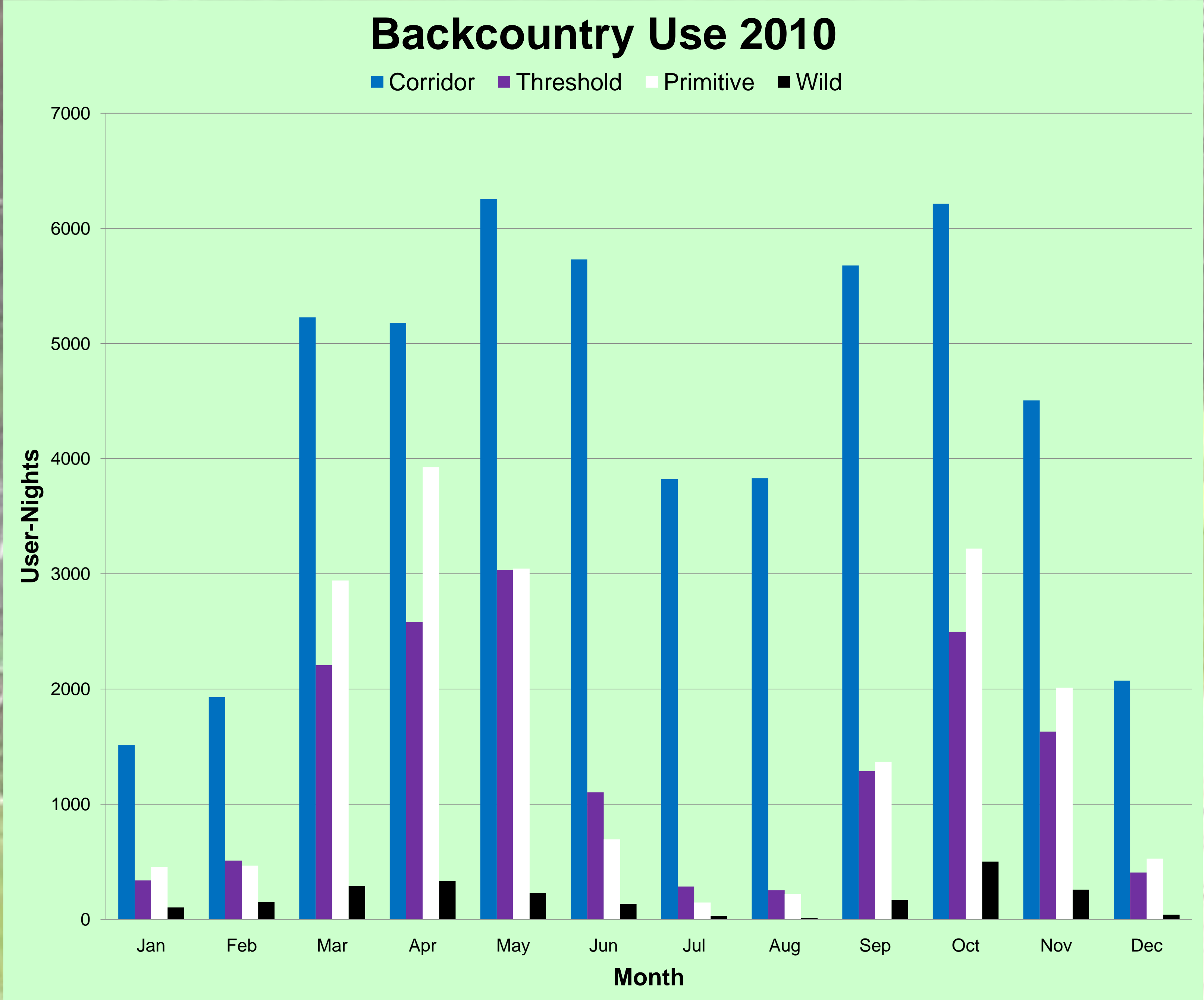




Recreational Use

Recreational Use Facts

- The NPS tracks recreational overnight backcountry use in three ways, 1) number of permits or groups per use area, 2) number of users per use area, and 3) number of user-nights per use area (one person spending one night in the backcountry)
- In certain use areas with resource concerns or heavy use, campsites are designated and at-large camping is not permitted
- There are presently no day-use limits on backcountry trails
- Overnight group size: Small (1-6) and Large (7-11). Organized groups may only obtain one permit per use area



A Glimpse at Grand Canyon Backcountry Use 2010

- 11,746 backcountry permits
- 37,732 people participated on overnight backcountry trips



Recent Backcountry Research

Visitor Studies

The following studies were completed by the University of Illinois to update past research and provide new information about visitor demographics, knowledge, and preferences.

- *Mule Rider and Phantom Ranch Visitor Study*
- *Backcountry Day Hikers at Grand Canyon National Park*
- *When a Landscape is Bigger than Itself: A Stakeholder Analysis of Grand Canyon's Backcountry*
- *Overnight Backcountry Visitors at Grand Canyon National Park*

Campsite Research

Northern Arizona University researchers completed a Rapid Site Inventory of backcountry campsites. Researchers collected information about backcountry campsite numbers, distribution, and associated impacts of existing sites.