

For sampling purposes, the Kissimmee River Basin was divided into three sub-basins: the upper, central, and lower sub-basins corresponding to their geographic location from north to south. The division into sub-basins, in effect, stratified the sample area. Within these three strata, various lakes were chosen in order to collect data on the water-oriented outdoor recreation activities. The lakes to be included in the sample were chosen to represent a cross section of all outdoor recreation activity that takes place within the Basin.

In the upper sub-basin, Lakes Mary Jane and Hart were chosen as the sampled lakes. In the central sub-basin, Lakes Tohopekaliga, Hatchineha, Tiger, and Kissimmee were chosen. The lower sub-basin included the Kissimmee River. (By interviewing on a river rather than a lake the diversity of the sample was increased in that it provided a sample of bank fishermen, which are prevalent in this particular area.) In choosing the sampled areas, an effort was made to include some relatively inaccessible sites as well as those that border urban areas. The objective of the study was to measure the recreational value of the total basin so that by choosing some remote areas, which are part of the total basin, a better picture of the type and amount of outdoor recreation that takes place within the Basin will be obtained.

After the lakes were selected, each access point to these lakes was considered as a site where interviews of outdoor recreationists could be taken. These access points were sites where public access was available. They included fish camps, boat ramps, and campgrounds that had or furnished access to the selected lakes.

### **Sample Size**

In order to determine the sample size that will give statistically reliable estimates of the variables to be estimated, the amount of error that could be tolerated in the sample estimates was ascertained. Since more than one variable was to be estimated, one variable had to be chosen in order to determine the size of the sample to be taken. For our purposes, the average length of stay per person was used. It is believed that this was the most important variable and that by satisfying the size requirement for this variable, the required precision for the study would be obtained. A sample size of approximately 1000 was deemed adequate to estimate the demand for each time period. This sample size applies to the entire year and needs to be proportioned according to time periods and sites.