

Manager's Report



Subject: 2011 Winter Trail Survey
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Department: Sustainability
Date: February, 2011
Type of Item: Informational

SUSTAINABILITY

Over the past several years, local entities have worked to provide additional opportunities for winter recreation outside of traditional alpine skiing. One significant component of these opportunities is the expansion of 'grooming services' on local trails. These services have provided significant access to areas that were once limited to more active or well conditioned users, as well as, provide a wider range of uses, including cross country skiing. In fact, since 2007, the amount of available groomed trails within the area has more than doubled to almost 70 kilometers.

As part of the overall management of the trail system, data, in the form of trail counters have been used to gauge the actual number of users accessing the system.

In 2011, staff created a survey to better understand the winter use of trails in Park City. The survey's intent was to collect the following information; demographics, types of use, economic impact, trail experience, including dog related concerns and wildlife, and conditions. Furthermore, the survey sought to provide an opportunity for users to provide additional feedback.

Data collected from the survey will be used to forecast impacts, as well as, budget for capital and maintenance items as they pertain to a specific area, trail system or infrastructure. Secondly, data can be used as a barometer of the trail experience or the user's needs and desires. Examples of experience related items may be directional trails, signage, maintenance or specific use trails.

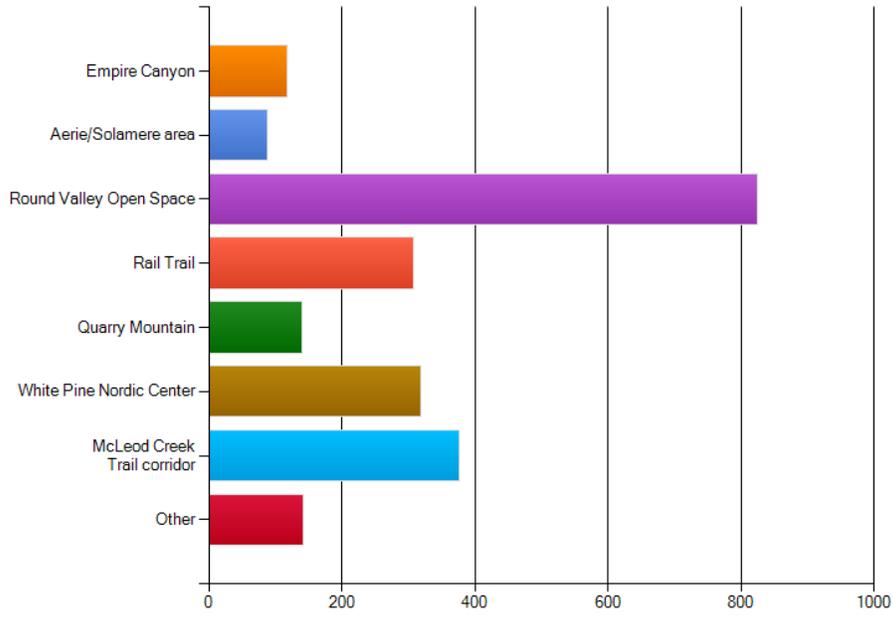
The survey was web based using the 'Survey Monkey' program. It was initiated on January 11th and ran until January 31st. The Survey was posted on the Park City and Mountain Trails Foundation websites. Public Service Announcements, email blasts, articles in the Park Record and word of mouth were utilized to spread awareness.

A total of 864 people participated in the survey, while 848 users completed the survey (98.1% completion rate)

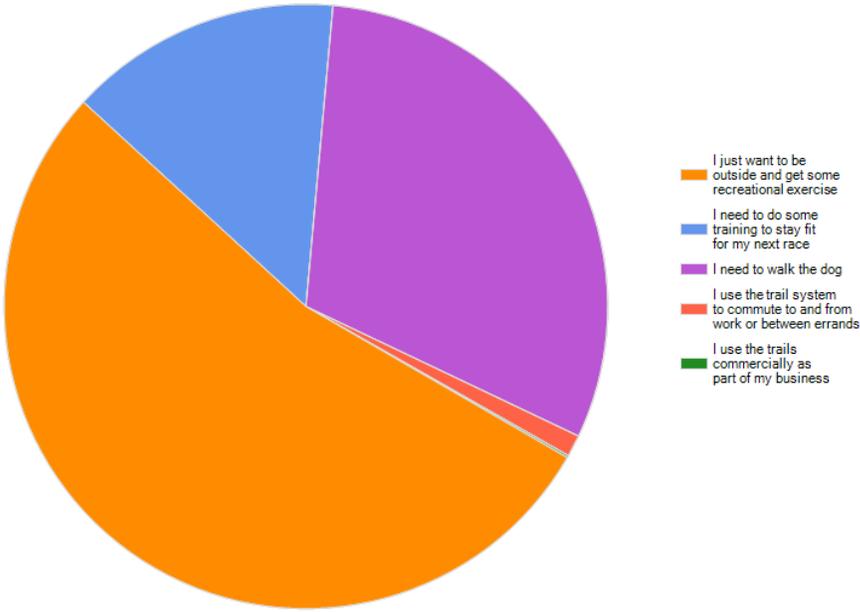
Charts have been provided per the responses for each question. Additionally, the final page shows 2011 data or 'counts' within the Round Valley open space.

If Council was interested in discussing the survey or trails in general further, staff would be more than happy returning during a work session.

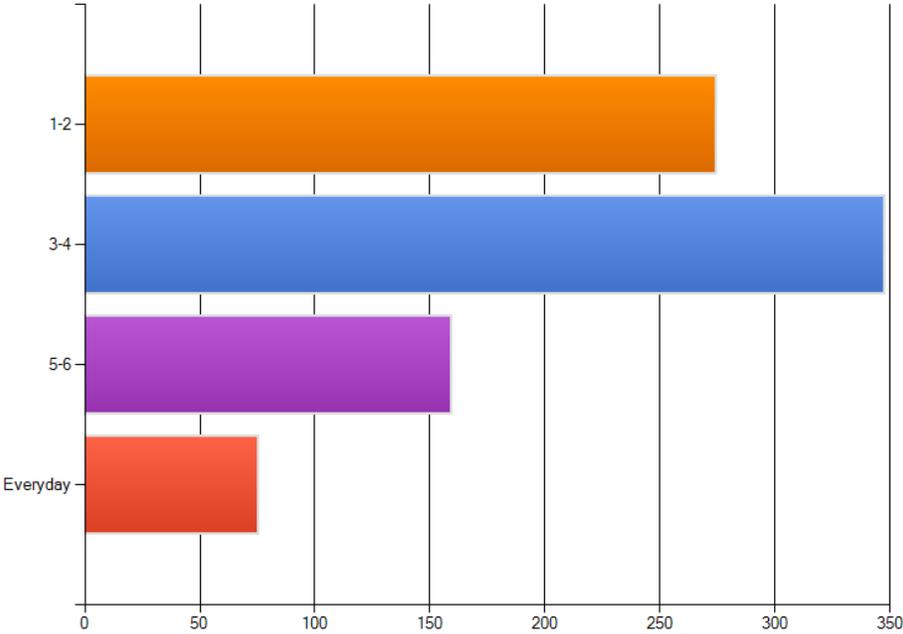
During the winter, where do you recreate within the Park City trails system? (choose all that apply)



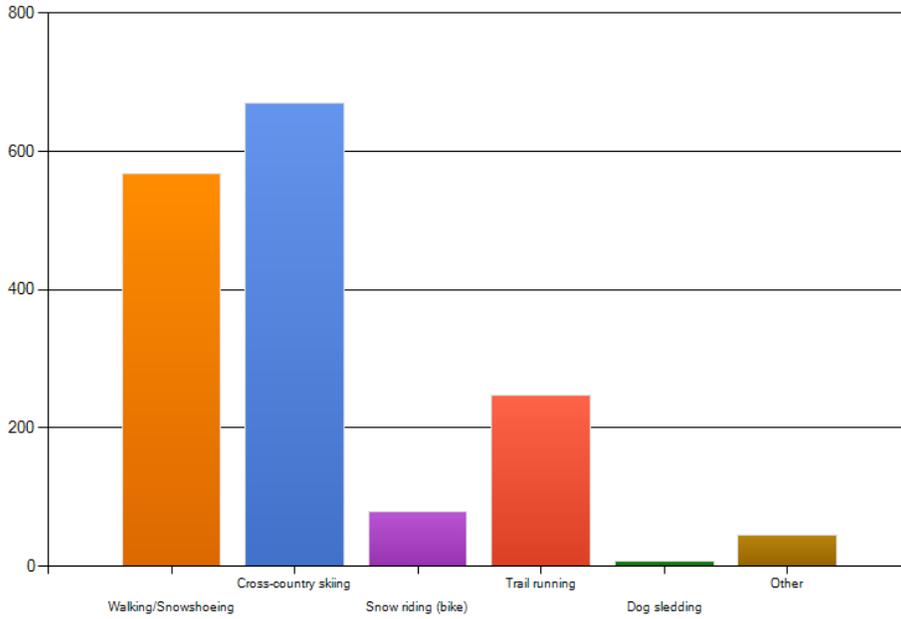
How would you describe your primary use of the winter trail system?



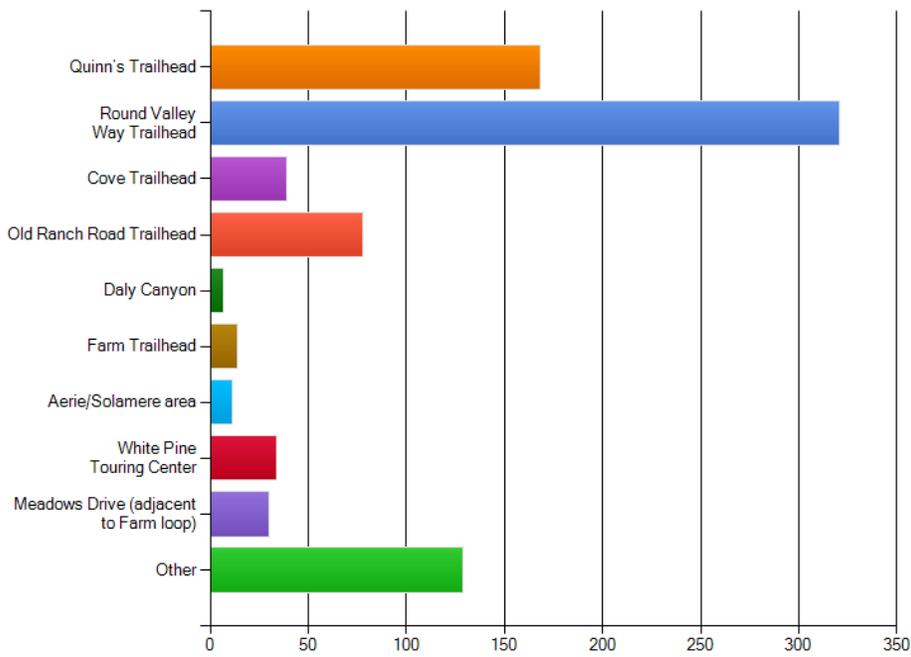
On average, how many days per week, do you use the winter trail system?



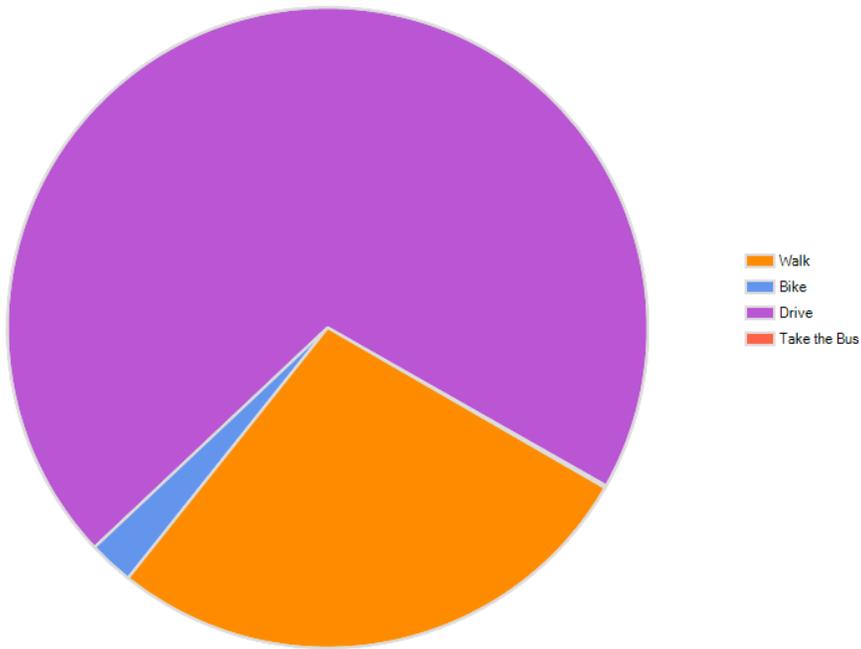
What type(s) of recreation do you participate in on the winter trails? (choose all that apply)



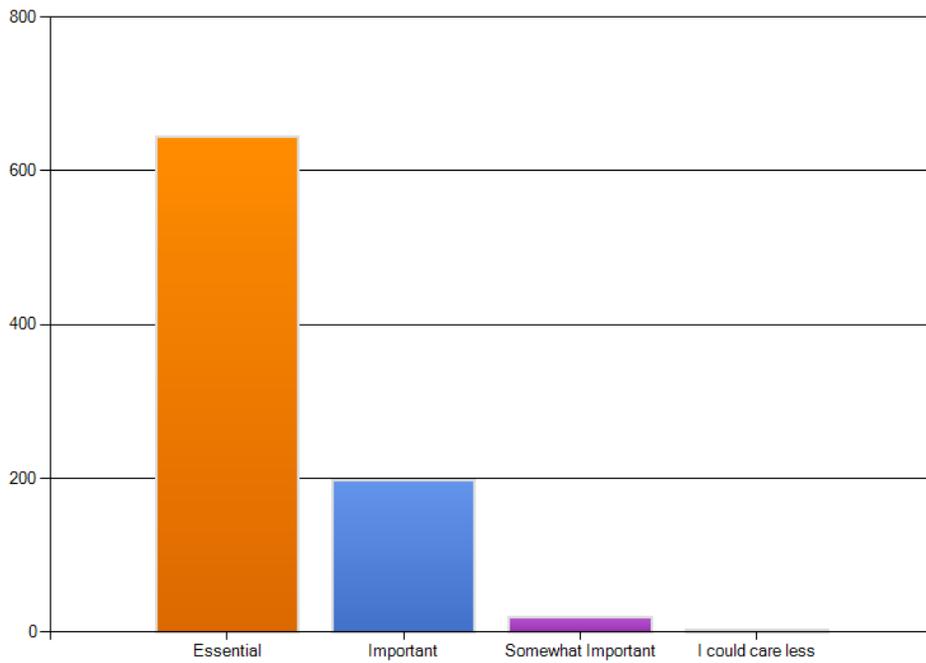
From which area/trailhead do you most commonly access the winter trail system?



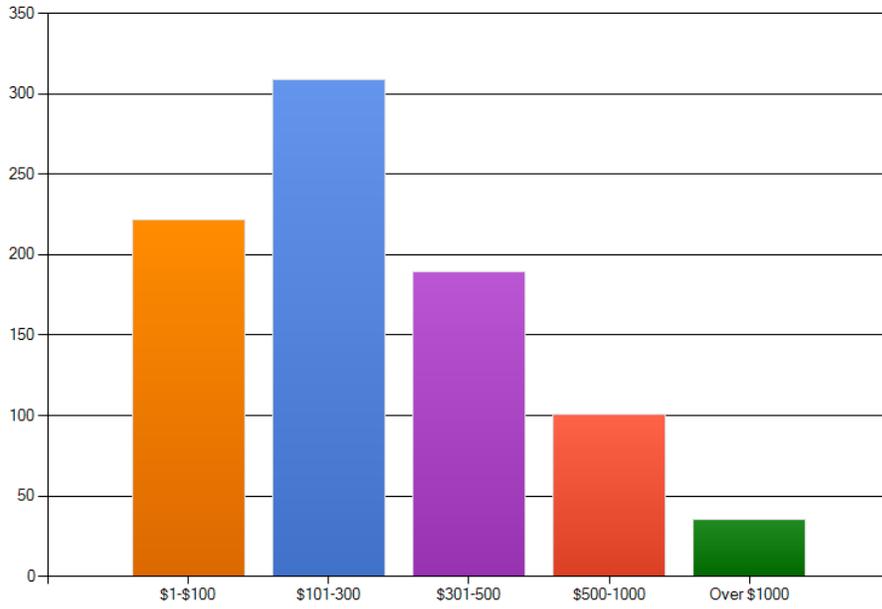
How do you normally get to the trailhead?



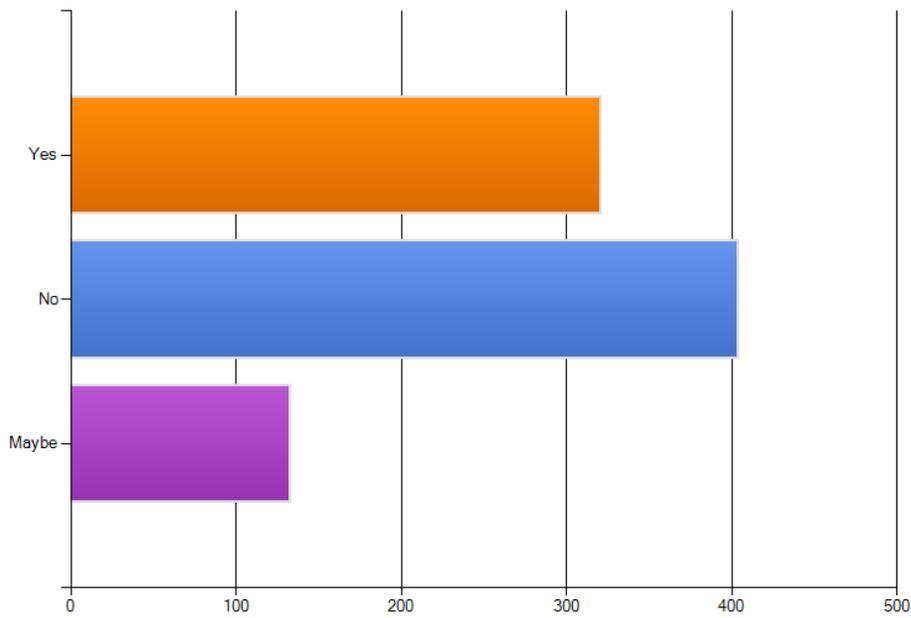
How important is the winter trail system to you?



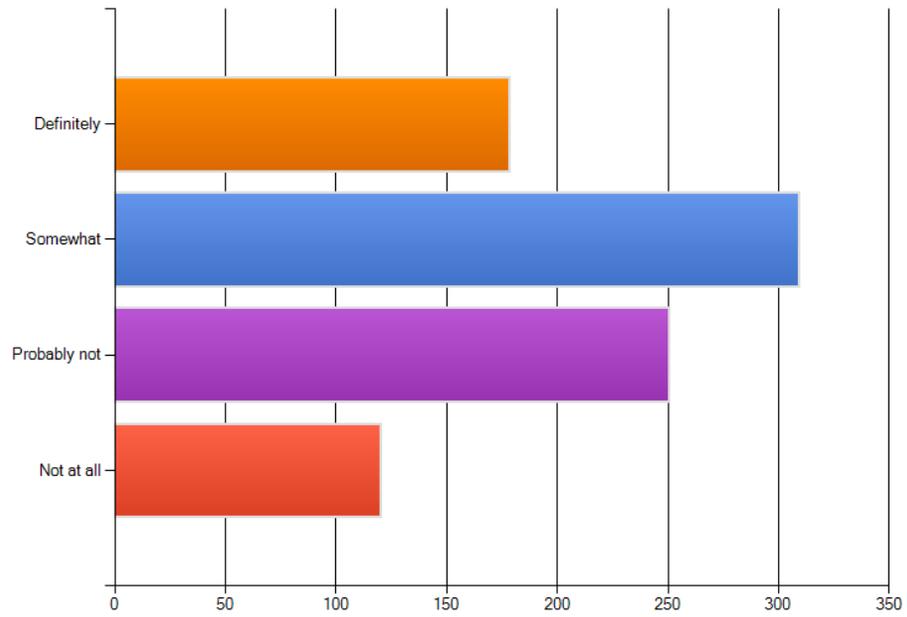
How much do you spend annually on equipment for use on the winter trail system (non-resort)?



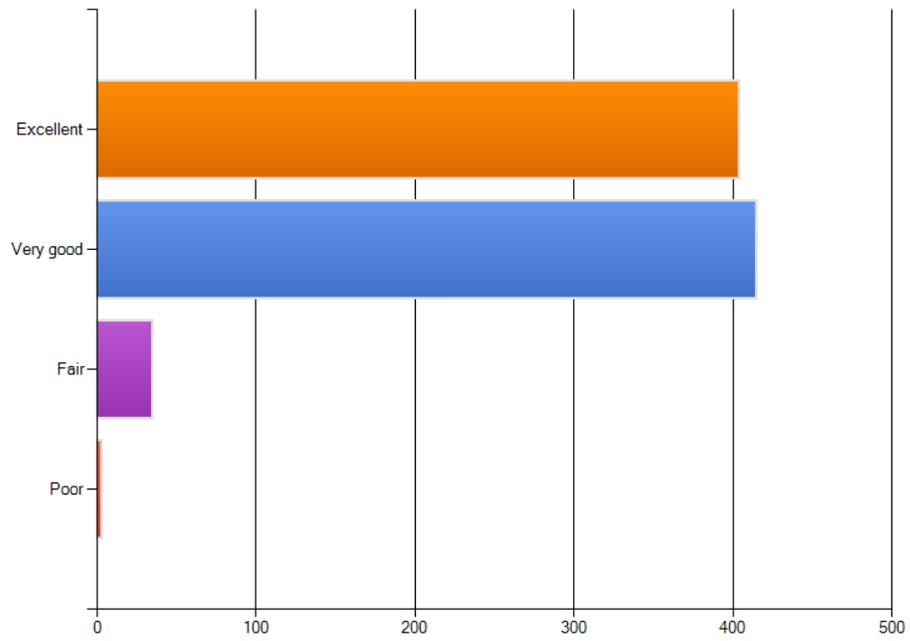
Do you plan to travel to another town this winter for recreational trail opportunities or a winter race/event?



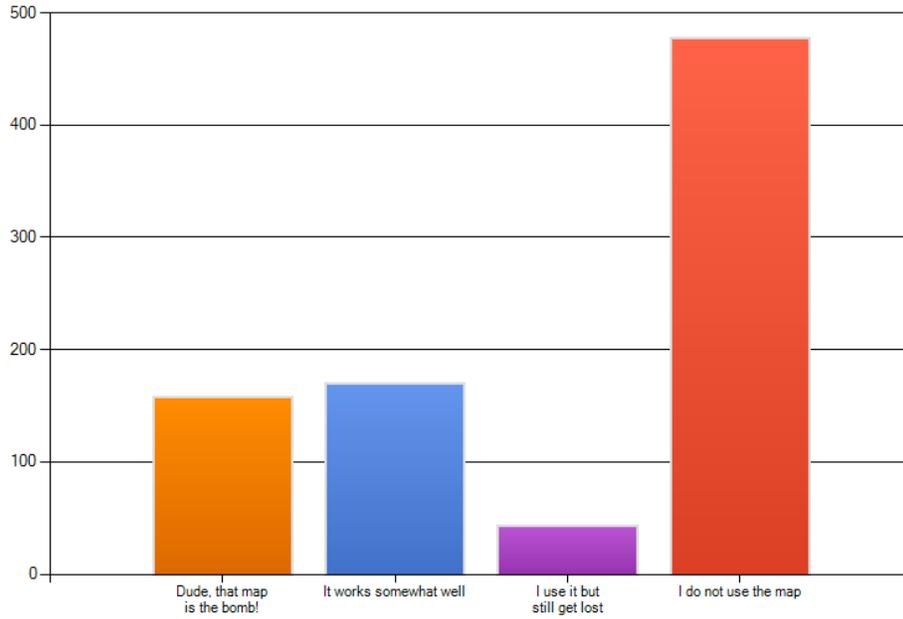
How likely would you be to to participate in a winter race or programmed event in Round Valley?



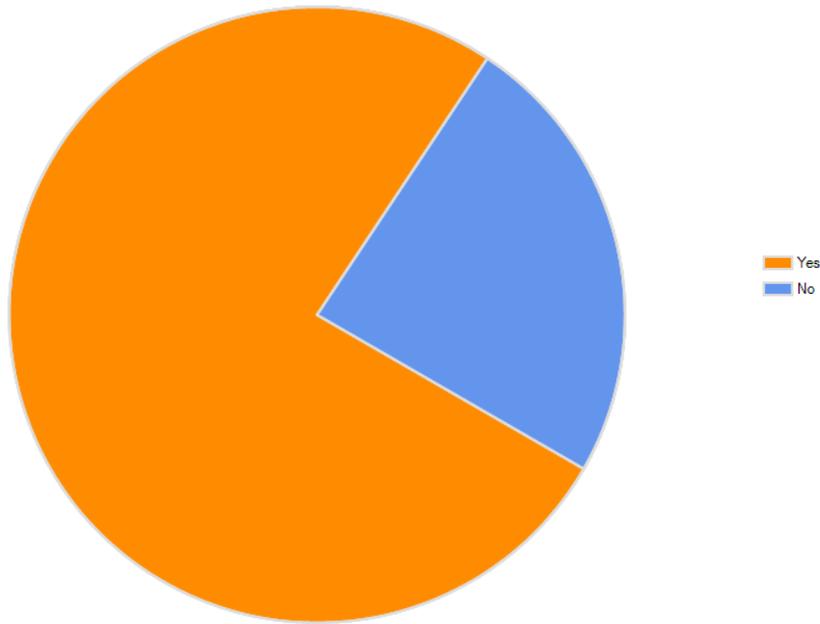
How would you rate the conditions of the winter trail system?



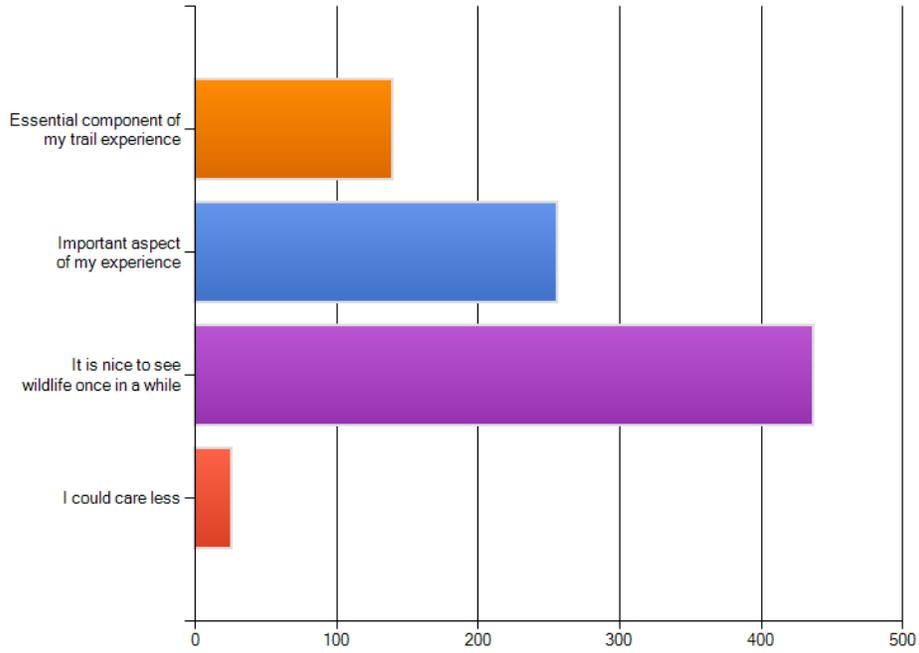
Do you use the current Mountain Trails Foundation winter map and if so how do you rate it?



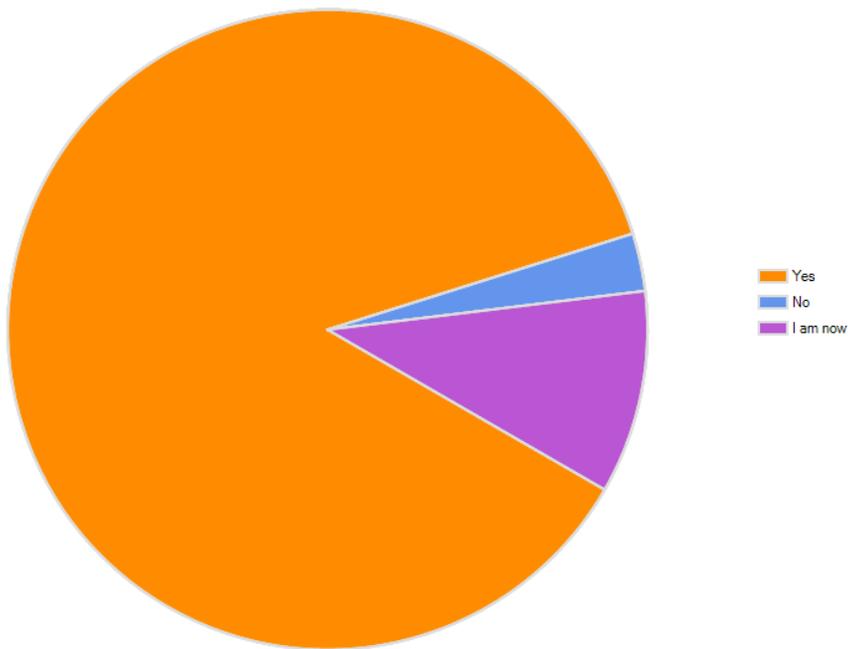
Do you consider Round Valley a place where you can 'get away' or seek solace?



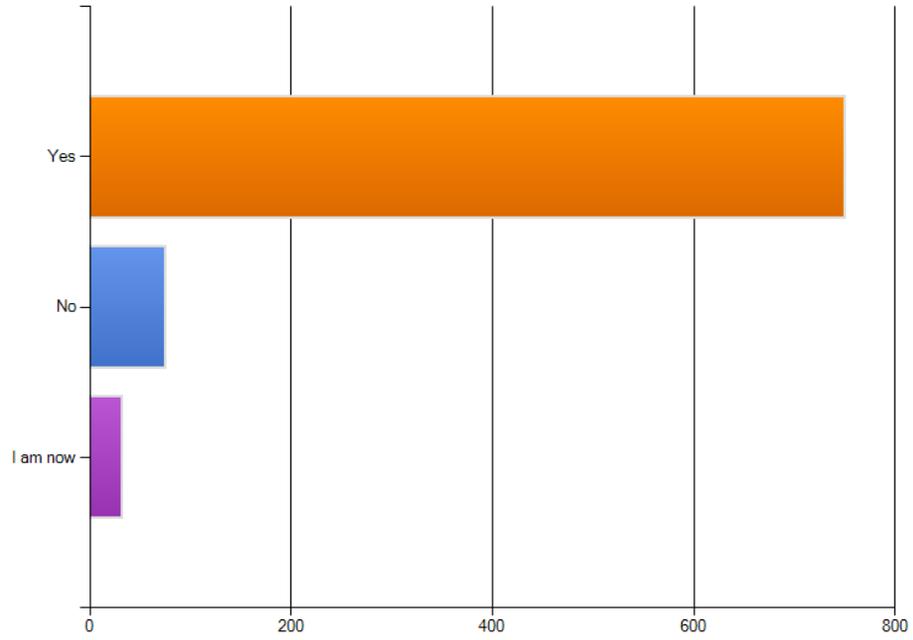
How important is wildlife in your recreational experience?



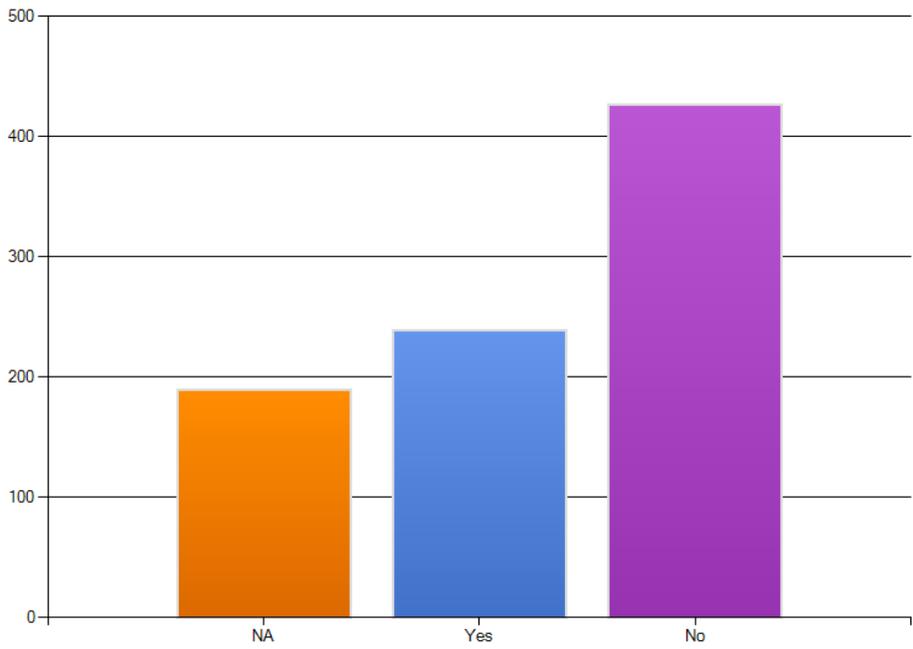
Are you aware that coyotes are active within Park City?



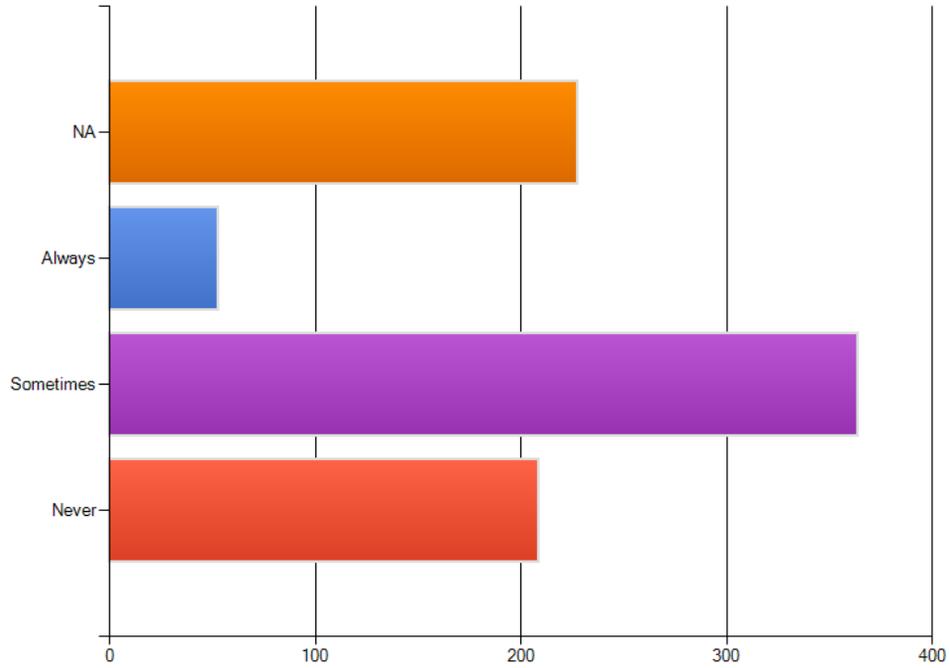
Are you aware of the Summit County leash law?



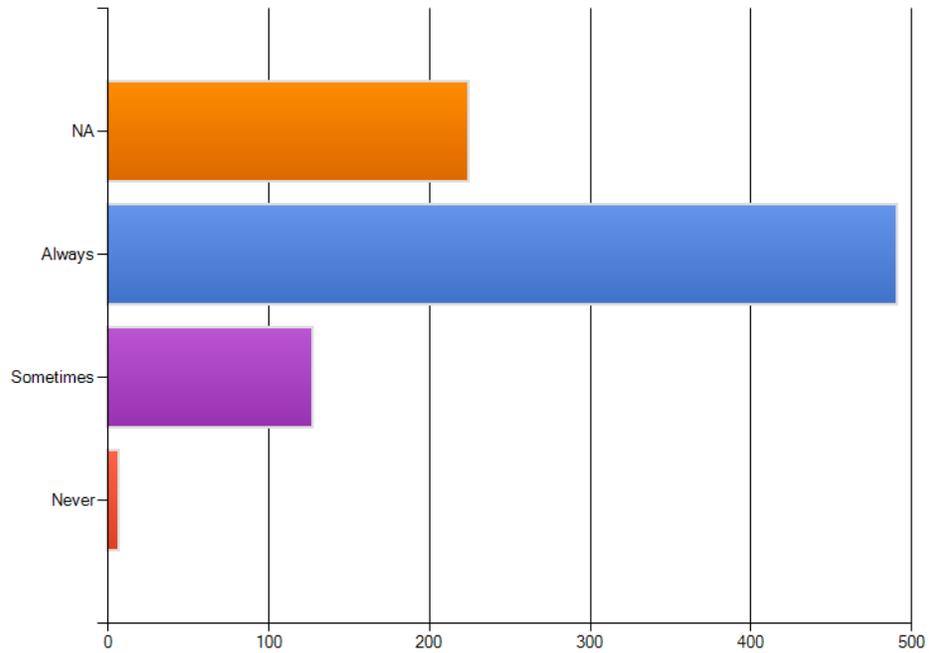
Have you been to the Park City Dog Park with your pet?



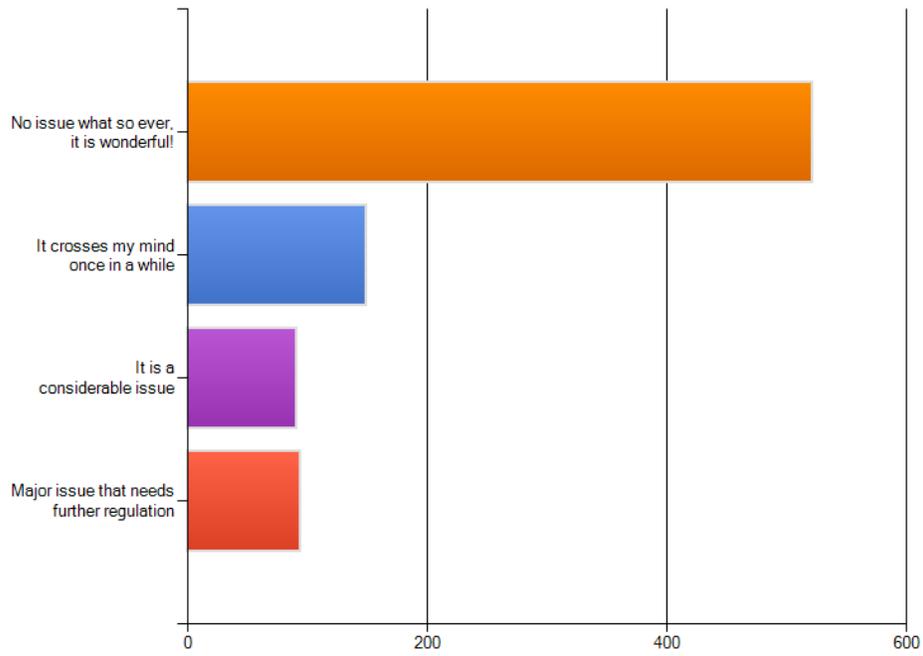
Do you keep your pet leashed while recreating on the winter trail system?



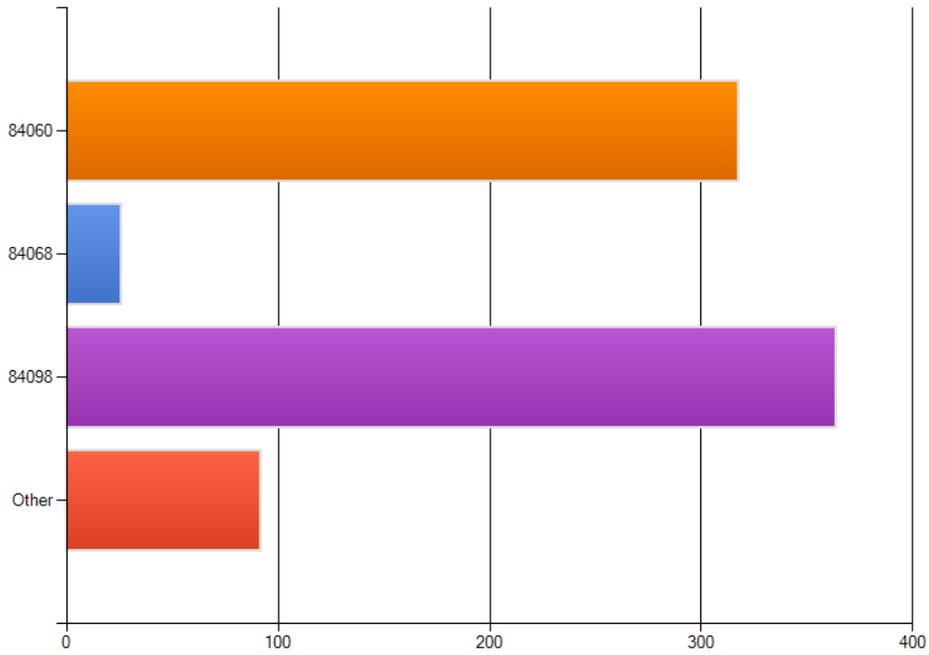
Do you pick up your pet's waste whether it 'lands' on or off the trail?



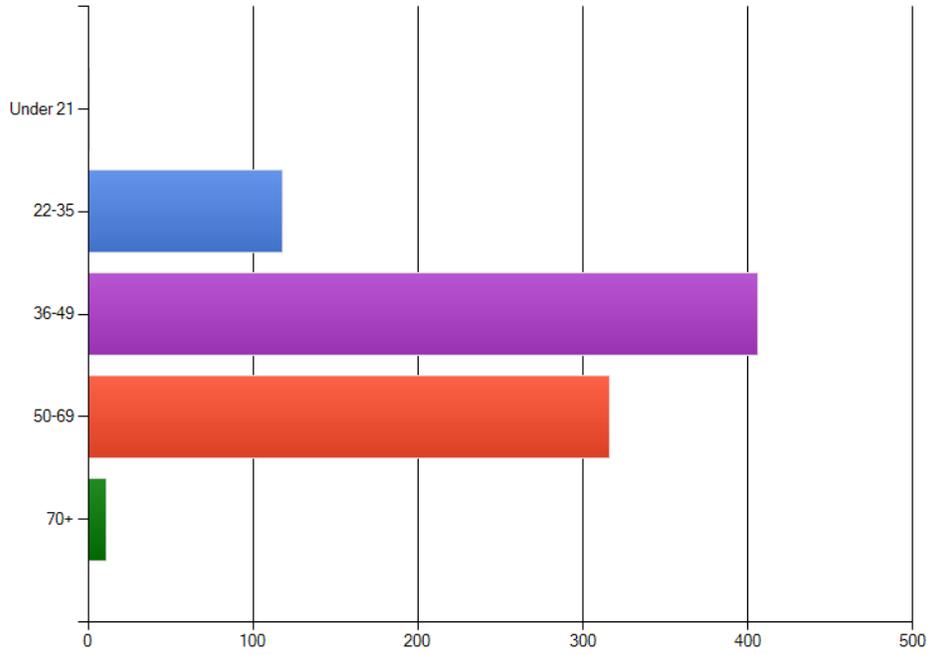
How much of an issue do you consider 'dogs in Round Valley' to be?



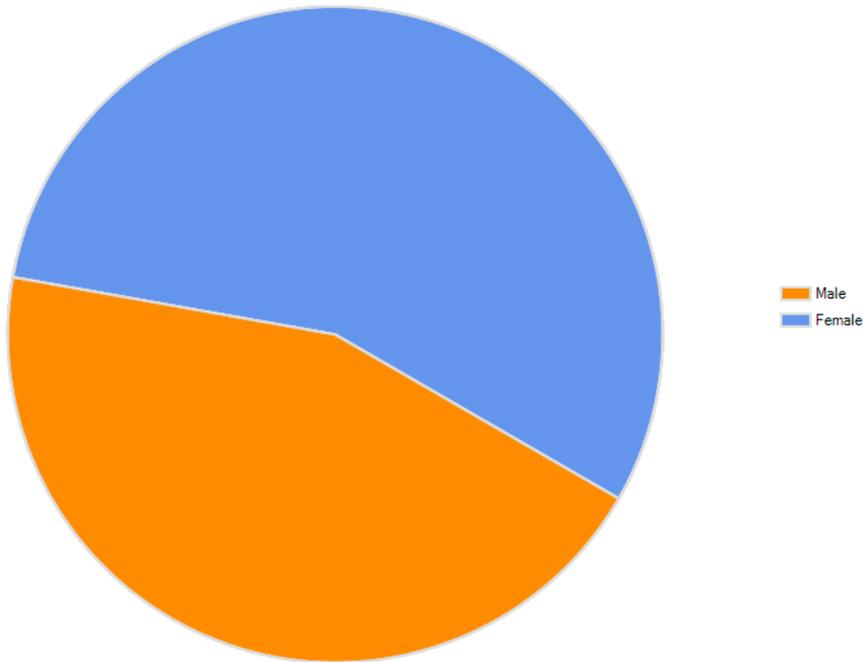
What is your home zip code?



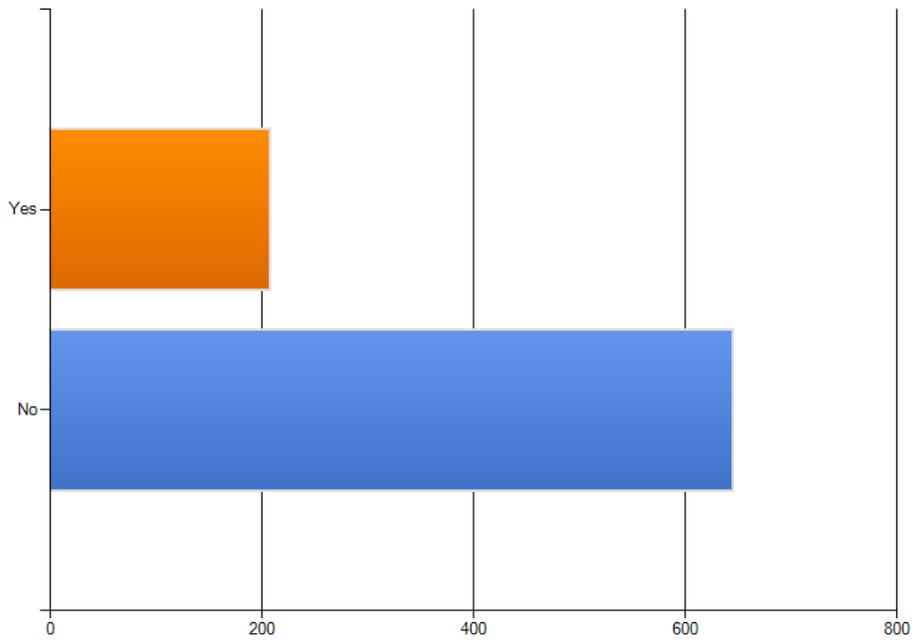
How old are you?



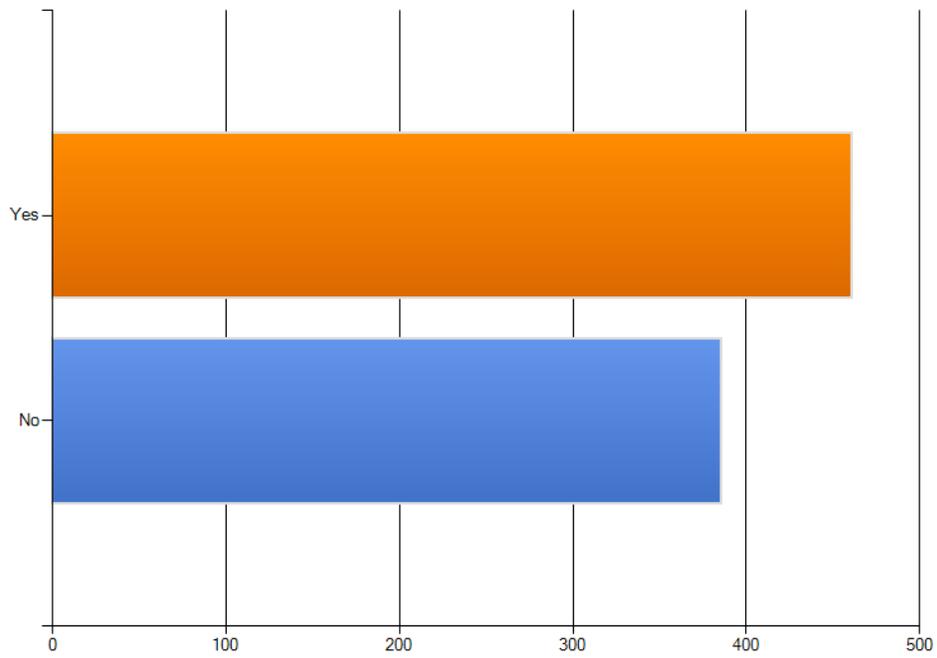
What is your gender?



Are you a current pass holder at White Pine Touring Center?

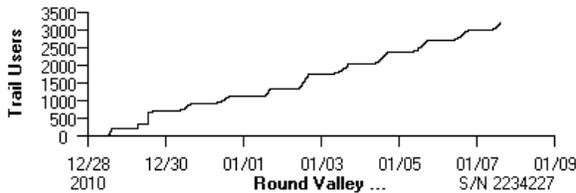


Are you a current member of Mountain Trails Foundation?



2011 Winter Trail and Trailhead Counts

Data is collected when an infrared beam, transmitted between two counters, is broken. The counters are great at understanding user volumes but do not provide any further data, such as types of use, demographics, conditions and user experience. It should be noted that a count is recorded each time the beam is broken, not necessarily just once for each person.



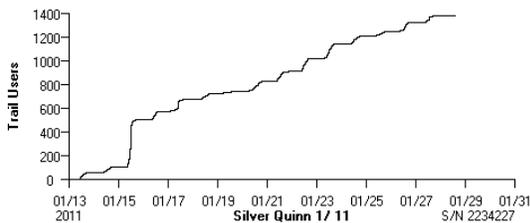
Location: Round Valley Way Trailhead

Dates 12/28/2010-1/7/2011

Days: 11

Total Count: 3150

Average Daily: 286



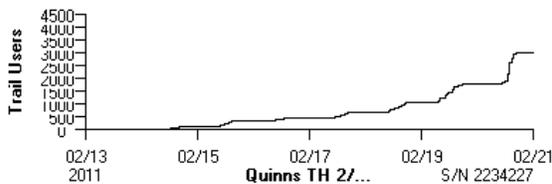
Location: Silver Quinn Trail near Silver Summit area

Dates 1/13-1/28, 2011

Days: 15

Total Count: 1365

Average Daily: 91 (note data error on the 15th)



Location: Quinn's Trailhead

Dates: 2/11 – 2/18, 2011 *Data from 2/18-2/21 is corrupt.

Days: 7

Total Count: 1057

Average Daily: 151