

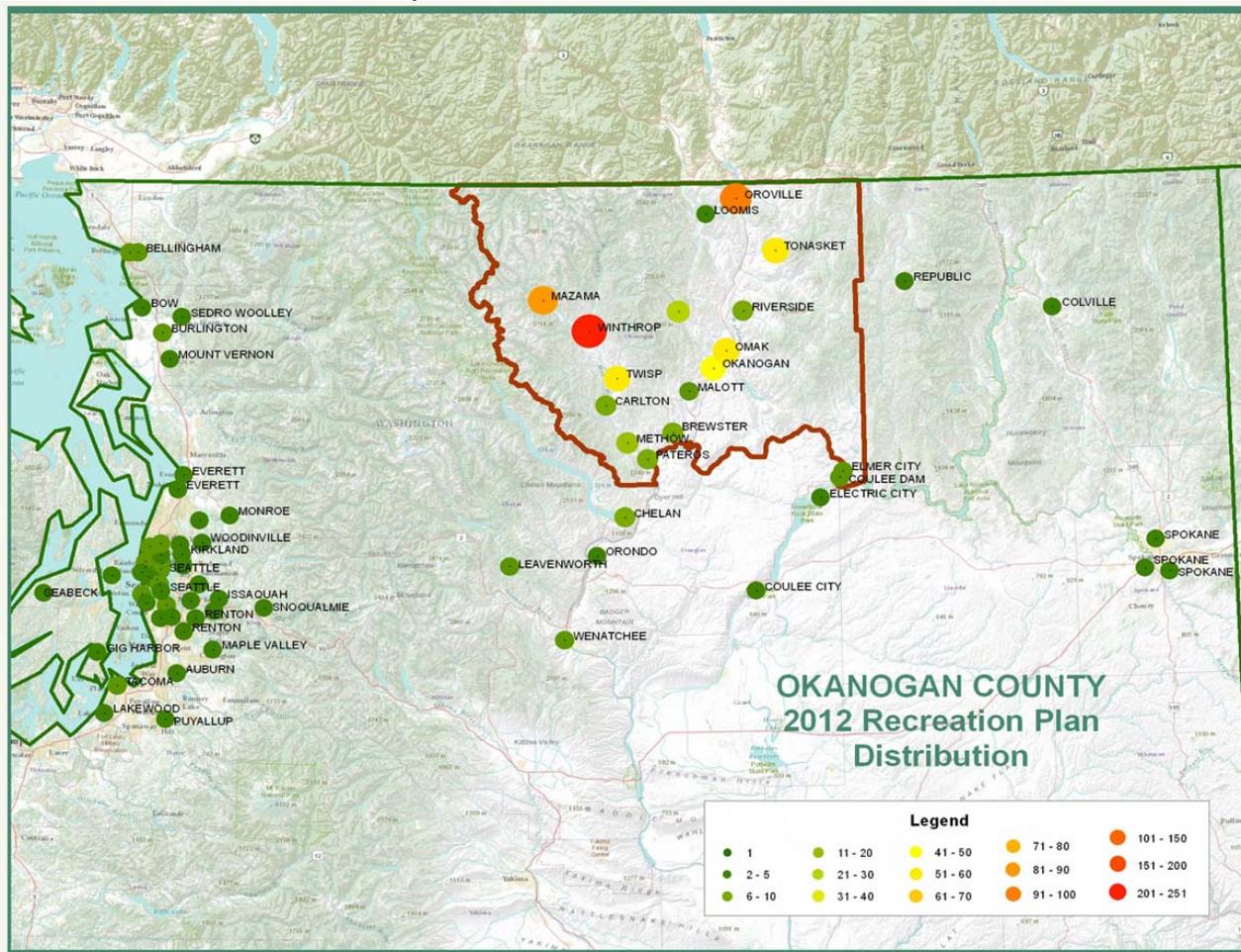
APPENDIX C PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS AND SURVEY RESULTS

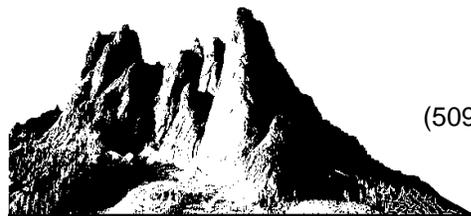
PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public meetings were held in Okanogan, Oroville, Pateros and the Upper Methow, an online public interest survey was conducted from to Dec. 13th 2011 to January 18th, 2012. 829 surveys were submitted with 114 from across the state. News articles were carried in all local news sources, news was also circulated through social media sources.

A summary of survey results were compiled for each geographic area of the county. These results were presented at each public meeting.

Surveys were submitted from across the state.





**OKANOGAN COUNTY
RECREATION PLAN 2012
Information Meeting
January 4, 2012**

An information meeting on the Okanogan County Recreation Plan Update was held in the Council Chambers of the Oroville City Hall at 6:00 PM.

Planning Department Staff present were: Ted Murray, GIS Analyst and Sharon McKenzie, Administrative Secretary.

Attendees of the meeting were: Jeff Deason, Gary DeVon, Chris Branch, Robin Stice, Patrick Stice, George Thornton and Lee Miller.

Ted Murray opened the meeting with a power point presentation explaining the County was required to update the current Recreation Plan in order to continue receiving State and Federal funds for recreational projects. He explained the Recreation Plan is important to the cities and the County for quality of life reasons as well as the economic impact to the communities.

He reviewed the existing facilities in the County which included the Okanogan County Fair Grounds, Se Tee Kah Park in Winthrop, the Similkameen Trail and the Whistler Canyon Trail both of which are in the Oroville area. He noted there were a limited number of County parks in Okanogan County.

Mr. Murray reviewed the results of a survey which was placed on the Okanogan County website. He noted:

- 110 of the approximately 800 responses were from areas outside of Okanogan County
- Oroville and Winthrop had the highest number of responses.
- Most responses came from the age group of 50 – 59.
- The top three interests in the North County were:
 - Hiking/walking trails
 - Pleasure driving
 - Swimming

Mr. Murray noted the results were consistent throughout the County.

He noted the age demographics of the County showed a substantial loss the younger segment and a substantial increase in the older segment.

Mr. Murray discussed Fish and Wildlife's interest in the Recreation Plan stating he is still waiting for their response.

He said the top three types of facilities identified in the survey were:

- Nature and interpretive trails
- Indoor pool
- Hiking/biking trails

Mr. Murray opened the meeting to comments and questions. The responses from the participants were as follows:

- Many residences travel to Osoyoos to use the city's ice rink and swimming pool.
- Oroville would like a community center.
- Need for a trail around Lake Osoyoos.
- Need to incorporate protected areas such as wetlands into trail system.
- Incorporate interpretive system with the trails in critical areas as an educational tool.
- Continue to tie in the Pacific Northwest Trail system to the County trail system.
- More boat access/launches along the Okanogan.
- The Okanogan water trail which was started several years ago should be completed.

Oroville City Planner Chris Branch suggested coordinating the Oroville Recreation Plan and the Okanogan County Recreation Plan so the County was not spending time and money on urban type activities which should be the responsibility of the City. He recommended the County focus on the rural type activities.

Options were discussed regarding the Similkameen Trail completion. Due to the delay of continuing the trail past Enloe Dam for various reasons, one suggestion was to loop the trail back on the other side of the river.

In conclusion, Mr. Murray thanked the audience for their participation and input.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon S. McKenzie
Administrative Secretary

OKANOGAN COUNTY

2012

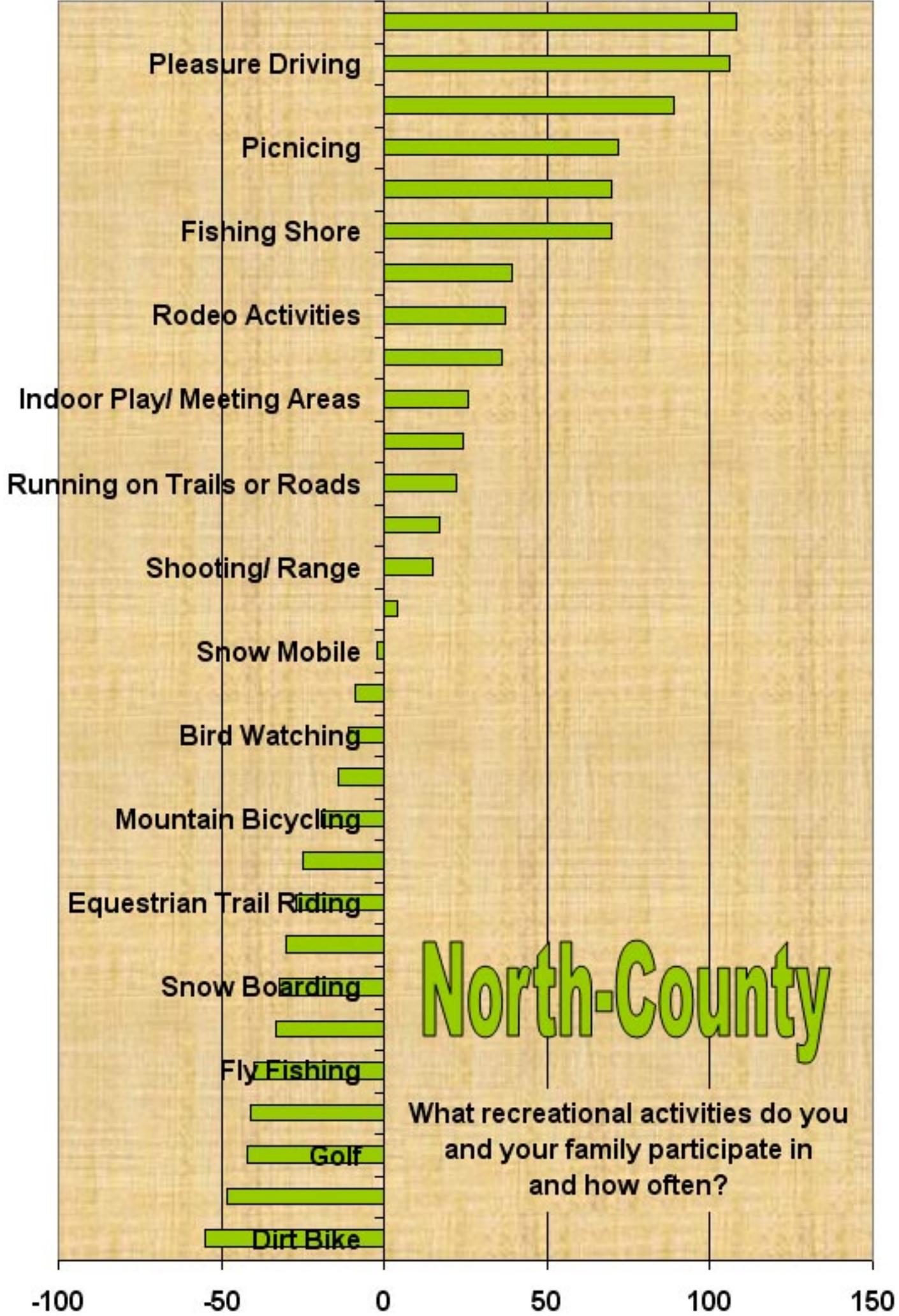
RECREATION

PLAN

Survey Summary

North County





Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

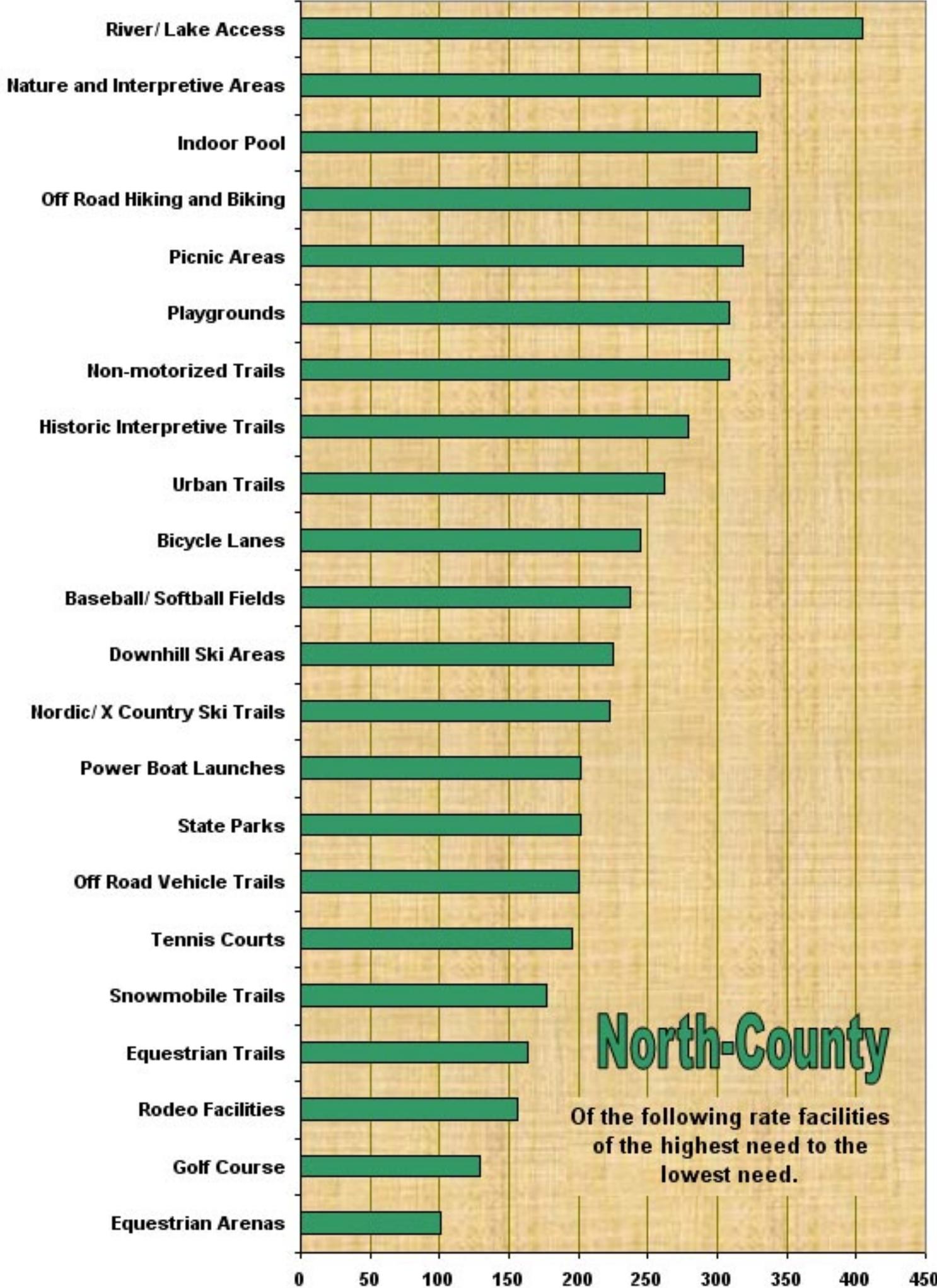
Are there other recreational facilities, not listed in the previous question that you or your family use and how often?

- 1 Local fitness center.
- 2 Washington State Horse Park - Monthly
- 3 NCW Regional Library District -- utilized on a weekly
- 4 Mail order library service
- 5 BLM lands, particularly the Whistler Canyon,
- 6 Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail through BLM lands.
- 7 Also use National Parks.
- 8 Hiking and exploring
- 9 Columbia River - fish pen fishing.
- 10 Rivers to float & fish (Okanogan & Simlikeen)
- 11 Roads & Trails in the Highlands
- 12 A lot of hiking, and swimming....flying(airport)
- 13 Walking the dogs daily to the Chief Tonasket Park, etc.
- 14 SkateeeePark!!!!
- 15 Canadian ski areas
- 16 Palmer Lake- Loomis
- 17 Replublic
- 18 Spokane - Semiannually
- 19 Spokane and very often
- 20 Bonaparte
- 21 Loomis
- 22 Republic, WA
- 23 Private property
- 24 Private Property - Daily

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational activities not listed above that you and/or your family participate in?

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | Photography | Star Watching Astronomy |
| 2 | Motor boating | Soccer Fields |
| 3 | Rock Climbing | Sports |
| 4 | County Fair | Fair's |
| 5 | Motorcycle touring. | SkatePark!! |
| 6 | Gold Prospecting | Geocaching Waterskiing |
| 7 | Boating (water tubing) | Wells Dam rest stop |
| 8 | Rock climbing - indoor and outdoor | |
| 9 | Using the Canada and Colville national borders as educational field trips | |
| 10 | ICE SKATING, RAFTING, TENNIS | |
| 11 | Annual celebrations/parades. | |
| 12 | Hiking- Monthly as weather permits | |
| 13 | Walk weekly during good weather at a variety of places. | |
| 14 | Mountaineering, generally on Federal lands, NP or NF | |
| 15 | Hunt daily during season | |
| 16 | firewood gathering | |
| 17 | We walk our dog on county roads and Oroville City parks. | |
| 18 | Volunteer work | |
| 19 | ATV weekly spring, summer and fall. | |
| 20 | Camping | camping...do it couple times a year... |
| 21 | Camping | Camping - Back country Camping. |
| 22 | camping | Camp @ Conconully 3-4 time yearly |
| 23 | camping? | camping semianunually |
| 24 | camping | |
| 25 | Camp @ various places during spring, summer and fall. | |
| 26 | Study The Constitution | |
| 27 | playvideo games nd watch tv movies nd fight fist fight | |



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Other facilities not listed above.

- 1 Community center.... meetings, wedding, events, basketball
- 2 Community Recreational Center with Indoor Pool
- 3 Community Center w basketball courts AAU and community members
- 4 Community Center is VERY needed
- 5 indoor sports complex-i.e.-basketball gym/ymca type facility
- 6 Outdoor pool
- 7 An outdoor pool would be better than no pool at all.
- 8 A regional water park
- 9 Access to okanogan/similkween river for recreation uses ie rafting, prospecting, hiking
- 10 Library with computer & Internet access, I would rate a 5.
- 11 Rock climbing access is growing in popularity in the Okanogan.
- 12 ATV trails = 5 Off Road vehicle - I think like Jeep = 1
- 13 Roadside picnic areas, both highway, county road and urban
- 14 snow-sleding area for kids in winter...open to public
- 15 Ice Rink near Omak or Okanogan
- 16 Increased hunting opportunities (5)
- 17 Camping campgrounds
- 18 camping.
- 19 Shooting Range, Shooting range(s).
- 20 Soccer Field
- 21 Bowling, cinema (movies) arcades
- 22 Public Restrooms

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Senior Activities - What recreation activities are most important for this age group?

1	Bird Watching	3	Photography	2
2				
3	Walking	10	Hiking	21
4	Walking trails	11	Running	1
5	Easy trails, access, safe, no traffic, surface			
6	paved walks around a lake			
7				
8	Bicycling	6	Bike Trails	3
9	designated road bike lanes.			
10				
11	Horseback riding	3	Trail riding	3
12				
13	Hunting	6	Fishing	7
14	Boating	2	Picnicing	4
15	Camping	3	RV Camping	
16	Accessible Ruver and lake areas			
17	lake access			
18	Good boat launching facilities with good docks			
19				
20	Skiing	3	x-country skiing	6
21	Snowshoeing	1	Snowmobiles	2
22				
23	ATV's	2	Scooters	
24				
25	Music Fests		Rodeo	2
26	Farmer's markets			
27				
28	Swimming	5	Tennis courts	
29	Golf		Yoga exercises	
30	SKATEPARK!			
31				
32	State Parks		Parks	
33				
34	theater(movies)			

35 Community Recreational Center with Indoor Pool 7
36 gathering places like senior centers
37 exercise places for health
38 Indoor fitness for winter
39 Indoor Mental Social activities
40
41 Assisted Living & age restricted housing.
42 Assisted Living facilities. Age restricted housing.
43
44 Viewpoints historical interpretive trails,
45 scenic activities historic areas interpretive centers...
46 Excursions enjoying the mountains
47 a peace full aria
48
49 Things that will keep the body moving and off the couch.
50 socializing in the outdoors during summer,, night skies observation.
51 driving hanging out with friends spending time with family
52
53 Actually accessible trails are great, but to spend more money on them at this
54 time, well?
55
56 Social activities with opportunities for leadership roles and volunteer
57 participation; free/low-cost classes reflecting interests of the current residents
58 (travel, crafts, woodworking, fishing trips, Farkle, Bingo, fishing, etc.)
59
60 Motorized access to non-motorized areas, otherwise we can't go there
61 anymore to age and infirmities. We like to visit these areas, but are
62 physically unable to walk those distances anymore.

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Additional comments

- 1 This county desperately needs an increase in road bike awareness programs for motorists.
- 2 I am a runner and have a daughter who goes with me in a stroller. There is only one road that I feel safe running on here and really wish we had a trail to run and bike on.
- 3 Bike lanes
- 4
- 5 Hiking trails
- 6 Trail heads need to be well known, very visible and well advertised.
- 7 more connector trails would be advantageous
- 8 We need more hiking trails....many, many more hiking trails free of motorized equipment.
- 9
- 10 playgrounds for kids to play
- 11 picnic areas Very important
- 12
- 13 An ATV course somewhere? (Maybe the Tribe should consider the Pine patch on Hwy97 area.)
- 14 The Ice Rink in Winthrop was a great idea.
- 15 Our community is in great need of a facility .
- 16
- 17 A new golf course?
- 18 If you even put in the golf course we had...that would be a start.
- 19 What happened to the paintball facilities and craze?
- 20
- 21 year round swimming pool
- 22 An indoor pool would be very productive
- 23 An indoor year-round pool is my biggest desire, near to Tonasket.
- 24 But, we NEED a pool. Covered and heated..for everyone.
- 25
- 26 Need more RV Camping
- 27 no fee`s would be great. this county is poor.
- 28 Do not increase cost of our camp grounds.
- 29 More access, less restrictions
- 30
- 31 Publish outdoor recreation guide for urban, rural users
- 32
- 33 The County could encourage more private recreational businesses. Maybe Econ-Alliance could help?
- 34

35

Private property is a huge area the County could expand responsible services and help permitting issues to bring in more business (& taxes).

36

37

Campers, trailer etc. have to have license, please start having bicyclists license the bikes.

38

39

LOTS OF GREAT TALENT IN OROVILLE DESPERATE NEED OF SKATEPARK!

40

41

Most of my recreation activities are done outside of Okanogan County.

42

43

Love the area and the recreation it provides that are same from motorized vehicles- ie horse, walking, nordic, etc

44

45

Instead of the county building and maintaining trails, maybe the county could help to improve the trails already on public lands.

46

47

I appreciate the Similkameen Trail in north Okanogan County very much.

48

49

we need to do something for the kids of tonasket wa there is nothing for them to do but get pregnant and do drugs

50

51

The Shooting Range could use better plumbing, heating, and electrical systems. And maybe even some outdoor seating too for the Trap meets and such.

52

53

we have alot to do in this area and it shouldn't be taken away from us or generations to come...would like my grandkids to be able to enjoy the same places that i and their parents have enjoyed!!!

54

55

Outdoor recreation promotes good health which in turn improves quality of life with lower medical health care costs. Focus on non-motorized recreation in setting priorities.

OKANOGAN COUNTY

2012

RECREATION

PLAN

Survey Summary

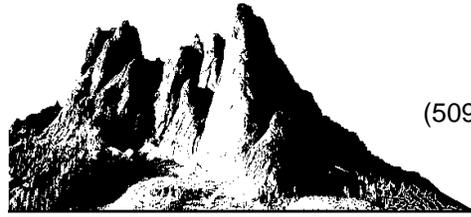
Upper Methow



Okanogon County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational facilities, not listed in the previous question that you or your family use and how often?

Number	Response Text	Response Text
1	MVSTA trails	34 USFS trails
2	Mazama Trails	18 Fish and Game, BLM
3	Sno parks	4 private facilities
4		Other States
5	Loup Loup ski area	Private land
6	Privately owned gym weekly	Town facilities
7		
8	North Cascades National Park	Methow Valley School District -
9	North cascades - monthly	facilities semi-annually
10	North Cascades Park- weekly	
11	The North Cascade highway Corridor	
12	North Cascades , crest trail, Passatin wilderness	
13	Wilderness areas nearby Twisp/Winthrop	
14		
15	Okanogon County Fairgrounds- Camping and Fair related activities.	
16		
17	Winthrop town ice rink/soccer field.	
18		
19	Rufus Woods and other parts of Columbia River system.	
20	River & lake usage in the Methow valley	
21		
22	Chewuch roads both east and west.	
23	County and forest service roads in the summer for cycling	
24	Mtn bike trails, hiking, Paterson Lake for swimming	
25		
26	We hike all over.	
27	Trailhead for Gardner	
28	Mazama Rendezvous	
29	Rendezvous Hut access is important.	
30	Shopping for cloths, food and materials.	
31	Loup Loup South Summit ski trails- weekly	
32	Winter access beyond Early Winters is important.	
33	Winter ski trails. Frequently when weather permits.	
34	Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and other wilderness areas annually.	
35	Snoqualmie Pass, Stampede Pass, Cabin Creek--weekly in winter.	
36	We also recreate in Mazama and in the Methow Ranger District.	
37	W Chewuch, Cutthroat Lake, Thompsom Ridge, Twisp River Drainage	
38		
39		



**OKANOGAN COUNTY
RECREATION PLAN 2012
Information Meeting
January 5, 2012**

An information meeting on the Okanogan County Recreation Plan Update was held at Liberty Bell High School, Winthrop in the Multi-Purpose Room at 5:00 PM.

Planning Department Staff present were: Ted Murray, GIS Analyst and Sharon McKenzie, Administrative Secretary.

Attendees of the meeting were: Danica Ready Kaufman, Dianne Thurlow, Bernard Thurlow, Kristen Smith, Ardis Gynum, Lloyd Ramsberg, Ina Ramsberg, Heide Andersen, Mike Pruett, John Sunderland, Jim Greg, Booke Bourn, Ken Bevis, Bob Monetta, and David Acheson.

Ted Murray opened the meeting with a power point presentation explaining the County was required to update the current Recreation Plan in order to continue receiving State and Federal funds for recreational projects. He explained the Recreation Plan is important to the cities and the County for quality of life reasons as well as the economic impact to the communities.

He reviewed the existing facilities in the County which included the Okanogan County Fair Grounds, Se Tee Kah Park in Winthrop, the Similkameen Trail and the Whistler Canyon Trail both of which are in the Oroville area. He noted there were a limited number of County parks in Okanogan County.

Mr. Murray reviewed the results of a survey which was placed on the Okanogan County website. He noted:

- 110 of the approximately 800 responses were from areas outside of Okanogan County
- Oroville and Winthrop had the highest number of responses.
- Most responses came from the age group of 50 – 59.
- The top three interests in the Upper Methow were:
 - Hiking/walking trails
 - Nordic skiing
 - Cycling

Mr. Murray noted the results were consistent throughout the County.

He noted the age demographics of the County showed a substantial loss the younger segment and a substantial increase in the older segment.

Mr. Murray discussed Fish and Wildlife's interest in the Recreation Plan stating he is still waiting for a response.

Mr. Murray opened the meeting to comments and questions. The responses were as follows:

- Establishing a process to get things funded.
- Balancing the maintenance of existing facilities vs. additional facilities.
- Establishing bike lanes.
- Purpose built, more challenging mountain bike trails.
- Proposal to:
 - Take inventory of what is there now.
 - Types of uses.
 - Conditions of facilities.
 - Action steps.
 - What is proposed for the future?
- Develop a Master Plan for the area.
- Get committees working together to share ideas.
- Much of recreation is tied to public lands which is the foundation. Assess the opportunities and the political will will follow. This includes bring in plan from user groups. Process will change attitudes.
- Need overarching plan for the County

Addressing the question of what is missing from Plan:

- County wide trail plan.
- Coordinate each drainage in a master plan.
- Accommodate pedestrian/biking/walking projects.
- Community connectors with year round access.
- Provide inventory information on one system.
- County needs to be advocate recreation being and economic generator.
- Educate the public that recreation creates business.
- Tie Transportation Plan in with Recreation Plan.
- Get Public Works to identify areas where shoulders are needed.
- Address cost of maintenance.
- Pull together plans from user groups.

In conclusion the key items:

- ❖ Inventory what is available such as accesses, danger points for bicycling, etc.
- ❖ Find user groups to survey various activities and get information back to appropriate agency.
- ❖ Create a master plan
- ❖ In the recreation plan, provide support for recreation and what it bring to the economy
- ❖ Create plan for easy/moderate trail systems and provide opportunities to get people out of their cars.

It was noted to scale down on the priorities and provide a better capitol facilities plan. This would provide a better opportunity for grant monies.

Mr. Murray said he would like to have any additional input by the end of this month. He said he would include outsider's opinions since this group has a significant economic impact.

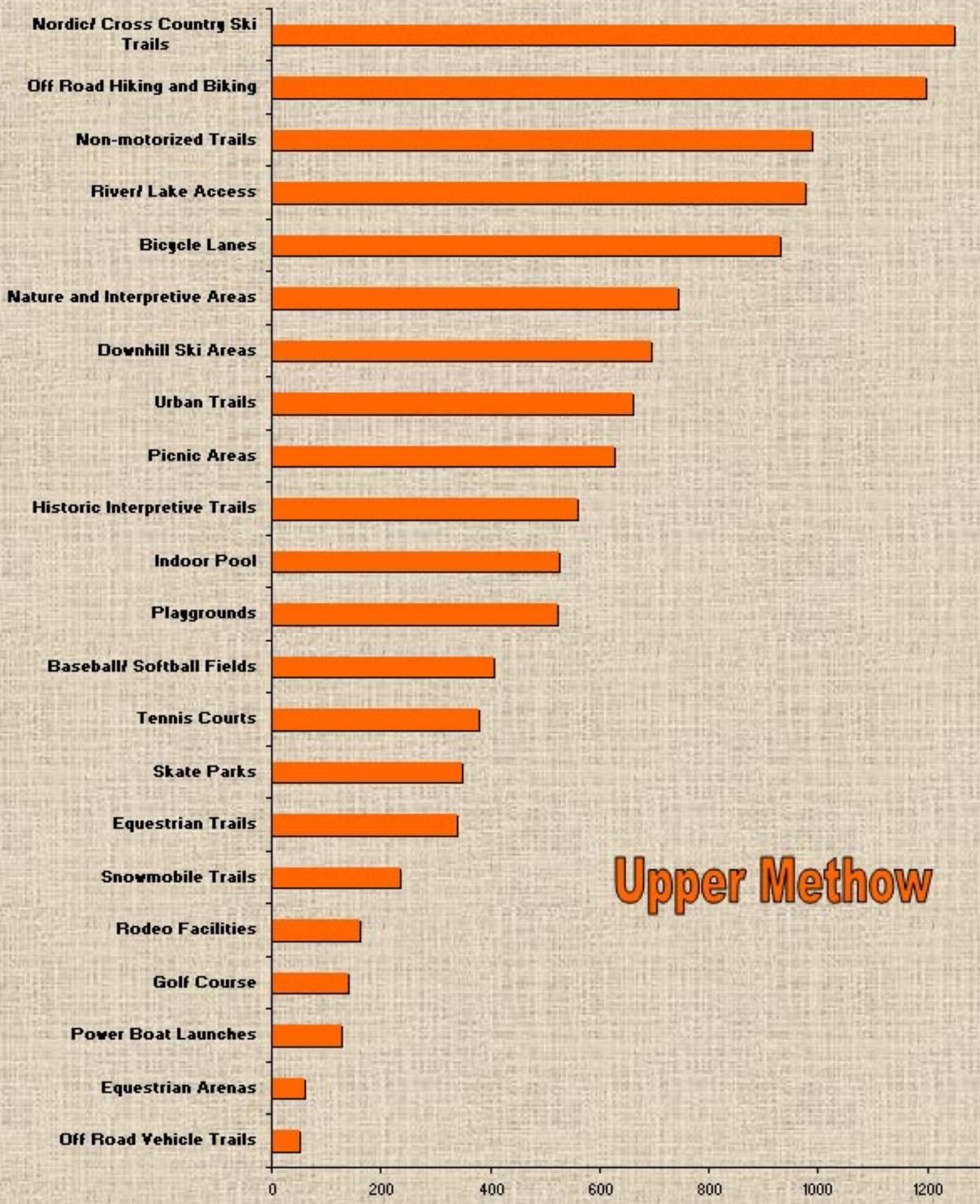
In conclusion, Mr. Murray thanked the audience for their participation and input.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon S. McKenzie
Administrative Secretary

40 My family and I use the Mazama-Winthrop MVSTA trails over 100 times per
41 year. We hike, backpack, snowmobile, fish and kayak in Okanogan National
42
43 winter: MVSTA ski trail, most days; rest of year use trail system for Mt. biking,
44 hiking, jogging, ski training
45
46 Yes, The Winthrop Ice Rink! Recently featured in Sunset Magazine as one of
47 the Top 10 Ice Rinks in the western United States!
48
49 not completely sure which facilities belong to which governing body eg. state,
50 federal, etc.

Of the following rate facilities of the highest need to the lowest need.



Upper Methow

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational activities not listed above that you and/or your family participate in?

Number	Response Text	Response Text	
1	Soccer	4	12
2	Tennis	3	3
3	Petanque		4
4			
5	Gardening	2	
6	Photography	2	2
7	Dog walking	2	
8	Christmas Tree harvest		7
9	Wood cutting		
10	Wildlife viewing		2
11	Mushroom picking		
12	Geocaching	2	
13	astronomy, night sky viewing		
14			3
15	Triathlon / duathlon XC running.		
16	Gym/fitness center.		3
17	High School Athletic events		2
18			
19	Hot air ballooning		
20	4WD - Off road trail driving		
21			2
22	Park		
23			6
24			6
25			
26	tennis and ice skating seasonally (broomball and figure skating)		
27	Ice Skating at the Winthrop Rink 3 to 4 times a week		
28	Our household is out nearly everyday, in all types of weather!		
29	Kids sports activities at schools and playgrounds (hockey, roller skating, football, basketball, t-ball, etc.		
30			
31	Backcountry travel (backpacking) in the Pasayten, North Cascades, or Sawtooth/Chelan areas.		
32	Backcountry skiing/ winter months / weekly		
33	backcountry skiing off hwy 20 in spring		
34	backcountry skiing - snowmobile up Hwy 20 or on FS roads, then skin up and ski down. Two or more times a week during the winter.		
35	Backcountry skiing on federal land		
36	occasional backcountry skiing--2 to 3 times per Winter		

- 37 Backcountry skiing- weekly
- 38 Camping in the wilderness!
- 39 Taking the dogs swimming (they swim - not us),
- 40 Flying model airplanes and helicopters,
- 41 Trail maintenance as a "recreational/community" event.
- 42 Races/events and organized outdoor events such as music festivals, get-to-know-your-neighbor events.

-200 -100 0 100 200 300 400

What recreational activities do you and your family participate in and how often?

Upper Methow



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Other facilities not listed above.

Number	Response Text	Response Text
1	Soccer fields	5 Frisbee golf
2	Ice Rink	4 Multisport fields
3	Campgrounds	2 Paragliding facilities
4	Fair grounds	2 Basketball and gymnastics
5	Indoor Pool	1 Docks, Marinas
6	open space	Petanque or Bocci ball courts
7		
8	River trail	Flyfishing lakes and access
9	Twisp - Winthrop Trail	Wilderness equine access.
10	Multi use facility needs the county support.	Connected mountain bike trails
11	Nonmotorized boat launch	free parking for facilities
12		
29	Snoparks for snowmobiling and back country skiing.	
30	Trailhead services - outhouse facilities, communication boards at trailheads.	
31	Mountain bike trails that are one way, i.e., not out and back.	
32		
33	The less development the better, the more special the area will remain.	
34	Day lodge facilities for winter skiing.-warming huts and rr facilities at trail heads	
35	Backcountry access for climbing, also roadside access for sportclimbing. .	
36	An off-leash dog park for small dogs in town - especially good for seniors.	
37	Training center for people to work with search & rescue dogs, for the police to train dogs,	
38	for pet therapy for seniors (radical - I know!	

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Senior Activities - Census data shows a dramatic increase in residents over 50. What recreation activities are most important for this age group?

Number	Response Text	Count	Response Text	Count
1	Walking	27	X country Skiing or Nordic	63
2	Hiking	83	Skiing	16
3			Alpine or downhill skiing	9
4	Bicycle	35	Snow shoeing	9
5	Road cycling	13	Backcountry Skiing	2
6	Mtn cycling	13		
7				
8	Indoor Pool	17	Horseback riding & trails	10
9	Swimming	16	horsepacking.	1
10	outdoor pools	1		
11				
12	Boating	2	Bird watching	7
13	Rafting, Kayaking, canoeing	9	Wildflower walks	2
14	Sailing	2	Photography	2
15	Water access	3	Painting - Outdoor art	2
16	Fishing	11	Peeing	1
17	Fly fishing	1		
18				
19	Camping	4	Snomobiling	9
20	Picnicing	3	ATV riding	8
21	RV facilities	1		
22				
23	Running & trail running	5	Tennis -courts	5
24	Cross country ski trails	2	Climbing	3
25	Non motorized trails	6	Hockey	1
26	Walking trails	5	Golf	8
27	Urban trails	6		
28	Nature trails - walks	6		
29	Hiking trails	7		
30				
31	THE PERFECT TRAIL?			
32	interpretive trails, biking trails			
33	Access for the moble challenged.			
34	Paved, short distance hiking trails.			
35	Safe year round urban walking trails			
36	Hiking trails and access to hiking trails			
37	Outdoor access to easy-to-moderate trails			
38	hiking trails maintained, easy access to trails			
39	Hiking and local walking trails Nature walking trails			
40	hiking trails that are not steep and easily accessible			
41	Easy access to public waterways, with picnic tables			

- 42 Easy to moderate trails in scenic, historic, interesting settings
- 43 Accessible outdoor activities, easier hiking trails, nature paths.
- 44 well maintained, even trails with benches. bird watching areas
- 45 Safe places to walk, etc. (non-motorized trails in easily accessed areas)
- 46 better connectivity and walkable paths in towns so not dependent on car.
- 47 easy hiking trails away from mechanized noise and smells such as 2 cycle exhaust.
- 48 low gradient trail loops with benches and scenic views - hopefully not far from towns.
- 49 Walking paths in and around the town ie. to the post office and grocery store. Senior center
- 50 Accessible walking/hiking/biking trails with parking. Trail systems get people out of their cars!
- 51
- 52 cycling on safe roads
- 53 Safe road bicycling conditions
- 54 Safe areas to ride a bicycle (low joint impact outdoor activities).
- 55
- 56 need atv trail system out of the Methow valley
- 57
- 58 free access to public lands
- 59 access to public land, non-motorized activities
- 60
- 61 Parks. senior events
- 62 Local plays strength training
- 63 lectures/talks continued education
- 64 rodeo viewing riding in an automobile
- 65 Social activities, plays . movies . good restaurants
- 66 Hand Drumming Areas keep active and flexible indoor yoga
- 67 classes and intellectual events exercise
- 68 lawn darts Trail maintenance to wilderness areas.
- 69
- 70
- 71 all levels from really basic to same as those of younger ages
- 72
- 73 The same as anyone 20+ Age doesn't limit recreation till at least 80.
- 74
- 75 Convenient access to community events in parks, outdoor theater/music events.
- 76
- 77 Safe, level, low impact activities to help with strength, mobility, and to fight depression
- 78
- 79 Physical therapy/fitness center for indoor exercise and strengthening for lifetime health.
- 80
- 81 Less extreme biking paths! Workout facility yoga studio, bike lanes, side walks for walking.
- 82
- 83 Whatever they enjoy. Many snowmobilers and equestrians are seniors in their 60's and 70's
- 84
- 85 Indoor Programs for Falls Prevention, ie: SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life) Program
- 86 currently going on in Twisp, Wa.
- 87
- 88 I'm over 50, and use the same facilities as those under 50. In fact, I'd argue that I'm in much

89 better shape than many of the kids I see. No need for any special treatment due to age.
90
91 This is pretty hard to categorize since people over 50 have various degrees of health and
92 fitness. I think anything goes.
93
94
95 Doctors recommend non-weight bearing exercise for people over 50. Bicycling has been
96 increasing in popularity for this reason. Swimming is also an excellent form of exercise for this
97 population.
98
99 Whatever gets them involved in moving/ doing things outdoors: X/skiing/photography, bird
100 watching/ river running, cycling, etc.
101
102 If you build your plan around an aging population, you will isolate the next generation of wealth
103 and this generation will locate somewhere else. The long term vision MUST be focused on
104 the ideals of the 30-40yr age group.
105
106 Nordic Skiing, something that allows us old folks to still get out and enjoy the beautiful
107 outdoors. Also, bike lanes where we can bike without being run over by cars and ATVs!
108
109 Active senior center with classes in Feldenkreis movement, pilates, yoga, swimming (seasonal
110 or if an indoor pool is available), dancing as well as social activities including a book club, card
111 games, photography club etc.
112
113
114 Equestrian trails well maintained hiking trails safe and well maintained, winter activities at
115 the senior centers
116
117 Safe bicycling and walking areas into and near towns. Range of safe bicycling, xc
118 skiing/snowshoeing opportunities, drive/hike combinations in scenic areas,
119
120 Being able to get up in the hills without all of the roads closed to vehicles. Seniors deserve to
121 see the historic mining areas and nature without green dot and roads closed.

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Additional comments

Number	Response Text
1	Free access to state parks
2	More snowmobile trails are needed.
3	Need river walk in town of Winthrop.
4	Improved river access for float fishing
5	More trails! And good access for dogs.
6	Better boat ramp in Winthrop at Red barn
7	Our greatest need of all is an INDOOR POOL
8	Would like a year-round heated swimming pool
9	We are happy to have these resources available
10	Trails need to be advertized and more signage added.
11	non motorized activity -- goodmotorized activity -- bad
12	The future of Okanogan Cnty rests w/recreation, period.
13	Loose the Discovery Card! Cut down on number of signs.
14	any outdoor activity is more important than indoor facilities
15	Public boat ramp on Methow River between Winthrop/Twisp,
16	Backcountry Ski - Alpine access is critically important to us.
17	driver education needed to make cycling on highways safer.
18	Free access to undeveloped natural areas is most important!
19	The MVSTA trail system is the crown jewel of the Methow Valley.
20	More Mtn Bike trails in upper Methow Valley/Mazama would be amazing.
21	We live here because we love being active and enjoy our community facilities.
22	I love the Methow Valley and Okanogan County. Best place to live hands down!
23	Recreation with non-motorized activities is most important. Now and in the future.
24	The less development the better, the more unique and sought after the area will become.

- 25 Bus service between Winthrop and Mazama, Sun Mountain, and Wolf Ridge during peak times
- 26 Thanks! Non motorized trail use is most important to us, and good places to relax by the water.
- 27 Because so much of the recreation is seasonal here, I had to answer as if everything was in season.
- 28 Love the Methow, keep up the good work on the trail system, state forest campgrounds facilities etc.
- 29 As a rider in the mountains of the Methow Valley, it is a major interest to keep existing trails open for use.
- 30 Having places of quiet and peace, like lakes where no motorboats are allowed, is very important for birding,
- 31 The MVSTA trail system is an important part of why we live here. We love the quality of the trails year-round.
- 32 It's all about outdoor recreation, scenic beauty, and the arts in the Methow valley. Over development will kill it.
- 33 I would like to see more cooperation between the Federal/State/County with MVSTA in regard to ski trail access.
- 34 Just work on keeping access to the North Cascades viable along with outdoor activities...is that not why we live here?
- 35 North Okanogan is a wonderful natural area and I feel lucky to be able to visit. Thanks for keeping it well preserved and maintained.
- 36 If you have to put a fossil fuel into it and make a lot of noise it is not a recreation and should not be supported, encouraged or funded.
- 37 MVSTA has contributed to our county the most of any organization and I would like to continue to see strong support for their initiatives
- 38 Hwy 20's Early Winters trailhead needs a way to separate out the snowmobiles. A parking area up at Klipchuck would serve that purpose.
- 39 The Forest Service needs to open the roads on the east side of the loop to quads and all other recreational vehicles. The people who pay for them, want to use them!
- 40 For the activities that I marked "Daily" I mean anywhere from 2-5 x per week during the appropriate seasons, of course. Also, I'm not sure just which "recreational facilities" this survey is referring to.
- 41 Keep paved logging roads on National Forests available to road biking by maintaining them.
- 42 Improve road bike safety by upgrading shoulders on state and county roads to accommodate road bikes
- I encourage an emphasis away from motorized recreation. Physical recreation promotes health (all ages) and teaches our children not to rely use machines for toys - to play as children, not operators.

The Methow valley really sucks for ATV riding I must travel to other areas to just go for a ride,
43 I'm not tearing things up like horses, motorcycles and bicycles do. I just would like to take a ride
in the woods

Methow Valley Trail system is the greatest recreational asset in this area, please sustain.
44

It would be great if the county could recognize and work with the energy and enthusiasm
45 mountain bikers have to build/maintain trails, as I know many of them would volunteer their time
to do this. Thank You.

I have grown up in Western Washington and love to visit the Methow Valley as often as I can
46 because it is a beautiful place with great hiking, biking, climbing and skiing opportunities. It also
has great people.

47 An Indoor Pool in the Twisp / Winthrop area would be a huge gain, accessed year round for
both fitness and therapy by many. It is much needed to round out the recreational offerings of
this beautiful outdoor mecca.

48 The following very important NON-MOTORIZED activities can often share the same trail
system so should receive extra priority due to the overlapping use (Nordic ski trails, running
trails, hiking trails, mountain biking trails)

49 Stop closing historic and old roads to vehicles. Not requesting maintenance of these but rather
stop closing them and destroying them for any reason. Lakes and mines that had roads fifty and
a hundred years ago should not be closed or off limits.

50 Due to the aging population utilizing the Valley, increased focus should be placed on access to
medical care/treatment options - first aid stations, emergency communication needs,
community training of lay persons in first aid/emergency response.

51 none, except that quality ski trails are important to us as we moved here for that as well as
hiking and mt biking trails and access. The local Methow valley sports Trail Ass'n provides a
great service to those of us in nordic skiing and mountain biking, jogging trails, etc.

I no longer live in the State of Washington, but still visit once per year (at least) and MVSTA
52 trails are always part of my visit. When I lived in WA I would spend almost every weekend in the
summer in Okanogan County and I believe very strongly that these trails are EXTREMELY
important to the area!

If you are not going to clean our trails, let us do it with safety for all, with chainsaws. Having
53 trails open after the Labor Day weekend is not an option. Only the trail crew enjoys the use,
and then it is time for wind, snow and seasonal damage limiting use until the next summer
season. Be reasonable, if Rainier National Park can use chain saws and get trails open in the
first few weeks of the summer season, then it is time for all other federal use areas to also allow
the safe use of chain saws to open all our trails allowing multiple use groups equal access.

OKANOGAN COUNTY

2012

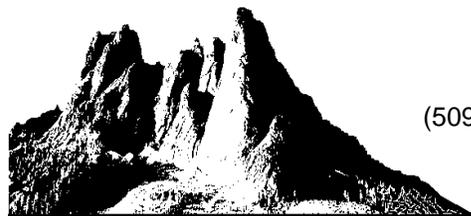
RECREATION

PLAN

Survey Summary

Columbia





**OKANOGAN COUNTY
RECREATION PLAN 2012
Information Meeting
January 10, 2012**

An information meeting on the Okanogan County Recreation Plan Update was held at Pateros, City Hall at 6:00 PM.

Planning Department Staff present were: Ted Murray, Recreation Coordinator.

Attendees of the meeting were: Gail Howe, Adam Fritz, Christine Perry, Angeca VanExsinca, Jennifer Marshal, Judy Asmussen Brown and Aaron Burkhart.

Ted Murray opened the meeting with a power point presentation explaining the County was required to update the current Recreation Plan in order to continue receiving State and Federal funds for recreational projects. He explained the Recreation Plan is important to the cities and the County for quality of life reasons as well as the economic impact to the communities.

He reviewed the existing facilities in the County which included the Okanogan County Fair Grounds, Se Tee Kah Park in Winthrop, the Similkameen Trail and the Whistler Canyon Trail both of which are in the Oroville area. He noted there were a limited number of County parks in Okanogan County.

Mr. Murray reviewed the results of a survey which was placed on the Okanogan County website. He noted:

- 110 of the approximately 800 responses were from areas outside of Okanogan County . Very few surveys were submitted from the Columbia area.
- Oroville and Winthrop had the highest number of responses.
- Most responses came from the age group of 50 – 59.
- The top three interests in the Columbia area were:
 - Hiking/walking trails
 - Swimming
 - Farmers Market

Mr. Murray noted the results were consistent throughout the County.

He noted the age demographics of the County showed a substantial loss to the younger

segment and a substantial increase in the older segment.

Mr. Murray opened the meeting to comments and questions. The responses were as follows:

Pateros

- Pateros is working with Douglas PUD on several projects including upgrades to Peninsula Park and the swimming area.
- There has been discussion of developing a pedestrian trail along the river toward Brewster.
- A small RV Park was eliminated with the construction of the Pateros Lakeshore Inn. There is discussion to build a new park north of City Hall near the lake front.
- Pateros has also developed a very nice museum in the old fire hall adjacent to City Hall largely of excellent exhibits from the Wells Dam display.

Public Lands

- Much of recreation is tied to public lands which is the foundation.
- Forest Service lands have widespread insect infestations and they are not maintaining roads and trails. This will lead to negative impacts for county recreation.
- The state DFW is hell bent on acquiring private lands in the county but have overreached and don't have funding to manage what they have. This is resulting in increased fees for Discover Pass, Lake Access pass, higher fishing and hunting licenses. This will also drive many people from access to public lands.
- Forest Service is still withholding permits to packers in the national forest. This affects their ability to book clients and affects their business. This has been delayed for ten years and has been in the EIS process for the past couple years.
- Government Agencies need to set time limits on the EA/NEPA process they shouldn't be allowed to run on for years.
- The Forest Service has two or of three people assigned to road maintenance across the entire Okanogan portion of the OWNF.
- County should take a stand against agencies acquiring more land with out funding for long term maintenance funding.
- We are loosing our tourism because of agencies lack of action.
- DFW bought the Big Valley Ranch as deer winter range which is unsuitable for winter range. Most days in the winter you can see people on the trail with dogs and dogs running loose.
- Cost to recreate is too much and the quality is going down Pay Pay Pay.

Other Discussion

- Public should pay their way

In conclusion, Mr. Murray thanked the audience for their participation and input.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

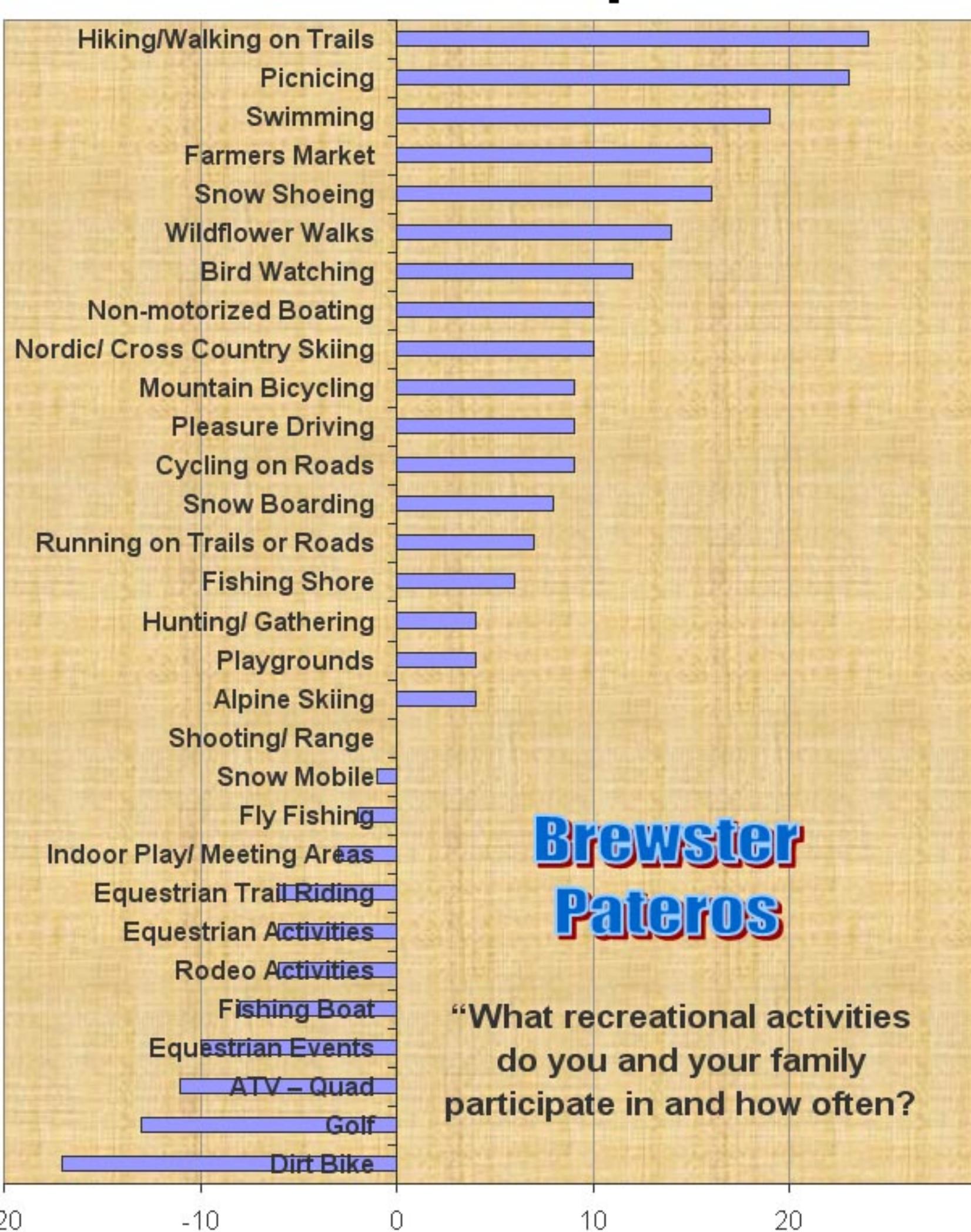
Respectfully submitted,

Ted Murray
Recreation Coordinator

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational facilities, not listed in the previous question that you or your family use and how often?

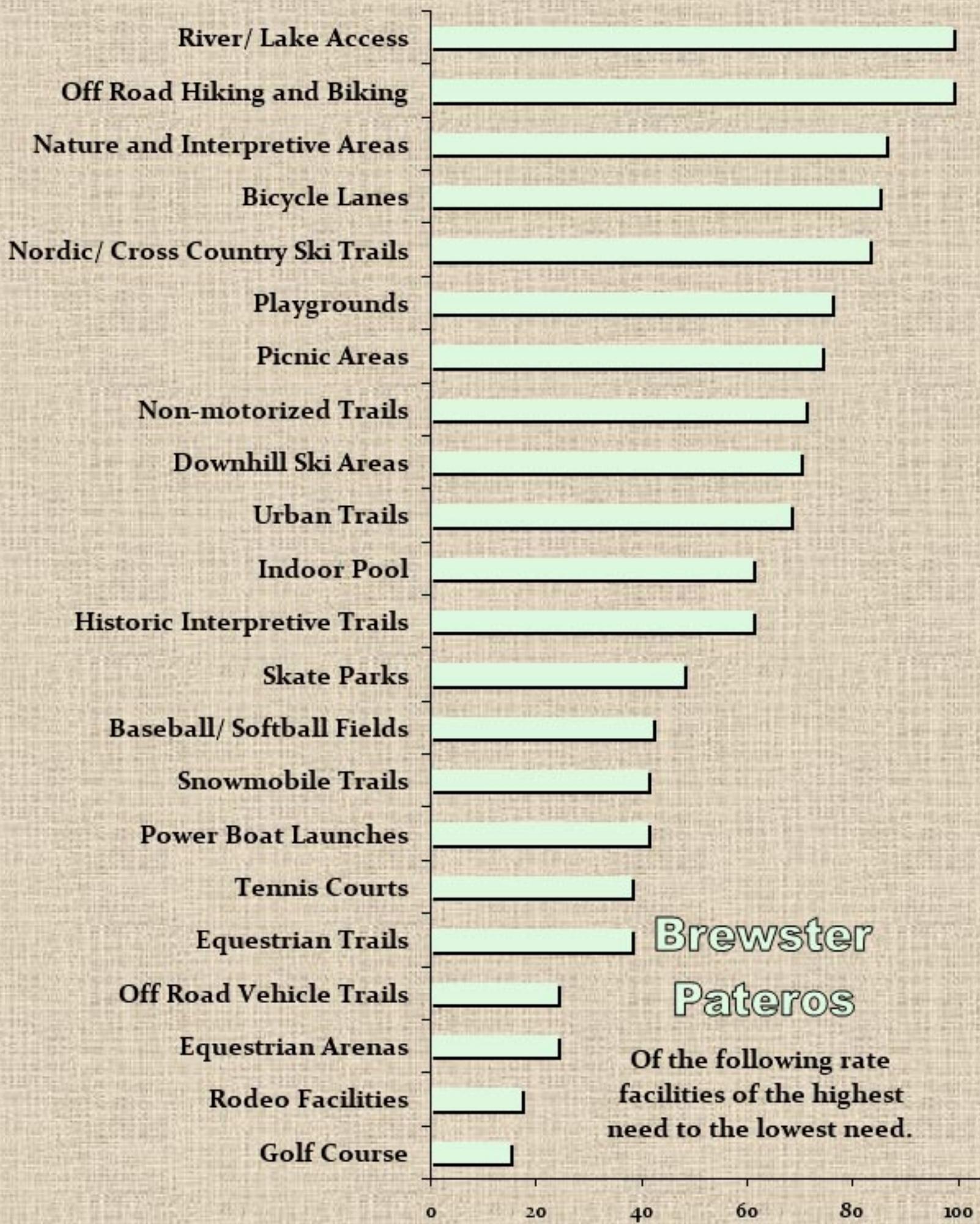
Number	Response Text
1	Gym 2 Campgrounds
2	Motorized snowparks Disc Golf Course
3	Chelan County facilities Interpretative centers
4	Methow Valley trail system. Skateboard and YOUTH facility, like a YMCA.
5	Methow Valley Trails. Monthly.
6	Private: ski trails, daily in winter
7	Snow parks, Methow river fishing access
8	There are lots of trails, they jsut need to be maintained.
9	I don't think we need more picnic areas. You can picnic about anywhere.



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational activities not listed above that you and/or your family participate in?

Number	Response
1	Gym
2	Backcountry Skiing 2
3	Camping 5
4	Snowshoeing
5	Backpacking 2
6	Sailing
7	Rock Climbing
8	Motorized boating
9	Cyclocross Cycling
10	Motorcycle riding (highway)
11	I don't see shooting and hunting as a sport. Its just part of life.
12	
13	No, but I ride in the Central Cascades all summer long, more often than "semiannually" but not technically monthly.
14	
15	



Brewster
Pateros
 Of the following rate facilities of the highest need to the lowest need.

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Senior Activities - Census data shows a dramatic increase in residents over 50.

What recreation activities are most important for this age group?

Number	Response Text
1	ATV
2	Birding
3	Golfing
4	
5	Swimming
6	Indoor swimming pools
7	
8	Trail Riding on Horseback 2
9	
10	Safe hiking trails
11	Urban walking areas
12	Safe places to walk that are easy to get to.
13	
16	Keep our trails open and maintained! It's why we pay taxes!
17	
18	All low impact sports not involving great expense, can be done year round
19	Please help us keep our areas open, we don't need anymore restricted access!!
20	Indoor Swimming it is the best source of exercise and recovery with very low impact.
21	There is a lot of public land to use in the Methow at least. Walking, showshoeing, cross country skiing and hunting can all be done here easily.
22	I can't say officially because I am not in this age group, but when I am over 50, I plan to have the same interests. It is my overall observation that people in this demographic are more active than the generation before them.

Fishing	3	Non-motorized sports
Hunting		Quiet camping areas
Hiking	2	Snowshoe
Bicycling		Snowmobile
Touring		X Country Skiing
Sight seeing		Any outdoor activity

Free Access to trails, parks and parking.
I love riding in the Cascades!

OKANOGAN COUNTY

2012

RECREATION

PLAN

Survey Summary

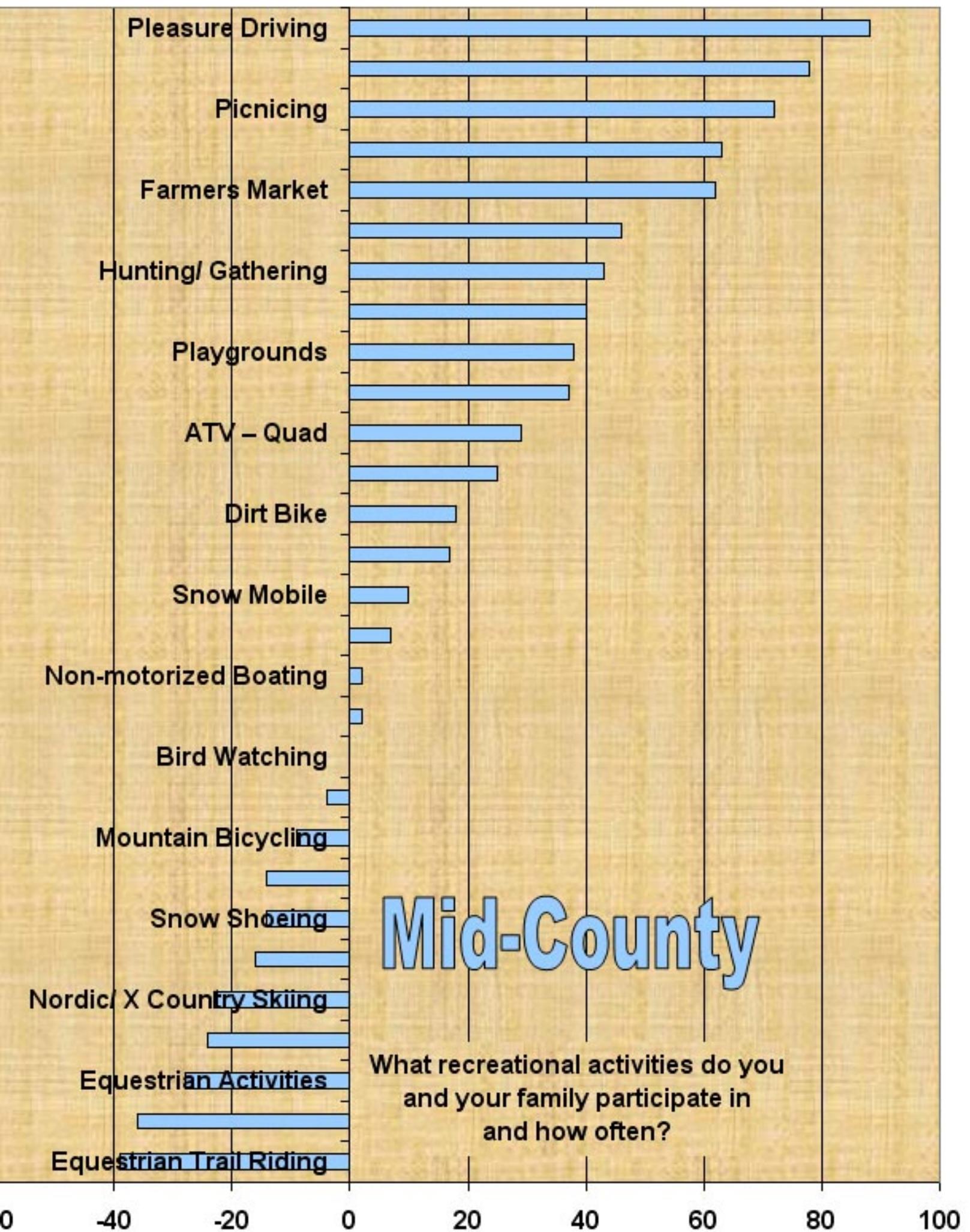
Mid-County



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational facilities, not listed in the previous question that you or your family use and how often?

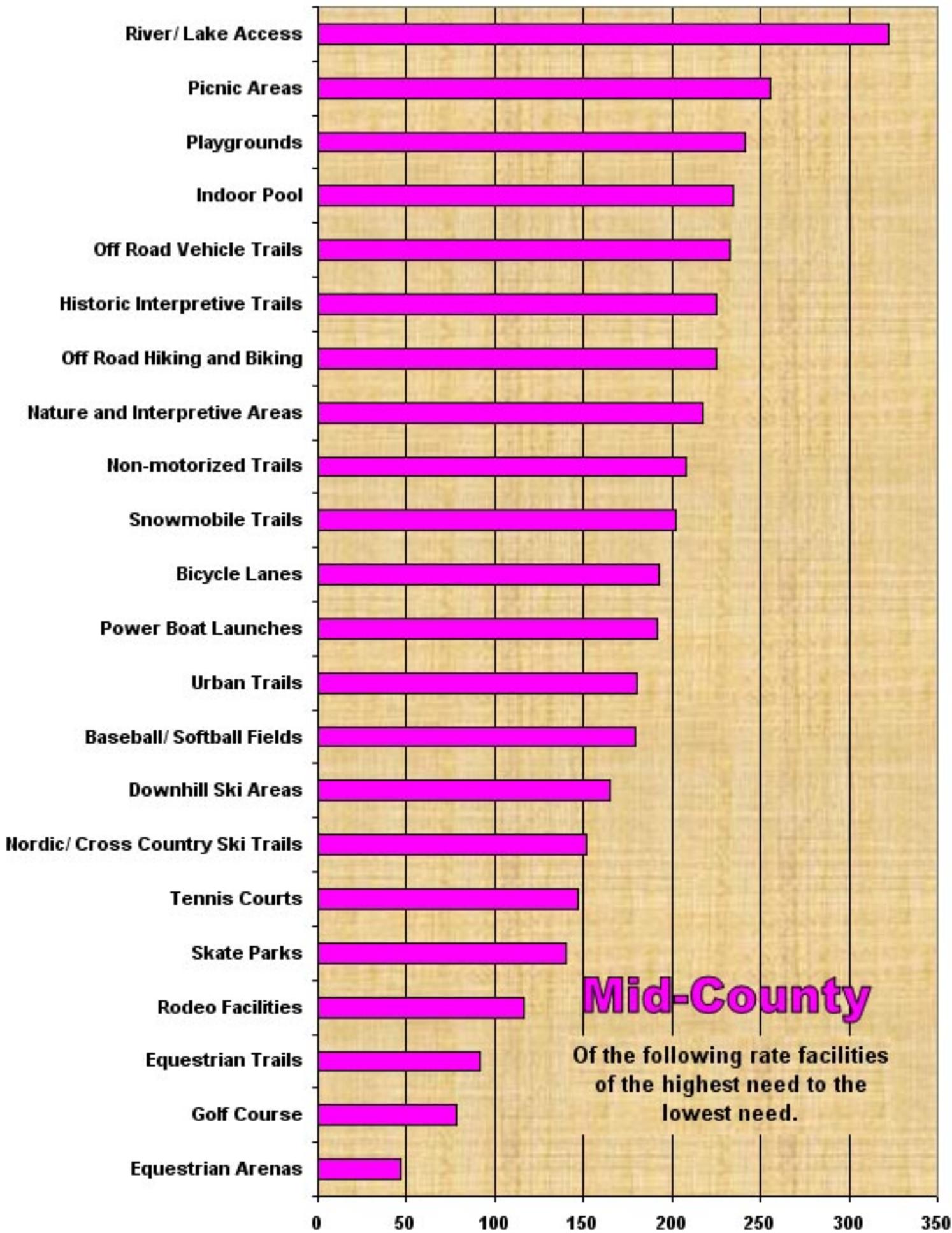
Number	Response Text
1	
2	Fairgrounds and Stampede grounds
3	
4	Conconully Fourth of July Celebration
5	
6	Colville Indian Reservation
7	
8	
9	Indoor facilities we never use.
10	
11	
12	Loup Loup Ski hill and South Summit
13	
14	
15	Scotchcreek wild life refuge, South summit of the loop
16	
17	
18	Hiking to various natural features on private property throughout the Okanogan Valley and Highlands.
19	



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Are there other recreational activities not listed above that you and/or your family participate in?

Number	Response Text	Response Text	Response Text
1	Orgaized sports - weekly.	Kitesurfing	Camping with friends
2	Slowpitch baseball	Windsurfing	Camping 8
3	Fast Pitch baseball	Frisbee	RV
4	Baseball		
5	Basketball		
6	Soccer		
7			
8	Photography	Ice fishing	Counting deer
9	Nature/wildlife photography	Berry Picking	Wildlife watching
10	Sky Watching w/telescope	Mushroom hunting	Scouting for wolves
11			
12	Caving	Flying	
13	Geocashing	Jeeping	
14	Geological field trips	Sledding	
15			
16	Trap Shooting	Pleasure Boating	
17	Varmint Shooting	BIKE RIDING	
18			
19			
20	Exercise at area facilities		Conconully 4th of July Conconully 4th of july parade Conconully outhouse race Conconully dogsled races
21			
22	WE NEED PLACES TO GO DANCING		
23			
24	Attending events Musical concerts		
25			
26	PACKING WITH HORSES		
27			
28	Mushing sled dogs: training in dirt & sled on snow		
29			
30	Indoor meeting/play we might do if was organized or had infrastructure.		
31			
32	Indoor recreational activity (other than organized sports) score may have been higher is there were more facilities available.		



Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Senior Activities - Census data shows a dramatic increase in residents over 50. What recreation activities are most important for this age group?

Number	Response Text	Count				
1	Biking	4	Camping	4	Hunting	2
2	Bicycle trails	1	RVing	2	Shooting ranges	1
3	Bicycling lanes	1	Access for RV's	1	Target-trap shooting	1
4			Picnic areas	2		
5	Swimming	3	Good rec sites	1	Fishing	5
6	Indoor Swimming	4	Camping facilities with restrooms/water		Lake and river access	2
7					Fishing lanuch sites	1
8	Nordic ski	1			Non motorized boats	1
9						
10	horse trails		Free parking on State and Fed lands			
11	Indoor riding arena		Free access with no Discover Pass for Seniors on any lands.			
12	Indoor horse riding arena		Being able to access areas of rec. easily.			
13			Parking, vehicle access to the forest and open spaces			
14	Golf	2				
15						
16	Hiking	5	Driving Historic Roads & Natural Sites			
17	Easy hikes	1	Driving: ATV's or trucks			
18	Non Motorized Trails	3	Mountain road drives			
19						
20						
21	Walking	4				
22	Urban walking trails.	1				
23	Greenways for walking and running					
24	Walking trails (e.g., the Wenatchee Loup Trail)					
25	Low impact, walking trails with interpretive signage					

26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52

Snowmobile groomed trails 3

ORV-ATV Trails 16

ATVing hunting, fishing

Open up Winthrop to ATV's.

ATV routes and access to towns

ATV/UTV -keeping open all roads/trails that exist. Quit closing them off.

As people age they need more motorized access because it gets harder to get around.

A.T.V. riding, (I don't walk too good). Riding trails & Roads enjoying scenery and animals.

Farmer's Markets Activity areas, gathering places

Knitting Club Dancing - country western, aerobic, etc.

Outdoor activities. Chess, checkers, game tables in the parks, ect

Passive Outdoor Activities Indoor winter exercise areas, especially in outlying communities.

More group camp sites for RV's at State and USFS campgrounds

KEEPING TRAILS OPEN FOR HORSEBACK RIDING AND MULTIPLE USE

Indoor community swimming pool (large that could be used by all the schools, Multipurpose)

Story telling to children? Music and dancing with all ages? Getting outside for air, away from T.V.

These people still like to get outdoors, but they are not capable of making a wilderness backpacking expedition.

Omak and Okanogan do not have enough sidewalks to walk safely. Other areas of the county do not have sidewalks for walking either. That is the most important improvement that the County can make.

Okanogan County Recreation Survey 2011

Additional comments	
Number	Response Text
1	Wood Cutting
2	Bike lanes
3	Need ice skating areas.
4	Hiking trails
5	Recreation is key to our economy!
6	ATV/Dirt bikes are extremely damaging to our state & national forests.
7	Okaongan County is on the right track just need the State to get it together as well...
8	One must temper County support for activities that receive excessave amounts of support from grant monies.
9	Thank you for asking about the recreational needs of the older folks here in the area; it greatly adds to the quality of life we have left!
10	Recreation in this area is amazing, but with small children at home, we would really benefit from indoor pool and indoor play facilities for families near Omak. :-)
11	County Recreation pursuits should be primarily outdoor as private and non-profits can deal with the indoor EXCEPT a joint effort for indoor swimming should be employed.
12	This survey seems very ambiguous. Most usages are related to the season. ie boating in summer every week or so is hard to put on the survey as well as snow skiing most weekends in winter.
13	I really want a hiking trail from the Omache shopping center to the top of Coleman Butte. It would be so awesome. All the tourists in their RV's would love to get some exercise and see a great view of the beautiful landscape. It would be a great attraction to Omak.
14	I would really like to see more walking/running/biking areas that are free from vehicle traffic in the Omak area. As a father of an infant who likes to walk and run with my son in a stroller and with my dogs, I'd appreciate more access to trails near my house (on Pogue Flat) where I don't have to worry about car and truck traffic.

15 Thank You for this survey. We would love to see a suspension walking bridge from the American Legion Park in Okanogan over the river to the Sports Complex. A trail could go around (or through?) the alfalfa. I think that field is for sale anyway. This could really enhance the residence and tourist experience. There's already several trails about town that could be marked with a post and preserved, then extended. It'd be great to do!

16 I just stress the need for an indoor pool and a roller rink. There is not enough activities for kids. And it shows that the fewer activities for kids the more crime there is among them. And to many kids are getting in worse shape sitting at home playing video games. Lets give them something to do! A roller rink can provide income for many. They can host skate nights for schools donating part of the proceeds from those nights to the schools! Its a win win situation!

17 DO AWAY WITH THE DISCOVERY PASS...WE ALREADY PAY FOR OUR USE

18 Get rid of dicoverly pass, the biggest majority of users of public land (our land) are responsible and can police themselves!