

Millsite State Park

Millsite State Park
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Park Manager: Dan Richards

ECONOMIC TOOLKIT INFO

- In 2009, 34,266 individuals visited Millsite State Park. 2009 Emery County population was approximately 10,848, according to Governor's Office of Planning and Budget population estimates. So, in 2009, the county, the park, and its staff hosted a number of individuals that equates to more than 3 times the size of the county's current population.
- Currently, there is no survey data for Millsite State Park. However, survey research conducted in 2002 at nearby Huntington State Park serves as a basis for an estimate of economic impacts.
 - The Huntington survey shows that on average, park visitors spent about \$45 per group as part of their visit to the park. Average group size was about 6 individuals, and average length of stay was about 1 day. This translates into average expenditures of approximately \$7.50 per visit, per individual.
 - However, day use appears to be far more predominant at Huntington than at Millsite. This is because there are more long-term multiple use opportunities directly adjacent to Millsite (the park serves as a trailhead for many out of area OHV enthusiasts using the adjacent Arapeen trail system, for example). This portends greater overnight use and more out-of-area visitors, which results in higher expenditures per person from visitors living outside of the local area.
- Division planners estimate the 34,266 visitors to Millsite in 2009 could be responsible for creating approximately \$153,000 in local wages, earnings, rents, and tax revenues within Emery County in 2009, predominately to nearby cities and towns such as Ferron and Castle Dale.
- The park's \$153,000 economic impact from visitor spending is equivalent to about \$14.10 per county resident on a per capita basis ($\$153,000 / 10,848$ county population \approx \$14.10).
- If it is assumed that most of this local spending occurs in the nearby towns of Ferron and Castle Dale with a combined population of about 4,000, then per capita economic benefit increases to \$38.25 per year when visitor spending is allocated to these two towns.
- In 2008, 2,359 off highway vehicles and 121 snowmobiles were registered within Emery County. These yielded revenues to the county (in the form of payments in lieu of taxes) of about \$64,873 for OHV registrations and \$3,328 for snowmobile registrations for a total of \$68,201. Through its administration of statewide OHV and snowmobile programs, the Division and the park facilitate the provision of numerous area OHV and snowmobile opportunities that undoubtedly bring even more economic impact to the county.
- In 2009, the county received \$2,071 in sales and use taxes from park operations.
- In 2009, the park spent about \$32,000 to maintain and operate the park and to pay for necessary infrastructure.
- Millsite 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.)