

# **Don Hunger**

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## **Carrying Capacity of Public Lands**

### **Biography**

Don Hunger represents Wildlands Research and the Student Conservation Association (SCA). He serves as liaison among public land agencies, corporations and non-government organizations to build strategic alliances for the restoration and preservation of public lands. His program emphasis is recreation resource management, with projects in carrying capacity, public fees, invasive weeds, fire restoration, interpretive services and planning for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. Don has served as research social scientist, USFS recreation staff officer and national director for SCA. He is co-founder of the Alliance for Wilderness Education and Stewardship, and serves on the government affairs committee of the Outdoor Recreation Coalition of America. Don has a BA in environmental journalism and a Masters in environmental studies.

### **Presentation Abstract**

The recent development of standards of the Carrying Capacity Task Force lead by the US Department of Interior will be discussed. The Task Force recommendations for determining recreational carrying capacity on public lands will also be presented. Discussion will include the conflicts between legislative intent, agency implementation, and public reactions to public access programs. Finally, a case study example of carrying capacity at a USFWS managed area will be presented.