



**Puente Hills  
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

# User Capacity: Art or Science?

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# WHAT IS USER CAPACITY?

Definitions:

- **“The types and levels of visitor and other public use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource conditions and visitor experiences that complement the purpose of the park.”** (NPS, *General Management Planning Dynamic Sourcebook, 2008*)
- **“A prescribed number and type of visitors that an area will accommodate given the desired natural/cultural resource conditions, visitor experiences, and management programs.”** (CA State Parks Planning Handbook, 2010)

# HOW DO WE MEASURE USER CAPACITY?

*A few example indicators:*

Amount of people on trail

Quality of user experience

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Degree of fragmentation

Sensitive bird nest impacts

Erosion on trails

Art or Science? 



# Recreation & Preservation



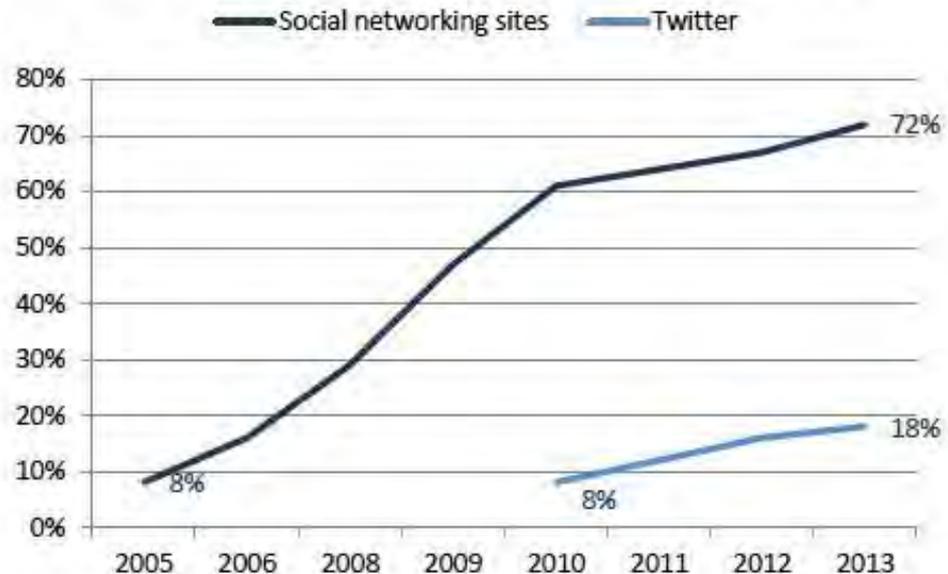
# SOCIAL NETWORKING

Since the year 2005 to 2013, the number of online U.S. adults who use social networking sites has risen from 8% to 72%.



## Adult use of social networking sites and Twitter—change over time

% of adult internet users who use social networking sites or Twitter, over time



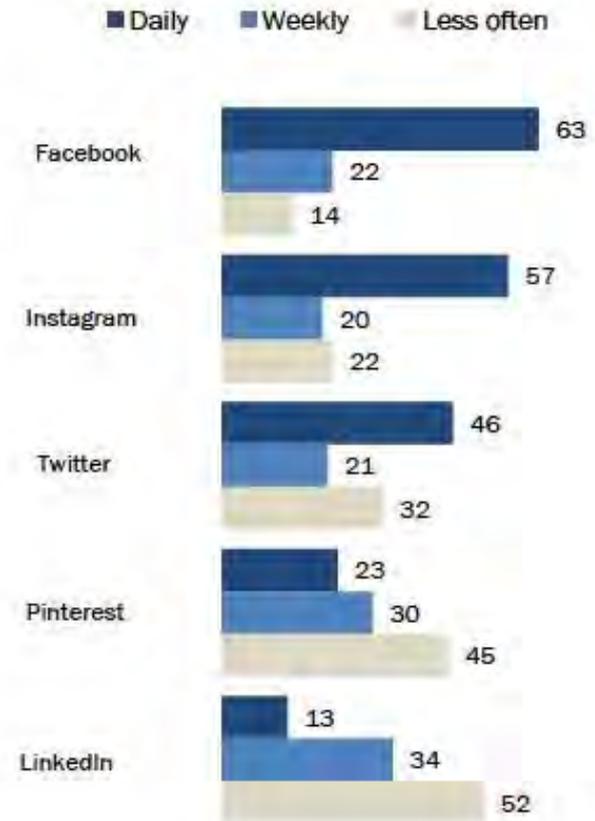
Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project tracking surveys 2005-2013. Spring Tracking Survey, April 17 – May 19, 2013. N=1,895 adult internet users ages 18+. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish and on landline and cell phones. The margin of error for results based on all internet users is +/- 2.5 percentage points.

# SOCIAL NETWORKING



## Frequency of social media site use

*% of social media site users who use a particular site with the following frequencies (% is reported among each specific site's user groups, e.g., 63% of Facebook users use the site on a daily basis)*



Pew Research Center's Internet Project August Tracking Survey, August 07 –September 16, 2013. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish and on landline and cell phones.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



# Trail use challenges for Land Managers









	Total						
Years	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14 (HALF YEAR)
Parking Violations	342	108	252	208	300	572	435
Bicycle Activity	8	17	17	42	30	27	4
Dogs off leash	14	22	36	30	49	54	21
In park after hours	229	93	217	153	241	1233	1235
Vehicles off-road	2	3	5	3	2	2	1
Alcohol	39	8	7	12	8	14	4
Marijuana	9	5	2	2	6	9	1
Smoking / Fire	12	12	2	15	14	13	7
Vehicle code viol	6	4	2	0	1	5	0
Trespassing/off-tra	16	72	49	34	60	60	14
*Other	36	35	39	20	28	265	6
Total	713	379	628	519	739	2254	1728



3,456  
projected



Closing Illegal Trails



Volunteer Trail Watch 'Blitz Shifts'

- Ranger enforcement
- Fencing to stop illegal trails
- Volunteer Trail Watch Support
- User Survey
- Monitoring sensitive birds
- Re-evaluating trails for fragmentation – Any new volunteer trails, are they getting wider?
- New user survey planned for this fall
- Installing perimeter fence to control after hours visitation





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[www.HabitatAuthority.org](http://www.HabitatAuthority.org)