

Allocation of the Sample

The year was divided into four time periods to better reflect the various activities in the basin. Data from two agencies were used to determine the percentage of yearly use that occurred during each time period. The Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District (FCD) maintain boat locks on the Kissimmee River. Boats must pass through locks in order to pass from the lower to the upper river, or vice-versa. Yearly data of all boats that pass through the locks were used to construct Table 1. Independent estimates by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission wildlife officers corroborated the data obtained from the FCD.

Table 1.—Estimated percent of use by time period, Kissimmee River Basin.

Time period	Percent of yearly use
February - May	35
June - September	25
October - November	26
December - January	14
Total	100

From Table 1 it can be seen that 35 percent of the recreational use of the area occurred during February through May, 25 percent during June through September and so on. The number of interviews was apportioned according to the percent of total use that occurs during each time period. For example, time period one has 35 percent of the total use, so 35 percent of the total interviews, or 350, were taken during this particular time period.

Discussions with officials of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and with long time residents of the area indicated that the various lakes included in the survey had different amounts of use. This would be reasonable to expect due to the remoteness or accessibility of particular lakes and particular recreational activities. The intensity of use for the lakes, which are grouped according to similar characteristics, is presented in Table 2.

The number of interviews conducted at each lake grouping during each of the four time periods were determined by using the percentage of use that occurs during each time period as well as the percentage of use at each lake grouping.