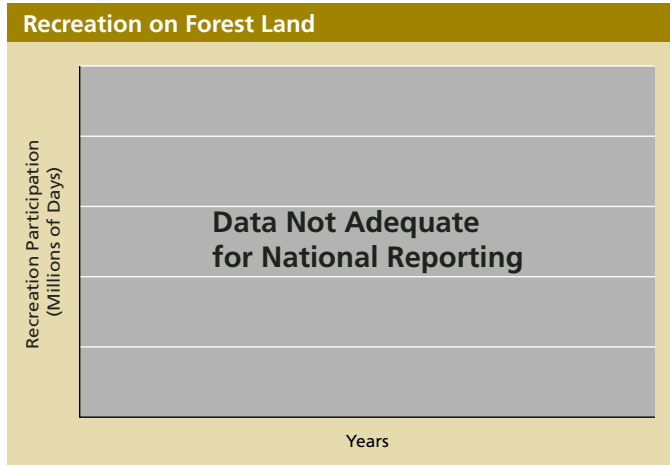




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SYSTEM DIMENSIONS	CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL	BIOLOGICAL COMPONENTS	HUMAN USES
Extent Pattern	Nutrients, Carbon, Oxygen Contaminants Physical	Plants and Animals Communities Ecological Productivity	Food, Fiber, and Water Recreation and Other Services

⊖ Recreation in Forests



What Is This Indicator, and Why Is It Important? This indicator would report the number of days per year that people engage in a variety of recreational activities in forests. Activities such as walking, hiking and backpacking, fishing and hunting, wildlife viewing, cross-country and downhill skiing, and snowmobiling would be included.

A great deal of recreational activities takes place within our nation’s forests. Recreation is a benefit that is derived from forests in much the same way that we derive products such as timber.

Why Can’t This Indicator Be Reported at This Time? There are no

national data sets that document the type and amount of recreation in forests. The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (<http://fa.r9.fws.gov/surveys/surveys.html>) and the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (<http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends/nsre.html>) both provide reliable data on these activities, but neither survey identifies whether these activities take place in forests, on grasslands or shrublands, on farmlands, or elsewhere.

Adequate reporting would require modification of existing surveys to elicit information either on the location of recreational activities or on the amount of recreation in forested areas.

This report also includes other indicators of recreational activity. See pp. 60, 109, 153, and 174.

There is no technical note for this indicator.