C. Trends in Capital Outlay

Total capital investment in recreation facilities and related services has been increasing rapidly for several years. Several indexes may be used: Sales of boats and motors, trailers, camping equipment; sales of licenses; attendance data; construction of motels, ski facilities, second homes; gasolines sales, and others.

Data indicative of the recreation pattern of specific types of recreation activities are given below.[16] The estimated number of recreational boats in use grew from 2.4 million in 1947 to 7.8 million in 1965. Total retail sales income from boat sales, motors, equipment, club memberships, and services for 1965 was approximately $2.7 billion. There are 4,000 private marinas in the country, providing slips for 3 million boats. These marinas grossed approximately $300 million in 1965. Private yacht clubs, numbering 1,300, grossed approximately $180 million for the same period.

It is estimated that the number of travel trailers in use in 1968 will be 1 million—2½ times as many as in 1964.[17] Increases in pickup coaches and tent trailers will be substantial too. In 1964, there were 120,000 pickup coaches in use and 45,000 tent trailers, almost all acquired since 1960.

The rental of small, rural cabins or cottages for family vacations is becoming very prevalent. Vacation farms and dude ranches are growing in numbers. This kind of vacation opportunity has always been and still is almost wholly provided by the private sector.

The 1960 National Survey of Fishing and Hunting found that the number of hunters has increased 19 percent from 1955 to 1960, with the largest increase in big game hunting.[18] More women are hunting than ever before; their numbers more than doubled during the same period. Economic data on hunting equipment also demonstrates the increased interest in hunting. Sales of shotguns increased 7 percent from 1954 to 1958 and of rifles 38 percent.[19] A 40-percent increase in gross receipts of all sporting goods stores occurred between 1954 and 1958. While gross expenditures for hunting in 1960 were up 14 percent over 1955, the number of recreation days per hunter was slightly lower, as were the number of trips, but the length of trips increased.

Private land now produces 80 percent of the game and includes 85 percent of the habitat that can be economically improved and managed for hunting.[20] The potential for hunting on private lands is great; however, the lack of fees to compensate for economic losses may restrict the amount of private land made available to hunters.

In 1964 the National Golf Foundation reported 6,804 regulation golf courses and 673 par-3 courses.[21] Fifty percent of these were private country clubs where 20 percent of the Nation's golfers played. Private commercial courses accounted for 35 percent of the golfing facilities which accommodated 35 percent of the golfers. Public facilities

[16] Unpublished 6-page information sheet prepared by the National Association of State Parks Directors, Dec. 10, 1965, p. 4.
[17] RAC study report, p. 78.
[18] 1960 National Survey of Fishing and Hunting. U.S. Department of the Interior, circular 120. September 1961.
[19] RAC study report, p. 89.
[20] RAC study report, p. 85.
[21] RAC study report, p. 96.