

EXISTING CONDITIONS ON COLORADO'S FOURTEENERS

**NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGER SURVEY RESULTS**



A Little Background

- January 15, 2004 - Informal Gathering of Wilderness Managers.
- “Survey Monkey” survey developed with the help of a statistician
- Pre-work for Planning Summit Held April 15 & 16, 2004.



Disclaimer

- Survey involved only Resource Managers
- I am not a researcher, I just needed basic information.
- This survey was done to get BASIC information on existing conditions of all 14ers in Colorado
 - 1. Fast
 - 2. Inexpensively
 - 3. Easy
- Data gathered qualitative in nature.



Planning Summit Purpose

- *Resource managers and partner organizations.*
- *Discussion about Fourteeners*
 - *Visions, Values, Goals.*
 - *Issues, Concerns*
 - *Existing conditions.*
 - *Desired Future Conditions*
 - *Current management practices.*
 - *Additional Management tools.*



Natural Resource Managers Survey

48 question survey asking Resource
Managers for qualitative input about
Existing Conditions on Colorado's
Fourteeners



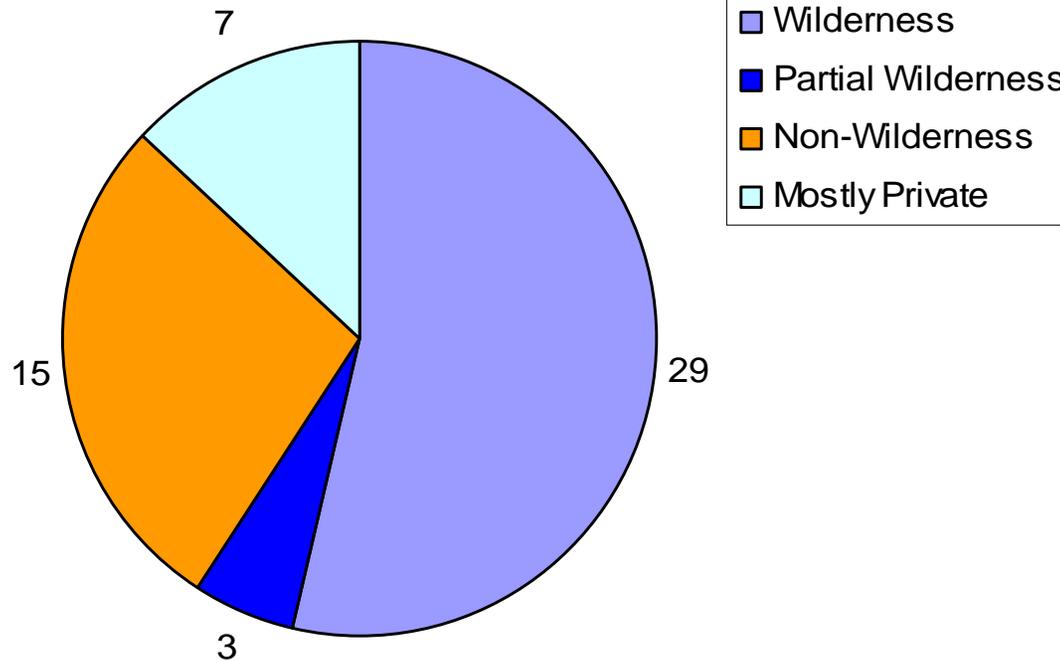
14er Distribution

Kit Carson added post 14er Summit Meeting

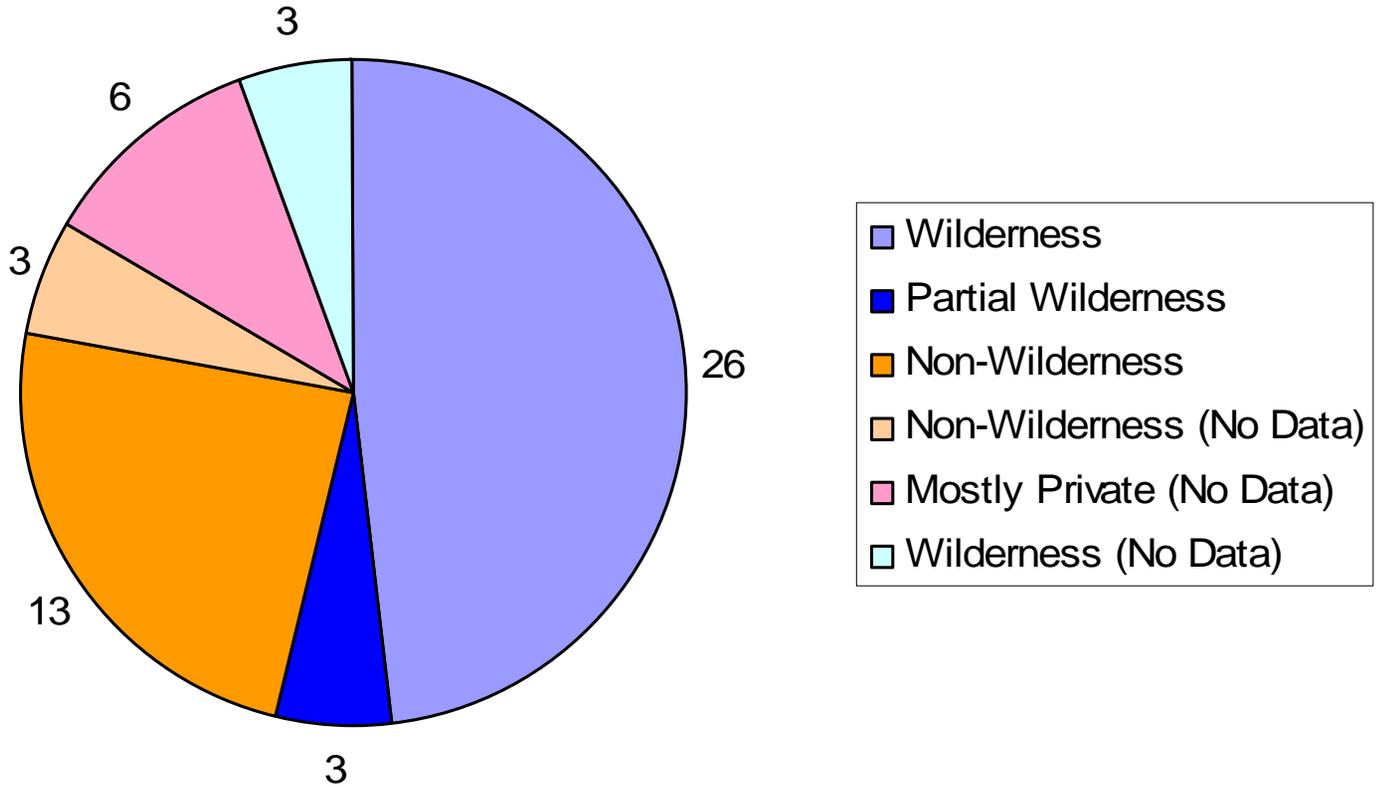
- 44 Forest Service
 - 28 Wilderness
 - 3 combined wilderness/non-wilderness
 - 13 non-wilderness
- 3 BLM
- 1 Park Service (Recommended Wilderness)
- 6 mostly private



Management Categories of Colorado's Fourteeners



Data Collected thru Survey



Survey Success Overall

77.7%

Survey Success Public Lands

87.5%



Sample Survey Question

3. Level of Knowledge Regarding This Peak: (Check the item that best describes your experience)

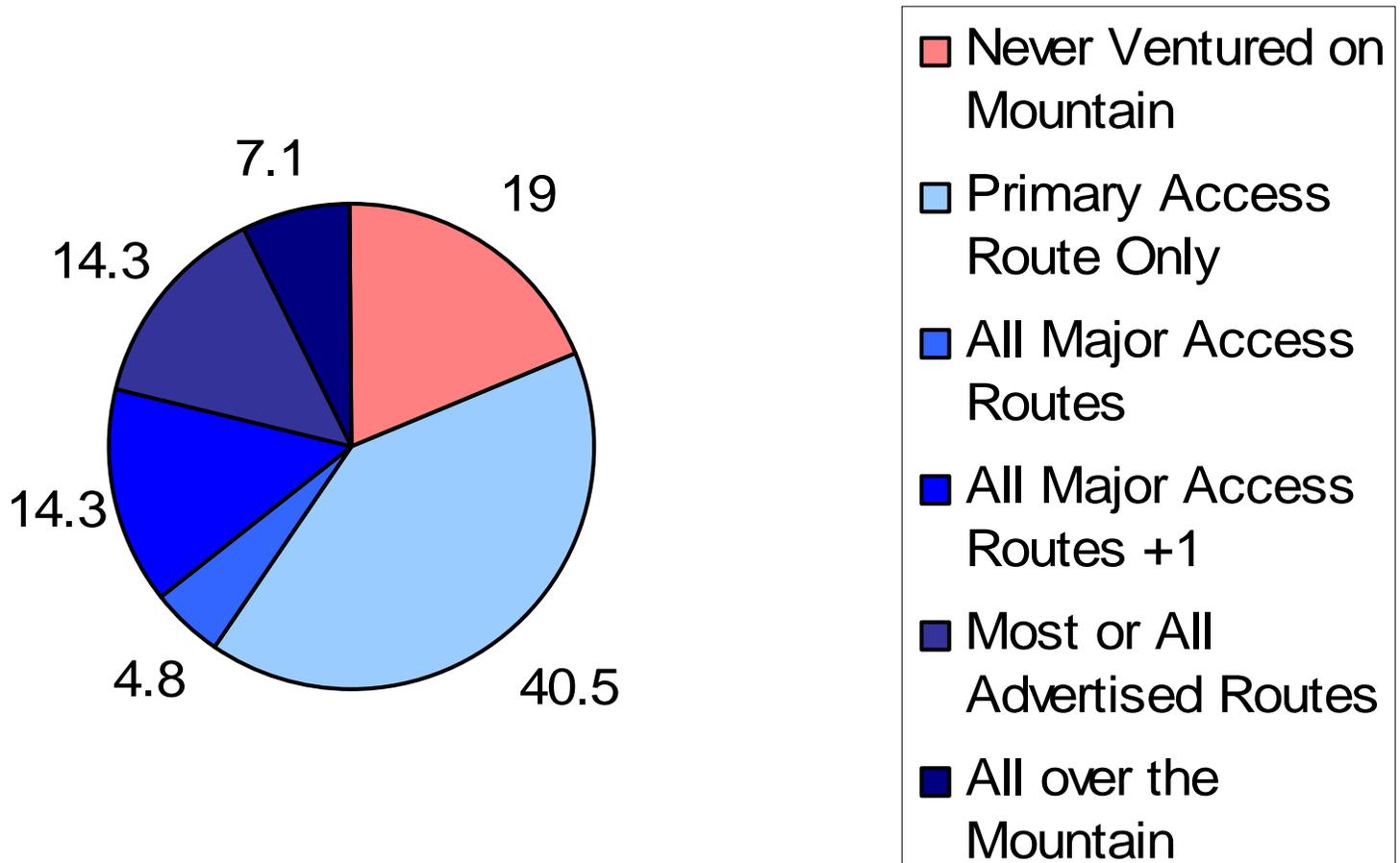
	Response %	Response Total
I Have Never Ventured Onto This Peak/Information From Secondary Sources	19%	8
I Have Been on THE Major Access Route Only	40.5%	17
I Have Been on ALL Reconstructed/Major Access Routes	4.8%	2
I Have Been on One "Other" Route Besides the Major Routes	14.3%	6
I Have Been on Most or All of the Advertised Routes	14.3%	6
I Have Been all Over the Mountain and Am Intimately Familiar with Conditions	7.1%	3
	Total Respondents	42
	(skipped this question)	1



Boots on the Ground

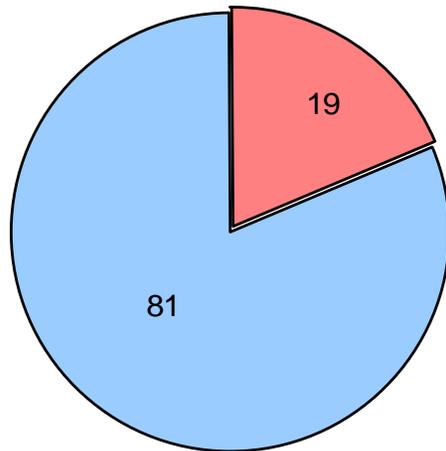
(Percent of Respondents)

Knowledge of Mountain



Boots on the Ground (Percent of Respondents)

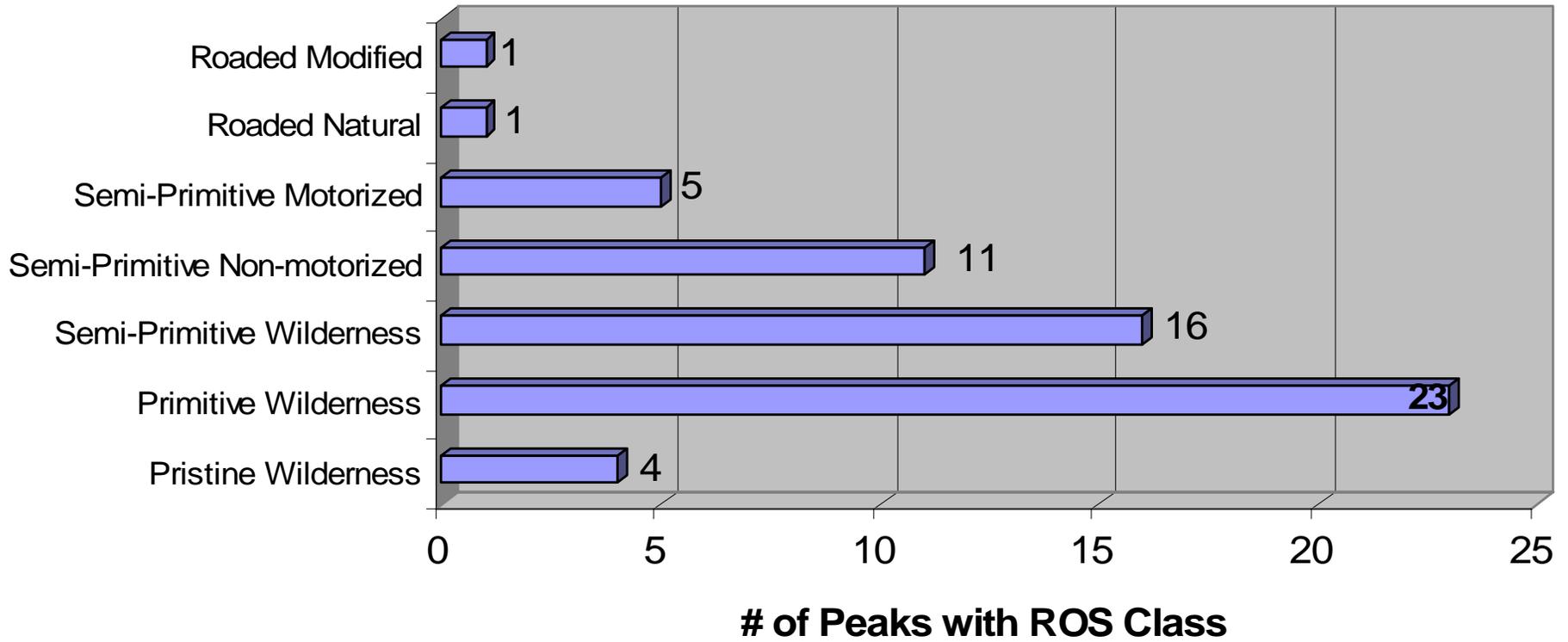
Knowledge of Mountain II



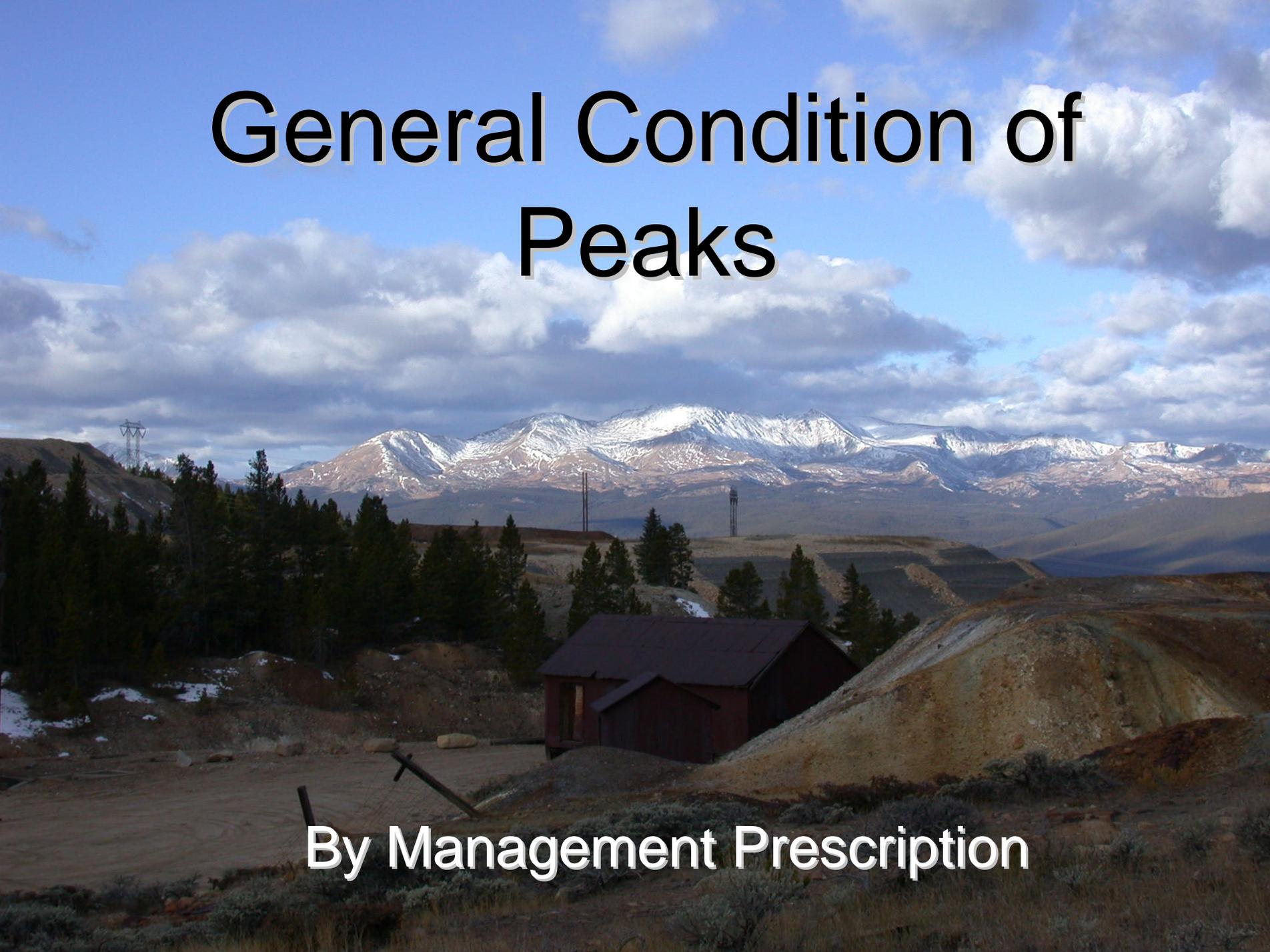
- Never Been on Mountain
- Some Field Knowledge



Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

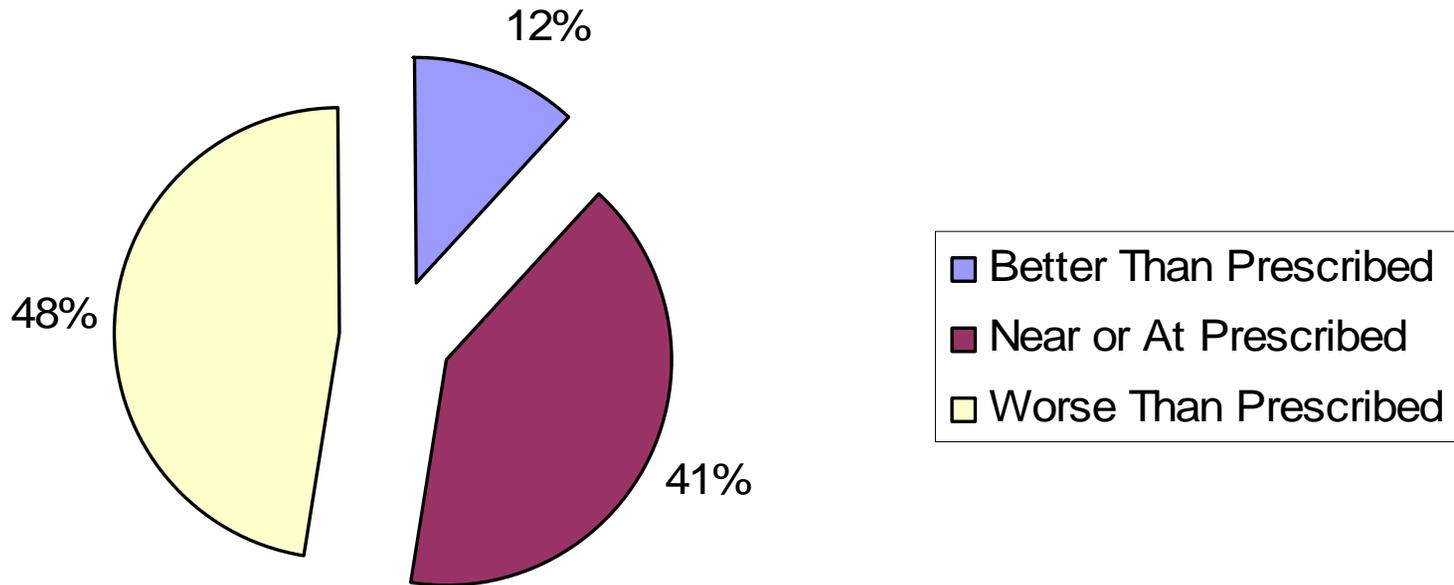


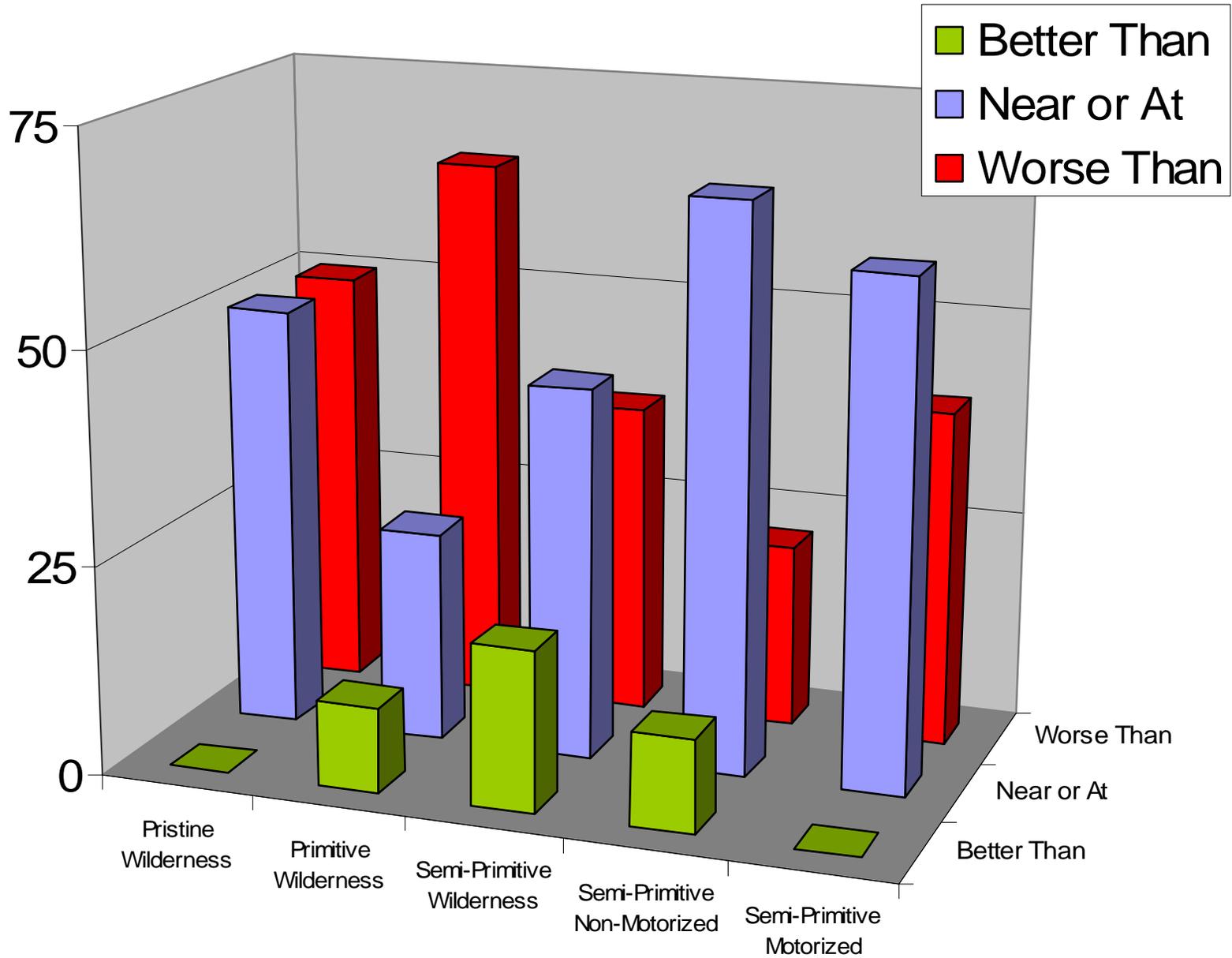
General Condition of Peaks



By Management Prescription

Current On Ground Conditions Compared to Prescribed Conditions All Mgmt Prescriptions/ All Agencies





- Better Than
- Near or At
- Worse Than

75

50

25

0

Pristine Wilderness

Primitive Wilderness

Semi-Primitive Wilderness

Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized

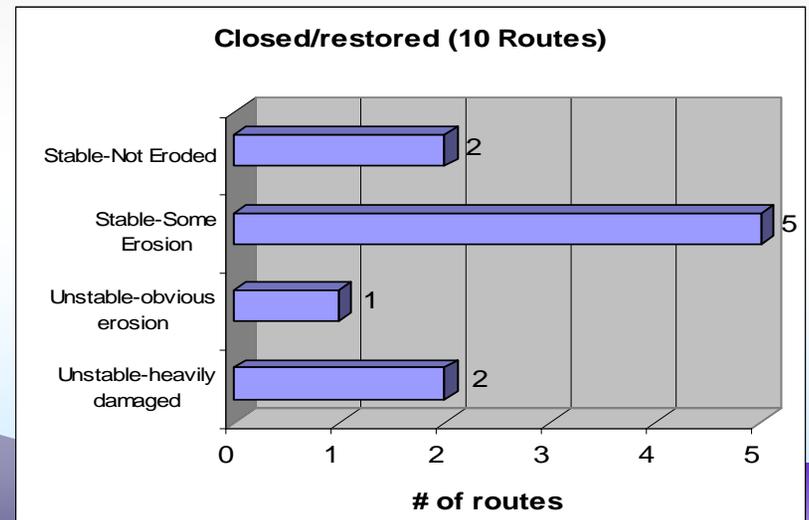
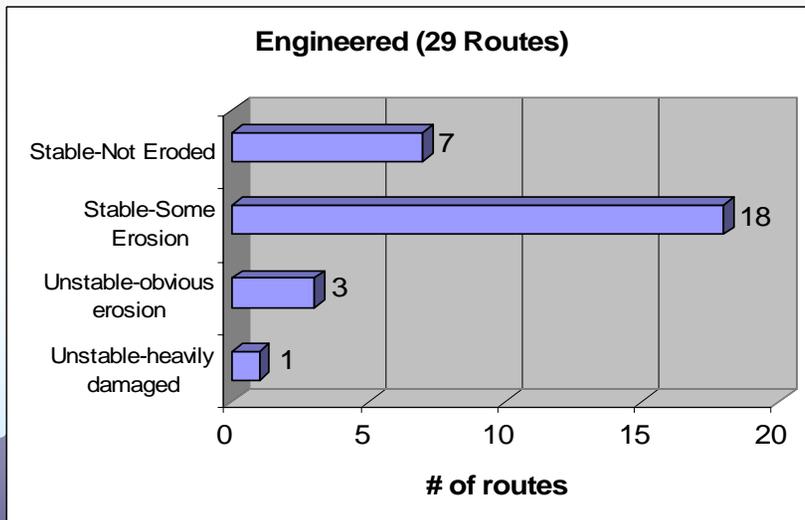
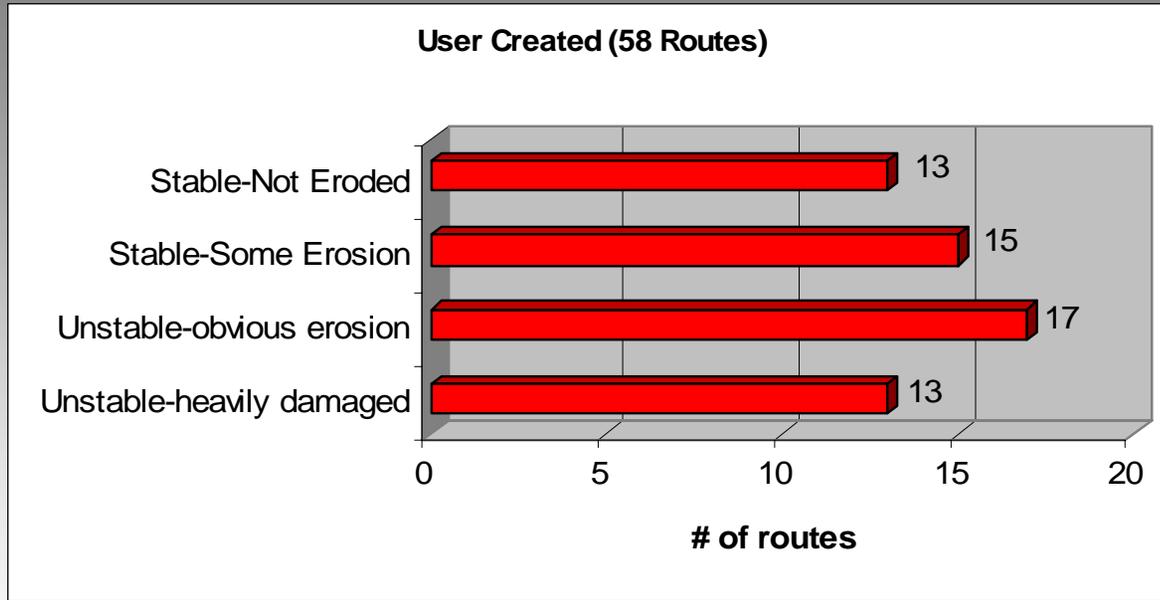
Semi-Primitive Motorized

Worse Than

Near or At

Better Than

Condition of Routes



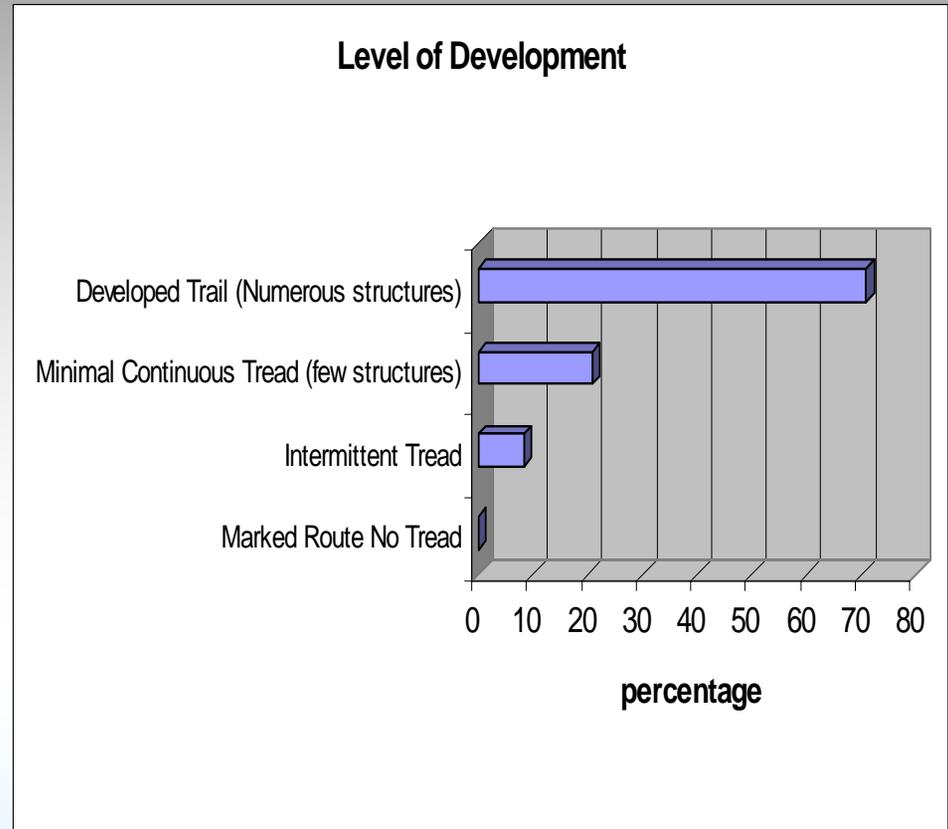
Routes Needing Immediate Attention

- Out of the 58 user-created routes known, 30 are unstable and need immediate attention.



Level of Development on Standard Route

- Mirrors Condition
- Why?
 - Conditions on Ground Driving Actions
 - Rather than Management Goal/Objective driving Conditions/Actions
- Development in Wilderness same as Non-Wilderness.



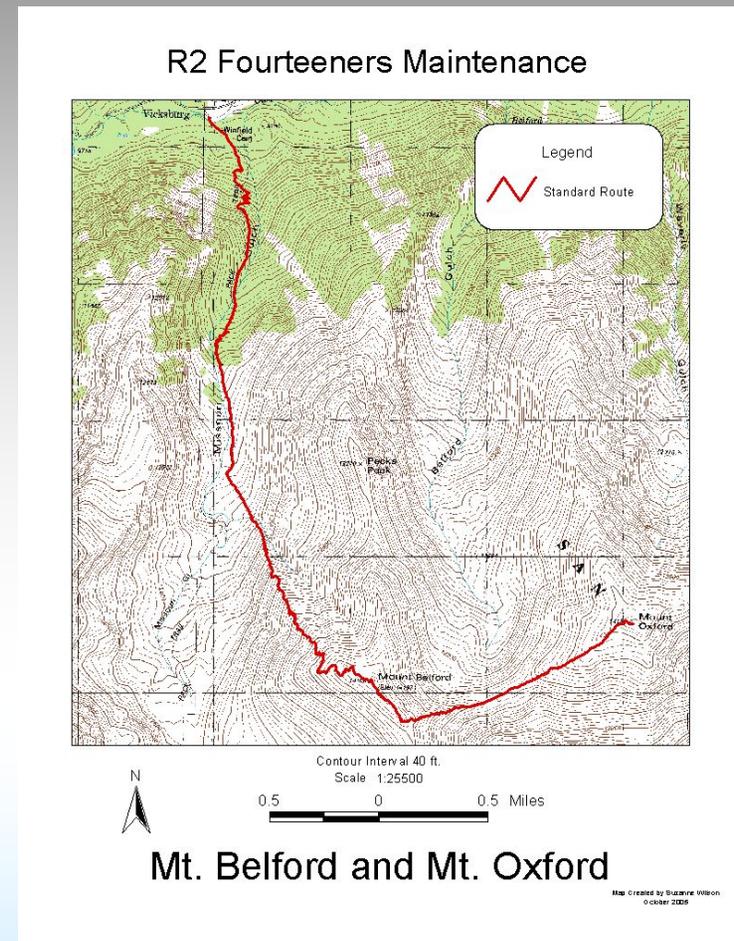
Development on Standard Routes

- 70% of developed routes are at highest level of development.



Maintenance is Critical

- Majority of engineered routes and closed restored routes are stable with some erosion.
- These are likely to move towards unstable without adequate maintenance.

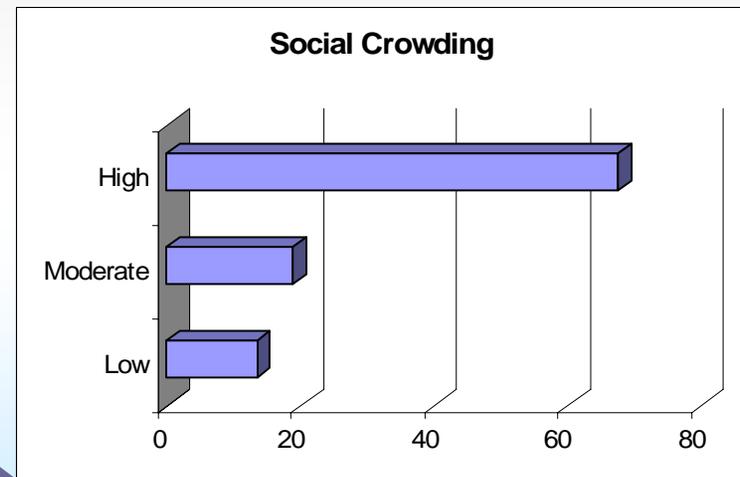
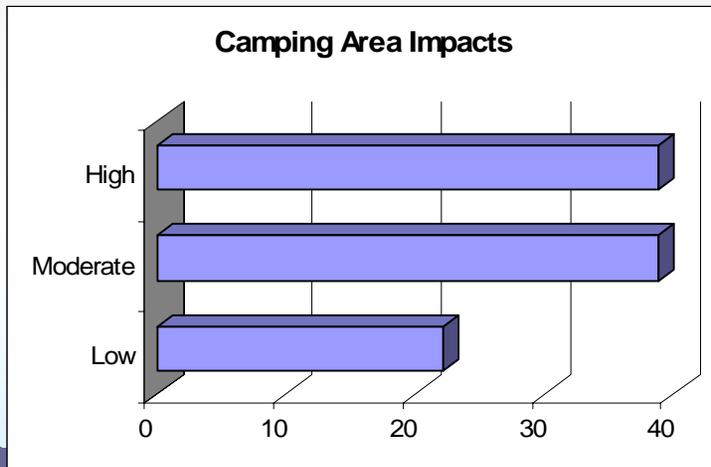
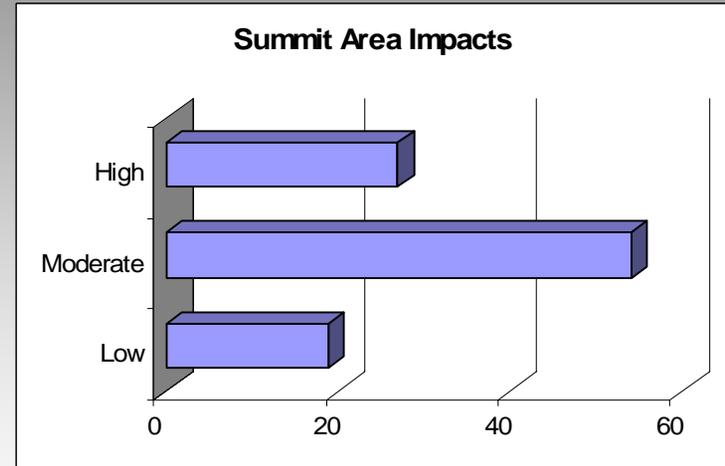
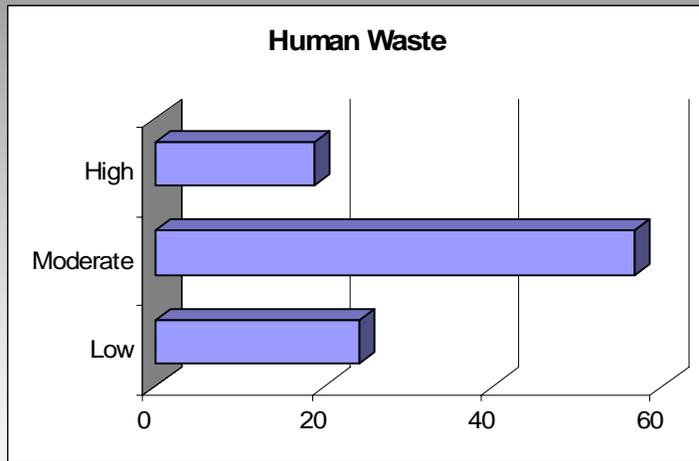


Managers Concerns Related to Access Areas

- Trailhead Capacity (25 Responses)
- Trailhead Facilities (17 Responses)
- Road to Trailhead (15 Responses)
- Access Trails (15 Responses)
- Private Property (11 Responses)



Impacts Consistent with Most Peaks



Are There Adequate Management Standards?

- Yes (40%)
- No (50%)
- Don't Know (10%)



Adequacy of Specific Management Standards

- Resource Themes with Adequate Standards
 - Soils
 - Healthy Flora
 - Healthy Fauna
 - Water Quality
- Resource Themes with Inadequate Standards
 - Social Experience
 - Condition of Engineered Routes
 - Extent of User Created Routes
 - Physical Recreation Setting
 - Carrying Capacity

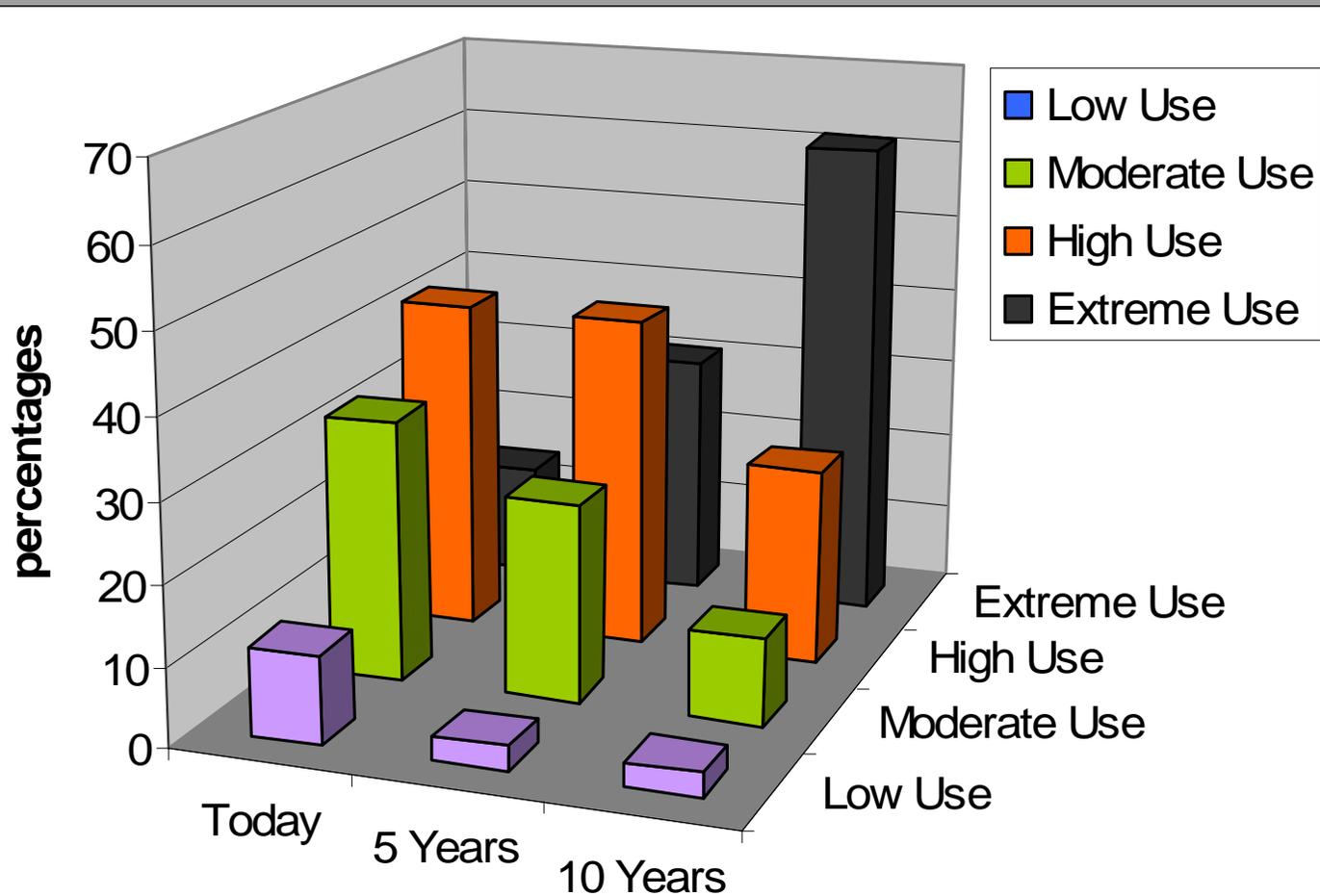


Looking into the Future

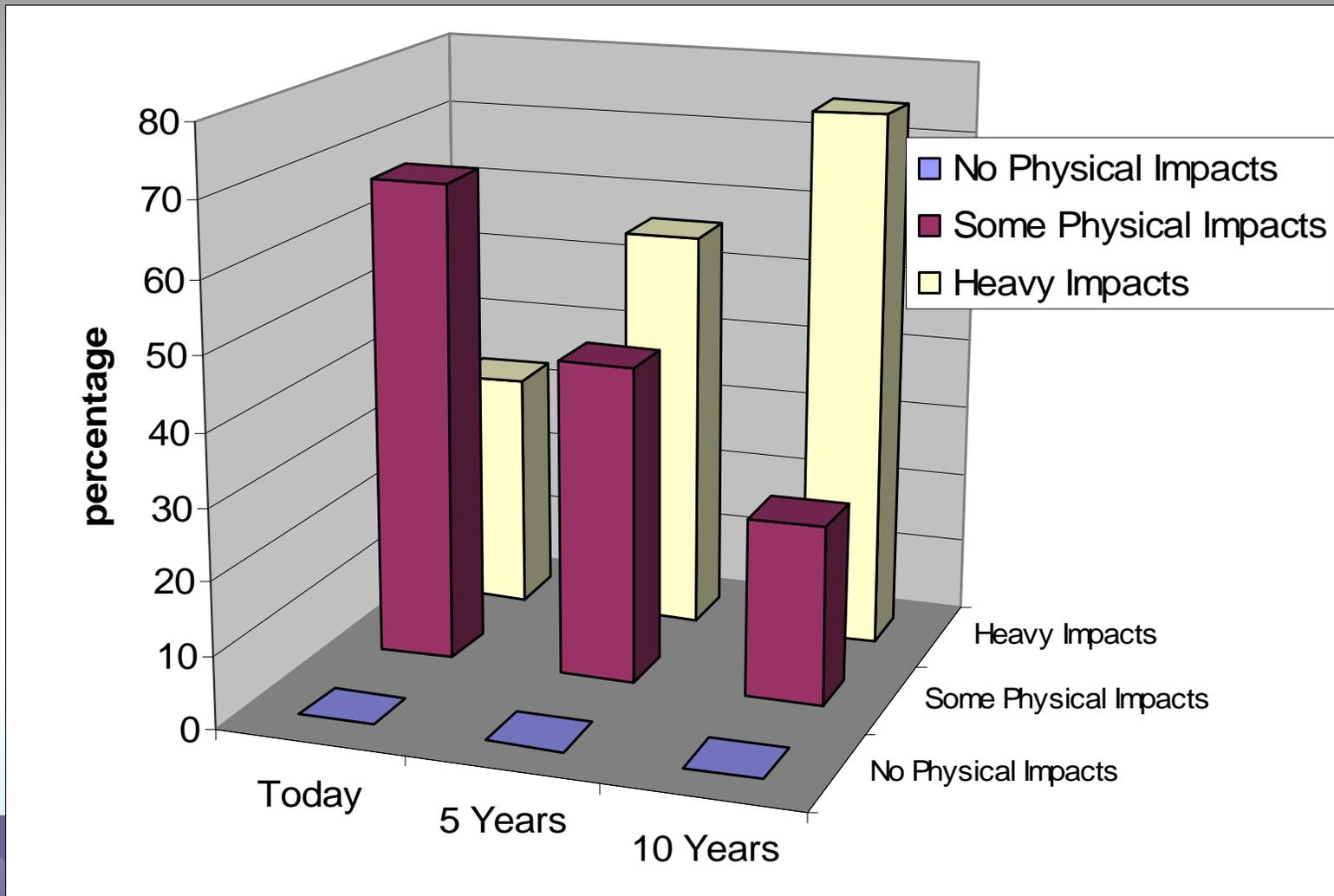


Anticipated Use Levels Over Time

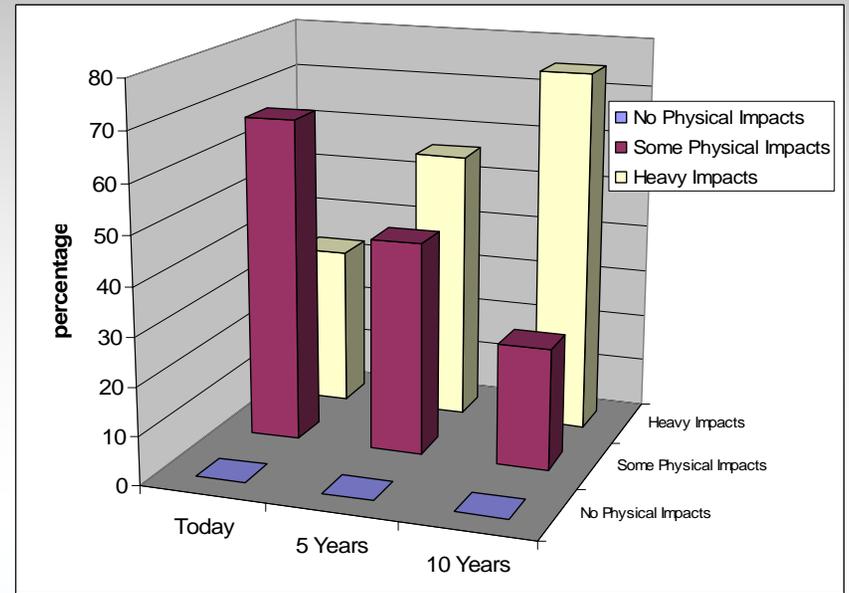
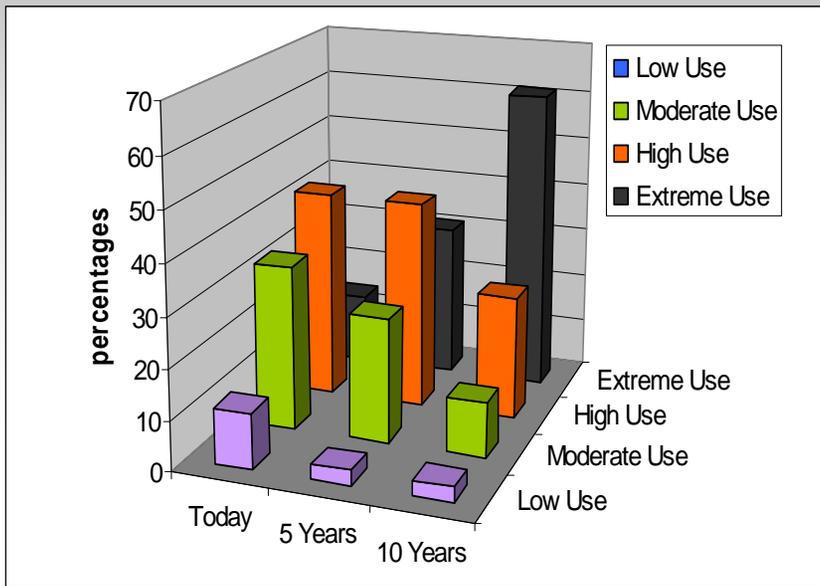
(By Peak)



Anticipated Physical Impact Levels (By Peak)

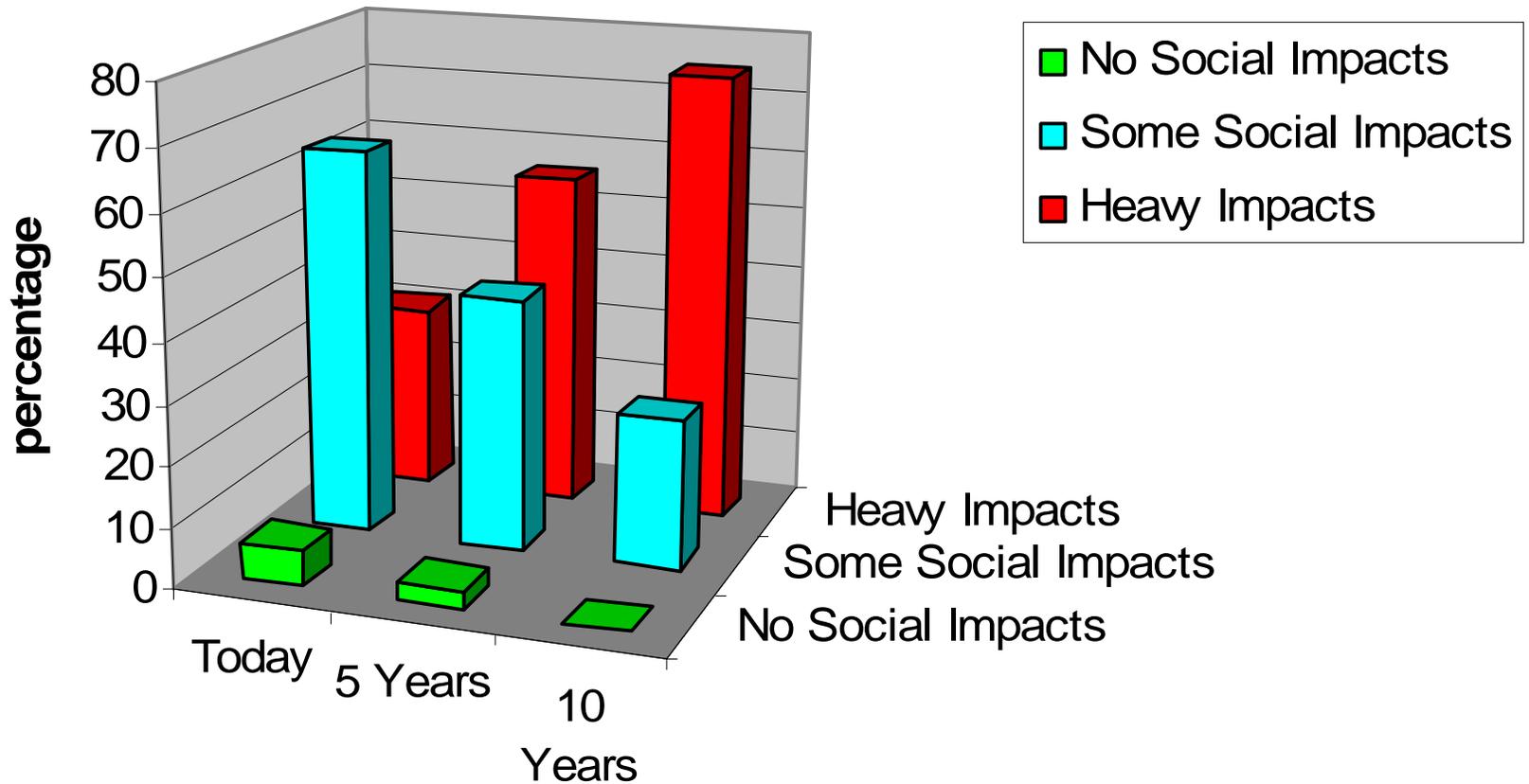


Use & Physical Impacts

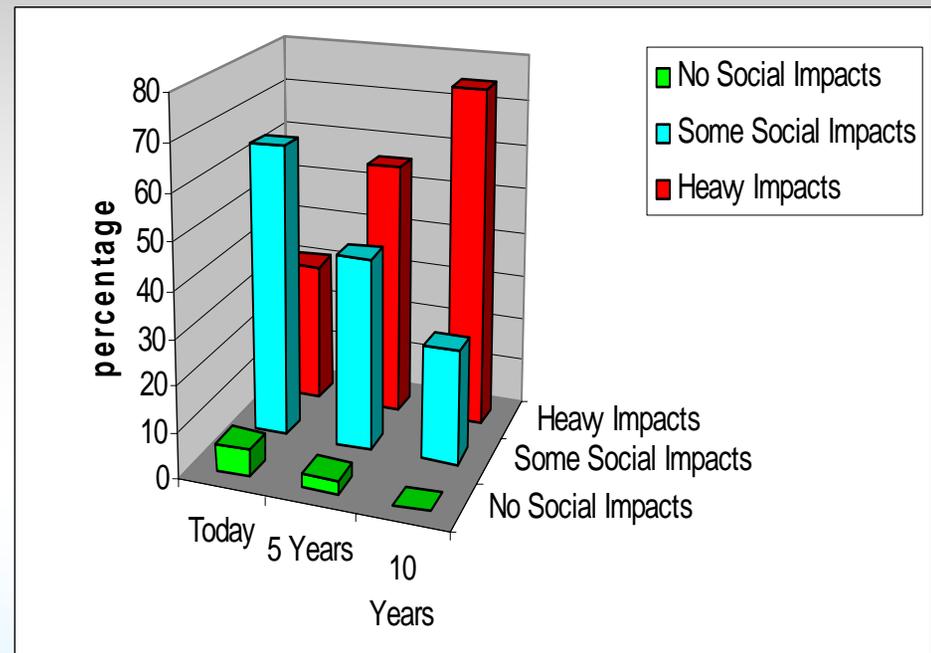
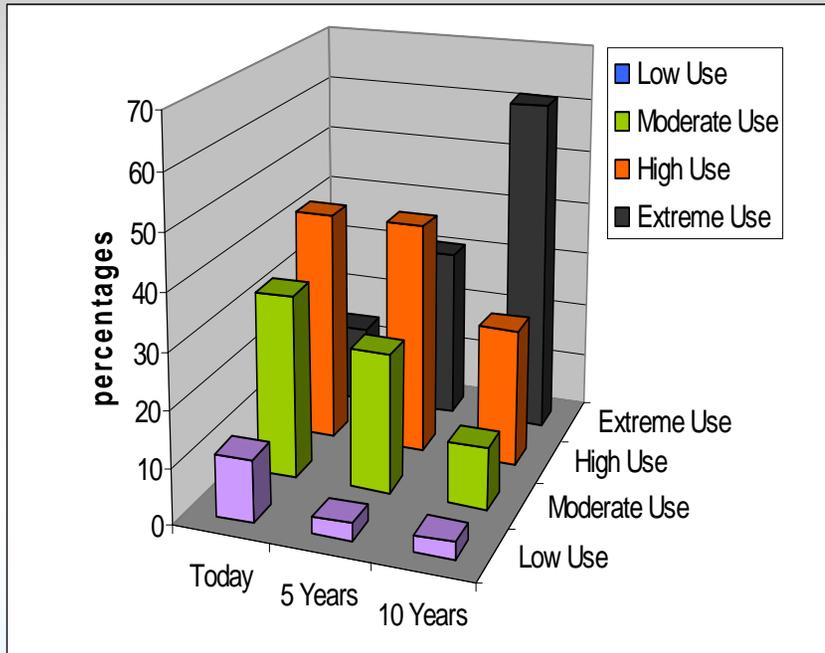


Social Impacts

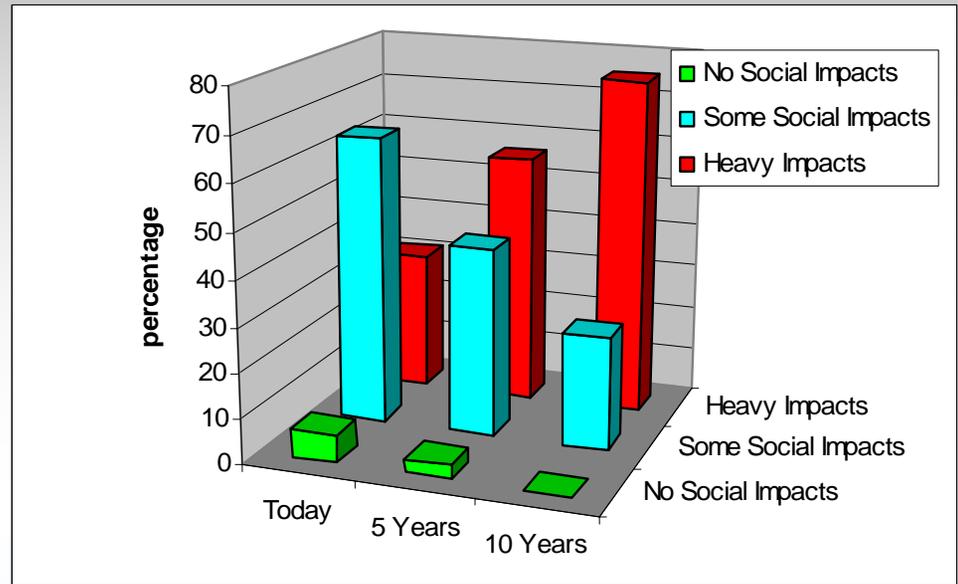
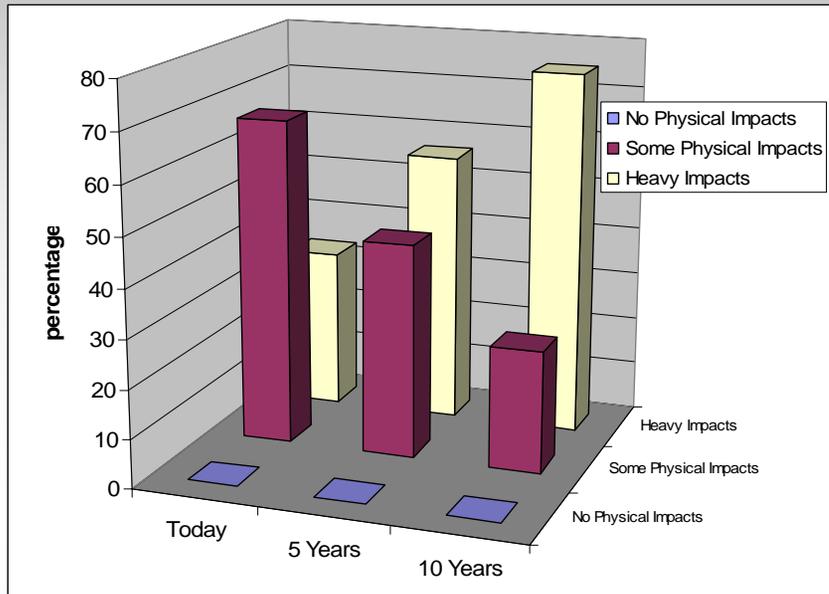
(By Peak)



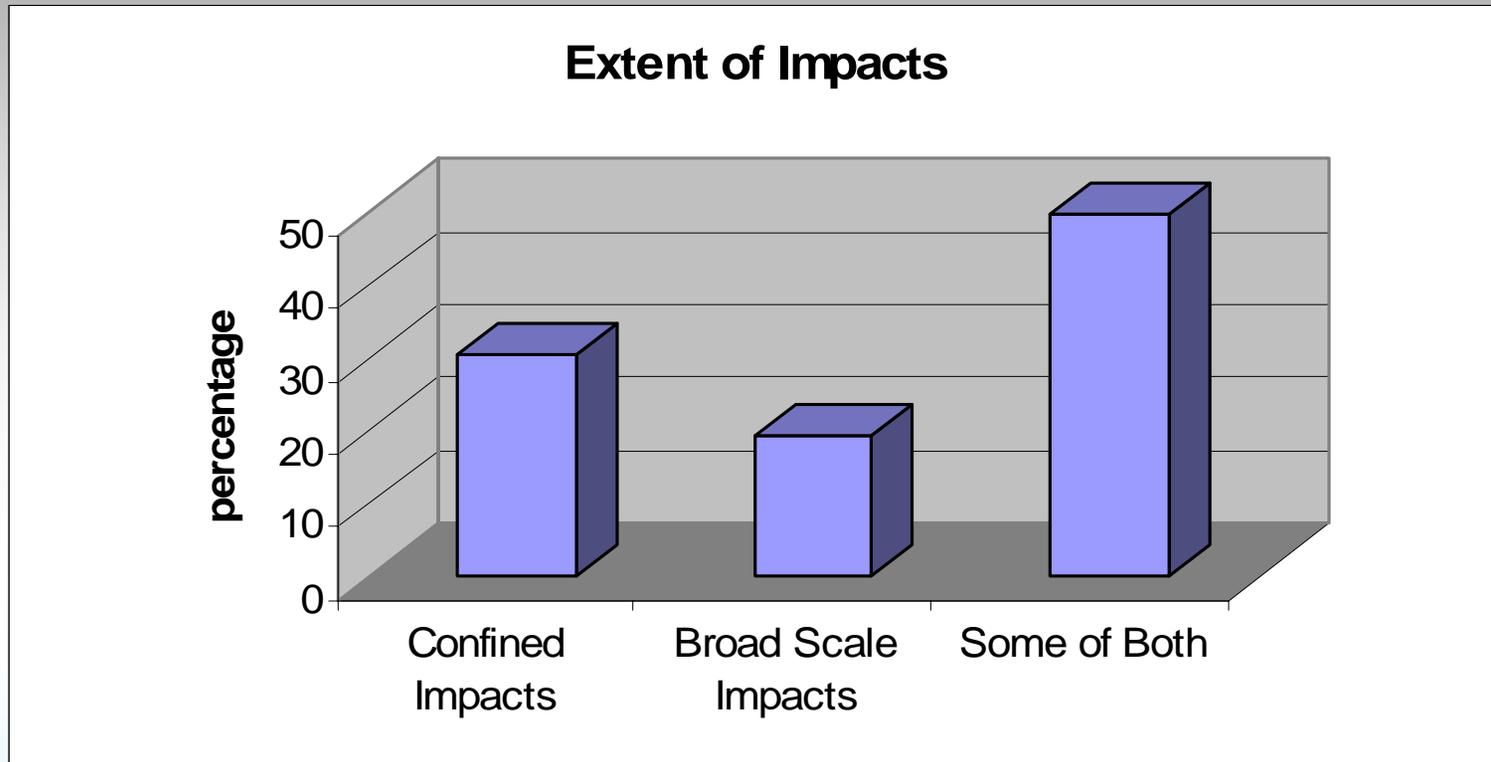
Use & Social Impacts



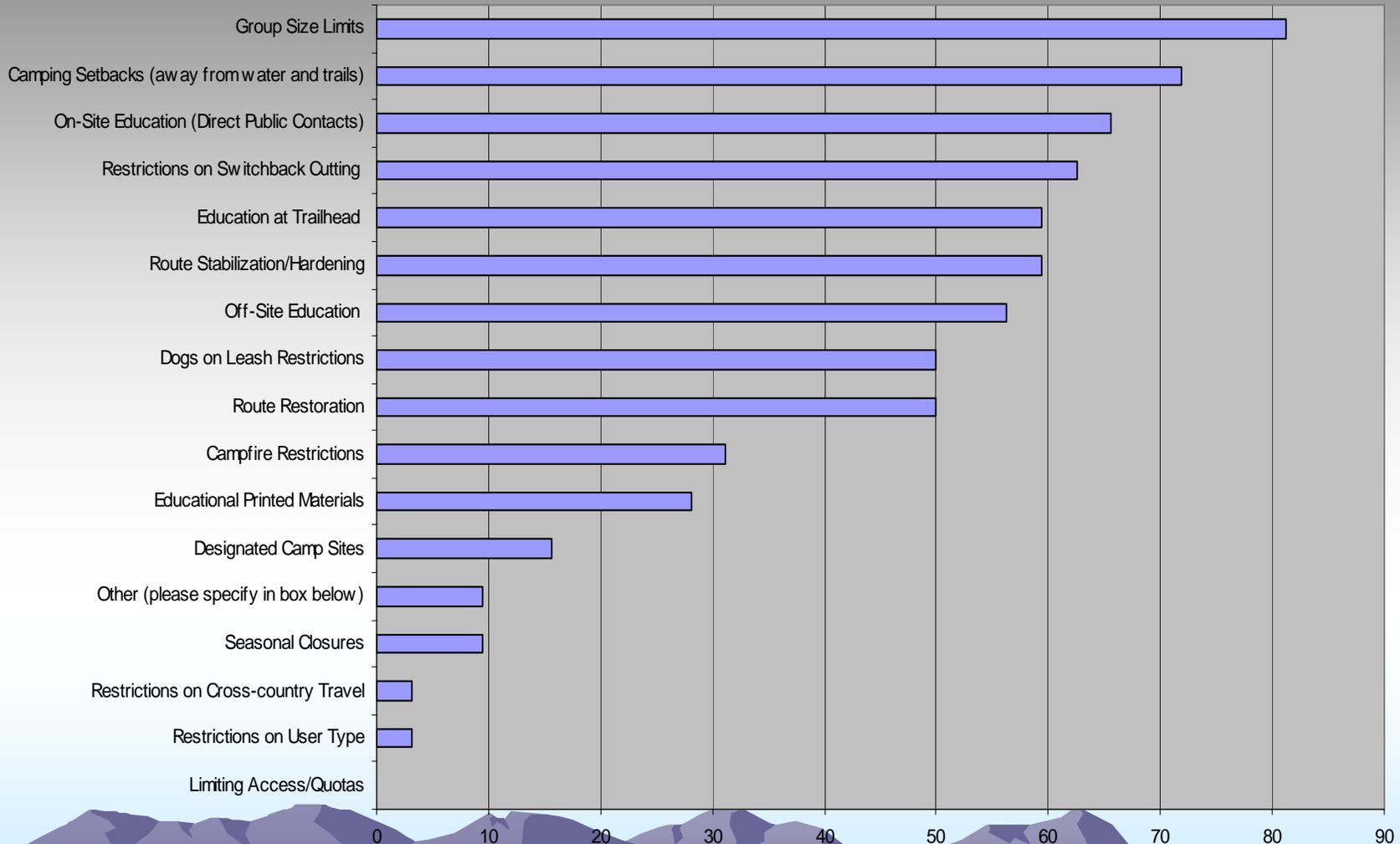
Physical & Social Impacts



Extent of Overall Impacts

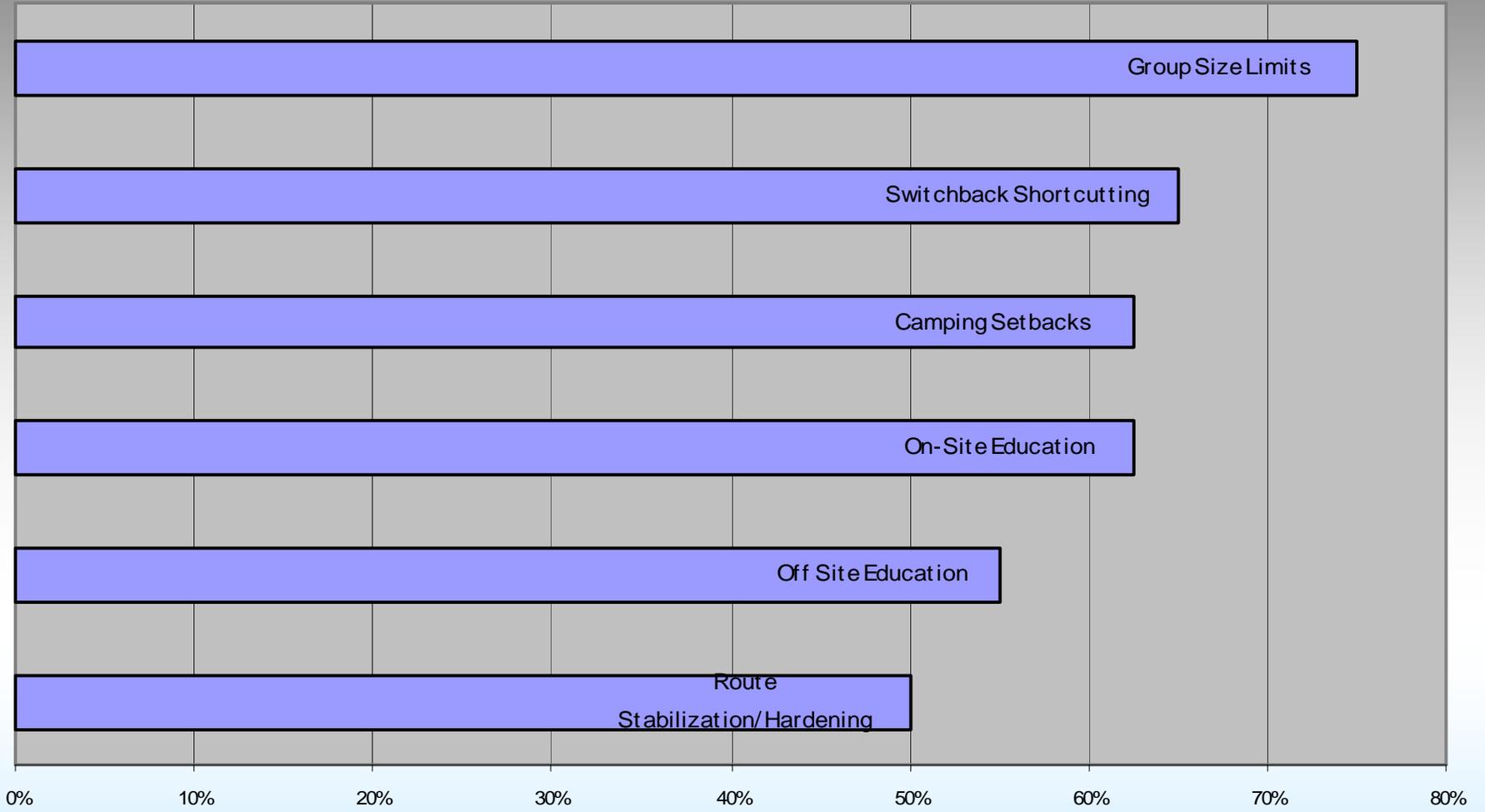


Present Management Actions



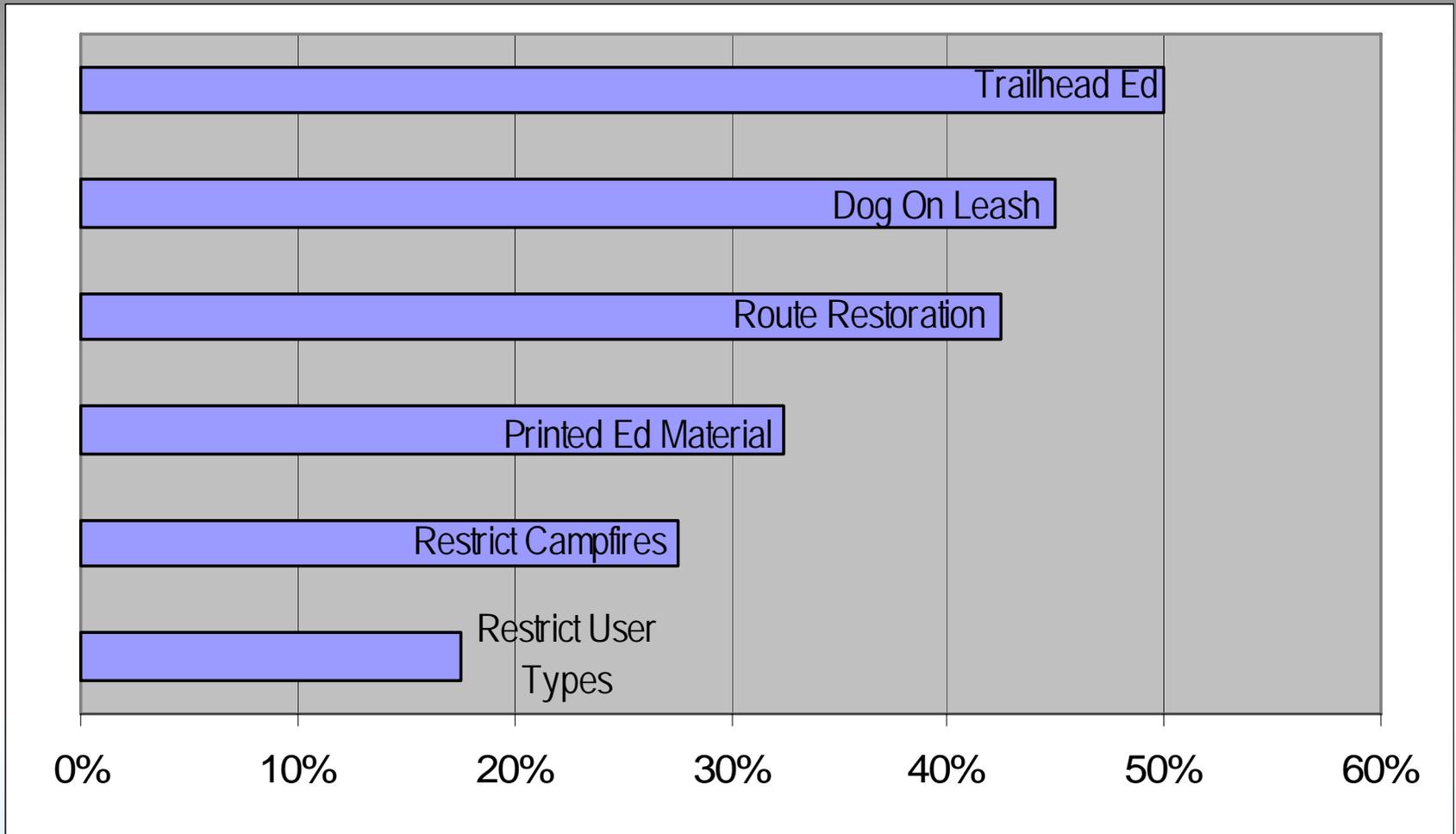
Present Management Actions

Top 6



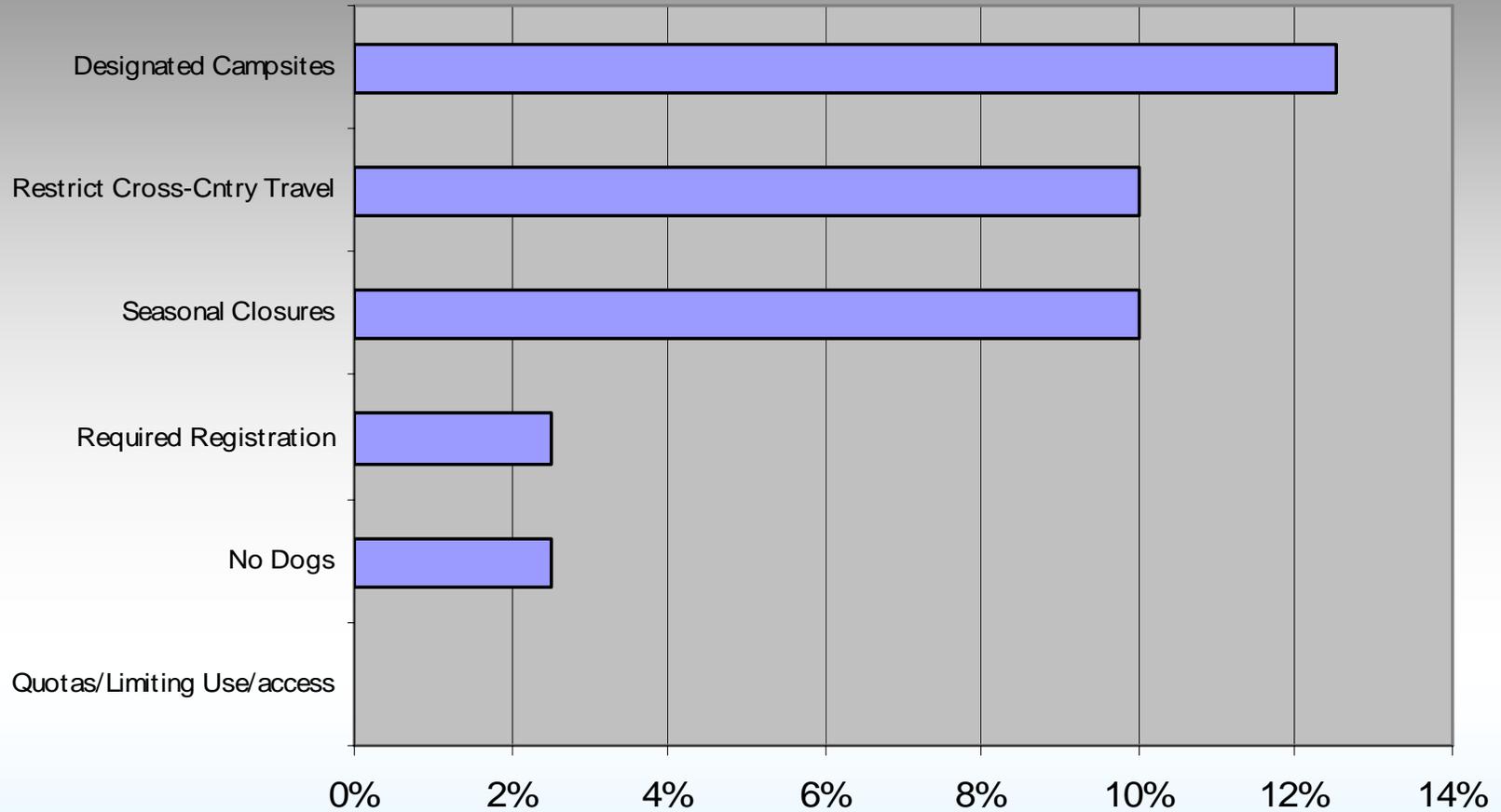
Present Management Actions

Middle 6

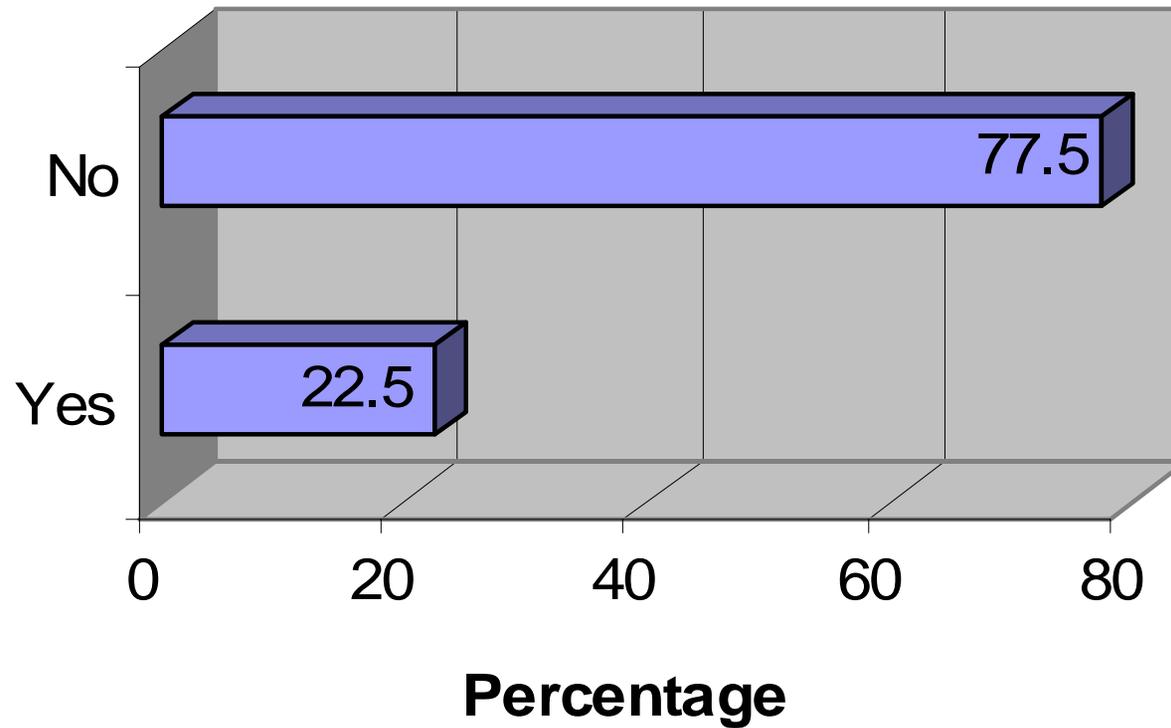


Present Management Actions

Bottom 6



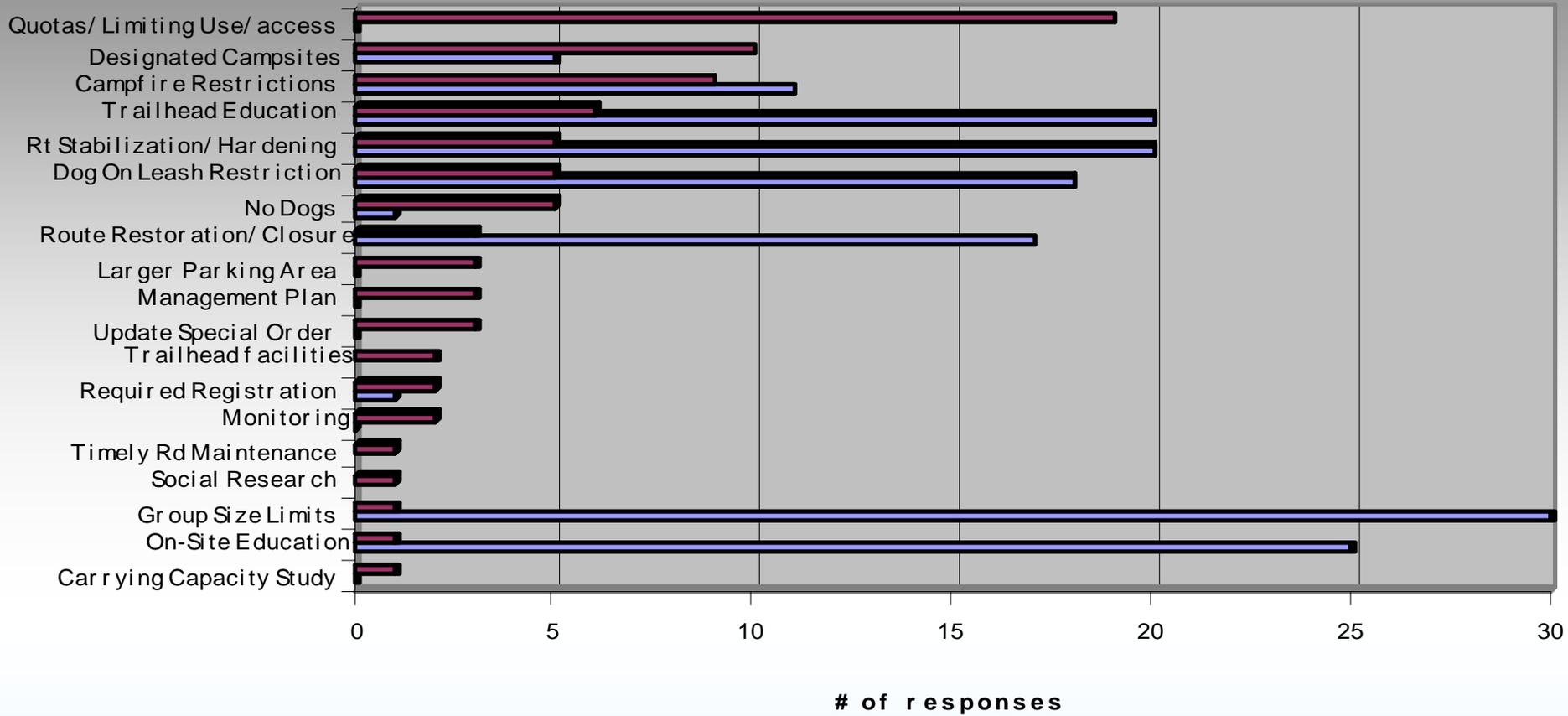
Are Present Management Actions Effective?



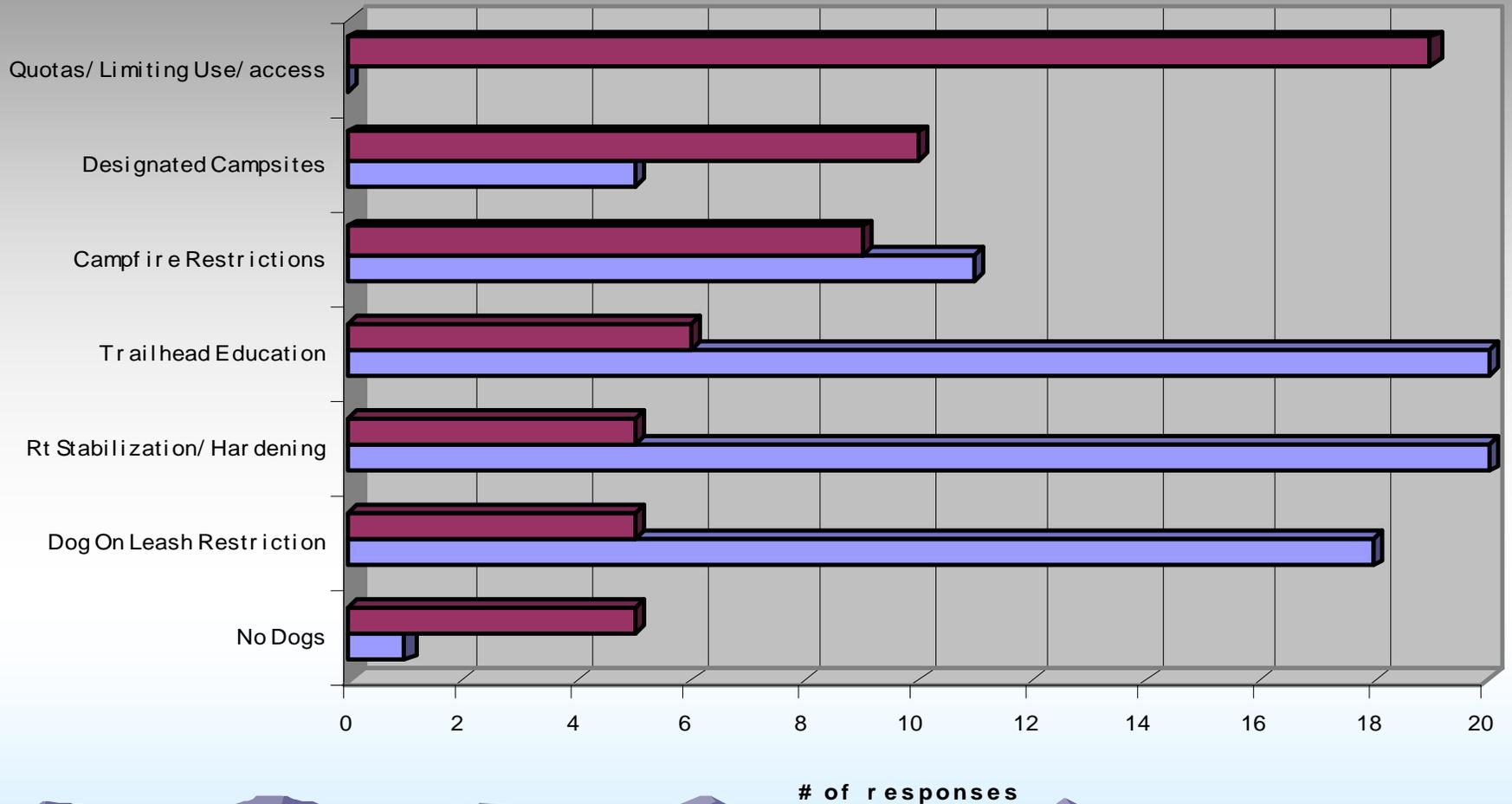
Please list any other management actions which you believe would allow you as a manager to meet resource objectives.



Management Tools Requested by Managers



Top Requested Management Tools



■ Present ■ Requests

Narrowing the Focus

**Forest Service Managed
Wilderness Prescription Peaks**

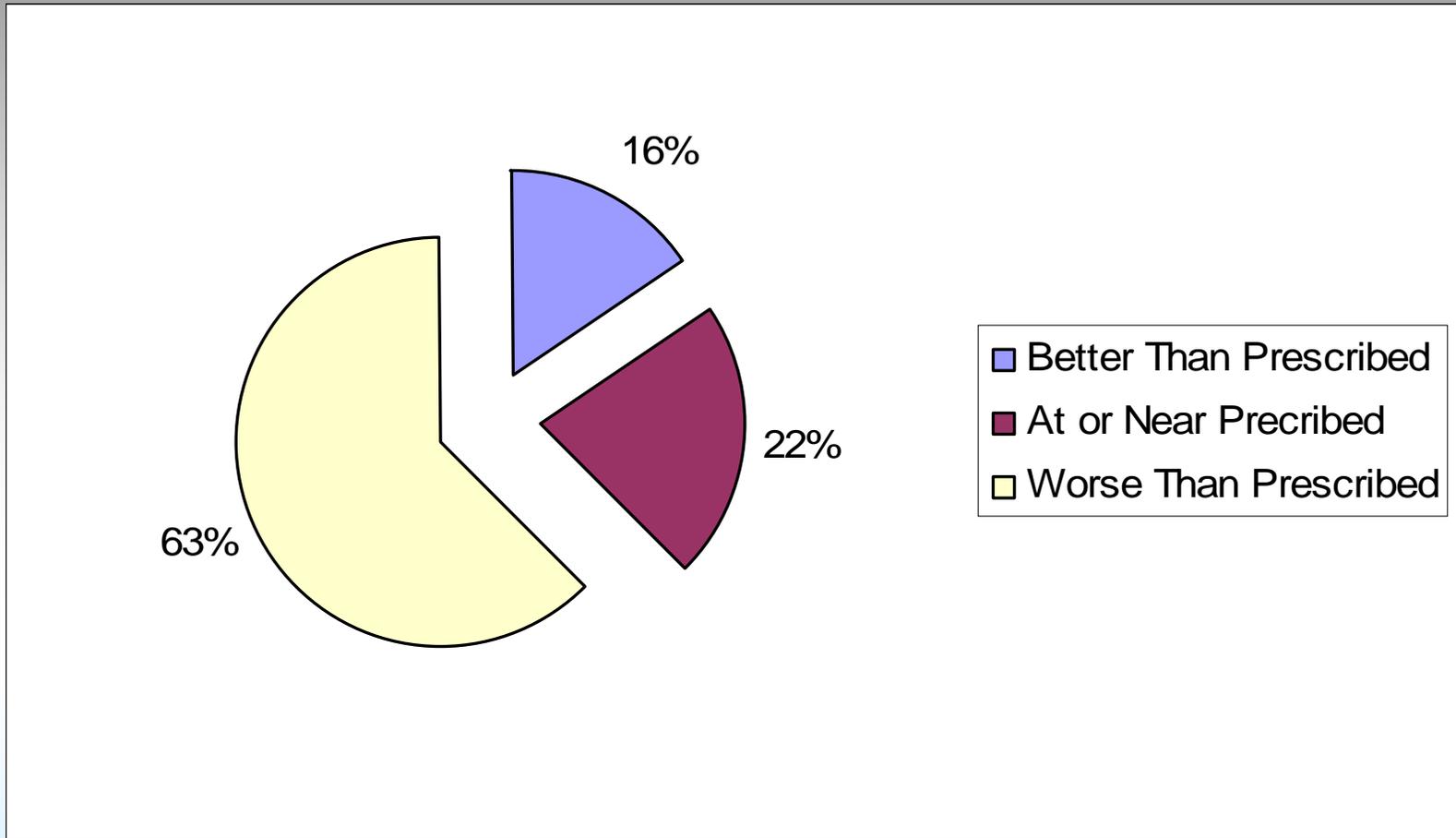


Wilderness Fourteeners Data Subset

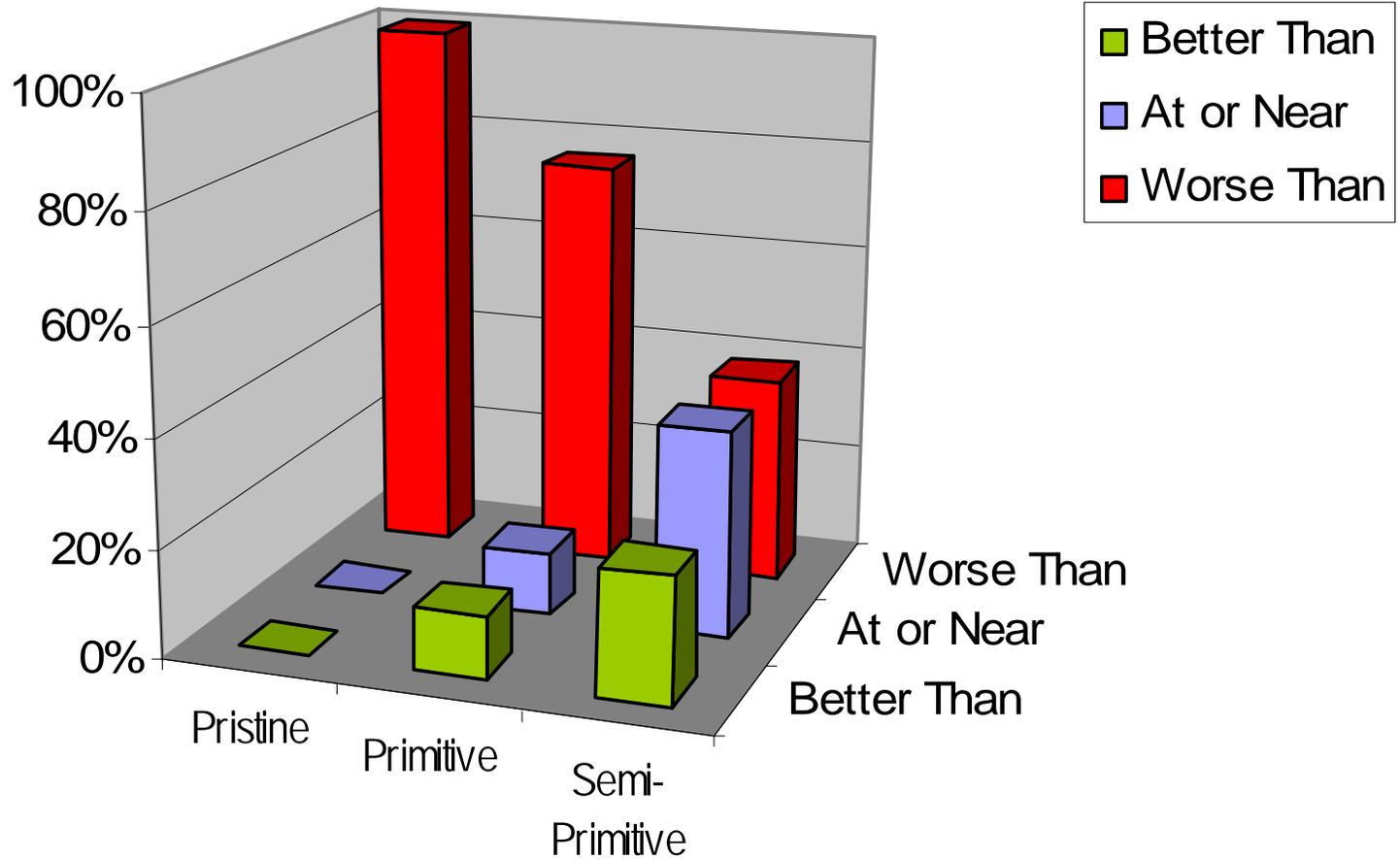
- 28 Forest Service Wilderness Peaks
 - 25 Included in following data
 - 3 no data collected during survey
- 10 Designated Wilderness Areas



Current On Ground Conditions Compared to Prescribed Conditions Wilderness Management Prescriptions



On the Ground Condition by Wilderness Management Prescription



Meeting Management Standards

Look on the Bright Side

- 52% of peaks currently meet conditions prescribed in the Management Area Prescription.
- 78% of respondents felt that they needed additional tools to effectively meet resource objectives into the future.



THE END!!!

