



## Fort Collins Natural Areas Resident Survey Report of Results

August 2016



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## Executive Summary

### Survey Background

The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program desired to learn about community perceptions and satisfaction with its program and the natural areas, and the recreation activities of visitors to the natural areas and contracted with National Research Center, Inc. to conduct a scientific survey of residents in Fort Collins and the rest of Larimer County, excluding Estes Park. Of the 1,800 randomly selected households to which surveys were sent, 52 were identified by the post office as vacant. A total of 402 completed surveys were returned from the estimated 1,748 households that received a survey, for a response rate of 22%. Survey results in each geographic area were weighted so that respondent age, gender and housing tenure status (rent versus own) were represented in the proportions reflective of the entire area. The margin of error is plus or minus five percentage points around any given percent for all results.

### Survey Results

- **About half of survey respondents were familiar with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins, but fewer were familiar with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department.**

As in 2011, about half of survey respondents were very or somewhat familiar with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins. In 2011, a third of respondents said they were familiar with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program, but in 2016, only about 2 in 10 respondents were familiar with the Natural Areas Department. This may be because the department is a relatively new creation, and residents may not yet be familiar with the new structure.

- **High marks were given to the job being done by the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department.**

Fort Collins and Larimer County residents responding to the survey felt positively about the job the Natural Areas Program is doing; about one-quarter felt the City is doing an excellent job, and an additional 40% felt the City is doing a very good job.

- **Ratings of the City's efforts were even more positive in 2016 than in 2011.**

In 2011, just over half of respondents (51%) felt the City was doing an excellent or very good job, with an additional 30% saying the City was doing a good job, very positive ratings. However, in 2016, the results were even more positive, with nearly two-thirds of respondents rating the quality of the job the City is doing as excellent or very good, and nearly another third rating the job as good. Only 4% thought the City was doing a fair or poor job in 2016.

- **Survey participants appreciated the fact that the natural areas exist, and that they are nearby and accessible with a large number of them.**

Survey respondents were given the opportunity to describe in their own words the thing they most appreciate about the City's natural areas. The most common theme, cited by 24% of respondents, was that the areas are close or easily accessible. They also mentioned they were grateful these areas exist and will be preserved, and that there are a large variety of them, and they were abundant throughout the city. Also appreciated were the trails and the ease of using them.

- **Recreational opportunities and wellness were considered by respondents to be the greatest contributions of the natural areas to the community.**

Those completing the questionnaire were asked to evaluate the extent to which natural areas contribute to each of a number of aspects of the community. Over two-thirds believed natural

areas contributed to a “great” extent to the recreational opportunities (75% of respondents) and wellness (70%) of the community. Nearly two-thirds felt that natural areas contribute to the quality of life in Fort Collins to a great extent.

More than 70% of respondents felt that natural areas contributed to at least a “moderate” extent to each of the items rated, including the economic vitality of the community, habitat conservation, and mobility, among others.

➤ **Three-quarters of respondents visited the natural areas at least once a year, and a third did so at least every week or two.**

Fort Collins residents were more likely to be frequent visitors, making more than 50 visits in a year (32%), than were those who lived in the rest of the county (17%), while only about 1 in 10 Fort Collins respondents said they never visit compared to 4 in 10 residents outside of Fort Collins.

➤ **The activities in which visitors most frequently participated in natural areas were hiking, biking, enjoying the scenery and relaxing.**

Some activities were done more commonly by Fort Collins residents, such as commuting/passing through, biking, relaxing, running/jogging or dog walking, likely because these activities might be associated more strongly with the geographic convenience due to the proximity of the City’s natural areas.

Similar proportions of respondents engaged in each activity in 2011 as in 2016, except a greater proportion of respondents in 2011 reported dog walking in the natural areas, while fewer reported enjoying the scenery.

➤ **Visits to natural areas tended to be between 1 and 2 hours in duration.**

At their most recent visit to a Fort Collins natural area, 25% of respondents had spent less than an hour, 44% between one and two hours and 26% up to four hours. Only 6% spent more than four hours. Those outside the county may have made natural areas visits into more of an event, as they were more likely to report visits of 2 hours or more (39%) compared to Fort Collins residents (27%).

➤ **Visitors of the natural areas were highly satisfied with their experience, and gave high grades to the natural area facilities.**

Nearly all respondents were at least somewhat satisfied with the natural areas they have visited, and three-quarters were very satisfied. The proportion of residents very satisfied increased in 2016 (74%) compared to 2011 (67%).

Nearly all respondents rated facilities in the natural areas as at least “good.” One in three rated them as excellent and an additional 40% as very good. This was similar to what was observed in 2011. For individual facilities and services, letter grades of A or B were given by 70% to 97% of respondents, with trail conditions, trailhead conditions and directional and informational signs receiving the highest grade. Restrooms received the lowest ratings, but they were still rated positively by 7 in 10 respondents. All ratings were more positive in 2016 than in 2011.

➤ **The most frequently formal sources used to obtain information about natural areas were *Tracks & Trails*, *City News* and newspapers.**

Each of these were cited as a source used always or frequently to get information about natural areas. The Natural Areas website was frequently used by about 1 in 10 respondents, as were social media sites. However, the most used source of information was informal “word of mouth,” always or frequently used by about a third of respondents.

## Survey Background

The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department desired to learn about community perceptions and satisfaction with its program and the natural areas, and the recreation activities of visitors to the natural areas. A similar survey was conducted in 2011, and development of the questionnaire was undertaken by the agency's staff members, with input from National Research Center, Inc. (NRC). Some of the questions in 2011 were taken from previous user surveys conducted for the agency. For the 2016 survey project, nearly all the questions were retained, with minor changes to a couple questions, and replacement of a couple questions with new items. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in *Appendix F: Survey Materials*.

Eighteen hundred households in Larimer County (excluding Estes Park) were selected to receive the survey. Three-fourths of the selected households were within Fort Collins, and one-fourth from the rest of the study area. The selected households were contacted by mail. They first received a prenotification postcard informing them that a survey would be mailed to them shortly. About a week later they were mailed the questionnaire with a cover letter signed by John Stokes, the director of the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. Included in the packet was a postage-paid return envelope. A week later a second survey was mailed, with instructions to recycle the survey if they had already responded. Of the 1,800 addresses selected to receive the survey, 52 were identified by the post office as vacant. A total of 402 completed surveys were returned, for a response rate of 22%. Of these 402, 325 were from Fort Collins residents (representing a response rate of 24%) and 77 were from the rest of Larimer County, excluding Estes Park (17% response rate).

Survey results in each geographic were weighted so that respondent age, gender and housing tenure status (rent versus own) were represented in the proportions reflective of the entire area. The margin of error is plus or minus five percentage points around any given percent for all results. More information about the survey methodology can be found in *Appendix E: Survey Methodology*.

The body of the report includes graphs and tables of summarized results, while full results for each geographic area and overall appear in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*. ("Don't know" responses are excluded from the report body but appear in the full results in the appendix. Where there was an unexpectedly higher rate of "don't know" for a particular question, it is mentioned in the report body text.) When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number. When the total exceeds 100% in a table for a multiple response question in which the respondent can choose more than one category, it is because some respondents are counted in multiple categories.

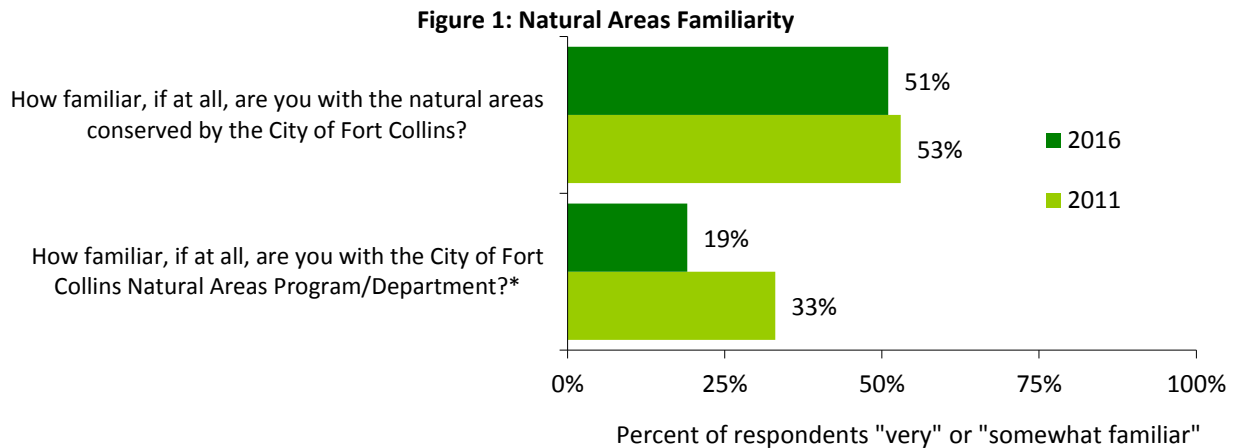
## Survey Results

The Fort Collins Natural Areas Resident Survey asked recipients about their familiarity with and opinions about the natural areas and the Natural Areas Department, whether they have visited the natural areas, and about their experience in the natural areas if they had visited.

### Familiarity with the Natural Areas Department

Familiarity with the aspects of Fort Collins natural areas was gauged with a pair of questions. Just over half were very or somewhat familiar with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins in 2016, a similar proportion as what had been observed in 2011.

In 2011, about a third of respondents said they were familiar with the City of Fort Collins natural areas program. However, in 2016, only about 20% of respondents said they were familiar with the Natural Areas Department. This may be because the department is a relatively new creation, and residents may not yet be familiar with the new structure.



*\*In 2011, the survey asked about familiarity with the natural areas program, and in 2016 about the Natural Areas Department, which had been created since 2011.*

Those who lived outside of Larimer County were less likely to be familiar with the Fort Collins natural areas than were those who lived within the city (see Table 1 and Table 2 in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*).

Familiarity with the Natural Areas Department was examined by respondents’ familiarity with the natural areas themselves. Nearly all who were not at all familiar with the natural areas were also not at all familiar with the Department. About 7 in 10 of those a little bit familiar with the natural areas were not at all familiar with the Department. Even among those who were very familiar or somewhat familiar with the natural areas, about half or more were only a little bit familiar or not at all familiar with the Department.

**Figure 2: Familiarity with Natural Areas Department by familiarity with natural areas**

| How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department? | How familiar, if at all, are you with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins? |                   |                       |                     |
|--|--|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
|  | Very familiar  | Somewhat familiar | A little bit familiar | Not at all familiar |
| Very familiar  | 18%  | 0%                | 0%                    | 0%                  |
| Somewhat familiar  | 33%  | 30%               | 1%                    | 0%                  |
| A little bit familiar  | 35%  | 34%               | 27%                   | 1%                  |
| Not at all familiar  | 14%  | 36%               | 72%                   | 99%                 |
| Total  | 100%   | 100%              | 100%                  | 100%                |

Those who had lived in Larimer County 16 or more years were more likely to say they were not at all familiar with the Natural Areas Department ( about 60%) compared to those who had lived in Larimer County 15 years or less (about 45%). About a quarter of respondents who had lived in Larimer County for 5 to 30 years said they were very or somewhat familiar with the Department, while only 15% to 19% of those who had lived in the County 10 years or less or 30 or more years said they were very or somewhat familiar with the department.

**Figure 3: Familiarity with Natural Areas Department by Length of Residency**

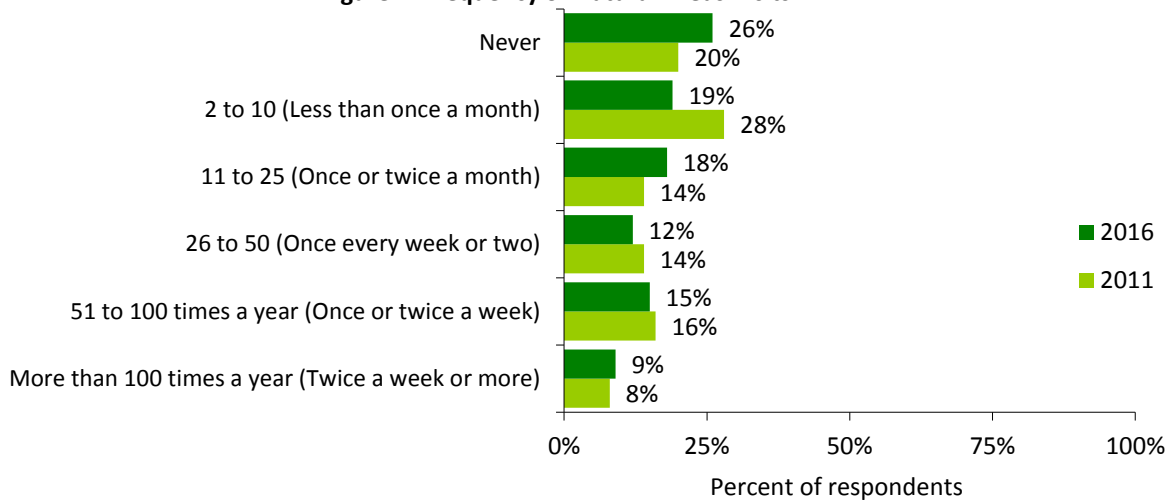
| How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department? | How many years have you lived in Larimer County? |               |                |                |                |                    |
|--|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
|  | Less than 5 years                                | 5 to 10 years | 11 to 15 years | 16 to 20 years | 21 to 30 years | More than 30 years |
| Very familiar  | 0%   | 6%            | 6%             | 4%             | 4%             | 2%                 |
| Somewhat familiar  | 15%  | 13%           | 22%            | 21%            | 19%            | 14%                |
| A little bit familiar  | 37%  | 36%           | 30%            | 15%            | 15%            | 25%                |
| Not at all familiar  | 48%  | 45%           | 42%            | 61%            | 61%            | 60%                |
| Total  | 100%   | 100%          | 100%           | 100%           | 100%           | 100%               |



Those who completed the survey were asked how often they visited Fort Collins natural areas. Just under half (45%) said they go to natural areas less than once a month, about the same proportion as in 2011 (48%), although in 2016 respondents were a bit more likely to say the “never” visit natural areas.

Nearly a quarter of respondents reported they make more than 50 visits in a year, similar to what was observed in 2011. Fort Collins residents were more likely to be frequent visitors (32%) than were those who lived in the rest of the county (17%), while only about 1 in 10 Fort Collins respondents said they never visit compared to 4 in 10 residents outside of Fort Collins (see *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*, Table 10. It should be noted that visitation may be overstated; households who use the natural areas may have been more likely to complete the survey than those who do not.

**Figure 4: Frequency of Natural Areas Visits**



Nearly all of those who said they never visit the natural areas were not at all familiar or only a little bit familiar with the Natural Areas Department. Nearly 9 in 10 of those who visit less than once a month were a little bit or not at all familiar with the Department. Those who visited once every week or two were most likely to be familiar with the Department, but even among those visitors only about 4 in 10 were very or somewhat familiar with the Department. Less than 3 in 10 of those who visit once a week or more were very or somewhat familiar with the Department.

**Figure 5: Familiarity with Natural Areas Department by frequency of natural areas visitation**

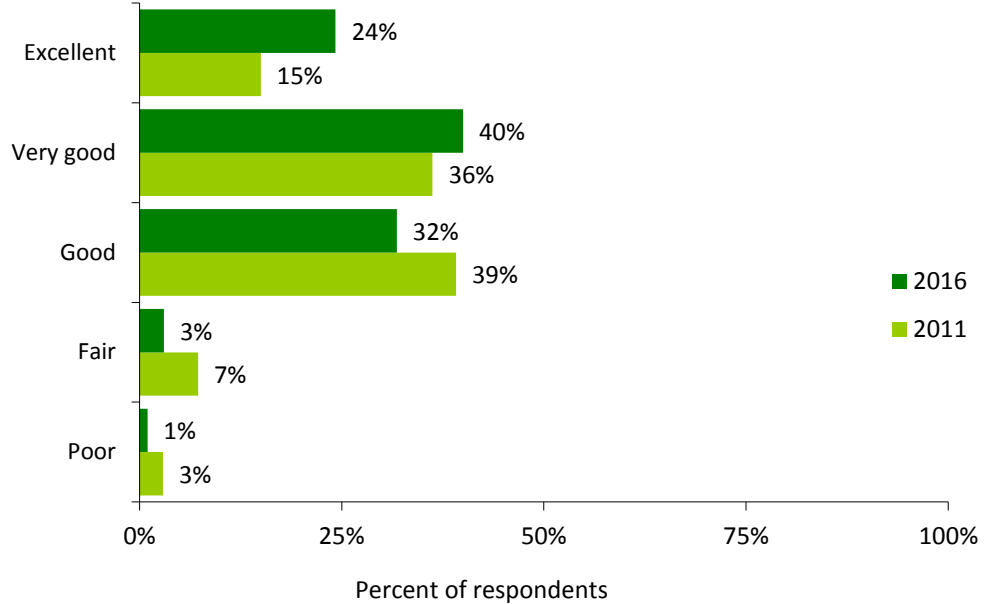
| How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department? | How often do you visit Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . . |   |                                   |                                  |                                  |       |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
|  | More than 100 times a year (Twice a week or more)                      | 51 to 100 times a year (Once or twice a week) | 26 to 50 (Once every week or two) | 11 to 25 (Once or twice a month) | 2 to 10 (Less than once a month) | Never |
| Very familiar  | 3%   | 9%  | 7%                                | 2%                               | 3%                               | 0%    |
| Somewhat familiar  | 21%  | 19%   | 32%                               | 28%                              | 8%                               | 3%    |
| A little bit familiar  | 34%  | 43%   | 35%                               | 30%                              | 27%                              | 7%    |
| Not at all familiar  | 42%  | 30%   | 25%                               | 40%                              | 62%                              | 91%   |
| Total  | 100%   | 100%  | 100%                              | 100%                             | 100%                             | 100%  |

## Overall Ratings of the Natural Areas Department

Fort Collins and Larimer County residents responding to the survey felt positively about the job the Natural Areas Department is doing; about one-quarter felt the City is doing an excellent job, and an additional 40% felt the City is doing a very good job. These results are even more positive than had been seen in 2011.

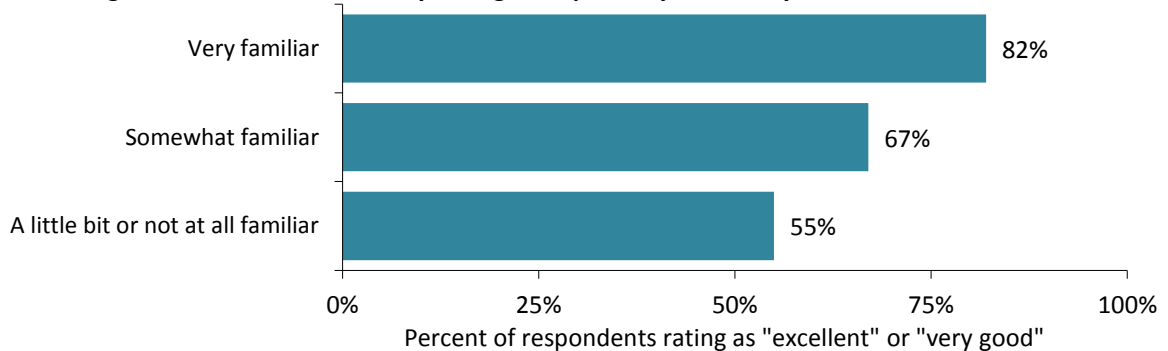
Those living in Fort Collins gave ratings similar to those who lived elsewhere in the county (see *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*, Table 4).

**Figure 6: Quality of Job done by the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department**



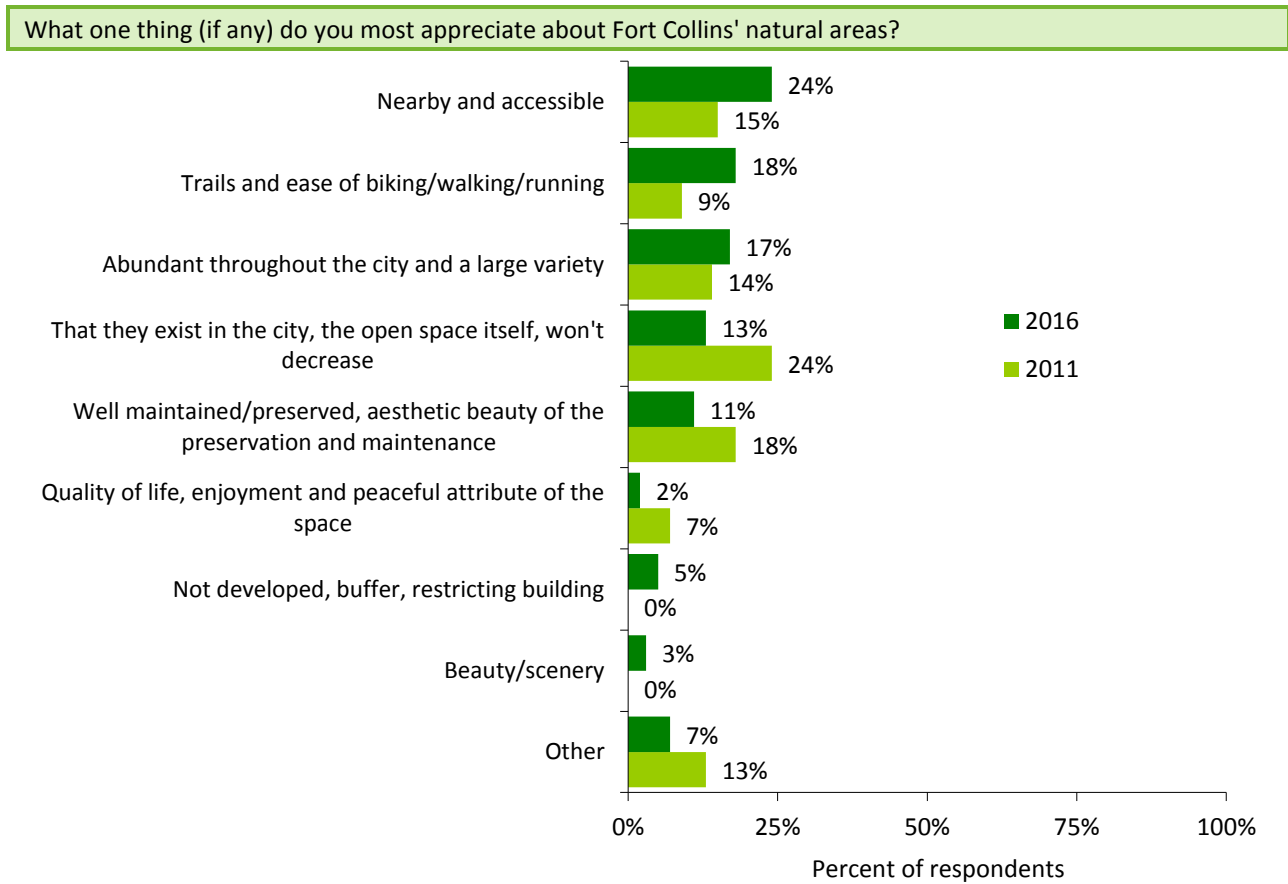
Not surprisingly, familiarity with natural areas was associated with positive evaluations of the job that the Natural Areas Department. Among those very familiar with natural areas, 82% rated the job the Natural Areas Department is doing as excellent or good, compared to 55% among those only a little bit or not at all familiar.

**Figure 7: Natural Areas Quality Ratings Compared by Familiarity with Natural Areas**



Survey respondents were given the opportunity to describe in their own words the thing they most appreciate about the City’s natural areas. The full set of verbatim responses appears in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. The most common theme, cited by 24% of respondents, was that the areas are close or easily accessible. Also appreciated were the trails and the ease of using them.

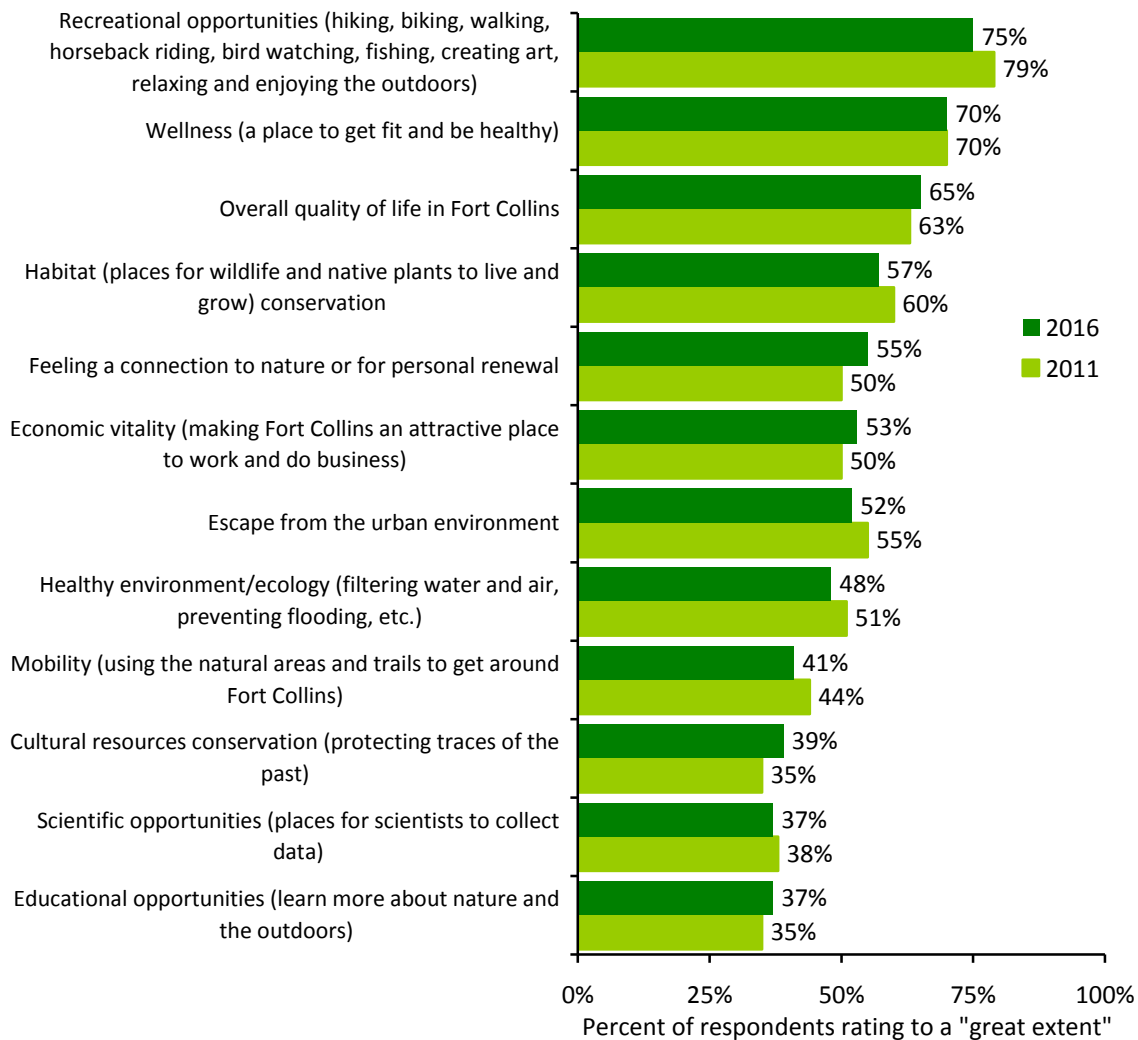
**Figure 8: Most Appreciated Thing about Fort Collins' Natural Areas**



Those completing the questionnaire were asked to evaluate the extent to which natural areas contribute to each of a number of aspects of the community. More than 70% of respondents felt that natural areas contributed to at least a “moderate” extent to each of the items rated (see Table 7). Over two-thirds believed natural areas contributed to a “great” extent to the recreational opportunities (75% of respondents) and wellness (70%) of the community. About 3 in 5 respondents felt that natural areas contributed to a great extent to the overall quality of life in the city (66%) and habitat conservation (57%). About half felt that the natural areas contributed greatly to the economic vitality of Fort Collins (53%). These findings were similar to 2011 survey results.

**Figure 9: Natural Areas' Contribution to the Community**

For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think the City of Fort Collins natural areas contribute to this attribute of the community. What about . . .



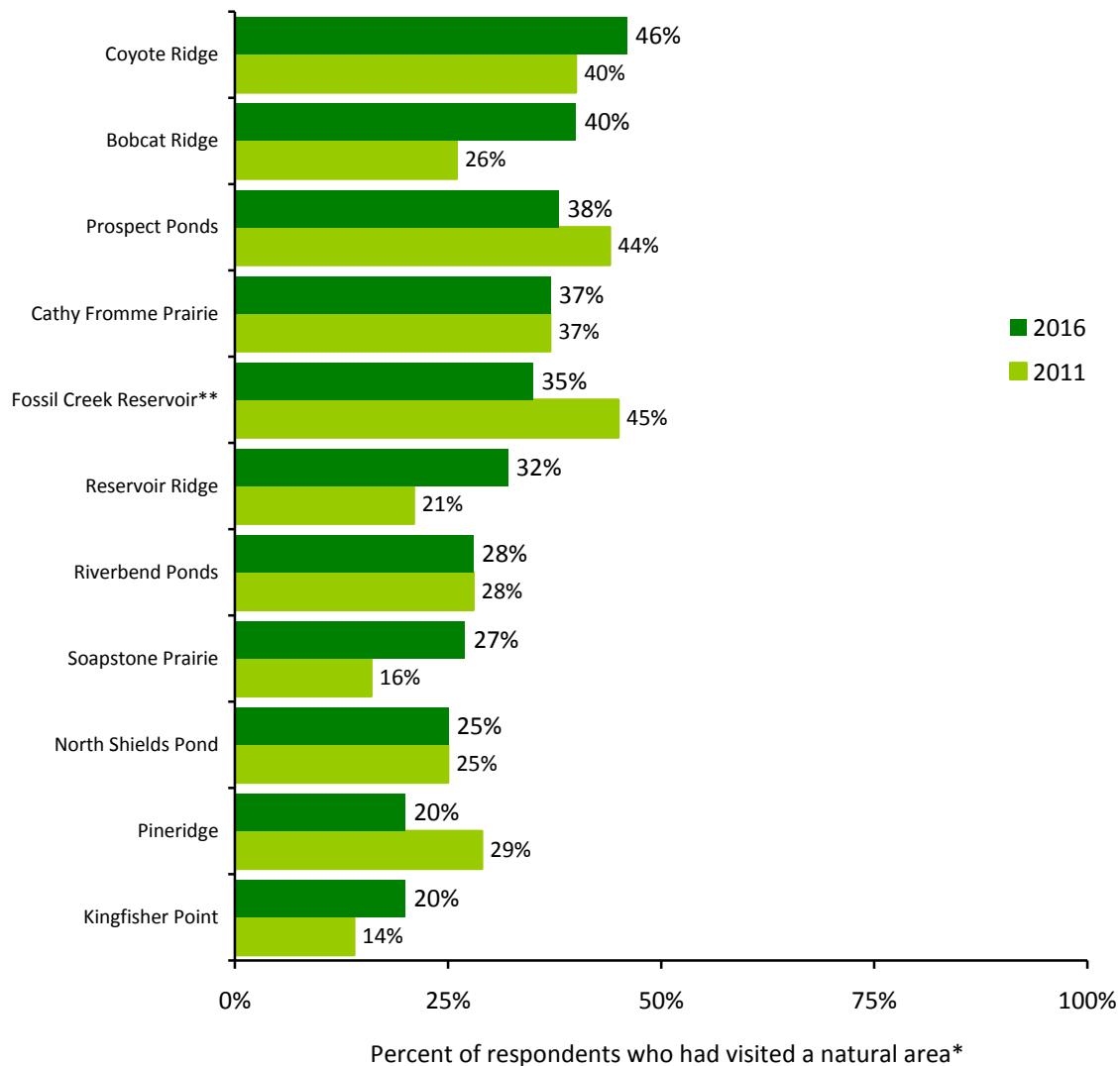
Those who lived outside Fort Collins were more likely to think that natural areas contribute to educational and scientific opportunities and preservation of cultural resources than those who lived in Fort Collins; while city residents were more likely to think natural areas contributes to economic vitality, recreation opportunities, habitat preservation, an escape from the urban environment, providing a connection to nature and to the overall quality of life in Fort Collins (see *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*, Table 7).

## The Natural Areas Experience

### Natural Areas Visited

Survey respondents were asked to identify which natural areas they had visited in the previous 12 months. The most frequented areas in the 12 months preceding the survey were Coyote Ridge (46% of respondents), Bobcat Ridge (40%), Prospect Ponds (38%) and Cathy Fromme Prairie (37%). Most of these were also visited by a large proportion of respondents in 2011. Fossil Creek Reservoir Regional Open Space was visited by the largest proportion of respondents in 2011 (45%), but dropped to 35% in 2016. However, in 2016, the list also contained the Fossil Creek Wetlands, which had not been included in 2011. The full list of areas visited appears in Table 9 in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*.

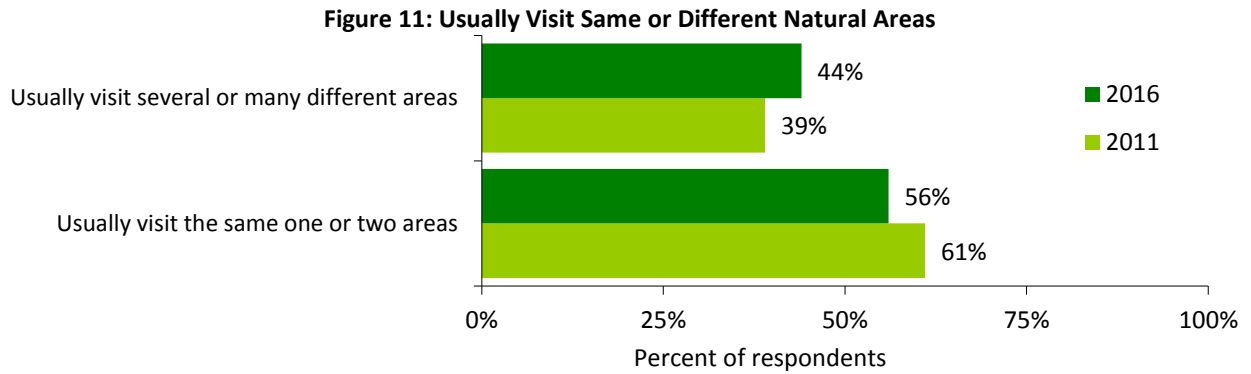
Figure 10: Natural Areas Visited Most Frequently



\*Total exceeds 100% as respondents could select more than one area.

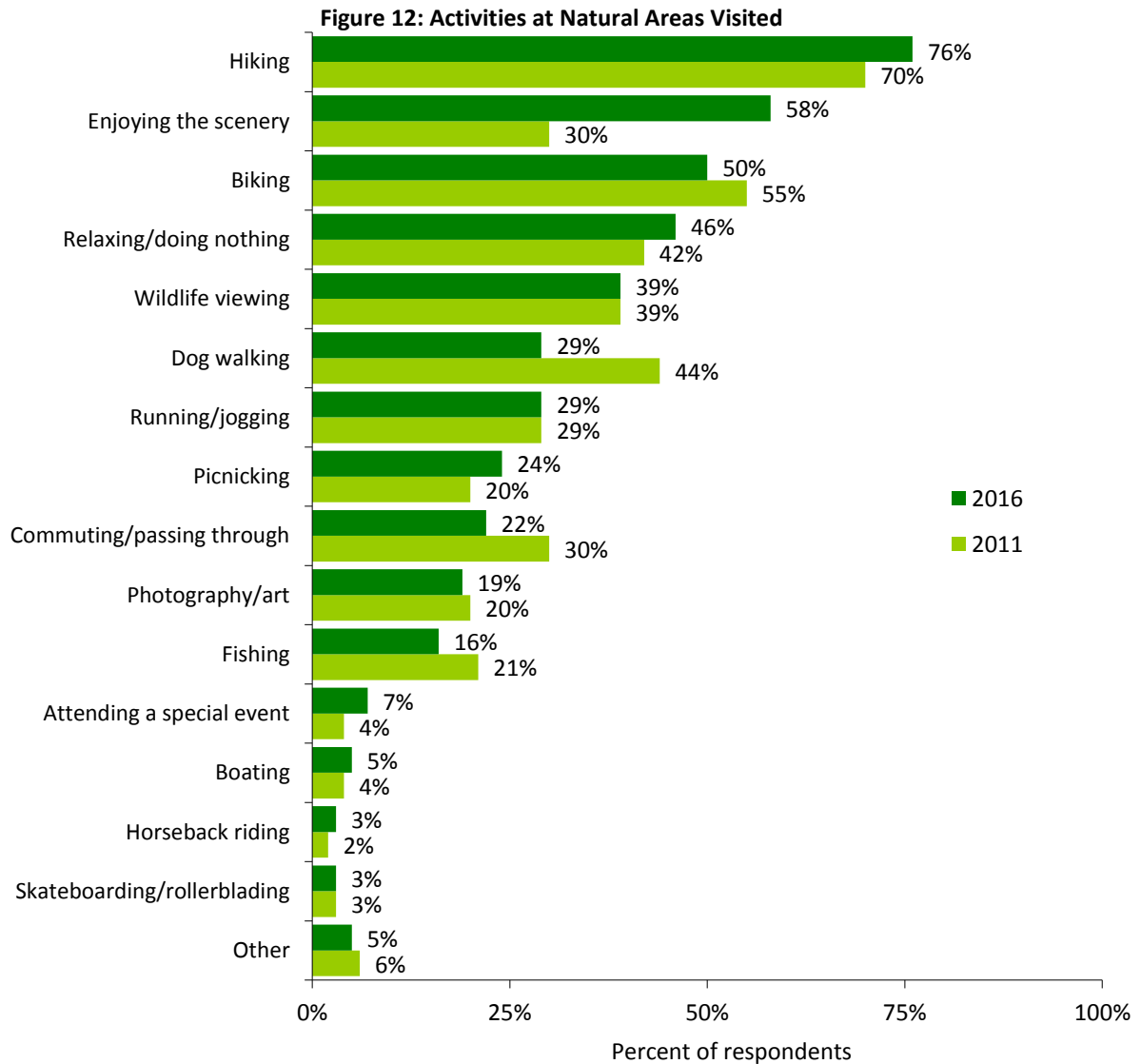
\*\* In 2016, 17% also reported going to Fossil Creek Wetlands, which was not included on the 2011 survey.

Natural areas visitors were asked about their visitation patterns, whether they usually visit the same one or two areas, or use many areas. About 6 in 10 said that they usually visit the same one or two areas, while the other 4 in 10 frequented more locations. Fort Collins residents were more likely to visit several or many areas than were residents in the rest of the county (see Table 16 in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*).



### Use of Natural Areas Visited

In addition to asking survey recipients which natural areas they visited, the questionnaire included items about the types of activities in which residents engaged at natural areas. Hiking was the most commonly cited activity (76%), followed by biking (50%) and relaxing (46%). Similar proportions of respondents engaged in each activity in 2011 as in 2016, although a greater proportion of respondents in 2011 reported dog walking in the natural areas.

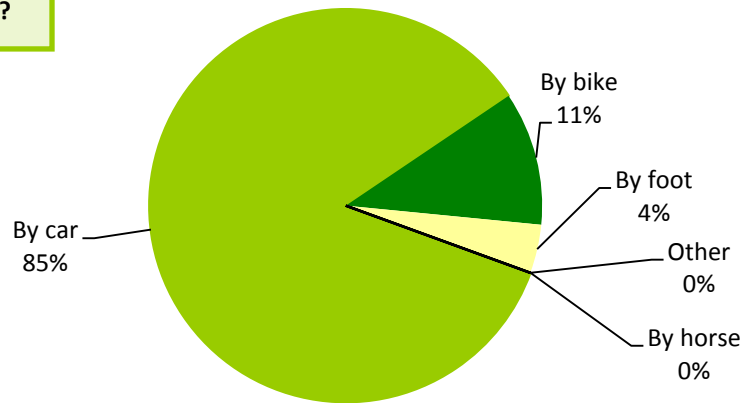


Some activities were done more commonly by Fort Collins residents (commuting/passing through, biking, relaxing, running/jogging or dog walking), likely because these activities might be associated more strongly with the geographic convenience due to the proximity of the City’s natural areas (see Table 10 in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*).

Survey recipients were presented with a list of travel modes and asked which they used when visiting natural areas. A great majority of natural areas visitors traveled by car (85%). Bicycle (11%) and walking (4%) were also reported, but other modes, including by horse, were virtually never selected.

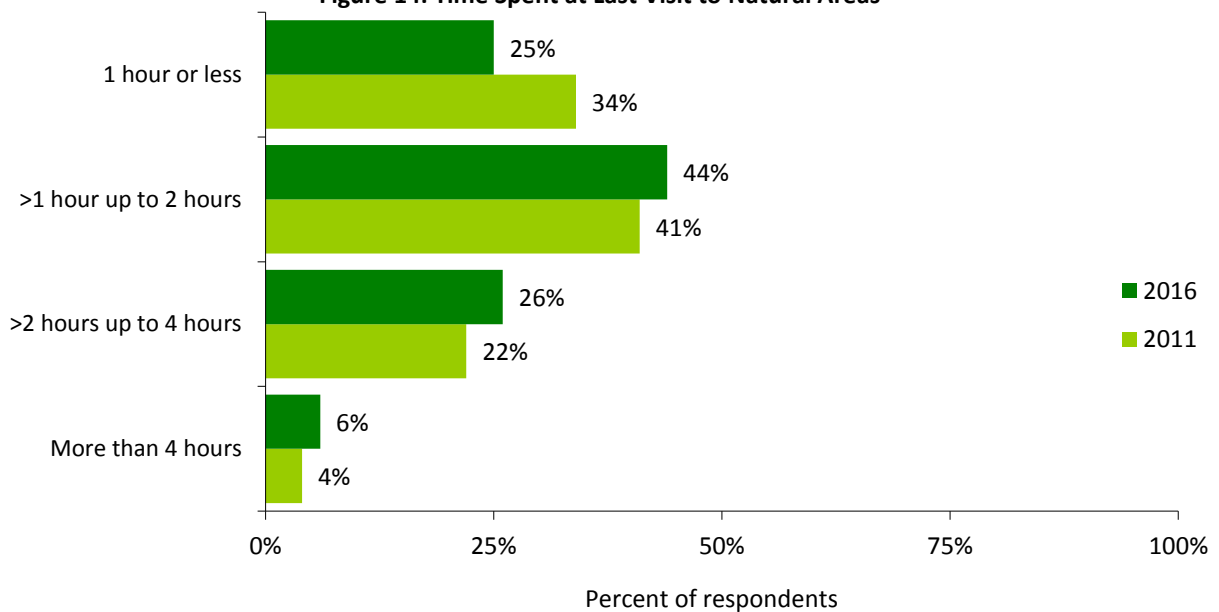
**Figure 13: Travel Mode to Natural Areas**

How did you get to and from the Fort Collins natural areas you visited in the last year?



At their most recent visit to a Fort Collins natural area, 25% of respondents had spent less than an hour, 44% between one and two hours and 26% up to four hours. Only 6% spent more than four hours. Those outside the county may have made natural areas visits into more of an event, as they were more likely to report visits of 2 hours or more (39%) compared to Fort Collins residents (27%, see Table 12).

**Figure 14: Time Spent at Last Visit to Natural Areas**



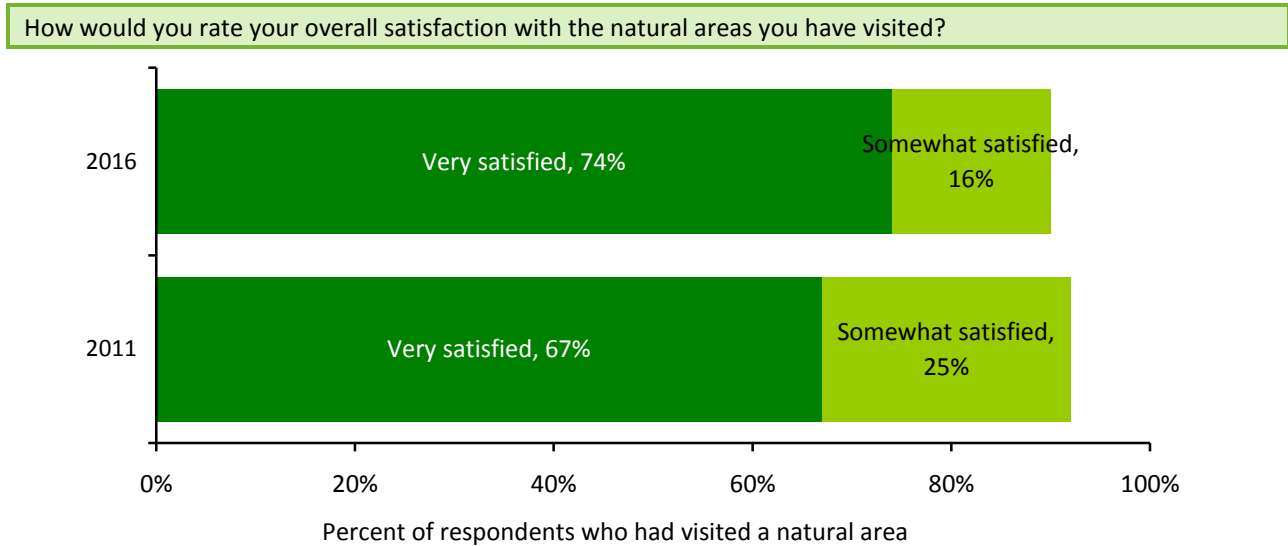


### Ratings of the Natural Areas Experience

Across three survey questions, those completing the survey were able to indicate their satisfaction with natural areas, rate the quality of facilities and give a letter grade to individual facilities and services. In general, these evaluations of aspects of natural areas were positive.

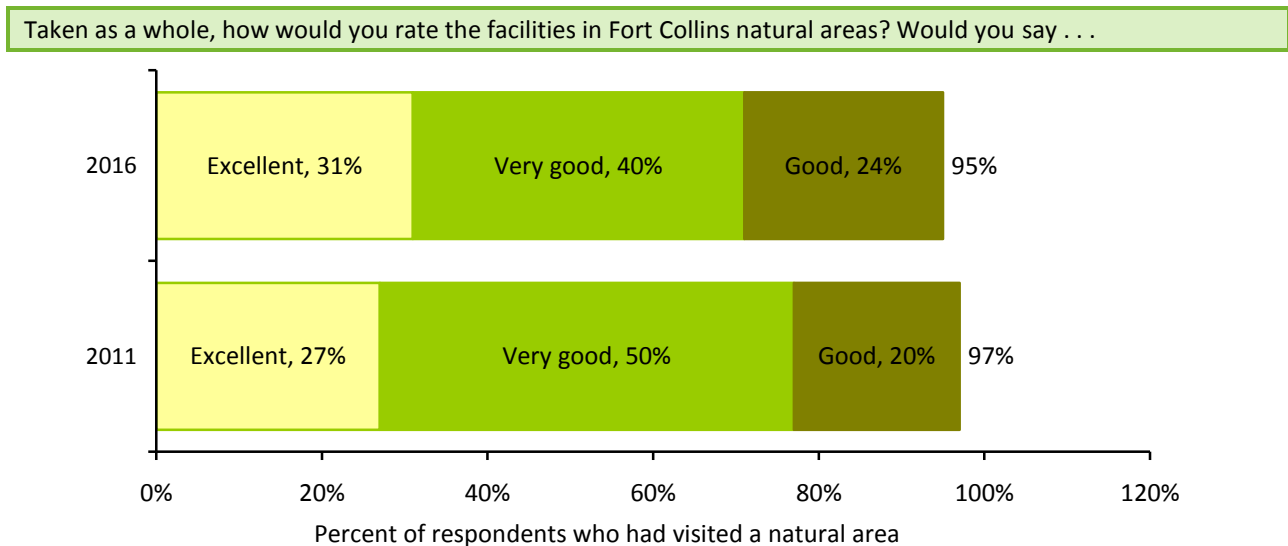
Nearly all respondents were at least somewhat satisfied with the natural areas they have visited, and three-quarters were very satisfied. The proportion of residents very satisfied increased in 2016 compared to 2011.

**Figure 15: Satisfaction with Natural Areas**



Likewise, nearly all respondents rated facilities in the natural areas as at least “good.” One in three rated them as excellent and an additional 40% as very good. This was similar to what was observed in 2011.

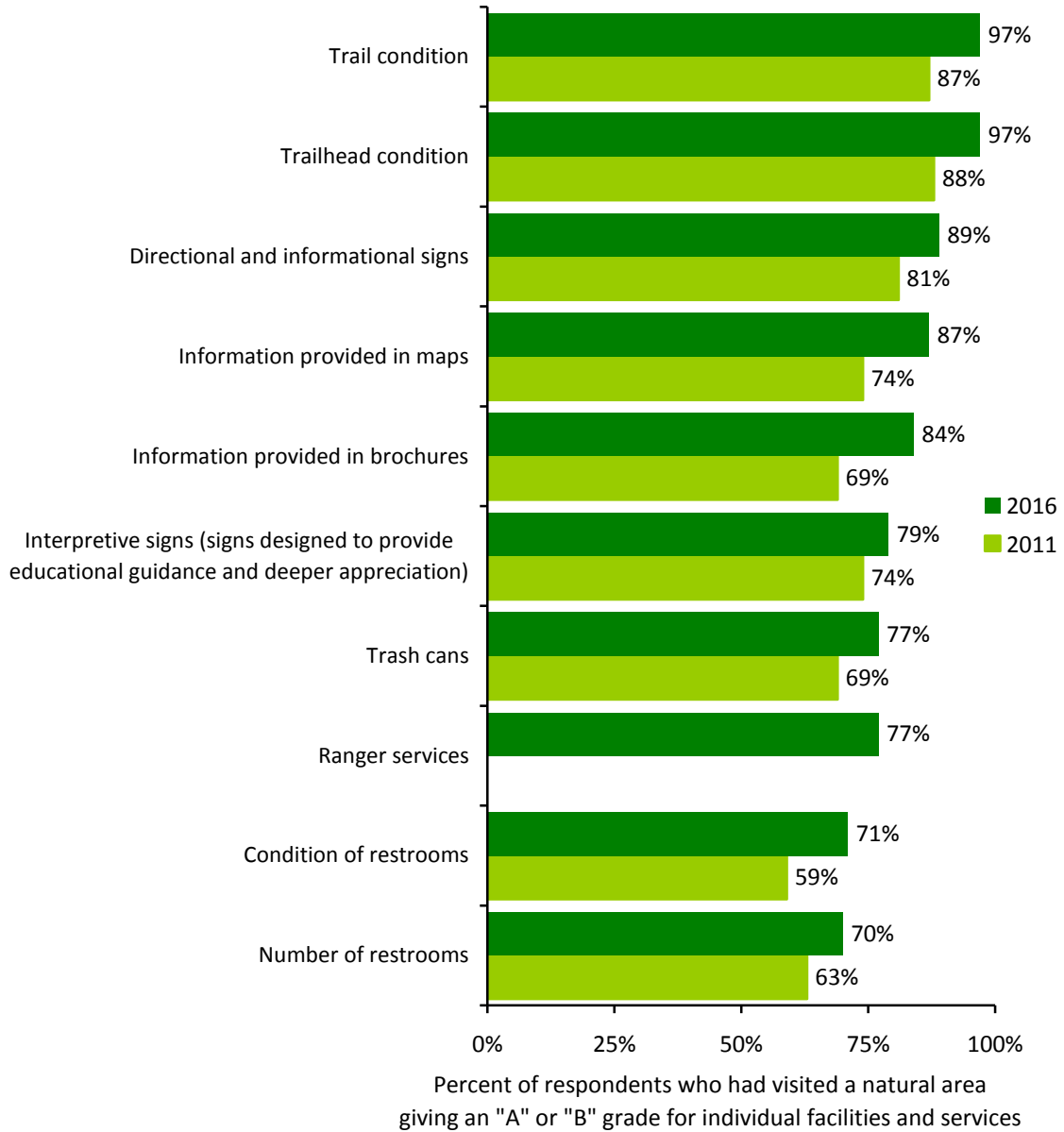
**Figure 16: Ratings of Facilities in Fort Collins Natural Areas**



For individual facilities and services, letter grades of A or B were given by 70% to 97% of respondents, with trail conditions, trailhead conditions and directional and informational signs receiving the highest grade. Restrooms received the lowest ratings, but they were still rated positively by 7 in 10 respondents. All ratings were more positive in 2016 than in 2011.

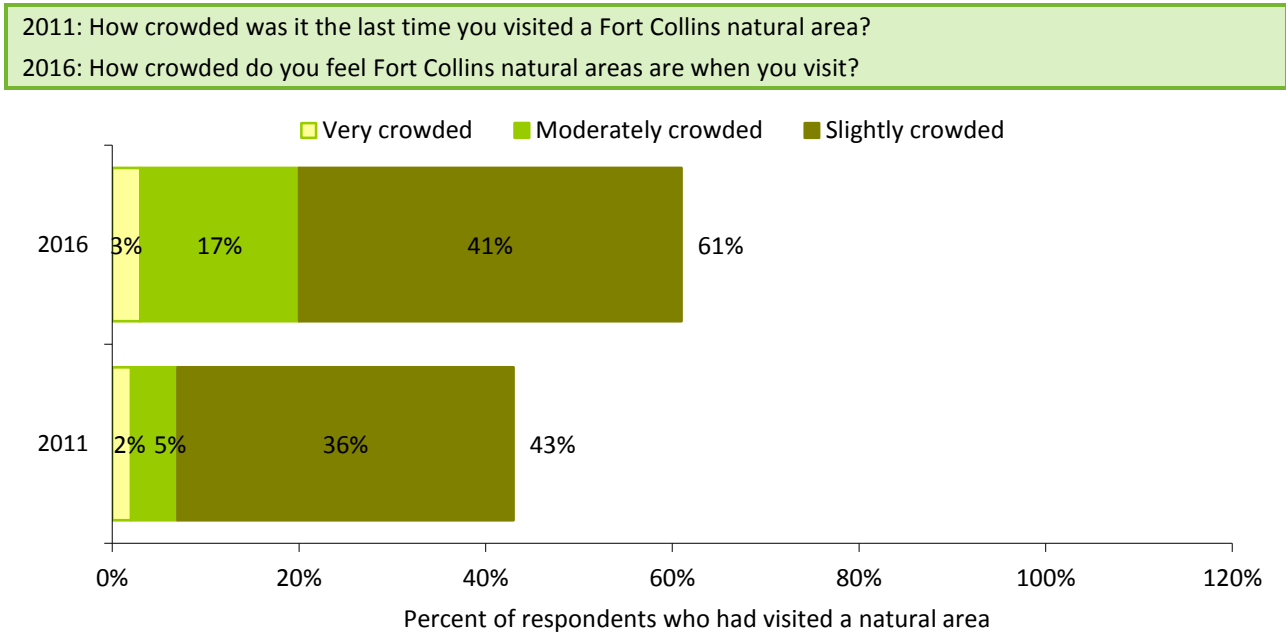
**Figure 17: Natural Areas Evaluation**

Please grade the following individual facilities and services, using the letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F (where "A" is the highest grade and "F" is a failing grade). What about . . .



Those participating in the survey were asked about their perceptions of crowding during their visits to natural areas. Few respondents felt that the natural areas they visit are very crowded (3%), but 17% felt they are moderately crowded, and an additional 41% felt they are slightly crowded. Comparisons to 2011 are shown in the figure below, but the question was phrased differently then, when respondents were asked about their most recent visit. Less crowding was reported, but people may choose to visit areas they think are less crowded, or crowding may have increased in the last 5 years.

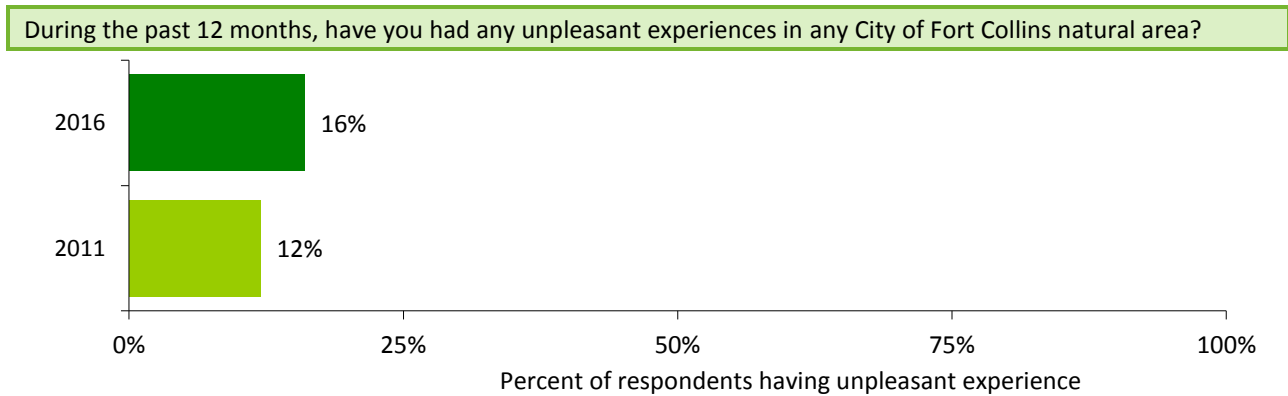
**Figure 18: Crowding at Last Visit to Natural Areas**



Respondents were asked how, if at all, crowding negatively impacts their natural areas visits. These verbatim responses are provided in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. Some feel they are better able to make a connection to nature when there are fewer people. Others choose to visit during times or at areas where they know there will be fewer people, and others just visit less often because of the crowding.

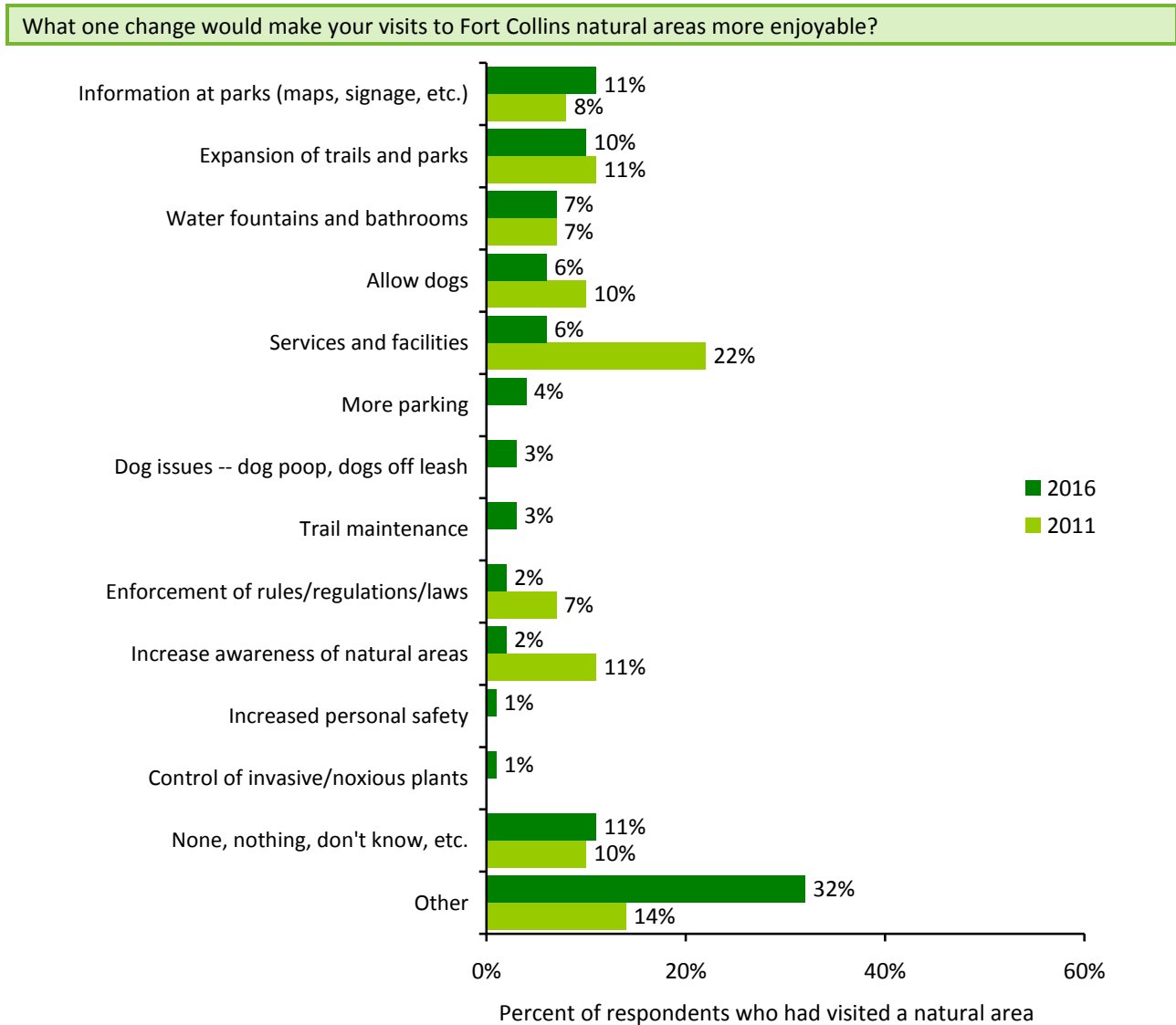
In addition to asking about crowding, the survey invited respondents to report any unpleasant experiences in natural areas; 16% did so, slightly higher than in 2011 when 12% did so. Those survey participants were given an opportunity to report the details of that experience. The verbatim responses appear in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. Several of the comments related to discourteous users, and a few related to dogs.

**Figure 19: Unpleasant Experiences in Previous 12 Months in any Natural Areas**



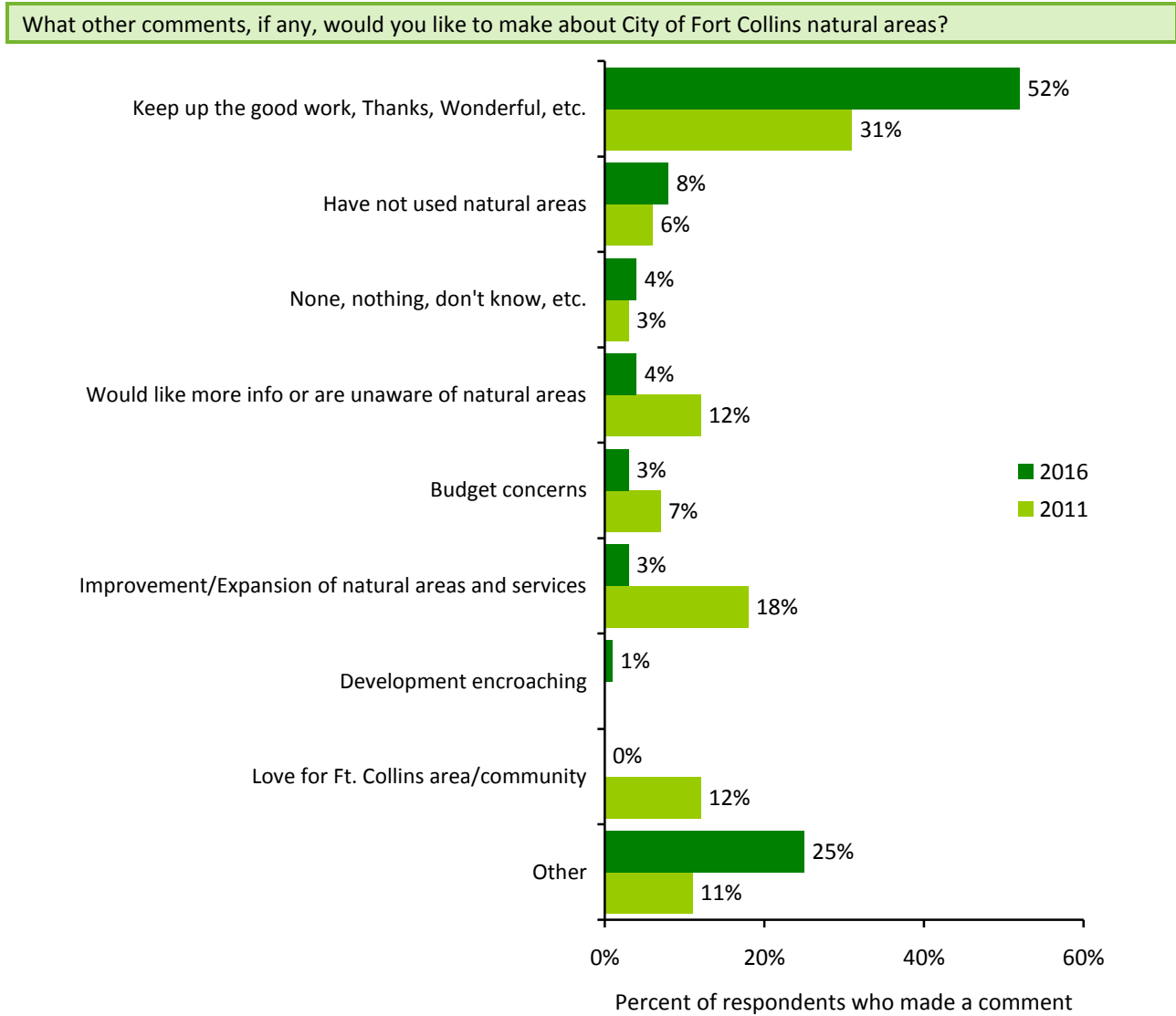
The survey included a space for respondents to write in their own words one thing that would improve the natural areas experience. The full verbatim responses are included in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. Common responses were to increase awareness among residents of the natural areas, and to expand the trails and parks. Some respondents commented that they wanted to see places where dogs were allowed, or allowed off leash, and some wanted to see improvements to or provision of additional water fountains and restrooms.

**Figure 20: One Change to Make Natural Areas More Enjoyable**



All survey respondents, including those who were not users of natural areas, had an opportunity to provide comments on natural areas. These comments appear verbatim in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. Most commonly they are made up of accolades about the natural areas (52%). A few wanted more information about the natural areas, some wanted improvements to or expansions of the natural areas and services, while a few expressed concern about the costs of acquiring and maintaining the natural areas.

**Figure 21: Additional Comments about Natural Areas**

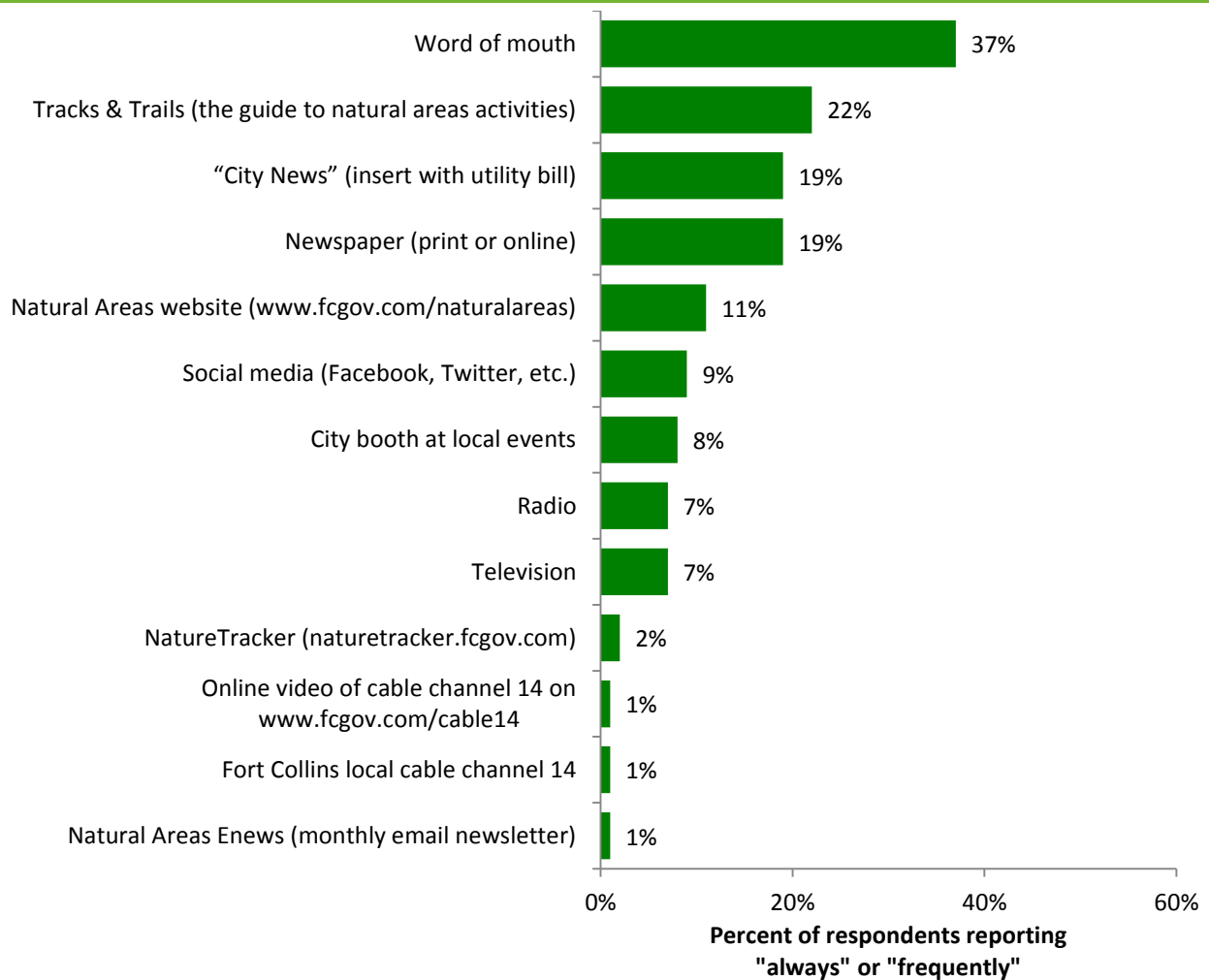


## Sources of Information about Natural Areas

Those completing the questionnaire were asked how often they used various sources for information about Fort Collins Natural Areas. The most commonly used formal sources of information were *Track and Trails*, *City News*, and newspapers, each cited by about 2 in 10 respondents as a source they always or frequently used. The Natural Areas website was frequently used by about 1 in 10 respondents, as were social media sites. However, the most used source of information was informal “word of mouth,” always or frequently used by about a third of respondents.

**Figure 22: Sources of Information about Fort Collins Natural Areas**

Please indicate how frequently, if ever, you or other members of your household use each of the following sources for information about Natural Areas?

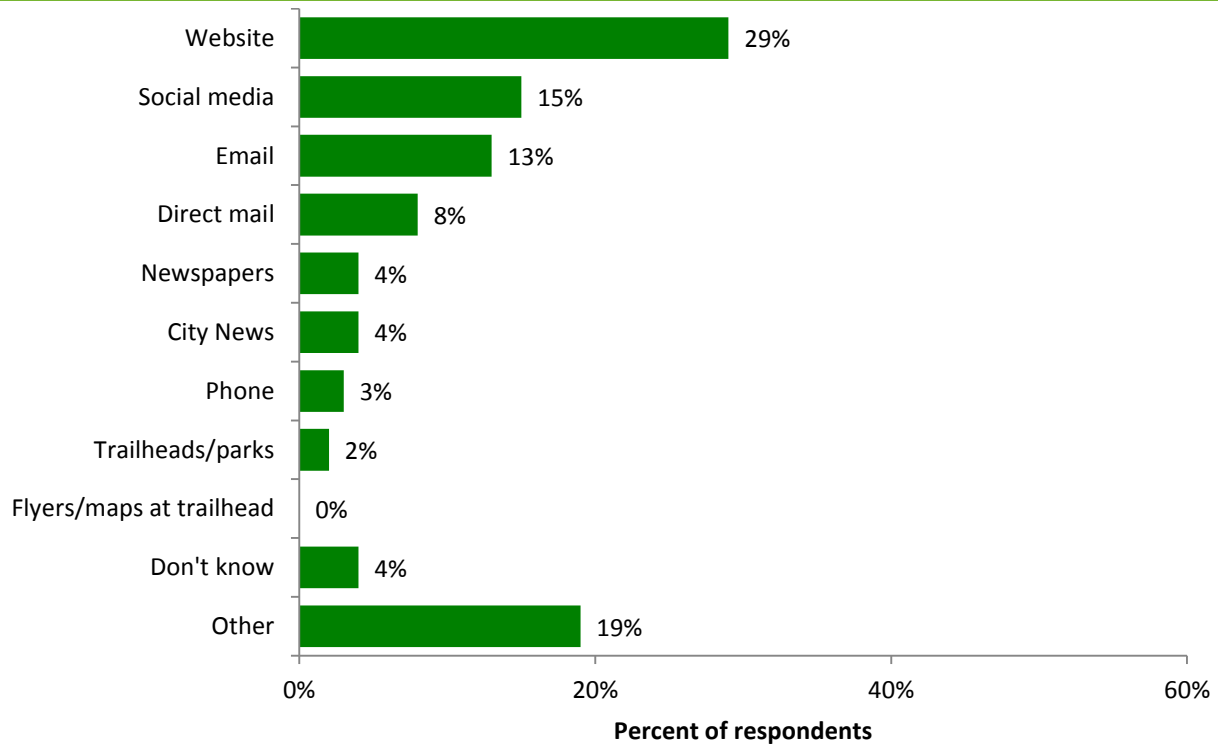


For residents outside of Fort Collins, newspapers were the most common source of information, while *Track and Trails* and *City News* were used less frequently (see Table 18 in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*).

Respondents were asked what they thought would be the best way for them to connect with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. They could answer in their own words, and these responses are recorded in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions*. Those who wrote in a response frequently mentioned online interactions as the best way for them to connect, with a website cited most often (29%) or through social media (15%). These methods were chosen in similar proportions by those inside and outside Fort Collins (see *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*, Table 14). Other approaches mentioned included email and direct mail, as well as newspapers or the *City News*.

**Figure 23: Best Way to Connect with Fort Collins Natural Areas Department**

What would be the best way for you to connect with Fort Collins Natural Areas Department?





## Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions

The following tables show the complete set of responses for each question on the survey. For two of the questions, two tables are provided, one that includes the “don’t know” responses and one that excludes the “don’t know” responses. Results are shown for Fort Collins residents, residents of the rest of Larimer County excluding Estes Park, and for all respondents. For the sake of brevity, the results for respondents living within Larimer County excluding Estes Park are labeled simply as “Rest of Larimer County.”

**Table 1: Question 1**

| How familiar, if at all, are you with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Very familiar  | 23%            | 12%                    | 17%     |
| Somewhat familiar  | 45%            | 24%                    | 34%     |
| A little bit familiar  | 26%            | 32%                    | 29%     |
| Not at all familiar  | 7%             | 32%                    | 20%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

**Table 2: Question 2**

| How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Very familiar  | 3%             | 3%                     | 3%      |
| Somewhat familiar  | 21%            | 12%                    | 16%     |
| A little bit familiar  | 33%            | 18%                    | 26%     |
| Not at all familiar  | 43%            | 67%                    | 55%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 3: Question 3 with don't know responses

| In general, how good or poor a job is the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department doing?<br>Would you say . . . | Area of county |                        |         |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Excellent   | 21%            | 11%                    | 16%     |
| Very good   | 35%            | 19%                    | 27%     |
| Good  | 26%            | 16%                    | 21%     |
| Fair  | 3%             | 2%                     | 2%      |
| Poor  | 1%             | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Don't know  | 15%            | 53%                    | 34%     |
| Total   | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 4: Question 3 without don't know responses

| In general, how good or poor a job is the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department doing?<br>Would you say . . . | Area of county |                        |         |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Excellent   | 24%            | 24%                    | 24%     |
| Very good   | 41%            | 39%                    | 40%     |
| Good  | 31%            | 33%                    | 32%     |
| Fair  | 3%             | 4%                     | 3%      |
| Poor  | 1%             | 0%                     | 1%      |
| Total   | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 5: Question 4

| What one thing (if any) do you most appreciate about Fort Collins' natural areas? | Location in Larimer County |                        |         |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins               | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Nearby and accessible   | 22%                        | 27%                    | 24%     |
| That they exist in the city, the open space itself, won't decrease                | 12%                        | 15%                    | 13%     |
| Quality of life, enjoyment and peaceful attribute of the space                    | 3%                         | 1%                     | 2%      |
| Well maintained/preserved, aesthetic beauty of the preservation and maintenance   | 15%                        | 5%                     | 11%     |
| Abundant throughout the city and a large variety                                  | 22%                        | 10%                    | 17%     |
| Trails and ease of biking/walking/running   | 16%                        | 20%                    | 18%     |
| Not developed, buffer, restricting building                                       | 3%                         | 8%                     | 5%      |
| Beauty/scenery  | 3%                         | 3%                     | 3%      |
| Other   | 4%                         | 10%                    | 7%      |
| Total   | 100%                       | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 6: Question 5 with “don’t know” responses

| For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think the City of Fort Collins natural areas contribute to this attribute of the community. What about . . . | Area of county |                 |              |            |            |       |                        |                 |              |            |            |       |              |                 |              |            |            |       |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------|
|   | Fort Collins   |                 |              |            |            |       | Rest of Larimer County |                 |              |            |            |       | Overall      |                 |              |            |            |       |
|   | Great extent   | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Don't know | Total | Great extent           | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Don't know | Total | Great extent | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Don't know | Total |
| Economic vitality (making Fort Collins an attractive place to work and do business)   | 54%            | 31%             | 9%           | 1%         | 4%         | 100%  | 37%                    | 28%             | 9%           | 1%         | 25%        | 100%  | 45%          | 30%             | 9%           | 1%         | 15%        | 100%  |
| Wellness (a place to get fit and be healthy)  | 72%            | 20%             | 5%           | 0%         | 3%         | 100%  | 49%                    | 21%             | 4%           | 1%         | 26%        | 100%  | 60%          | 20%             | 4%           | 1%         | 15%        | 100%  |
| Recreational opportunities (hiking, biking, walking, horseback riding, bird watching, fishing, creating art, relaxing and enjoying the outdoors)  | 79%            | 14%             | 3%           | 0%         | 3%         | 100%  | 53%                    | 22%             | 2%           | 0%         | 22%        | 100%  | 66%          | 18%             | 3%           | 0%         | 13%        | 100%  |
| Mobility (using the natural areas and trails to get around Fort Collins)  | 40%            | 36%             | 16%          | 2%         | 5%         | 100%  | 30%                    | 20%             | 23%          | 0%         | 26%        | 100%  | 35%          | 28%             | 20%          | 1%         | 16%        | 100%  |
| Educational opportunities (learn more about nature and the outdoors)  | 28%            | 41%             | 19%          | 1%         | 11%        | 100%  | 29%                    | 25%             | 11%          | 1%         | 35%        | 100%  | 28%          | 33%             | 15%          | 1%         | 23%        | 100%  |
| Escape from the urban environment   | 55%            | 32%             | 9%           | 1%         | 3%         | 100%  | 35%                    | 28%             | 11%          | 2%         | 24%        | 100%  | 45%          | 30%             | 10%          | 1%         | 14%        | 100%  |
| Healthy environment/ecology (filtering water and air, preventing flooding, etc.)  | 44%            | 37%             | 11%          | 1%         | 8%         | 100%  | 32%                    | 25%             | 4%           | 4%         | 36%        | 100%  | 37%          | 31%             | 8%           | 2%         | 22%        | 100%  |
| Habitat (places for wildlife and native plants to live and grow) conservation   | 59%            | 30%             | 6%           | 1%         | 5%         | 100%  | 39%                    | 34%             | 2%           | 0%         | 25%        | 100%  | 48%          | 32%             | 4%           | 0%         | 15%        | 100%  |
| Scientific opportunities (places for scientists to collect data)  | 25%            | 33%             | 19%          | 1%         | 22%        | 100%  | 24%                    | 18%             | 11%          | 3%         | 44%        | 100%  | 25%          | 25%             | 15%          | 2%         | 33%        | 100%  |
| Cultural resources conservation (protecting traces of the past)   | 27%            | 30%             | 19%          | 2%         | 21%        | 100%  | 29%                    | 26%             | 8%           | 3%         | 34%        | 100%  | 28%          | 28%             | 14%          | 3%         | 28%        | 100%  |
| Feeling a connection to nature or for personal renewal  | 61%            | 27%             | 8%           | 1%         | 3%         | 100%  | 33%                    | 31%             | 8%           | 1%         | 26%        | 100%  | 47%          | 29%             | 8%           | 1%         | 15%        | 100%  |
| Overall quality of life in Fort Collins   | 69%            | 23%             | 4%           | 1%         | 3%         | 100%  | 42%                    | 27%             | 4%           | 0%         | 26%        | 100%  | 55%          | 25%             | 4%           | 0%         | 15%        | 100%  |

Table 7: Question 5 without “don’t know” responses

| For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think the City of Fort Collins natural areas contribute to this attribute of the community. What about . . . | Area of county |                 |              |            |       |                        |                 |              |            |       |              |                 |              |            |       |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-------|
|   | Fort Collins   |                 |              |            |       | Rest of Larimer County |                 |              |            |       | Overall      |                 |              |            |       |
|   | Great extent   | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Total | Great extent           | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Total | Great extent | Moderate extent | Small extent | Not at all | Total |
| Economic vitality (making Fort Collins an attractive place to work and do business)   | 57%            | 33%             | 9%           | 1%         | 100%  | 49%                    | 37%             | 12%          | 1%         | 100%  | 53%          | 35%             | 10%          | 1%         | 100%  |
| Wellness (a place to get fit and be healthy)  | 74%            | 21%             | 5%           | 0%         | 100%  | 66%                    | 28%             | 5%           | 1%         | 100%  | 70%          | 24%             | 5%           | 1%         | 100%  |
| Recreational opportunities (hiking, biking, walking, horseback riding, bird watching, fishing, creating art, relaxing and enjoying the outdoors)  | 81%            | 15%             | 4%           | 0%         | 100%  | 68%                    | 29%             | 3%           | 0%         | 100%  | 75%          | 21%             | 3%           | 0%         | 100%  |
| Mobility (using the natural areas and trails to get around Fort Collins)  | 42%            | 38%             | 17%          | 3%         | 100%  | 40%                    | 28%             | 31%          | 0%         | 100%  | 41%          | 33%             | 24%          | 2%         | 100%  |
| Educational opportunities (learn more about nature and the outdoors)  | 32%            | 45%             | 21%          | 1%         | 100%  | 44%                    | 38%             | 16%          | 2%         | 100%  | 37%          | 42%             | 19%          | 2%         | 100%  |
| Escape from the urban environment   | 57%            | 33%             | 9%           | 1%         | 100%  | 47%                    | 36%             | 15%          | 2%         | 100%  | 52%          | 35%             | 12%          | 1%         | 100%  |
| Healthy environment/ecology (filtering water and air, preventing flooding, etc.)  | 47%            | 40%             | 12%          | 1%         | 100%  | 49%                    | 38%             | 7%           | 6%         | 100%  | 48%          | 39%             | 10%          | 3%         | 100%  |
| Habitat (places for wildlife and native plants to live and grow) conservation   | 62%            | 31%             | 7%           | 1%         | 100%  | 52%                    | 45%             | 3%           | 0%         | 100%  | 57%          | 38%             | 5%           | 0%         | 100%  |
| Scientific opportunities (places for scientists to collect data)  | 32%            | 42%             | 25%          | 2%         | 100%  | 43%                    | 32%             | 19%          | 6%         | 100%  | 37%          | 37%             | 22%          | 4%         | 100%  |
| Cultural resources conservation (protecting traces of the past)   | 35%            | 38%             | 25%          | 3%         | 100%  | 44%                    | 39%             | 12%          | 4%         | 100%  | 39%          | 39%             | 19%          | 3%         | 100%  |
| Feeling a connection to nature or for personal renewal  | 63%            | 28%             | 8%           | 1%         | 100%  | 44%                    | 42%             | 11%          | 2%         | 100%  | 55%          | 34%             | 9%           | 1%         | 100%  |
| Overall quality of life in Fort Collins   | 71%            | 24%             | 4%           | 1%         | 100%  | 58%                    | 37%             | 5%           | 0%         | 100%  | 65%          | 30%             | 5%           | 0%         | 100%  |

**Table 8: Question 6**

| How often do you visit Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . . | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| More than 100 times a year (Twice a week or more)                      | 12%            | 7%                     | 9%      |
| 51 to 100 times a year (Once or twice a week)                          | 20%            | 10%                    | 15%     |
| 26 to 50 (Once every week or two)                                      | 23%            | 2%                     | 12%     |
| 11 to 25 (Once or twice a month)                                       | 19%            | 16%                    | 18%     |
| 2 to 10 (Less than once a month)                                       | 18%            | 21%                    | 19%     |
| Never  | 8%             | 44%                    | 26%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 9: Question 7

| Which Fort Collins natural areas did you visit in the last year?* | Area of county |                        |         |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Arapaho Bend  | 17%            | 11%                    | 15%     |
| Reservoir Ridge   | 36%            | 25%                    | 32%     |
| Bobcat Ridge  | 35%            | 48%                    | 40%     |
| River's Edge  | 8%             | 9%                     | 9%      |
| Butterfly Woods   | 10%            | 7%                     | 9%      |
| Riverbend Ponds   | 34%            | 19%                    | 28%     |
| Cathy Fromme Prairie  | 38%            | 37%                    | 37%     |
| Ross  | 5%             | 3%                     | 4%      |
| Cattail Chorus  | 12%            | 5%                     | 10%     |
| Running Deer  | 12%            | 6%                     | 10%     |
| Colina Mariposa   | 1%             | 3%                     | 2%      |
| Salyer  | 7%             | 6%                     | 6%      |
| Cottonwood Hollow   | 13%            | 9%                     | 11%     |
| Soapstone Prairie   | 21%            | 37%                    | 27%     |
| Coyote Ridge  | 46%            | 46%                    | 46%     |
| Springer  | 2%             | 0%                     | 1%      |
| Fischer   | 6%             | 16%                    | 10%     |
| The Coterie   | 3%             | 3%                     | 3%      |
| Fossil Creek Reservoir  | 39%            | 28%                    | 35%     |
| Two Creeks  | 4%             | 0%                     | 3%      |
| Fossil Creek Wetlands   | 25%            | 6%                     | 17%     |
| Udall   | 4%             | 0%                     | 3%      |
| Gateway   | 15%            | 15%                    | 15%     |
| Williams  | 2%             | 0%                     | 1%      |
| Gustav Swanson  | 11%            | 7%                     | 10%     |
| Homestead   | 6%             | 1%                     | 4%      |
| Kingfisher Point  | 23%            | 14%                    | 20%     |
| Magpie Meander  | 7%             | 3%                     | 5%      |
| Mallard's Nest  | 9%             | 7%                     | 8%      |
| Maxwell   | 17%            | 11%                    | 15%     |
| McMurry   | 14%            | 11%                    | 13%     |
| North Shields Pond  | 29%            | 18%                    | 25%     |
| Pineridge   | 25%            | 12%                    | 20%     |
| Prairie Dog Meadow  | 17%            | 7%                     | 13%     |
| Prospect Ponds  | 40%            | 34%                    | 38%     |
| Red Fox Meadows   | 22%            | 8%                     | 17%     |
| Redtail Grove   | 13%            | 3%                     | 9%      |
| Redwing Marsh   | 5%             | 3%                     | 4%      |

\* Percents add to more than 100% as respondents could check more than one area.

Table 10: Question 8

| In what activity(ies) did you participate when you visited a Fort Collins natural area in the last year? (Please check all that apply.)* | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Hiking   | 79%            | 70%                    | 76%     |
| Running/jogging  | 32%            | 24%                    | 29%     |
| Fishing  | 14%            | 19%                    | 16%     |
| Commuting/passing through  | 30%            | 11%                    | 22%     |
| Skateboarding/rollerblading  | 3%             | 3%                     | 3%      |
| Other  | 5%             | 5%                     | 5%      |
| Biking   | 57%            | 39%                    | 50%     |
| Dog walking  | 32%            | 24%                    | 29%     |
| Photography/art  | 20%            | 18%                    | 19%     |
| Horseback riding   | 2%             | 4%                     | 3%      |
| Picnicking   | 26%            | 20%                    | 24%     |
| Wildlife viewing   | 42%            | 34%                    | 39%     |
| Relaxing/doing nothing   | 55%            | 30%                    | 46%     |
| Enjoying the scenery   | 59%            | 56%                    | 58%     |
| Attending a special event  | 5%             | 10%                    | 7%      |
| Boating  | 3%             | 9%                     | 5%      |

*Totals exceeds 100% as respondents could select more than one option.*



Table 11: Question 9

| How did you get to and from the Fort Collins natural areas you visited in the last year? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| By car   | 88%            | 80%                    | 85%     |
| By bike  | 8%             | 16%                    | 11%     |
| By foot  | 3%             | 4%                     | 4%      |
| By horse   | 0%             | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Other  | 1%             | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 12: Question 10

| About how much time did you spend the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| 1 hour or less   | 27%            | 20%                    | 25%     |
| >1 hour up to 2 hours  | 46%            | 40%                    | 44%     |
| >2 hours up to 4 hours   | 22%            | 31%                    | 26%     |
| More than 4 hours  | 5%             | 8%                     | 6%      |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 13: Question 11

| How crowded do you feel Fort Collins natural areas are when you visit? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Very crowded   | 2%             | 4%                     | 3%      |
| Moderately crowded   | 13%            | 24%                    | 17%     |
| Slightly crowded   | 43%            | 38%                    | 41%     |
| Not crowded at all   | 41%            | 34%                    | 38%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 14: Question 17

| What would be the best way for you to connect with Fort Collins Natural Areas Department? | Location in Larimer County |                        |         |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins               | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| City News   | 6%                         | 0%                     | 4%      |
| Website   | 31%                        | 27%                    | 29%     |
| Direct mail   | 5%                         | 13%                    | 8%      |
| Social media  | 16%                        | 14%                    | 15%     |
| Newspapers  | 2%                         | 6%                     | 4%      |
| Flyers/maps at trailhead  | 0%                         | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Phone   | 3%                         | 2%                     | 3%      |
| Email   | 17%                        | 5%                     | 13%     |
| Trailheads/parks  | 4%                         | 0%                     | 2%      |
| Don't know  | 1%                         | 8%                     | 4%      |
| Other   | 15%                        | 26%                    | 19%     |
| Total   | 100%                       | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 15: Question 13

| How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the natural areas you have visited? | Area of county |                        |         |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Very satisfied  | 78%            | 68%                    | 74%     |
| Somewhat satisfied  | 17%            | 14%                    | 16%     |
| Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied  | 4%             | 13%                    | 7%      |
| Somewhat dissatisfied   | 1%             | 1%                     | 1%      |
| Very dissatisfied   | 0%             | 4%                     | 2%      |
| Total   | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 16: Question 14

| Do you usually visit the same natural area(s), or do you visit several areas during the year? | Area of county |                        |         |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Usually visit the same one or two areas   | 54%            | 60%                    | 56%     |
| Usually visit several or many different areas   | 46%            | 40%                    | 44%     |
| Total   | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 17: Question 15

| During the past 12 months, have you had any unpleasant experiences in any City of Fort Collins natural area? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| No   | 88%            | 76%                    | 84%     |
| Yes  | 12%            | 24%                    | 16%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 18: Question 16

| Please indicate how frequently, if ever, you or other members of your household use each of the following sources for information about Natural Areas? | Area of county |            |           |       |       |                        |            |           |       |       |         |            |           |       |       |
|--|----------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------|------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------|---------|------------|-----------|-------|-------|
|  | Fort Collins   |            |           |       |       | Rest of Larimer County |            |           |       |       | Overall |            |           |       |       |
|  | Always         | Frequently | Sometimes | Never | Total | Always                 | Frequently | Sometimes | Never | Total | Always  | Frequently | Sometimes | Never | Total |
| Tracks & Trails (the guide to natural areas activities)  | 7%             | 19%        | 35%       | 38%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 17%        | 31%       | 53%   | 100%  | 4%      | 18%        | 33%       | 44%   | 100%  |
| Natural Areas Enews (monthly email newsletter)   | 0%             | 2%         | 6%        | 92%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 0%         | 2%        | 98%   | 100%  | 0%      | 1%         | 5%        | 94%   | 100%  |
| Natural Areas website (www.fcgov.com/naturalareas)   | 4%             | 11%        | 38%       | 47%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 5%         | 23%       | 72%   | 100%  | 2%      | 9%         | 32%       | 57%   | 100%  |
| NatureTracker (naturetracker.fcgov.com)  | 0%             | 2%         | 11%       | 87%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 2%         | 5%        | 93%   | 100%  | 0%      | 2%         | 8%        | 89%   | 100%  |
| Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)   | 3%             | 4%         | 17%       | 76%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 13%        | 6%        | 82%   | 100%  | 2%      | 7%         | 13%       | 78%   | 100%  |
| Fort Collins local cable channel 14  | 1%             | 1%         | 8%        | 90%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 0%         | 7%        | 93%   | 100%  | 1%      | 0%         | 8%        | 91%   | 100%  |
| Online video of cable channel 14 on www.fcgov.com/cable14  | 0%             | 2%         | 4%        | 95%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 0%         | 0%        | 100%  | 100%  | 0%      | 1%         | 2%        | 97%   | 100%  |
| “City News” (insert with utility bill)   | 6%             | 15%        | 27%       | 52%   | 100%  | 4%                     | 11%        | 11%       | 74%   | 100%  | 5%      | 14%        | 21%       | 61%   | 100%  |
| Word of mouth  | 12%            | 35%        | 35%       | 18%   | 100%  | 2%                     | 19%        | 34%       | 45%   | 100%  | 8%      | 29%        | 35%       | 28%   | 100%  |
| Newspaper (print or online)  | 6%             | 14%        | 25%       | 55%   | 100%  | 1%                     | 16%        | 32%       | 51%   | 100%  | 4%      | 15%        | 28%       | 53%   | 100%  |
| Television   | 3%             | 2%         | 13%       | 83%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 11%        | 4%        | 85%   | 100%  | 2%      | 5%         | 10%       | 84%   | 100%  |
| Radio  | 0%             | 8%         | 13%       | 79%   | 100%  | 0%                     | 6%         | 7%        | 87%   | 100%  | 0%      | 7%         | 10%       | 82%   | 100%  |
| City booth at local events   | 3%             | 6%         | 25%       | 66%   | 100%  | 1%                     | 7%         | 12%       | 81%   | 100%  | 2%      | 6%         | 20%       | 72%   | 100%  |

**Table 19: Question 18**

| Taken as a whole, how would you rate the facilities in Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . . | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Excellent  | 29%            | 34%                    | 31%     |
| Very good  | 47%            | 29%                    | 40%     |
| Good   | 20%            | 29%                    | 24%     |
| Fair   | 3%             | 8%                     | 5%      |
| Poor   | 0%             | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 20: Question 19 with “don’t know” responses

| Please grade the following individual facilities and services, using the letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F (where “A” is the highest grade and “F” is a failing grade). What about . . . | Area of county |     |     |    |    |                        |       |                        |     |     |     |    |                        |       |         |     |     |    |    |                        |       |
|--|----------------|-----|-----|----|----|------------------------|-------|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|------------------------|-------|---------|-----|-----|----|----|------------------------|-------|
|  | Fort Collins   |     |     |    |    |                        |       | Rest of Larimer County |     |     |     |    |                        |       | Overall |     |     |    |    |                        |       |
|  | A              | B   | C   | D  | F  | Don't know/no response | Total | A                      | B   | C   | D   | F  | Don't know/no response | Total | A       | B   | C   | D  | F  | Don't know/no response | Total |
| Trail condition  | 55%            | 40% | 1%  | 0% | 0% | 3%                     | 100%  | 48%                    | 36% | 2%  | 1%  | 0% | 13%                    | 100%  | 52%     | 38% | 2%  | 1% | 0% | 7%                     | 100%  |
| Trailhead condition  | 61%            | 32% | 1%  | 1% | 0% | 5%                     | 100%  | 44%                    | 36% | 4%  | 1%  | 0% | 15%                    | 100%  | 54%     | 34% | 2%  | 1% | 0% | 9%                     | 100%  |
| Number of restrooms  | 30%            | 37% | 21% | 3% | 1% | 7%                     | 100%  | 22%                    | 34% | 28% | 2%  | 3% | 12%                    | 100%  | 27%     | 36% | 24% | 3% | 2% | 9%                     | 100%  |
| Condition of restrooms   | 24%            | 40% | 17% | 5% | 2% | 12%                    | 100%  | 26%                    | 33% | 16% | 9%  | 1% | 15%                    | 100%  | 25%     | 37% | 17% | 6% | 2% | 13%                    | 100%  |
| Trash cans   | 36%            | 39% | 13% | 5% | 2% | 6%                     | 100%  | 31%                    | 34% | 11% | 11% | 1% | 12%                    | 100%  | 34%     | 37% | 12% | 7% | 1% | 8%                     | 100%  |
| Directional and informational signs  | 38%            | 45% | 10% | 3% | 0% | 4%                     | 100%  | 42%                    | 39% | 5%  | 1%  | 1% | 12%                    | 100%  | 40%     | 43% | 8%  | 2% | 1% | 7%                     | 100%  |
| Interpretive signs (signs designed to provide educational guidance and deeper appreciation)  | 34%            | 36% | 16% | 2% | 1% | 12%                    | 100%  | 37%                    | 29% | 15% | 1%  | 1% | 17%                    | 100%  | 35%     | 33% | 16% | 1% | 1% | 14%                    | 100%  |
| Information provided in brochures  | 32%            | 32% | 7%  | 2% | 1% | 27%                    | 100%  | 40%                    | 9%  | 10% | 1%  | 1% | 40%                    | 100%  | 35%     | 23% | 8%  | 2% | 1% | 32%                    | 100%  |
| Information provided in maps   | 44%            | 29% | 7%  | 1% | 1% | 18%                    | 100%  | 37%                    | 14% | 9%  | 0%  | 1% | 39%                    | 100%  | 41%     | 23% | 8%  | 1% | 1% | 27%                    | 100%  |
| Ranger services  | 17%            | 25% | 9%  | 3% | 1% | 46%                    | 100%  | 20%                    | 14% | 7%  | 2%  | 1% | 57%                    | 100%  | 18%     | 20% | 8%  | 3% | 1% | 50%                    | 100%  |

Table 21: Question 19 without “don’t know” responses

| Please grade the following individual facilities and services, using the letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F (where “A” is the highest grade and “F” is a failing grade). What about . . . | Area of county |     |     |    |    |       |                        |     |     |     |    |       |         |     |     |    |    |       |
|--|----------------|-----|-----|----|----|-------|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|-------|---------|-----|-----|----|----|-------|
|  | Fort Collins   |     |     |    |    |       | Rest of Larimer County |     |     |     |    |       | Overall |     |     |    |    |       |
|  | A              | B   | C   | D  | F  | Total | A                      | B   | C   | D   | F  | Total | A       | B   | C   | D  | F  | Total |
| Trail condition  | 57%            | 41% | 2%  | 0% | 0% | 100%  | 55%                    | 41% | 2%  | 1%  | 0% | 100%  | 56%     | 41% | 2%  | 1% | 0% | 100%  |
| Trailhead condition  | 64%            | 33% | 2%  | 1% | 0% | 100%  | 52%                    | 42% | 4%  | 1%  | 0% | 100%  | 60%     | 37% | 3%  | 1% | 0% | 100%  |
| Number of restrooms  | 33%            | 40% | 22% | 4% | 1% | 100%  | 25%                    | 38% | 32% | 2%  | 3% | 100%  | 30%     | 40% | 26% | 3% | 2% | 100%  |
| Condition of restrooms   | 27%            | 45% | 20% | 6% | 2% | 100%  | 31%                    | 39% | 19% | 10% | 1% | 100%  | 28%     | 43% | 19% | 7% | 2% | 100%  |
| Trash cans   | 38%            | 42% | 14% | 5% | 2% | 100%  | 35%                    | 38% | 13% | 12% | 1% | 100%  | 37%     | 40% | 13% | 8% | 2% | 100%  |
| Directional and informational signs  | 39%            | 47% | 10% | 3% | 0% | 100%  | 48%                    | 44% | 6%  | 1%  | 1% | 100%  | 43%     | 46% | 9%  | 2% | 1% | 100%  |
| Interpretive signs (signs designed to provide educational guidance and deeper appreciation)  | 38%            | 41% | 18% | 2% | 1% | 100%  | 45%                    | 34% | 19% | 1%  | 1% | 100%  | 41%     | 38% | 18% | 2% | 1% | 100%  |
| Information provided in brochures  | 43%            | 44% | 9%  | 3% | 1% | 100%  | 67%                    | 14% | 16% | 2%  | 1% | 100%  | 51%     | 33% | 12% | 2% | 1% | 100%  |
| Information provided in maps   | 54%            | 35% | 9%  | 1% | 1% | 100%  | 61%                    | 23% | 14% | 0%  | 1% | 100%  | 56%     | 31% | 11% | 1% | 1% | 100%  |
| Ranger services  | 31%            | 45% | 17% | 6% | 1% | 100%  | 46%                    | 31% | 17% | 4%  | 2% | 100%  | 36%     | 41% | 17% | 5% | 1% | 100%  |

Table 22: Question 20

| What one change would make your visits to Fort Collins natural areas more enjoyable? | Location in Larimer County |                        |         |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins               | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Services and facilities  | 6%                         | 6%                     | 6%      |
| Increase awareness of natural areas  | 3%                         | 0%                     | 2%      |
| Enforcement of rules/regulations/laws  | 3%                         | 1%                     | 2%      |
| Expansion of trails and parks  | 9%                         | 11%                    | 10%     |
| Allow dogs   | 10%                        | 0%                     | 6%      |
| Water fountains and bathrooms  | 7%                         | 7%                     | 7%      |
| Information at parks (maps, signage, etc.)   | 7%                         | 17%                    | 11%     |
| Control of invasive/noxious plants   | 2%                         | 0%                     | 1%      |
| Trail maintenance  | 4%                         | 0%                     | 3%      |
| More parking   | 6%                         | 2%                     | 4%      |
| Increased personal safety  | 1%                         | 0%                     | 1%      |
| Dog issues -- dog poop, dogs off leash   | 1%                         | 7%                     | 3%      |
| Other  | 29%                        | 36%                    | 32%     |
| None, nothing, don't know, etc.  | 10%                        | 13%                    | 11%     |
| Total  | 100%                       | 100%                   | 100%    |



Table 23: Question 21

| What other comments, if any, would you like to make about City of Fort Collins natural areas? | Location in Larimer County |                        |         |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|
|   | Fort Collins               | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Keep up the good work, Thanks, Wonderful, etc.  | 58%                        | 45%                    | 52%     |
| Would like more info or are unaware of parks  | 8%                         | 0%                     | 4%      |
| Improvement/Expansion of natural areas and services   | 6%                         | 0%                     | 3%      |
| Budget concerns   | 3%                         | 3%                     | 3%      |
| Have not used natural areas   | 3%                         | 14%                    | 8%      |
| Love for Ft. Collins area/community   | 0%                         | 0%                     | 0%      |
| Development encroaching   | 1%                         | 2%                     | 1%      |
| Other   | 21%                        | 30%                    | 25%     |
| None, nothing, don't know, etc.   | 2%                         | 7%                     | 4%      |
| Total   | 100%                       | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 24: Question 22

| Where do you live?                     | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Within the city limits of Fort Collins | 99%            | 3%                     | 50%     |
| Within the city limits of Loveland     | 0%             | 46%                    | 23%     |
| Other location in Larimer County       | 1%             | 52%                    | 27%     |
| Total                                  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 25: Question 23

| How many years have you lived in Larimer County? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Less than 5 years                                | 31%            | 13%                    | 22%     |
| 5 to 10 years                                    | 21%            | 13%                    | 17%     |
| 11 to 15 years                                   | 9%             | 7%                     | 8%      |
| 16 to 20 years                                   | 11%            | 16%                    | 14%     |
| 21 to 30 years                                   | 17%            | 30%                    | 24%     |
| More than 30 years                               | 12%            | 21%                    | 16%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 26: Question 24

| Do you rent or own your home? | Area of county |                        |         |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|                               | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Rent                          | 45%            | 23%                    | 34%     |
| Own                           | 55%            | 77%                    | 66%     |
| Total                         | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 27: Question 25

| Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino? | Area of county |                        |         |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|                                  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| No                               | 94%            | 94%                    | 94%     |
| Yes                              | 6%             | 6%                     | 6%      |
| Total                            | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 28: Question 26

| What is your race? (Please check all that apply.)* | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native                  | 0%             | 2%                     | 1%      |
| Asian or Pacific Islander                          | 6%             | 1%                     | 3%      |
| Black or African American                          | 1%             | 0%                     | 1%      |
| White/Caucasian                                    | 91%            | 93%                    | 92%     |
| Other  | 6%             | 5%                     | 5%      |

\* Totals exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Table 29: Question 27

| What is your gender? | Area of county |                        |         |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|                      | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| Male                 | 50%            | 50%                    | 50%     |
| Female               | 50%            | 50%                    | 50%     |
| Total                | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 30: Question 28

| What is the highest level of education you have completed? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|  | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| 1st through 12th grade (No Diploma)                        | 0%             | 2%                     | 1%      |
| High school (Diploma or GED)                               | 6%             | 12%                    | 9%      |
| Some college, no degree                                    | 10%            | 15%                    | 12%     |
| 2-year or associate college degree                         | 10%            | 5%                     | 7%      |
| Bachelors degree   | 39%            | 34%                    | 36%     |
| Graduate or professional degree                            | 35%            | 32%                    | 34%     |
| Total  | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

Table 31: Question 29

| In which category is your age? | Area of county |                        |         |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|
|                                | Fort Collins   | Rest of Larimer County | Overall |
| 18-24 years                    | 9%             | 7%                     | 8%      |
| 25-34 years                    | 36%            | 16%                    | 26%     |
| 35-44 years                    | 16%            | 10%                    | 13%     |
| 45-54 years                    | 16%            | 27%                    | 21%     |
| 55-64 years                    | 11%            | 13%                    | 12%     |
| 65-74 years                    | 9%             | 17%                    | 13%     |
| 75 years or older              | 4%             | 9%                     | 7%      |
| Total                          | 100%           | 100%                   | 100%    |

## Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Open-ended Questions

Following are verbatim responses to the open-ended question on the survey, sorted alphabetically. The verbatim responses were not edited for grammar or punctuation.

***Question 4: What one thing (if any) do you most appreciate about Fort Collins' natural areas? responses.***

- # of them!
- A convenient place to walk & bike and it's beautiful!
- Ability to access undeveloped areas within city units.
- Access to foothills trails.
- Access.
- Accessibility & connectivity.
- Accessibility & the number available.
- Accessibility (Number & convenience of several).
- Accessibility and animal friendly.
- Accessibility is easy.
- Accessibility, good acreage.
- Accessibility.
- Accessibility.
- Accessibility.
- After living in Atlanta SLA, I appreciate everything!
- All of the really well maintained trails and walkways- I love to walk 24/7!
- Ample opportunities for recreation- walking, hiking, bird watching and enjoying the outdoors that are close to home.
- Appreciate access to the nature areas well maintained areas.
- Appropriateness of areas preserved.
- Areas for multi purpose-hiking, horseback riding, etc.
- Availability to public.
- Availability to trails close to horse notification of current danger-ex-tularemia.
- Availability.
- Availability.
- Availability; maintenance.
- Awesome that Fort Collins provides all the natural areas for recreational use. Why I moved here!
- Beautiful places to walk.
- Beautiful scenery to walk around.
- Beauty of it.
- Being protected from all the construction.
- Bike paths that go through some of them & that it keeps some open space right in town.
- Bike trails.
- Clean & well maintained.
- Clean accessible.
- Clean, beautiful, open spaces, free to enjoy.
- Clean.
- Cleanliness.
- Cleanness, easy access.
- Close to City.
- Close to Loveland.
- Don't have to go far to reach beauty!
- Don't know much about them so it's hard to appreciate them.
- Easily accessible.
- Easy access - many different locations in/around town.
- Easy access to biking/hiking in natural environment.
- Easy access.
- Educational programs.
- Educational signage.
- Excellent maintenance.
- Focus on non-sport/recreational uses. Much quieter than parks etc.
- Free access!
- Free parking, easy access to maps (Except with this survey!)
- Free to use.
- Generally very clean, well kept trails.
- Get to look at nature instead of houses/businesses.
- Giving us more areas to enjoy our beautiful area.
- Good access.
- Good views of the mountains.
- Great access with large open spaces.
- Great for baby strollers & walking my dog.
- Great to be in the "Middle of the city" in nature availability!
- Greenbelt preservation, trails.

- Having the natural areas and appreciate that the amount of natural area will not decrease.
- Having the open space so close to my house & town.
- Hiking trails.
- Hiking, nature.
- Hiking.
- How close they are to home.
- How many of them there are.
- How many there are!
- How many there are.
- How well they are kept & respected by users information signs.
- I appreciate that land is not developed and will hopefully stay that way. Nice to see raptors.
- I appreciate the number of natural spaces available for public use.
- I don't know. I don't get out much and I'm new here.
- I enjoy the excellent trail system.
- I enjoy walking & hiking on spring creek trail to see birds, ducks, & to unwind etc.
- I know a lot of folks really value the lifestyles the natural areas allow.
- I love having these spaces so close/accessible to where I live.
- I love the locations & accessibility of the natural areas. I love the beauty of them.
- I moved from Colo Springs here x 8 years because I am willing to chip in my share in taxes to maintain where community votes to not fund anything have places like these!
- I think most are free to use for the public.
- I'm very happy that we have them.
- It breaks up all the new condo developments.
- It stops growth of over population.
- Just thankful they exist! And wildlife habitat.
- Keep wildlife habitats open for the wild animals.
- Keeping a little natural area in & around city (too many buildings on small roads) environment.
- Keeping the open spaces!
- Large tracts preserve in-tact landscapes.
- Large variety of sites.
- Leashed dogs.
- Locating and purchasing areas of interest by residents.
- Location all around Fort Collins.
- Locations.
- Lots of open/natural areas that are accessible.
- Lots of them.
- Lovely areas to walk.
- Maintenance seems quite good.
- Many of them.
- Nice bathrooms.
- Nice place to get out for a walk or bike ride.
- No fracking-please stop the fracking!!
- No opinion.
- Not all natural areas are created equal; some seem to have more to offer than others.
- Not decreasing in size.
- One is close by and good place to walk.
- Open space of beautiful habitat.
- Open spaces.
- Paths well maintained, the quantity & size of the areas.
- Perfect balance between paved trails, rough trails and natural beauty. Leads to exceptional value in terms of quality of life.
- Pleasing scenic way to provide flood control.
- Preservation of open space and natural habitats.
- Preservation of open spaces.
- Preserving the land and restricting building.
- Pretty to look it.
- Probably good for education purposes by connecting with schools.
- Protecting beautiful places.
- Provide work for company I work for.
- Provides for more outdoor activities.
- Quantity-So nice to have so many natural areas wildlife- saw a coyote this week.
- Raised 3 children enjoyed the areas - continue with grandchildren.
- Reach ability.
- Remembering what nature is.
- Safety, maintenance.
- Scenery.
- Single track bike trails.
- So many natural areas to enjoy.
- Somewhere near by to enjoy the outdoors, bike paths, beauty.
- Space to engage nature on my way.
- That Fort Collins has many natural areas- much land set aside.

- That Ft.C. values natural areas, esp within the city and as the town grows.
- That me and my dog have an outdoors place to go.
- That there are a number & I'd expect that effort will continue.
- That there are natural areas conserved by the city.
- That there are so many around town.
- That there are varieties of envisions to visit.
- That they (most) are free.
- That they are available for our use, well kept & consider nesting birds.
- That they are HERE! Many people cannot do "Mt. Trails" The natural areas open the outdoors to them.
- That they are there to enjoy.
- That they exist & are available for people.
- That they exist at all.
- That they exist for those who enjoy them.
- That they exist here.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exist.
- That they exists, that they are clean.
- That they preserve open space from development.
- That they're accessible you don't have to drive to reach one.
- That they're open & accessible.
- That they're there for everyone & it's such a peaceful place to go.
- That we get to enjoy so many!
- That we have and maintain them.
- That we have designated natural areas.
- That we have natural areas?
- That we have preserved open space! And parks!
- That we have so many.
- That we have them to enjoy when we can.
- That we have them.
- That we have them.
- The # of them.
- The ability to enjoy the outdoors/nature without traveling to far.
- The ability to hike & enjoy nature close to home.
- The accessibility.
- The amount! Keep conserving!
- The amounts of preserved land.
- The availability and variety.
- The beauty & upkeep - great to have natural MSG.
- The beauty in each different area.
- The beauty.
- The city has invested in natural areas.
- The city is making a buffer between Loveland & FC with open areas.
- The diversity, openness, and the ones open 24 hrs a day.
- The emphasis on preservation and care about the environment.
- The fact that we had the foresight to them aside in the first place and that the community continues to support them and invest in them.
- The great number of them!
- The hiking trails.
- The large of then & well maintained.
- The natural beauty.
- The network of multi-use trails throughout Fort Collins.
- The number and variety available.
- The number of areas & the density of habitats.
- The number of areas.
- The number of natural area within and surrounding the city.
- The of natural areas.
- The open area in general, just having it.
- The open space and the paths.
- The opportunity to hike.
- The proximity and of naturals areas to my house.
- The there are actual natural areas to enjoy.
- The upkeep- always clean.
- The variety. Each area is a little different with different things to see.
- The wide & clean trails.
- Their con.
- Their very existence & the fact that they are being taken care of.
- There are a lot around the city.
- There are numerous areas.

- There are so many of them - I have 2 natural areas around my home.
- There are so many.
- They allow the experience of the great outdoors to happen with in urban setting.
- They are a nice escape from the city.
- They are all over & free.
- They are kept up, clean & pristine.
- They are located throughout the city so there is always one nearby.
- They are very easy to access and located throughout the city.
- They are well maintained.
- They exist, they are clean.
- They give our young friends relatives lovely place to go, when they come to visit us.
- They provide space for young & old to learn to respect our earth.
- They're accessible.
- They're free!
- They're kept clean.
- Those I have visited are well maintained.
- To have areas for family activities.
- Trail conditions.
- Trails.
- Trails.
- Variety of choices - many areas to choose from, preserved open space.
- Variety.
- Variety.
- Views.
- Walking and biking trails.
- Walking paths.
- Walking trails, science collaboration at Red fox meadows.
- Walking trails/paths.
- Walking/bike paths-able to be in those beautiful areas.
- We have many nature conservation & people's interests combing.
- We have so many and they are all beautiful in their own right.
- Well Maintained
- Well maintained.
- Well maintained.
- When there are not 10 people on the trails, they are great!

***Question 8: In what activity(ies) did you participate when you visited a Fort Collins natural area in the last year? (Please check all that apply.) "Other" responses.***

- Bird watching.
- Bird watching.
- Birding.
- Birding.
- Fantastic for bird watching.
- Field trip for work.
- Imagining area history.
- Just driving around to enjoy God's creation.
- Nature drive.
- Outside my kitchen window.
- Plant wildlife identification with students.
- Sitting by the Poudre and reading/grading papers.
- Study plants and wild flowers.
- Teaching my kids about the local environment.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Working.



**Question 9: How did you get to and from the Fort Collins natural areas you visited in the last year? "Other" responses.**

- Backyard Gate.
- Bike
- Bus
- Bus.
- Max.
- Scooter.

**Question 12: How, if at all, does crowding negatively impact your natural areas visit?**

- A lot. I try to go in off time (?) Limit growth like Boulder!!
- A lot. Love the natural areas but there are too many people here. Development is out of control.
- A lot. Many people are self centered. Skate careers & cyclists will run a pedestrians down.
- Because I have two dogs. I prefer to go early because less crowds.
- Being a resident for almost 20 years, I have seen trail erosion/ widening of my favorite trails accelerating. Too many noobs out there with no respect for vegetation/mud.
- Bikes from behind startling walkers.
- Can't enjoy as much as waiting to, no privacy speaking a loud.
- Can't let dogs off leash.
- Congestion.
- Crowding always negatively impacts and it is becoming more of a problem as Fort Collins grows. Bikes moving too fast on the trails is also a problem.
- Crowding impacts it greatly- getting away is my prime objective.
- Crowding makes it feel less special, can't fully enjoy quiet.
- Crowding varies widely -The first nice weekend of spring is always quiet crowded, other times less so the only negative impact is frequency of stepping off the trail to let others pass, which can be difficult with large groups of mountain bikes of passing people with dogs.
- Currently, our natural areas are not typically crowded, so there is no personal impact, however, if they were crowded, it's likely I would not use these areas.
- Depending on the time, it's difficult to take small children on the Poudre trail because high bike traffic & kids don't stay on right side of trail.
- Depends on the area- but high use area are less useful for feeling a connection to nature.
- Disrespectful people, trash, tagging.
- Does not negatively impact my visit.
- Doesn't impact.
- Don't get the fuel affect of getting away if too crowded.
- Don't want to go if crowded.
- For weekend hikes, I go earlier in the day if the weather is nice; I generally don't go mountain biking at "high use" times.
- Frustrating on Saturdays - otherwise it's fine.
- Go little less often.
- Having to move aside for mountain bikers.
- I am worried about the wildlife or can't see it. No space to park.
- I choose times of lowest/medium people.
- I don't see that much "crowding" only occasionally there are enough folks to detract.
- I feel safer with more people around.
- I go to natural areas for quiet and solitude, so I appreciate fewer people.
- I have been unable to visit because of lack of parking.
- I like to get away from people so prefer less crowded.
- I ride my mountain bike, so I have to stop often to pass hikers.
- I try to go early.
- I try to go when it is not as busy.
- I visit natural areas for a more isolated feel.
- I worry a bit about sharing trails with fast-moving bikes I also encounter many homeless people when I commute, which can be unpredictable & scary.
- If I drive & parking lots are full.
- If I think the areas will be too crowded I go somewhere else. Usually up Poudre canyon.
- If you are going to get away from people.

- Interrupts my enjoyment of the natural sounds, sights and smells. People tend to litter as well.
- It bums me out.
- It does not.
- It doesn't feel natural when I'm around a bunch of people I find other counties to go to when looking to relax.
- It doesn't.
- It doesn't. I am happy to know these areas are being used!
- It doesn't. I'm happy to see others enjoying the natural areas.
- It is unpleasant when there are so many people present. Add pets and horses and it becomes congested & difficult to find parking.
- It takes away from "connecting with nature" & "escape from the urban environment".
- It would nice if there was no crowding, but I am glad others are getting out.
- It's in a city, I expect not any negative effect.
- It's not horrible, although I would rather visit areas with less people.
- Its only crowded at certain times (mid afternoon and Saturday mornings), and it only makes me visit at different times.
- It's stressful- smoking! Dogs not under control! (I'm allergic/ hyper sensitive and breakout when liked) people that act rowdy/noisy.
- Just have to find the right spots. Can be annoying w/so many people around but it's not the most pressing issue.
- Just the way it is.
- Less is better.
- Less likely to relax completely-trash left from others-noise.
- Less relaxing.
- Limited on no parking space. Going on weekday rather than weekend limits time spent there.
- Litter, dog poop.
- Litter.
- Litter.
- Lots more people fishing. Tourist.
- Love seeing so many active people!
- Mainly I need to give bicycle room to pass.
- Makes me want to go back to my car and smoke about and wish Ft Collins people would go home & leave me alone.
- Might decide not to because of parking issues.
- More stressful for myself and my dog.
- No impact.
- No impact.
- No negative impact.
- No place to park, Look at Jefferson County Open Space program. No Fees.
- No problem if no one is acting like a jerk or being noisy.
- No, not unless it was overly crowded.
- No.
- None, yet.
- None.
- Not at all.
- Not at all.
- Not escaping from "Urban Environment".
- Not everyone is conscientious about their trash & pets.
- Not much of an issue.
- Not much when I was there.
- Not much, just have to be more alert and considerate.
- Not much.
- Not much.
- Not much.
- Not particularly.
- Not really, if they all keep moving.
- Not really.
- Not really.
- Not so far.
- Not unless there are transients there.
- One goes to natural areas to get away from the crowd, it is frustrating when you run into it.
- Pace, trash left behind by previous visitors.
- Parking can be hard to find on weekends at the horsetooth hike.
- Parking difficulty, trash, dog poop.
- Parking is usually the biggest issue.
- Parking lot full at bobcat ridge - had to go elsewhere to hike.
- Parking may be limited.
- Parking.
- Paths/parking sometimes crowded.
- Poor etiquette by trail users.

- Something it's hard to escape with too many people around.
- Something-depends on where/when I go.
- Sometimes parking can be a pain.
- Sometimes the places I like to sit at are already taken.
- Sometimes you just want to get away from everyone, and you feel like you keep bumping into others, but that's urban living.
- Somewhat.
- Somewhat. It depends if the people are following the "rules" of the area. Ex: where dogs are off-leash; riding bikes where not allowed; ec. Bikers not letting you know they are coming "to your right"
- Takes away from getting away experience.
- The crowds do not really bother me as I understand the natural areas are for all of us to share.
- The less people the better.
- There is sometimes trash.
- To many people, I like being alone.
- Too many bikes affect peaceful walking - speed past & don't like to wait to pass. Wait be long before natural areas will be too crowded.
- Try not to go on weekends. Go early in the a.m.
- Try to get away from people.
- Try to visit during north peak hours if possible.
- Two many people and stress levels go up, Avoid them on the weekends.
- Usually not an issue, most people are courteous.
- Very different depending on which area we are mentioning. Some feel very crowded, non-stop traffic, and cuts down on privacy.
- Very much especially if lots of trash.
- Very much so! The speeding bikes make it particularly unpleasant, to the point where my household barely goes to the nearby Maxwell area.
- We have learned to visit them at off peak times, or pick a less crowded area.
- When an area is too crowded it makes visiting less enjoyable as I like to relax with nature- to get away from the city noises and people.
- When natural areas are overcrowded it diminishes my natural area experience.
- Wildlife viewing.
- Won't go.
- Yes I live next to Riverbend ponds and the parking lot gets full on the weekends.
- Yes, less peaceful.
- Yes.

***Question 15: During the past 12 months, have you had any unpleasant experiences in any City of Fort Collins natural area? "Yes, please describe" responses.***

- 2 Rattlesnakes on path- is to be expected but reminded me to always be vigilant no people incidents.
- All the dead animals at running Deer.
- Bathrooms locked when I think they should be open.
- Being over taken from behind by a bicyclist moving too fast & not giving an audible signal.
- Bikes that don't warn you they are parking from behind.
- Bit by a bug but that is expected since it is a natural area.
- Bobcat ridge rangers who supervised parking area were too busy chatting & spot were open even though they closed the lot.
- But dislike when people use trails when muddy.
- But don't go to Gustav Swanson.
- Can't horseback ride, no dogs allowed, why does Ft Collins have to land grab outside city limits?
- Could not walk dog at bobcat ridge-attendant gave a lame reason.
- Dog off leash disrupted experience.
- Dog poop-loose dogs.
- Drone flying low over me-it was creepy.
- Got lost trying to figure the construction on the Poudre trail out. It's not specifically a natural area, but its in the any of school.
- Homeless on trails smoking/drinking.
- However, it has become a pet peeve that I often experience dog owners leaving their feces bags on the trail instead of carrying them to on of the many trash cans provided.
- However, saw a "homeless looking" individual exiting- was he visiting? or Was it his home?
- I felt unsafe a time or two with the transient population walking through the area and the drug deal I witnessed.
- Lack of parking & finding it closed when I arrived.
- Multiple joggers have their music so loud they can't hear me yelling that I am on the left!
- no
- No bathrooms and someone in the outhouse forever! Had to hold it.
- No place to park required fees.
- Not wanting to be alone- some people acting creepy.
- Occasional camper or loud person.
- Off spring creek trail. West of lemay, near the bend, there's a pile of discarded clothing that's been there for a while.
- Office did her job-to educate One incidence with a ranger to limit are access to of trail area but she was polite, respectful,educational but firm-not unpleasant
- On my way to a natural areas I was passed & blasted by a rolling coal pickup truck which lesser my experience.
- People parking in Riverbend ponds parking lot late at right & talking loud.
- People using some of the natural areas are not easily accessible for walkers or wheelchairs.
- Plants are overgrown & restroom smells at time.
- Rattlesnakes - but I know it's their home too, my dog got bitten.
- Rude people(likely from Texas/California) who do not know etiquette.
- Smoking! Dogs running lose, defecating all over and trying to jump on your/ lick you.
- Speeding bikers who don't announce themselves.
- The bathroom at Gustav Swanson is scary going under the bridge at night behind the discovery center is also scary.
- The only somewhat concerning event was people in the bushes at Gustav Swanson. But we didn't interact.
- There is nowhere to take dogs off leash in town.
- They were closed for one reason or another.
- To many people.
- Too many people, can't smoke my bowl in peace or is it piece?
- Unleashed dogs.
- Unleashed dogs. Dog drops not picked up.
- Vast amounts of non-invasive moved down.

- Visited Reservoir Ridge - poor signage I exited on wrong side- had to walk on unlighted road until friend could pick me up- could have because real trouble.

- Well, just traffic noise.
- When new underpasses (I.e at mulberry) are flooded.

**Question 17: What would be the best way for you to connect with Fort Collins Natural Areas Department?**

- "City News".
- "City news".
- "City News".
- "City News".
- A newsletter delivered in mail or something at the trail head.
- A written pamphlet.
- Actual visits.
- Advertise in public buildings/around downtown or at other events.
- An outreach event-evening -"Get outside".
- At the parks.
- At trail heads.
- Both 'city news' and 'newspaper' print. I was unaware of the other options. More publicity needs be done.
- Brochure of available areas with maps mailed to home.
- By phone I guess.
- City Ft Collins, online government site e-mails.
- City news in utilities -great job!
- City news.
- City news.
- City news.
- City news.
- City Water Board.
- City's website.
- Computer.
- Didn't know the FC local cable channel had this info. Thought it was city government info only (board mtgs, town halls, etc).
- Direct mail.
- Direct mail. Why isn't there a pamphlet describing all areas, activities, directions?
- Don't bother.
- Don't care.
- Don't care.
- Don't know maybe I'll talk w/the ranger dude, does that count?
- Don't know.

- Don't know.
- Don't know.
- E news.
- Email
- Email - website.
- Email newsletter for time sensitive into & website for reference.
- Email newsletter.
- Email or newsletter.
- Email phone call.
- Email, Facebook or knowledge of how to find out more information easier.
- Email, Facebook, Coloradoan.
- Email, newsletter.
- Email, newspaper.
- Email, phone, a representative.
- Email, web, Social media.
- Email.
- Email.
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- Email.
- Email.
- Email.
- Email.
- Email.
- E-mail.
- E-mail.
- Email-jheineke@gmail.com
- Emails visit websites.
- Emails, educational sessions (held at each area - Alternating).

- Facebook or email.
- Facebook, instagram, word of mouth.
- Facebook, Instagram.
- Facebook, tracks & trails Coloradoan.
- Facebook.
- Facebook.
- Facebook.
- FB.
- FB. I don't know they had a page, but will like it now.
- Flyer sent in the mail or available at the trail heads.
- Go to one.
- Guide published by department- would love to be able to ask a human being my acquisitions but realize web site is most efficient.
- Have a natural areas dept. Booth at local events like New West Fest or at the library.
- I believe that the utility bill is my go to & I just started receiving local events on my I phone.
- I connect w them every time I visit an area. I see the work they do.
- I don't know where all of the areas are by name. Better signage?
- I enjoy my connections as they are.
- I have no desire to connect it.
- I like reading from the various sources. I think you do a great job with the variety of ways now available.
- I might sign up for the newsletter.
- I need to search it out more.
- I should sign up for the newsletters!
- I volunteered a couple years ago and am thinking about it again.
- I will find out more about social media. That is easiest.
- I would love more dog of leash areas. Something like the cherry creek dog park.
- I would most likely call or email, after I looked them up online.
- If I have a question I just call them or look on the website.
- I'll like you on FB and that's the best way. Until now, word of mouth from friends.
- I'm a CSU student, so events, rides, [?], etc. would be the easiest and most attractive option.
- I'm not sure I need to connect with the NA Department, if there was a need for volunteers, our family would be willing.
- Info in "City news" like a URL, than use web.
- Information on display at libraries, website.
- Inquires.
- Inserts in utility bus- Coloradoan.
- Internet or mailings.
- Internet.
- Internet.
- Internet.
- Internet.
- Internet/social media.
- Internet-website.
- Local events? At the natural areas?
- Mail, sings around town.
- Mail.
- Mail?
- Mail-flyers.
- Mailing.
- Maps, trail guides, booklets found at trail heads & information points.
- Meet is great.
- Natural area website.
- Natural areas e news.
- Neighborhood events, kid friendly events ages 6 & up.
- Newspaper - Coloradoan, natural areas. E-news.
- Newspaper articles.
- Newspaper.
- Newspaper.
- No idea.
- No requirement.
- Not needed we enjoy the outdoors without government help.
- Not sure website? or Email.
- Not sure.
- Offer money.
- On site "comments" type box.
- Online and through physically mailed letters & newsletters.
- Online at the website.
- Online or word of mouth.
- Online website.
- Online website.
- Online website.
- Online, website, fb, etc.

- Online.
- Online.
- Online.
- Online.
- Online.
- Online.
- Online.
- online.
- Online.
- Online.
- Online-the website would work best but, it is hard to navigate.
- Online-website.
- People talking about them. A list in paper that states activities offered or featuring one or two areas.
- People who want to be outdoors will definitely get in contact with you!
- Perhaps the internet.
- Person to person phone call or appointment to speak to the head of this department, either John Stokes or Zoe Shark to give "Real" examples of natural conservation and wild life preservation!
- Phone or email if I am trying to reach the dept.
- Phone#.
- Phone, computer.
- Phone.
- Phone.
- Phone.
- Phone.
- Posted information at each area.
- Print mailer/ brochure.
- Probably online - may be sign up for email alerts.
- Probably the monthly e news, which I didn't know about. Also inserts in the "Recreator".
- Radio, website, natural area E news, newspaper.
- Receiving newsletters in the mail. I didn't know there were so many resources.
- Send emails, easier to navigate website notices on boards it trail lead.
- Sign board at trails.
- Signage/info at each site.
- Smart phone app.
- Social media and radio. I often listen to 102.5fm, 93.5 and 94.9.
- Social media online presence.
- Social media or e-news- we will sign up!
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social Media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social media.
- Social Media.
- Social Media.
- Social media/Facebook, email newsletter, tracks & trails.
- Social Media/Instagram or utility insert.
- Some way other than rangers.
- Telephone.
- Telephone.
- telmanri@gmail.com
- Text on email.
- The web.
- Their website.
- Through email, online website could not know about several listed above (post regularly in newspaper or city billing?)
- Through monthly bills for city of Ft. Collins.
- Through senior center.
- Through social clubs and sporting stores: (Ex bike shops,Rei) otherwise via city website.
- Through the "City News".
- Through the utility bill or direct information sent to the household- this reminds me of the natural areas. Being sent something about activities either in a brochure or by email.
- Through the website.
- To check out information online via the web, now that I know there are websites I can look at to find information. Maybe instead of mailing a survey, mail out a flyer with website info. Or
- Tracks & trails & word of mouth.
- Trails.com, all trails.com
- Try harder; visit website.
- Unknown.
- Updates on their site.
- Utility bill inserts, newspaper.
- Via google web search.
- Via the pamphlets at natural area sites.

- Via website & or email.
  - We live in Loveland & spend most our time on trails here or in Estes. We could seek out into on Ft Collins areas through any of the resources listed above if we needed info.
  - Web Page.
  - Web.
  - Web.
  - Website & social media.
  - Website with public board.
  - Website, email, brochures, maps.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
- Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website.
  - Website/email.
  - Website/Email.
  - Were satisfied as is.
  - Why do I need to "connect"? If there's a problem OK.



***Question 20: What one change would make your visits to Fort Collins natural areas more enjoyable? responses.***

- 1. No harassment of homeless people. I was pursued by staff while conducting a rare plant survey for crystal because I was carrying a big backpack of gear looking "homeless". 2. Please stop killing prairie dogs! That is what has prevented me from applying for jobs with you- I can't support this policy's
- A wife.
- Access.
- Actually making time to visit them! (my own time)
- Add more areas for water sports (non motorized- kayaking, tubing, paddle boarding.
- Add some more benches.
- Adding some bike maintenance stations.
- Additional parking at pine ridge-it's always full.
- Allow dogs off leash.
- Allowing dogs to run without a leash.
- Availability of guided maps & a "locator" map enclosed in utility bill as to where all are located, services available.
- Ban speakers & having earbuds so loud that you can't hear yelling.
- Beer at summit of everything.
- Being younger.
- Benches to relax & visit.
- Better and more interpretive signs.
- Better bathrooms.
- Better control of noxious weeds.
- Better fishing, cleaner lakes.
- Better information to neighboring areas.
- Better integration & bike trails, path.
- Better Lighting at parking lots.
- Better signage for trail needs.
- Better signage on trails.
- Better trail maintenance on some dog poop station at midway points.
- Bike path connection all the way to trilby.
- Bike trails so I don't have to ride in the street.
- Can't think of any.
- Can't think of anything.
- Can't think of one.
- Can't think of one.
- Cleaner bathrooms and trash cans that are emptied more often.
- Cleaner bathrooms, easier to find/ more bathrooms.
- Cleaner restrooms.
- Coffee cart at trail head.
- Connected via bike paths.
- Control invasive plants better. Cheatgrass, Russian olive.
- Designate areas for specific activities. i.e. biking. hiking. running. Fishing wild life(lob) viewing- will avoid conflict with others.
- Dogs not allowed or restricted/ controlled severely running up to a person, jumping on them, not under control, licking, barking and defecating is a huge problem.
- Dogs off leash keep trying to kill my husband when he bikes the trails. Short leashes would help.
- Don't know.
- Don't know.
- Drinking fountains.
- Each area is different so some don't always have as much info as other ex. the ponds. more identifications.
- Enforce natural areas rules 3 guidelines.
- Everything is great. Keep investing for the future.
- Grading certain areas where water & ice collect.
- Great job. Thanks for all your efforts.
- Great work-keep at it.
- Group activities for senior citizens.
- Handicap access at all natural areas for walkers and/or wheelchairs.
- Have a bit more parking at Cathy Fromme area.
- Have better trails, coyote ridge was pretty muddy and had lots of holes in the trail earlier this year.
- Have more activities for kids to learn and interact.
- Haven't visited enough to answer.
- Having better directional signs.
- Hike of real estate/ sales tax to dissuade people from moving here. I am willing to pay more to have the trail system less crowded.

- Horse- friendly waiting stations and rest areas. I'm almost always on horse back in natural areas.
- I am a little concerned about personal safety.
- I am quite satisfied.
- I can't think of anything- I really enjoy my time in these places at plan to visit more of them.
- I can't think of anything may be more plants ID.
- I do not go to Ft Collins unless absolutely necessary. Hate it. Traffic taxes, schools, stupid rules & laws that are petty against home owners & land owners.
- I enjoyed it more when there were less people & fewer bikes.
- I guess just more of them!
- I guess you have to create more, so people can spread out. Or more trails within the natural area.
- I honestly can't think of any. I love to take my dog, & some of the areas don't allow dogs, but I even understand that & don't really mind!
- I need to get familiar with the information in question 16. If I knew about the activities going on, I would visit natural areas more often.
- I think making some of the natural area more pleasing to the eyes rather than overgrown. I live next door and sometimes the smell is bad.
- I think the Ft Collins natural areas are enjoyable just as they are.
- I wish people would pick up their dog poop and that fishermen would dispose of fishing line appropriately to save birds and wildlife may be more of those tubular fishing line disposal stations would be good.
- I would have time to go more often.
- I would love to see more historic land marks or areas incorporated better into our natural areas. Tell our story through history!
- I'd like to feel safer at night or in the evening.
- If people would pick up after their dogs!
- If the dog waste bags are not biodegradable it would be great if they were.
- If we had at least one natural areas where dogs were allowed off leash. Dogs need space to fun and freedom to be dogs- such places are hard to find in Larimer County.
- I'm very happy with natural areas.
- Information about easy hikes not to far away. I have a special needs child who can hike but not long distance on rough terrain.
- Information such as introducing various natural areas with lots of pictures.
- Interconnect then with bike paths.
- Just keep them! They completely affect & effect one's quality of life.
- Just keep us what's in existence.
- Keeping things picked up, no guns allowed (more police traffic).
- Kick the tree huggers out.
- Less construction on natural lands.
- Less crowded.
- Less designated biking trails.
- Less dog poop, less garbage.
- Less hassle parking.
- Less mountain bikes. More hikes only trails.
- Less people moving to Fort Collins!!
- Less people, charge more that will keep them home.
- Less people.
- Less smelly bathrooms.
- Let dogs into all of them. More off leash areas.
- Longer hours in timed areas.
- Make all open space areas available.
- Make horse owners pick up or remove feces from trails dog owners more responsible to pick up feces.
- Make summer last longer.
- Make sure dogs are on a leash!
- More 24 hour access, I enjoy the privacy of night time excursion.
- More areas where off-leash dogs can explore- The current options are very crowded and limited spatially.
- More bike access.
- More camp sites.
- More dirt paths for runners.
- More display maps along bike trails and air pumps at regular intervals noted on maps.
- More dog friendly.
- More dog of leash areas!!
- More education for dog owners. (Pick up poop).
- More educational information on the internet about wild life, trees and geology, etc.

- More good weather.
- More handicapped accessible (hiking wheelchair).
- More information about different sites.
- More information on the signs about where the trails go and/or printed maps so one can follow a route.
- More information signs & brochures at the sites.
- More land conservation.
- More natural areas! More restrooms at trail heads so you can pop in on your way to groceries or errands for a quick walk without having to find a restroom first.
- More natural areas.
- More of them!
- More of them.
- More open space & off trail/natural area access w/a dirt path like the foot hills trails. That one is the best I have been on.
- More parking available at Coyote Ridge. It's very popular on the weekends, probably because it's free.
- More parking, No Fees.
- More parking, some trail heads need some maintenance.
- More primitive campsites.
- More programs for families w/ kids.
- More publication of educational/community events.
- More restrooms.
- More shaded beach areas.
- More signage.
- More single track trails.
- More support for trail maintenance.
- More trails, more parking & Coyote Ridge.
- More trash cans along the trails, areas to unleash dog.
- More trash cans and restrooms.
- More visible ranger presence.
- More waste baskets throughout the trails to make pet clean up more convenient.
- More, and more easily accessible (eg.,city news could mention e news) information.
- More, please!
- More/larger parking areas, and may be a trash can somewhere along the trail other than the trail head.
- Most bikers are great but could reinforce trail etiquette; may be more accessibility to drinking water.
- No changes keep up the good work. Put aside more land for natural areas if possible.
- No dogs, find no alcohol.
- None
- None
- Nothing except adding more-keep new housing as far away as possible.
- Nothing I can think of. They are nice as currently maintained.
- Nothing you doing a great job.
- Nothing.
- Nothing.
- OK for me most times -- it's the people who do not do the right things--Ex: stay off the muddy trails :-(-
- Only let me in obviously not possible on it is for all to enjoy.
- Pave more trail head to reduce dust.
- Perhaps updated bathrooms, especially gender neutral ones.
- Provide and improve informational and interpretive signage on wildlife and plant, ecology.
- Public awareness of natural areas-may be sent to each Ft Collins household.
- Remembering to go.
- Return that back to private ownership.
- Separate trails for hikers and mountains bikers.
- Smooth uneven areas on bike/Walking trails & bridge transitions.
- Some areas (Coyote ridge, for example) Lack parking. If there's any way to add more, that'd be great.
- Speed less of tax payer dollars.
- Spray more for mosquitoes.
- Stocking ponds & lakes for better fishing.
- Stop pushing the transit community around you seem like a bunch of bullies!
- Take over management at county land so it's better managed.
- The ability to have one large area to have my dog off leash.
- The natural areas need to be better known to people: location, hours, activities & opportunities.
- Time off work.

- Trail condition.
- Trails are closed when wet/muddy- rather than listing these online, how about a map showing closed trails (may be in red). This would be quicker for planning an outing. Perhaps it could be interactive where a click on the trail gives more info, like when it's likely to open again.
- Trails avoiding crossing main roads (such as harmony for power line trail).
- Trash cans in restrooms.
- Trash pick-up.
- Understanding of rules for bikers, hikers & horseman. And how to share the trail.
- Until I filled out this survey, I was unaware that there were so many sites available, so variety has been a slight issue.
- Water hydrants.
- We are fine with how things are.

***Question 21: What other comments, if any, would you like to make about City of Fort Collins natural areas? responses.***

- A good program, but haven't used it very much.
- A lot of developments are encroaching on natural areas, for example, around spring creek trail. We need to restrict that.
- Access to E from natural areas by biking.
- Accomplishments are great and enjoyed by many - My children live out of state but some often to enjoy our great areas.
- Affordable housing in FC is a joke.
- After moving here, it was a wonderful surprise that I happened across these natural areas. I wish more states had them!
- An important part of the outdoor quality of life in Fort Collins.
- An informational booklet about the "rules" and use options or URL to this info in "City news".
- As a new resident, getting a welcome pkg listing all the natural areas & what wildlife can be seen/ observed in those areas. Then, maybe a monthly mailing highlighting an area when its the best time of year to visit it.
- Bathrooms need to be open year round.
- Beautiful, easy to access.
- Better publicity-have a booth at the library to give out info.
- By now you have gussed this transients got to go!
- City governments have no business owning property. Especially property that used to be prime farm ground.
- Congratulations to your amazing staff! It is a pleasure interacting with them.
- Convert areas and sites with bromegrass to native plant species (grasses and forbs).
- Doing a great job.
- Don't pave them over- and create more!!
- Don't see how you can possibly gain from this type of survey.
- First rate sites and availability.
- Fort Collins needs to spend the money to buy the calving facility on prospect & sharp point. Stop trying to take land by imminent domain & pay for it!
- Fuck Ft. Collins Time To Move.
- Get a professional to construct your survey instrument. Think horrible.
- Get together with the newly established Northern Colorado rule Deer foundation on their Facebook page. They do alot of land conservation.
- Glad they can be enjoyed.
- Good job!
- Good job!
- Good job.
- Good luck.
- Great asset!
- Great place to run/explore outside the city.
- How will you share back survey results?
- I am extremely grateful for natural areas. Thanks you! Also, visitors from out of town are always impressed with this aspect of our city.
- I am glad to see our city has so many natural areas for families to enjoy even if I can't go.
- I am proud of the many opportunities you have provided. As a long times(55yrs) resident.
- I am retired & hope now to visit there areas.
- I am very grateful for them.
- I am very happy that FC has had the foresite to create these areas. The open spaces are wonderful.
- I believe Ft Collins has been making great & positive strides to have the natural areas here. I just haven't had time to visit all that's available.
- I don't know how to accomplish this, but dog feces bags left on the trail are absurd. I see it over and over. I would rather see the poop left at the side of the trail to breakdown over a trash bag of poop!
- I don't like the thought that some day part of my property will be taken from me for a rec trail. I have ditch water so you all will be eyeing my land. I like my privacy, It's why I live where I do.
- I grew-up here-love to see these areas protected.
- I intend to start using/visiting them more this summer! Thanks for all you do!

- I just moved to Fort Collins so haven't visited any of the areas. I don't even know where they are.
- I know they are very important-but our age & health preventing us from being in them.
- I know we have lots of areas. I just don't partake in them.
- I like walking natural areas in Fort Collins.
- I love living in a city where the outdoors plays such a role in every day life.
- I love the natural areas, they are part of what makes Fort Collins so awesome.
- I love them!
- I love them, they are a treasure! Fort Collins would be unbearable without them.
- I love them, used them more when I was younger. Am 74 now, travel a lot & find too many people here now.
- I love to look at the natural areas but can't walk them.
- I moved from San Diego 2 1/2 yrs ago & am very impressed! Well planned & well maintained!
- I primarily use the greenbelt behind my house and the spring creek trail system.
- I recently attended a program, at the senior center given by a young woman (Wendt). She was very disorganized, unfocused and rambly she was not well prepared and she created a poor impression.
- I spend a lot of time at spring canyon park (I know this is not a natural area but it is close to one) and enjoy the mixture of grass and natural habitat with areas to sit down and rest or have a picnic.
- I think it's great that the city of F.C. would put the time and money to develop the natural areas.
- I think that there is an opportunity for restoration and conservation education that is being missed by natural areas.
- I think they are doing a good job.
- I think trail erosion is an issue. Too many hot shot bikers and disrespectful hikers cutting lines & ruining my backyard.
- I totally enjoy them and am grateful that they are available.
- I would visit different areas more often if dogs were allowed.
- I'd rather see less natural areas & lower the costs to the city.
- I'm not sure what more to say. A vol. at the head of trail to "guide" people- "does your dog have a leash?" etc.
- I'm not very familiar with them and don't have an opinion because I usually don't visit natural areas.
- Increase natural areas before developers on our council get ahead of it.
- Information that specifically talks about the unique features of each natural area.
- It would be better to investigate dedicating different natural areas to specific use for one or two days & rotate this through them all to avoid conflicts.
- It's wonderful that the city considers putting aside land for natural areas to be a priority.
- Just moved to Fort Collins. Where do I get a paper map to these places.
- Keep development away when possible.
- Keep poop bags avail.
- Keep them open, clean and watched for drug & other creepy activity.
- Keep up our trails & the good works.
- Keep up the good work & keep expanding.
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the good work! More natural areas for all!!!
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up your work and the residents will enjoy the outdoors without a lot of providing.
- Leave them more natural. Leave the trails as they are. Good job overall. Life is good here.
- Less homeless on bike trails.
- Love Fo Co natural areas & hiking trails. Thanks!
- Love having them.
- Love that we have natural areas.
- Love the open spaces! Keep it up!
- Love them!
- Make info regarding these areas were widely known & available. I don't know what's around me if I did, I may partake in them.
- Makes loving here awesome!
- May 5, 2016; To Natural Areas Prog: You asked for "opinions and feedback;" you left no room for that: "Communication" I'm a

person who attended the "Volunteer Workshop" last year. I left with enthusiasm to help, in some way. I never heard another thing from you! I read later, in the paper, that volunteers had worked along the Poudre River. Duh!! I belong to the VOD; PWV; Colo Trail -- they all have a email site or a mailed notice that list the activities for the coming months: Ex: Aug 27-28 I'm signed up to work for VOC for river restoration. Communication is vital. On trail concerns: 1. Mud conditions: a chain across trail head with sign. 2. HiImpact trails: Volunteers can be at trailheads. Ck. with PWV for information that they use to keep our natural and our mountain areas a welcome and safe place to be while educating them to the trail they will be hiking - Ex. hi-lites, distance, difficulty, ans. questions -- "Is it OK to bring a baby buggy on this trail"?

- More camping areas & picnicking areas.
- More information about them to the community.
- More parking at the busier area, I hate the bus/traveler parking only. Many times I have had to leave on busy days cause there are no more parking spots when the bus parking is completely open.
- More promotional material would have helped me engage with them more.
- More, bigger, off leash areas.
- Most dog owners do not clean up after the animal, some animals are too aggressive to other dogs esp. Pit bull breeds!
- Much better than anything in past years.
- My family and I love them, they are huge asset to the city and we all think that they well maintained.
- Nice work overall!
- No comments.
- No need for concrete pathways and gravel.
- None
- None
- None.
- None.
- None.
- Not all of the natural areas need to be "developed" with paved trails to be enjoyably ( Eg. recent "improvements" to Arapahoe bend). Leaving some areas in primitive, natural conditions make the experience more enjoyable for certain users. Larimer County natural areas should demonstrate a range of development/facilities to accommodate the wide range of user needs and interests.
- One of our favorite reasons to live here!
- One or two large open areas in which a dog can be walked off-Leash.
- Overall good job.
- Overall impression is one of "protection" being emphasized at the expense of "use".
- Overall, natural areas are great worth the tax money.
- Overall-excellent resource.
- Please don't bring prairie dogs to Cathy Fromme prairie. The foxes & coyotes have still not recovered from the plague they brought lost time they were here.
- Please extend the biking trails to the north -to Douglas road. We've moved, used to be 1 min from. Spring creek trail. I miss the serenity of biking and walking daily!
- Please-never allow camping in the natural areas this is not a solutions to the homeless/vagrant crisis in the city. The NA's are for preserving natural habitats and wildlife. Allowing camping will only degrade the value of the NAs.
- Protect wild life plants & animals while allowing people to appreciate the natural areas as much as possible away from urban environment.
- Really enjoy having them in the area.
- Replace all asphalt trails with Gravel! "Nature" doesn't have paved paths. And doesn't need to be clear of snow to use! Keep that need in the city.
- Riverbend parking in the evening is very dark and the parking lot is used for rendezvous and bad behavior.
- Seems like money could be better spent.
- Smoking and the smell takes away from enjoyment as well as all of the cigarette mess and trash all over.
- So glad we have them -Such a great way to bring & keep nature close to home.
- Some examples of poor habitat conservation have been very blatant.
- Some of the natural "areas", such as over by McMurry ponds, look unnatural right now because there is visible netting on the ground and stakes supporting the trees. Perhaps some

of this will be overgrown & hidden or remove later?

- Sorry I don't know more about them. I drive by them now & then. City doesn't promote them to general public.
  - Suggest more out reach and advertising.
  - Thank you for all the work you do!
  - Thank you for doing this!
  - Thank you for having so many!
  - Thank you for providing the resources to have maintain the open spaces/natural areas. Its what makes Fo Co so appealing.
  - Thank You!
  - Thank you.
  - Thanks for adding to the quality of life in F.C.
  - Thanks for all you work! The natural areas makes an amazing difference to quality of life. Even just knowing they're there and driving past and noticing.
  - Thanks for doing this!
  - Thanks for doing what you do!
  - Thanks for making Fort Collins great!
  - Thanks for providing the spaces!
  - Thanks for providing them.
  - Thanks! The natural areas & multi-use trails are some of my favorite things about Fort Collins!
  - Thanks.
  - The areas are very welcoming and friendly. Thank you for keeping them safe and truly natural.
  - The bike that under passes need better drainage so they don't flood so often.
  - The one I have visited was superb.
  - There is a great variety of the types of natural area and difficulty of hiking/activities.
  - They are a crown jewel of Fort Collins.
  - They are a great part of the town and I welcome future acquisitions.
  - They are excellent.
  - They are great good job.
  - They are very special.
  - They are wonderful.
  - They really are an underutilized treasure we have.
  - They're awesome! Keep up the good work!
  - This is one of the most important resources - physical, natural, emotional, spiritual - I m
- Fort Collins. Without these Fo Co would be just another increasingly crowded college/brewery town. And people will be less nicer too!
- This survey seems like a waste of tax monies.
  - Very appreciative of effort & importance made by city.
  - Very enjoyable, wish I had more time to be in them.
  - Very glad that these areas are available for public use. Happy that.
  - Very nicely done considering the number of people that can't wait to live here & use.
  - Visitors are always amazed at our plethora of natural areas & local beauty.
  - We are blessed!! Please don't allow fracking here.
  - We are lucky that the Fort Collins community supports purchasing and maintaining natural areas, overall the department does a great job.
  - We are relatively new to Fort Collins and haven't enjoyed the natural areas yet, but we have plans to take advantage this summer!
  - We are thankful to live in an area that values natural areas.
  - We have enough don't buy any more land for open space. Expand the jail instead.
  - We have visited so few area in Ft. Collins it really isn't fair to give a rating (+) or (-).
  - We just moved from Michigan to Ft Collins the end of July 2015 (9 Months) look forward to exploring and learning more about the various natural areas.
  - We live in Loveland.
  - We lived at 7400 on 12 acres - red feather lakes road. We had our own natural wild life area, for 20 years. Ages now 85 & 90.
  - We need more natural areas and less buildings like woodward.
  - We really appreciate & often comment on how fortunate we are to have so many natural areas & trails to enjoy. Thank you.
  - Well done overall!
  - Well done.
  - Wheel chair bound - getting out [?].
  - Where concrete trails join in a "T", add concrete to create more of a curve eg.- [illustration].



- Without knowing the exact budget, I suspect way more \$ is spent on open areas than I'd like as a taxpayer in a weak economy. It seems the city likes to spend a lot to make us more like boulder.
- Would like a map or brochures at more convenient places.
- You guys have really nice trucks & equipment. Doesn't cost a lot to buy all those new trucks? You guys should all wear uniforms, like the forest service (USFS).
- You're doing a great job!

## Appendix C: Comparison to 2011 Survey Results

**Table 32: Question 1**

| <b>How familiar, if at all, are you with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Very familiar   | 17%         | 14%         |
| Somewhat familiar   | 34%         | 39%         |
| A little bit familiar   | 29%         | 30%         |
| Not at all familiar   | 20%         | 17%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 33: Question 2**

| <b>2016: How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department?</b><br><b>2011: How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Very familiar   | 3%          | 6%          |
| Somewhat familiar   | 16%         | 26%         |
| A little bit familiar   | 26%         | 34%         |
| Not at all familiar   | 55%         | 33%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 34: Question 3 with don't know responses**

| <b>In general, how good or poor a job is the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department/Program doing? Would you say . . .</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Excellent   | 16%         | 10%         |
| Very good   | 27%         | 25%         |
| Good  | 21%         | 27%         |
| Fair  | 2%          | 5%          |
| Poor  | 0%          | 2%          |
| Don't know  | 34%         | 31%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 35: Question 3 without don't know responses**

| <b>In general, how good or poor a job is the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department/Program doing? Would you say . . .</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Excellent   | 24%         | 15%         |
| Very good   | 40%         | 36%         |
| Good  | 32%         | 39%         |
| Fair  | 3%          | 7%          |
| Poor  | 1%          | 3%          |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 36: Question 4**

| <b>What one thing (if any) do you most appreciate about Fort Collins' natural areas?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Nearby and accessible  | 24%         | 15%         |
| That they exist in the city, the open space itself, won't decrease                       | 13%         | 24%         |
| Quality of life, enjoyment and peaceful attribute of the space                           | 2%          | 7%          |
| Well maintained/preserved, aesthetic beauty of the preservation and maintenance          | 11%         | 18%         |
| Abundant throughout the city and a large variety   | 17%         | 14%         |
| Trails and ease of biking/walking/running  | 18%         | 9%          |
| Not developed, buffer, restricting building  | 5%          | 0%          |
| Beauty/scenery   | 3%          | 0%          |
| Other  | 7%          | 13%         |
| Total  | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 37: Question 5**

| <b>For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think the City of Fort Collins natural areas contribute to this attribute of the community. What about . . . Percent saying "Great extent"</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Economic vitality (making Fort Collins an attractive place to work and do business)  | 53%         | 50%         |
| Wellness (a place to get fit and be healthy)   | 70%         | 70%         |
| Recreational opportunities (hiking, biking, walking, horseback riding, bird watching, fishing, creating art, relaxing and enjoying the outdoors)   | 75%         | 79%         |
| Mobility (using the natural areas and trails to get around Fort Collins)   | 41%         | 44%         |
| Educational opportunities (learn more about nature and the outdoors)   | 37%         | 35%         |
| Escape from the urban environment  | 52%         | 55%         |
| Healthy environment/ecology (filtering water and air, preventing flooding, etc.)   | 48%         | 51%         |
| Habitat (places for wildlife and native plants to live and grow) conservation  | 57%         | 60%         |
| Scientific opportunities (places for scientists to collect data)   | 37%         | 38%         |
| Cultural resources conservation (protecting traces of the past)  | 39%         | 35%         |
| Feeling a connection to nature or for personal renewal   | 55%         | 50%         |
| Overall quality of life in Fort Collins  | 65%         | 63%         |

**Table 38: Question 6**

| <b>How often do you visit Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . .</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| More than 100 times a year (Twice a week or more)                             | 9%          | 8%          |
| 51 to 100 times a year (Once or twice a week)                                 | 15%         | 16%         |
| 26 to 50 (Once every week or two)   | 12%         | 14%         |
| 11 to 25 (Once or twice a month)  | 18%         | 14%         |
| 2 to 10 (Less than once a month)  | 19%         | 28%         |
| Never   | 26%         | 20%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

Table 39: Question 7

| 2016: Which Fort Collins natural areas did you visit in the last year?*          | 2016 | 2011 |
|--|------|------|
| 2011: In the past 12 months, which Fort Collins natural areas have you visited?* | 2016 | 2011 |
| Arapaho Bend   | 15%  | 10%  |
| Reservoir Ridge  | 32%  | 21%  |
| Bobcat Ridge   | 40%  | 26%  |
| River's Edge   | 9%   | 9%   |
| Butterfly Woods  | 9%   | 12%  |
| Riverbend Ponds  | 28%  | 28%  |
| Cathy Fromme Prairie   | 37%  | 37%  |
| Ross   | 4%   | 9%   |
| Cattail Chorus   | 10%  | 8%   |
| Running Deer   | 10%  | 13%  |
| Colina Mariposa  | 2%   | 4%   |
| Salyer   | 6%   | 7%   |
| Cottonwood Hollow  | 11%  | 11%  |
| Soapstone Prairie  | 27%  | 16%  |
| Coyote Ridge   | 46%  | 40%  |
| Springer   | 1%   | 8%   |
| Fischer  | 10%  | 9%   |
| The Coterie  | 3%   | 6%   |
| Fossil Creek Wetlands  | 17%  | 0%   |
| Two Creeks   | 3%   | 6%   |
| Fossil Creek Reservoir (Regional Open Space)                                     | 35%  | 45%  |
| Udall  | 3%   | 0%   |
| Gateway  | 15%  | 16%  |
| Williams   | 1%   | 7%   |
| Gustav Swanson   | 10%  | 8%   |
| Homestead  | 4%   | 0%   |
| Kingfisher Point   | 20%  | 14%  |
| Magpie Meander   | 5%   | 7%   |
| Mallard's Nest   | 8%   | 11%  |
| Maxwell  | 15%  | 15%  |
| McMurry  | 13%  | 15%  |
| North Shields Pond   | 25%  | 25%  |
| Pineridge  | 20%  | 29%  |
| Prairie Dog Meadow   | 13%  | 10%  |
| Prospect Ponds   | 38%  | 44%  |
| Red Fox Meadows  | 17%  | 12%  |
| Redtail Grove  | 9%   | 9%   |
| Redwing Marsh  | 4%   | 6%   |

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

**Table 40: Question 8**

| <b>2016: In what activity(ies) did you participate the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area in the last year?*</b><br><b>2011: In the past 12 months, in what activity(ies) have you participated in during your visits to Fort Collins' natural area(s)?*</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Hiking  | 76%         | 70%         |
| Enjoying the scenery  | 58%         | 30%         |
| Biking  | 50%         | 55%         |
| Relaxing/doing nothing  | 46%         | 42%         |
| Wildlife viewing  | 39%         | 39%         |
| Running/jogging   | 29%         | 29%         |
| Dog walking   | 29%         | 44%         |
| Picnicking  | 24%         | 20%         |
| Commuting/passing through   | 22%         | 30%         |
| Photography/art   | 19%         | 20%         |
| Fishing   | 16%         | 21%         |
| Attending a special event   | 7%          | 4%          |
| Boating   | 5%          | 4%          |
| Skateboarding/rollerblading   | 3%          | 3%          |
| Horseback riding  | 3%          | 2%          |
| Other   | 5%          | 6%          |

*\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.*

**Table 41: Question 9**

| <b>2016: How did you get to and from the Fort Collins natural areas you visited in the last year?</b><br><b>2011: How did you arrive the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| By car  | 85%         | 58%         |
| By bike   | 11%         | 27%         |
| By foot   | 4%          | 14%         |
| By horse  | 0%          | 0%          |
| Other   | 0%          | 0%          |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 42: Question 10**

| <b>About how much time did you spend the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| 1 hour or less  | 25%         | 34%         |
| >1 hour up to 2 hours   | 44%         | 41%         |
| >2 hours up to 4 hours  | 26%         | 22%         |
| More than 4 hours   | 6%          | 4%          |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 43: Question 11**

| <b>2016: How crowded do you feel Fort Collins natural areas are when you visit?<br/>2011: How crowded was it the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Very crowded  | 3%          | 2%          |
| Moderately crowded  | 17%         | 5%          |
| Slightly crowded  | 41%         | 36%         |
| Not crowded at all  | 38%         | 57%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 44: Question 13**

| <b>How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the natural areas you have visited?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Very satisfied   | 74%         | 67%         |
| Somewhat satisfied   | 16%         | 25%         |
| Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied   | 7%          | 5%          |
| Somewhat dissatisfied  | 1%          | 0%          |
| Very dissatisfied  | 2%          | 2%          |
| Total  | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 45: Question 14**

| <b>Do you usually visit the same natural area(s), or do you visit several areas during the year?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Usually visit the same one or two areas  | 56%         | 61%         |
| Usually visit several or many different areas  | 44%         | 39%         |
| Total  | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 46: Question 15**

| <b>During the past 12 months, have you had any unpleasant experiences in any City of Fort Collins natural area?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| no  | 84%         | 88%         |
| yes   | 16%         | 12%         |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 47: Question 18**

| <b>Taken as a whole, how would you rate the facilities in Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . .</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Excellent   | 31%         | 27%         |
| Very good   | 40%         | 50%         |
| Good  | 24%         | 20%         |
| Fair  | 5%          | 2%          |
| Poor  | 0%          | 1%          |
| Total   | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 48: Question 19**

| <b>Please grade the following individual facilities and services, using the letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F (where "A" is the highest grade and "F" is a failing grade). What about . . .</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Trail condition   | 97%         | 87%         |
| Trailhead condition   | 96%         | 88%         |
| Number of restrooms   | 69%         | 63%         |
| Condition of restrooms  | 71%         | 59%         |
| Trash cans  | 77%         | 69%         |
| Directional and informational signs   | 89%         | 81%         |
| Interpretive signs (signs designed to provide educational guidance and deeper appreciation)   | 79%         | 74%         |
| Information provided in brochures   | 85%         | 69%         |
| Information provided in maps  | 87%         | 74%         |
| Educational activities and events (for example, guided hikes/rides, kids programs)  | 82%         | 66%         |



Table 49: Question 20

| What one change would make your visits to Fort Collins natural areas more enjoyable? | 2016 | 2011 |
|--|------|------|
| Services and facilities  | 6%   | 22%  |
| Increase awareness of natural areas  | 2%   | 11%  |
| Enforcement of rules/regulations/laws  | 2%   | 7%   |
| Expansion of trails and parks  | 10%  | 11%  |
| Allow dogs   | 6%   | 10%  |
| Water fountains and bathrooms  | 7%   | 7%   |
| Information at parks (maps, signage, etc.)   | 11%  | 8%   |
| Control of invasive/noxious plants   | 1%   | 0%   |
| Trail maintenance  | 3%   | 0%   |
| More parking   | 4%   | 0%   |
| Increased personal safety  | 1%   | 0%   |
| Dog issues -- dog poop, dogs off leash   | 3%   | 0%   |
| Other  | 32%  | 14%  |
| None, nothing, don't know, etc.  | 11%  | 10%  |
| Total  | 100% | 100% |

Table 50: Question 21

| What other comments, if any, would you like to make about City of Fort Collins natural areas? | 2016 | 2011 |
|---|------|------|
| Keep up the good work, Thanks, Wonderful, etc.  | 52%  | 31%  |
| Would like more info or are unaware of parks  | 4%   | 12%  |
| Improvement/Expansion of natural areas and services   | 3%   | 18%  |
| Budget concerns   | 3%   | 7%   |
| Have not used natural areas   | 8%   | 6%   |
| Love for Ft. Collins area/community   | 0%   | 12%  |
| Development encroaching   | 1%   | 0%   |
| Other   | 25%  | 11%  |
| None, nothing, don't know, etc.   | 4%   | 3%   |
| Total   | 100% | 100% |

## Appendix D: Comparisons to 2006 Intercept Survey Results

The 2006 survey used an intercept methodology where open space visitors were asked in person to complete a survey. Some of the questions are similar to the 2011 and 2016 surveys; comparisons are displayed in this appendix, along with any wording variations between years. Differences in methodology (and in some cases, question wording) limit the comparability.

- Respondents to the 2006 intercept survey were more regular visitors of natural areas.
- Hiking and biking were among the most frequently participated in activities in all three years. Enjoying the scenery was also among the top 3 activities in 2011 and 2016, but was not included on the 2006 survey.
- Survey participants reported similar amounts of time spent during their most recent natural areas visit in all three years, but the proportion of respondents spending more than two hours has increased over time.
- Perceived levels of crowding were similar in 2006 and 2011, but lower in 2016.
- Satisfaction levels in the three survey years were similar, but slightly lower in 2011 compared to 2016 and 2006.
- The proportion of respondents reporting any unpleasant experiences in the natural areas in the 12 months prior to the survey was similar in all three survey implementations.

**Table 51: Question 6 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| How often do you visit Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . . | 2016 | 2011 | 2006 |
|--|------|------|------|
| More than 100 times a year (Twice a week or more)                      | 9%   | 8%   | 33%  |
| 51 to 100 times a year (Once or twice a week)                          | 15%  | 16%  | 21%  |
| 26 to 50 (Once every week or two)                                      | 12%  | 14%  | 12%  |
| 11 to 25 (Once or twice a month)                                       | 18%  | 14%  | 21%  |
| 2 to 10 (Less than once a month)                                       | 19%  | 28%  | 9%   |
| Never  | 26%  | 20%  | 4%   |
| TOTAL  | 100% | 100% | 100% |

*Wording in 2006 survey: During the PAST 12 MONTHS, about how often have you visited a City of Fort Collins natural area (see site list)? In 2006 "Never" was "This is my first time"*

**Table 52: Question 8 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| In what activity(ies) did you participate when you visited a Fort Collins natural area in the last year? (Please check all that apply.) | 2016 | 2011 | 2006 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Hiking  | 76%  | 41%  | 70%  |
| Enjoying the scenery  | 58%  | 29%  | N/A  |
| Biking  | 50%  | 32%  | 50%  |
| Relaxing/doing nothing  | 46%  | 17%  | 36%  |
| Wildlife viewing  | 39%  | 17%  | 43%  |
| Dog walking   | 29%  | 27%  | 41%  |
| Running/jogging   | 29%  | 15%  | 43%  |
| Picnicking  | 24%  | 4%   | N/A  |
| Commuting/passing through   | 22%  | 6%   | 7%   |
| Photography/art   | 19%  | 8%   | 12%  |
| Fishing   | 16%  | 10%  | 15%  |
| Attending a special event   | 7%   | 2%   | 3%   |
| Other (please specify)  | 5%   | 4%   | 4%   |
| Boating   | 5%   | 1%   | 9%   |
| Skateboarding/rollerblading   | 3%   | 0%   | 3%   |
| Horseback riding  | 3%   | 0%   | 5%   |
| Walking   | N/A  | 3%   | N/A  |

Totals exceeds 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Wording in 2006 survey: Why do you visit natural areas in the city of Fort Collins? Check all that apply.

Wording in 2011 survey: In what activity(ies) did you participate the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area?

**Table 53: Question 10 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| About how much time did you spend the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area? | 2016 | 2011 | 2006 |
|--|------|------|------|
| 1 hour or less   | 25%  | 34%  | 29%  |
| >1 hour up to 2 hours  | 44%  | 41%  | 48%  |
| More than 2 hours  | 32%  | 26%  | 22%  |
| TOTAL  | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Wording in 2006 survey: How much time did you spend in the natural area(s) today?

In 2006, the first two time ranges were slightly different: less than 1 hour and 1 hour to 1.99 hours.

**Table 54: Question 11 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| <b>How crowded do you feel Fort Collins natural areas are when you visit?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2006</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Very crowded  | 3%          | 2%          | 0%          |
| Moderately crowded  | 17%         | 5%          | 9%          |
| Slightly crowded  | 41%         | 36%         | 30%         |
| Not crowded at all  | 38%         | 57%         | 61%         |
| TOTAL   | 100%        | 100%        | 100%        |

*Wording in 2006 survey: While visiting natural areas in Fort Collins, do you feel crowded?*

*Wording in 2011 survey: **How crowded was it the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area?***

**Table 55: Question 13 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| <b>How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the natural areas you have visited?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2006</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Very satisfied   | 74%         | 67%         | 78%         |
| Somewhat satisfied   | 16%         | 25%         | 17%         |
| Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied   | 7%          | 5%          | 3%          |
| Somewhat dissatisfied  | 1%          | 0%          | 1%          |
| Very dissatisfied  | 2%          | 2%          | 1%          |
| TOTAL  | 100%        | 100%        | 100%        |

**Table 56: Question 15 – 2016, 2011, 2006**

| <b>During the past 12 months, have you had any unpleasant experiences in any City of Fort Collins natural area?</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2006</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| No  | 84%         | 88%         | 83%         |
| Yes   | 16%         | 12%         | 17%         |
| TOTAL   | 84%         | 100%        | 100%        |

## Appendix E: Survey Methodology

### Developing the Questionnaire

The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department desired to learn about community perceptions and satisfaction with its program and the natural areas, and the recreation activities of visitors to the natural areas. A similar survey was conducted in 2011, and development of the questionnaire was undertaken by the agency's staff members, with input from National Research Center, Inc. (NRC). Some of the questions in 2011 were taken from previous user surveys conducted for the agency. For the 2016 survey project, nearly all the questions were retained, with minor changes to a couple questions, and replacement of a couple questions with new items. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in *Appendix F: Survey Materials*.

### Selecting Survey Recipients

“Sampling” refers to the method by which survey recipients are chosen. The “sample” refers to all those who were given a chance to participate in the survey. Ideally, the chosen survey recipients should be representative of all eligible survey recipients. Randomly selecting survey recipients ensures that this will occur.

For the 2016 Fort Collins Natural Areas Resident Survey, 1,800 residents were randomly selected from within Larimer County, excluding Estes Park. A list of addresses based on the United States Postal Service delivery sequence file was used for this selection. The addresses were geocoded (mapped to a specific latitude and longitude) and compared to the boundaries of Larimer County, Estes Park and Fort Collins. Addresses identified as being in Estes Park or outside Larimer County were excluded.

Systematic sampling is a procedure whereby a complete list of all possible addresses is culled, selecting every Nth one until the appropriate number of households is sampled. This procedure was used to select 1,350 from within Fort Collins, and 450 from the rest of the County (excluding Estes Park). Multi-family housing units were oversampled to compensate for single-family housing unit residents' tendency to return surveys at a higher rate.

An individual within each household was selected using the birthday method. (The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person whose birthday has most recently passed” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys.)

### Administering the Survey

The database of selected household addresses was processed for certification and verification, using use CASS™/NCOA software that relies on the USPS National Directory information to verify and standardize the address elements and assign each a complete, nine-digit zip code where possible.

Each of these survey recipients were contacted by mail a total of three times in April and May 2016. The first mailing was a prenotification postcard announcing the upcoming survey, which was delivered to the post office on April 22. About a week after the prenotification postcard was sent the first wave of the survey was sent. This packet included the questionnaire with a cover letter signed by John Stokes, the director of the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department

and a postage-paid return envelope. A week later a second survey was mailed, with instructions to recycle the survey if they had already responded to the first survey. A copy of the survey materials can be found in *Appendix F: Survey Instrument*.

Of the 1,800 addresses selected to receive the survey, 52 were identified by the post office as vacant. A total of 402 completed surveys were returned, for a response rate of 22%. Of these 402, 325 were from Fort Collins residents (representing a response rate of 24%) and 77 were from the rest of Larimer County, excluding Estes Park (17% response rate).

### **Confidence Intervals**

The 95% confidence interval (or “margin of error”) quantifies the “sampling error” or precision of the estimates made from the survey results. A 95% confidence interval can be calculated for any sample size, and indicates that in 95 of 100 surveys conducted like this one, for a particular item, a result would be found that is within a certain range if everyone in the population of interest was surveyed. The practical difficulties of conducting any resident survey may introduce other sources of error in addition to sampling error. Despite the best efforts to boost participation and ensure potential inclusion of all households, some selected households will decline participation in the survey (referred to as non-response error) and some eligible households may be unintentionally excluded from the listed sources for the sample (referred to as coverage error). Coverage error is very low for this survey, as the USPS delivery sequence file is used to select addresses, which has nearly complete coverage of all households.

For this survey, with 402 responses, the 95% confidence interval is about plus or minus five percentage points. The precision is when looking only at responses from those who live in Fort Collins, where it is plus or minus six percentage points, or for residents from the rest of Larimer County, where it is plus or minus eight percentage points.

### **Survey Processing (Data Entry)**

Mailed surveys were returned to NRC directly via postage-paid business reply envelopes. Once received, staff assigned a unique identification number to each questionnaire. Additionally, each survey was reviewed and “cleaned” as necessary. For example, a question may have asked a respondent to pick two items out of a list of five, but the respondent checked three; NRC staff would choose randomly two of the three selected items to be coded in the dataset.

Once all surveys were assigned a unique identification number, they were entered into an electronic dataset. This dataset was subject to a data entry protocol of “key and verify,” in which survey data were entered twice into an electronic dataset and then compared. Discrepancies were evaluated against the original survey form and corrected. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed.

### **Analyzing the Results**

One of the first steps in the data analysis was to statistically adjust the survey results so that the demographic profile of the respondents mirrors that of the population as a whole. This process is known as “weighting” the data. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey sample reflective of the larger population of the community. This is done by: 1) reviewing the sample demographics and comparing them to the population norms from the most recent sources and 2) comparing the responses to different questions for demographic subgroups.

The demographic characteristics that are least similar to the known demographic profile and yield the most different results are the best candidates for data weighting.

The socioeconomic profile of survey respondents was compared to estimates provided by the U.S. Census for adults in each of the two geographic areas (Fort Collins and the rest of Larimer county without Estes Park).

The variables used for weighting were respondent age, gender and housing tenure (rent versus own). This decision was based on the disparity between the survey respondent characteristics and the population norms for these variables and the saliency of these variables in differences of opinion among subgroups. Other discrepancies between the whole population and the sample were also aided by the weighting due to the intercorrelation of many socioeconomic characteristics.

A special software program using mathematical algorithms was used to calculate the appropriate weights. The results of the weighting scheme are presented in the following table.

| Characteristic                      | Population Norm* | Unweighted | Weighted |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------|----------|
| Housing Tenure                      |                  |            |          |
| Rent                                | 34%              | 27%        | 34%      |
| Own                                 | 66%              | 73%        | 66%      |
| Race                                |                  |            |          |
| White                               | 92%              | 92%        | 90%      |
| not White                           | 8%               | 8%         | 10%      |
| Ethnicity                           |                  |            |          |
| not Hispanic                        | 92%              | 91%        | 94%      |
| Hispanic                            | 8%               | 9%         | 6%       |
| Gender                              |                  |            |          |
| Male                                | 49%              | 58%        | 50%      |
| Female                              | 51%              | 42%        | 50%      |
| Age                                 |                  |            |          |
| 18-34                               | 36%              | 18%        | 34%      |
| 35-54                               | 34%              | 30%        | 34%      |
| 55 and over                         | 30%              | 52%        | 32%      |
| Age and Gender                      |                  |            |          |
| Male 18-34                          | 18%              | 10%        | 18%      |
| Male 35-54                          | 17%              | 20%        | 17%      |
| Male 55 and over                    | 15%              | 28%        | 15%      |
| Female 18-34                        | 18%              | 8%         | 17%      |
| Female 35-54                        | 17%              | 10%        | 17%      |
| Female 55 and over                  | 16%              | 24%        | 16%      |
| Area within Larimer County          |                  |            |          |
| Fort Collins                        | 49%              | 81%        | 48%      |
| Rest of County (without Estes Park) | 51%              | 19%        | 52%      |

\* 2010 U.S. Census and 2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

The electronic dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). For the most part, frequency distributions and average (mean) ratings are presented in the body

of the report. A complete set of frequencies for each survey question is presented in *Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions*. Chi-square or ANOVA tests of significance were applied to these breakdowns of selected survey questions. A “p-value” of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between groups are due to chance; or in other words, a greater than 95% probability that the differences observed in the selected categories of the sample represent “real” differences among those populations. Where differences between subgroups are statistically significant, they are marked with grey shading.



## **Appendix F: Survey Materials**

A copy of the survey materials appear on the following pages.



Natural Areas Program  
1745 Hoffman Mill Road  
PO Box 580  
Ft. Collins, CO 80522-0580  
Phone: (970) 416-2815  
Fax: (970).416.2211  
<http://www.fcgov.com/naturalareas/>

Dear Larimer County Resident:

We would like to know what you think about Fort Collins natural areas. Your perspectives are crucial and will help the City manage these sites effectively. We want to hear from you regardless of whether you visit natural areas and no matter what your feelings are about them. Getting our natural areas right will improve the quality of life for all residents.

You can play an important role in shaping the future of this department within the city and our local quality of life by completing the enclosed anonymous questionnaire. All information you share with us will be used for planning purposes.

**To get a scientifically reliable sample of residents, the adult (anyone 18 years or older) in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey. The year of birth of the adult does not matter.**

Please have the appropriate member of the household spend a few minutes to answer all the questions and return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Your answers are completely anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

Thank you very much for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts and opinions. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Zoë Shark, Natural Areas Community Relations Manager, at (970) 221-6311.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Stokes".

John Stokes, Director of the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department

The questions on this survey refer to the natural areas conserved and managed by the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. These include:

Arapaho Bend, Bobcat Ridge, Butterfly Woods, Cathy Fromme Prairie, Cattail Chorus, Colina Mariposa, Cottonwood Hollow, Coyote Ridge, Fischer, Fossil Creek Reservoir, Fossil Creek Wetlands, Gateway, Gustav Swanson, Homestead, Kingfisher Point, Magpie Meander, Mallard's Nest, Maxwell, McMurry, North Shields Ponds, Pineridge, Prairie Dog Meadow, Prospect Ponds, Red Fox Meadows, Redtail Grove, Redwing Marsh, Reservoir Ridge, River's Edge, Riverbend Ponds, Ross, Running Deer, Salyer, Soapstone Prairie, Springer, The Coterie, Two Creeks, Udall, and Williams natural areas.

We are not asking about areas managed by other agencies, like Larimer County, the Forest Service, or the National Park Service. The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department does NOT manage Horsetooth Reservoir or Horsetooth Mountain Open Space; which are managed by Larimer County.



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1745 Hoffman Mill Road  
PO Box 580  
Ft. Collins, CO 80522-0580  
Phone: (970) 416-2815  
Fax: (970).416.2211  
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Dear Larimer County Resident:

About a week ago we sent you this survey that asks for your opinion about City of Fort Collins natural areas. **If you have already completed the survey and returned it, we thank you and ask you to disregard this letter.** Please do not complete the survey a second time. If you haven't had a chance to get to the survey, we ask you to spend a few moments to complete it now. Your input is very important to us.

We would like to know what you think about the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. Your perspectives are crucial and will help the City manage these sites effectively. We want to hear from you regardless of whether you visit natural areas and no matter what your feelings are about them. Getting our natural areas right will improve the quality of life for all residents.

You can play an important role in shaping the future of this program and our local quality of life by completing the enclosed anonymous questionnaire. All information you share with us will be used for planning purposes.

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We are not asking about areas managed by other agencies, like Larimer County, the Forest Service, or the National Park Service. The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department does NOT manage Horsetooth Reservoir or Horsetooth Mountain Open Space; which are managed by Larimer County.

# Fort Collins Natural Areas Resident Survey



**1. How familiar, if at all, are you with the natural areas conserved by the City of Fort Collins?**

- Very familiar     Somewhat familiar     A little bit familiar     Not at all familiar

**2. How familiar, if at all, are you with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department?**

- Very familiar     Somewhat familiar     A little bit familiar     Not at all familiar

**3. In general, how good or poor a job is the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department doing? Would you say . . .**

- Excellent     Very good     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't know

**4. What one thing (if any) do you most appreciate about Fort Collins' natural areas?**

---

**5. For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think the City of Fort Collins natural areas contribute to this attribute of the community.**

| <u>What about . . .</u>  | <u>Great extent</u> | <u>Moderate extent</u> | <u>Small extent</u> | <u>Not at all</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Economic vitality (making Fort Collins an attractive place to work and do business) .....  | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Wellness (a place to get fit and be healthy) .....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Recreational opportunities (hiking, biking, walking, horseback riding, bird watching, fishing, creating art, relaxing and enjoying the outdoors) . | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Mobility (using the natural areas and trails to get around Fort Collins) .   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Educational opportunities (learn more about nature and the outdoors)   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Escape from the urban environment .....  | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Healthy environment/ecology (filtering water and air, preventing flooding, etc.) .....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Habitat (places for wildlife and native plants to live and grow) conservation.....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Scientific opportunities (places for scientists to collect data) .....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Cultural resources conservation (protecting traces of the past) .....  | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Feeling a connection to nature or for personal renewal .....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |
| Overall quality of life in Fort Collins.....   | 1                   | 2                      | 3                   | 4                 | 5                 |

**6. How often do you visit Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . .**

- More than 100 times a year (Twice a week or more)  
 51 to 100 times a year (Once or twice a week)  
 26 to 50 (Once every week or two)  
 11 to 25 (Once or twice a month)  
 2 to 10 (Less than once a month)  
 Never -> GO TO QUESTION #21.

**7. Which Fort Collins natural area did you visit in the last year?**

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arapaho Bend         | <input type="checkbox"/> Fossil Creek Reservoir | <input type="checkbox"/> North Shields Pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bobcat Ridge         | <input type="checkbox"/> Fossil Creek Wetlands  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pineridge          | <input type="checkbox"/> Running Deer      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Woods      | <input type="checkbox"/> Gateway                | <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Dog Meadow | <input type="checkbox"/> Salyer            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cathy Fromme Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Gustav Swanson         | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospect Ponds     | <input type="checkbox"/> Soapstone Prairie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cattail Chorus       | <input type="checkbox"/> Homestead              | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Fox Meadows    | <input type="checkbox"/> Springer          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colina Mariposa      | <input type="checkbox"/> Kingfisher Point       | <input type="checkbox"/> Redtail Grove      | <input type="checkbox"/> The Coterie       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cottonwood Hollow    | <input type="checkbox"/> Magpie Meander         | <input type="checkbox"/> Redwing Marsh      | <input type="checkbox"/> Two Creeks        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coyote Ridge         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mallard's Nest         | <input type="checkbox"/> Reservoir Ridge    | <input type="checkbox"/> Udall             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fischer              | <input type="checkbox"/> Maxwell                | <input type="checkbox"/> River's Edge       | <input type="checkbox"/> Williams          |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> McMurry                | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverbend Ponds    |  |

8. In what activity(ies) did you participate when you visited a Fort Collins natural area in the last year?  
(Please check all that apply.)

- Hiking
- Running/jogging
- Fishing
- Commuting/passing through
- Skateboarding/rollerblading
- Other (please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Biking
- Dog walking
- Photography/art
- Horseback riding
- Picnicking
- Wildlife viewing
- Relaxing/doing nothing
- Enjoying the scenery
- Attending a special event
- Boating

9. How did you get to and from the Fort Collins natural areas you visited in the last year?

- By car
- By bike
- By foot
- By horse
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. About how much time did you spend the last time you visited a Fort Collins natural area? ..... hours and ..... minutes

11. How crowded do you feel the Fort Collins natural areas are when you visit?

- Very crowded
- Moderately crowded
- Slightly crowded
- Not crowded at all -> GO TO QUESTION #13

12. How, if at all, does crowding negatively impact your natural areas visit?

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13. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the natural areas you have visited?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

14. Do you usually visit the same natural area(s), or do you visit several areas during the year?

- Usually visit the same one or two areas
- Usually visit several or many different areas

15. During the past 12 months, have you had any unpleasant experiences in any City of Fort Collins natural area?

- no
- yes -> PLEASE DESCRIBE:

---

16. Please indicate how frequently, if ever, you or other members of your household use each of the following sources for information about Natural Areas?

|   | <u>Always</u> | <u>Frequently</u> | <u>Sometimes</u> | <u>Never</u> |
|---|---------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Tracks & Trails (the guide to natural areas activities) .....   | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Natural Areas Enews (monthly email newsletter) .....            | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Natural Areas website (www.fcgov.com/naturalareas).....         | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| NatureTracker (naturetracker.fcgov.com).....                    | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) .....                    | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Fort Collins local cable channel 14.....                        | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Online video of cable channel 14 on www.fcgov.com/cable14 ..... | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| “City News” (insert with utility bill).....                     | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Word of mouth.....  | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Newspaper (print or online).....                                | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Television.....   | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| Radio.....  | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |
| City booth at local events.....                                 | 1             | 2                 | 3                | 4            |

17. What would be the best way for you to connect with Fort Collins Natural Areas Department?

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18. Taken as a whole, how would you rate the facilities in Fort Collins natural areas? Would you say . . .

- Excellent     Very good     Good     Fair     Poor

19. Please grade the following individual facilities and services, using the letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F (where "A" is the highest grade and "F" is a failing grade).

| What about . . .  | A | B | C | D | F | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------|
| Trail condition .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Trailhead condition .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Number of restrooms .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Condition of restrooms.....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Trash cans .....  | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Directional and informational signs .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Interpretive signs (signs designed to provide educational guidance and deeper appreciation) ..... | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Information provided in brochures .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Information provided in maps .....  | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Ranger services .....   | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Educational activities and events (for example, guided hikes/rides, kids programs) ..             | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |
| Ecological restoration (work to improve wildlife habitat and native plants) .....                 | A | B | C | D | E | DK         |

20. What one change would make your visits to Fort Collins natural areas more enjoyable?

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21. What other comments, if any, would you like to make about City of Fort Collins natural areas?

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**These last questions are about you and your household. Again, all of your responses to this survey are completely anonymous and will be reported in group form only.**

22. Where do you live?

- Within the city limits of Fort Collins  
 Within the city limits of Loveland  
 Other location in Larimer County

23. How many years have you lived in Larimer County?..... \_\_\_\_\_ years

24. Do you rent or own your home?

- Rent     Own

25. Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?

- No     Yes

26. What is your race? (Please check all that apply.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native  
 Asian or Pacific Islander  
 Black or African American  
 White/Caucasian  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

27. What is your gender?

- Male     Female

28. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 1st through 12th grade (No Diploma)  
 High school (Diploma or GED)  
 Some college, no degree  
 2-year or associate college degree  
 Bachelors degree  
 Graduate or professional degree

29. In which category is your age?

- 18-24 years     55-64 years  
 25-34 years     65-74 years  
 35-44 years     75 years or older  
 45-54 years

**Thank you very much for completing this survey. Your opinions and feedback are appreciated. Please return this survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to:**  
**National Research Center, Inc.**  
**PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502**

Dear Larimer County Resident,

Your household has been selected at random to participate in an anonymous survey about the City of Fort Collins natural areas. You will receive a copy of the survey next week in the mail with instructions for completing and returning it. Thank you in advance for helping us with this important study! We really want to know what residents think about the City's natural areas, whether or not they ever visit them.

Sincerely,



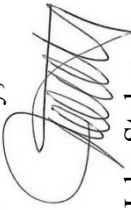
John Stokes,

Director of the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department

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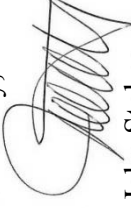
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