
MONTANA CREEK AREA PLAN



INFRASTRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT



MAY 2023

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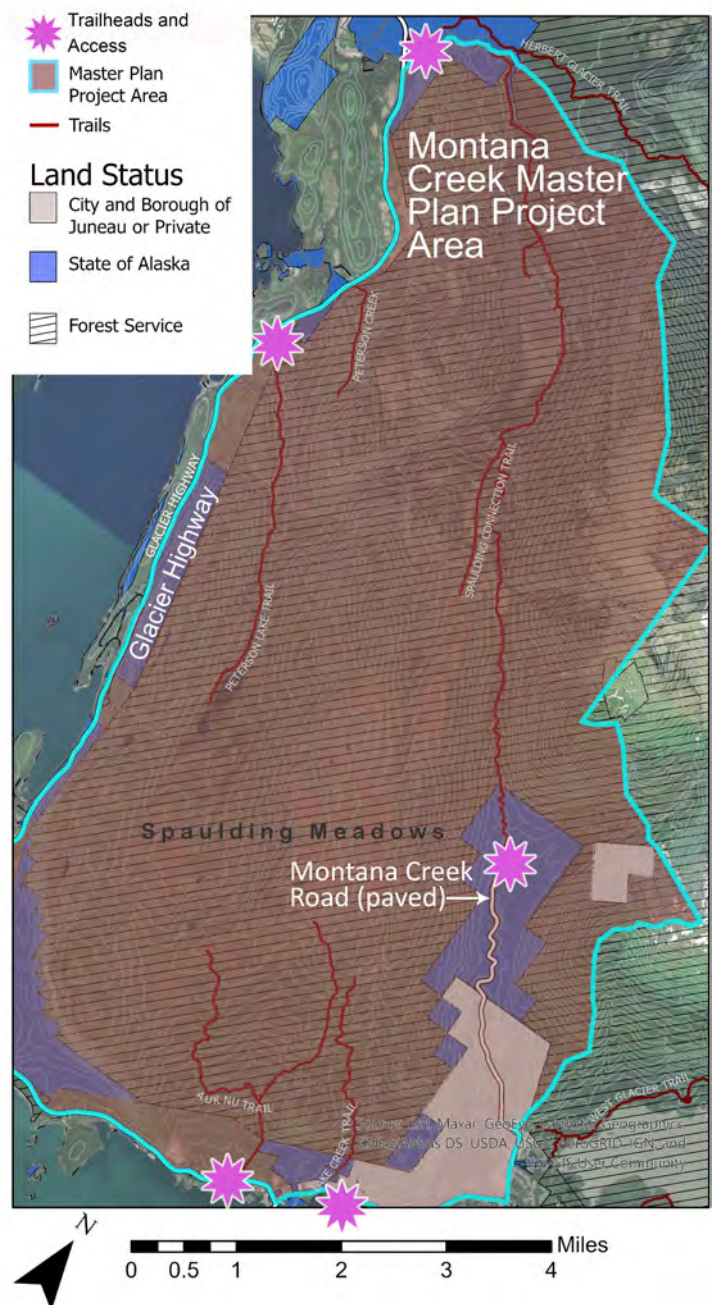
I. PROJECT OVERVIEW AND PROJECT AREA

The Montana Creek Area Plan has been developed over one and a half years with community input through a survey, stakeholder meetings, public meetings and interagency discussions with land managers. The time and effort of the community to create this plan shows that the Juneau community highly values the Montana Creek valley and watershed, Spaulding Meadows, and surrounding areas for recreation, subsistence and abundant natural resources.

This process seeks to understand why this area is so highly valued, how the community is using it and if there are ways to improve the use of the area for recreational purposes while preserving the high environmental resources that are the foundation of the excellent recreational and subsistence opportunities.

Fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, shooting sports, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, four wheeling, camping, and subsistence harvesting are some of the activities occurring in this area. Montana Creek is considered by the community to be one of the most valuable fish streams in the Juneau area. Despite the close proximity to the densely populated Mendenhall Valley, the area seems remote and Juneauites can feel like they are far from Juneau with a short hike. In the winter, the area remains colder than many other low elevation areas in Juneau. Snow remains in the valley longer because of this and allows for winter sports at times when other parts of Juneau have thawed and do not have the snowpack to support these sports.

The project area extends from its western boundary of Glacier Highway to the eastern boundary which is approximately the ridgeline on the east side of Montana Creek. To the south, it is bounded by Back Loop Road and extends north to Herbert River Road. The area is vast and includes the Montana Creek to Windfall Lake valley and Spaulding Meadows. The majority of land is managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS).



Within the Montana Creek valley the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages land as well as parcels at the north, west and southern ends of the project area. The City and Borough of Juneau is the third largest land managing agency with land primarily in the Montana Creek valley along Montana Creek Road. Other smaller government land managing agencies include the Alaska Department of Transportation and

Public Facilities (DOT) and the University of Alaska. There is also some non-profit and privately owned land in the project area, changes to these lands are not being proposed as part of this project.

II. MANAGEMENT AND OWNERSHIP

The primary land managing agencies along with Trail Mix, Inc. are facilitating this planning process and leading the discussion on use and improvements. Representatives from these agencies facilitating the project include:

Tristan Fluharty, District Ranger, United States Forest Service
Pete Schneider, Recreation Staff Officer, United States Forest Service
Megan Hillgartner, Southeast Regional Manager, Alaska Department of Natural Resources
George Schaaf, Director Parks and Recreation, City and Borough of Juneau
Michele Elfers, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation, City and Borough of Juneau
Greg Lockwood, Engineer IV, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Executive Director, Trail Mix, Inc.

Regulations and management of land varies across the project area depending on which agency manages the land. The community has indicated that this is confusing and difficult to know what regulations and policies apply throughout the project area. The following is a summary of existing land management guiding documents for the three primary land managing agencies.

1. UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE – 2016 TONGASS LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Semi Remote Recreation
- Opportunities for independence, closeness to nature, self- reliance requiring challenging motorized or non-motorized transportation
- Interactions between users are infrequent
- Minimal facilities, rustic in appearance

2. STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES – JUNEAU STATE LAND PLAN, 1993

- Managed for high recreation, habitat and harvest values
- Primarily recreation, wildlife habitat, wild harvest, water resources uses
- Recommends DNR enter into a Cooperative Management Agreement with CBJ to manage select lands within the Master Plan area

3. CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU – PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN, 2019

- Natural Area Park, Conservation Area
- Provides open space, access to water and opportunities for passive and dispersed recreation
- Recognized for high value environment
- Intent is to protect and manage the natural environment with recreation as a secondary objective

III. PROJECT GOALS

The project goals were created based on survey results and initial input on process and vision from meetings with user groups. The following goals underlie planning and outreach efforts.

- Create a master plan for the next ten years through a public process.
- Identify recreational facilities to meet public needs.
- Coordinate planning and management across land managing agencies, CBJ, DNR, USFS, and DOT.

Throughout the process, the project has considered the two components of infrastructure and management based on community input on use, ideas, and changes. The first step of the process has created an Infrastructure Plan that is included in this document and steps on funding, priorities and initial planning for implementation are underway. The next steps include work on proposed management changes. This is part of the master plan process but management changes often require regulatory and legal changes. Change in management reaches beyond community planning work and requires additional public process often

under formal procedures with policy makers. Section VIII, Management Plan and Public Engagement, summarizes processes for management changes through different land managing agencies and how the public can initiate and/or engage. Section X: Next Steps, summarizes some discussion and planning that is underway for management changes.

IV. PUBLIC OUTREACH

The need for the Montana Creek Area plan was first realized in the fall of 2020 when the Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC) requested that CBJ close Montana Creek Road in the winter to motorized use. During a public comment period preceding a Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) meeting on the topic, the department received 827 written comments on the issue both opposed and in favor of the change. The PRAC recommended no change to management of the road and the CBJ followed this recommendation. However, the high volume of comments on this issue prompted staff to talk to the community, user groups and the other land managing agencies in the area about this issue. Parks and Recreation Department (P&R) staff recognized the high value the community placed on the Montana Creek area and formed a working group with the land agencies to start a public outreach process as the first step in creating an area plan.

Formal public outreach began in August 2021 with a survey. Questions were asked about how the community uses the project area, barriers to use and how the area could be improved to enhance use and user experience. 1016 responses were received that helped to guide the process and inform the continuing discussion. The survey report and all comments are in Appendix iii.



Photo credit: Brad Elfers

After the survey, the land agencies held small group meetings with organized user groups that have interests in the Montana Creek area. Questions were asked to understand how they used this area, what the plan process should look like and how they envision the area in the future. The following groups were contacted and most participated:

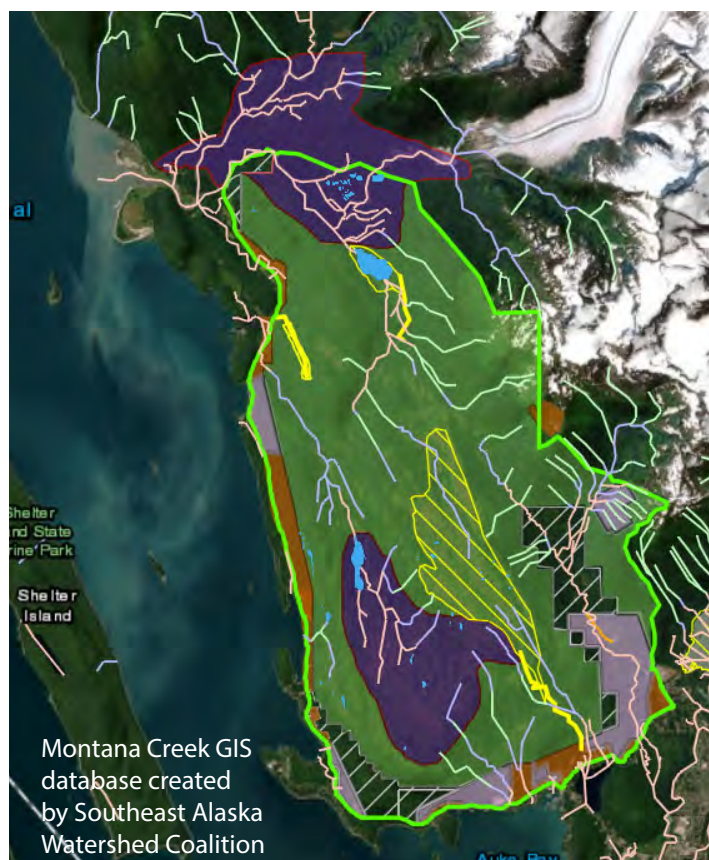
- Central Council Tlingit Haida
- Douglas Indian Association
- Sealaska Heritage Institute
- Goldbelt Heritage
- Discovery Southeast
- Juneau Nordic Ski Club
- Youth Nordic Ski Team
- Lynn Canal Adventures
- Juneau Mountain Bike Alliance (JMBA)
- Juneau Trail and Road Runners
- Juneau Alpine Club
- Juneau Snowmobile Club
- Juneau Off-Road Association (JORA)
- Southeast Jeep Club
- Hank Harmon Public Range (HHPR)
- Juneau Archery Club
- Territorial Sportsmen
- Trout Unlimited
- Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL)
- Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC)
- Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC)

In April 2022, a follow up workshop was held with user groups to draft their ideas for the area on a map. The ideas from this meeting were put together into the first draft of an infrastructure plan for the area.

This draft plan was presented to the public via zoom in a community meeting on August 10, 2022. Comments from the public received after this meeting were then used to revise the infrastructure plan and start a discussion on priorities, funding and management of the area. The revised plan was presented again at a meeting on December 7, 2022. Comments received after this meeting were used to revise the plan and inform next steps on plan implementation and management of the area as presented in this document. Public comments received after these meetings are available at bit.ly/MontanaCreekPlan.

V. SUPPORTING DATA

Requests and input from the survey and initial user group meetings indicated that background data should be collected and presented to help answer questions and inform planning efforts. The following data was collected and presented as part of the planning effort and is available on the project webpage: bit.ly/MontanaCreekPlan.



1. GIS DATABASE

A public GIS database was created under contract with the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition with existing resource data layers. The project area boundary and aerial imagery is included to help identify and locate areas. Data layers included in the map are watershed boundaries, lakes streams, culverts, wetlands, invasive plants, wildlife habitat, riparian areas, areas of core biological value, elevation contours, land ownership, trails, roads, other recreation infrastructure, motorized social trails, motorized use boundaries based on the motorized use maps developed as part of this project.

2. EXISTING COMMUNITY PLANS

Existing plans relevant to the project area were assembled, made available on the webpage and reviewed. These include the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, City and Borough of Juneau Comprehensive Plan, the Juneau State Land Plan, the Montana Creek Watershed Stewardship Plan, The Kaxdigoowu Héen watershed scoping document, and the Montana Creek Lands Assessment and Recreation Corridor Conservation Proposal.

3. CURRENT REGULATIONS ON MOTORIZED AND NON-MOTORIZED USE

USFS, DNR, and CBJ collaborated to create motorized use maps for the project area with regulations for each land management area. The dates, boundaries and information on the plans are based on regulations from the USFS, DNR and CBJ. See Appendix ii for motorized use maps.

VI. PLAN THEMES

Throughout the planning process, themes have coalesced from community input and discussion. These themes guide the infrastructure plan, priorities and funding, and ongoing consideration of management of the area.

1. ACCESS, CONNECTIONS AND DIVERSE USERS

The planning area is large and most formalized access points are to the south with two at the northern end. To the south, a small parking area and trailhead exists at the Spaulding Meadow trailhead for non- motorized use and a small parking area with a gated trail exists on Lake Creek Road which serves as access in the summer for non- motorized access and in the winter it is the primary motorized access to Spaulding Meadows. Montana Creek Road has multiple small parking areas for recreational access such as the staircase to the canyon area of the creek or in the summer the cul de sac at the end of the paved road. In the winter, the road is gated at the Hank Harmon Public Range and there is motorized and non-motorized access along the closed Montana Creek Road. To the north there are parking areas at the Peterson Lake and Windfall Lake trailheads.

Improved and expanded parking lots at Montana Creek Road, Spaulding Meadows and Herbert River Road are proposed as part of the plan based on community input. Trailhead facilities such as signage, restrooms, benches, covered areas should also be considered at trailheads. In the winter, many people come to this area because the cold air in the valley holds snow longer and extends the snow sports season. With climate change forecasting warmer and wetter winters, this access to higher elevations and snow will become more important. Motorized and non-motorized users would like to extend road access to higher elevations so that as snow starts melting in the shoulder seasons, snow activities can continue longer. The plan recommends researching

the feasibility of extending the Lake Creek Road access or the 25 Mile Road access with a parking area at a higher elevation for winter use.

Improvements to access for diverse users and abilities is also a key component and focus of the plan. Ensuring people who use the area for subsistence harvesting can get into the area to fish, pick berries and hunt is important, comments suggest adding shelters and day use areas to accommodate this use. Children and families exploring the area often have a shorter radius from trailheads that they explore and providing for nature education based experiences close to trailheads along with ADA standards in design is important for these groups.

The Juneau community, in general, loves public use cabins. The area holds three existing public use cabins currently; two are in non-motorized use areas and one is in a winter motorized use area. A fourth cabin is proposed in the Infrastructure Plan that would be accessible from motorized and non-motorized use areas. Trails proposed to connect to the cabins would create a four cabin hut to hut experience for non-motorized access and a two cabin hut to hut

experience for motorized access in the winter.

Loop and connecting trails are a key component of access planning. Working with user groups and the community, concept locations for trails are proposed that create loops throughout the area for both motorized and non-motorized access. While much of the project area is outside of developed residential or commercial areas, the southern end abuts schools and the Auke Bay/Back Loop Road communities. A connecting trail is proposed from existing Spaulding Meadows, Lake Creek Road and the Auke Lake Trail to University of Alaska Southeast and Auke Bay Elementary Schools. This would create connections into communities to bring people into the recreational network of trails.

Signage and communication of information and regulations is also an important piece of accessibility. Coordinating among land managing agencies and land owners to ensure consistent and clear signage for wayfinding, regulations and interpretation are placed in the right locations should be a focus of the plan implementation.

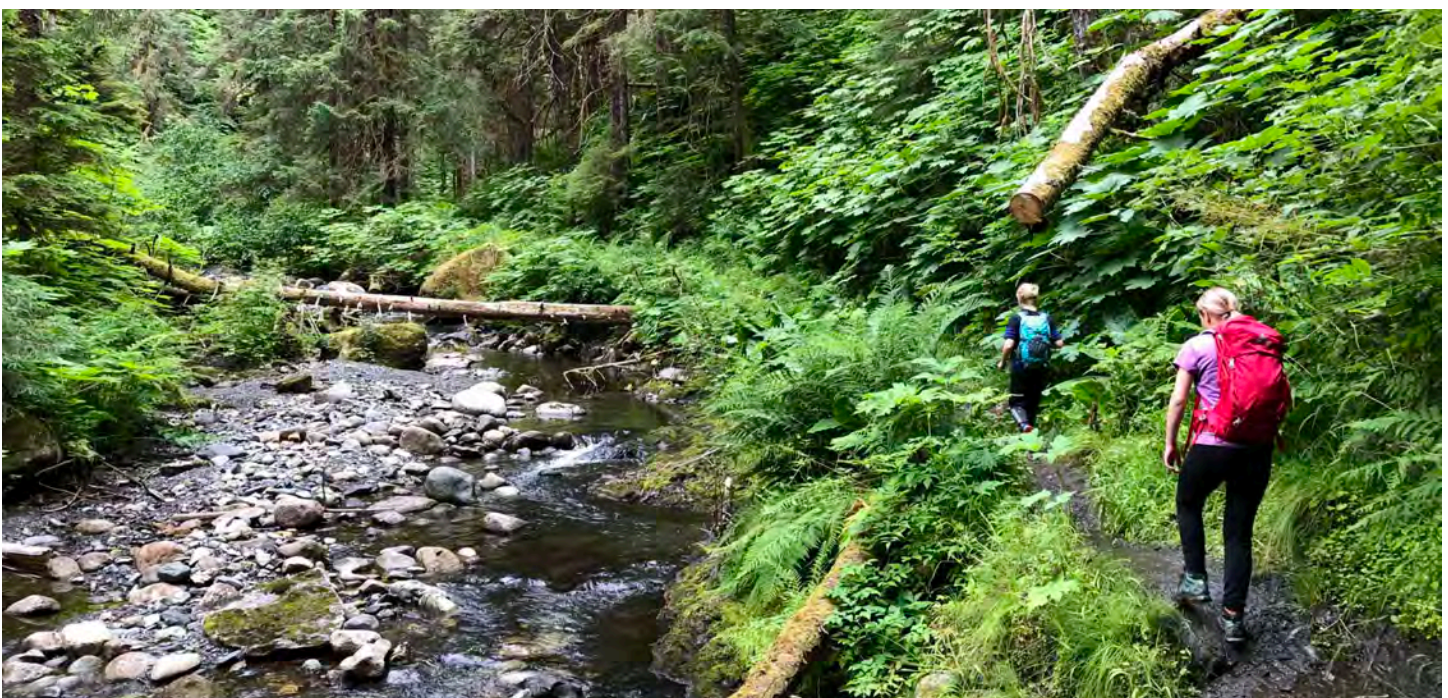


Photo credit: Dawn Welch



Joey Meier fishing on Montana Creek.

2. HABITAT PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

Much of the recreation and subsistence in the project area directly or indirectly depend on conservation and protection of fish and wildlife habitat and water quality. Community input has shown that the Montana Creek – Windfall Creek – Spaulding Meadow system is extremely high value habitat in Juneau and resource and efforts should be focused on protection and restoration.

Trout Unlimited published a Lands Assessment of the Montana Creek watershed in 2006 that explains to the community the high value of the watershed and makes management recommendations to ensure sustainability of fish habitat and recreational opportunities. The hydrology initiates in the Stroller White and McGinnis mountains and flows on the surface, subsurface and in creeks to feed the extensive system of bog and reed-sedge wetlands. The wetland, creek and forest systems support diverse wildlife and fish habitat. The creeks are prized in Juneau for supporting wild stocks of coho, pink, chum, steelhead trout, Dolly Varden char, cutthroat trout, and sockeye salmon in addition to other types of resident fish. Excellent spawning and rearing habitat exists in the project area. Recognizing the excellent habitat in this watershed, many of the recommendations in the Lands Assessment pertain to this project area. These include creating a stream conservation corridor extending 500' from either bank of Montana Creek, protecting all wetlands associated

with Montana Creek, and building a trail along Montana Creek and connecting it to the existing trail network (300' from creek). These recommendations should be followed in all future development in the project area. In addition, based on public comment on the plan, the 500' stream conservation corridor is recommended to extend along McGinnis Creek as well. Land managing agencies should investigate how to include this recommendation in planning, permitting and regulating this area.

Trail maintenance is an important component of habitat protection and restoration. Maintaining trails in the right locations to get people where they want to go and provide for an enjoyable experience is important. Providing good quality, easily accessible trails will discourage the creation of social trails that often damage habitat, stream crossings, or scenic viewpoints.

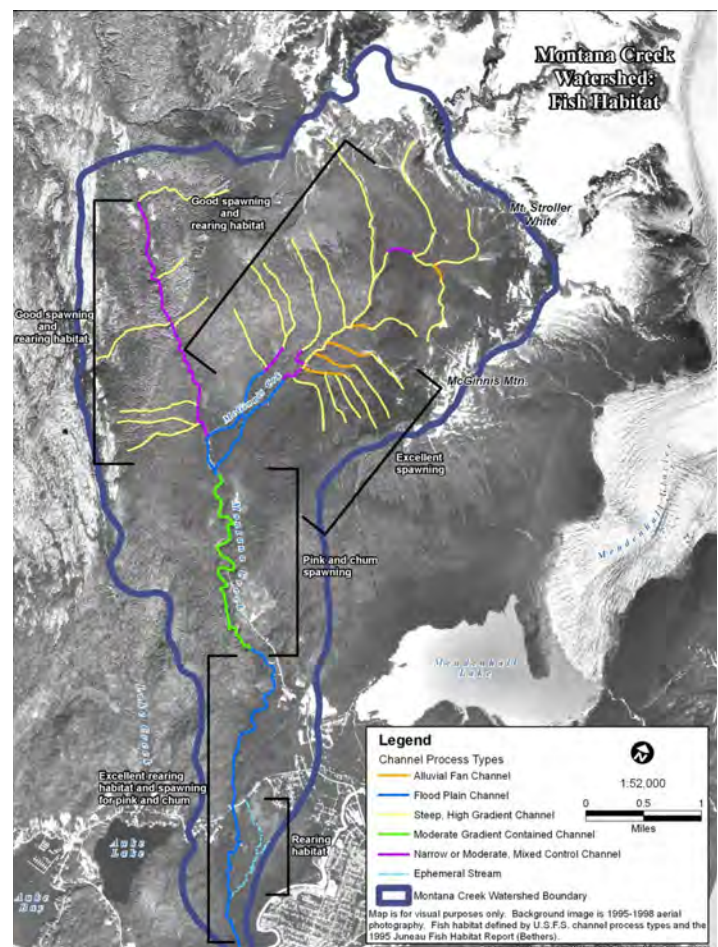


Photo credit: Trout Unlimited Lands Assessment, 2006

3. **MOTORIZED AND Non – MOTORIZED Use**

A significant number of comments have focused on issues of motorized and non-motorized use. The topics include separated vs. shared use on trails, current boundaries of regulated areas, management of access points, motorized use in the summer season, and trail design and construction for a particular type of use. Through public comment it became clear that regulations regarding use in the project area were confusing and not well understood by the community. For this reason, one of the early tasks in this process was for the agencies to work together to create maps showing current regulations for motorized and non-motorized use. These maps are shown in Appendix ii.



Photo credit: Juneau Snowmobiler Club

Under existing regulations, much of the project area is open in the winter to motorized vehicles running on a track or skis with sufficient snow cover; regulations can be found on the maps. Additionally, specific locations within the project area in the winter are dedicated to non-motorized use and other locations allow motorized vehicles of a certain size on wheels under certain snow conditions. The regulations vary across the project area. It is very important to understand the existing regulations in order to understand the proposed improvements and changes to the project area in the Infrastructure Plan. The Infrastructure Plan shown in this document

is based on existing regulations regarding motorized and non-motorized use. This was done because any changes to this use will have to undergo a public process that is determined by the land managing agency and will likely involve a structured decision making process.

The Infrastructure Plan proposed changes can be worked on and implemented while other management and use processes occur. The Montana Creek Area Plan process will continue as the public engages with each agency to consider management changes. See Section VIII: Management, for continued discussion.



Photo credit: Juneau Nordic Ski Club

VII. INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN – TRAILS, CABIN AND ACCESS

Through user input, the Infrastructure Plan was developed to address improvements related to trails, cabin and access within the existing management and use regulations. The plan is broad in scope and conceptual, meaning the intent and purpose of use, general locations, and connections between improvements are shown. For most elements, site analysis and further study must be done to verify feasibility and identify exact locations of the improvements. After further study it may be found that certain plan elements cannot be constructed because of slope and elevation issues, creek or habitat impacts, or other considerations. Or it may be determined that elements need to be moved to different locations. The plan lists priorities for primarily new construction, however, maintenance of existing trails and facilities is critical across all land ownership. Many of the trails have sections that are in need of drainage and tread improvements. Funding for ongoing and deferred maintenance on existing trails should be prioritized.

The following elements correspond to items shown on the plan in Appendix i.

1 and 2. Reconstruct Existing Trails from Montana Creek Road to Windfall Lake Trailhead/Herbert River Road. Improve drainage and tread, construct alternate trail access away from creek where possible and still accomplish environmental and access goals.

3. Develop new Mendenhall Glacier Area Access Trail to connect to Montana Creek Road. Include winter connection along or near the road to the groomed trail to allow for continuous ski access. Work with partners on maintenance, management and grooming.

4. Develop University - Auke Lake - Auke Bay Elementary - Spaulding Meadows Community connector trail. Connect existing and social trails

between community facilities and access points to neighborhoods. Work with the University of Alaska and the Juneau School District on trail design to ensure community connections.

5. Develop new Montana Creek Road to Lake Creek/Spaulding Meadows connector trail. Topographical and in the field analysis needed to identify if appropriate slopes can be constructed.

6. Develop new Auke Nu to Spaulding Meadows Trail to Lake Creek Connector Loop trail. Work with partners on design, maintenance, management and grooming.



Photo credit: Trail Mix and Trout Unlimited volunteer day, 2022

7. Construct new John Muir Cabin to Peterson Lake Cabin connector trail. This trail could include a loop to the base of Auke Mountain. Work with partners on design, maintenance, management and grooming.

8. Construct new Peterson Lake Trail to new cabin to Montana Creek Trail connector.

9. Construct trail extending from the end of 25 Mile Road to new cabin. Work with partners to design, manage and maintain the trail for winter motorized use.

10. Extend Lake Creek Road. Consider extending the trail and allowing vehicular traffic in winter to park at a higher elevation to access Spaulding Meadows and provide shoulder season access to snow. Develop partnerships for maintenance and management.

11. Extend 25 Mile Road. Consider extending the 25 Mile Road and allowing vehicular traffic in winter to park at a higher elevation to access Spaulding Meadows and provide shoulder season access to snow. Assess route for topography and climate to determine if access is possible and if this area would hold snow and colder temperatures longer. Develop maintenance and management partnerships.

The cost of designing and extending/building either road (#10 or #11) and maintaining it for winter access will be significant. This would likely require the construction of an outhouse and possibly other facilities similar to day-use rec sites so both options should be studied together to determine which one provides better benefit and is less costly. Supporters of either of these plan elements will be encouraged to work with the Forest Service in a partnership capacity to help fund the design, construction, and annual maintenance costs.

VIII. MANAGEMENT PLAN AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Many comments were received throughout the planning process requesting and recommending changes to existing regulations regarding management of CBJ, DNR and USFS lands, as well as the DOT-owned bridge and road section. The requests are for increased motorized use, increased non-motorized use, decreased or elimination of motorized use, increase of grooming activities, decrease of grooming activities to allow for more backcountry conditions, and changes in boundaries in Spaulding Meadow for motorized and non-

motorized uses. The work to address management issues of the land will continue in the next phases of the master plan process. The process to address management depends on the land managing agency with responsibility over the land in question. Information on the process for changing regulations and management in each land type is discussed below along with some information on working with Trail Mix, Inc. as a liaison and collaborator between agencies for trail based work and changes.

1. UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Changes to public land use designations (LUD's) such as adjusting existing motorized and non-motorized boundaries or allowing OHV use would require a revision to the Forest Plan. LUD's define which types of activities are allowable. The Tongass is currently in the pre-assessment phase of the revision process that is scheduled to begin in 2024. This will be a multi-year effort. During this process the Forest Service will accept comments from the public on proposed changes to land use designations. Topics involving motorized use changes would be addressed during this Forest-wide effort. This entire process will be similar in size and scope to conducting an Environmental Impact Statement which takes into consideration the full scope of existing conditions and impacts related to proposed changes. Final decisions on Forest Plan revisions are then signed by the Forest Supervisor.

Parties interested in getting involved in funding a specific project can reach out to the Juneau Ranger District Recreation Department. The Forest Service is supportive of working with partner organizations and can often share costs and workloads through cooperative agreements to accomplish tasks identified and approved through the planning process.

2. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The public can propose specific changes or provide input on regulations by visiting DNR's "Propose

Changes to Current Regulations” webpage, accessible here: bit.ly/3Z2BUam

Administrative Order 266 directs agencies to confer with the public and stakeholders to gather input and simplify or streamline regulation changes. DNR submits an annual report to the governor’s office outlining the department’s effort to support this process.



Photo credit: Trail Mix

DNR conducts public scoping before drafting regulations. Individuals can sign up to receive future online public notices on DNR’s proposed regulation changes by visiting the Alaska Online Public Notices webpage and clicking on the “Subscriptions” tab at the bottom of the page (under Feature Spotlight: <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/>)

3. CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

Public requests on land issues should be brought to the Lands Division or the managing department, which for the Montana Creek area is the Parks and Recreation Department. Changes to management of the area, for example changing land from a Park designation or changing motorized use regulations,

would require a public process. The request would be brought to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for a recommendation of support and then depending on the issue it would likely go to the Lands, Housing and Economic Development Committee for consideration. The issue may then continue to the full Assembly for consideration. Changes to code may be required and there may be additional public meetings, public notice and involvement with other departments.

For capital funding requests, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee offers the opportunity for public input on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in November and December each year as the CIP is developed. There are additional opportunities for public input with the Finance Committee of the Assembly in later winter and early spring as the CIP is finalized.

Improvements outlined in community plans, such as the Montana Creek Area Plan are typically prioritized in the CIP as the community process shows interest and value by the community.

4. TRAIL MIX, INC.

Trail Mix Inc. was created to enhance collaboration and communication between land managers. Trail Mix works with land managers to craft an annual work plan that brings together resources to meet the needs of the trail system. While Trail Mix does not manage public lands, members of the public are encouraged to provide input on the trail system at large as well as specific issues. The CBJ Parks and Recreation, Alaska DNR, and USFS Juneau Ranger District hold ex-officio seats on the Trail Mix board of directors and meet regularly on the fourth Thursday of each month. Trail Mix board meetings are an excellent forum to provide input and feedback to agency representatives collectively. More information on Trail Mix board meetings can be found at www.trailmixinc.org, on social media, or by subscribing to the Trail Mix newsletter.

IX. INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN PRIORITIES

Priorities for the implementation of the plan based on public input, feasibility, planning work required, and funding are as follows:

PLAN #	ACTION ITEM	LAND MANAGER	PRIORITY
1, 2	Reconstruct Existing Trails from Montana Creek Road to Windfall Lake Trailhead/Herbert River Road	CBJ, DOT, DNR, and USFS	mid
3	Develop new Mendenhall Glacier Area Access Trail to connect to Montana Creek Road	CBJ, USFS	short
4	Develop University - Auke Lake - Auke Bay Elementary - Spaulding Meadows Community connector trail	CBJ, UA	short
5	Develop new Montana Creek Road to Lake Creek/Spaulding Meadows connector trail	USFS	long
6	Develop new Auke Nu to Spaulding Meadows Trail to Lake Creek Connector Loop trail	USFS	long
7	Develop new John Muir Cabin to Peterson Lake Cabin connector trail	USFS	long
8	Develop new Peterson Lake Trail to new cabin to Montana Creek Trail connector	USFS	mid
9	Develop trail extending from the end of 25 Mile Road to new cabin	USFS	long
10	Extend Lake Creek Road	USFS	long
11	Extend 25 Mile Road	USFS	long
	Develop New Cabin	USFS	short
	Develop Covered Picnic Areas	CBJ	short
	Expand Parking and Trailhead Improvements Montana Creek Road	CBJ	mid
	Expand Parking and Trailhead Improvements Auke Nu	CBJ	mid
	Develop Signage	CBJ, DOT, DNR, and USFS	short
	Perform Habitat Restoration	CBJ, DNR, ADFG	short
	Replace Montana Creek Road Bridge	CBJ, DOT	short
	Work towards DNR Cooperative Management Agreement	CBJ, DNR	short
	Research and evaluate a biathlon range in the project area	CBJ, DNR, USFS	long
	Research and evaluate alternate access to the non-motorized areas of Spaulding Meadows such as Stabler's Point and Auke Nu Trail	CBJ, USFS	long

X. NEXT STEPS

1. DOT and CBJ are collaborating on the application for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant funding to replace the Montana Creek Bridge. The current proposal would transfer bridge and road management to CBJ upon completion of the new bridge installation.
2. USFS is requesting funding for cabin and access trails - The recent Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) has provided funds for the construction of a new cabin and spur trail in the Montana Creek drainage. Prior to construction, the Forest Service will need to undergo a NEPA process to properly identify and approve the final design and location. This effort may be bundled together with the analysis of other BIL-funded cabin proposals on the Juneau Ranger District.
3. CBJ and USFS are coordinating on a trail connection from Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area to Montana Creek Recreation Area, #3 on the plan.
4. DNR and CBJ Cooperative Management Agreement – CBJ and DNR will begin discussions regarding the process for entering into a Cooperative Resource Management Agreement for DNR-managed lands near Montana Creek Road. The process will be public with opportunities for input and comment from the community.
5. Agency collaboration on signage, education and enforcement is ongoing.

Management changes occur through different processes and on different timelines as outlined in Section VIII. These changes will require public engagement and in some cases public initiation of a process. This plan narrative, public comment, maps and background data can be used to support requests for management changes with specific agencies and can be used by policy makers as background data to inform decision making.

All documents and public process information referenced in this report can be found on the project webpage: bit.ly/MontanaCreekPlan.



Photo credit: Brad Elfers

Appendix i

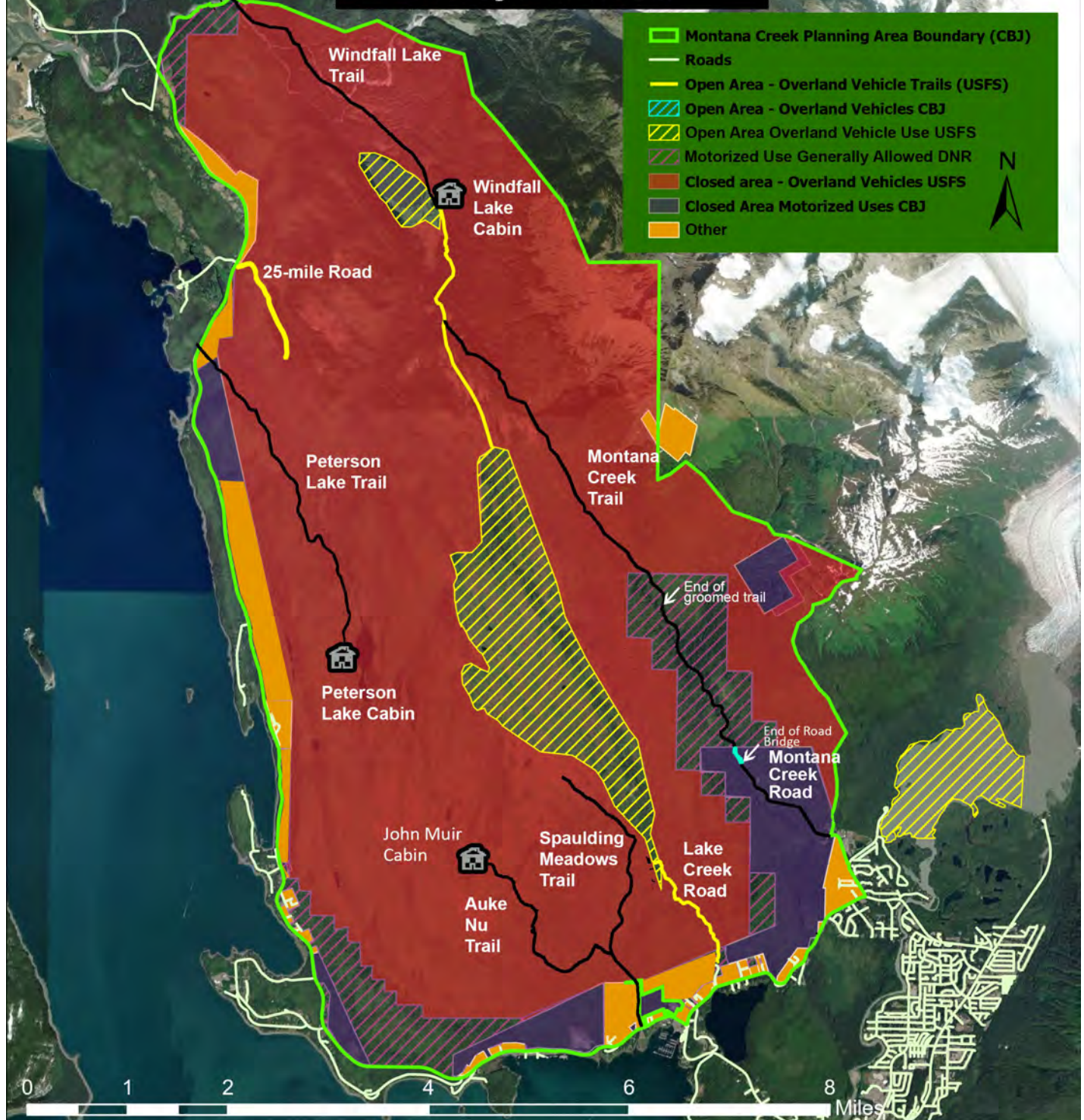
Infrastructure Plan Map



Appendix ii

Motorized Use Maps

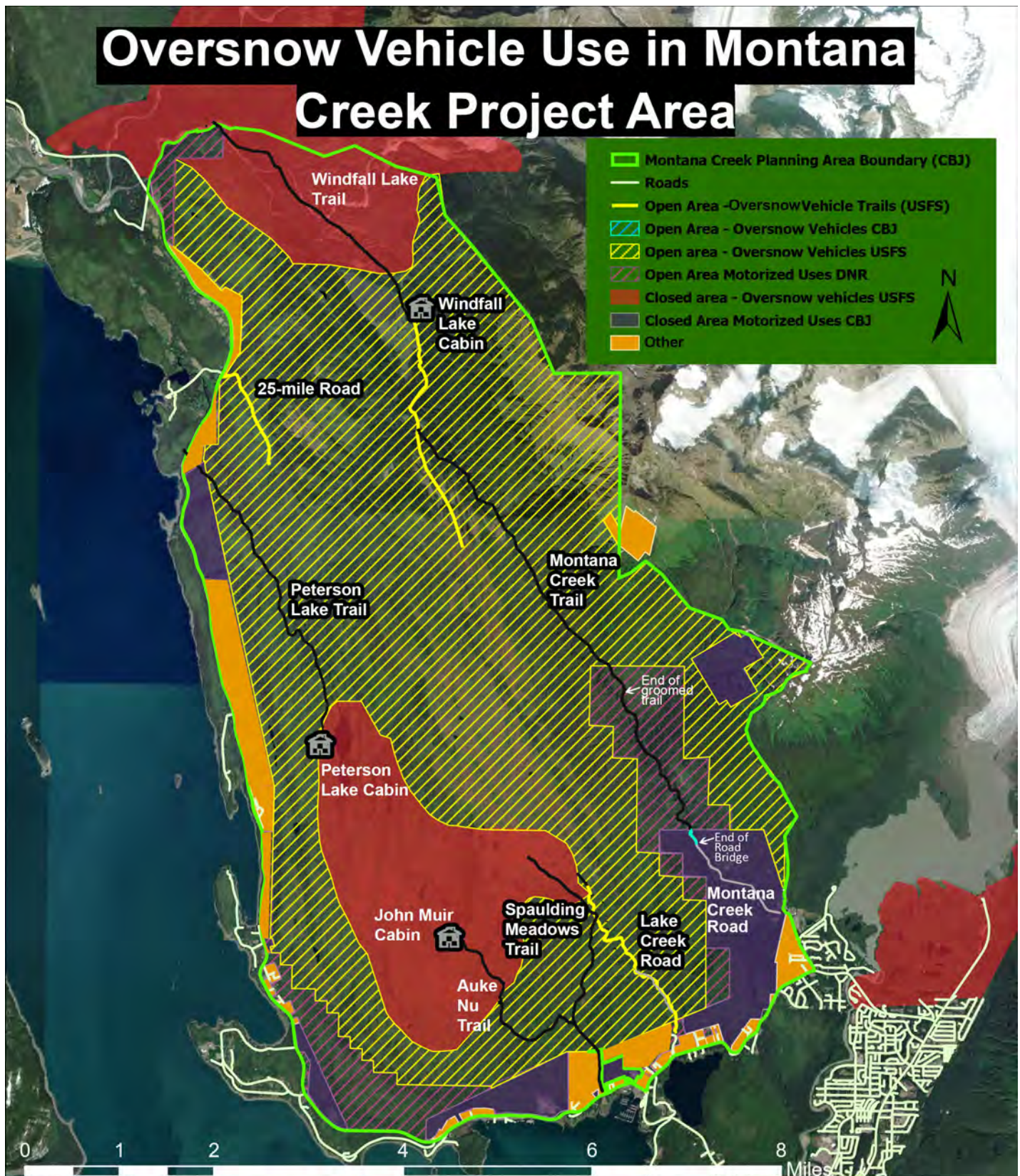
Overland Vehicle Use in Montana Creek Project Area



Description of Use by Land Manager:

USFS - Open and closed areas are for "overland vehicles" defined as wheeled vehicles such as ATVs or dirtbikes with 50" or less vehicle width. Open areas are seasonal, 12/15-4/15 with a minimum of 12" of snow present. 25-Mile Road is open year round regardless of snow depth. Oversnow vehicles use (tracked machines) is not designated on this map. **DNR** - Motorized Use must not exceed conditions in DNR's Generally Allowed Use regulations per 11AAC 96.020. The operation of wheeled or tracked vehicles in a specified anadromous waterbody requires a fish habitat permit under AS 16.05.871. **CBJ** - Motorized use is prohibited on parkland and allowed in Right of Way.

Oversnow Vehicle Use in Montana Creek Project Area



Description of Use by Land Manager:

USFS - Map depicts open and closed areas for "oversnow vehicles" defined as tracked vehicles such as snow machines and snow bikes. Use is allowed only with a minimum of 12" of snow present as measured at the end of the hardened Lake Creek Trail. 25-mile Road is open year round regardless of snow depths.

DNR - Motorized Use must not exceed conditions in DNR's Generally Allowed Use regulations per 11AAC 96.020. The operation of wheeled or tracked vehicles in a specified anadromous waterbody requires a fish habitat permit under AS 16.05.871.

CBJ - Motorized use is prohibited on parkland and allowed in Right of Way.

Appendix iii

Survey Document

SECTION 1:

BACKGROUND

The City and Borough of Juneau is working with the United States Forest Service, the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and Trail Mix to develop the Montana Creek Master Plan. As a first step in this process, the public was invited to take a community survey. The goal of the survey is to understand community values and use of the area.

The Montana Creek Master Plan will encompass the Montana Creek valley, watershed, Spaulding Meadows, and surrounding areas. Recreational activities that take place there include fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, shooting sports, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, four wheeling, camping, and subsistence harvesting.

The survey ended Thursday August 19th, 2021 and **1,016 responses were collected.**

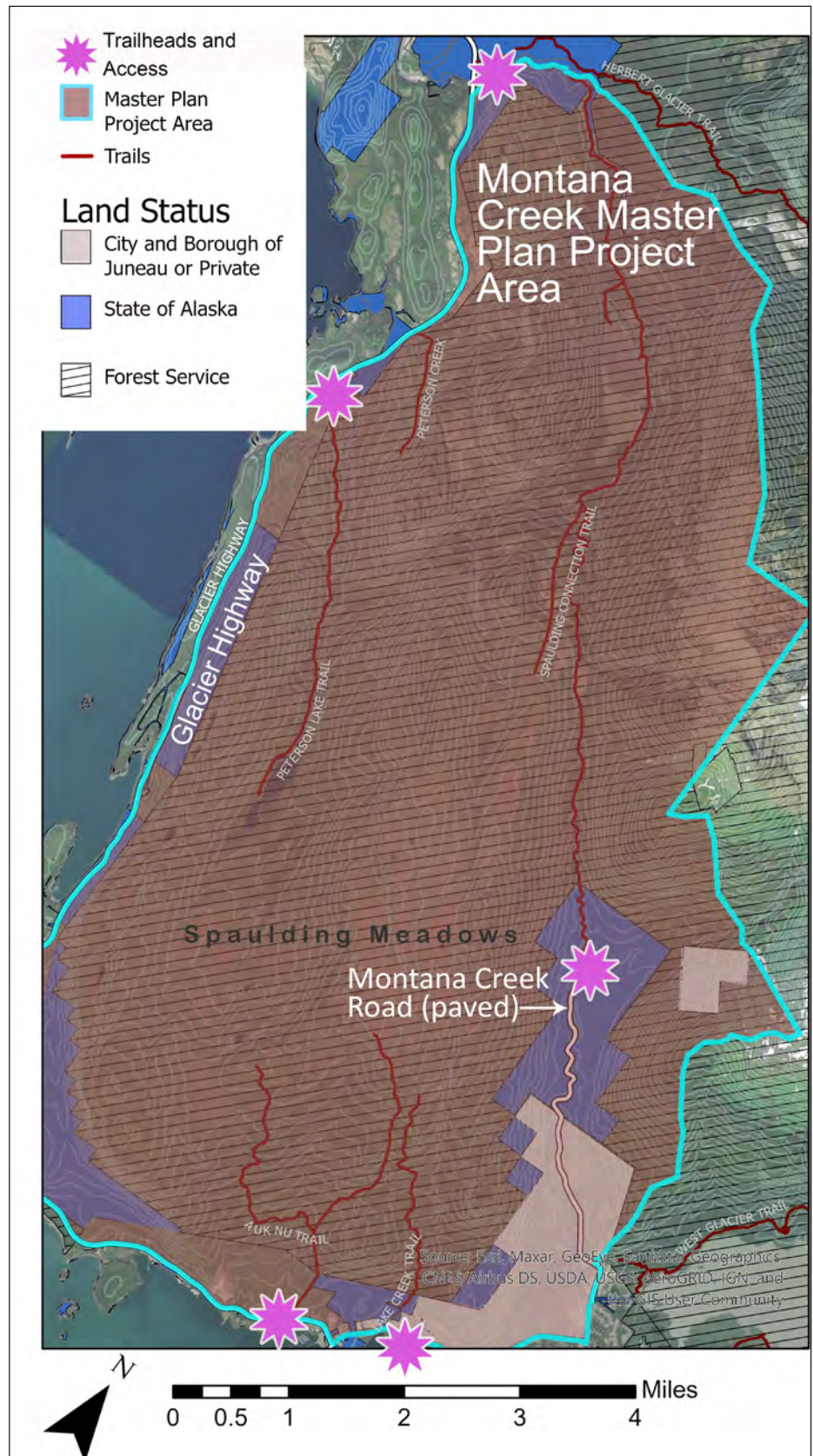
The results have been tabulated and converted into a summary contained within this document. The following are the major parts cover by the survey to which the results are reflected:

- Part 1: User Information
- Part 1.2 Family Use
- Part 2: Vision for the Creek
- Part 3: Values and Priorities
- Part 4: Knowledge of the Fish Creek Recreation Area

Narrative comments have been categorized and added at the end of the report.



Community Planning & Survey Administrators



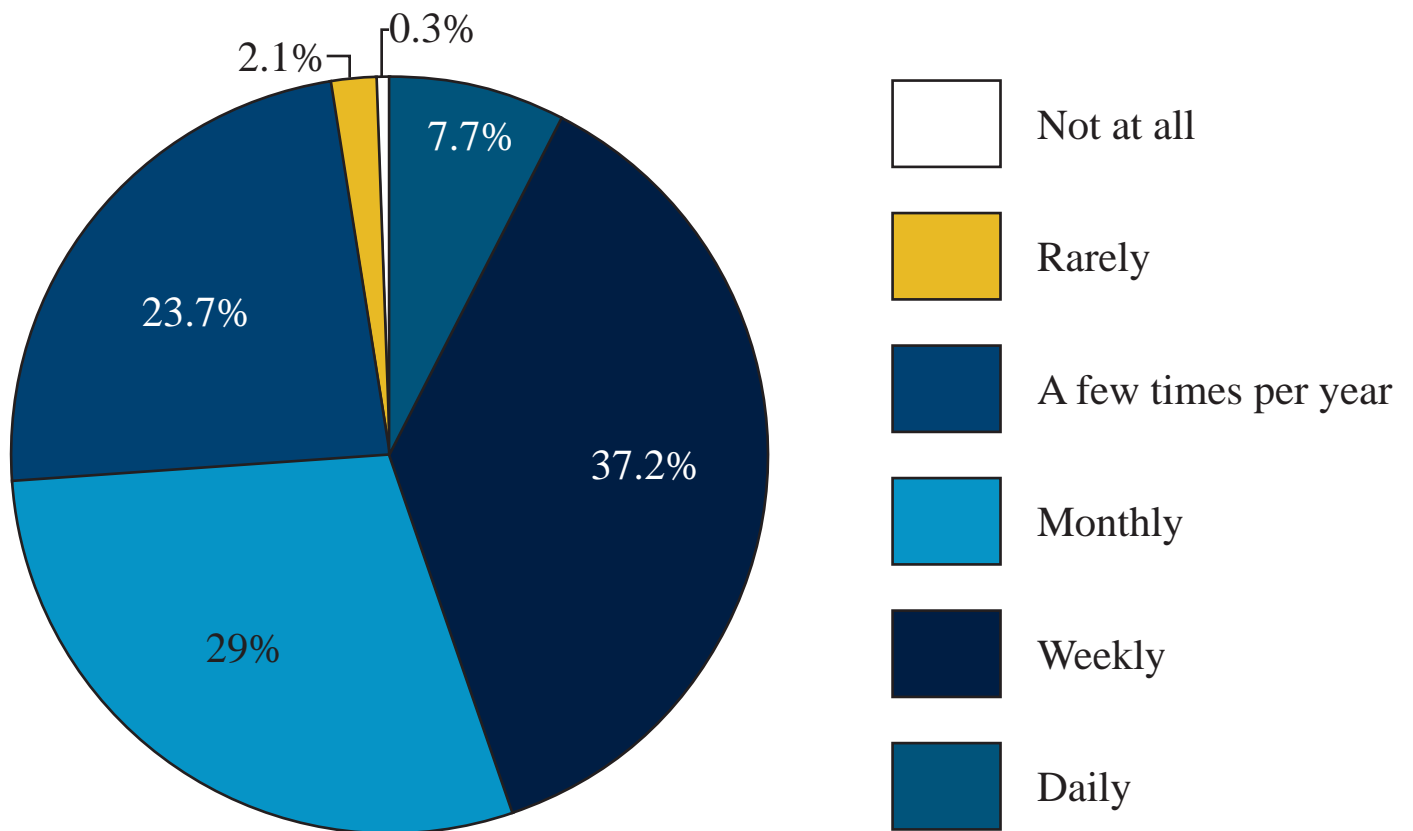
Montana Creek Road Area Land Ownership Map

SECTION 2:

SURVEY RESULTS

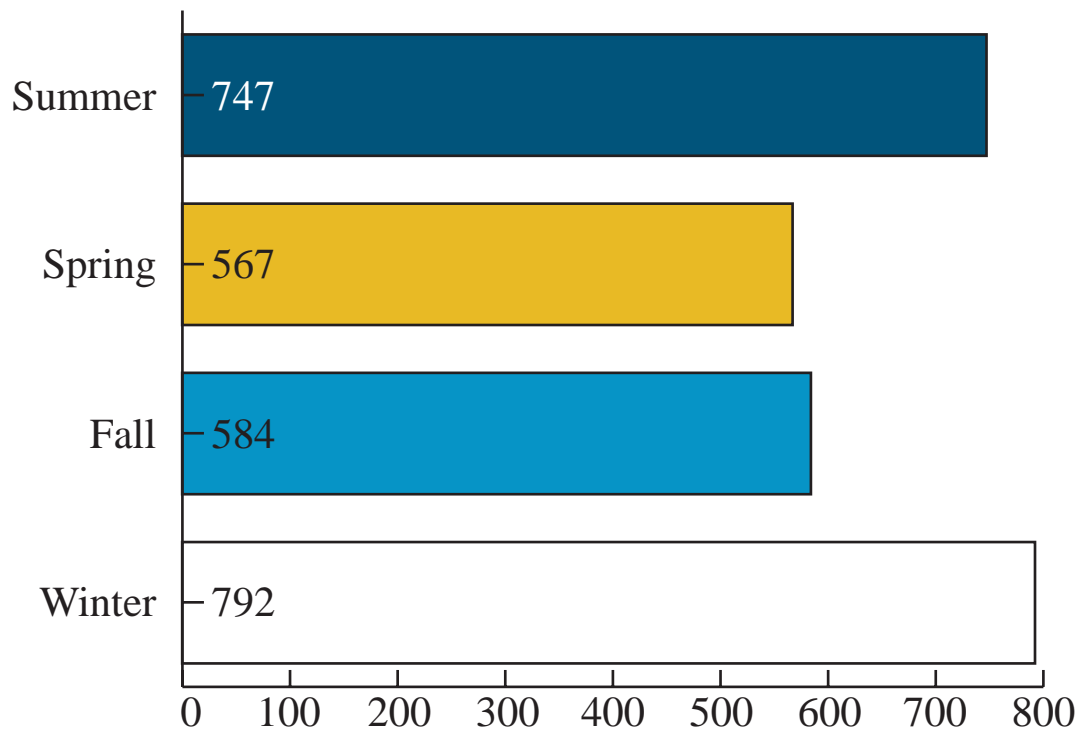
Question 1: How frequently do you use the Montana Creek Recreation Area?

Responses: 1,010



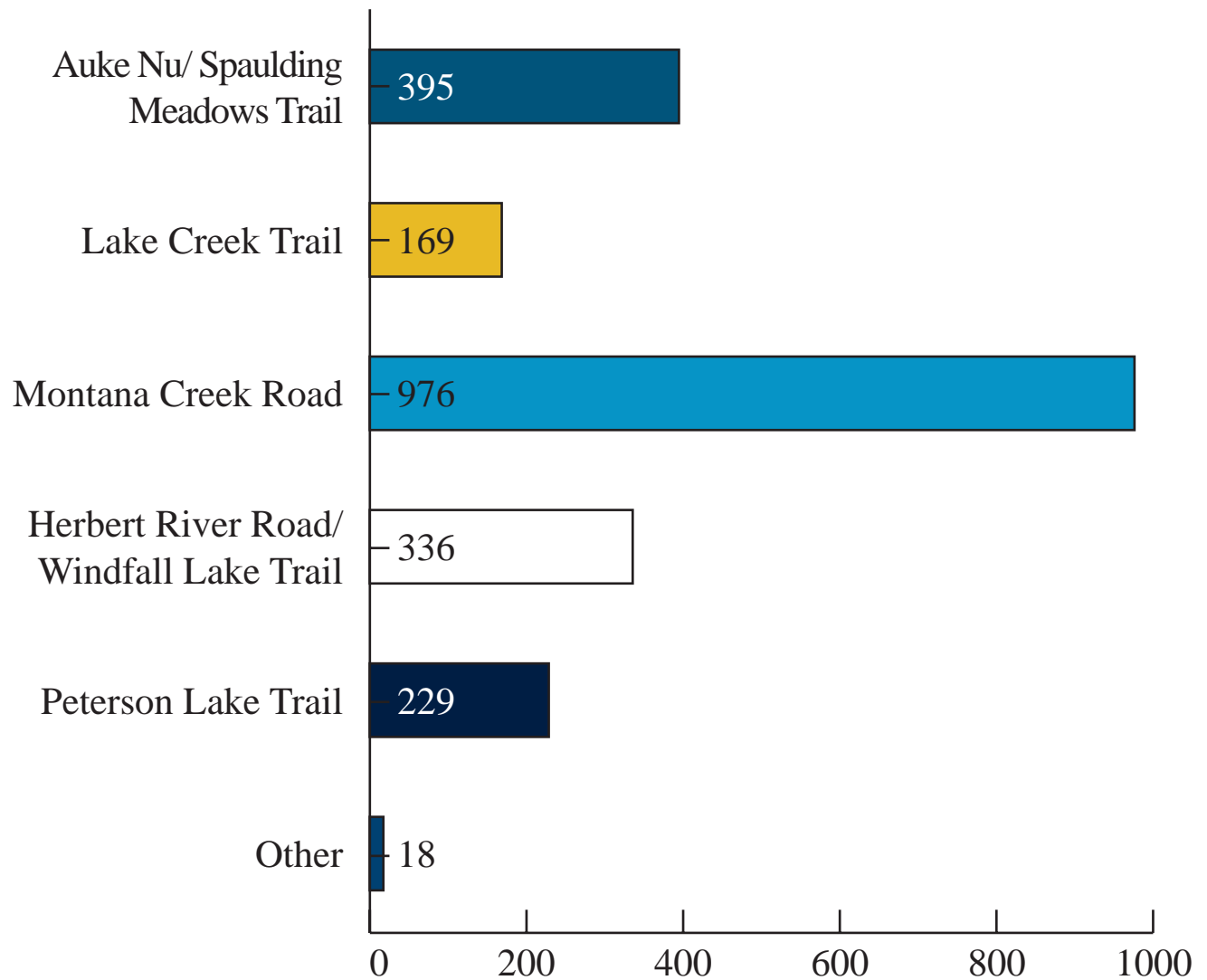
Question 2: During which seasons do you mostly use the area? (Check all that apply)

Responses: 1,009 Responses



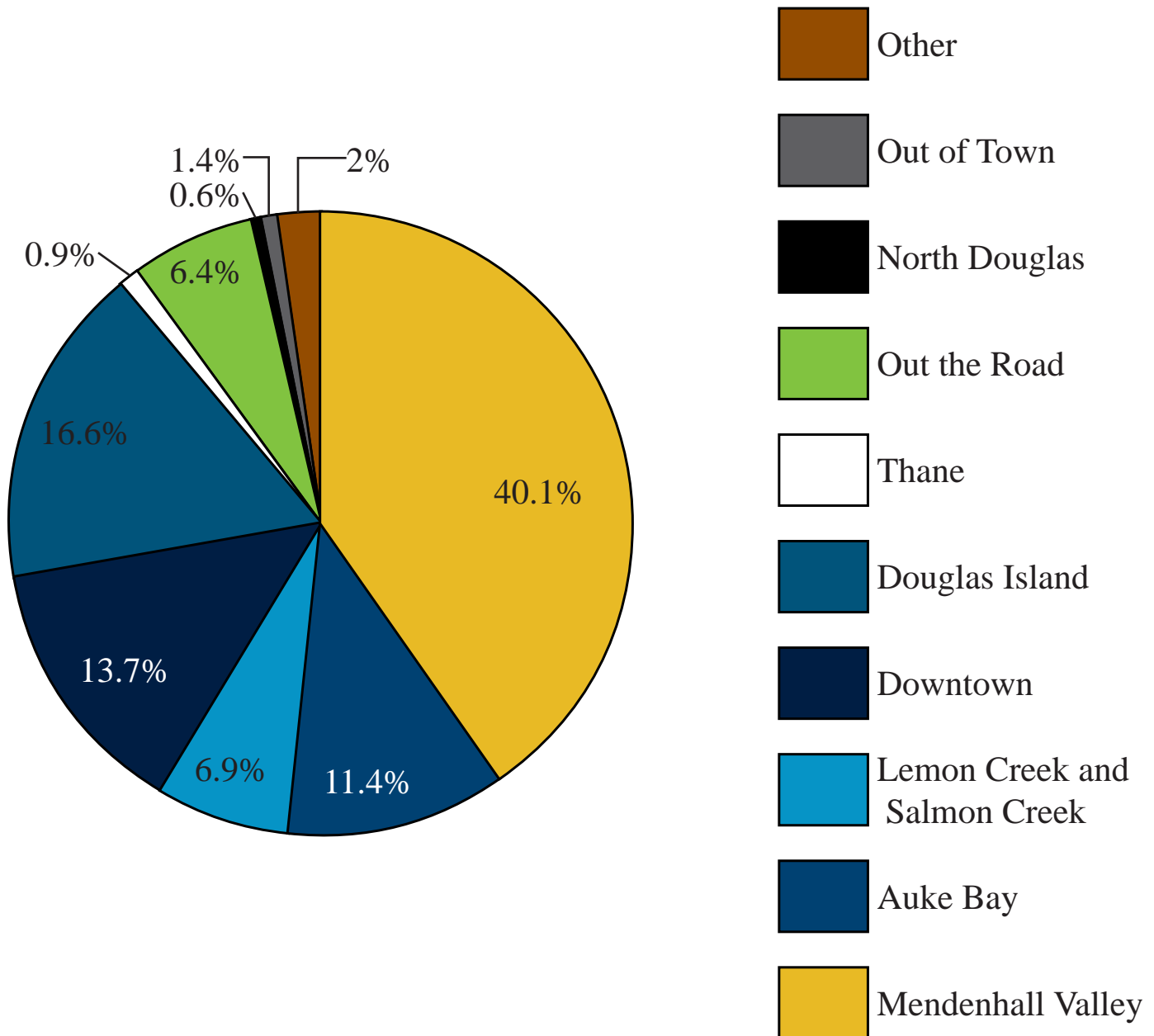
Question 3: How do you access the Montana Creek area?

Responses: 1,009 Responses



Question 4: What area of town do you live in?

Responses: 1,014

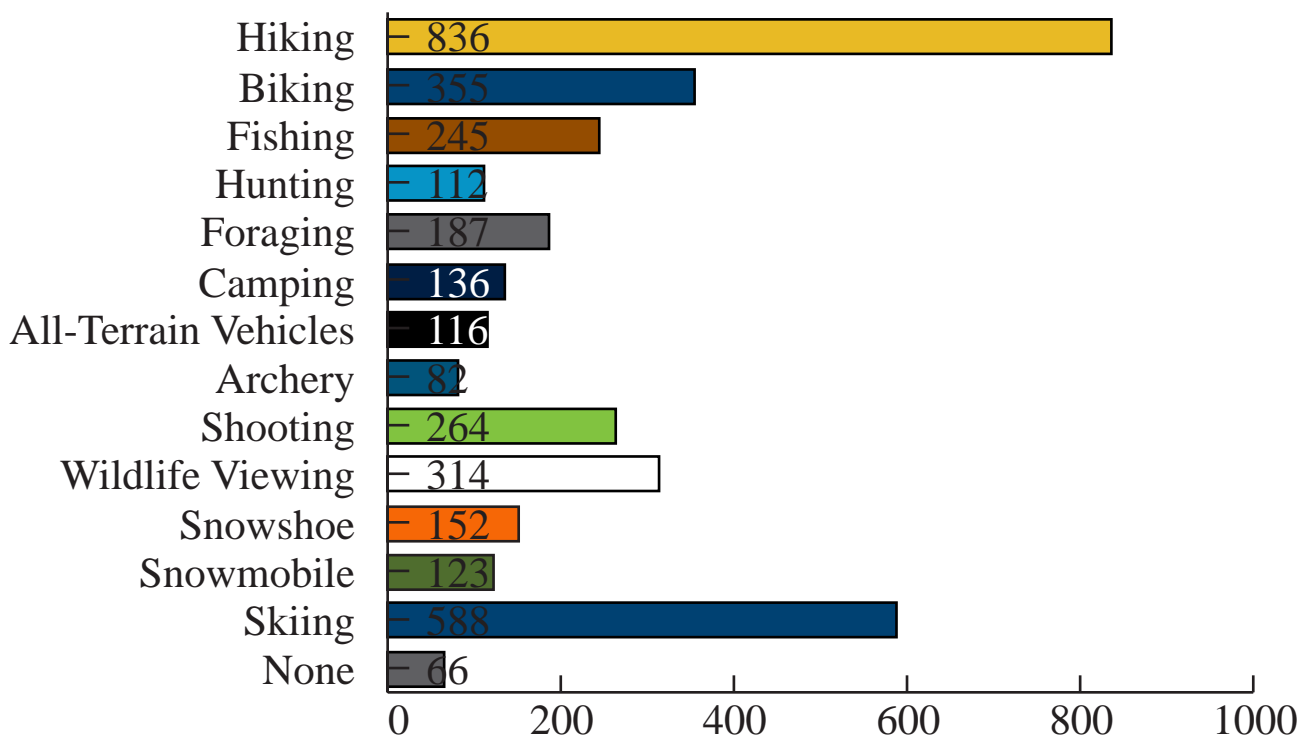


Responses: 895



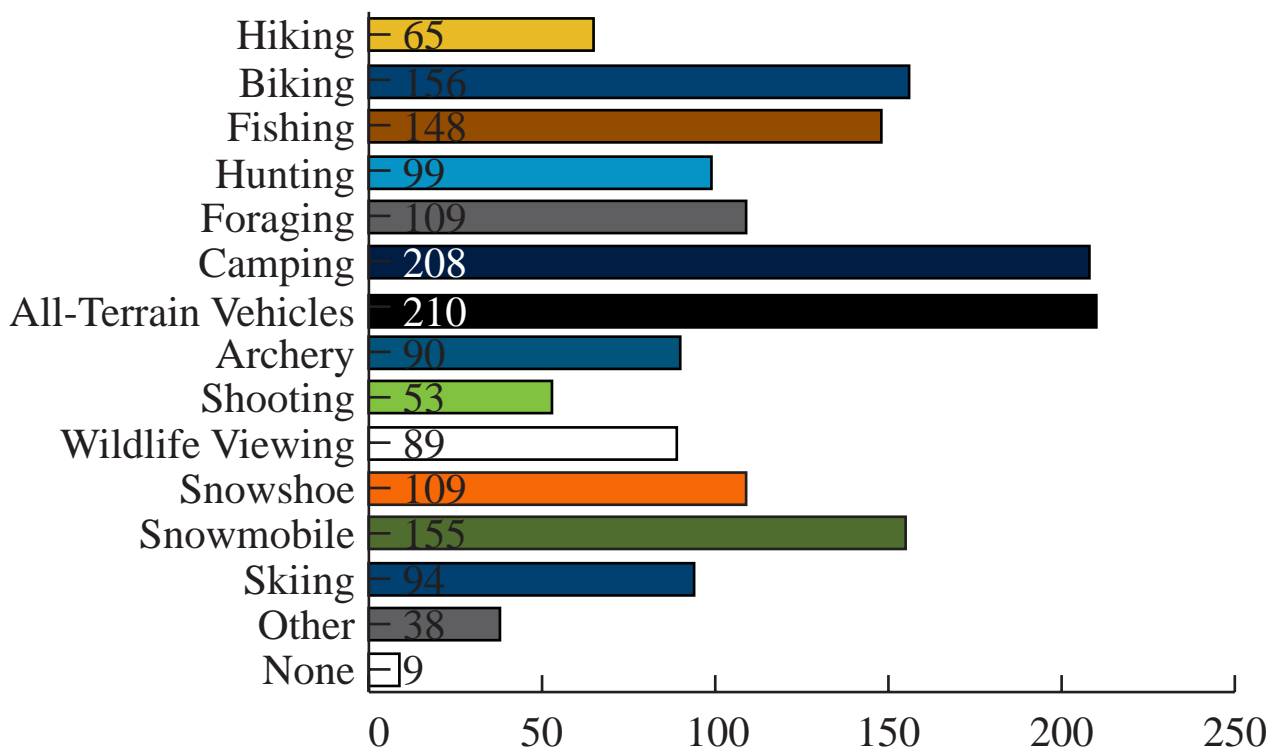
Question 6: In the last twelve months, which recreational activities in the Montana Creek area did you most frequently engage in? (check all that apply)

Responses: 1,005



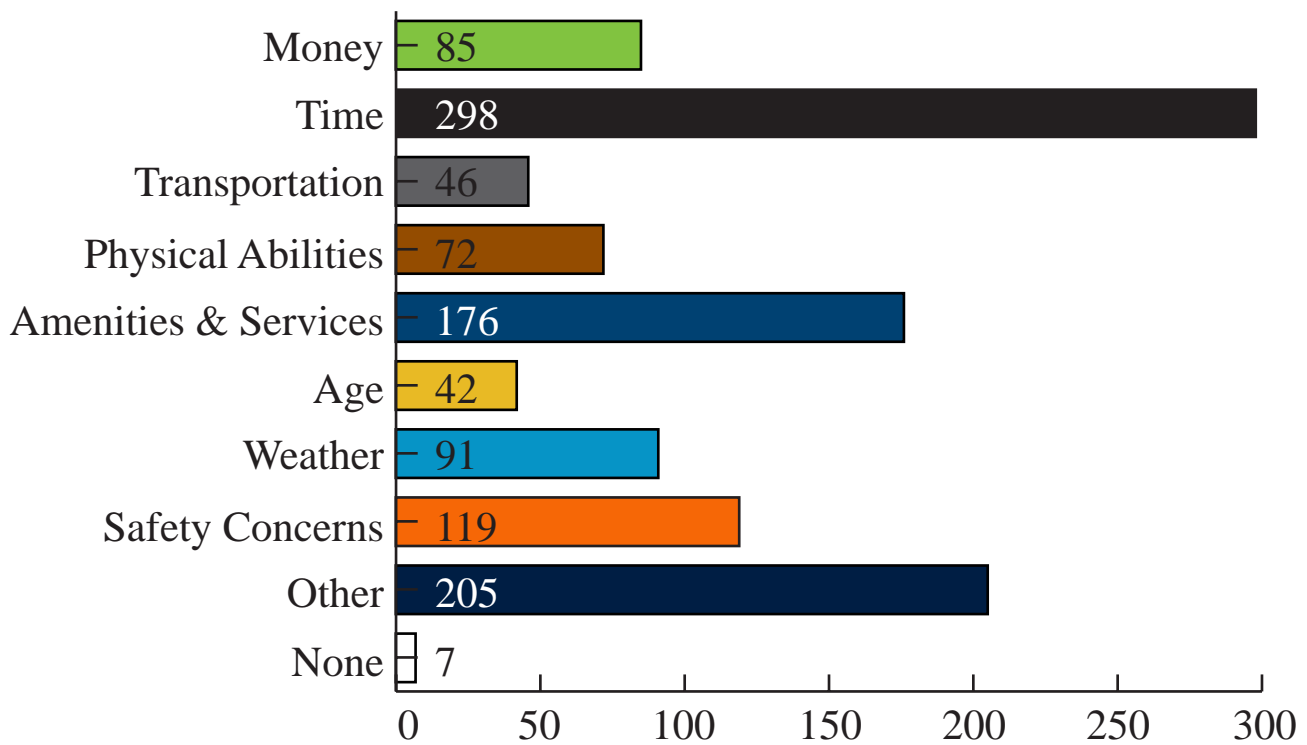
Question 7: What recreational activities do you or any others in your household NOT PARTICIPATE IN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO in this area? (check all that apply)

Responses: 705



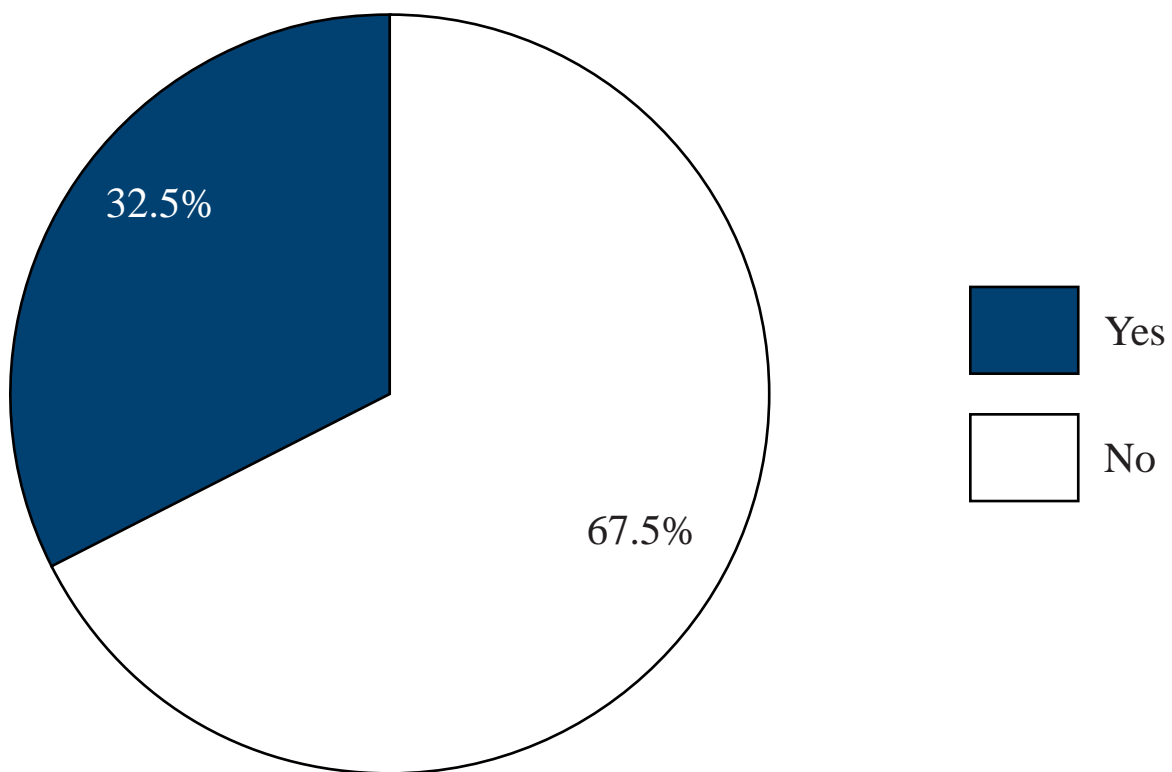
Question 8: What barriers are keeping you or any other in your household from participating in these activities in this area? (check all that apply)

Responses: 743



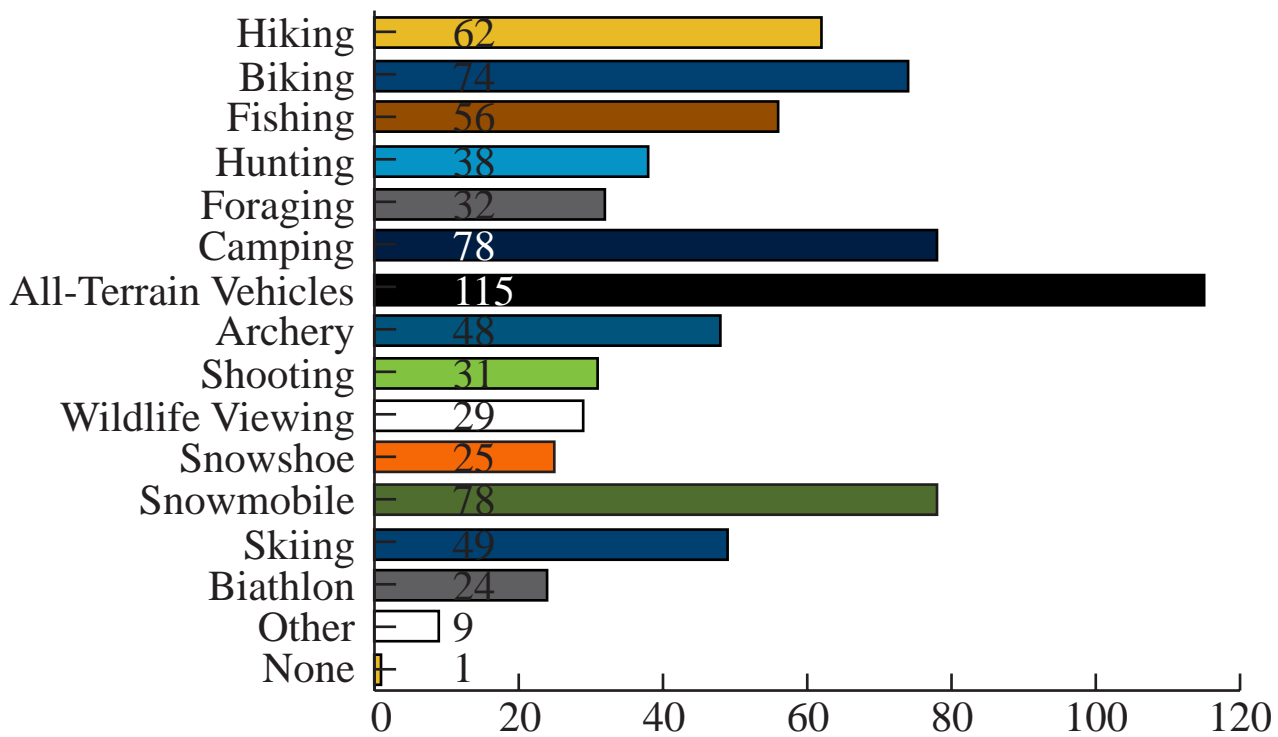
Question 10: Is anyone in your household below the age of 18?

Responses: 1,008



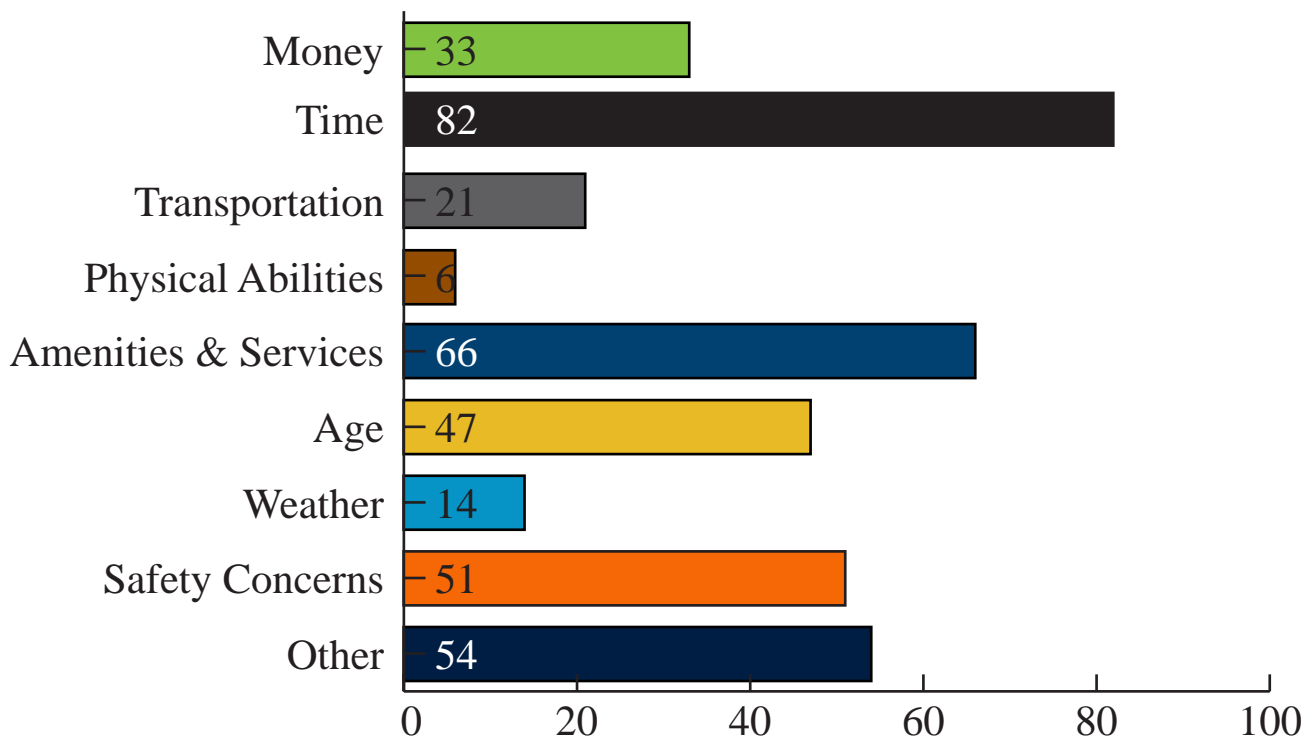
Question 11: What activities do children in your household NOT PARTICIPATE IN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO in this area? (check all that apply)

Responses: 242



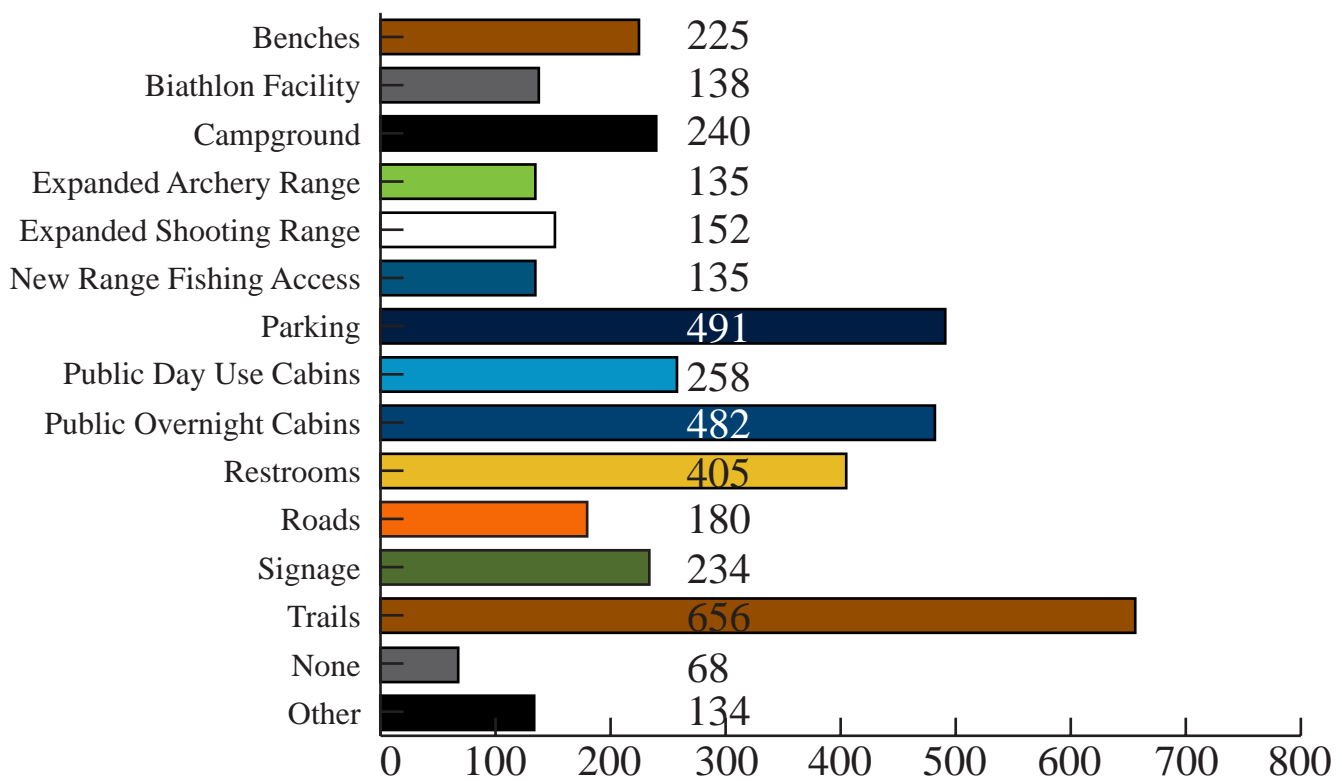
Question 12: What barriers are keeping children in your household from participating in these activities in this area? (check all that apply)

Responses: 233



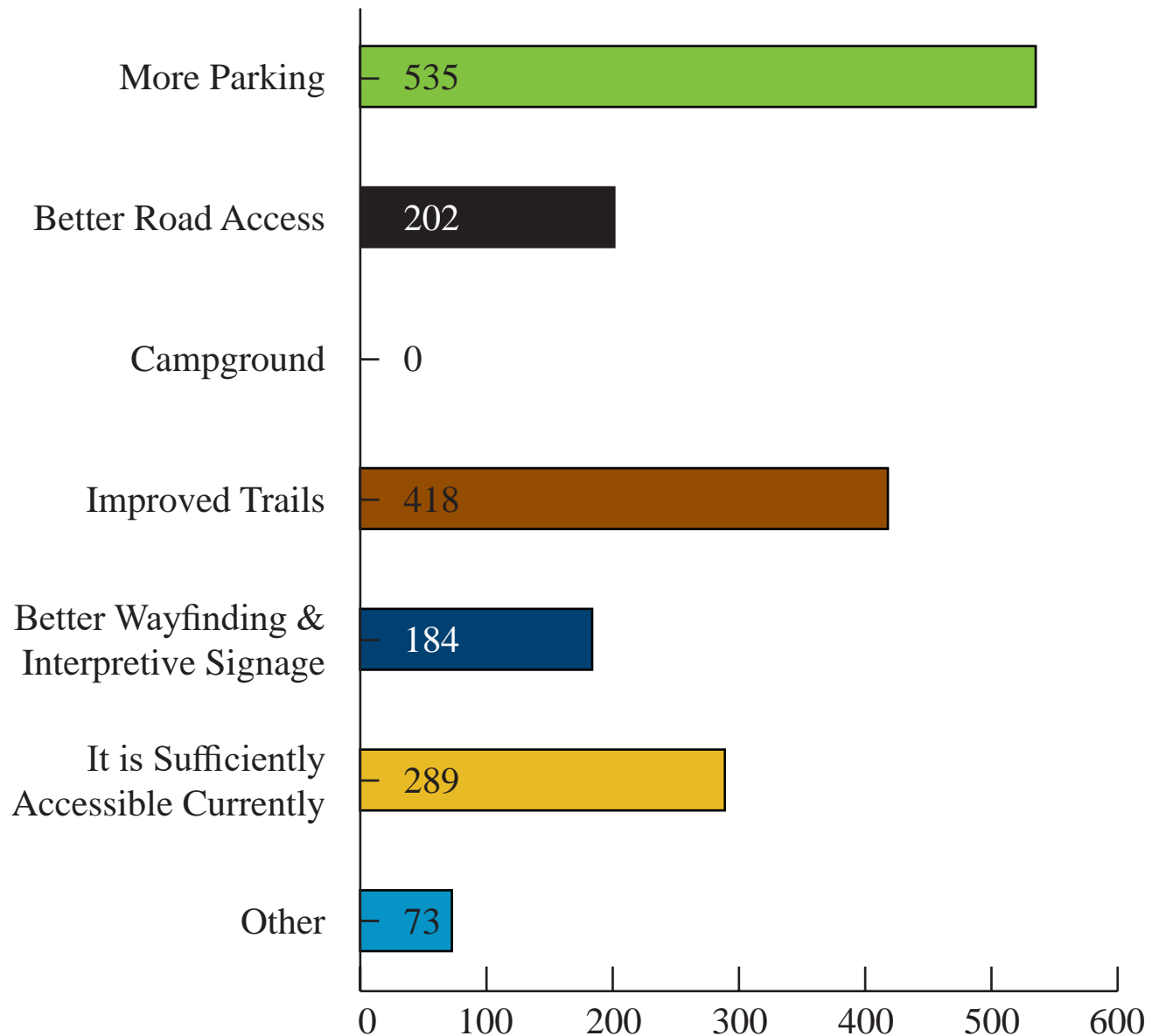
Question 14: What types of specific investments in new recreation assets or support infrastructure do you think should be made in the next 10 years? (check all that apply)

Responses: 999



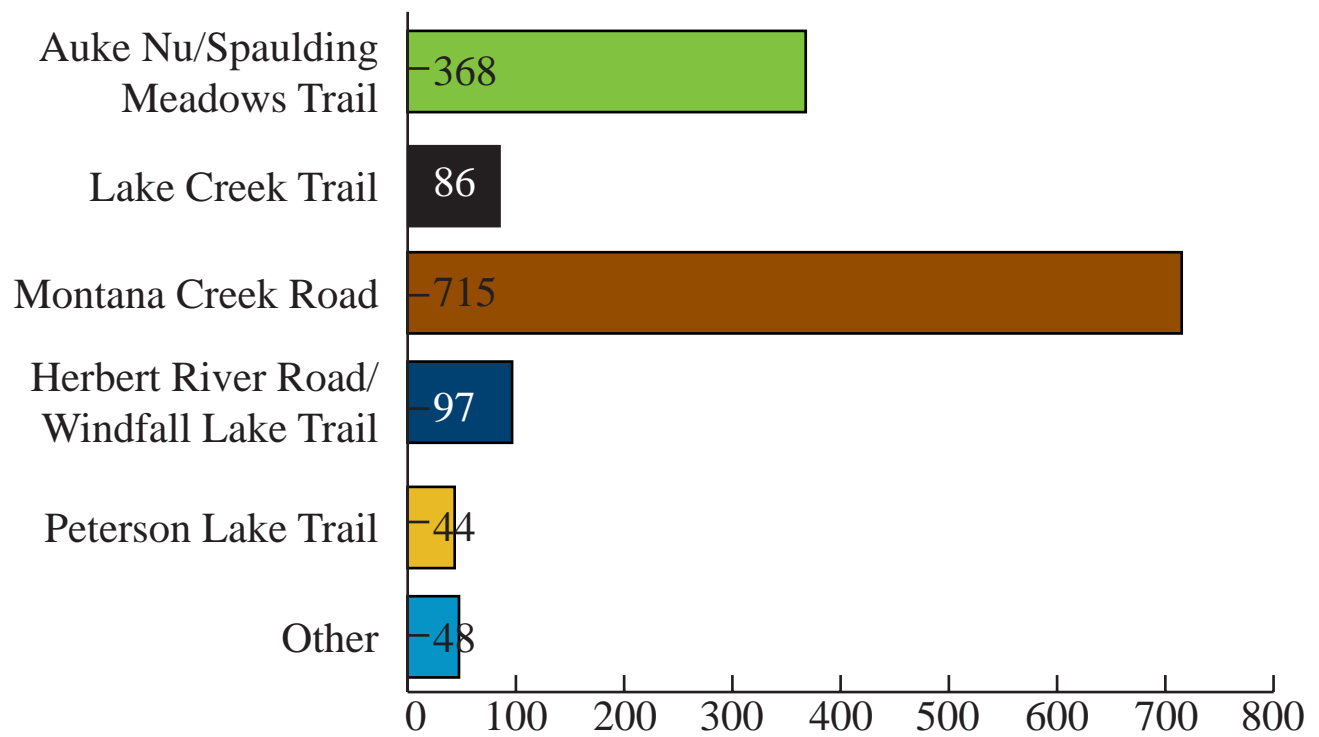
Question 15: How can this area be made more accessible for recreation?
(check all that apply)

Responses: 985



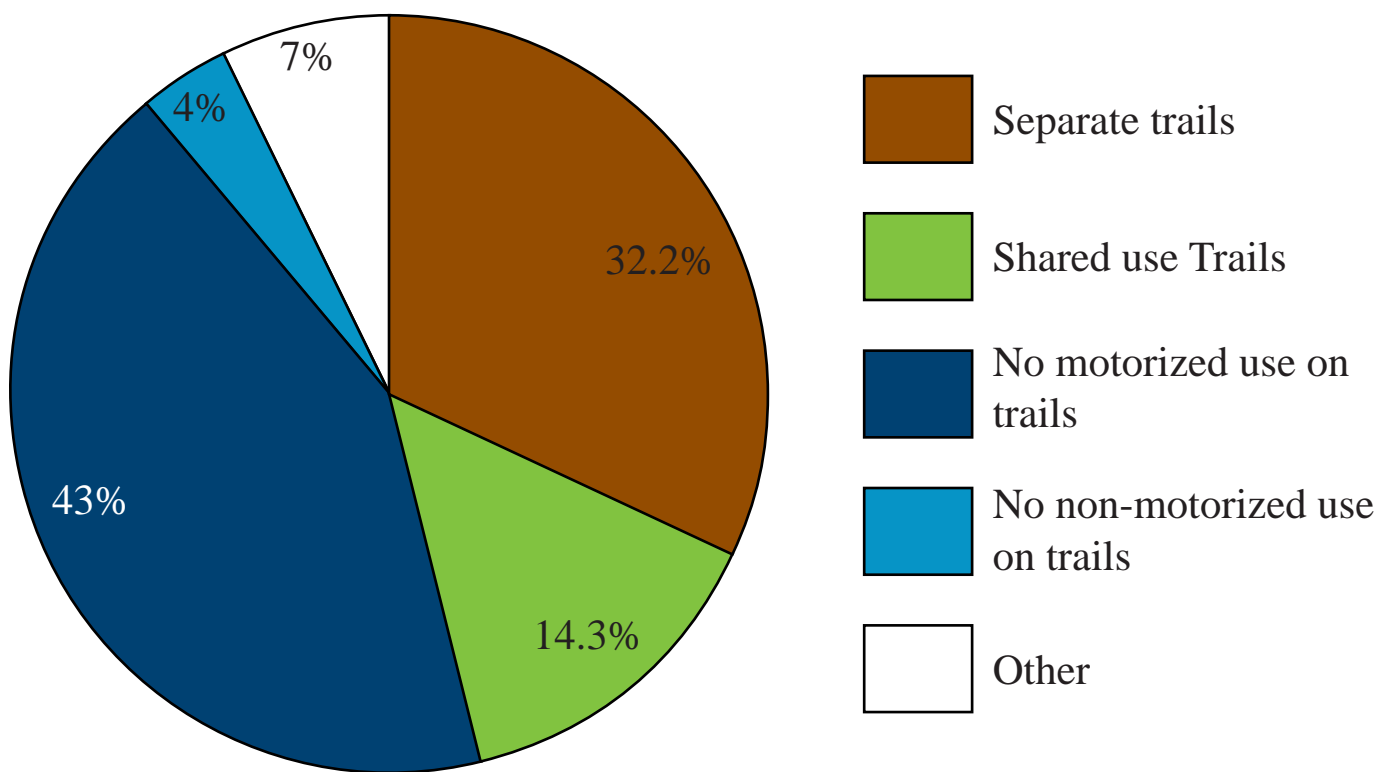
Question 16: If parking for Montana Creek access is added, where should there be more parking? (check all that apply)

Responses: 871



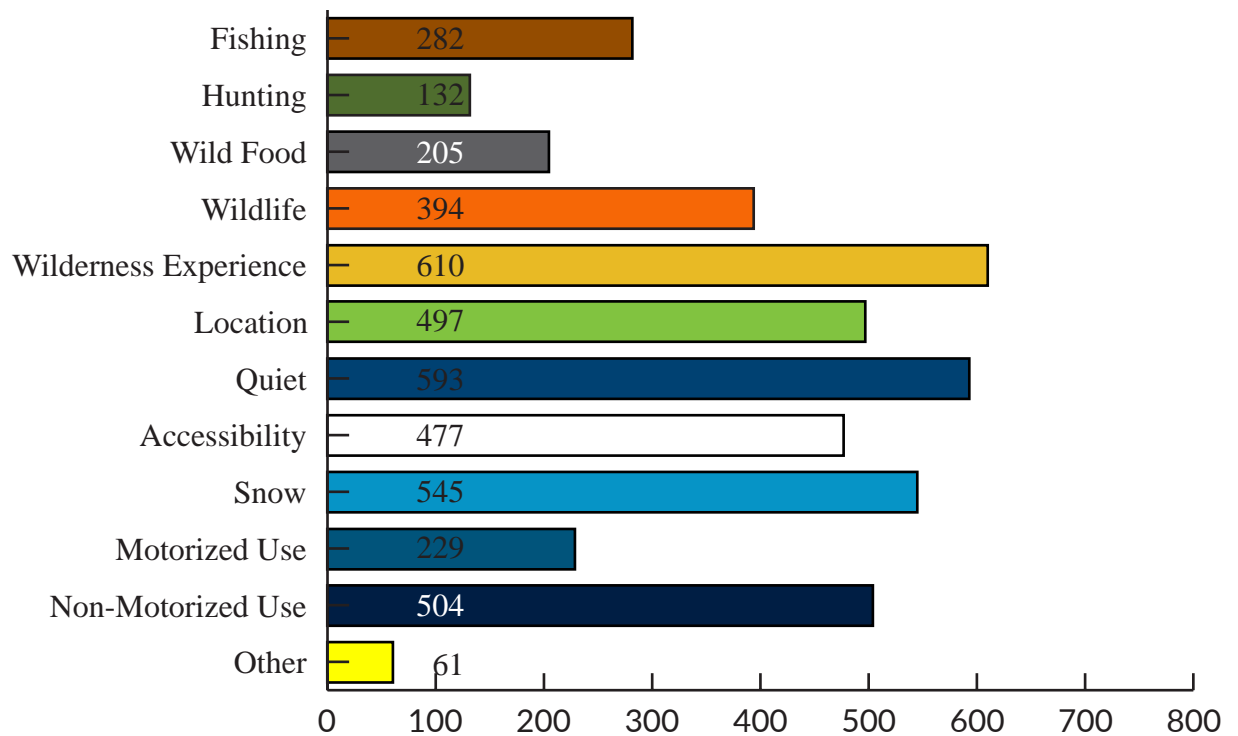
Question 17: Would one of these options improve your recreational experience of the area?

Responses: 980



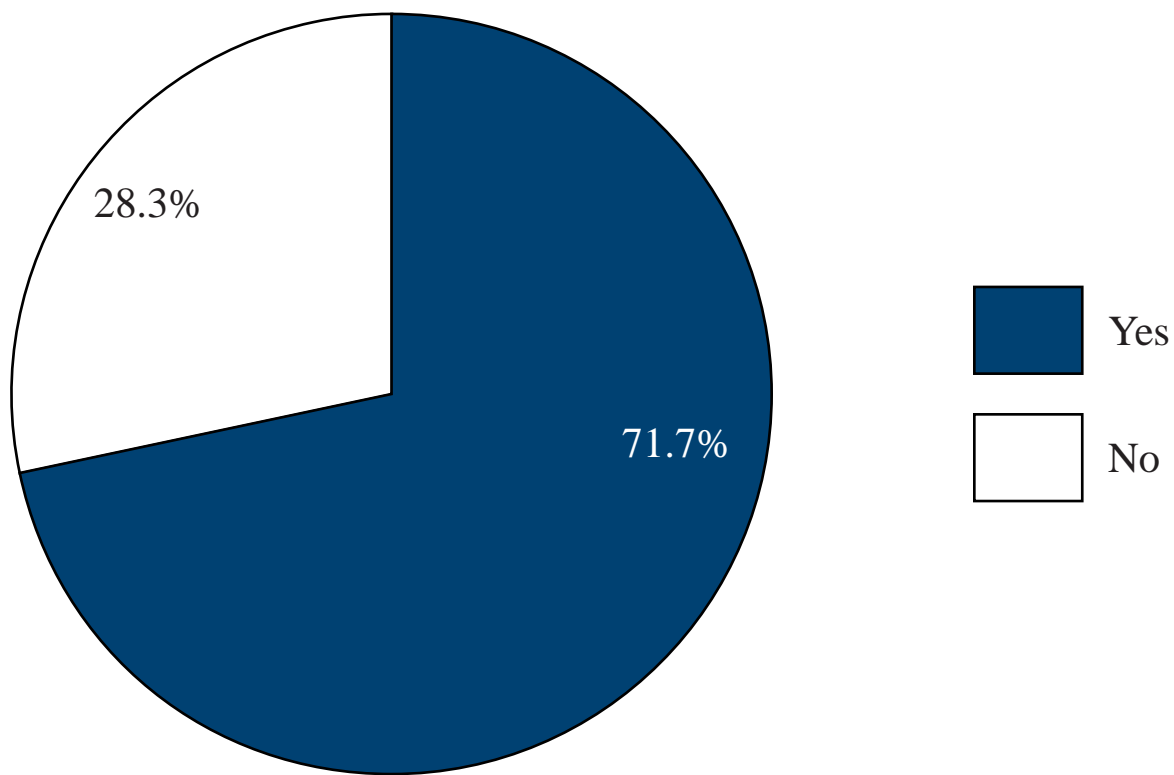
Question 18: What do you value most about the Montana Creek Recreational Area? Please prioritize what the most important features in the area are for you. (Check all that apply).

Responses: 1,008



Question 19: Did you know that three government agencies (United States Forest Service, State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and the City and Borough of Juneau) share management responsibilities for lands within this area?

Responses: 1,010



SECTION 3:

NARRATIVE COMMENTS

Below are all of the narrative comments received in the survey, organized and categorized by topic. Some of the comments may appear more than once if they pertain to multiple topics.

Circulation and Access Comments:

A way to access the other side of the river.

Access

Access

Access for all user groups

Access to trails

Add more access

Add more parking and roads

Again, noth much fro the kids to do unless they want I hike or ski with the greenie crowd.

Allow for public access to public lands across all user groups we each should have equal rights.

Allow more diverse use not just the tourist and the environmentalist groups

Allow more ORV access, allow the building of trails,

allow motorized vehicles

Allow off road vehicles

allowable access

Am mobility impaired

Another bridge across the river for atv only. Would lessen the risk of someone getting hurt.

Being given our freedom back. The selfishness of others who do not want us in the areas

Better accessibility in case of emergency.

Better parking and sanctioned uses

Better trail and signage that says ATV's are allowed.

Better trail maintenance for safety and better linking of trails for longer hiking or backpacking/camping

Better/More motorized access. Network of 4x4 trails.

bigger parking lot for winter use

bridge that got removed

Build more interconnecting ski trails and a biathlon facility. Build a road to Spaulding meadows to access groomed ski trails and a biathlon facility and snow mobile trails. Build more rental cabins in Spaulding Meadows.

Build bigger parking lot.

Build spaces at end of Montana Creek Road

car pooling, research and learn from others, get gear (silly q's for planning)

Clear guidelines posted with enforcement, accessibility for parking and trail, board created for volunteer management of rec area.

Clear Rules to help us all share the trails.

clearer guidelines on what kinds of activities are allowed based on who currently is using the area.

Clearly authorized mixed use signage

continue access to all user groups

Develop a new trail for these activities

Develop better road access

Develop better road access

Develop connecting trails using Trail Mix; build a new cabin using grants and volunteers.

Expand access via improved trail system.

Expand parking at trailheads incl. Montana Creek, increase trail upkeep

fix the bridge and repair the road

Get rid of the gate

I'd like to hike and camp more in the area and I think there is great potential for more camping and hiking for multiple user groups. I ski Montana Creek often in the winter but get bored with the same out and back. I like hiking/running up to John Muir and would like to connect the cabins via route-finding. It'd be nice if the trails were maintained better, including the Montana Creek to Windfall route.

Improve the Upper Montana Creek trail to make it easier for more people to use.

Improved parking, trails, designed camping areas

Increase accessibility - expand parking lots, trails, and ensure clearly marked signage to increase safety.

Increase parking lot size

Increase parking, develop hardened ORV use trails. Encourage the skiing community to use the other hundred areas available to them.

Increase parking, develop hardened ORV use trails. Encourage the skiing community to use the other hundred skiing friendly areas.

It would be wonderful if the Montana Creek to Windfall Lake trail could be rerouted or improved where it has deteriorated/eroded into the creek.

Lack of parking

Larger parking area for all recreational use

Limit cruise ships to reduce helicopter tours

Limited Access

Longer ski trails that connects Spaulding meadows would be great.

Maintenance of existing infrastructure, better access, emergency services

Make the area non-motorized, or split the seasons. Close barrier to prevent motorized use. Increase enforcement during non-motorized periods. There is too much conflict for safe use unless in a group.

Make trails multi-use and provide adequate parking

Mixed motorized use on the trail makes it feel inaccessible in the summer time to go fishing. It is already nerve-racking in the winter when a ORV comes down the trail. Biathlon would be a great natural addition as the area already attracts people to the rifle range and the groomed ski trails and might attract both user groups to work together. There is limited parking space at both the Montana Creek road access and the Spaulding Meadows access which make it difficult during peak access days.

Modify some trails (or create new trails) to accommodate beginner to intermediate bicyclists

montana creek rd and Herbert river rd are mining roads and should be reopened

More access

More access places more trails

more accessible to adults will mean more accessible to kids

More area to access

More communication of the allowed use of the area as well as better on trail signage of the possible uses.

More communications on the allowed use of the area.

more motorized access

More motorized access, less negative pressure.

MORE OPEN PLACES TO ATVS

More parking

More parking away from gun range

More parking would be nice. Re-banning snowmachines on the existing trail is important. I hate the noise they make, but if they had their own trail and trailhead that was completely separate, and properly planned and executed, I'd prefer that to the current status quo.

More parking, lighting in the parking lot and hardened trails

More Parking, remove the gate

More trails for motorized use and parking

Motorized access needed

Need more parking and Nordic ski club needs their own trail since Montana creek road is a permitted road way.

Need more trails for off-road use

new cross country/ quad / snowmobile trail connecting montana creek and spaulding meadows trail.

No atv machines while skiing or biking

no atvs on ski trails

No biathalon is offered to participate. No designated camping spots with parking, grill etc.

None really, it's just a pain to drive from north Douglas to Montana creek and if there's a lot of snow it takes even more time.

not allow motor vehicles on the montana road access during winter snow season months

open a parking lot

Parking, roads, campgrounds

Please improve the Spaulding Meadows trail conditions and create a connecting trail over to the John Muir Cabin.

Please put a real bridge back in across Montana Creek and open the road. Build a snowmachine/ off road trail to higher elevation.

provide atv access and better parking

Rebuild the bridge, rebuild the road all the way to the previous end.

reroute city bus service to include this area. Or route school bus to service this area when ski practice is occurring there.

Remove locked gate

remove rocks and allow traffic across the bridge for challenged people

Remove that gate at the gun range so I can use the archery targets in the winter

Remove the gate

Remove the gate.

Reroute Montana creek trail

Road and parking improvements, campgrounds

Second crossing

Short of paving for wheelchair access nothing

snow machines and four wheelers during the winter on the groomed cross country ski trail.

stop blocking off the trails (cutting bridges in 1/2) purposely making bridges narrower than a 4 wheeler or snow machine

Take out the gate

They need to be a little older to go out on their own, But soon they will be spending lots of time there. Its kind of our Go to Family outdoor recreation area.

Trail building access

Trail improvements or connections to additional trails that are bike accessible.

Trail maintenance

unlock the gate and repair the bridge and repair and maintain the road

We need more accedes snd places for ATVs

widen some existing trails to accommodate multi-use (bikers and walkers). Connect some trails? create/communicate updated online trail maps (something similar to the short 'trails around Juneau' book - brief summary of each trail).

You could remove the physical barrier that's blocking the road and keep the Nordic ski club from turning the road into a sheet of ice so I can actually walk to the bow range in the spring

Your survey is designed to have people answer that they need motorized access. Who the heck approved this biased survey tool?

Maintenance Regulatory Comments

allow motorized vehicles in this entire Recreation Area. Allow commercial permits.

Clearly identify and maintain separate ATV trails, esp in the winter. XC skiers use road (past gun range) Nov-Apr (lock the gate and change ordinance to prohibit motorized use in winter). ATVs have road access May-Oct.

educating them , the road is STATE OWNED on the other side of the bridge and CBJ BEFORE the bridge.I have 2 questions / 1. who removed the bridge? 2. How many people involved with putting out this survey ride ATV.

I am not sure...there is a subculture within the gun-enthusiasts/motorsports folx that is downright reckless and aggressive. You cannot change that. Unfortunately, those people affect the whole. I hesitate to say ban...I hesitate to say increase park/law enforcement or surveillance... I am not sure how this gets fixed.

Improve main trail grade for biking and extend Montana Creek trail above back loop bridge (for fly fishing as biking)

Limit motorized vehicles and require some sort of cost free/low price "permit" that requires motorized users from taking a course in leaving "no trace."

Not clear what is allowed use and we don't want the "Karen's" of the world yelling at my kids. Un spoken rules or complaints from other users

Rumors of drug use and aggressive behavior and spent hypodermic needle hazards, particularly at the end of the old road. I can't attest to this on a personal level, but have been warned by reputable people and businesses in town.

A area clearly posted of approved activity's close to town so my kids can ride dirt bikes and snow sled with out being yelled at by cross country skiers and snow showers. Or having them call the JPD on them.

Access for ATVs and beginning enforcement of new ATV rules.

Active trail maintenance; build/maintain trails for biking

Approved Activity's clearly posted

Archery range that is not in a muskeg; expand shooting range, fix wood stove at Skaters

Auk nu trail needs (more) work! Some of those planks are so iffy that I don't like to go up if it's raining.

Better parking and sanctioned uses

Better trail maintenance for safety and better linking of trails for longer hiking or backpacking/camping

Better trail maintenance. Are there even realistic trail biking options right now?

chainsaw the logs

Change the rules

Clean up the mudslide

Clear guidelines posted with enforcement, accessibility for parking and trail, board created for volunteer management of rec area.

Clear rules on what you are and are not allowed to do or use

Clear Rules to help us all share the trails.

Clear the log jams on Montana creek, so people can float down the river and fish. Also do this on Cowee Creek. If you clear the log jams in creeks, then more and more people will be able to enjoy outdoor activities on the water that don't require a huge boat.

clearer guidelines on what kinds of activities are allowed based on who currently is using the area.

Clearly authorized mixed use signage

Close to all motorized machines summer and winter unless they have a permit to operate.

Compromise multi-use and more surveillance and enforcement of druggies

Do some trail grading and improvements.

Expand parking at trailheads incl. Montana Creek, increase trail upkeep

Extended trail grooming/brushing, etc

Family friendly trails that are safe for young toddlers around atv use. Signs large fines community shunning

fix the bridge and repair the road

Fix the washed out trails

Fix trail past end of road that has fallen into stream.

Forest Service/Ranger patrol

I don't go in the summer when the ATV riders are out there. I've stumbled onto some rowdy parties in the past that made me feel uncomfortable. The trash and animal carcasses left to rot at the trailhead were/are a danger (bears) and disgusting.

I'd like to hike and camp more in the area and I think there is great potential for more camping and hiking for multiple user groups. I ski montana creek often in the winter but get bored with the same out and back. i like hiking/running up to john muir and would like to connect the cabins via routefinding. it'd be nice if the trails were maintained better, including the montana creek to windfall route.

Improve better access to Montana Creek for fishing

improve extension of main Montana Creek Trail for bikers and hikers

Improve outdoor archery range maintenance

Improve part of the Montana creek trail

Improve quality oh hiking trails, increase quantity of cabins.

Improve the Auke Nu/John Muir trail into more gravel instead of rotten boardwalk

Improving the trail surface (summer & winter) would help with physical challenges. Motorized vehicles damage the surfaces and also represent a safety concern for non-motorized users.

Infrastructure

It would be nice if there were less rules and clearer expectations for recreational vehicles

It would be wonderful if the Montana creek to Windfall lake trail could be rerouted or improved where it has deteriorated/eroded into the creek.

Legal and designated area

Let the local ATV community manage a section of the area specifically for the responsible riding of ATV's

Lights for winter cross country skiing. Have some toilet facilities at trail heads!

Limit cruise ships to reduce helicopter tours

Maintenance of existing infrastructure, better access, emergency services

Maintenance on the Montana Creek side of the trail that connects to Windfall Lake Trail

Make the area non-motorized, or split the seasons. Close barrier to prevent motorized use. Increase enforcement during non-motorized periods. There is too much conflict for safe use unless in a group.

Manage the area for peace and quiet.

Management

Montana creek trail needs work to be more easily passable

More cabins, better trail upkeep, more limits to motorized vehicles

Once amenities such as outhouses, camp sites, are offered we would do it.

Open public vote on land use, trail maintenance, proper stewardship of the land

Outhouse, fire ring, and bear box facilities

Outhouse, fire ring, and bear box facilities

Perhaps keep separate trails for bikes apart from those hiking or traveling on foot. Provide dog poo bags and added parking, as well as trash disposal near the trail head areas. If there were a designated campground area that had firepit and or shelters (similar to the Auke Rec campgrounds) that would encourage more recreational usage of that area for our household.

Port-A-Potties

put signs that say watch for skiers/atv's and use speed limits on trail so both hobby's can share space in winter.

Ranger Patrol

Rebuild and maintain trail systems

Repair/rebuild the trail along Montana Creek where it has severe erosion problems. Also rebuild trail in the areas that flood or are typically wet and mucky. Fixing these trail issues would allow it to be used more often during the year by more people.

Restrooms, campsites,

Sign with regulations

some maintenance of wood sweepers/strainers that is still respectful of fish habitat

Some trails need new planks and general upkeep

Temporary waivers of existing regulations

the gate should be closed to snow machines in the winter, enforcement of non motorized boundaries . Please do not increase the access of that area to atv, 4 wheelers ect

The soil tends to get torn up around the trails by recreational vehicles not sticking to the road.

The spaulding meadows trail needs some work.

the Spaulding Trail and the Peterson Lake Trail need some maintenance! Also, I am not sure of the condition of the Montana Creek Trail connecting to the other trails, but that is a route I would like to do again. I hiked it about 20 years ago and it was a bit rough. So maybe it needs some maintenance as well? I wish I was younger, but I'm still trying to do more hiking and backpack camping.

The trails could be better maintained, Montana creek trail in particular has a lot of wash outs

Trail clearing/grooming

Trail development and maintenance

Trail improvement between Montana Creek gravel trail and windfall lake.

Trail improvements or connections to additional trails that are bike accessible.

Trail maintenance

Trail maintenance so Spaulding isn't a death March when it's been raining

Trail work on mountain creek trail leading to the grandchild's peak trail

unlock the gate and repair the bridge and repair and maintain the road

Wider trail and more marker in the woods and after the bridge

Split and Shared Use Comments:

A 50/50 split = close Montana Creek for motorized use during November-May and allow for motorized use during the summer.

Free up more land so all user groups can use area. I have been apart of off road groups down south and it works great. I have many ideas

Make Spaulding open to all activities more geared towards family, lots of people stereotype snowmobilers as party people. I believe a wider trail, access to the cabins available, and more law enforcement presence on the trail could make Spaulding a very enjoyable area for family winter activities. Not just XC ski specific or snowmobile specific but all combined.

ORV's shouldn't be allowed until the ground is frozen and there is adequate snow cover or there is a hardened surface of some kind. If you go to the very end of the Montana Creek Road the environmental damage is quite apparent.

Web site describing how areas are shared, and "good spots" to consider for fishing.

widen some existing trails to accommodate multi-use (bikers and walkers). Connect some trails? create/communicate updated online trail maps (something similar to the short 'trails around Juneau' book - brief summary of each trail).

Work with all user groups instead of catering to militant skiers

Access for all user groups

Additional shared space and time with ATV

Allow Authorized activity in summer not winter

Balance out the needs between both the ATV groups, and Xc skiers. There are plenty more places to ski in town

Budget time, save money to acquire proper weather gear, limit motorized use on trail.

Build bike specific trails

Build campsites, cooperation between Nordic Ski club and other users to allow equitable use of the area for everyone in Juneau, not just skiers

CBJ to open up motorized riding areas, to include joint use areas.

Clear Rules to help us all share the trails.

Close to all motorized machines summer and winter unless they have a permit to operate.

Compromise multi-use and more surveillance and enforcement of druggies

Consider using this land for recreation activities to all not just one small group. An ATV track would be great in this area.

Cooperation of land use, utilization of available services and funding to develop so said land for enjoyment of all.

Create a master plan that is inclusive to all user groups like motor vehicle users!

Don't allow motorized vehicles beyond gate.

eliminate motorized & non-motorized recreation on same trail during same season.

Family friendly trails that are safe for young toddlers around atv use. Signs large fines community shunning

Fewer or separated motorized users.

Find a way to allow multiple users

For skiing/snowshoeing safety concerns, eliminating motor traffic (from the skiing side, and having motor vehicle users stick to their side) would highly reduce potential accidents and make the skiing trails far more safe.

Have a separate Nordic ski track for them.

Have part of it available for 4 wheelers and dirtbikes

having concurrent motorized and active non motorized activities is a safety concern for my family

Increase parking, develop hardened ORV use trails. Encourage the skiing community to use the other hundred skiing friendly areas.

It is a controversial area. Everyone wants the space for "their" activity. Until the multi-use issues get resolved, there will be concerns.

It would be great to share the space equally, for what activities are done in the area. Skinning hiking on certain days snowmachining at some done on others.

It's unfortunate but most people walk or hike for fun, myself included. There will always be some opposition but we literally have hundreds of hikeable trails that are awesome elsewhere. An atv place would reduce wear and tear elsewhere and give the riders right of way so if dogs or other people can't hack it they can go someplace else. Riders don't have any cbj options nearby.

Make it easier for other groups to be out there and not just one group

Make the area non-motorized, or split the seasons. Close barrier to prevent motorized use. Increase enforcement during non-motorized periods. There is too much conflict for safe use unless in a group.

Make this use area equal to all user groups

Make trails multi-use and provide adequate parking

More parking would be nice. Re-banning snowmachines on the existing trail is important. I hate the noise they make, but if they had their own trail and trailhead that was completely separate, and properly planned and executed, I'd prefer that to the current status quo.

More trails! A variety is good.

No motorized vehicles during winter months

Non motorized use only in the winter

not allow motor vehicles on the section of montana cr road during the winter snow season

Not good to have motorized vehicles and skiing, hiking, biking in the same area

Not have the one sided user groups being catered to all the time.

Open area to all users

"Open it up to a broader audience so all have an opportunity to enjoy this land.
There is more than enough to go around"

Open more areas to the diverse needs and desires of our population.

open to all user groups

Open up multi use in established trails and create ATV specific areas by partnering with the riding groups.

opening area to everyone all year

Perhaps keep separate trails for bikes apart from those hiking or traveling on foot. Provide dog poo bags and added parking, as well as trash disposal near the trail head areas. If there were a designated campground area that had firepit and or shelters (similar to the Auke Rec campgrounds) that would encourage more recreational usage of that area for our household.

Proper development of areas to allow increased/diverse user groups

put signs that say watch for skiers/atv's and use speed limits on trail so both hobby's can share space in winter.

Re: safety concerns: motorized and non-motorized should not be on the same trails. Re: amenities and services: biathlon does not exist yet, but we would be interested in using it. Also, developing more cross country skiing/walking/snowshoeing trails would be amazing.

Responsible development of motorized use access points.

Restrict motorized traffic during winter months

Safer and better laid out trails in the woods woods motorized vehicles. A single track trail for 2 wheeled vehicles would be much easier on the environment than the wheelers. On shared trails they should be wide enough to allow a pedestrian and motorcycle to fit safely

Separate area for them to recreate in

separate areas for motorized and non motorized use

Separate areas for motorized and non-motorized uses - they are not compatible

Separate hiking and motorized vehicle trails, or more ATV access in other areas.

Separate motorized users from non-motorized users

Shared use agreements

Some kind of limited or scheduled motor sports

Stop catering to special interest groups

Teach said skiers how to share

Wide developed trails for biking and skiing, designated places or times for varied activities so motorized vehicles and shooting activities don't risk others

Safety Concern Comments:

A area clearly posted of approved activity's close to town so my kids can ride dirt bikes and snow sled with out being yelled at by cross country skiers and snow showers. Or having them call the JPD on them.

I have a FEAR of four wheelers or ski machines during the winter on road past shooting range. I don't have a solution for this and do not know how we can safely share that road during the winter season. Hundreds of skiers use that trail weekly and the youth ski teams use it at night after school with headlamps. The trail is groomed by volunteers and donated money for fuel and it is disappointing to go out when trail grooming is destroyed by all terrain vehicles/ski machines.

I'm not sure about how a biathlon range would work. If it were unsupervised, I could see it becoming a more remote version of Hank Harmon, with folks taking up the range after postholing in so that a true biathlon couldn't be done. At worst it would be a range where folks would take the "it's a range where you ski in" idea and turn that into "it's a move and shoot range" where it would become some sort of mini tactical training range with lots of dangerous unsupervised "tactical experts" out there. So I'd love to have a biathlon range but in the end it would be unworkable unless it were staffed and I just don't see parks & rec having a budget for that.

Rumors of drug use and aggressive behavior and spent hypodermic needle hazards, particularly at the end of the old road. I can't attest to this on a personal level, but have been warned by reputable people and businesses in town.

You can't control personalities, but I would rather not be treated like an unknown, and I'm not a big sports person. I do like to be outside when I can. Montana Creek is just not very friendly anymore.

Auk nu trail needs (more) work! Some of those planks are so iffy that I don't like to go up if it's raining.

Better accessibility in case of emergency.

Compromise multi-use and more surveillance and enforcement of druggies

Concerned about conflicts between motorized users and non-motorized users -- seems like it could be dangerous

Erosion of the river bank makes hiking a little sketchy.

Family friendly trails that are safe for young toddlers around atv use. Signs large fines community shunning

Fear of bears in the area during summer leads me to only use the area when in a group.

For skiing/snowshoeing safety concerns, eliminating motor traffic (from the skiing side, and having motor vehicle users stick to their side) would highly reduce potential accidents and make the skiing trails far more safe.

having concurrent motorized and active non motorized activities is a safety concern for my family

Having user groups that are not compatible in this area. I no longer bring my dog skiing with me as I'm afraid of a collision with a snow mobiler.

I am not sure...there is a subculture within the gun-enthusiasts/motorsports folx that is downright reckless and aggressive. You cannot change that. Unfortunately, those people affect the whole. I hesitate to say ban...I hesitate to say increase park/law enforcement or surveillance... I am not sure how this gets fixed.

I am nervous to bring my child to ski because there have been snowmobiles driving very very fast along the curvy trail.

I don't go in the summer when the ATV riders are out there. I've stumbled onto some rowdy parties in the past that made me feel uncomfortable. The trash and animal carcasses left to rot at the trailhead were/are a danger (bears) and disgusting.

I feel that all terrain vehicles are dangerous and harm the environment. I wouldn't use them.

I would like for Montana Creek to go back to non-motorized use. I am afraid of getting plowed over by a snow machine in the winter.

I'm mostly concerned about bears and wolves, and I don't know how to solve that problem.

Improving the trail surface (summer & winter) would help with physical challenges. Motorized vehicles damage the surfaces and also represent a safety concern for non-motorized users.

Lack of facilities and conflicts

Lack of facilities and conflicts

make Montana Creek road/trail limited to non-motorized use. I have heard stories of motorized users acting aggressively towards skiers. the motorized users can also make the groomed track difficult to ski, which increases the likelihood of a fall

Make the area non-motorized, or split the seasons. Close barrier to prevent motorized use. Increase enforcement during non-motorized periods. There is too much conflict for safe use unless in a group.

Mixed motorized use on the trail makes it feel inaccessible in the summer time to go fishing. It is already nerve racking in the winter when a ORV comes down the trail. Biathlon would be a great natural addition as the area already attracts people to the rifle range and the groomed ski trails and might attract both user groups to work together. There is limited parking space at both the Montana Creek road access and the Spaulding Meadows access which make it difficult during peak access days.

Motorized vehicles tear up the space and don't watch for users in man-powered vehicles or non vehicles (hiking).

no longer allow snow machine access on this limited trail due to safety/ speed concerns

Not sure. Loose dogs are a problem all over Juneau. Not sure how to get dog owners to care.

Re: safety concerns: motorized and non-motorized should not be on the same trails. Re: amenities and services: biathlon does not exist yet, but we would be interested in using it. Also, developing more cross country skiing/walking/snowshoeing trails would be amazing.

remove atvs, i can no longer take my children with me because of the hazards they present

Renovation of the trail from Montana Creek road to Windfall lake would make the trail safer for mountain biking.

Right now, personal conditioning. As I have experienced with other trails, I would be concerned about dodging bikes, motorized vehicles, and unleashed dogs.

Safe bear viewing structures

Safer and better laid out trails in the woods woods motorized vehicles. A single track trail for 2 wheeled vehicles would be much easier on the environment than the wheelers. On shared trails they should be wide enough to allow a pedestrian and motorcycle to fit safely

The River road trailhead parking area is still frequented by people doing suspicious things like loitering, and partying. I have called in a few of these.

We don't go as much as we would if hunting the gun range and snow machining were not allowed.

Wide developed trails for biking and skiing, designated places or times for varied activities so motorized vehicles and shooting activities don't risk others

You could remove the physical barrier that's blocking the road and keep the Nordic ski club from turning the road into a sheet of ice so I can actually walk to the bow range in the spring

Off Road Vehicle Comments:

A 50/50 split = close Montana Creek for motorized use during November-May and allow for motorized use during the summer.

A area clearly posted of approved activity's close to town so my kids can ride dirt bikes and snow sled with out being yelled at by cross country skiers and snow showers. Or having them call the JPD on them.

allow motorized vehicles in this entire Recreation Area. Allow commercial permits.

Build more interconnecting ski trails and a biathlon facility. Build a road to Spaulding meadows to access groomed ski trails and a biathlon facility and snow mobile trails. Build more rental cabins in Spaulding Meadows.

Clearly identify and maintain separate ATV trails, esp in the winter. XC skiers use road (past gun range) Nov-Apr (lock the gate and change ordinance to prohibit motorized use in winter). ATVs have road access May-Oct.

Free up more land so all user groups can use area. I have been apart of off road groups down south and it works great. I have many ideas

I have a FEAR of four wheelers or ski machines during the winter on road past shooting range. I don't have a solution for this and do not know how we can safely share that road during the winter season. Hundreds of skiers use that trail weekly and the youth ski teams use it at night after school with headlamps. The trail is groomed by volunteers and donated money for fuel and it is disappointing to go out when trail grooming is destroyed by all terrain vehicles/ski machines.

Make Spaulding open to all activities more geared towards family, lots of people stereotype snowmobilers as party people. I believe a wider trail, access to the cabins available, and more law enforcement presence on the trail could make Spaulding a very enjoyable area for family winter activities. Not just XC ski specific or snowmobile specific but all combined.

Nordic skiers already have camp ground in Valley and Eagle Crest in Douglas. Give them a groomed trail down River Rd to Brotherhood Bridge and let the snowmobiles have Montana Creek. There are no relatively flat places for families to ride.

Simple, stop letting the greenies take everything over. I pay \$8,000 a year in property tax yet, I can't legally ride a four wheeler anywhere.

waive liability for people getting injured and give ATV riders a place to go.

A trail to ride my Enduro would be pretty cool.

Access for ATVs and beginning enforcement of new ATV rules.

Additional shared space and time with ATV

Additional XC trails

All use of OHV

Allow access for ATVs

Allow All terrain vehicles easier safe access,

allow ATV trails to be built as requested

Allow ATV use in Montana Creek

Allow more ORV access, allow the building of trails,

allow motorized vehicles

Allow off road vehicles

Allow recreational development to include atv users in this area

Allow responsible 4wheeling along Montana Creek.

Allow the ATV club to build the trail and camp ground access they're proposing

Allow the expansion of Montana creek that was suggested by the Juneau off-road group

Another bridge across the river for atv only. Would lessen the risk of someone getting hurt.

ATV in summer

ATV, snow machine access so my mother could get further out that she can't get to by foot due to her age.

Balance out the needs between both the ATV groups, and Xc skiers. There are plenty more places to ski in town

Ban snowmobiles

Ban snowmobiles and ATVs

Better trail and signage that says ATV's are allowed.

Better/More motorized access. Network of 4x4 trails.

Built ATV and Snowmachine trails

Camp ground and ATV trails

CBJ needs to finally acknowledge and support its citizens that ride ATV's

CBJ to open up motorized riding areas, to include joint use areas.

City can allow ATV like the rest of the State does

Close the entire area to all motorized use

Consider using this land for recreation activities to all not just one small group. An ATV track would be great in this area.

Create a master plan that is inclusive to all user groups like motor vehicle users!

Designated areas/trails for motorized equipment.

Designated ATV and biathlon area.

Develop more riding trails and area

Developed motorized trail system for off road for dirt and trail biking, snowmobiling and ATV.

Don't own a snowmobile, would like to see some 4wd trails or access.

Expand 4 wheeler opportunities

Expanding more terrain for off road vehicles

Four wheelers to rent

Fully allowing the use of motor vehicles. With the idea of motor use some people have gone out of their way to try and shut it down and keep the area secluded to few user groups. I grew up in Juneau and used to ride here as a kid

Have part of it available for 4 wheelers and dirtbikes

Having fewer motorized vehicles in the area (ATVs, snowmachines) would make it a much safer area to snowshow, and would increase wildlife viewing opportunities.

He is to young to ride. I would like to see this area stay open to wheelers and sleds so my son will have an area to ride when he is old enough.

I am supportive of building an ATV trail and potential campground in the area.

I feel that all terrain vehicles are dangerous and harm the environment. I wouldn't use them.

I feel that with the right steps snow machines and atv use could have a low impact and create more oportunities for those young and old to travel out doors that may not be able to hike or even walk

I really like the idea of building ATV trails and a network for riding. You could use the trail system to access more hiking, hunting, and camping opportunities.

I would like for Montana Creek to go back to non-motorized use. I am afraid of getting plowed over by a snow machine in the winter.

I would like my son to have access to trails to ride four wheelers on when he is old enough.

Improve the Montana creek, Windfall Lake, and Herbert River Trails to allow year round ATV , and snowmobile use.

Improving the trail surface (summer & winter) would help with physical challenges. Motorized vehicles damage the surfaces and also represent a safety concern for non-motorized users.

Increase parking, develop hardened ORV use trails. Encourage the skiing community to use the other hundred areas available to them.

Increase parking, develop hardened ORV use trails. Encourage the skiing community to use the other hundred skiing friendly areas.

Introducing the ability for them to ride all terrain vehicles in this area. We need a legal place to ride.

It should be opened up for motorized access. Nowhere in Juneau is going to be acceptable to those against any area for 4 wheeler access. This is the perfect spot, people in this town (especially the young) to do just that. We should have a dedicated place like this for that purpose.

It would be great to share the space equally, for what activities are done in the area. Skinning hiking on certain days snowmachining at some done on others.

It would be nice if there were less rules and clearer expectations for recreational vehicles

It's unfortunate but most people walk or hike for fun, myself included. There will always be some opposition but we literally have hundreds of hikeable trails that are awesome elsewhere. An atv place would reduce wear and tear elsewhere and give the riders right of way so if dogs or other people can't hack it they can go someplace else. Riders don't have any cbj options nearby.

Juneau desperately needs a designated area to enjoy motorsports. These areas have been stripped away and there currently is almost nowhere to enjoy these types of activities.

Just getting into motocross! We want to explore more!

Keep ATV users off the road

Keep it as is, do not add additional motorized travel

Let the local ATV community manage a section of the area specifically for the responsible riding of ATV's

Limit use of ATVs and Snow Machines

Make a space for safe ATV recreation and camping

Make area non motorized

Make area non motorized

Make the area non-motorized, or split the seasons. Close barrier to prevent motorized use. Increase enforcement during non-motorized periods. There is too much conflict for safe use unless in a group.

Making the area non-motorized

more access to trails for snowmobile in Juneau, then there would be more access to snowmobile rentals/used purchase/etc.

more motorized access

More motorized access, less negative pressure.

MORE OPEN PLACES TO ATVS

More open places to ride for kids

More parking would be nice. Re-banning snowmachines on the existing trail is important. I hate the noise they make, but if they had their own trail and trailhead that was completely separate, and properly planned and executed, I'd prefer that to the current status quo.

More trails for motorized use and parking

Motorized access needed

Motorized trail development

Motorized trail development

Motorized vehicles tear up the space and don't watch for users in man-powered vehicles or non vehicles (hiking).

Need more trails for off-road use

Needs to be more accessible for off-road vehicles!

new cross country/ quad / snowmobile trail connecting montana creek and spaulding meadows trail.

no atvs on ski trails

no longer allow snow machine access on this limited trail due to safety/ speed concerns

No motorized traffic

Non motorized accesd

Non motorized use

not allow motor vehicles on the montana road access during winter snow season months

Open areas up to atv use

Open atv trails...

Open more or new trails to motorized use

Open more roads to ATV

Open more trails for motorized use

Open more up to motorized users

Open the area to ORV's and snowmobiles.

Open to all motorized use

open to ATY's

Open up access to ATV users and provide the population (silent majority) of ATV users with a safe, legal place to access terrain as currently there really isn't any legal place to ride. People have been riding at the end of the road which is really private property. Juneau is a large land mass that should have access for motorized ATV use.

Open up multi use in established trails and create ATV specific areas by partnering with the riding groups.

Open up the trail to All terrain Vehicles continue trail to Spaulding

Open up to all motorized use

Opening more area to use by All-terrain vehicles

Please make AT LEAST 1 Recreational vehicle park or allow to use 4wheelers & snow machines.

Please put a real bridge back in across Montana Creek and open the road. Build a snowmachine/ off road trail to higher elevation.

Provide a trail and more access for atvs

provide atv access and better parking

Provide more access for atvs and snowmobiling

put signs that say watch for skiers/atv's and use speed limits on trail so both hobby's can share space in winter.

Reconstruct the trail (for non-motorized use)

Recreate a safe fun area for the locals to have fun on there atvs. Such as dirt bikes, fourwheelers, side by sides, and snowmachines.

remove atvs, i can no longer take my children with me because of the hazards they present

remove the atvs from the zone

Responsible development of motorized use access points.

Retrict the area to non-mechanical uses of travel

Safer and better laid out trails in the woods for motorized vehicles. A single track trail for 2 wheeled vehicles would be much easier on the environment than the wheelers. On shared trails they should be wide enough to allow a pedestrian and motorcycle to fit safely

Separate hiking and motorized vehicle trails, or more ATV access in other areas.

snow machines and four wheelers during the winter on the groomed cross country ski trail.

stop motorized vehicles

The clear answer for day one has been to lock the gate and prohibit motorized vehicles during the winter months

the gate should be closed to snow machines in the winter, enforcement of non motorized boundaries . Please do not increase the access of that area to atv, 4 wheelers ect

The legal ability to ride in this area

too many motorized vehicles in winter

We need more access and places for ATVs

Would be nice to have a place for overland trail riding and camping.

Skiing Comments:

Build more interconnecting ski trails and a biathlon facility. Build a road to Spaulding meadows to access groomed ski trails and a biathlon facility and snow mobile trails. Build more rental cabins in Spaulding Meadows.

Clearly identify and maintain separate ATV trails, esp in the winter. XC skiers use road (past gun range) Nov-Apr (lock the gate and change ordinance to prohibit motorized use in winter). ATVs have road access May-Oct.

I have a FEAR of four wheelers or ski machines during the winter on road past shooting range. I don't have a solution for this and do not know how we can safely share that road during the winter season. Hundreds of skiers use that trail weekly and the youth ski teams use it at night after school with headlamps. The trail is groomed by volunteers and donated money for fuel and it is disappointing to go out when trail grooming is destroyed by all terrain vehicles/ski machines.

reroute city bus service to include this area. Or route school bus to service this area when ski practice is occurring there.

Work with all user groups instead of catering to militant skiers

Additional XC trails

A area clearly posted of approved activity's close to town so my kids can ride dirt bikes and snow sled with out being yelled at by cross country skiers and snow showers. Or having them call the JPD on them.

Build more bike trails and ski trails

Build new nordic ski trails to connect with Mendenhall Lake Area

connect the skiing trails to the shooting range

Create a biathlon range parallel to the hank Harmon range and ski trail connection

Entitlement of a certain ski grp

establish a track or course connected to the rifle range.

Extended trail grooming/brushing, etc

For skiing/snowshoeing safety concerns, eliminating motor traffic (from the skiing side, and having motor vehicle users stick to their side) would highly reduce potential accidents and make the skiing trails far more safe.

Have a separate Nordic ski track for them.

Having user groups that are not compatible in this area. I no longer bring my dog skiing with me as I'm afraid of a collision with a snow mobiler.

I am nervous to bring my child to ski because there have been snowmobiles driving very very fast along the curvy trail.

It would be great to share the space equally, for what activities are done in the area. Skiing hiking on certain days snowmachining at some done on others.

Larger Nordic Trail System

Lights for winter cross country skiing. Have some toilet facilities at trail heads!

Longer ski trails that connects Spaulding meadows would be great.

make Montana Creek road/trail limited to non-motorized use. I have heard stories of motorized users acting aggressively towards skiers. the motorized users can also make the groomed track difficult to ski, which increases the likelihood of a fall

Maybe a scholarship for them to get skis?

Mixed motorized use on the trail makes it feel inaccessible in the summer time to go fishing. It is already nerve racking in the winter when a ORV comes down the trail. Biathlon would be a great natural addition as the area already attracts people to the rifle range and the groomed ski trails and might attract both user groups to work together. There is limited parking space at both the Montana Creek road access and the Spaulding Meadows access which make it difficult during peak access days.

More bicycle, and ski trails

Need more parking and Nordic ski club needs their own trail since Montana creek road is a permitted road way.

Once he can drive, he may recreate in this area more often. He uses it regularly in the winter with the Juneau Nordic Ski Team.

Promote skiing and biking

promote skiing and biking

put signs that say watch for skiers/atv's and use speed limits on trail so both hobby's can share space in winter.

Re: safety concerns: motorized and non-motorized should not be on the same trails. Re: amenities and services: biathlon does not exist yet, but we would be interested in using it. Also, developing more cross country skiing/walking/snowshoeing trails would be amazing.

Ski club would like to set up a biathlon in the area

snow machines and four wheelers during the winter on the groomed cross country ski trail.

well, a biathlon range would be needed for that to happen, seems this would involve ski trails and designated shooting area.

You could remove the physical barrier that's blocking the road and keep the Nordic ski club from turning the road into a sheet of ice so I can actually walk to the bow range in the spring

Pedal Bike Comments:

Improve main trail grade for biking and extend Montana Creek trail above back loop bridge (for fly fishing as biking)

widen some existing trails to accommodate multi-use (bikers and walkers). Connect some trails? create/communicate updated online trail maps (something similar to the short 'trails around Juneau' book - brief summary of each trail).

Active trail maintenance; build/maintain trails for biking

Better trail maintenance. Are there even realistic trail biking options right now?

Build bike specific trails

Build more bike trails and ski trails

Build Mountain bike trails

Build mountain bike trails

I would love to see the trail connecting Montana Creek to Windfall improved for hiking/biking access during non-snowy seasons.

improve extension of main Montana Creek Trail for bikers and hikers

Improve the trail for biking

Improve trail for biking

Improved MTB trails.

It would be fun to have a single track mountain bike trail

Make the trail better for bikers.

Modify some trails (or create new trails) to accommodate beginner to intermediate bicyclists

More bicycle, and ski trails

More bike paths

more biking and hiking up MT Ck

Promote skiing and biking

promote skiing and biking

Renovation of the trail from Montana Creek road to Windfall lake would make the trail safer for mountain biking.

Some established smooth-ish bike trails would be great. More parking at the Spaulding meadows/Auk Nu trailhead

Trail improvements or connections to additional trails that are bike accessible.

Wide developed trails for biking and skiing, designated places or times for varied activities so motorized vehicles and shooting activities don't risk others

Camping Cabin Shelter Comments:

Build more interconnecting ski trails and a biathlon facility. Build a road to Spaulding meadows to access groomed ski trails and a biathlon facility and snow mobile trails. Build more rental cabins in Spaulding Meadows.

It'd be great if there were a cabin in the basin below grandchild peaks (which is accessed from Montana Creek road). That would facilitate mountaineering and climbing in the incredible (and accessible) peaks of this area and provide a great alpine hut option, something we do not have anywhere in Juneau.

Tent pads in back country

A place to camp without disturbing habitat.

Allow more development of trails and camping.

Better trail maintenance for safety and better linking of trails for longer hiking or backpacking/camping

Build a couple more cabins for locals to rent. Hard to plan 6 months out for a cabin.

Build campsites, cooperation between Nordic Ski club and other users to allow equitable use of the area for everyone in Juneau, not just skiers

Camp ground and ATV trails

Camping area

Create a camping area near Montana creek

Create a camping area near Montana creek, better lighting in some areas.

Develop connecting trails using Trail Mix; build a new cabin using grants and volunteers.

I am supportive of building an ATV trail and potential campground in the area.

I really like the idea of building ATV trails and a network for riding. You could use the trail system to access more hiking, hunting, and camping opportunities.

I'd like to hike and camp more in the area and I think there is great potential for more camping and hiking for multiple user groups. I ski montana creek often in the winter but get bored with the same out and back. i like hiking/running up to john muir and would like to connect the cabins via routefinding. it'd be nice if the trails were maintained better, including the montana creek to windfall route.

Improve quality oh hiking trails, increase quantity of cabins.

Improved parking, trails, designed camping areas

It would be nice to have a maintained campground or cabin in the area

Make a space for safe ATV recreation and camping

Maybe a separate picnic pavilion for offset bad weather.

More cabins, better trail upkeep, more limits to motorized vehicles

More shelters up on Spaulding or along trails.

No biathalon is offered to participate. No designated camping spots with parking, grill etc.

Once amenities such as outhouses, camp sites, are offered we would do it.

Open it and build cabins and camp areas.

Open it up and and build the cabins/ camp areas.

Outhouse, fire ring, and bear box facilities

Parking, roads, campgrounds

Perhaps keep separate trails for bikes apart from those hiking or traveling on foot. Provide dog poo bags and added parking, as well as trash disposal near the trail head areas. If there were a designated campground area that had firepit and or shelters (similar to the Auke Rec campgrounds) that would encourage more recreational usage of that area for our household.

Restrooms, campsites,

Road and parking improvements, campgrounds

Sponsor an event or create camping area

Tent pads

There are no camping facilities

Would be nice to have a place for overland trail riding and camping.

Archery, Fishing, Hunting & Shooting Comments:

Improve main trail grade for biking and extend Montana Creek trail above back loop bridge (for fly fishing as biking)

People gold dredging in the creek have been a problem. It's forced us from fishing spots

Web site describing how areas are shared, and "good spots" to consider for fishing.

Access to biathlon/archery equipment

Children's area and/or designated time to learn to shoot with parental supervision

Educate myself on where to fish and what we are fishing for

I don't go in the summer when the ATV riders are out there. I've stumbled onto some rowdy parties in the past that made me feel uncomfortable. The trash and animal carcasses left to rot at the trailhead were/are a danger (bears) and disgusting.

I really like the idea of building ATV trails and a network for riding. You could use the trail system to access more hiking, hunting, and camping opportunities.

Improve better access to Montana Creek for fishing

Improve outdoor archery range maintenance

Larger or less crowded ranges

Limit hunting and shooting

Maybe a community schools archery class.

Maybe a rental shop for gear for things like fishing or classes to teach the youth

Mixed motorized use on the trail makes it feel inaccessible in the summer time to go fishing. It is already nerve racking in the winter when a ORV comes down the trail. Biathlon would be a great natural addition as the area already attracts people to the rifle range and the groomed ski trails and might attract both user groups to work together. There is limited parking space at both the Montana Creek road access and the Spaulding Meadows access which make it difficult during peak access days.

No fishing notices!

No guns

poorly marked archery range and a crowded shooting range

Remove that gate at the gun range so I can use the archery targets in the winter

Used to fish Montana Creek all the time, it just got too busy for me.

Biathlon Comments:

Build more interconnecting ski trails and a biathlon facility. Build a road to Spaulding meadows to access groomed ski trails and a biathlon facility and snow mobile trails. Build more rental cabins in Spaulding Meadows.

Extending the ski trailer around and extending the gun range to allow for biathlon

I don't know anyone who does biathalon so I need help

I'm not sure about how a biathlong range would work. If it were unsupervised, I could see it becoming a more remote version of Hank Harmon, with folks taking up the range after postholing in so that a true biathlon couldn't be done. At worst it would be a range where folks would take the "it's a range where you ski in" idea and turn that into "it's a move and shoot range" where it would become some sort of mini tactical training range with lots of dangerous unsupervised "tactical experts" out there. So I'd love to have a biathlon range but in the end it would be unworkable unless it were staffed and I just don't see parks & rec having a budget for that.

A biathalon safety zone would need to be identified and put in place

a biathlon course would be cool!

Access to biathlon/archery equipment

Build a range attached to ski and running trails.

Create a biathlon range parallel to the hank Harmon range and ski trail connection

Creation of a biathlon course. This would be amazing and unique!

Designate a biathlon course

Designated ATV and biathlon area.

establish a track or course connected to the rifle range.

Last I heard a study plan for biathalon was being considered, time to move the project along to development

Mixed motorized use on the trail makes it feel inaccessible in the summer time to go fishing. It is already nerve racking in the winter when a ORV comes down the trail. Biathlon would be a great natural addition as the area already attracts people to the rifle range and the groomed ski trails and might attract both user groups to work together. There is limited parking space at both the Montana Creek road access and the Spaulding Meadows access which make it difficult during peak access days.

No biathalon is offered to participate. No designated camping spots with parking, grill etc.

Not sure, would love to have a biathlon course here in juneau

Open up biathalon shooting area. (With laser style guns or 22's)

Organized biathlon would be super cool and makes a ton of sense at that location.

Re: safety concerns: motorized and non-motorized should not be on the same trails. Re: amenities and services: biathlon does not exist yet, but we would be interested in using it. Also, developing more cross country skiing/walking/snowshoeing trails would be amazing.

Ski club would like to set up a biathlon in the area

well, a biathlon range would be needed for that to happen, seems this would involve ski trails and designated shooting area.

Miscellaneous Comments:

Add a disc golf course. It's an activity that can be played year round and there's no added noise pollution. The sport has also been growing tremendously in recent years and it would be nice to have another course to play in town.

develop the area some been the same for 60 years

Better Developed Land

Clear the log jams on Montana creek, so people can float down the river and fish. Also do this on Cowee Creek. If you clear the log jams in creeks, then more and more people will be able to enjoy outdoor activities on the water that don't require a huge boat.

Create a camping area near Montana creek, better lighting in some areas.

expand recreational area

Expand trail

Give up some other recreation item that now competes.

if you build it, they will shoot at it

More walking trails

Safe bear viewing structures

They need to be a little older to go out on their own, But soon they will be spending lots of time there. Its kind of our Go to Family outdoor recreation area.

To allow associations and groups to develop recreational opportunities.

Trail development

Trail development and maintenance

One of those time turners that Hermione used to save buckbeak in Harry Potter and the prisoner of Azkaban