

Occasional Papers in Coastal Studies

PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES OF NATIONAL
PARK RANGERS REGARDING LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND NATURAL RESOURCE ACTIVITIES:
FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL PILOT STUDY

Worth H. Hester
Dennis L. Soden

Coastal Zone Management Studies
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Department of Political Science, The University of West Florida

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This study addresses an issue of growing concern within our National Parks system which has direct relevance for park operations and management, namely the increased need for law enforcement activities and how the growth in these activities, in turn, affect natural resource management. National Parks are an excellent example wherein there is a need for an increased number of personnel to act in non-traditional roles. In this regard, Park Rangers are increasingly involved with law enforcement activities as opposed to their traditional role of natural resource management. Within the National Park Service, this has become an issue of growing concern to management (RANGER, 1986; Shankland, 1970; Bananno 1986) and is an issue worthy of further investigation, as most recently evidenced in the National Park System Plan published by the National Parks and Conservation Association (1988). This is not an entirely new issue, however, Robert Cahn, writing in his Pulitzer Prize winning series "Will Success Spoil the National Parks" in 1968, noted that "City problems are spilling over into a growing number of America's national parks," (Cahn, 1968).

The study reported here, conducted via a survey questionnaire, was a pilot study looking at how law enforcement activities have affected Park Rangers assigned to over fifty units of the National Park Service, including large "crown jewel" parks (i.e., Glacier, Grand Canyon, Yellowstone), National Seashores (Gulf Islands, Cape Hatteras), and smaller but no less important parks, historical sites and recreation areas. The great growth in visitors in our National Parks has created an increased need for law enforcement on the part of Park Rangers. This study complements other studies of the National Park Service in general, as well as the findings reported elsewhere pertaining to the Blue Ridge Parkway (Hester, Soden, and Meadows, 1987; Meadows and

Soden, 1988) and Gulf Islands National Seashore (Hester and Soden, 1988). The study considers how the role of law enforcement and its related activities are perceived among Rangers and views law enforcement in comparison to natural resource activities.

Survey Procedures

To adequately address a number of issues, a survey was sectioned into three broad topic areas. First, Park Ranger attitudes towards law enforcement issues were examined. The questions in this section were based on questions found in the cynicism questionnaire developed by Arthur Niederhoffer (1967). Niederhoffer's questionnaire was originally designed to measure cynicism among police officers concerning significant areas of police work. Likewise, the present study has utilized this format to determine the degree of cynicism relevant to the execution of law enforcement duties on behalf of National Park Service Rangers. Second, Park Ranger attitudes towards natural resource issues were sought. This section of the National Park Service survey was based on questions utilized in previous studies conducted by John C. Pierce (1977, 1979) and Pierce and Nicholas P. Lovrich (1986) and reported by Soden, et al. (forthcoming) as these issues relate to the natural resource managers. Pierce (1977, 1979) looked at the conflict among water resource organizations in Washington State. At the center of this conflict is the issue of resource preservation or development.

Pierce, (1979) also examined concurrence in the policy process. Several issue locations in the natural resource policy process provided the base for this study, including: the importance attached to resource policy decisions; the identification of the most important resource problems; and the relative priority given to seven alternative uses of resources (Pierce, 1979). In this

light, this study of National Park Rangers looks at the level of policy preferences. Both studies provided a useful format by which to develop the natural resource section of the National Park Service survey.

Finally, a study conducted by Pierce and Lovrich (1986), looking at the role of technical information in water resource policy-making in the state of Idaho, was of great import to the development of this survey. The study, entitled WATER RESOURCES, DEMOCRACY, AND THE TECHNICAL INFORMATION QUANDARY, is primarily concerned with how, in a democratic society dominated by technically complex policy issues, the ideal of public control can be realized. The data collected by Pierce and Lovrich provided insight into the value, public attitudes, group dynamics and sources of conflict about natural resource issues which are technically complex. The survey instrument utilized by Pierce and Lovrich was of great use in developing the portion of the Park Service survey concerned with Park Rangers' attitudes towards, and perceptions of, natural resource management issues.

An intermediate section of this survey was designed to assess Park Ranger attitudes about the National Park Service organization and the work setting. This section duplicates an earlier effort by Soden, et al. (forthcoming) which concerns job related attitudes in regard to specific activities.

The results reported in this paper are based on survey questionnaires completed during 1987 by Park Rangers assigned to various units of the National Park Service. Via a two-wave mailing technique consisting of an initial mailing and a follow-up approximately one month later, surveys were distributed to 200 Rangers. From the 200 surveys, 107 were returned resulting in a response rate of 53.5 percent.

Highlights

The survey contained a number of questions concerning law enforcement and natural resource issues. Rather than attempt to address each question individually, several outstanding points are noted. Below is a list of key points or findings which can be drawn from survey responses.

1. Park Rangers see law enforcement as a legitimate duty and are highly dedicated to carrying out that and other duties (Tables 6 and 10).
2. A majority of respondents (Table 2) feel that professionalization already exists for many groups of Park Rangers.
3. Many Park Rangers believe FLETC Academy training does a fine job of preparing one for carrying out law enforcement activities in the Park Service although some concern is evident about the value of training (Table 8).
4. Slightly more than half of the respondents feel they are well trained to deal with youthful offenders (Table 12) with a mix of responses regarding whether youth problems can best be handled at the discretion of the individual Park Ranger or by those especially trained in a social service approach (Table 11).
5. Insufficiencies in funds and staffing are seen as fairly serious problems (Table 21).
6. Overall, Park Rangers tend to agree more than disagree with National Park Service decisions concerning both law enforcement (Table 22) and natural resource issues (Table 23).
7. A large percentage of respondents are exceptionally satisfied with their job and feel that their work is meaningful to them (Table 24). An even greater percentage of respondents (91.6%) indicated that what happens within the organization is important to them.
8. The large majority of respondents have confidence in and trust their co-workers and feel that their co-workers do a good job. Respondents indicated, overall, that their groups work well together and that they feel they are part of their work group (Table 25).
9. Approximately one-quarter of those responding (25.2%) indicated a very low level of commitment to the National Park Service organization (Table 26). The level of commitment to a special profession (e.g., Biology, Natural Resource Management, etc.) expressed by respondents was spread out across response categories in much the same fashion as organizational commitment (Table 27).
10. Park Rangers indicated that they have the greatest degree of trust in natural resources technical information which is supplied by the Fish

and Wildlife Service, technical experts, environmentalists, the National Park Service, and the State Department of Natural Resources. Those sources of technical information least trusted by Park Rangers include developers, timber companies, energy interests, State Legislators, local government and Congressmen and their staffs (Table 29).

11. A majority of respondents identify themselves as preservationists (Table 30) and place preservation above other possible uses of natural resources (Table 28).
12. The Park Rangers see the general public's level of technical information holding and level of knowledge regarding natural resources as generally low (Table 31).
13. Rangers perceive that there is an equal need for both law enforcement specialists and natural resource management within the Park Service with a significant segment, however, interested in emphasizing natural resource management (Table 32).
14. Respondents believe Park Rangers should be generalists or multi-specialists with skills in resource protection, resource management, law enforcement or other skills required to do one's job (Table 33).

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TABLE 1

Value of College Degree to National Park Rangers

ITEM: What is the value of a college degree as a requirement for appointment to the Park Service?

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Results in a much more efficient service	85	79.4
2. Should not be a job requirement	16	15.0
3. Is unnecessary, and would not result in more quality employees	3	2.8
No Answer	3	2.8
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 2

Perceived Levels of Professionalization In The National Park Service

ITEM: Professionalization in the Park Service

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Is already here for many groups of Park Rangers	82	76.6
2. May come in the future	18	16.8
3. Is a dream, it will not come in the foreseeable future	5	4.7
No Answer	2	1.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 3

Park Ranger Perceptions of Existing Qualifications

ITEM: The average park ranger's qualifications are:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Park rangers have special qualifications and are superior to non-national parks police officers	68	63.6
2. Park rangers are about the same as the average non-national parks police officers	18	16.8
3. Park rangers think they are a little better than non-national park police officers	17	15.9
No Answer	4	3.7
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 4

Park Ranger Perceptions of Park Supervisors

ITEM: The average Park Supervisor is:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Very interested in the welfare of his subordinates	29	27.1
2. Somewhat concerned about the welfare of his subordinates	64	59.8
3. Mostly concerned about his own problems	13	12.1
No Answer	1	0.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 5

Perception of General Public Respect For Park Rangers

ITEM: In your opinion, does the general public:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Show a lot of respect for park rangers	93	86.9
2. Consider park rangers average civil service workers	10	9.3
3. Consider park rangers very low as far as prestige goes	2	1.9
No Answer	2	1.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 6

Perception of Job Dedication Among Park Rangers

ITEM: The average park ranger is:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Dedicated to high ideals of service and would not hesitate to perform his or her duty even though he or she may have to work overtime without compensation	93	86.9
2. Trying to perform eight hours of duty without getting into trouble	5	4.7
3. Just as interested in promoting outside interests as he is in performing park service	5	4.7
No Answer	4	3.7
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 7

Park Ranger Perceptions of Media Role in Law Enforcement Issues

ITEM: The news media in general:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Try to help the Park Service by giving prominent coverage to items favorable to the Park Ranger	16	15.0
2. Just report the news impartially whether or not it concerns the Park Service in the role of law enforcement	72	67.3
3. Seem to enjoy giving unfavorable slant to news concerning the Park Service and prominently play up Park Ranger misdeeds rather than virtues	11	10.3
No Answer	8	7.5
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 8

Attitudes Toward FLETC Among Park Rangers

ITEM: Academy training of Park Rangers:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Does a very fine job of preparing one for life in the park service	57	53.3
2. Cannot overcome the contradictions between theory and practice service workers	16	15.0
3. Might as well be cut in half. The recruit has to learn all over when he is assigned to a park unit. prestige goes	4	3.7
4. None of the above	21	19.6
No Answer	9	8.4
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 9

Perceptions of Disciplinary Action Against Park Rangers

ITEM: When Park Rangers are disciplined internally:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. He or she knows it will be a fair and impartial hearing	34	31.8
2. Good impressions are as important as the merits of the case	51	47.4
3. He or she will probably be found guilty and disciplined even with a good defense	9	8.4
No Answer	13	12.1
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 10

Attitudes Toward Typical Law Enforcement Activities

ITEM: The average law enforcement action is made because:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. The park ranger is dedicated to perform his duty properly	101	94.4
2. Someone insisted on it	0	0
3. The officer could not avoid it without getting into trouble with his superiors	1	0.9
No Answer	5	4.7
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 11

Attitudes Towards Youthful Offenders Among Park Rangers

ITEM: The youth problem in many park units can best be handled or would be best handled by Park Rangers who are:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Trained in a social service approach	47	43.9
2. At the discretion of the individual park ranger	53	49.5
3. By mobile strong arm youth squads who are ready to take strong law enforcement action	1	0.9
No Answer	6	5.6
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 12

Perceptions of Park Ranger Ability to Deal With Youthful Offenders

ITEM: Overall park rangers are well-suited and trained to deal with youthful offenders

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Strongly agree	6	5.6
2. Agree	55	51.4
3. Disagree	31	29.0
4. Strongly Disagree	3	2.8
5. Not Sure	11	10.3
No Answer	1	0.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 13

Perceptions of General Public Willingness to Cooperate

ITEM: The general public is eager to cooperate with Park Rangers by helping them perform their duties better

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Strongly agree	14	13.1
2. Agree	63	58.9
3. Not sure	17	15.9
4. Disagree	11	10.3
5. Strongly disagree	0	0
No Answer	2	1.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 14

Perceptions of Reasons for Internal Discipline

ITEM: Internal discipline is a result of:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. The superiors dedication to proper standards of efficiency	51	47.7
2. Some personal friction between superior and subordinate	28	26.2
3. The pressure on superiors from higher authority to maintain discipline	18	16.8
No Answer	10	9.3
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 15

Rangers Perceptions of the Park Service Rules and Regulations

ITEM: The Rules and Regulations of the Park Service:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Are fair and sensible in the regulating conduct off and on duty	74	69.2
2. Create a problem in that it is very difficult to perform an active tour of duty without violating some rules and regulations	12	11.2
3. Are so restrictive and contradictory that the average park ranger just uses common sense on the job and does not worry about rules and regulations	15	14.0
No Answer	6	5.6
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 16

Rangers Perceptions of Efficiency and General Operation of the Park Service

ITEM: Knowing the Park Service from the inside do you find that it
is a very efficient, smoothly operating organization?

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Strongly agree	2	1.9
2. Agree	36	33.6
3. Not sure	16	15.0
4. Disagree	38	35.5
5. Strongly disagree	13	12.1
No Answer	2	1.9
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 17

Park Ranger Attitudes About Testifying in Court

ITEM: Testifying in Court:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Park Rangers receive real cooperation and are treated fairly by court personnel	54	50.5
2. Park Rangers as witnesses are treated no differently from civilian witnesses	33	30.8
3. Too often the Park Rangers are treated as criminals when they take the witness stand	2	1.9
4. None of the above	8	7.5
No Answer	10	9.3
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 18

Park Ranger Attitudes About Citations

ITEM: Citations are issued by park rangers:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. As part of a sensible pattern of law enforcement	96	89.7
2. On the basis of their own ideas of right and wrong	6	5.6
3. Because a Park Ranger knows he must meet his or her quota	0	0
No Answer	5	4.7
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 19

Attitudes About Special Law Enforcement Assignments

ITEM: The majority of special law enforcement assignments in the Park Service:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
1. Are a result of careful consideration of a person's background, qualifications, and depend on merit	21	19.6
2. Are being handled as capably as you could expect in a large civil service organization	51	47.7
3. Depend on whom you know, not merit	27	25.2
No Answer	8	7.5
TOTALS	107	100%

TABLE 20

Rangers Perceptions of the National Park Service
With Respect to Openness and Problem Solving

ITEM: In comparison to other agencies and organizations you are familiar with, how would you characterize the National Park Service with respect to "openness" to new ideas and new means of problem solving, etc.?

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
Below Average 1	2	1.9
2	29	27.1
3	30	28.0
4	36	33.6
Above Average 5	9	8.4
No Answer	1	0.9
Totals	107	100 %

Mean Response = 3.2

TABLE 21

Park Rangers Perceptions Of The Seriousness Of Insufficient
Funds And Staffing To Park Operations

ITEM: In comparison to other organizations like the National Park Service, to what degree are insufficiencies in funds and staffing serious problems?

N = 107

Response Categories		Frequency	%
More Serious Problem	1	44	41.1
	2	40	37.4
	3	15	14.0
	4	4	3.7
Less Serious Problem	5	4	3.7
No Answer		0	0
TOTALS		107	100 %

Mean Response = 1.9

TABLE 22

Park Ranger Perceptions Of National Park Services
Decisions On Law Enforcement Issues

ITEM: How would you describe the degree to which you agree with decisions which are made about law enforcement issues by the National Park Service?

N = 107

Response Categories		Frequency	%
Never Agree with NPS Decisions	1	2	1.9
	2	14	13.1
	3	36	33.6
	4	52	48.6
Always Agree with NPS Decisions	5	3	2.8
No Answer		0	0
TOTALS		107	100 %

Mean Results = 3.4

TABLE 23

Park Ranger Perceptions Of National Park Service
Decisions About Natural Resource Management Issues

ITEM: How would you describe the degree to which you agree with decisions which are made about natural resource management issues by the National Park Service?

N = 107

Response Categories		Frequency	%
Never Agree with NPS Decisions	1	1	0.9
	2	9	8.4
	3	46	43.0
	4	50	46.7
Always Agree with NPS Decisions	2	1	0.9
No Answer		0	0
TOTALS		107	100 %

Mean Result = 3.4

TABLE 24

Perceptions Regarding Work Experience

Item	No Answer	<u>Response Categories (%)</u>					Mean Response
		1	2	3	4	5	
In general, I am satisfied with my job.	0	1.9	7.5	9.3	42.1	39.3	4.1
The work I do on my job is meaningful to me.	0	0.9	0.9	6.5	41.1	52.9	4.5
What happens in this organization is really important to me.	0	2.8	0	5.6	19.6	72.0	4.6
I have a great deal of say over what has to be done on my job.	0	2.8	17.8	21.5	38.3	19.6	3.5
It's really not possible to change things around here.	0.9	17.8	32.7	20.6	22.4	5.6	2.6
Employees here feel you can't trust this organization.	0	9.3	33.6	24.3	24.3	8.4	2.9
Overall, this organization is effective.	0	4.7	8.4	24.3	52.3	10.3	3.6

TABLE 25

Perceptions Regarding Working Relationships

Item	No Answer	<u>Response Categories (%)</u>					Mean Response
		1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Indifferent	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	
The good people I work with generally do a good job.	0	0.9	2.8	2.8	50.5	43.0	4.3
I have confidence and trust in my co-workers.	0	2.8	3.7	11.2	47.7	34.6	4.1
My group works well together.	0	3.7	7.5	15.0	40.2	33.6	3.9
I feel I am really part of my work group	0	0.9	7.5	15.9	37.4	38.3	4.0
If we have a decision to make everyone is involved in making it.	0	5.6	25.2	23.4	36.4	9.3	3.2
There are feelings among members of my work group which tend to pull the group apart.	0.9	24.3	24.3	24.3	11.2	2.9	0.9
In my group, everyone's opinion gets listened to.	0.9	0.9	15.9	15.9	49.5	16.8	3.6
My co-workers encourage each other to give their best effort.	0	1.9	15.9	23.4	40.2	18.7	3.6
All in all, I am satisfied with my work group.	0	5.6	6.5	12.1	49.5	26.2	3.8
Overall, I feel management is interested in my level of job satisfaction.	0	11.2	19.6	25.2	31.8	12.1	3.1

TABLE 26

Level Of Commitment To National Park Service Organizations

ITEM: In comparison to others in the National Park Service, how would you describe the level of your commitment to the National Park Service Organization? On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being the highest level of commitment, where would you rate yourself?

N = 107

Response Categories		Frequency	%
Highest level of Commitment	1	20	18.7
	2	16	15.0
	3	18	16.8
	4	2	1.9
	5	4	3.7
	6	0	0
	7	3	2.8
	8	16	15.0
Lowest level of Commitment	9	27	25.2
No Answer		1	0.9
TOTALS		107	100 %

Mean Result = 4.9

TABLE 27

Level Of Commitment To A Special Profession Among Park Rangers

ITEM: In comparison to others in the National Park Service, how would you rate your level of commitment to a special profession (e.g., biology, forestry, history, etc.)? On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being the highest level of commitment, where would you rate yourself?

N = 107

Response Categories		Frequency	%
Highest level of Commitment	1	10	9.3
	2	7	6.5
	3	14	13.1
	4	7	6.5
	5	14	13.1
	6	14	13.1
	7	8	7.5
	8	12	11.2
Lowest Level of Commitment	9	19	17.8
No Answer		2	1.9
TOTALS		107	100 %

Mean Result = 5.3

TABLE 28

Mean Ranking Regarding Use Of Natural Resources Among Park Rangers

ITEM: When decisions are made about what to do with natural resources a number of different uses must be considered. Place a "1" next to the use you think is most important, a "2" next to the use you think is next most important, and so on until you have a "7" next to the use you think is least important.

N = 107

Rank	Response Categories	Mean Response (x)
1	Preservation (Wildlife habitats, Flora and Fauna)	1.1
2	Recreation (Camping, Boating)	2.6
3	Agriculture (Irrigation)	3.5
4	Domestic (Home Use)	4.0
5	Transportation (Roads, Airports)	4.6
6	Energy	4.7
7	Industry (Manufacturing)	5.7

TABLE 29

Park Ranger Trust In Sources Of Technical Information
About Natural Resources And Environmental Issues

ITEM: Please indicate how much trust you have in the technical information about natural resources and environmental issues supplied to you by each of the following possible resources.

N = 17

Source	(Percentage %)					Mean Response
	1 No Answer	2 None	3 Not Much	4 Some	A Great Deal	
Fish & Wildlife Service	0	0.9	1.9	41.1	56.1	3.5
State Dept. of Nat. Res.	0	0.0	7.5	56.1	36.4	3.3
National Park Service	0	0.0	0.9	51.4	47.7	3.5
Technical Experts	0	2.8	4.7	43.9	48.6	3.4
Environmentalists	0	0.0	4.7	54.2	41.4	3.4
U.S. Forestry Service	0	0.0	12.1	59.8	28.0	3.2
University Professors	0.9	3.7	9.3	44.9	41.1	3.2
Outdoor Recreationists	0	0.0	19.6	61.7	18.7	3.0
Farmers	0	4.7	18.7	66.4	10.3	2.8
Other Federal Agencies	0	1.9	16.8	71.0	10.3	2.9
Local Government People	0	6.5	29.9	61.7	1.9	2.6
State Legislators	0	13.1	40.2	44.9	1.9	2.4
Congressmen and Staff	0	12.1	29.9	56.1	1.9	2.5
Indians	1.9	10.3	25.2	51.4	11.2	2.6
Energy	0	24.3	46.7	28.0	0.9	2.1
Timber Companies	0.9	27.1	43.0	26.2	2.8	2.0
Developers	0	33.6	49.5	16.8	0.0	1.8

TABLE 30

Self Identification About The Preservation And Development
Of Natural Resources Among Park Rangers

ITEM: There are many different opinions about the preservation and development of natural resources. We would like to know how you feel about this issue.

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
Strong Preservationist The only consideration in deciding what to do with natural resources should be the preservation of the environment in its natural state.	10	9.3
Preservationist Protection of the environment should be the most important, but not only consideration in deciding what to do with natural resources.	90	84.1
Moderate Protection of the environment and the growth of the economy should be given equal consideration in deciding what to do with natural resources.	4	3.7
Developmentalist The growth of the economy should be the most important, but not the only consideration in deciding what to do with natural resources.	0	0
Strong Developmentalist The only consideration in deciding what to do with natural resources should be what will contribute most to the growth of the economy.	0	0
No Answer	3	2.8
TOTALS	107	100 %

TABLE 31

Park Ranger Attitudes Regarding General Public
Knowledge About Natural Resource Issues

ITEM: Many people have general information and ideas about natural resources but find it hard to evaluate proposals because they lack specific technical information which is used in making proposals or decisions. How much technical information would you say the general public has about each of the following areas?

N = 107

Area	(Percentage %)					Mean Response (x)
	No Answer	(1) None	(2) Not Much	(3) Some	(4) A Great Deal	
Wildlife Habitat Research Needs	0.9	22.4	68.2	8.4	0.0	1.8
Hydroelectric Power Needs	0.9	9.3	69.2	19.6	0.9	2.1
Fish and Wildlife Needs	0.9	6.5	68.2	23.4	0.9	2.2
Agriculture Needs	0.9	5.6	50.5	42.1	0.9	2.4
Recreational Needs	0.9	4.7	33.6	52.3	8.4	2.6

TABLE 32

Park Rangers Perceptions Of The Need For Different
Types of Personnel For Law Enforcement And Natural
Resource Management Within the Park Service

ITEM: Many contend that there is a need for trained law enforcement specialists within the Park Service, as well as natural resource management. I believe there is:

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
Equal need for both	80	74.8
The Park Service mission should emphasize Natural Resource management whenever possible.	24	22.4
The Park Service must recognize law enforcement as a priority over natural resource management.	2	1.9
Not sure	1	0.9
No Answer	0	0
TOTALS	107	100 %

TABLE 33

Park Rangers Perceptions Of Their Role As Generalists
Or Multispecialists Within The Park Service

ITEM: I believe a Park Ranger should be a "generalist" or "multi-specialist" with skills in resource protection, resource management, law enforcement, or other skills required to do ones job.

N = 107

Response Categories	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	58	54.2
Agree	33	30.8
Not Sure	7	6.5
Disagree	8	7.5
Strongly Disagree	1	0.9
No Answer	0	0
TOTALS	107	100 %

TABLE 34

Respondent Demographic Data

N = 107

Item	Response Categories	Frequency	%
Sex	Male	79	73.8
	Female	28	26.2
Age	Under 20	0	0
	20-29	25	23.4
	30-39	65	60.7
	40-49	13	12.1
	50-54	4	3.7
	55-59	0	0
	60-64	0	0
	Over 64	0	0
Ideology	Very Liberal	3	2.8
	Liberal	32	29.9
	Middle of the Road	40	37.4
	Conservative	31	29.0
	Very Conservative	1	0.9
Years as NPS Employee	Less than 1 year	1	0.9
	1-3 years	10	9.3
	4-9 years	50	46.7
	10-19 years	40	37.4
	20-29 years	6	5.6
	Over 30 years	0	0
Highest Education Level	High School	18	16.8
	B.S.	70	65.4
	M.A. or M.S.	14	13.1
	Masters plus some post-graduate work	4	3.7
	Ph.D.	1	0.9
Rank or Pay Grade	GS 4	5	4.7
	GS 5	38	35.5
	GS 7	31	29.0
	GS 9	22	20.6
	GS 11	10	9.3
	GS 14	1	0.9

**The University of West Florida
11000 University Parkway
Pensacola, Florida 32514
(904) 474-2334**