

**Outdoor Winter Recreation Participation Across Diverse Racial/Ethnic Groups in The Central Valley**

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**Abstract:**

As the demographic composition of the United State changes, racial and ethnic minorities constitute a larger proportion of the overall population. Understanding the outdoor recreation behavior of these groups has therefore become increasingly important to managers offering recreational experiences. This study examined racial and ethnic differences in participation and recreational constraints among residents in the Central Valley California. Data were collected via intercept surveys in both onsite (snow parks near Shaver Lake) and offsite locations (in various Central Valley communities) (n = 2,207) during the winter of 2017/18. Data collection is currently ongoing, however, a preliminary analysis revealed three types of recreational constraints: intrapersonal, interpersonal, and structural. A more comprehensive analysis will examine winter recreation participation and constraints by various demographic variables (e.g., race/ethnicity, SES, education, and proximity to winter recreation sites). The results of this study can help land managers and winter recreation providers (i.e., China Peak Mountain Resort and the U.S.F.S.) accommodate the needs and desires of potential visitors and customers from different racial and ethnic groups which are currently underrepresented in natural outdoor areas.