

Annual Report for IDA from Dead Horse Point State Park

General:

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2018 has been a wonderful year for dark skies and Dead Horse Point State Park. Our annual visitation for the Park was about 765,000 estimated visitors. Our night sky oriented programs had an attendance rate of 1,290 visitors. This is a slight decrease from the past year. Many of the programs experienced weather issues so attendance was down a bit.








Outreach:









We did start a new program in cooperation with Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, and the University of Utah Physics and Astronomy Department. We hired two astronomy interns to increase our outreach for night sky programming. The program was really well received by the park visitors. We believe this will continue into the future.






Lighting:

All lighting within the Park was updated by December 2017. In 2018, we had a new campground, a house, and additional yurts added to the Park. The lighting for the new project was not night sky compliant. We have already replaced all lighting except for the new duplex unit. Those fixtures have just arrived and will soon be switched out. An updated lighting inventory is attached.

Dead Horse Point State Park's Exterior Lighting Inventory updated 8/13/2018						
Location	Fixture	Full-shielded	Photo	Application	Conformity to LMP	
Entrance Gate	1-Stop light	No		Safety	Yes	
Entrance Gate	1-Caution light	No		Safety	Yes	
Entrance Gate	1-Flag light	Yes with Rock		Flag illumination	Yes	
Entrance Gate	1-Sign light	Yes		Informational	Yes	
Entrance Gate	4-Exterior lights	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes	
Entrance Gate	1-Envelope light	Fully shielded		Informational	Yes	
Moenkopi Yurt Site	4-pavilion light	Partially shielded		Building egress	No (No changes planned)	

Moenkopi Yurt Site	2-bathroom light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Residence 1	3-porch light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Residence 1	8-solar led	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Residence 2	2-porch light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Residence 2	1-sodium light	No shielding		Grounds egress	Yes (Left up as a lightning rod to protect ponderosa nearby)
Triplex	3-porch light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Duplex	2-porch light	No shielding		Building egress	No (new fixtures just came in and will be put up over the next month Sept 2018)

Shop	1-flood	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes (only used in emergencies)
Fuel shed	1-flood	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes (No bulbs, never used)
Fuel shed	1-solar light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes
Visitor center	10-emergency light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes (Emergency lights 17W LED bulbs, only used during emergencies)
Visitor center	5-exterior light	Fully shielded		Building egress	Yes (Light is kept off after closing hours)
Visitor center	1-sodium light	No shielding		Grounds egress	No (Leaving up as a possible wifi transmitter pole. Will remove if not used.)
Visitor center	1-bulletin board light	Fully shielded		Informational	Yes (Painted red however light is off after closing)
Visitor center	3-patio box light	No shielding		Building egress	Yes (No bulbs and never used)

Kayenta Campground	1-sodium light	No shielding			Grounds egress	No (Leaving up as a possible wifi transmitter pole. Will remove if not used.)
Kayenta Campground	23-site light	Fully shielded			Ground egress	Yes
Kayenta Campground	4-bathroom light	Fully shielded			Building egress	Yes
Wingate Campground	4-bathroom light	Fully shielded			Building egress	Yes
Pump house	1-entry light	Fully shielded			Building egress	Yes

Community:

Moab City and Grand County have committed to becoming IDA Dark Sky Communities. They are currently in the process of reforming their lighting ordinances and applications. This is extremely exciting news for all of us that have been working hard to bring about these changes.

Night Sky Quality:

The University of Utah Physics and Astronomy Department placed a night sky quality monitoring station on the roof of the visitor center in August of 2018. We are excited to see the numbers that come from this station.

Night sky quality readings seem to be worse than in past years. We have adjusted all of the new buildings lights finally so hopefully that will help our numbers improve once more. The table is below.

Night Sky Quality Surveys 2017-2018								
Date	Time	Gate	Yurts	VC	Campground	Neck	Point	Residence
8/30/2017	4:30 AM	21.44	21.41	21.45	21.58	21.52	21.5	21.46
9/18/2017	10:30 PM	21.22	21.36	21.35	21.46	21.31	21.36	21.3
1/16/2018	9:10 PM	21.43	21.46	21.5	21.46	21.46	21.53	21.52
2/17/2018	9:20 PM	21.43	21.37	21.35	21.26	21.43	21.45	21.37

2019 will be the year to approach Intrepid (potash company below the Park) about their lighting and its impact on the Park's resource.

Community and Media Relations:

Crystal White has been working through Moab Dark Skies with Grand County Council and Moab City on the reworking of their lighting ordinances. The ordinances should be considered sometime this winter.

Crystal has also been interviewed several times by local papers and a few US papers about dark sky conservation.

Crystal will also be presenting a session open discussion at this year's IDA annual general meeting in Snowbird. The session will be on working with government agencies in dark sky conservation and ordinance changes.

Night sky programming at the Park continues to be the most highly attended program. Followed closely by full moon hikes.