

## 2023 Registration Box Report

The Grand County Wilderness Group has been monitoring and maintaining registration boxes for trailheads leading to Wilderness Areas for the US Forest Service since the year 2000. There are now a total of 12 registration boxes that are maintained by the GCWG. A volunteer provides registration sheets, retrieves them and tabulates the numbers for that trail. These numbers are given to a Coordinator who puts them together and writes a report for the Forest Service. This report has been identified as being important in Forest Service planning and funding.

Below is a tabular listing of all the data obtained for the total number of visitors at each trailhead registration box. In 2023 we are still seeing the results of wildfires (primarily the Troublesome fire) on our wilderness sites. Data was available from 8 of the 12 original registration boxes. The North Supply box was destroyed and has not been replaced. We do not have data available from Kinney Creek or Lake Evelyn as well as Devils Thumb.

Also we have data for hikers on the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) which passes through several of our Grand County Wilderness areas. Bowen trailhead reported 273 CDT hikers, while Monarch Lake reported 185.



The numbers in the following Table are a count of the number of overnight visitors passing through each trailhead multiplied by the number of nights spent in the Wilderness. The data give a better sense of how many people are recreating in the various Wilderness areas.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Monarch</b>	1899	1801	2213	3075	3727	2790		3079	<b>3409</b>	<b>3131</b>
<b>Junco</b>	74	245	343	282	457	176		374	<b>417</b>	<b>558</b>
<b>Byers</b>	5	35	13	31	10	29				<b>13</b>
<b>St. Louis Lake</b>	44	43	74	122	66	186	20	58	<b>41</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Devils Thumb</b>	26	38	27	49	167	172		<b>116</b>	<b>37</b>	
<b>Baker</b>	1008	1564	1753	946	1181	829	496		<b>710</b>	<b>422</b>
<b>Bowen</b>	24	1122	541	531	574	359	210	198	<b>410</b>	<b>368</b>
<b>Kinney Creek</b>	24		47	228	76	156	66			
<b>Lake Evelyn</b>	49	56	70	123	33	48		95	<b>18</b>	
<b>Vasquez</b>	126	43	86	133	75	23	34		<b>48</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Roaring Fork</b>	378	239	420	607	667	481		488	<b>390</b>	<b>516</b>
<b>North Supply</b>					268	240	339			

