

# Bear Lake State Park

Bear Lake State Park  
PO Box 184  
Garden City, UT 84028

Park Manager: Richard Droesbeke

## ECONOMIC TOOLKIT INFO

- In 2009, 175,049 individuals visited Bear Lake State Park. During the same year, Rich County's population was listed as 2,329. So, in 2009, the county, the park, and its staff hosted a number of individuals that was more than 75 times the county's current population.
- Past survey research shows that Bear Lake is a "destination" recreation area. About 70 percent of Bear Lake visitors surveyed at park facilities indicated that Bear Lake was their only destination. More than two-thirds of these visitors stay at the park for two or more days.
- Through its facilities and staff, Bear Lake State Park has a significant positive impact on the Rich County economy. Division planners estimate that during 2009, the 175,049 Bear Lake visitors were responsible for generating more than \$1,725,283 in wages, proprietors' income, tax revenues, and property income. This represents an impact of about \$741 per capita for each Rich County resident ( $\$1,725,283 \text{ impact} / 2,329 \text{ county population} \approx \$741 \text{ per person}$ ).
- In 2009, the county received \$25,521 in sales and use taxes and \$8,545 in transient room taxes from park operations.
- In 2008, 359 off highway vehicles and 172 snowmobiles were registered within Rich County. These resulted in revenues to the county (in the form of payments in-lieu of property taxes) of about \$9,873 for OHVs and \$4,730 for snowmobiles for a total of \$14,603 in 2008. More significantly, the park and the Division facilitate the provision of OHV and snowmobile opportunities that undoubtedly bring even more economic impact to the county.
- The Division's Boating Program collects data and information on boating-related activities and opportunities in each county. In 2009, Rich County had three boat liveries (providing boat rentals) and one boating outfitter. The park and the division play a key role facilitating economic impacts to the county through the provision of boating opportunities.
- Bear Lake State Park provides opportunities for private businesses. In 2009, the park contracted with two private business operations that provided retail items, boat rentals and other services. These privately-owned businesses generated almost \$616,000 in gross receipts in 2009. They fulfill a critical niche at the park in efficiently providing visitors with needed goods and services. They also provide the county and local residents with revenue, income, and employment opportunities.
- Bear Lake State Park provides a number of essential, community-oriented services and frequently partnerships with the county in providing or sharing resources (PROVIDE EXAMPLES – back up for local law enforcement agencies, education programs to schools, wildland fire support, community event staff support, search and rescue availability, etc.)