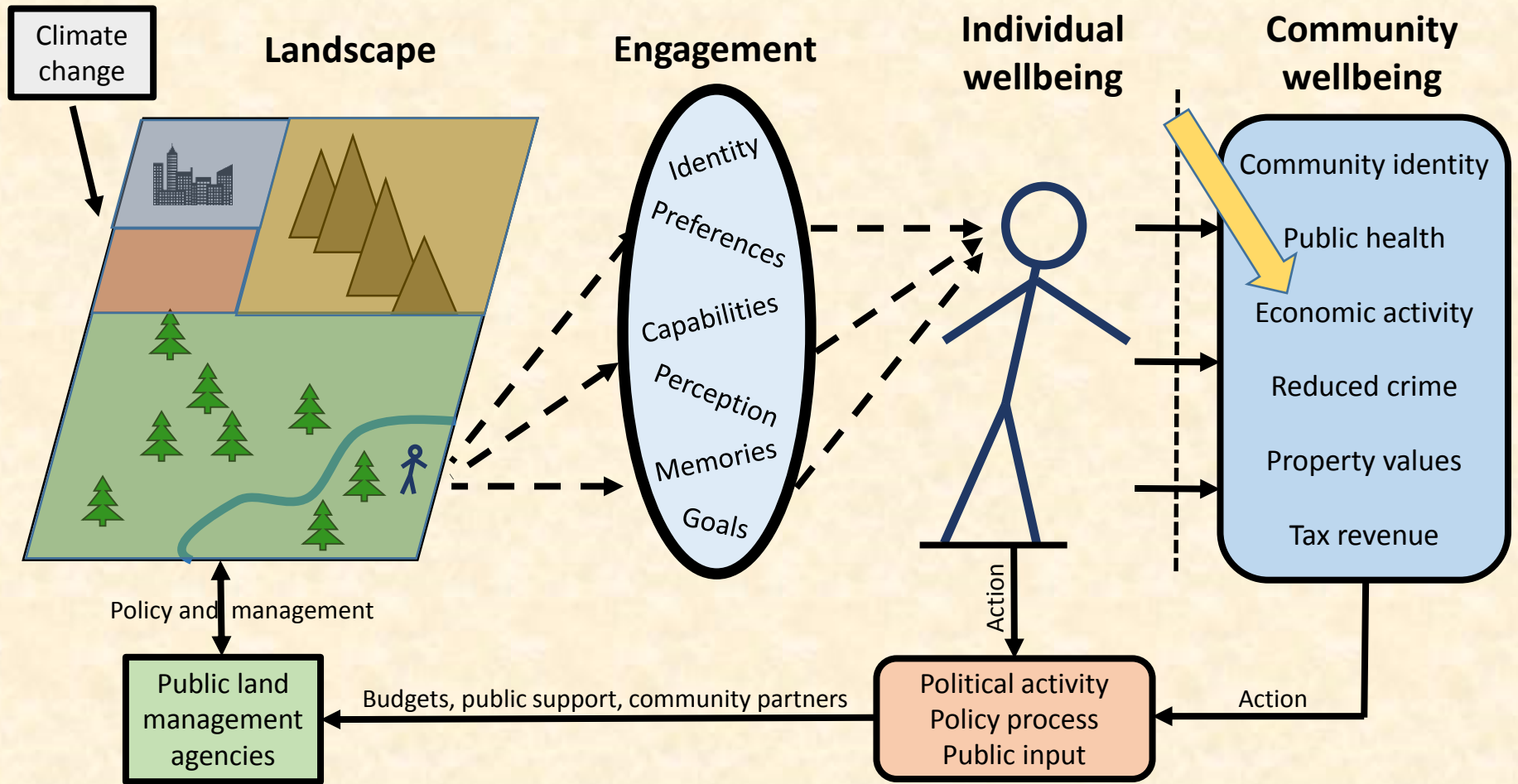


Region 6 visit characteristics

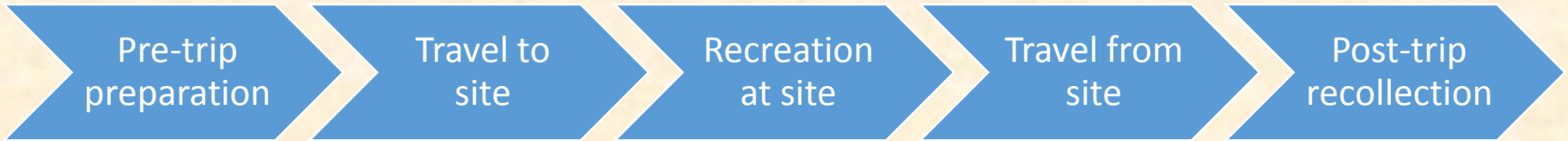


- 25% of visits
- 50% of visits
- 3% of visits are from international visitors
- 58% of visits are from males
- 95% of visits are from whites
- Group size is 2.6 people, on average





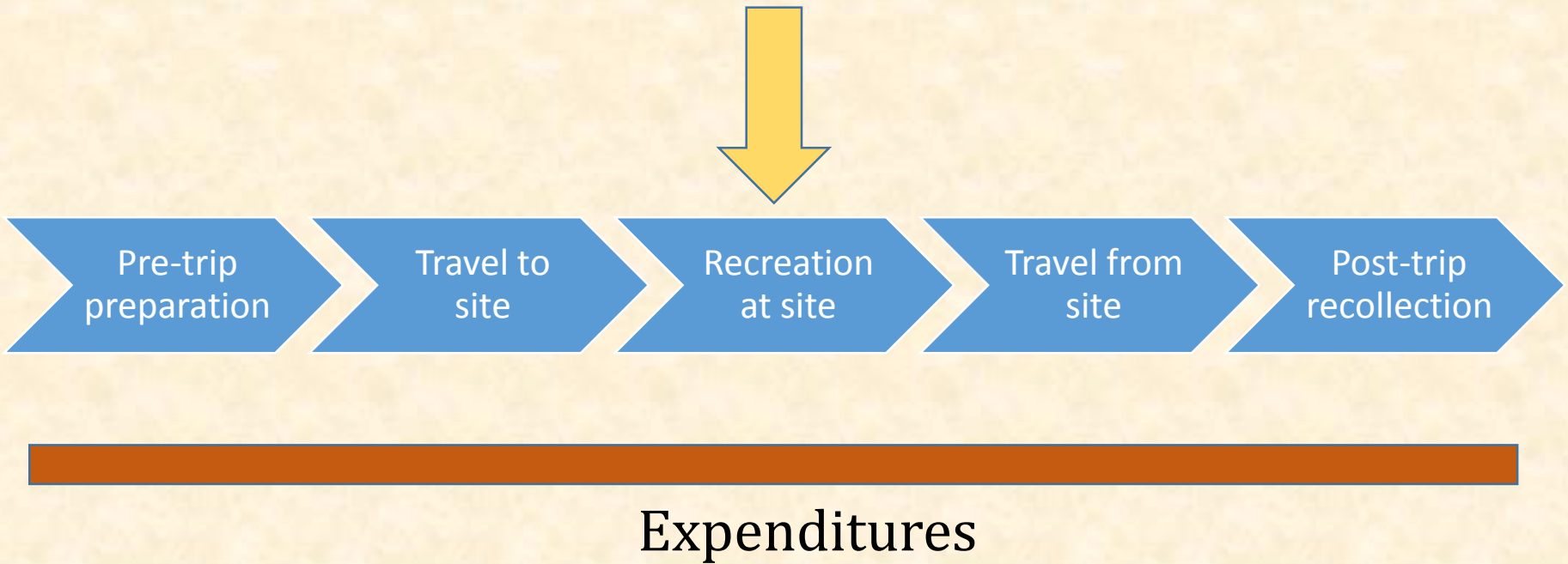
Recreation experience



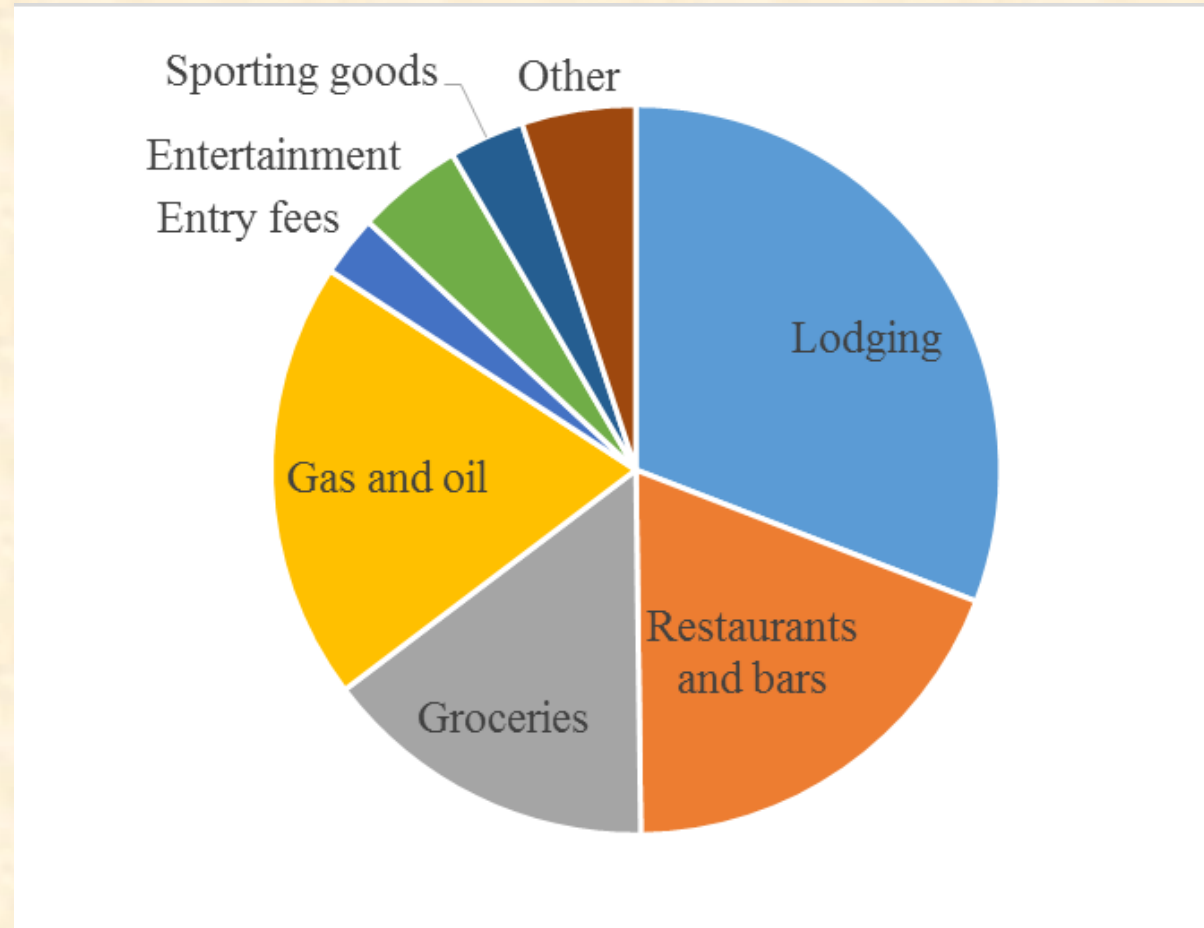
Expenditures

Personal benefits

Recreation experience



Total spending in gateway communities



Factors influencing gateway spending

Trip type is the best predictor

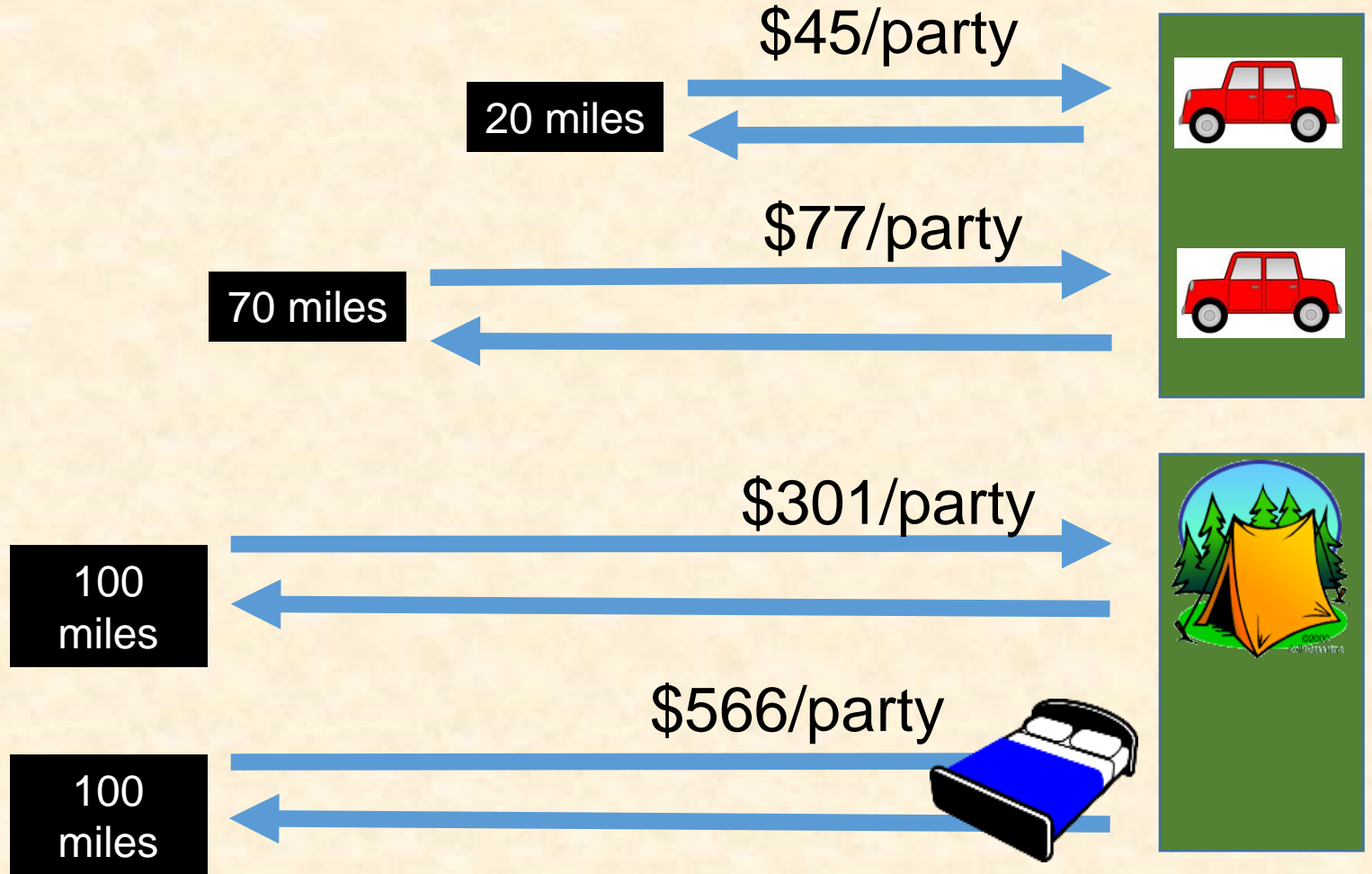
- Local or tourist
- Day trip or overnight trip
- Lodging type

Activity is a secondary predictor

- Skiers/snowboarders
- Users of guides/outfitters



Forest Service wildlife-related visitor spending



Source: White 2017 PNW GTR 961

National recreation economic contribution



Agency	Visitor spending (billions)	Jobs supported (1,000s)
National Park Service	18	318
Bureau of Land Management	3	48
Fish and Wildlife Service	2	37
Bureau of Reclamation	1	23
Forest Service	9	148
NOAA	5	63
Army Corps of Engineers	11	189
Total	49	826

Economic contribution, Region 6

NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION BENEFITS WASHINGTON'S LOCAL COMMUNITIES



6.3 million annual visits to national forest lands in Washington



2,130 year-long jobs supported in Washington, many in rural communities



\$290 million spent annually in communities around national forest lands



\$81.4 million in labor income for employees and businesses supported

Working collaboratively with partners and local communities, the Forest Service manages nine million acres across five national forests and one national scenic area in Washington. This includes a bounty of world-class outdoor recreation areas, facilities, and programs. These recreation opportunities provide countless health and economic benefit to the people and communities of Washington. The growing popularity of outdoor recreation, as well as the increasing population across the region, present unique opportunities and challenges for the Forest Service, local communities, and partners. By working together, we will ensure we are well poised to take advantage of these opportunities and tackle these challenges to build a socially, financially, and environmentally sustainable recreation program for the public we serve.



for the greatest good

FOREST SERVICE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN WASHINGTON

- 9,000** miles of trail
- 912** recreation sites
- 10** ski areas
- 25** wilderness areas
- 6** wild & scenic rivers
- 1** national monument

NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION BENEFITS OREGON'S LOCAL COMMUNITIES



9 million annual visits to national forest lands in Oregon



3,950 year-long jobs supported in Oregon, many in rural communities



\$448 million spent annually in communities around national forest lands



\$129 million in labor income for employees and businesses supported

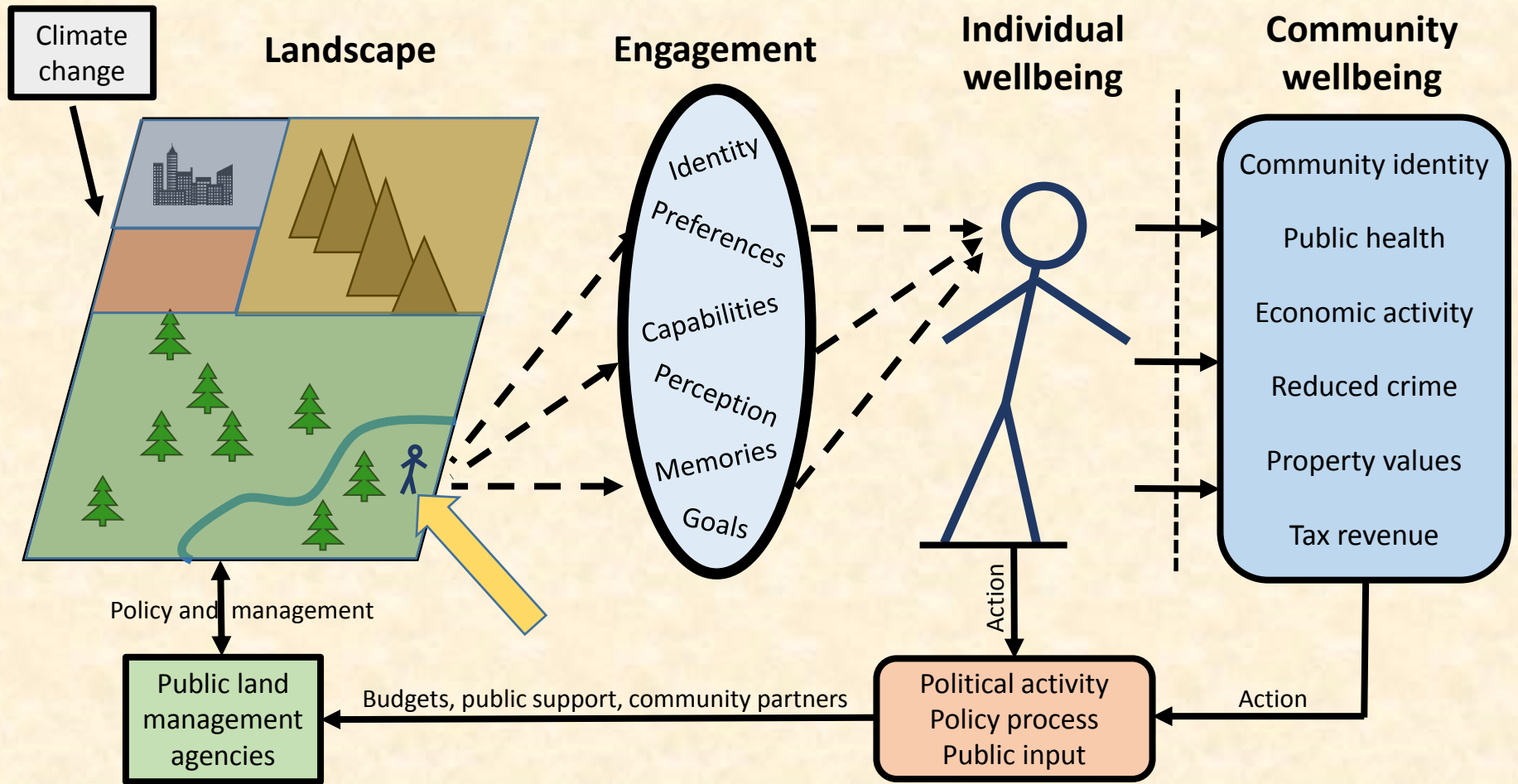
Working collaboratively with partners and local communities, the Forest Service manages 15 million acres of national forest land across 11 national forests and one national scenic area in Oregon. This includes a bounty of world-class outdoor recreation areas, facilities, and programs. These recreation opportunities provide countless health and economic benefit to the people and communities of Oregon. The growing popularity of outdoor recreation, as well as the increasing population across the region, present unique opportunities and challenges for the Forest Service, local communities, and partners. By working together, we will ensure we are well poised to take advantage of these opportunities and tackle these challenges to build a socially, financially, and environmentally sustainable recreation program for the public we serve.



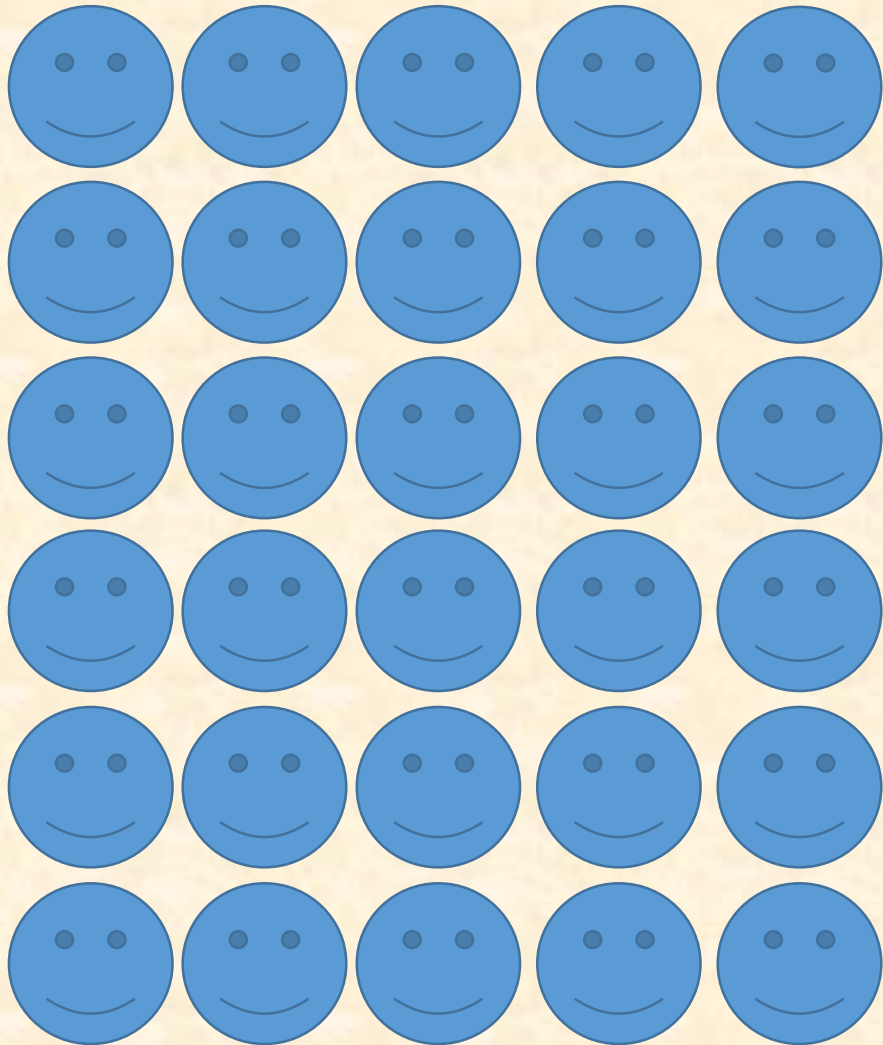
for the greatest good

FOREST SERVICE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN OREGON

- 15,000** miles of trail
- 1,530** recreation sites
- 11** ski areas
- 40** wilderness areas
- 45** wild & scenic rivers
- 2** national recreation areas

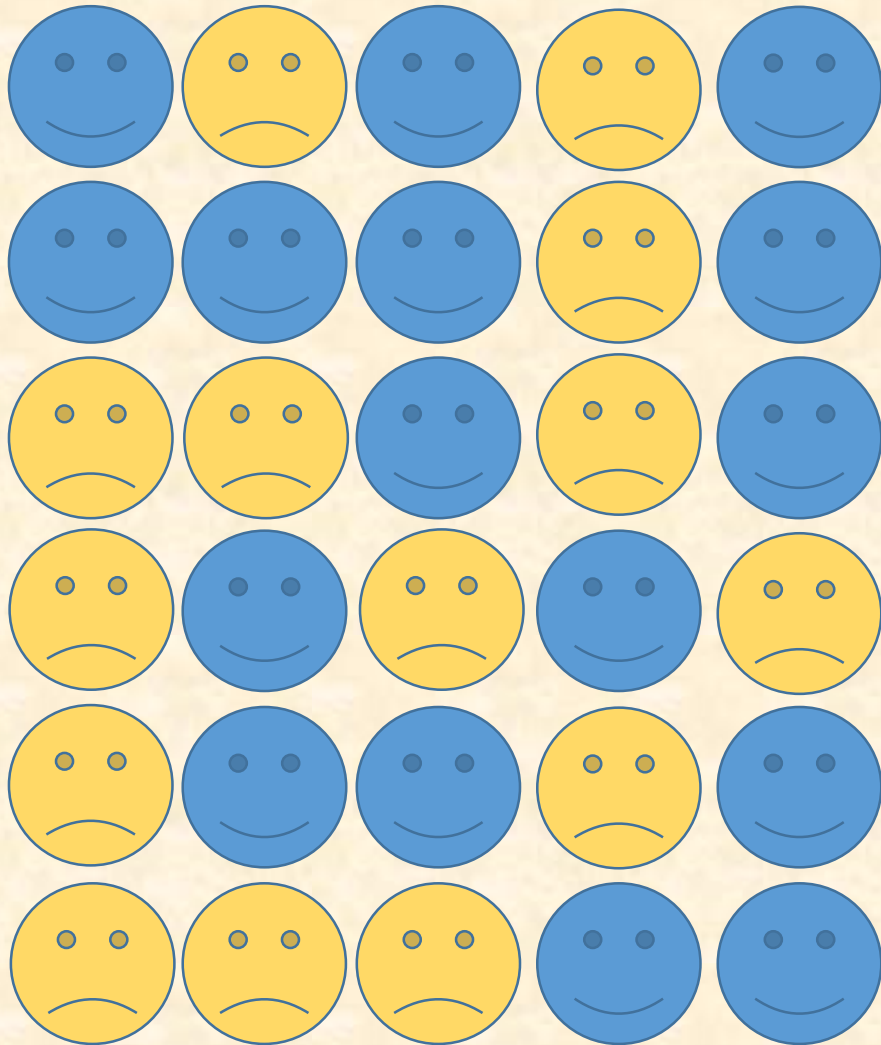


The magnitude of recreation use is a function of:



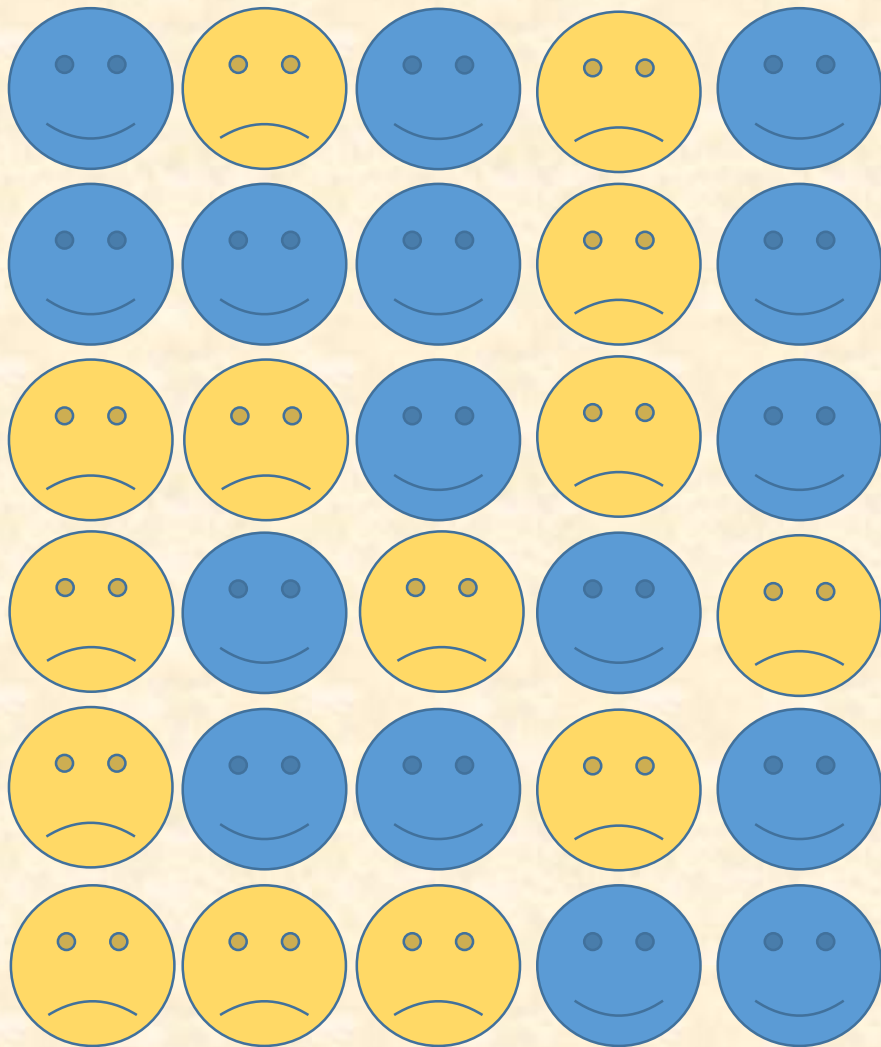
- The number of potential recreationists (i.e., the population)....

The magnitude of recreation use is a function of:



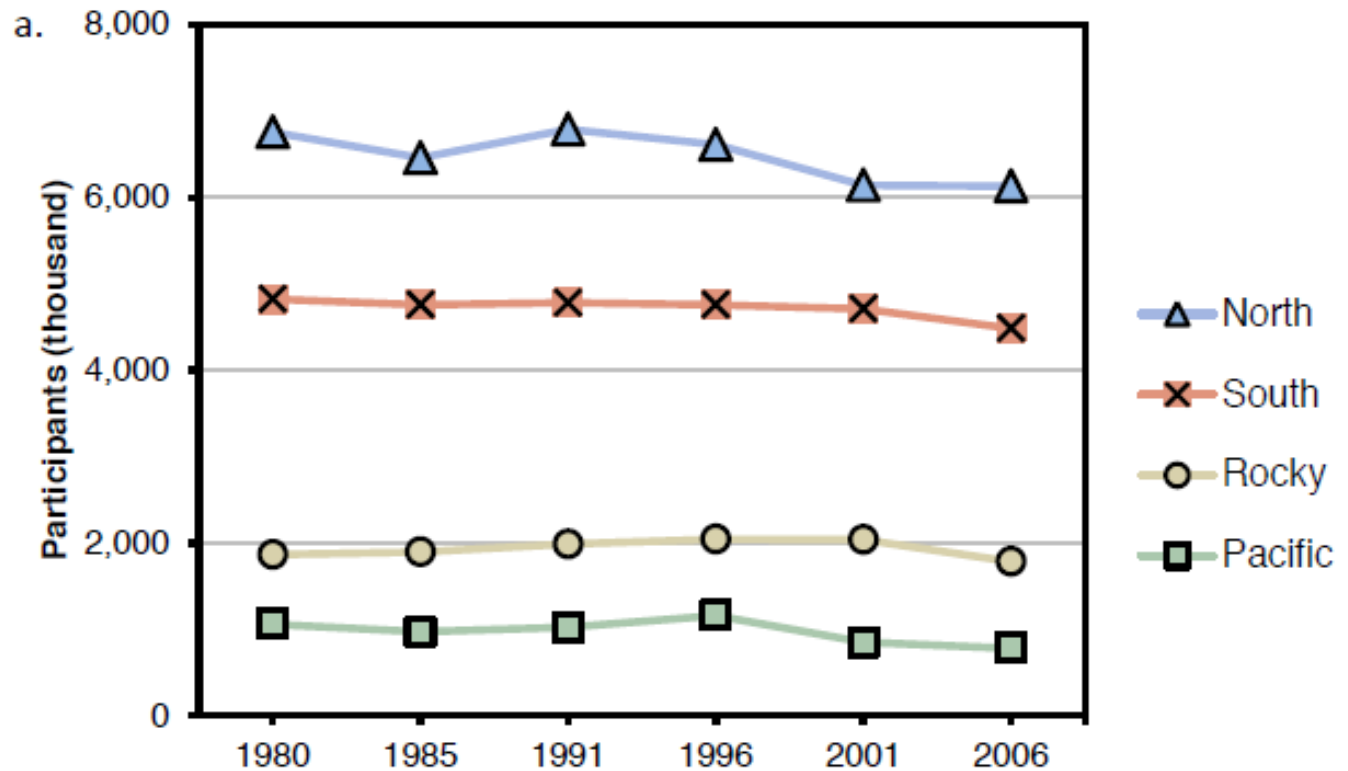
- The percent participating in an outdoor recreation activity....

The magnitude of recreation use is a function of:

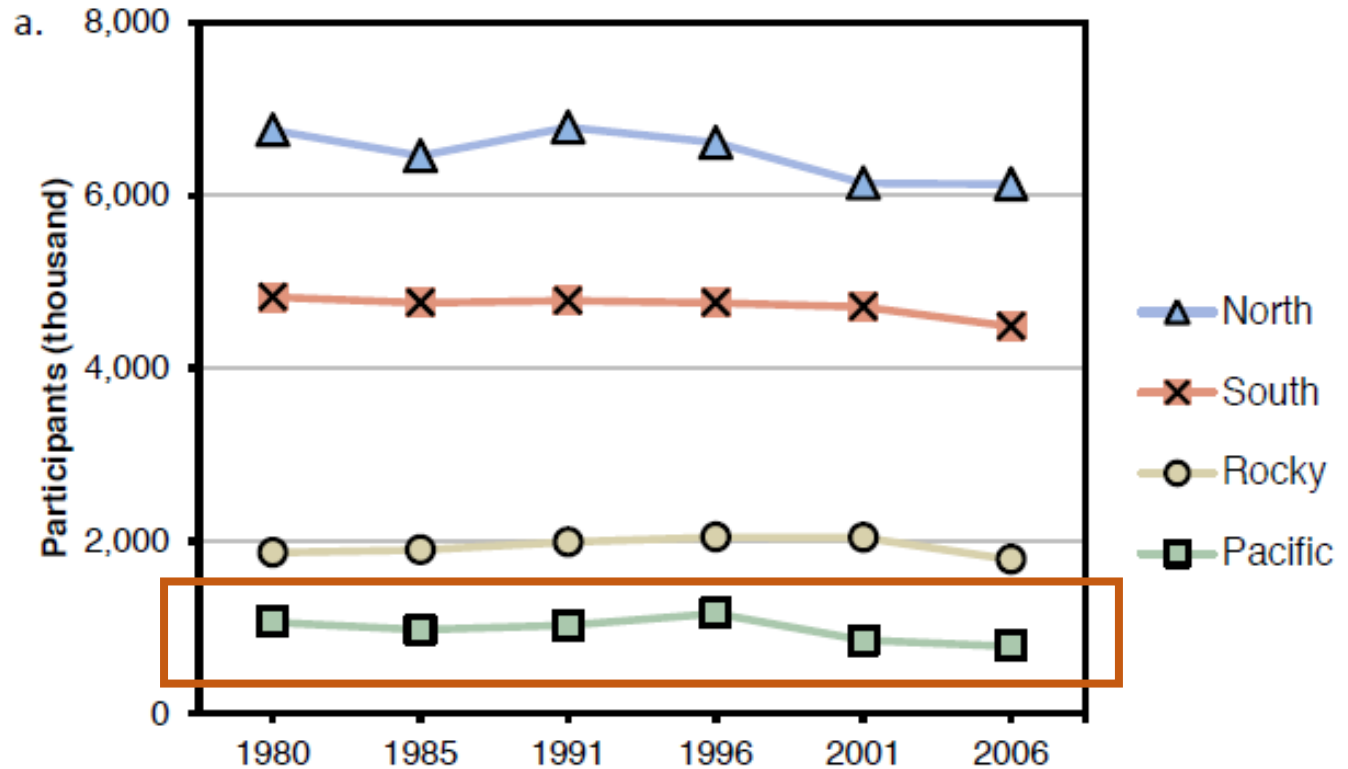


- The frequency of engagement in that activity

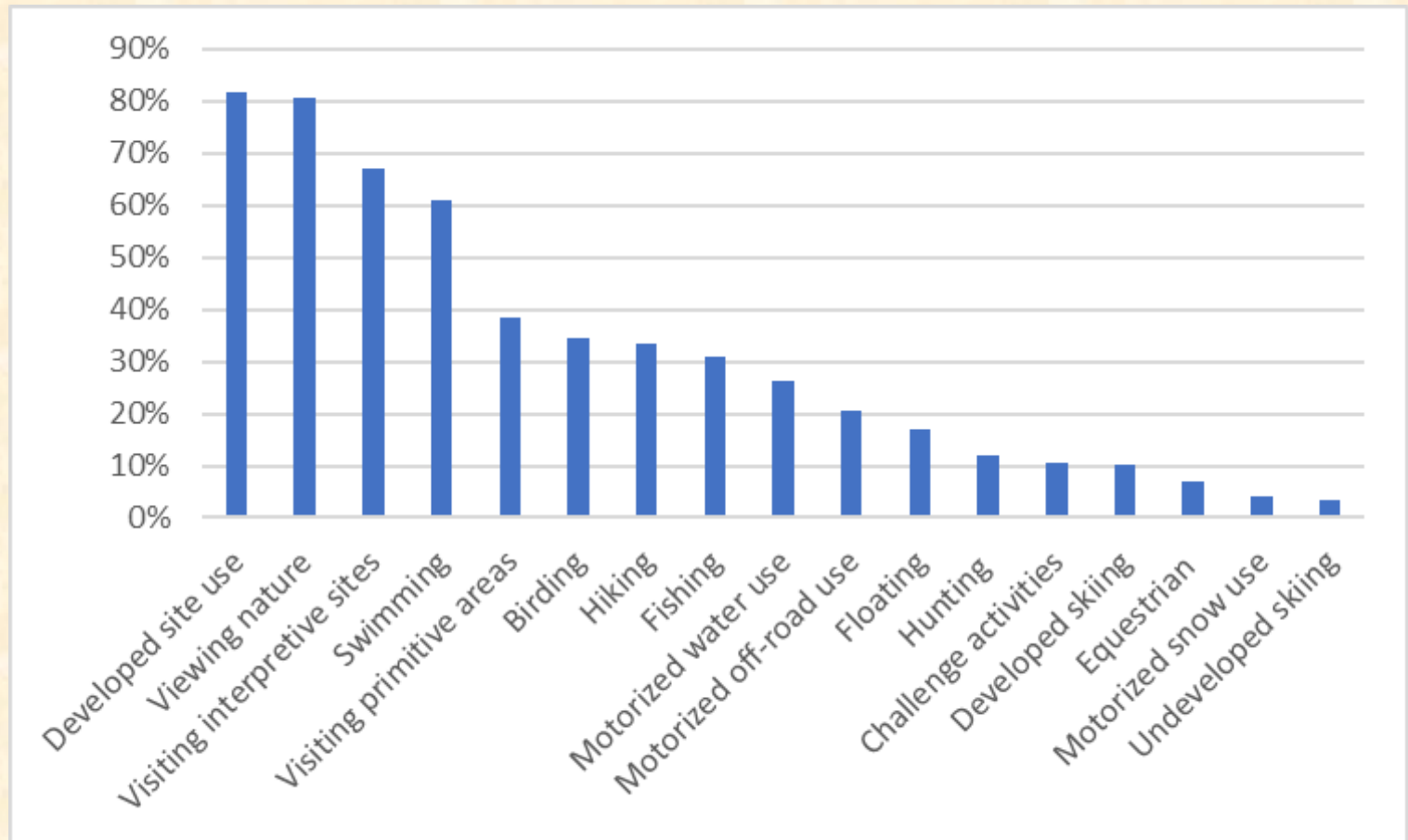
Hunting participants, 1980-2006



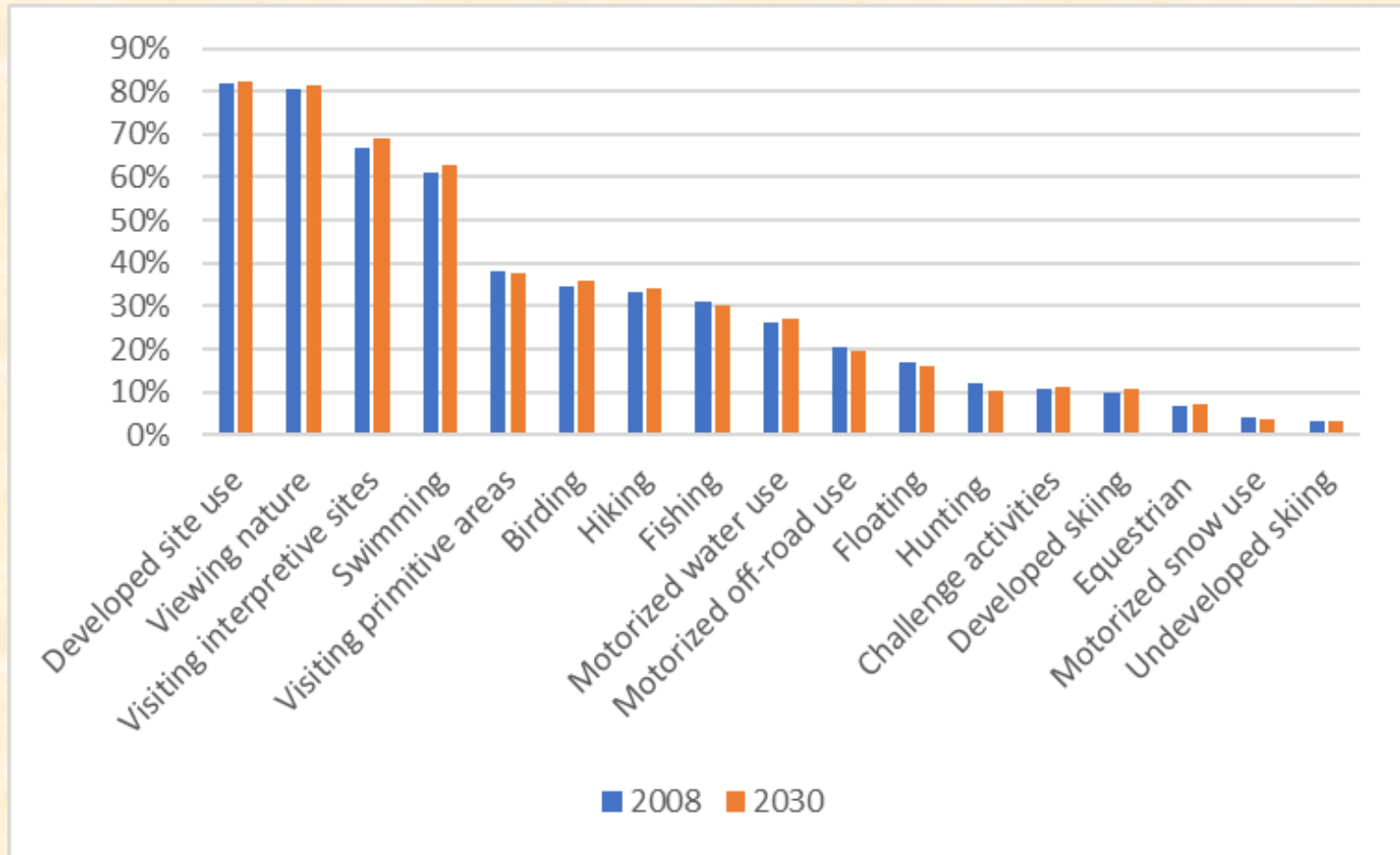
Hunting participants, 1980-2006



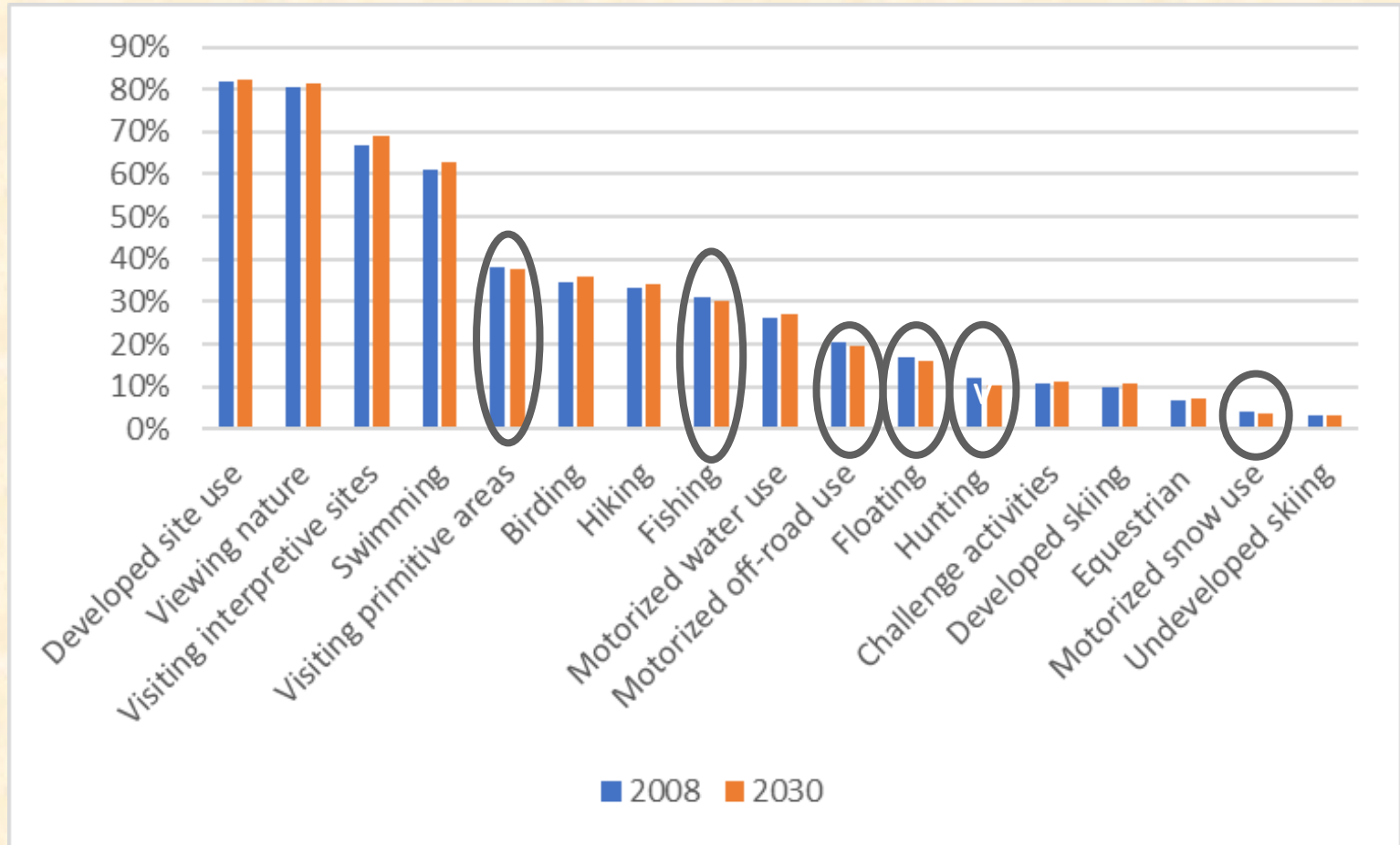
Share of population participating ...in 2008



Comparison of participation rates, 2008 and 2030

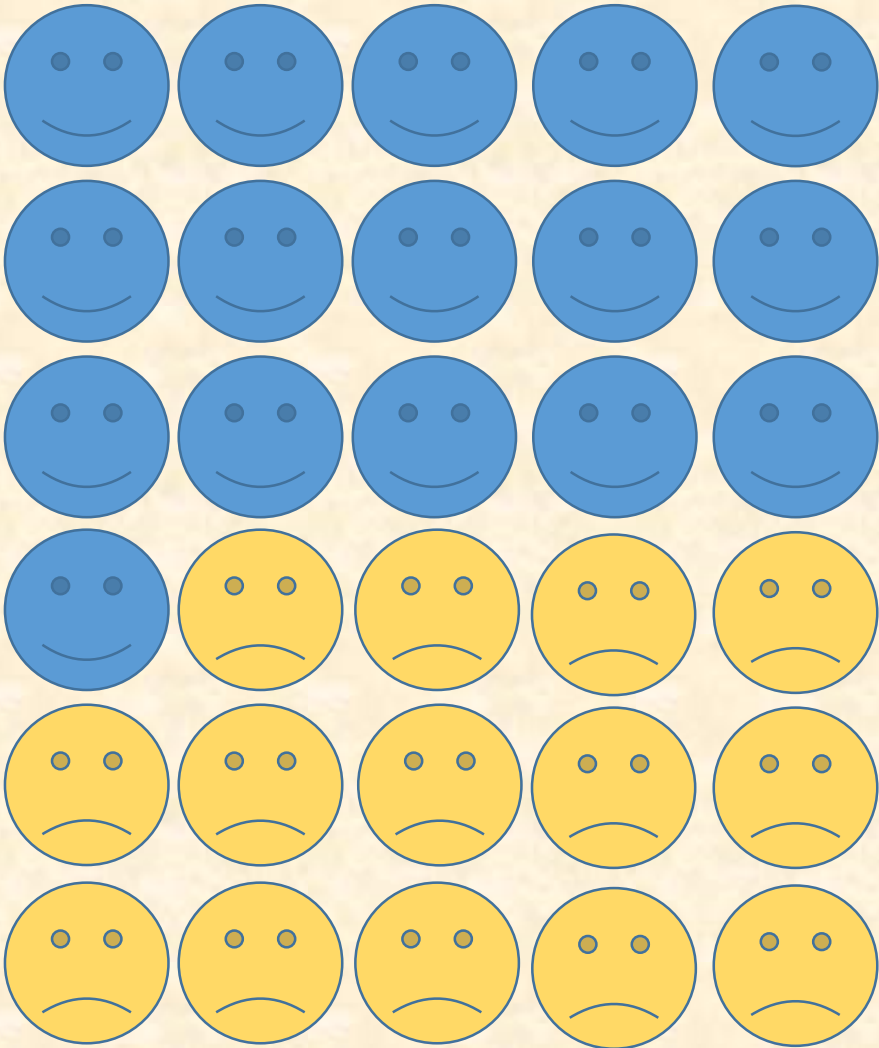


Comparison of participation rates, 2008 and 2030



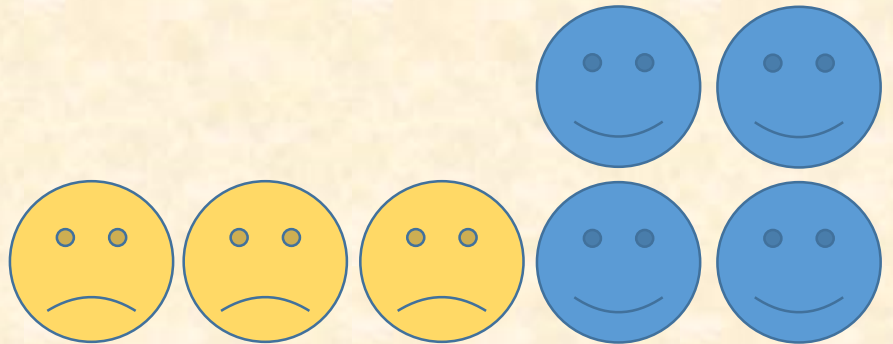
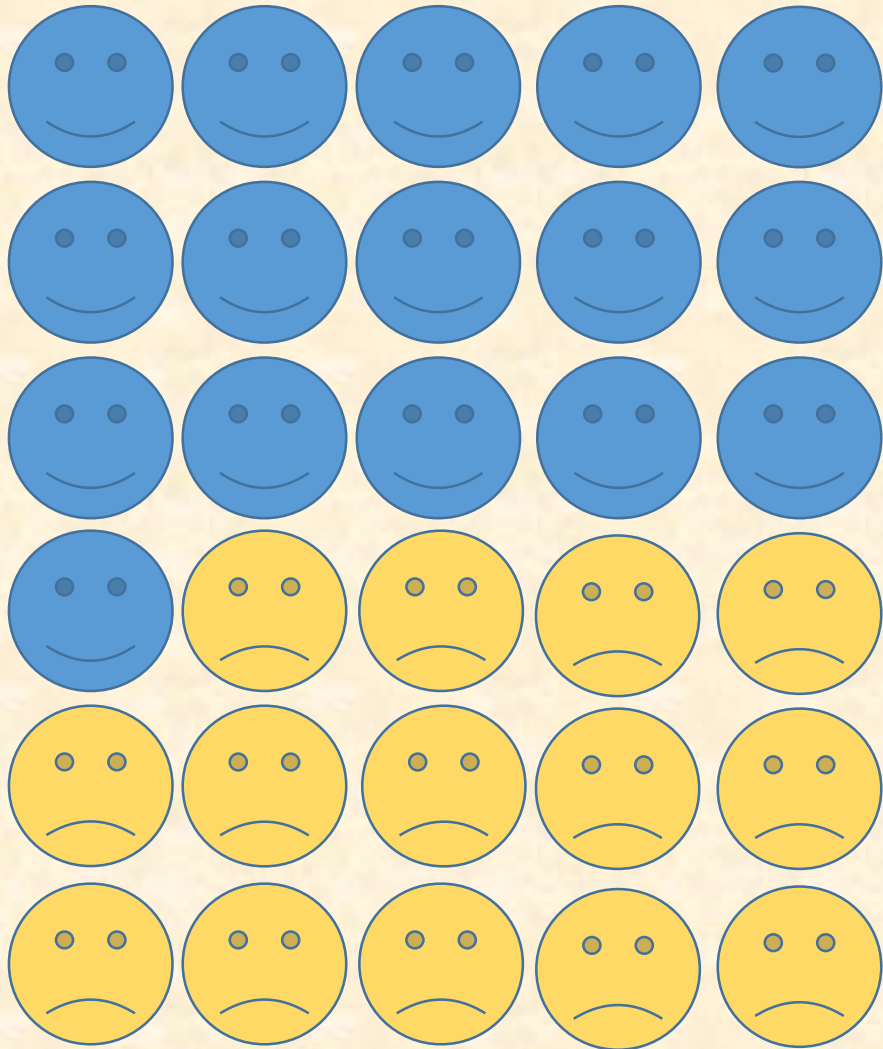
Continuing US population growth

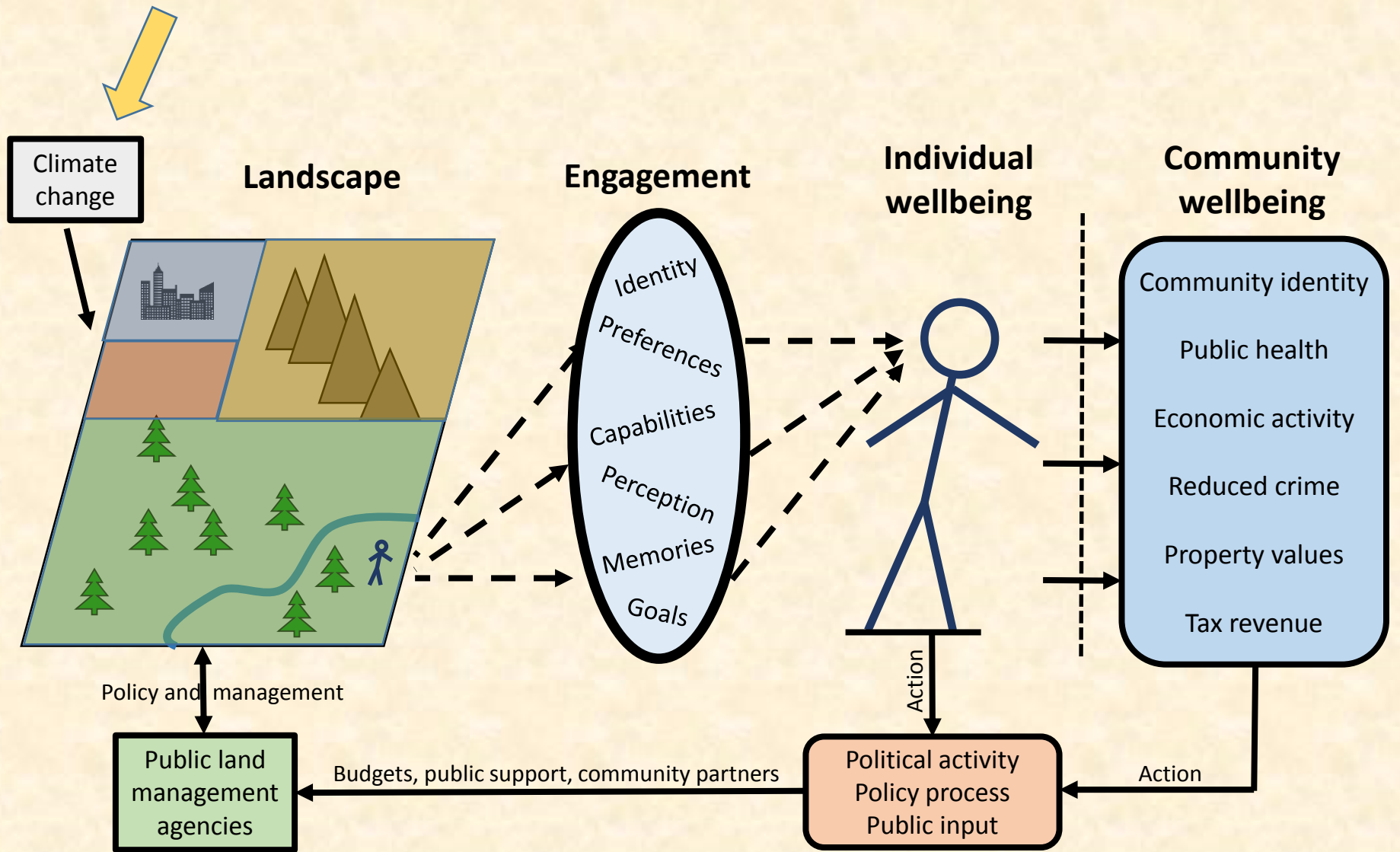
2017 US population



Continuing US population growth

2060 US population





Climate change influence on visits

- Environmental conditions change the ability/desire of people to participate in a recreation activity
- Disturbance regimes increase closures or create undesirable resource conditions



Change in ability or desire to participate

Activities that are dependent on specific natural conditions are most susceptible:

- alpine skiing/snowboarding,
- cross-country/backcountry skiing,
- motorized snow activities
- rafting/kayaking

Expanded shoulder seasons may extend periods people want to engage in general activities

- Earlier demand for campgrounds
- Trail use earlier/later in year than typical



Disturbance effects



Natural disturbances most disruptive when they:

- are at key times in the recreation season,
- cover large geographic areas,
- and last for long time periods.

Recreation substitution is a key factor in mitigating the extent of lost visits:

- Can they go elsewhere?
 - 52% of Region 6 visits
- Can they come back later?
 - 18% of Region 6 visits



399991

Differing participation rates

Hiking on non-local trails:

↑ With children, urban residents

↓ Over 60, < 25k household income, Latino, Asian

Tent camping:

↑ With children, urban residents

Hunting:

↑ Rural residents, 60-74, men

Fishing:

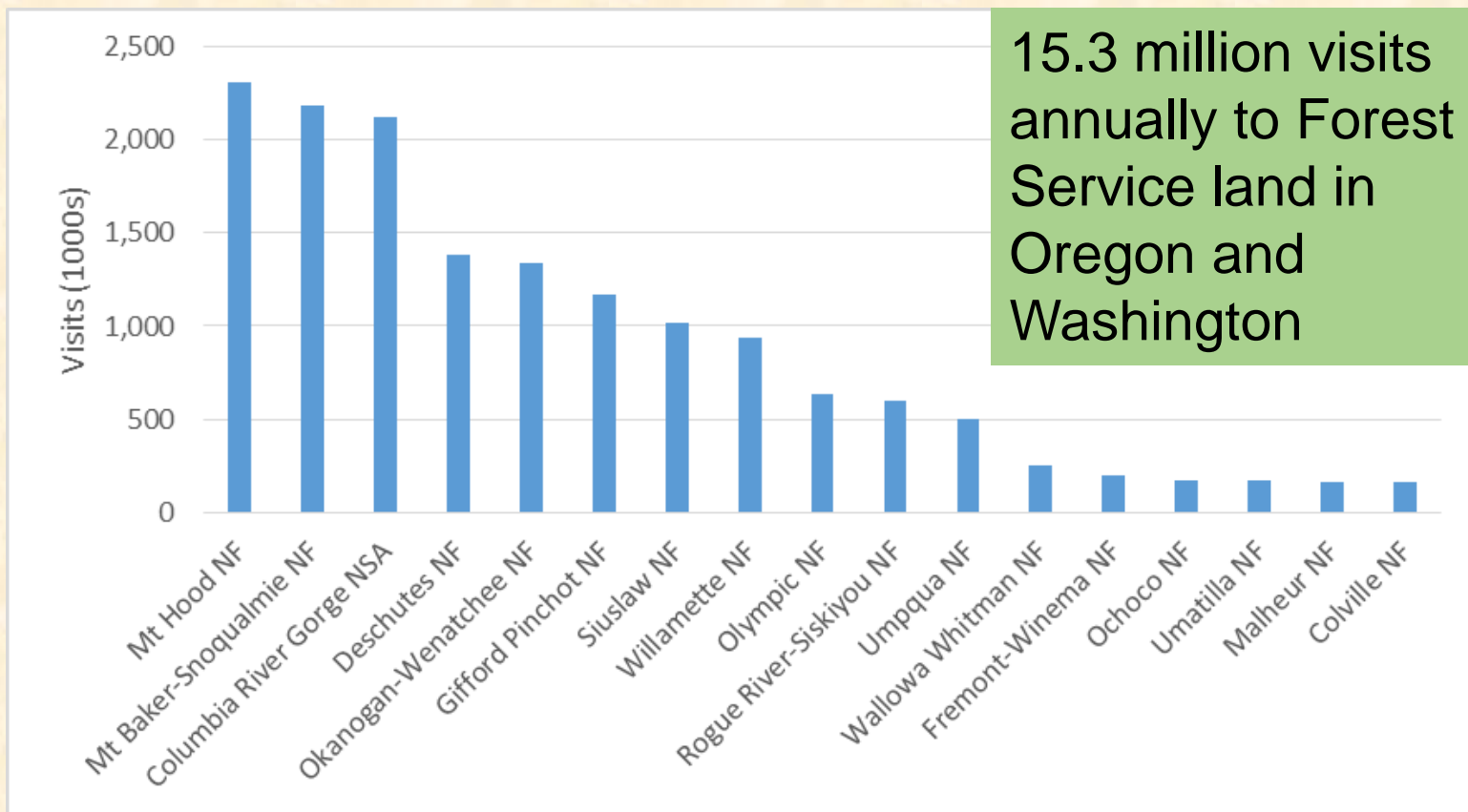
↑ Rural residents, men

↓ Asian, female, over 74, Latino

Source:

http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2017_Oregon_Resident_Outdoor_Recreation_Survey.pdf

Forest Service recreation in Oregon and Washington



Forest Service primary recreation activities



Activity	Percent of visits	Visits annually (millions)
Hiking/walking	25%	37
Downhill skiing/snowboarding	15%	22
Viewing natural features	12%	18
Fishing	6%	9
Hunting	5%	7
Viewing wildlife	2%	3