

Teanaway Community Forest Recreation Survey

July 24 – August 24, 2017

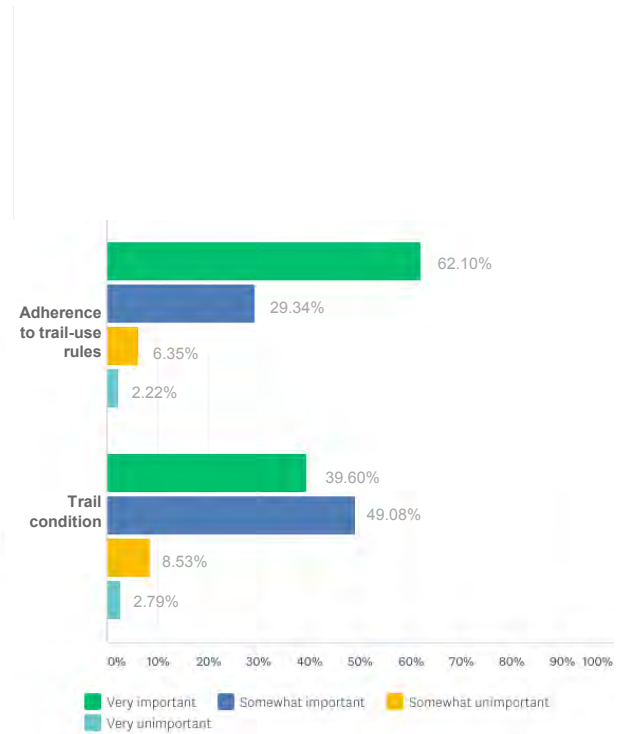
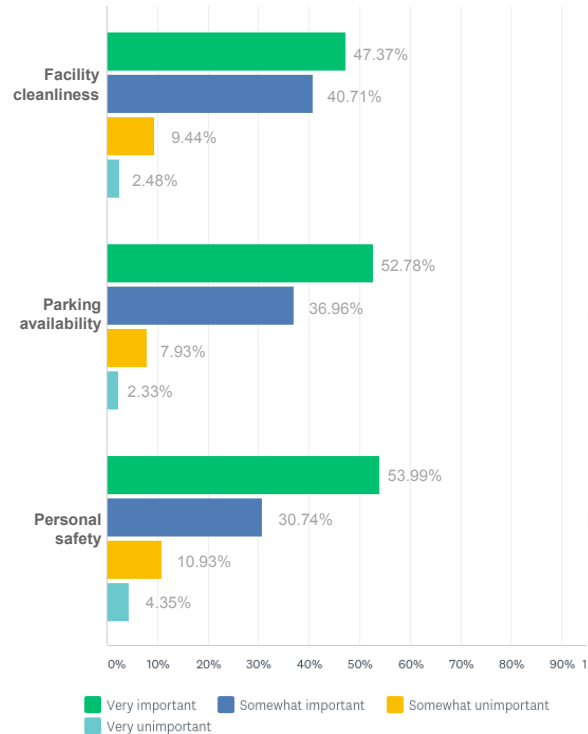
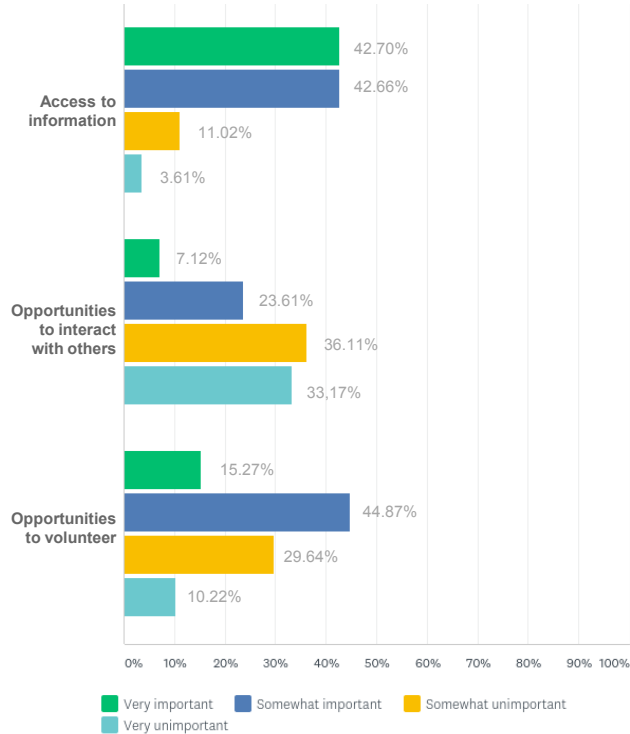
2682 Total Responses

Powered by  SurveyMonkey



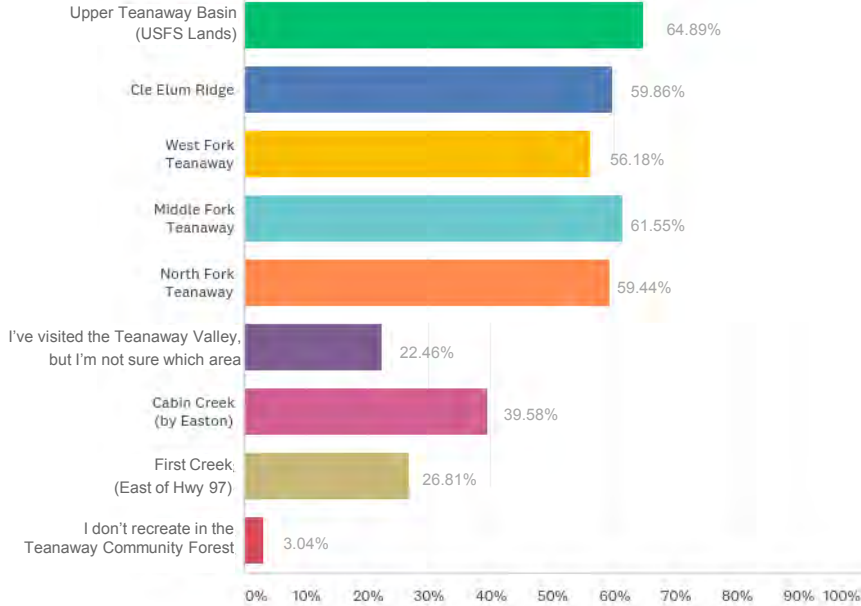
Q1: When recreating outdoors, how important are the following factors in determining whether you have a good time?

Answered: 2,672 Skipped: 10



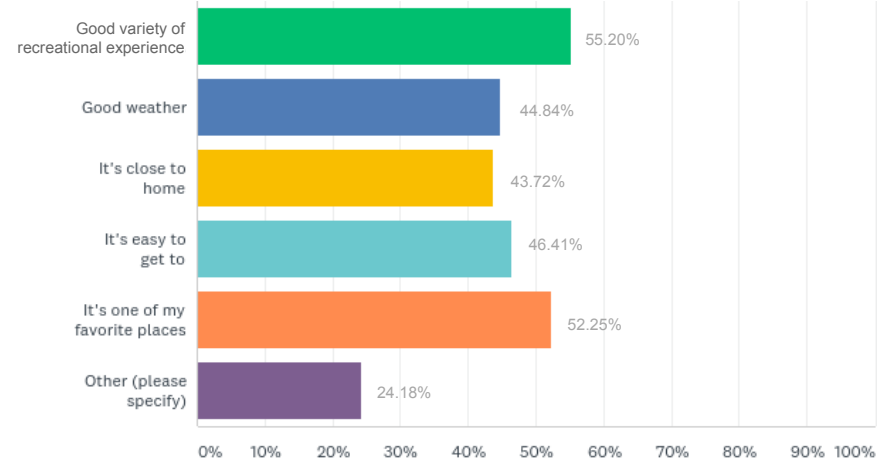
Q2: Please check all Teanaway Valley areas that you have visited.
(Click here for a map of the recreation planning area)

Answered: 2,663 Skipped: 19



Q3: Why do you recreate in the Teanaway Valley?
(Check all that apply)

Answered: 2,605 Skipped: 77



Q3 Why do you recreate in the Teanaway Valley?

Write-in response highlights

Themes

- ❖ Natural beauty
- ❖ Not crowded/ remote/ rustic
- ❖ Family tradition
- ❖ Recreation opportunities: wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, foraging, camping, river play, horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, snow mobile riding, skiing, motorcycle riding, rock climbing, orienteering
- ❖ Affordability
- ❖ All season opportunities

My father, grandfather and my great grandfather all spent time camping, hunting and fishing in the Teanaway. I've been going there for decades and now my grown son and daughter like to hike and backpack there. It's important to me to see it protected.

Exceptionally beautiful. Quiet escape from busy, noisy city.

Beautiful river, feeling of wild, ability to get away from people, fish and wildlife

Sunshine, Great rivers to play in, trails to ride that are family friendly and also challenging, free parking and camping

It is pure nature. I like that there are roads to get in and the trails look like they belong in the woods. Nature is beautiful in and of itself - too much human manipulation only takes away from the beauty.

Beautiful country, My family has recreated there and in adjacent areas for 50 years. It is important to continue to preserve, protect, and provide timber income from state lands. In a responsible manner, of course.

Cool geological features

Wildlife viewing and peace and quiet with beauty

*It's got *great* birds; you never know what you'll find there, but it's always wonderful. That is the biggest appeal of wild nature*

One of the few places in the nation where I can share territory with wolves.

Free sites, having very little money to spare, it is one of the few places we can still afford to go to

Access to some of the best motorized single track in the state.

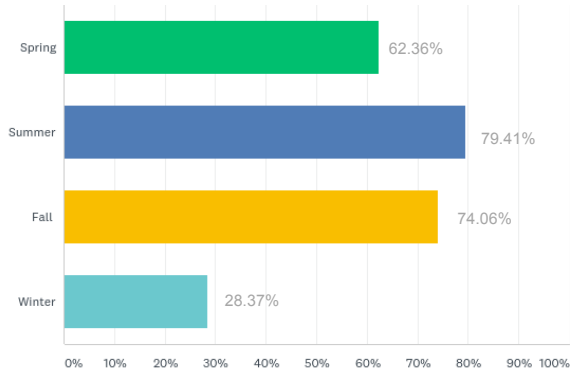
Some of the most beautiful horseback riding available in the state

Great terrain for orienteering

Want to be involved with a new style of land management

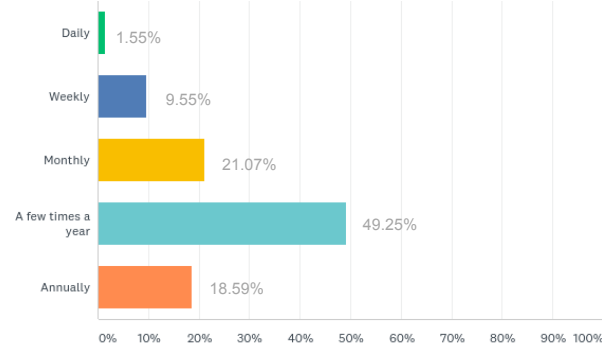
Q4: What time of year do you typically visit the Teanaway Community Forest

Answered: 2,598 Skipped: 84



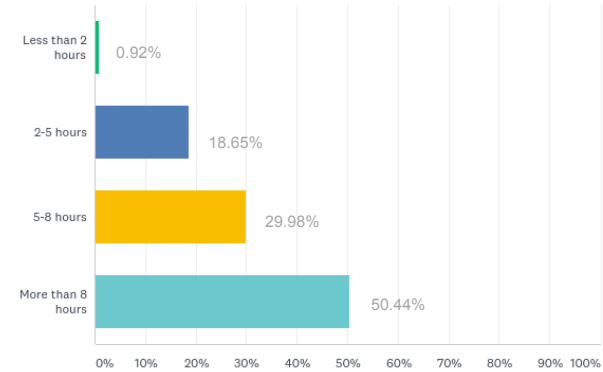
Q5: How often do you visit the Teanaway Community Forest? (Please choose only one)

Answered: 2,587 Skipped: 95



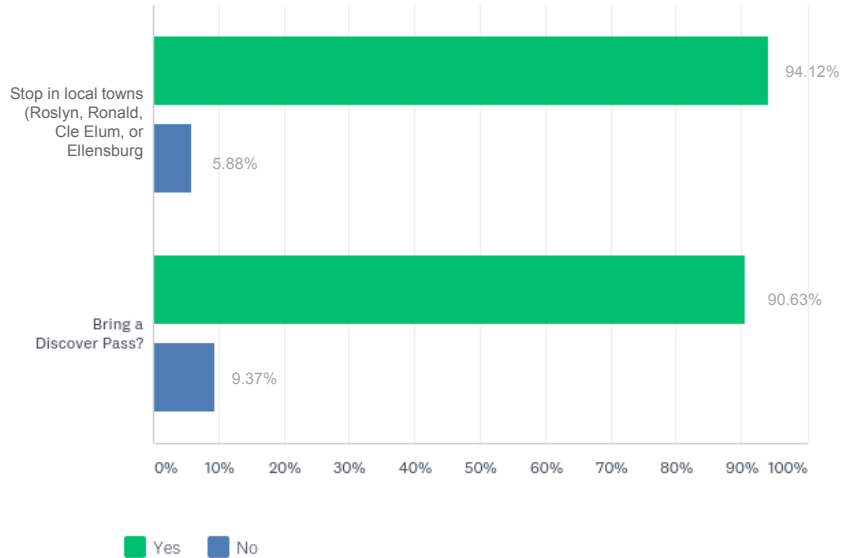
Q6: On average, how long is your visit?

Answered: 2,595 Skipped: 87



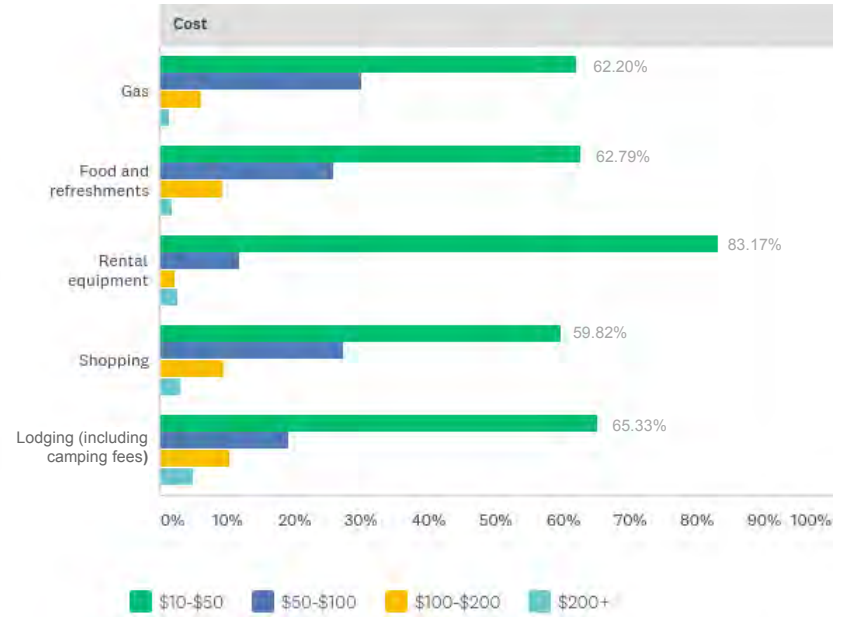
Q8: When you visit the Teanaway Valley area, do you:

Answered: 2,634 Skipped: 48



Q9: How much do you spend on the following items when you stop?

Answered: 2,334 Skipped: 348



Q9 (Spending)

Write-in Response Highlights

Themes

- ❖ Those who live nearby
- ❖ Those who live farther away and visit for the day
- ❖ Those who live farther away and stay for the night

I live in Ellensburg so I don't tend to spend a whole lot of money just because I am going to the Teanaway. I buy most all my recreational equipment locally

I live in Cle Elum so the TCF has no bearing on my spending

This is my community, I live and work here and do as much shopping as possible in the community

I live in Roslyn and spend a lot on hiking, cycling, climbing

I am in the Teanaway weekly in the winter. Sometimes I camp and sometimes I get lodging for the weekend. When I do recreate in the Teanaway I am always with at least three other friends who have similar use and spending habits. However, you may not hear from them in the survey. We spend a great deal of money and time in and around the Teanaway because we live it and value it as an environmental resource.

Don't know, every trip is a little different but we do use the local economy in some form or another. Cle Elum Bakery, Owens Meats, Frontier roasters, the Roslyn brewing, and motels are all worthy businesses.

On average I fill up a tank of gas and perhaps purchase a coffee or light lunch and occasionally stay for dinner in one of the upper county eateries

I bring what I need and usually do not buy anything.

Coffee at Pioneer Coffee

Glondo's Sausage every time

Sno park pass

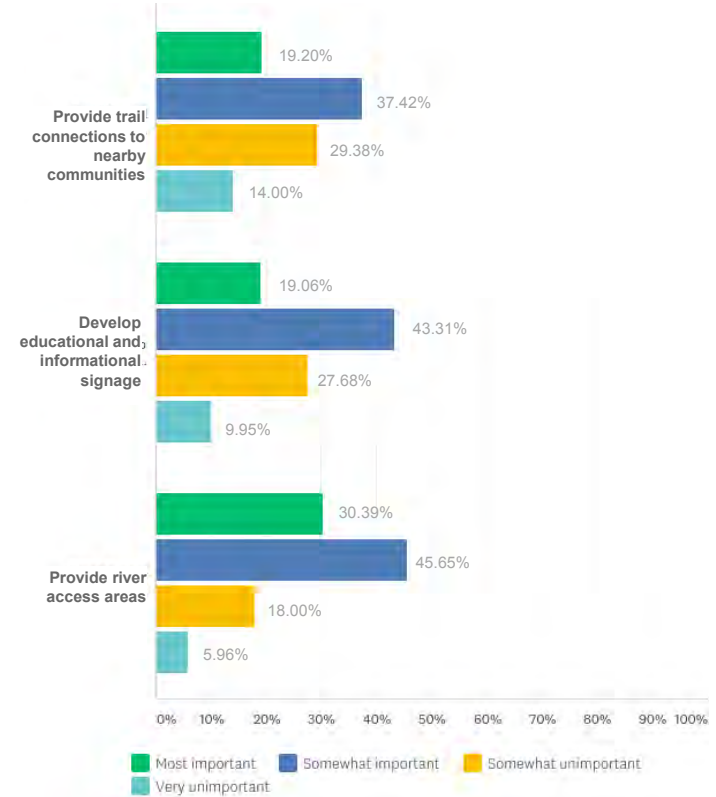
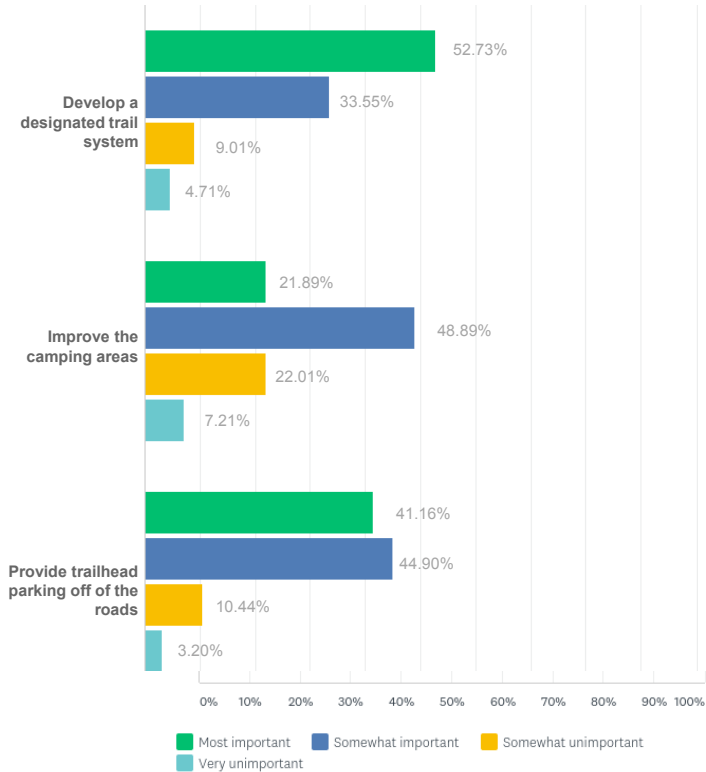
Just the forest pass for fees, for the first-come-first-serve sites

Hunting and fishing licenses

Propane, firewood, permits, gear

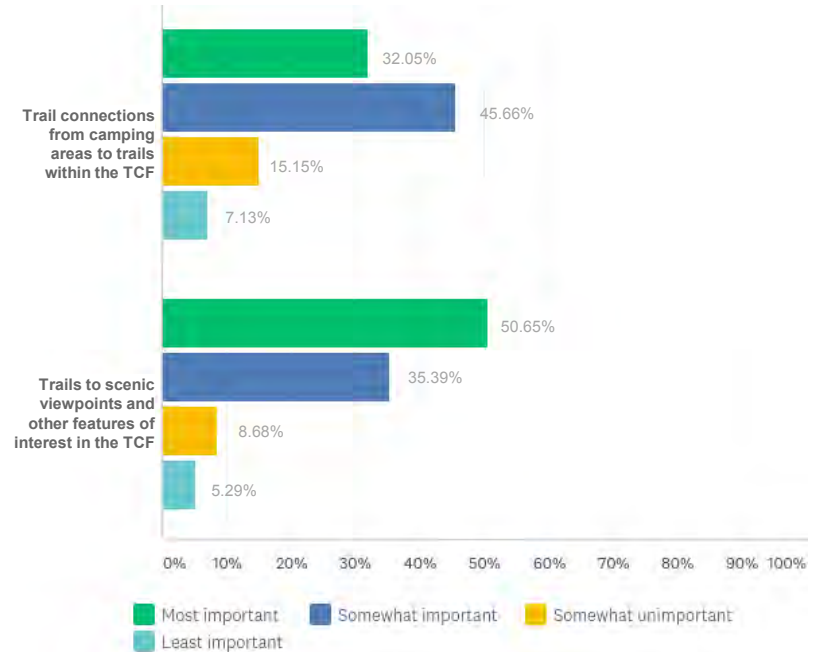
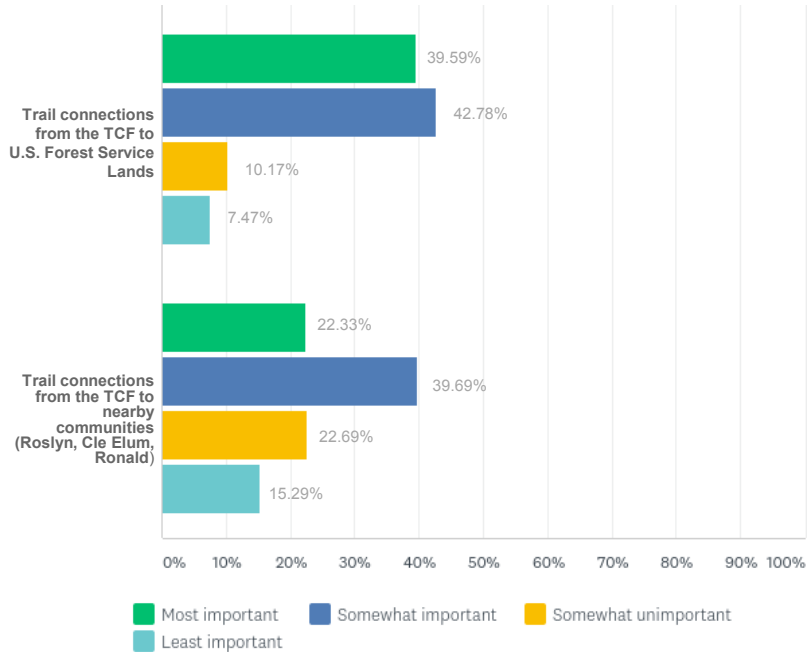
Q10: Rate your top priorities for recreation opportunities and management in the Teanaway Community Forest.

Answered: 2,527 Skipped: 155



Q11: Rate the following non-motorized trail connections in importance for development over the next 10-15 years.

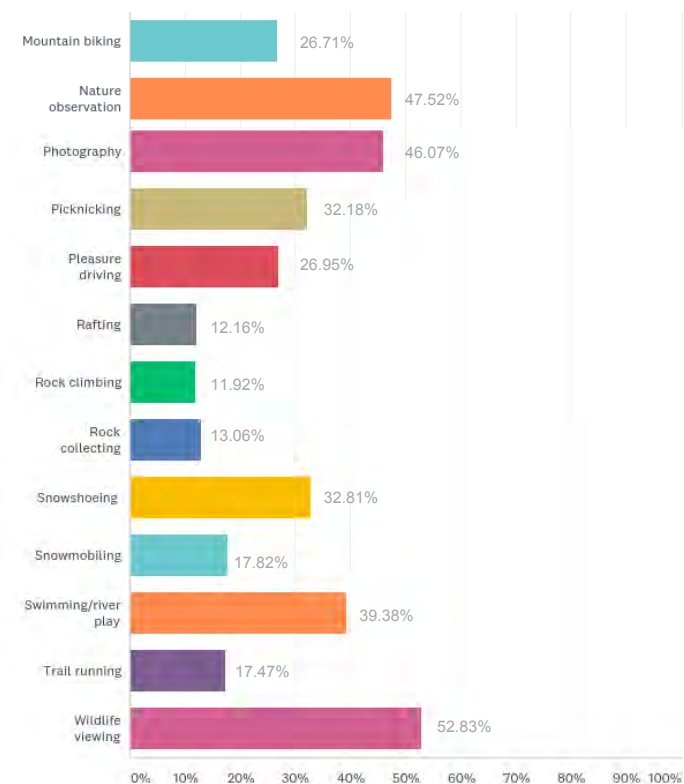
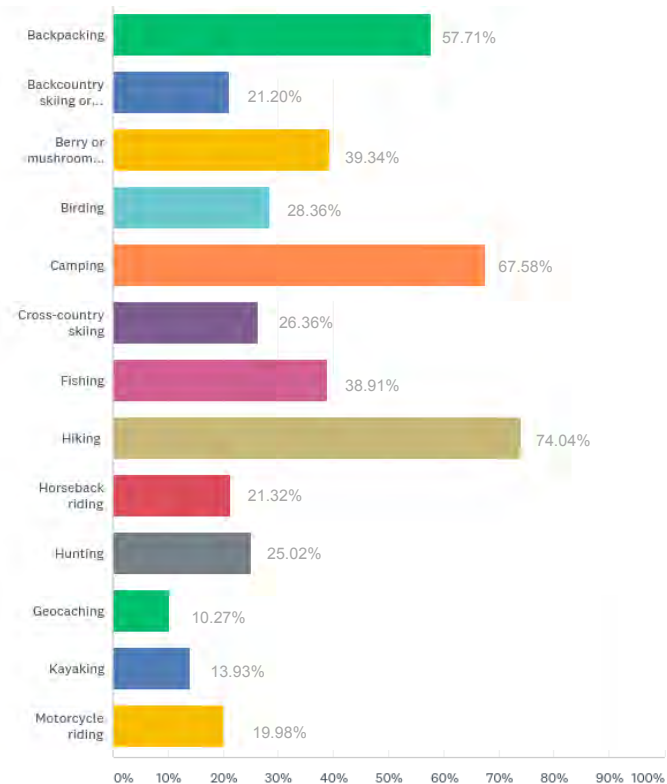
Answered: 2,495 Skipped: 187



NOTE: TCF = Teanaway Community Forest

Q12: Select all of the following recreation activities you enjoy or would like to enjoy in the Teanaway Community Forest in the future:
 (Select all that apply)

Answered: 2,542 Skipped: 140



Q12 (Activities)

Write-in Response Highlights

Themes

- ❖ Non-motorized recreation
- ❖ Sensitivity to adjacent properties
- ❖ Seeking quiet and solitude
- ❖ Conservation
- ❖ Other activities not listed: scrambling, canoeing, fat biking (snow), prospecting, gold panning, orienteering, adventure racing, meditation, botanizing, school group trips, exploring

Highlights

All these activities should ONLY be provided if they don't degrade fish & wildlife habitat

Keep all trails and access roads away from private properties. keep all loud crazy stuff away from private properties!

I believe there are a large number of areas in Kittitas County that allow ORVs and I would like to enjoy a pristine wilderness area that is free of motorized use

I believe the forest should be available for motorcycles as well with reasonable sound level limits and spark arresters. The fires that have started have never been from motorcycles or ATVs. It's either lightning or logging equipment as in the 2005 Lick Creek Fire.

4x4ing year round. Should be able to have green dot roads to drive on during winter months that snowmobilers do not groom.

Motorized vehicles would drive me out of the Teanaway

Trails for motorized bikes are very important to me

Areas free of motorized vehicles for solitude and wilderness experience.

Minimize motor vehicle access, EXCEPT please do not take away our access to Red Top Lookout!

Designated horseback riding area that does NOT allow motorized vehicles or mountain bikes.

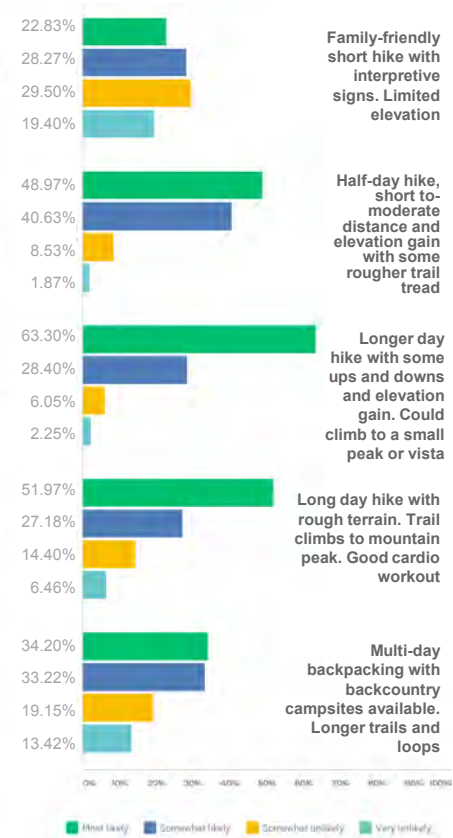
Sitting on a rock, just thinking, in a natural environment.

Relaxing by river

Mountaineering not necessarily involving rock climbing

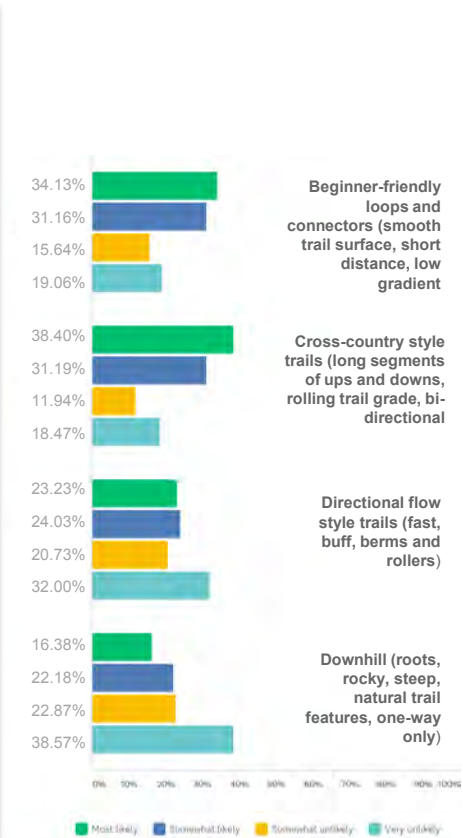
Q13: If you enjoy hiking, how likely are you to use the following types of trail?

Answered: 1,570 Skipped: 1,112



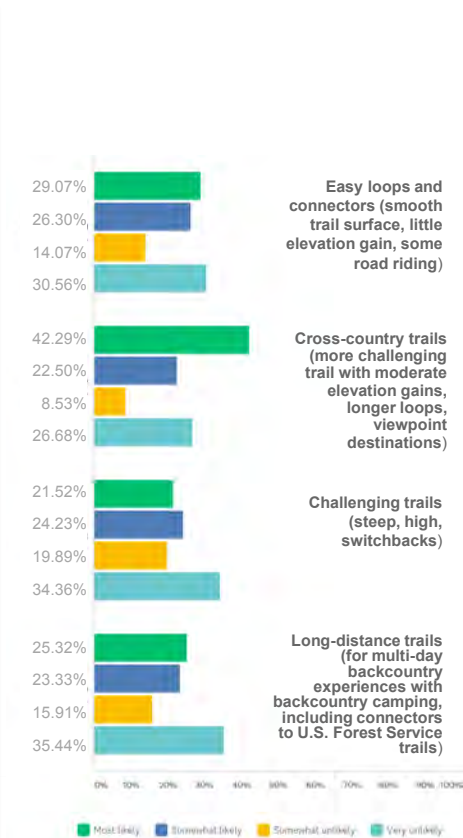
Q14: If you enjoy mountain biking, how likely are you to use the following trail types?

Answered: 902 Skipped: 1,780



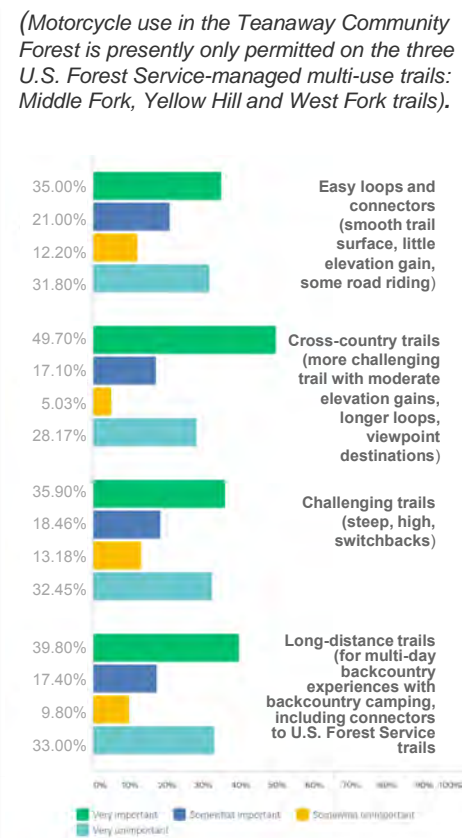
Q15: If you enjoy horseback riding, how likely are you to use the following trail types?

Answered: 565 Skipped: 2,117



Q17: If you enjoy motorcycling, answer the following question: If motorcycle use was permitted after recreation planning, how important are the following trail types?

Answered: 508 Skipped: 2,174



Q13 (Hiking)

Write-in Response Highlights

We mostly hike off trail into the woods. We tend to stay within 1/2 mile of the road

I'm 73. Easy is for me.

Depends on whether I'm with my 10 year old.

Trails with various options for longer and shorter routes and loops.

Short backpacking hikes with backcountry campsites. Good for little kids. Small elevation gain and short mileage 2-4 miles in to a destination like a lake.

I hike mostly off trail during various hunting seasons but use game trail and abandoned roads in the area... Keep it wild!

Old man with sketchy back and a fat dog. Trail use is thus limited.

All of the above depending on who I come with.



Q14 (Biking)

Write-in Response Highlights

We would love to have the opportunity to mountain bike here. We love all Mtn bike trails- more difficult for myself/husband and less challenging for our young boys. Don't enjoy bi-directional unless Forest Service road and necessary for connecting trails

Would like longer trails that aren't quite as difficult, technically or elevation wise.

Prefer trails for specific use groups and one-way loops to avoid conflicts.

The administrative-only access roads are great for mountain biking. Nothing more is needed.

I love mountain biking but feel the more beginner to low intermediate trails are enjoyed by all but very technical trails can only be enjoyed by a few.

Bike camping loops

If mixing hiking/horse/mountain biking MUST have good sight distance on curves.

While I'd use directional flow style trails, I don't think they are appropriate for the TCF.

Some of this area is deer and elk calving areas and should be protected from year round disturbance

Rather this was not a destination mountain bike area.

More mountain bike specific trails please!



Q15 (Horseback Riding)

Write-in Response Highlights

Happy to share the trail, but they probably want fewer hikers.

Have had horses in the past, will again someday... and will use trails then!

Prefer to use trails that don't allow motorized vehicles or bikes. Hikers and dogs are fine.

Wide, reclaimed road beds

I will ride any and all of the trails that are in the park and available for Horses to use.

Endurance competition weekends

Love being able to access water while horseback riding in the Teanaway!!



Q17 (Motorcycle Riding)

Write-in Response Highlights

Connections to Forest Service Trails would be excellent.

Connecting through the TCF to NF and local communities is top priority to me.

Please don't take our trails, there are MANY trails for hiking in Washington but few for Motorcycles. ALSO, please don't lump motorcycles with quads and 4x4s, we do less damage than horses

I do own a dirt bike (YZ426) and love to ride - even in the Teanaway. I just don't think dirt bikes belong in the new Community Forest.

I ride, but Teanaway should be non-motorized.

I have plenty of other places to do this. I don't need to grow this type of recreation in the Teanaway.

Motorcycles have long been a part of Teanaway. I support their use.

Trails for all skill levels are most important

Rate the difficulty at trail head and map.

Need beginning trails for my kids. Yellow Hill, MF, and WF trails are all too difficult for beginners/kids.

Keep motorcycles separated from hikers, bikers, horses, like Capital Forest.

No need for motor bikes around private properties we like it quiet!! Animal friendly

Due to previous injuries, using a motorcycle is the only way I can enjoy the area, as it is impossible to hike in! If motorcycles are banned so will be my recreation opportunities!

I do not ride motorcycles, so extensive trails for motorized use are not something I would like to see. But I have a friend in a wheelchair who would like to have access to a fishing opportunity on the Teanaway. Easy parking and an easy wheelchair trail down to the shore. A short loop or shoreline trail for wheelchair users or folks with limited mobility would be so great!! Also for families with young children who really can't hike very far. Thank you so much!

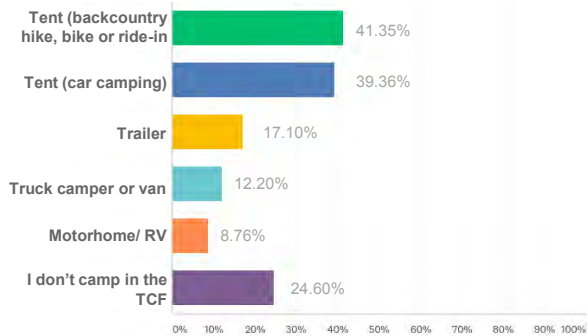
I don't ride motorcycles and would like access for motorcycles to be available but limited to specific areas

Trails that are accessible for a disabled rider and inexperienced riders



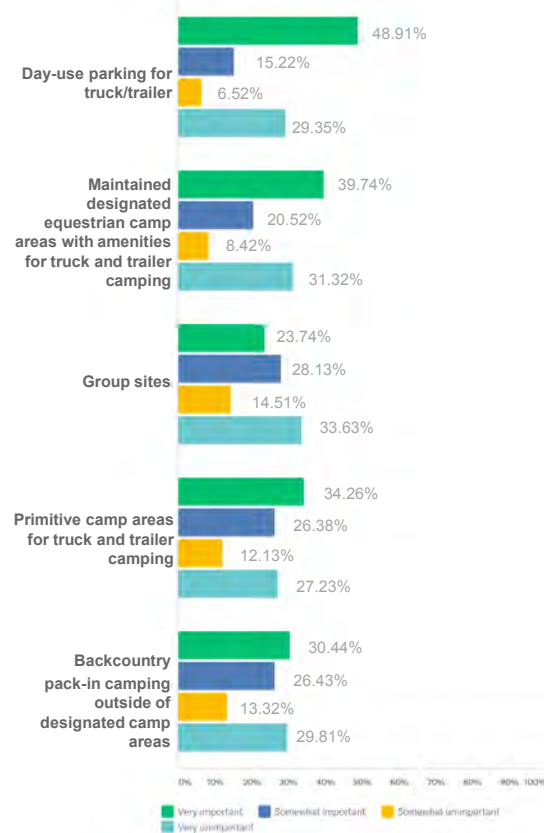
Q7: What style of camping do you enjoy in the Teanaway Community Forest?
(Check all that apply)

Answered: 2,614 Skipped: 68



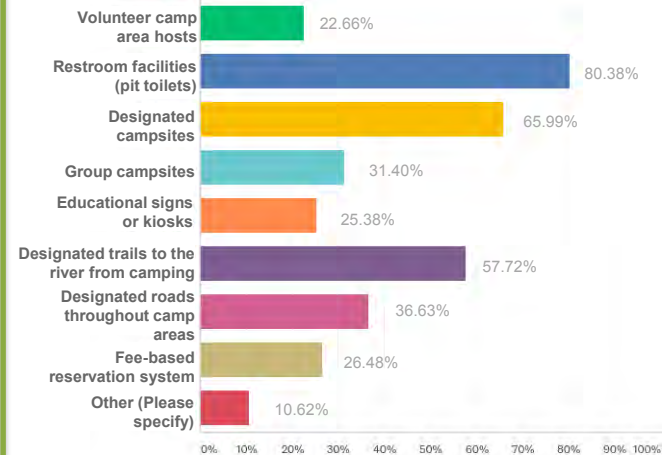
Q16: If you enjoy equestrian camp, how important are the following facility amenities?

Answered: 488 Skipped: 2,194



Q18: If you enjoy camping, what facilities would you like to see to support a better camping experience in the camping areas?
(Check all that apply)

Answered: 1,911 Skipped: 771



Q16 (Horse Camping)

Write-in Response Highlights

More space for horse camping. Areas now very crowded or unavailable

Designated parking for trailers only. If small cars fill up a parking area for trailers it can lead to a lot of issues regarding parking.

Separate area for non-equestrian campers

Stock campgrounds for groups

Keep camping in the development that is already available. Maybe enlarge what is in place now and charge for it. I don't feel our area is going to stay in a pristine condition with more camping areas.

Access to water and small corrals huge benefit.

Stock water near by

Horse facilities (stalls, corrals or high ties)

Designated, monitored camping areas only.

Manure bins for horse camping

Q18 (Camping, general)

Write-in Response Highlights

Minimal facilities to keep camping simple and affordable

Leave alone except for toilets, tables and fire pits

It's perfect now!

Sites designed to provide some semblance of privacy - i.e. don't try to cram as many as possible into the space

Trash, litter, and refuse dumpsters

Potable water taps

Dispersed camping has made a mess of area; designated pay sites with toilets are needed

No reservations. First come first served

It might be nice to have a balance of sites we can reserve and sites that are first come first served

The campgrounds are great the way they are. Many families have been using them for decades.

Don't allow reservations, or designated-only parking. People who go there love the experience.

I like how primitive it is and that you don't have to make a reservation

I like the camping experience because it is loose and I can be spontaneous about when and where I go.

The fee based reservation system should be VERY limited. The outdoors is not a hotel. Too many times we have tried to go camping only to be told that no campsites were available due to reservations.

Signs giving directions to trails

Fire safety information for campers must be stressed.



No fees please, we have a family reunion each year

I like to camp in low use areas away from other people and facilities

Please have the campgrounds open in time for Turkey season in April.

Backcountry pit toilets in high use areas

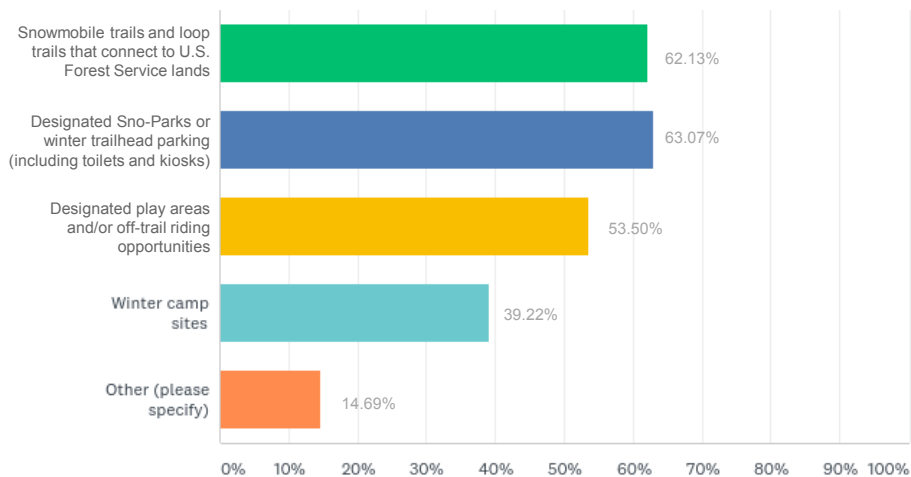
Please leave it as wild as you can. Camp hosts and toilets are great. Fancy signs and blacktop just make the Teanaway into an extension of the city.

Sites with ample space, trees, foliage, privacy

Place campsites away from streams and rivers as much as possible, stream banks are eroded in areas of dispersed camping, improve and use roads to sites, use the Respect the River Program the USFS uses to control use.

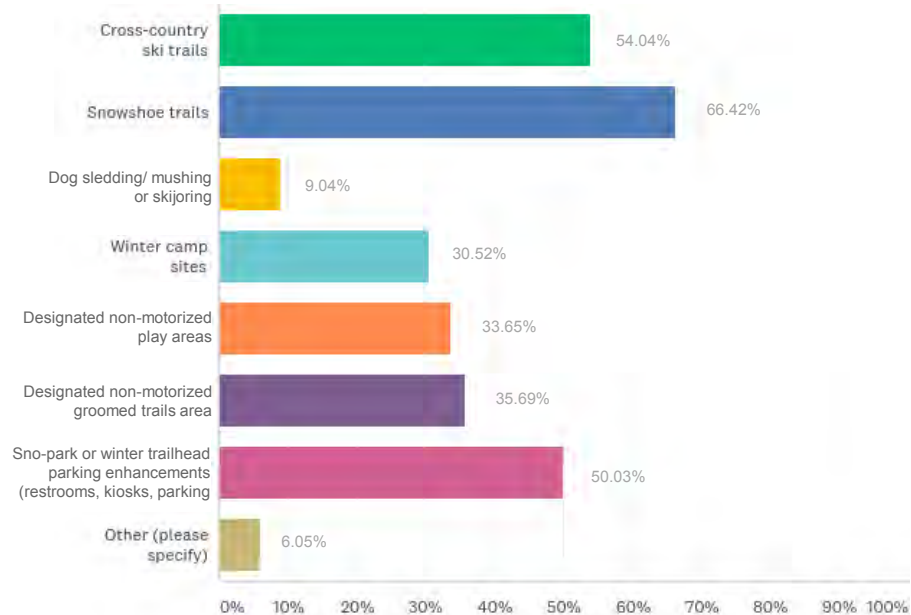
Q19: If you enjoy motorized winter recreation, what types of trails or facilities would you like to see? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 742 Skipped: 1,940



Q20: If you enjoy non-motorized winter recreation, what types of trails or facilities would you like to see? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 1,471 Skipped: 1,211



Q19 (Motorized Winter Rec)



Write-in Response Highlights

Adequate parking to accommodate users. Blewett Pass fills up early mornings in the winter

Grooming more often

Warming huts

Stay away from farm properties please!!!

Please keep this a Sno-park pass free area as it has been for years!

Snowmobiles already have broad access to the north Teanaway. They should be kept out of west fork.

Dog sledding

We have plenty of Sno-parks in the area. I don't think we need one here.

Family friendly loop rides

Better access to trails from local communities

Please limit shared trails.

Snowmobile use should be well managed and restricted to specific routes and limited designated areas

There should be places off-limits to winter motorized recreation, so that backcountry skiing can take place.

As long as there is a plan for the location of these to minimize impacts on the wildlife and landscape

Please keep motorized recreation limited to as small an area as feasible.

Regular, funded law enforcement

Q20 (Non-motorized Winter Rec)



Write-in Response Highlights

tubing area

Plow the road a little further for the backcountry skiers/boarders

We have always enjoyed the opportunity to just cross-country without specified trails

Groomed cross-country trails

Ability to check snow conditions for trails online

Reducing impacts to wildlife crucial to any trail development

Separate motorized and non-motorized activities if possible

Sledding areas for kids

Warming hut or yurt

Huts for overnight ski trips

Snowshoeing in the Teanaway is already perfect. No trails necessary.

Fat tire bikes allowed on groomed trails please.

Sharing the trail with snowmobile can be fine as currently do, maybe have wide trail with a cross-country ski groom line.

Maps

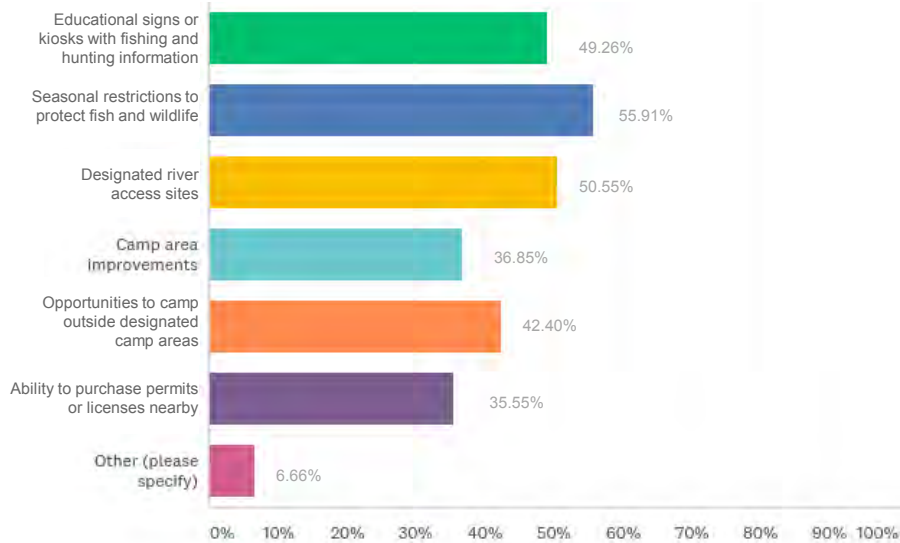
Ski orienteering

Horse friendly trails

For pack goat/pack stock use - pack goats love the snow and we love winter camping.

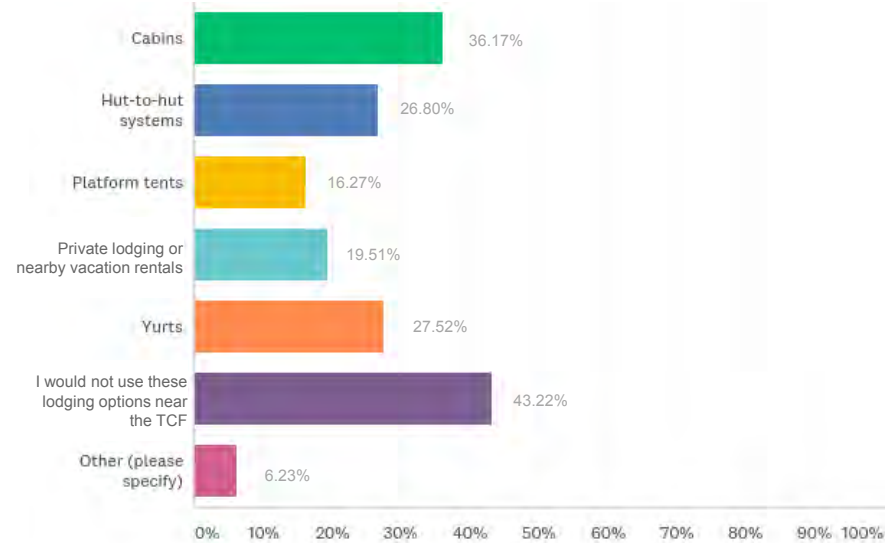
Q21: Fishing and hunting in the Teanaway Community Forest are allowed under state fish and wildlife rules and regulations. **What types of trails, facilities, information or management actions would you like to see to support fishing and hunting opportunities?** (Check all that apply)

Answered: 1,547 Skipped: 1,135



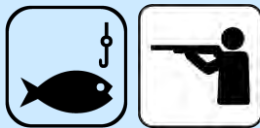
Q22: Currently overnight stay options in the Teanaway are limited to camping areas and walk-in/pack-in backcountry camping, and private rentals in the greater Teanaway Valley. **Would you use LODGING near the Teanaway Community Forest? If so, what type of lodging would you use?**

Answered: 2,071 Skipped: 611



Q21 (Fishing and Hunting)

Write-in Response Highlights



No target practice in area. Lots of shooting last time I was there

Deer elk and turkey habitat improvements.

Guided fishing opportunities

Promote restoration of fish runs. Work with the local groups who are doing that to make the area better for fish.

Would like to see vast tracts of land remain undeveloped, with limited trails, to maintain high quality habitat for wildlife. The greatest challenge wildlife face today is habitat loss. I believe the forest should be managed for multiple use, but not at the expense of hunting and fishing opportunities.

Maps to facilitate lawful river access and avoid trespassing.

Continue to allow hunting exactly like it is.

Regular funded law enforcement reinforced according to the number of hunter vehicles in the TCF

Signs telling hikers what hunting season is officially under way

Motorized access for those of us who are physically able to hunt and fish but not able to pack an animal for miles!!

I would like hunting and hiking areas segregated to prevent conflicts. Also, I don't like hearing gunshots while hiking!

Q22 (Lodging)

Write-in Response Highlights



I love the dispersed camping and relatively un-developed forest service camping available in the area today.

Making lodging will take away from the Teanaway valley. I go there often because there is limited areas for camping and lodging. That is what makes it a nice place to go

Day use warming huts, bunk cabins with wood burning heat stocked with wood like Oregon

Would like to be able to overnight park in Sno-park

Please do not develop the Teanaway Valley

Keep it rugged and remote to conserve it

Hut to Hut systems for skiing and mountain biking would be a great opportunity and rather unique to the Pacific Northwest. There aren't a lot of these systems available despite our available land.

There are lodging opportunities in Roslyn, Cle Elum, Ellensburg and in private residences via VRBO and Airbnb

This forest is not a resort destination. Do not over develop.

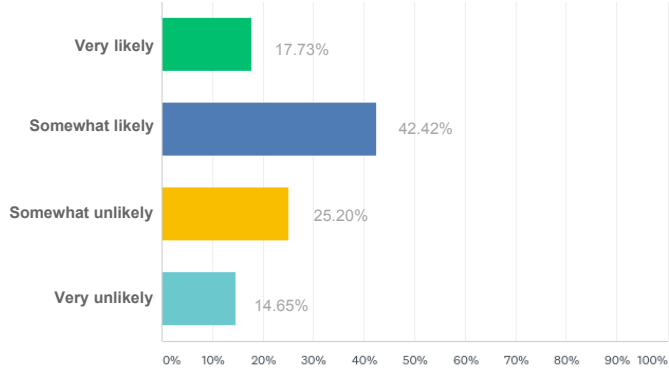
Washington State Horse Park

This is a working forest not a camp ground

We like the fact the camping is walk-in pack-in. That is one of the many things that makes this area great.

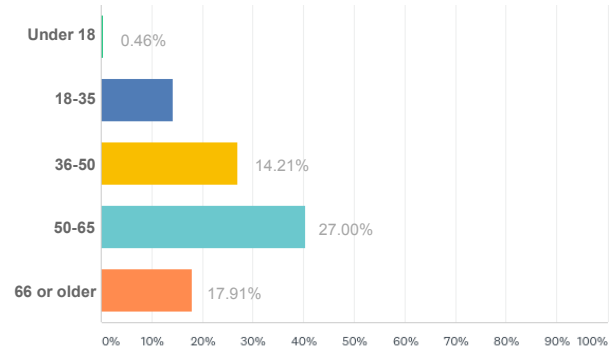
Q23: How likely would you be to volunteer to care for trails, camp areas or roads or help with restoration projects in the Teanaway Community Forest?

Answered: 2,369 Skipped: 313



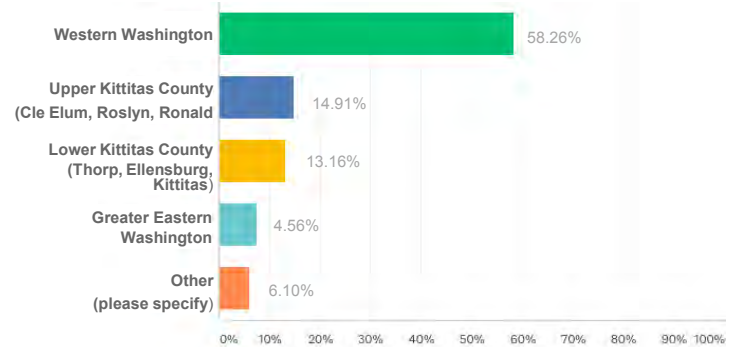
Q25: What is your age?

Answered: 2,407 Skipped: 275



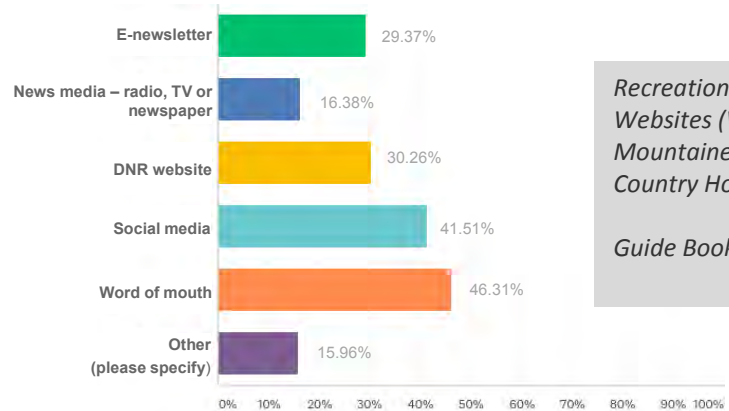
Q26: Where do you live?

Answered: 2,408 Skipped: 274



Q27: How do you get information about the Teanaway Community Forest?

Answered: 2,356 Skipped: 326



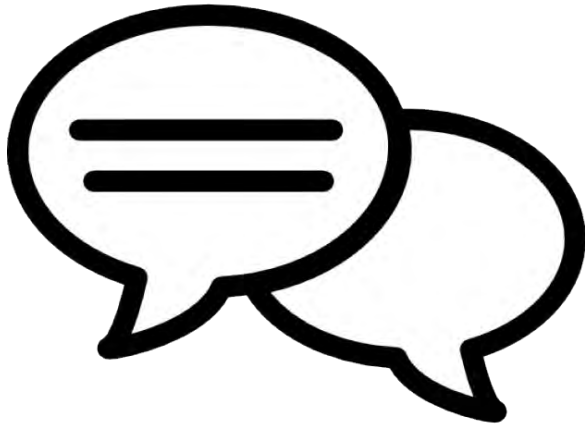
Recreation Organization Websites (WTA, Mountaineers, Back Country Horsemen, etc.)

Guide Books

Q24 Do you have any other comments to share regarding the future of recreation in the Teanaway Community Forest?

(Write-in Response Highlights)

Themes



- ❖ Love and thanks
- ❖ Experience, feeling of the place
- ❖ The environment
- ❖ Creative ideas
- ❖ Concerns
- ❖ Goals 1-5 of TCF Management Plan
- ❖ User group comments
- ❖ Comments about motorized use
- ❖ Accessibility
- ❖ Volunteering
- ❖ Traditional uses
- ❖ No change

Love and Thanks

We love the Teanaway forest and all the great things it offers our family

One of our most treasured and beautiful areas

Thank you for working on this and for the opportunity for us to provide input

Thanks for preserving this area from commercial development. We've been enjoying this area for over 20 years

I don't know who got the Community Forest set up, but I wish I could thank them.

This area is a treasure! Especially as the growth of usage along the I-90 corridor increases

Experience

Hiking, conservation, quiet places to recreate are the most important values. Keep wild places wild.

I'd really like it to be left as rustic and undeveloped as it is now and has been for the last 100 years. That's what makes the Teanaway so special! It's a quiet beautiful place.

We have enjoyed the openness of the area and the ability to cross-country through the area.

Great to have a lower key area to visit (without needing reservations or having to arrive by 8am to find parking)

One of the key reasons I enjoy hiking and backpacking in the Teanaway Forest is the quiet and natural surroundings. It is an escape from the city and from people. I hope these areas don't become overcrowded with people, the environment doesn't become degraded with increased usage.

Environment

Please let the public uses be guided by the needs of indigenous flora and fauna

Protect the wolves of the Teanaway!

As much as we enjoy doing our own thing in the Teanaway, increased use means we need to protect the area now with more developed trails and river access, pit toilets, and an end to dispersed camping.

Leave it natural. More additions mean more cost and disruption to the forest. There are plenty of other recreation areas around. We do not need anything more.

Make sure trout habitat and river flows protect trout in the future.

The Teanaway provides critically important winter and spring habitat for wildlife. I am opposed to any recreation development, especially motorized recreation that compromises the use of the area by wildlife.

Tradition

I feel strongly that we should try to keep the Teanaway as wild as possible, as clean as possible, and as less citified as possible. My family has been coming here for generations. The more "improvements" we see – the more signs, parking lots, paved roads, motors, overly groomed trails – the more the Teanaway becomes like a city park. That's not why true Teanaway lovers go there. We yearn for a place that is beautiful, accessible, and wild.

The TCF and surrounding valley are very important to me and my family for longstanding hunting, angling, hiking and wildlife viewing traditions. We love the area and visit it often. However we are very concerned that increasing visitation, unnecessary development and motorized recreation threaten this place.

I have been camping at the Teanaway River since I was a child. I still like going because it hasn't changed. Hoping it doesn't get paved/ become fee area/ small designated spots.

Accessibility

I believe that loop road systems to accommodate vehicles should be part of the Teanaway... to allow people with disabilities to be able to enjoy the forest at a basic level... Sure a disabled person can have a picnic, but the opportunity to visit high elevation scenic areas is [currently] only available to persons who ride a bike, motorcycle, walk or ride a horse.

Myself being disabled can't walk very well or very far so camping sites that I could drive my motor home to would really be my only option.

Develop a jeep trail system that allows older folks who can't hike, bike, or horseback ride, to have equal access to the forest.

Being retired and over 70 years of age, we have gone into WATV vehicles for forest recreation. It is important to have road and trail systems where we can ride. Please do not shut us out.

Comments in favor of allowing motorized use

We desperately need more easy to moderate motorcycle trails. Current trails are only usable by very skilled riders and are somewhat dangerous. Many of us locals would gladly help in such moderate trail creation and maintenance.

I have recreated in the TCF for 50 yrs. In my opinion the area can support ORVs if managed. The trails and roads are already there. I have seen how the DNR and Capitol Forest has managed ORVs and it seems to work.

Please consider allowing motorcycle riding to some extent. My family has ridden motorcycles in this area for 40yrs. It is part of our heritage to do this together as a family.

I think it is paramount that multi-use trails exist in our community forest. Motorcycles and snowmobiles should have every right to enjoy our community forest. As a whole we are responsible stewards of the land and are highly likely to volunteer to maintain the trail system.

Comments in favor of limiting motorized use

My biggest concern moving forward is the expanded allowance of off-road vehicles in the Teanaway. I don't doubt that they are fun to use, but there are already a ton of nearby areas where they are allowed. We spend our lives in cars and around the combustible engine, when I head into the wilderness the roar of an engine is the last thing I want to hear.

Please limit motorized access to areas on the western side of the forest.

Motorcycles having access to trails would discourage me from using the area because of the noise and other environmental impacts.

I hope that motorized access is limited and that recreation as a whole is limited especially in sensitive wildlife areas.

Please do not increase the use of motorized vehicles. The peaceful slow pace of the valley is what makes the Teanaway so special.

Creative Ideas

Provide some type of Community Calendar

Have volunteers out on weekends to welcome campers or some kind of host that can help with questions.

Maps indicating lawful river access points

Please make it easy for school groups and youth groups to have camping and backcountry experiences.

Much more forest health work. FULL time WCC crew engaged in RX Fire, fuels reduction and Rex work. More WCC equals more jobs and opportunities for local young adults. Also, the cost benefits of a full time crew cannot be matched.

I would like to make sure there is still some sort of pathway connecting Hwy 97 to Forest Service Rd 3506 for emergency fire evacuation.

Consider allowing endurance rides [with road access for event staging]