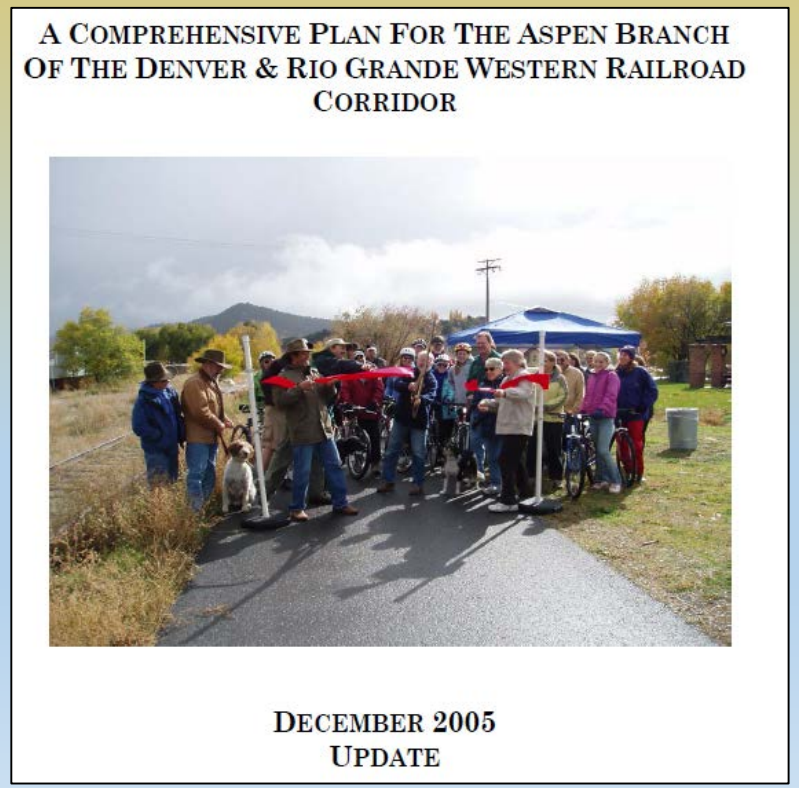
RFTA Rio Grande Trail Plan

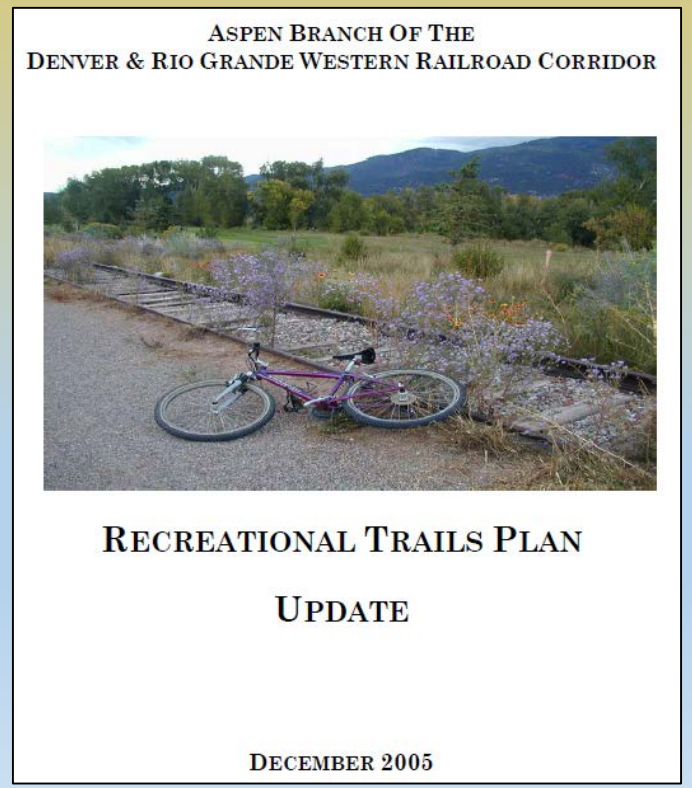
"Recreational Trails Plan 2018 Update"

PURPOSE

To confirm goals set forth in the *2005 Corridor Comprehensive Plan* and *2005 Recreational Trails Plan Update*, and to gather public feedback on trail topics that were either overlooked or may have increased in importance in the last 13 years.


A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE ASPEN BRANCH OF THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD CORRIDOR

DECEMBER 2005
UPDATE


ASPEN BRANCH OF THE
DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD CORRIDOR

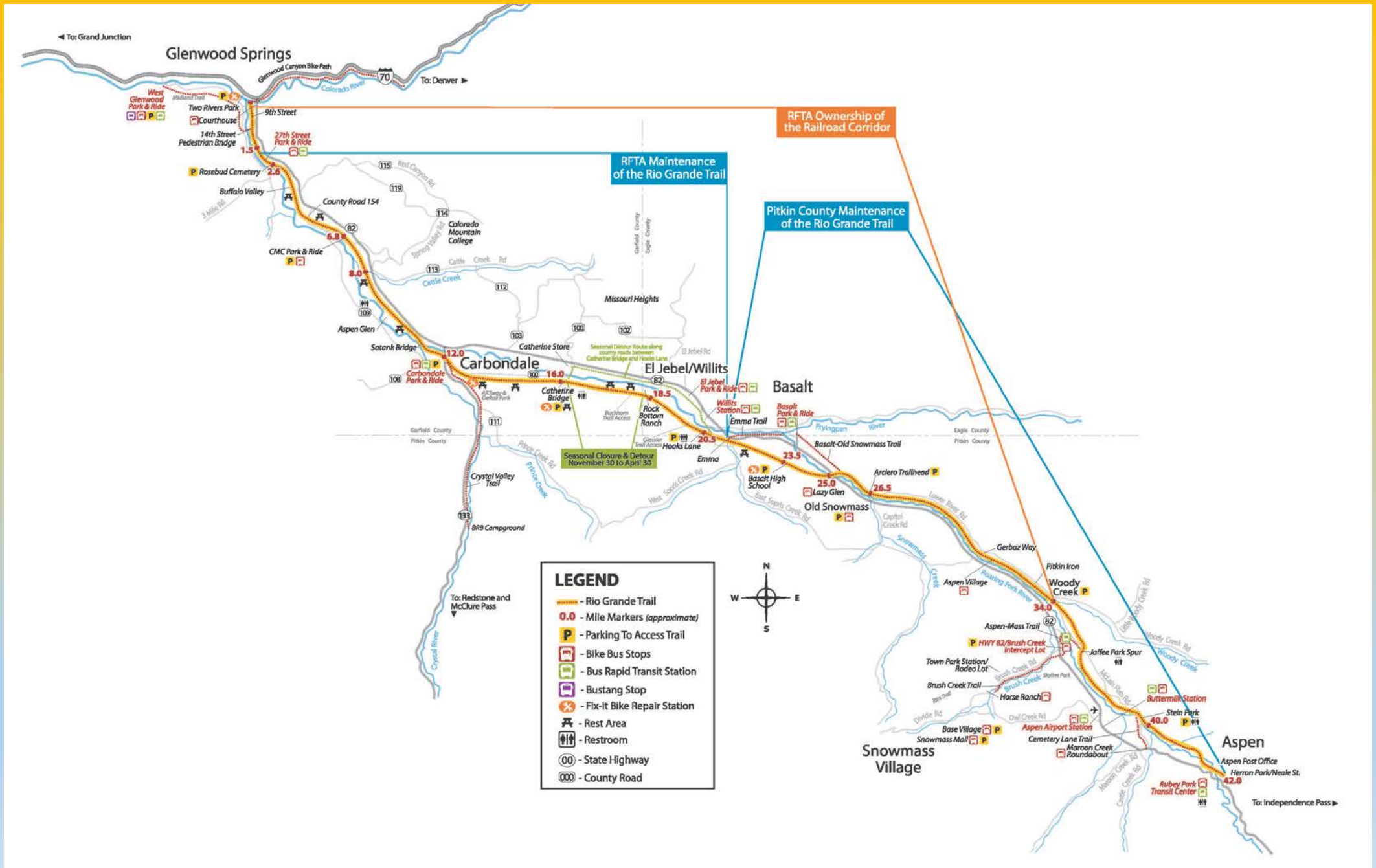
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PLAN

UPDATE

DECEMBER 2005

COMPONENTS

- Ownership/Awareness
- User Groups
- Facilities/Amenities
- Connections to/from RGT
- Behavior/Etiquette Education


To: Grand Junction
Glenwood Springs
Glenwood Canyon Bike Path
Colorado River
To: Denver
West Glenwood Park & Ride
Midland Trail
Two Rivers Park
Courthouse
9th Street
14th Street Pedestrian Bridge
27th Street Park & Ride
1.5
2.6
Rosebud Cemetery
Buffalo Valley
County Road 154
6.8
CMC Park & Ride
8.0
Aspen Glen
Satank Bridge
12.0
Carbondale Park & Ride
Carbondale
Catherine Store
Missouri Heights
16.0
Catherine Bridge
18.5
Rock Bottom Ranch
Hooks Lane
20.5
Seasonal Closure & Detour November 30 to April 30
El Jebel/Willits
El Jebel Park & Ride
Willits Station
Basalt
Basalt Park & Ride
Emma Trail
Emma
23.5
Basalt High School
25.0
Lazy Glen
Basalt-Old Snowmass Trail
Arciero Trailhead
26.5
Old Snowmass
Crystal Valley Trail
BRB Campground
To: Redstone and McClure Pass
RFTA Ownership of the Railroad Corridor
RFTA Maintenance of the Rio Grande Trail
Pitkin County Maintenance of the Rio Grande Trail
LEGEND
- Rio Grande Trail
0.0 - Mile Markers (approximate)
- Parking To Access Trail
- Bike Bus Stops
- Bus Rapid Transit Station
- Bustang Stop
- Fix-it Bike Repair Station
- Rest Area
- Restroom
- State Highway
- County Road
N
W
E
S
Gerbaz Way
Pitkin Iron
Aspen Village
Woody Creek
34.0
Aspen-Mass Trail
HWY 82/Brush Creek Intercept Lot
Jaffee Park Spur
Town Park Station/ Rodeo Lot
Brush Creek Trail
Horse Ranch
Buttermilk Station
Stein Park
40.0
Base Village
Snowmass Mall
Aspen Airport Station
Cemetery Lane Trail
Maroon Creek Roundabout
Snowmass Village
Aspen
Aspen Post Office
Herron Park/Neale St.
42.0
Rubey Park Transit Center
To: Independence Pass

SCHEDULE

- *2005* — *Second comprehensive plan update, including the Recreational Trails Plan*
- *2008* — *RFTA completes construction of the Rio Grande Trail*
- *2016* — *RFTA develops an Integrated Weed Management Plan and introduces goats as a control*
- *2018* — *Access Control Plan (ACP), the first document in the Comprehensive Plan, is adopted*
- *2018* — *Planning begins for the update of the 2005 Recreational Trail Plan*

Aiming for first reading/public hearing at Nov. 8th meeting, and second reading/adoption at Jan. 10th meeting (assuming no Dec. meeting)

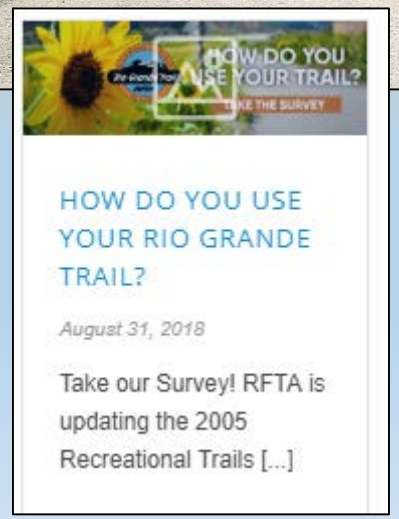
RFTA 2018 Recreational Trails Plan Update DRAFT Schedule	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
TASKS	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN 2019	FEB
1. Review the 2005 Recreational Trails Plan (RTP)												
2. Establish RGTP Goals and Project Scope												
3. Stakeholders Group Meeting #1												
4. DHM Design Task Order & Public Outreach Plan												
5. Staff Update on RTP Process at RFTA Board						9th						
6. Public Outreach Process (POP) Round 1							survey					
7. Public Outreach Process (POP) Round 2 (Draft Plan)								survey				
8. Stakeholders Group Meeting #2												
9. 1st Reading of 2018 RTP at RFTA Board									8th			
10. 2nd Reading & Final Adoption of RTP at RFTA Board										No Mtg.	10th	
Placeholder for delayed RFTA Board Adoption												14th

OUTREACH EFFORTS

- 2 Regional Stakeholder Meetings
- DHM Design Outreach Consultant
- Pitkin County Open Space collaboration
- Bilingual Online Survey (475 responses to date)
- Great raffle incentives
- Bilingual Paper Surveys @ Events
- Social Media Posting/Sharing

7 Regional Events:

1. Pitkin County Open Space (3) trailside pop-ups
2. Basalt Farmers Market 8/26
3. Carbondale Farmers Market 9/5
4. Rubey Park 9/6
5. Glenwood Farmers Market 9/11



SURVEY THEMES

- Multi-use awareness
- Safe and Good facilities/amenities
- Center striping is popular
- Wayfinding, mileage
- Drinking water stations/restrooms
- Tree roots, bumps
- Passing etiquette, speed control
- Goats are very popular
- Entrepreneurial vending

E-BIKES

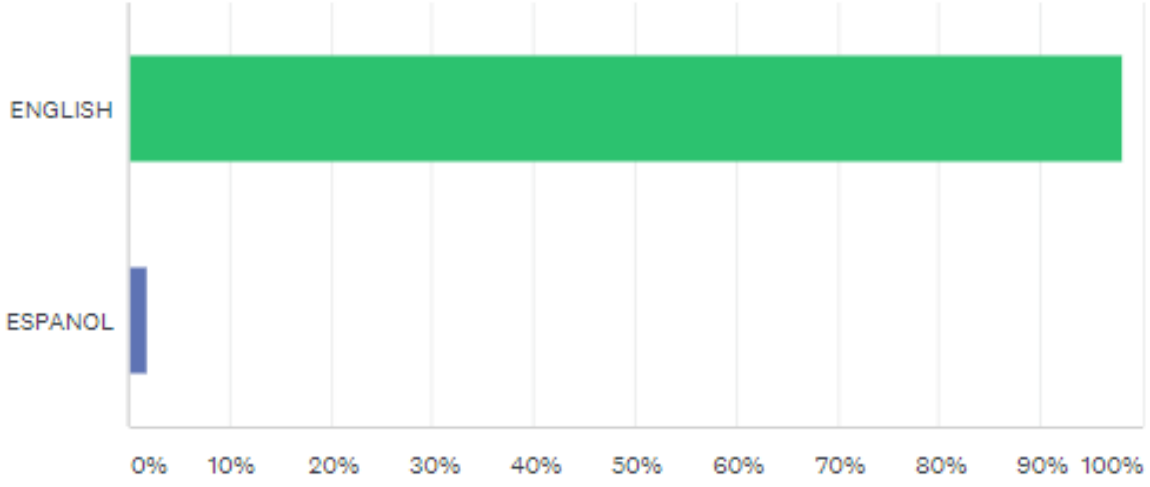
- 25 of 65 bicycling comments
- Fairly class-neutral
- Consistent regional policy
- Speed control, signage

Q1

Customize Save As

Please Choose Your Survey LanguagePor Favor Elija un Idioma de Encuesta

Answered: 464 Skipped: 0



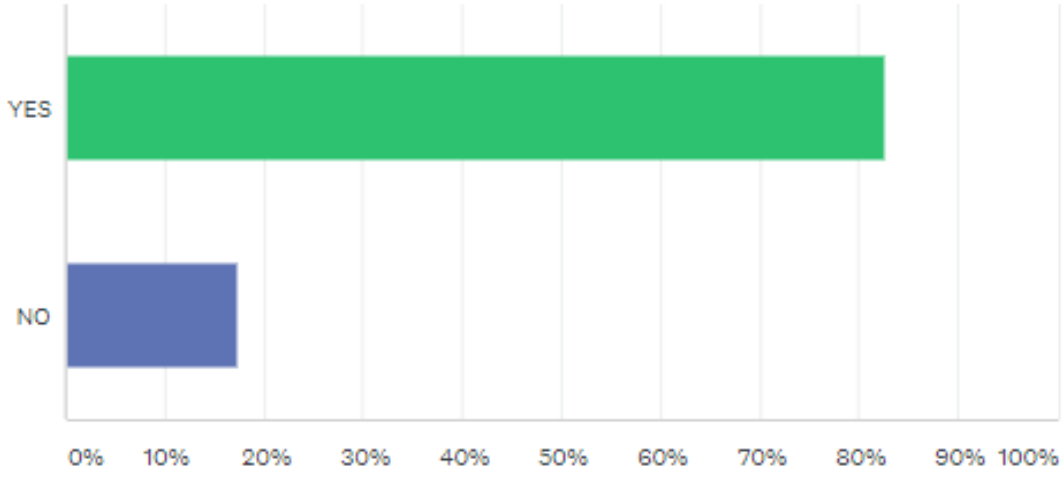
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
ENGLISH	98.06%	455
ESPANOL	1.94%	9
TOTAL		464

Q2

Customize Save As

1. Were you aware that RFTA operates buses, as well as co-owns and cooperatively maintains the Rio Grande Railroad Corridor and Rio Grande Trail?

Answered: 427 Skipped: 37



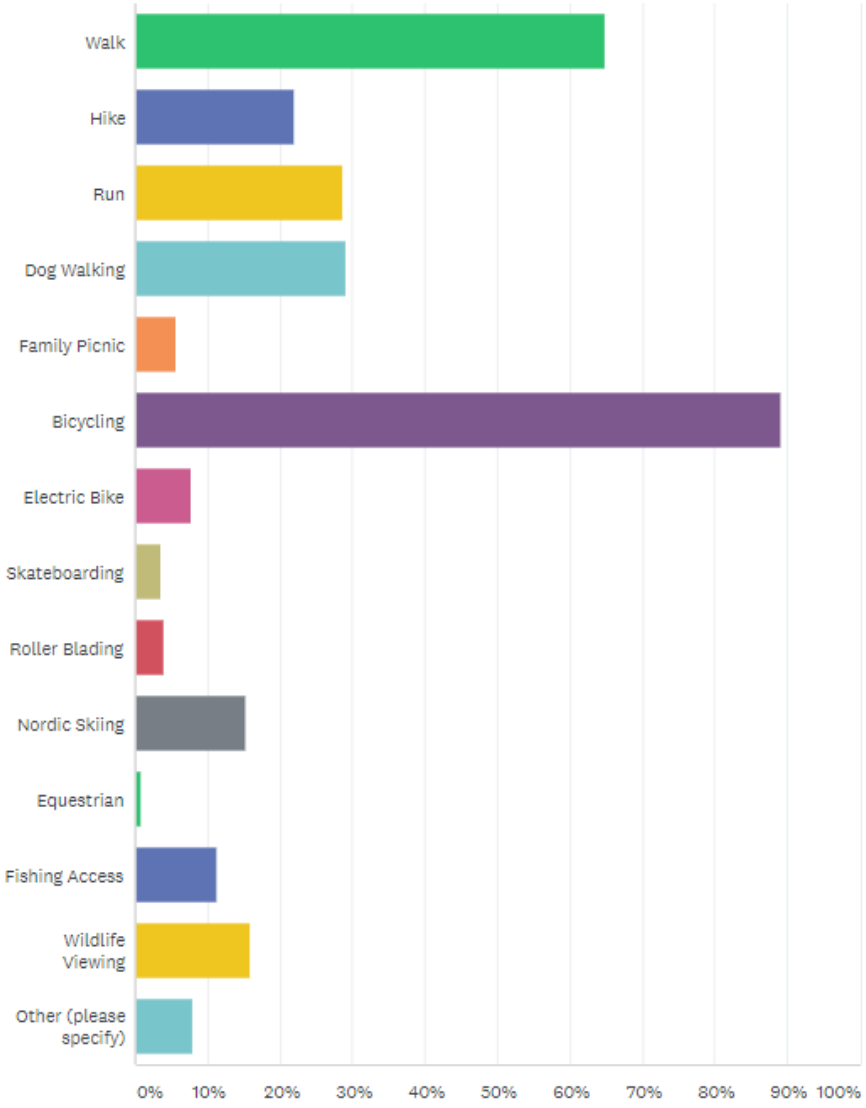
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	82.67%	353
NO	17.33%	74
TOTAL		427

Q3

Customize Save As

2. Which activities do you typically participate in along the Rio Grande Trail? Please choose all that apply.

Answered: 426 Skipped: 38

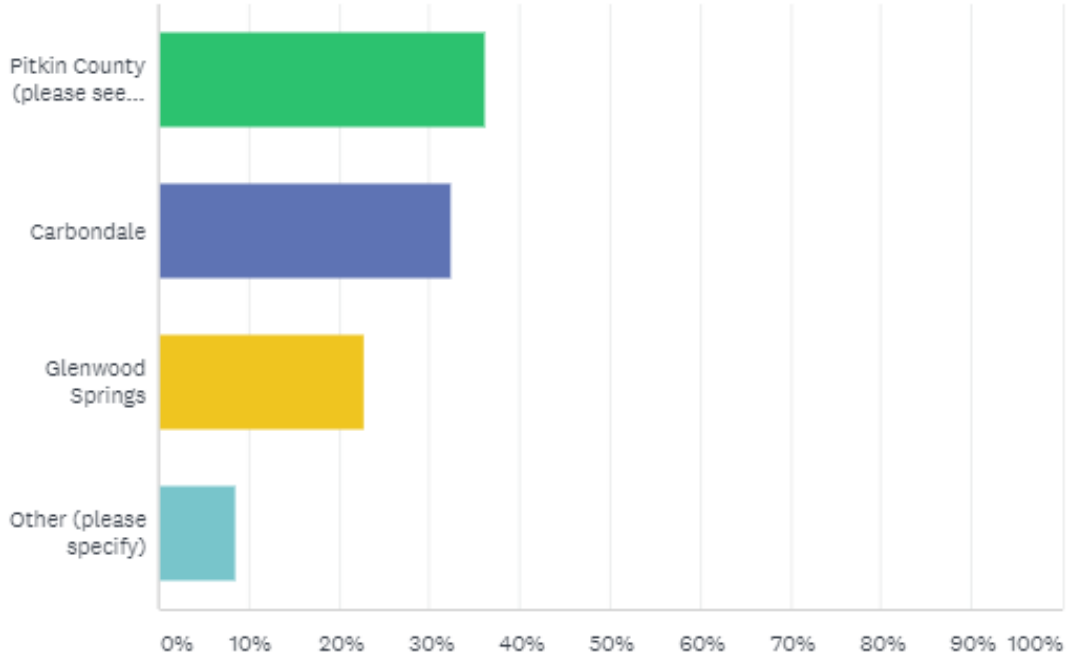


Q5

Customize Save As

3. Where is the trailhead, or trail section, you use most often?

Answered: 420 Skipped: 44



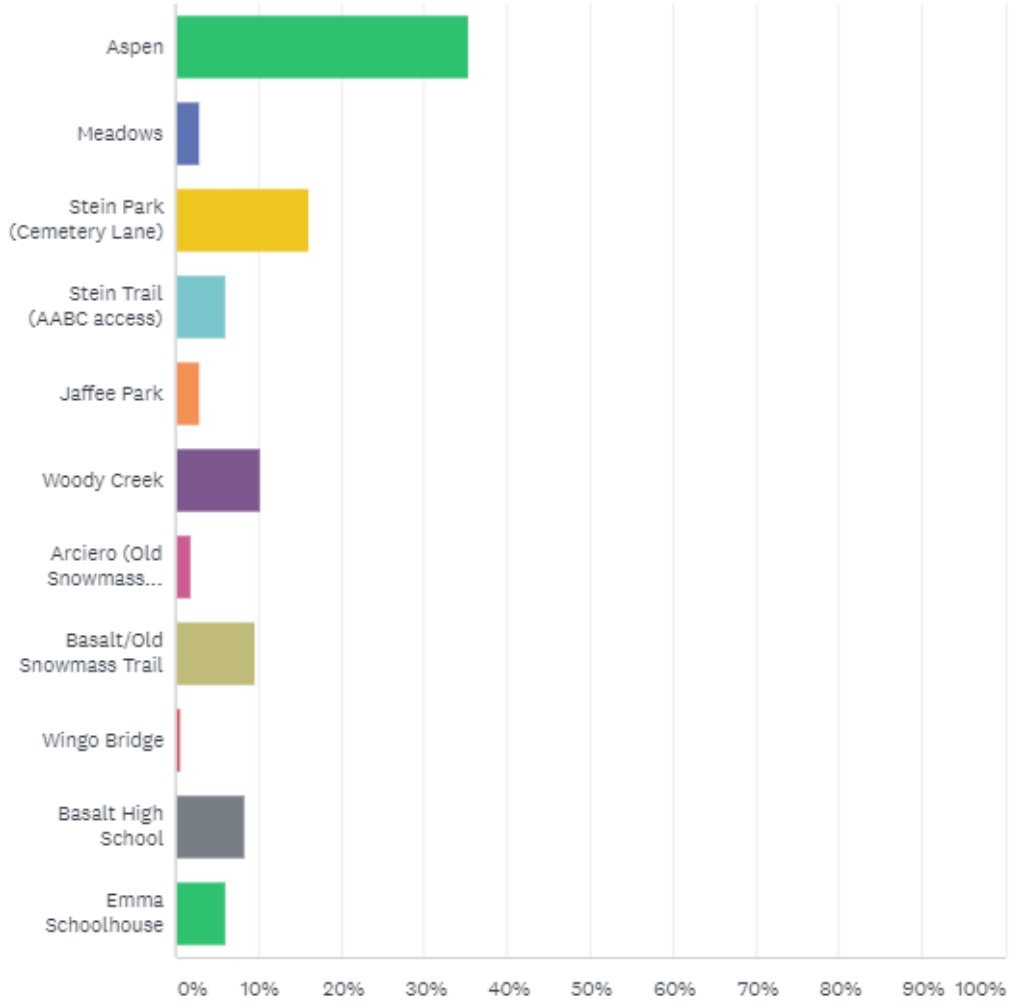
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Pitkin County (please see next question)		36.19%	152
Carbondale		32.38%	136
Glenwood Springs		22.86%	96
Other (please specify)	Responses	8.57%	36
TOTAL			420

Q6

Customize Save As

4. RFTA is working closely with Pitkin County Open Space & Trails (OST) on a Rio Grande Trail Node Plan and a Pitkin Outside map update. If you answered Pitkin County in the question above, please more specifically identify the trailhead you use most often.

Answered: 167 Skipped: 297

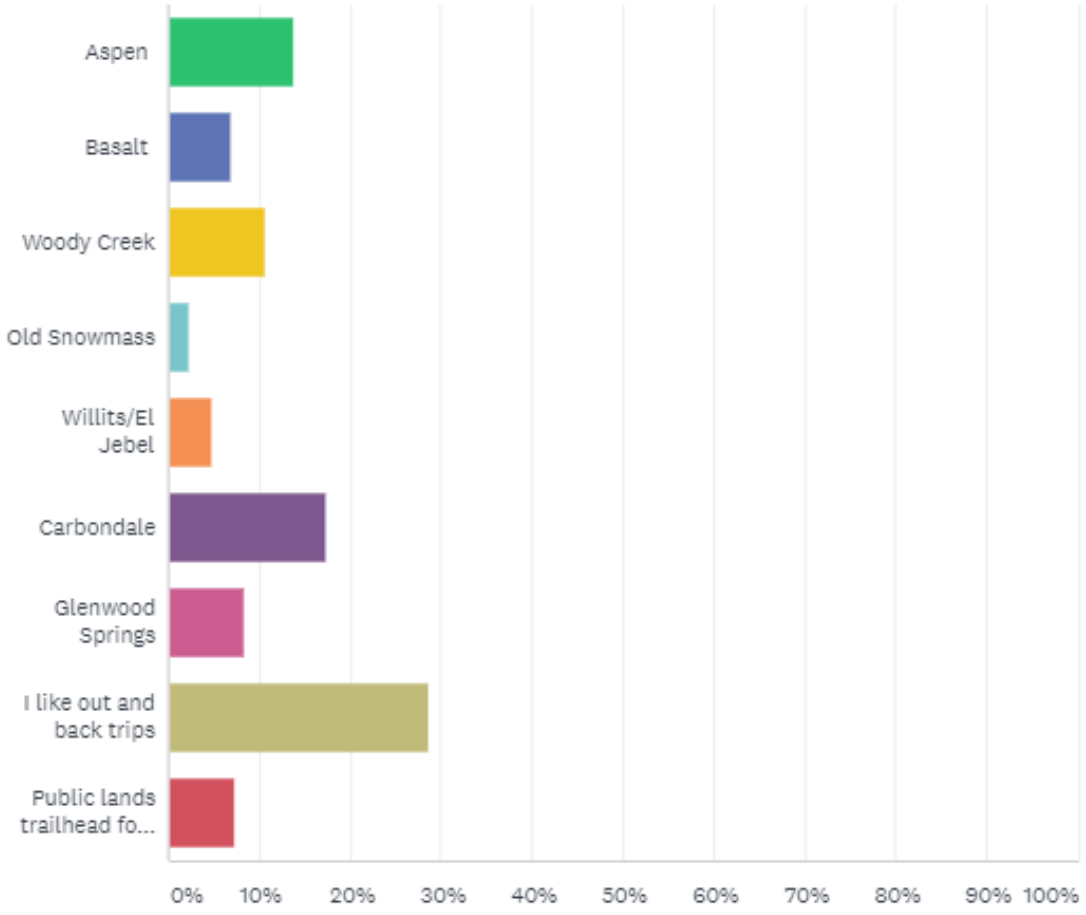


Q7

Customize Save As

5. Where is your typical, or favorite, trail destination from your chosen trailhead?

Answered: 397 Skipped: 67

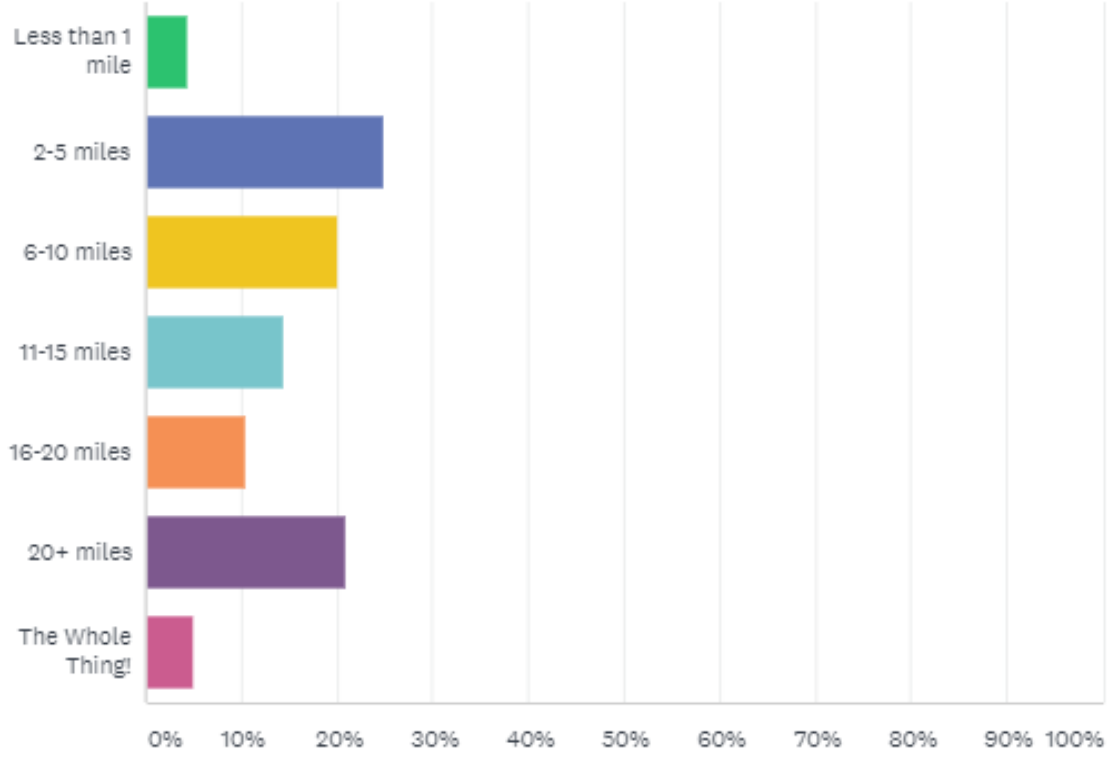


Q8

Customize Save As

6. How far do you typically travel from this trailhead?

Answered: 415 Skipped: 49

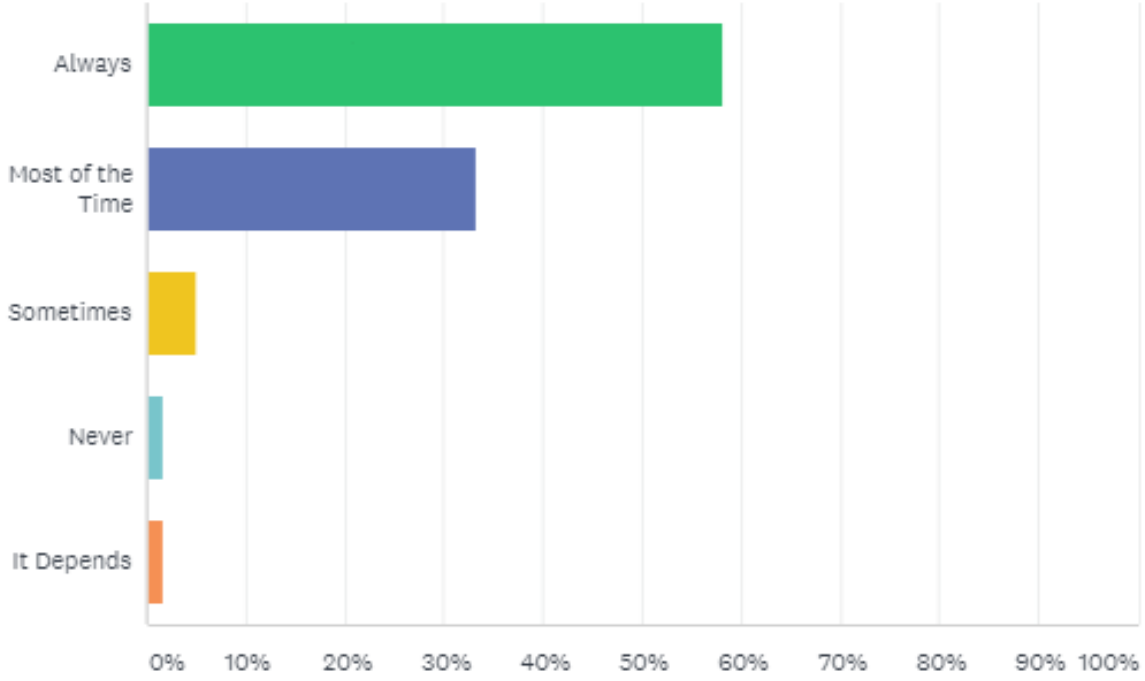


Q9

Customize Save As

7. Do you feel safe accessing and using the Rio Grande Trail?

Answered: 414 Skipped: 50



Q10

Save As

Would you like to expand on why, or why not, you feel safe accessing and using the Rio Grande Trail?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 313

RESPONSES (151) TEXT ANALYSIS TAGS (0)

Apply to Selected Filter by tag

ebike

Showing **2** responses for **ebike** Clear

Too many inexperienced trail users make it a little unsafe. As someone who rides the trail DAILY, I've seen an increase in lack of etiquette and knowledge of what to do when passing or being passed...especially by the eBikers that are riding at fast speeds.

9/4/2018 11:36 AM View respondent's answers Add tags

Get ebikes off the trail

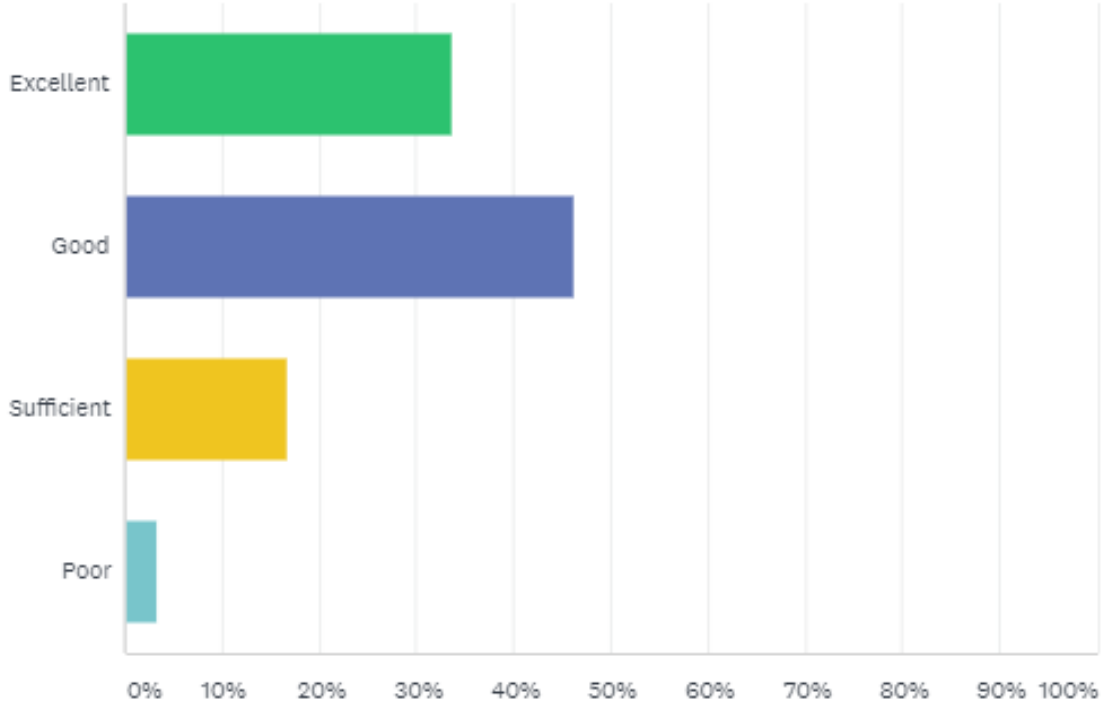
9/4/2018 2:08 PM View respondent's answers Add tags

Q11

Customize Save As

8. Thinking about existing trail facilities (picnic tables, restrooms etc.) and amenities (bike fix-it stations, maps), how would you rate their existing condition?

Answered: 392 Skipped: 72

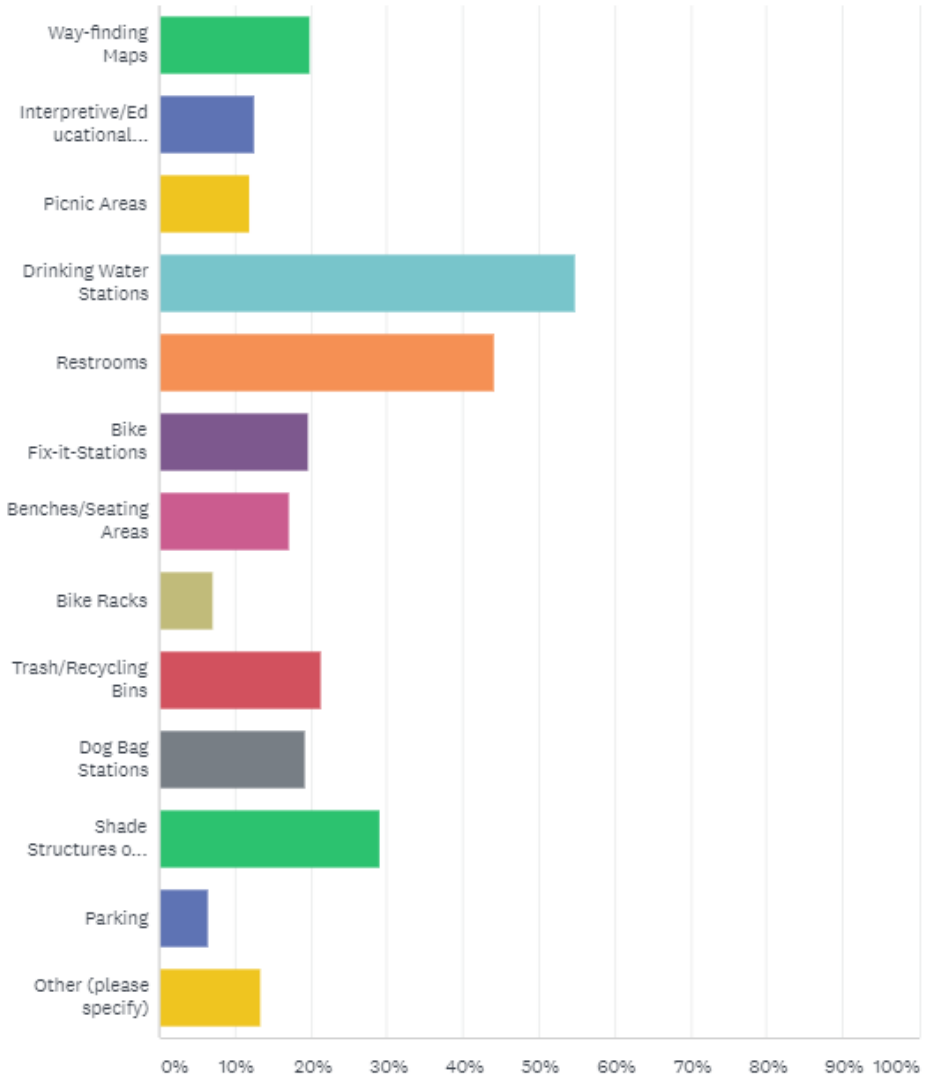


Q12

Customize Save As

9. Which amenities/facilities would you like to see more of along the Rio Grande Trail? (please choose all that apply).

Answered: 367 Skipped: 97



Q13

Save As

10. If you feel the existing facilities or amenities are inadequate, what should be the priority improvements?

Answered: 113 Skipped: 351

RESPONSES (113) TEXT ANALYSIS TAGS (0)

Cloud View List View

Search responses

map use n facilities access Drinking water Bathrooms along restrooms park trail improvements water need stations trash good think Shade bike

Q14

Save As

11. Where are the priority locations for additional facilities and amenities?

Answered: 121 Skipped: 343

RESPONSES (121) TEXT ANALYSIS TAGS (0)

Cloud View List View

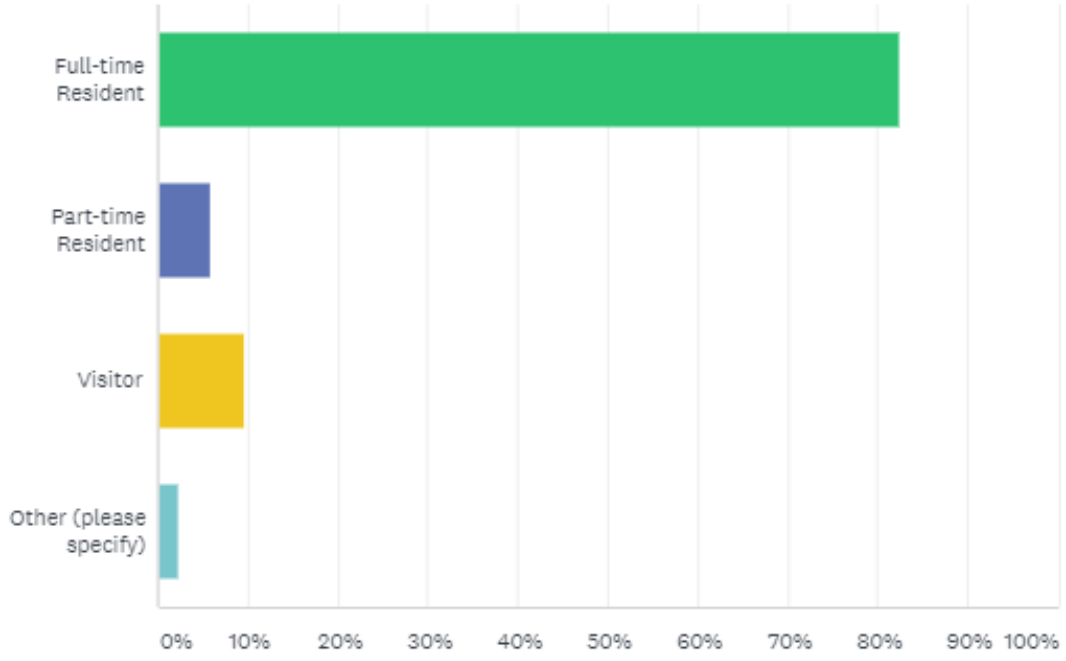
Search responses

Q15

Customize Save As

12. Are you a Roaring Fork Valley:

Answered: 397 Skipped: 67



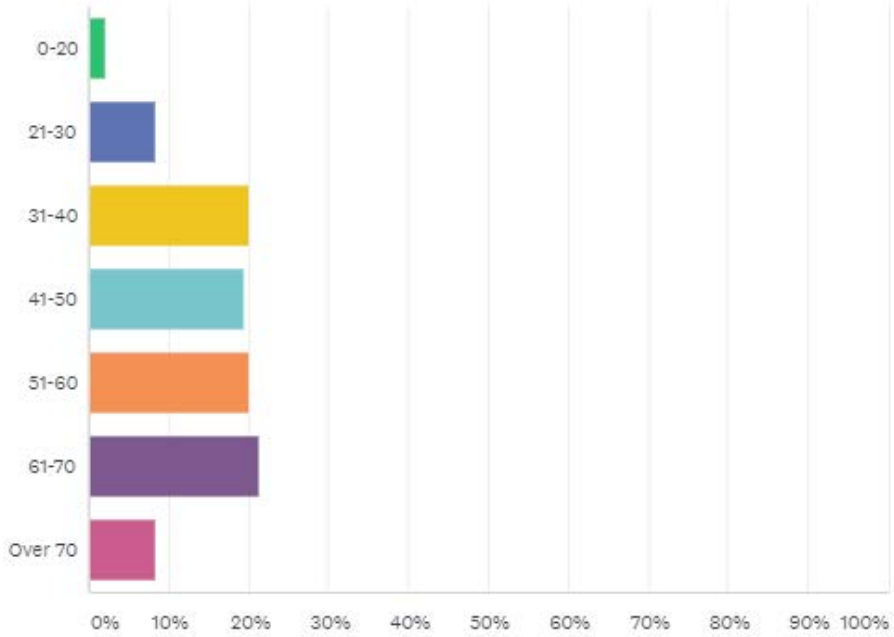
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Full-time Resident		82.37%	327
Part-time Resident		5.79%	23
Visitor		9.57%	38
Other (please specify)	Responses	2.27%	9
TOTAL			397

Q16

Customize Save As

13. What is your age group?

Answered: 402 Skipped: 62



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-20	1.99%	8
21-30	8.46%	34
31-40	20.15%	81
41-50	19.40%	78
51-60	20.15%	81
61-70	21.39%	86
Over 70	8.46%	34
TOTAL		402

Q17

Save As

14. Please share with us what would improve your Rio Grande Trail experience, or what it would take for you to use the trail more often.

Answered: 245 Skipped: 219

RESPONSES (245) TEXT ANALYSIS TAGS (0)

Cloud View List View

ebike

Keep Rio Grande time goats section access love area bike see trail use trail use dog better need great Aspen paved Carbondale

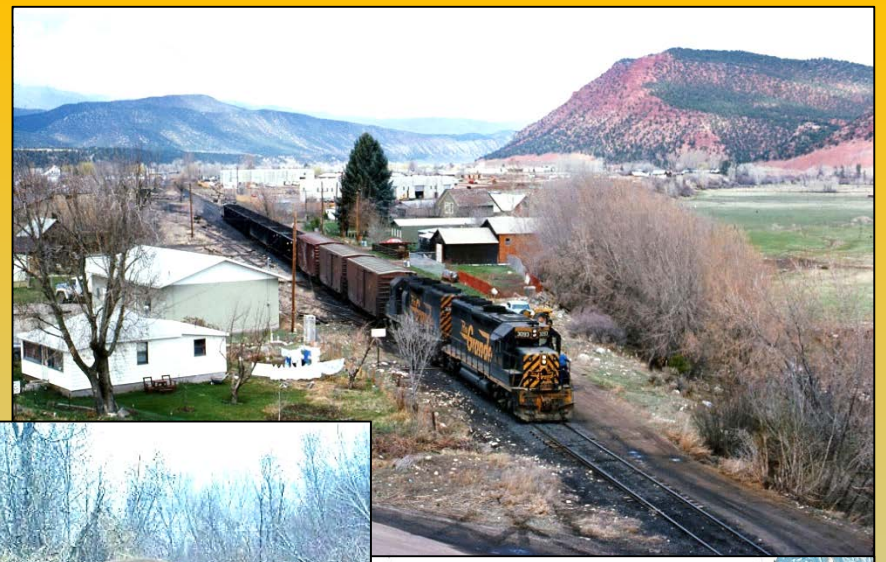
"Allow ebikes to aspen"

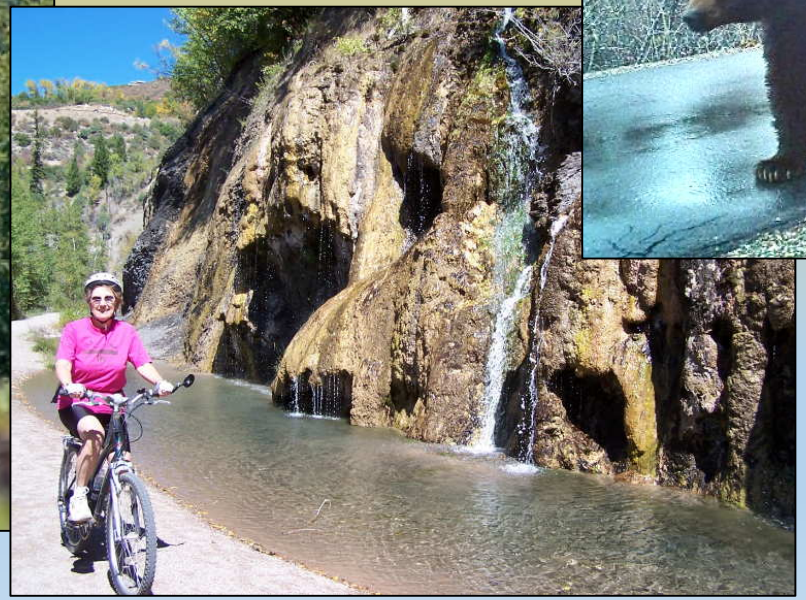
"Better clarity on the use of ebikes"

"Focus on expanding shoulders and adding bike lanes to roads throughout the valley. Ban e bikes from the path and allow ebikes and road bikes a safe location to ride on greenstriped bike lanes across the valley. No motorized vehicles on the path. The Rio Grande should be reserved for the most recreational cycling, walking, jogging, Nordic skiing/skating, rollerblading, skate boarding. Horses and pedestrians don't mix as horses demand the entire world stops due to their animals sensitive nature. If we are meant to commute on this path, it should be paved all the way to Aspen and free of large animal nuisances like horses and their fecal matter. Please remove horses and their feces from the path. Once we are paved all the way to Aspen, have horses fully removed from the path, and remove any motorized transportation, the Rio Grande path will be a much more pleasant and safe place."

"Please allow Class 1 eBikes!!!! My wife is excluded from the trail because she uses a Class 1 eBike. "

"There is nothing that keeps me from using the trail, but it would be nice if eBikes could permanently be banned. Sorry, I need to reiterate this. I'm probably in the top 1% of Rio Grande users yet nobody seems to want to listen to my point of view, only the views of people that MIGHT use the trail once in a while."





MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE RIO GRANDE TRAIL!