



Paul Lake Park Management Plan

Community Survey Summary

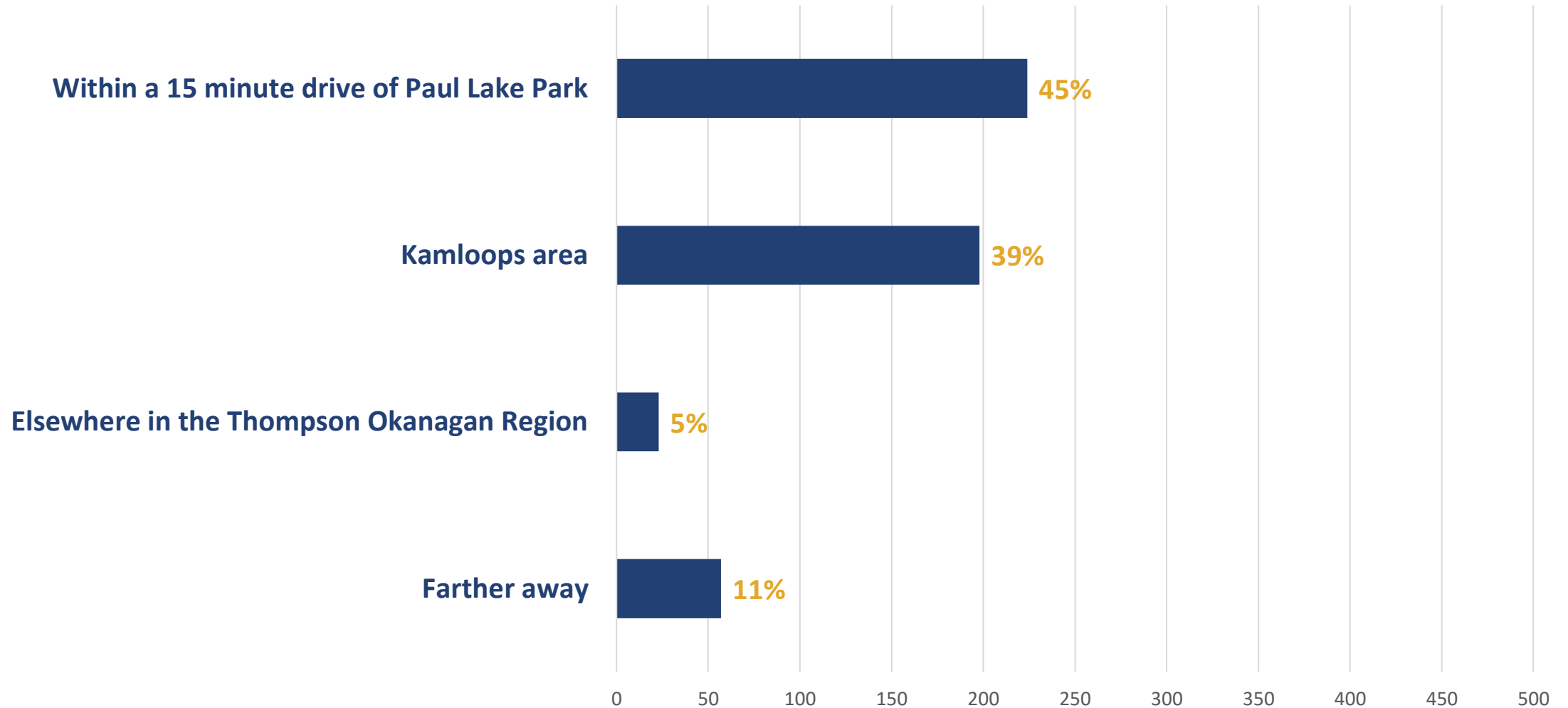
September 2021



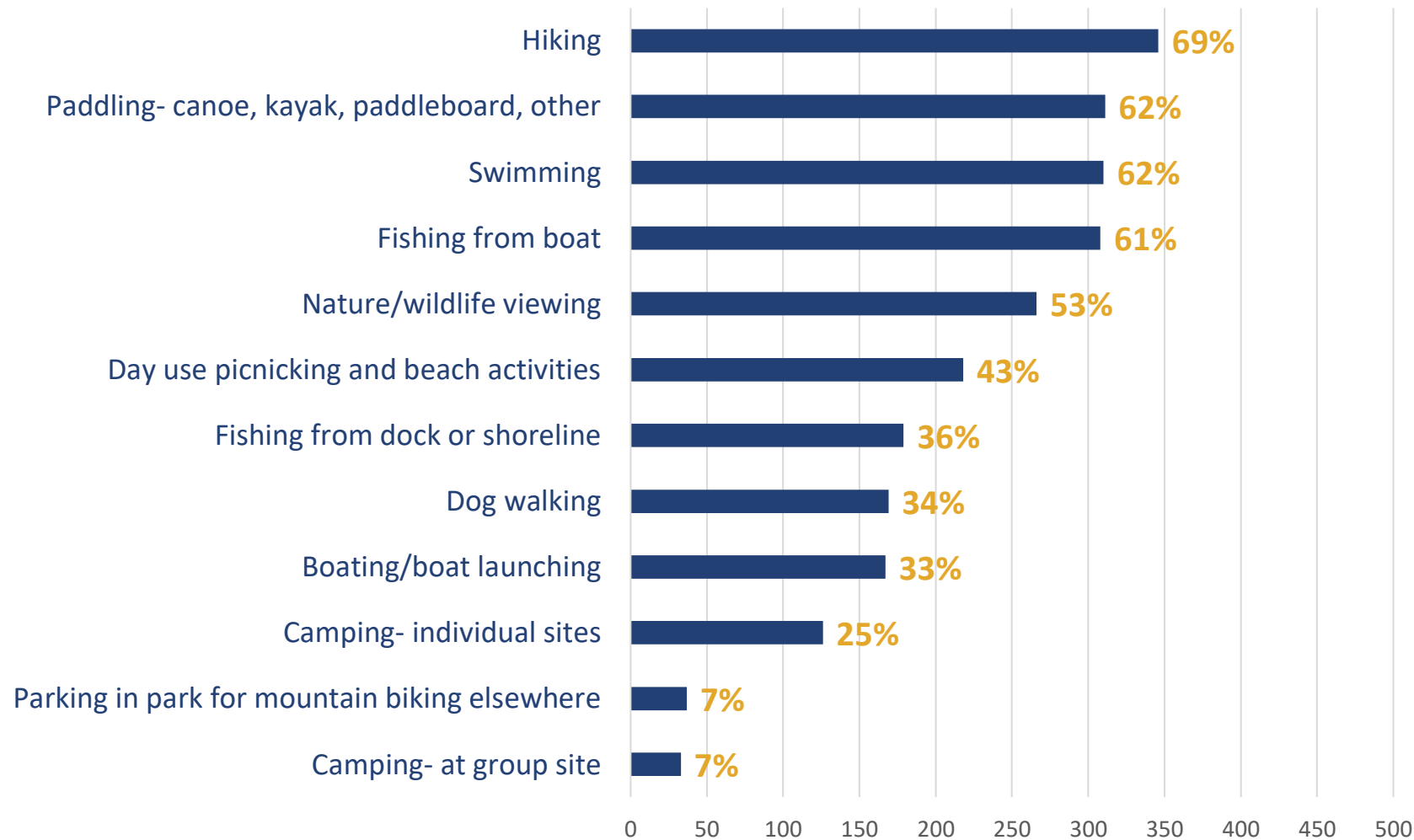
Project Background

BC Parks is replacing the Paul Lake Park Management Plan from 1996. This community survey was hosted on *Let's Talk BC Parks* and the link was publicized on the BC Parks website, Facebook, Instagram, QR codes on signs in the park, and RSS feed. It was open from July 5th to August 15th 2021. In total, there were 509 responses. This presentation summarizes the input received.

Where Respondents Live



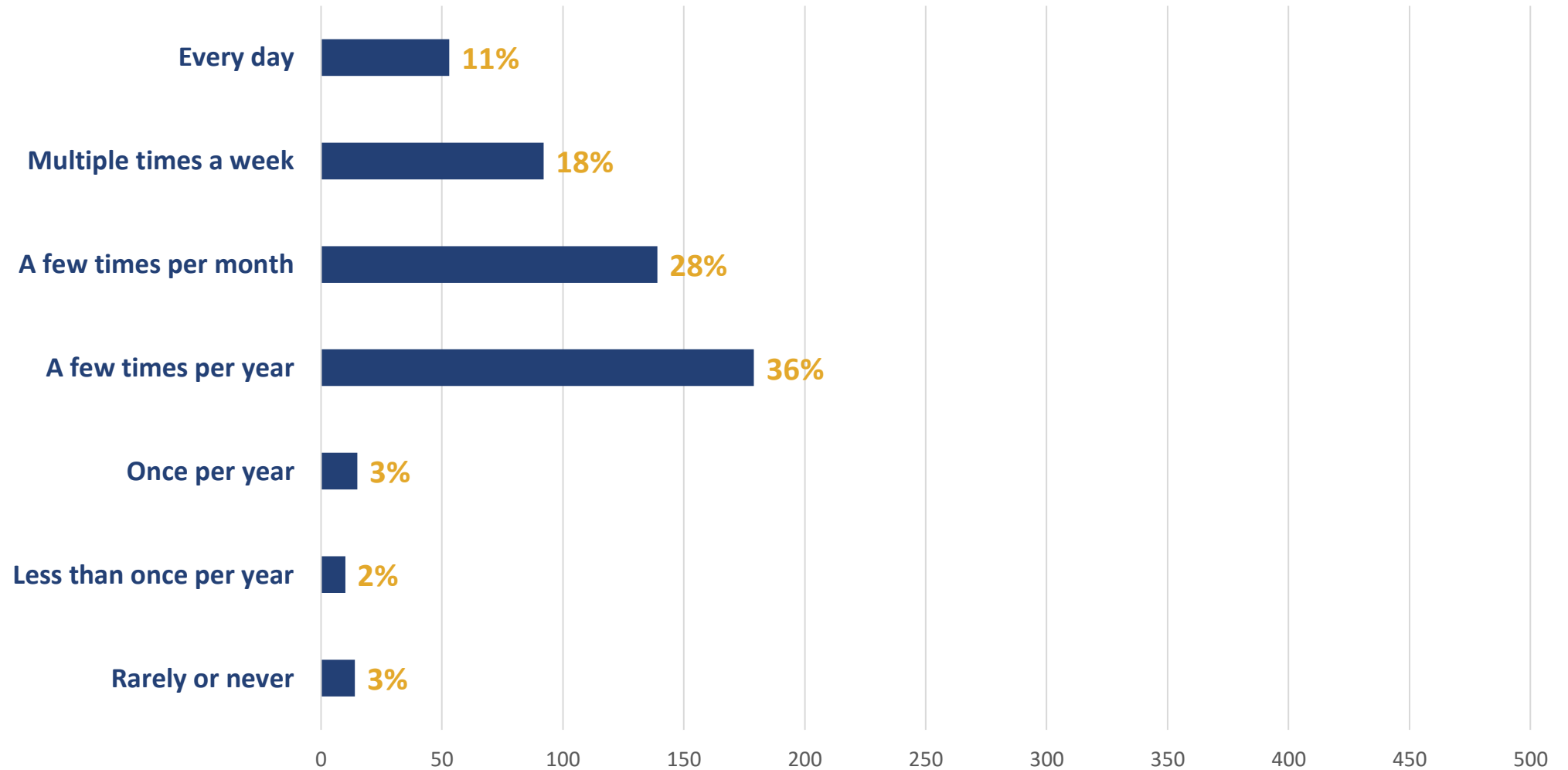
Activities of Respondents in Paul Lake Park



Other:

- Own property (11)
- Live here (11)
- Ice Fishing (7)
- Visit friends and family (4)
- Relaxing (3)
- Photography (3)

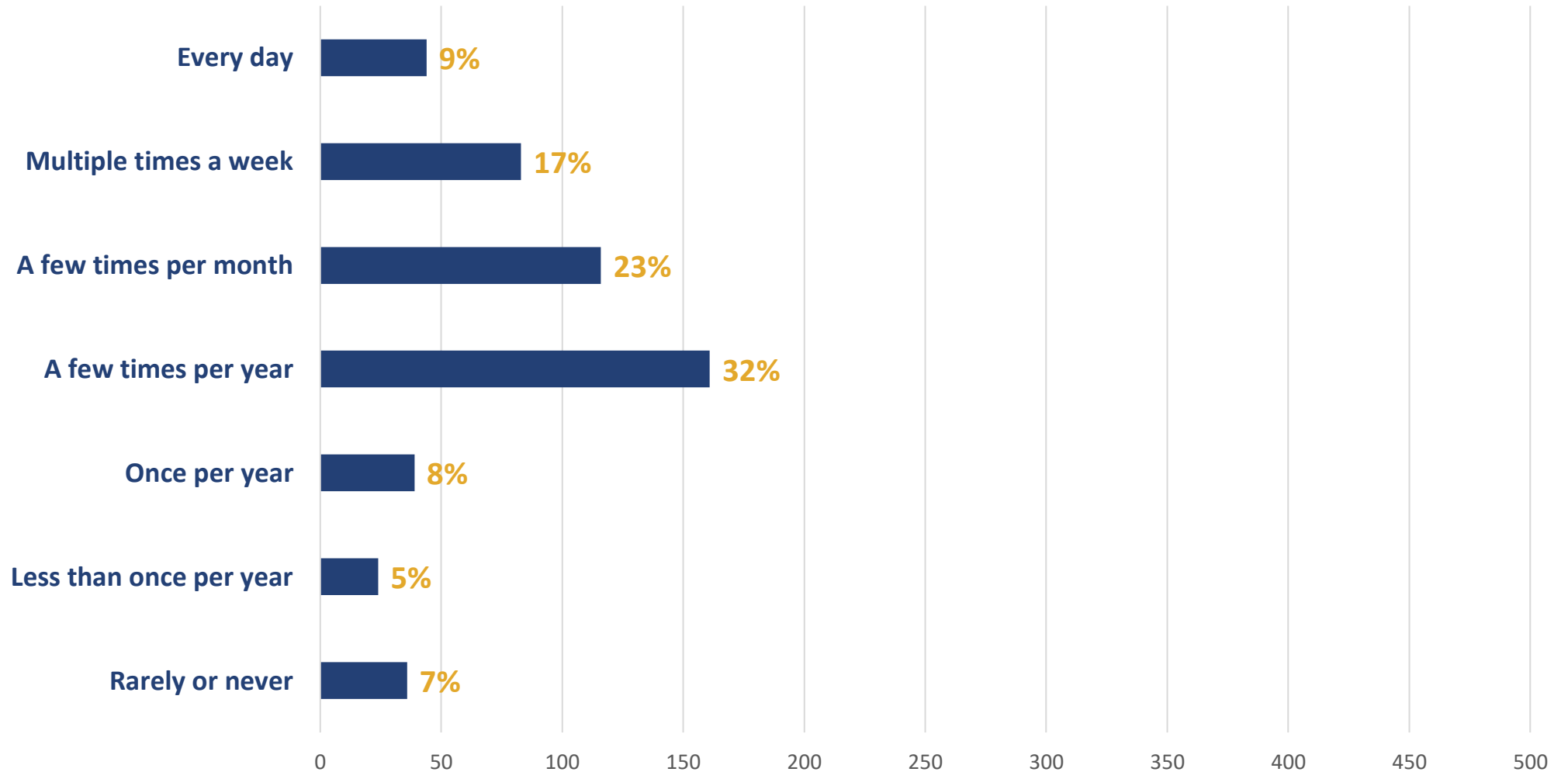
Visit Frequency Prior to COVID-19



Q: How often did you visit Paul Lake Park on average prior to COVID-19?

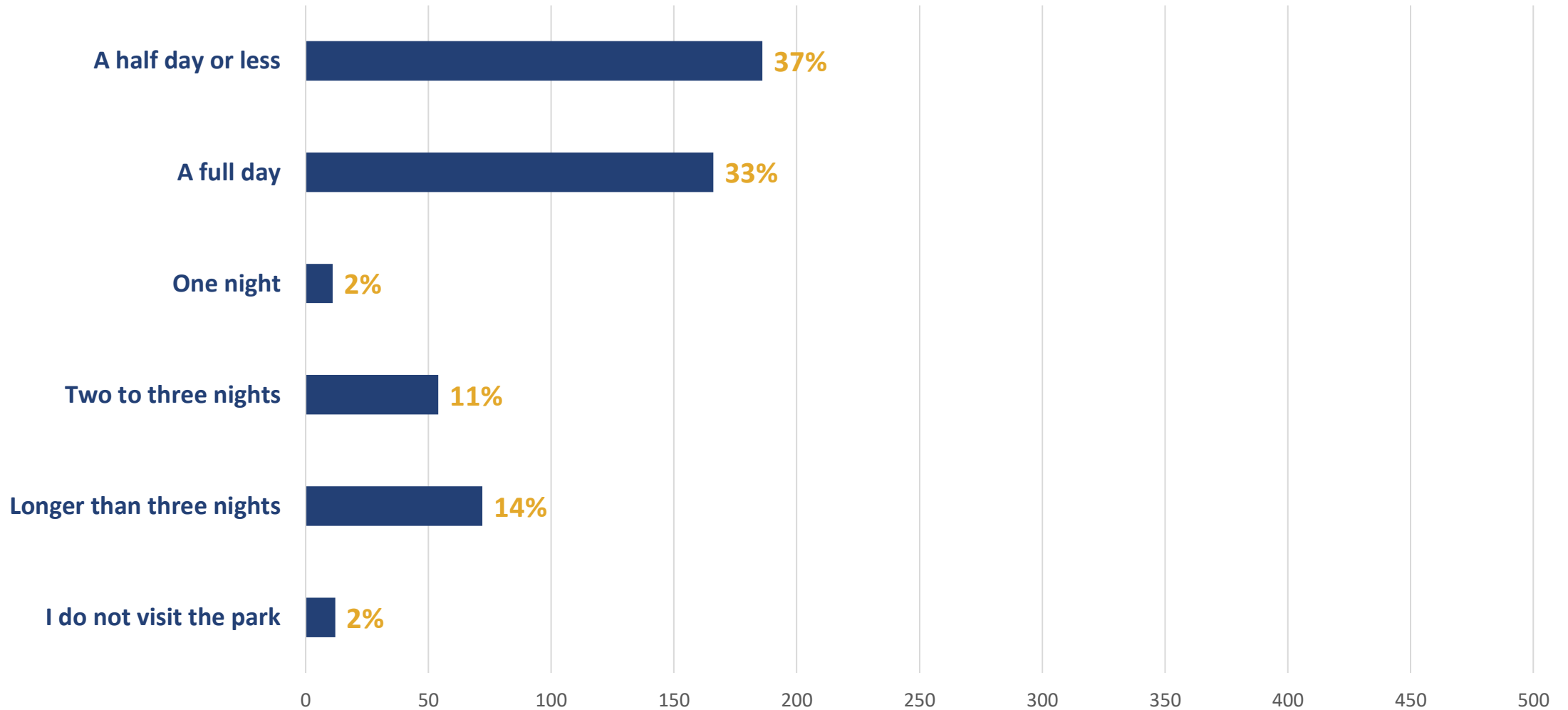
N: 502

Visit Frequency in the Past Year



Q: How often did you visit Paul Lake Park within the past year?
N: 503

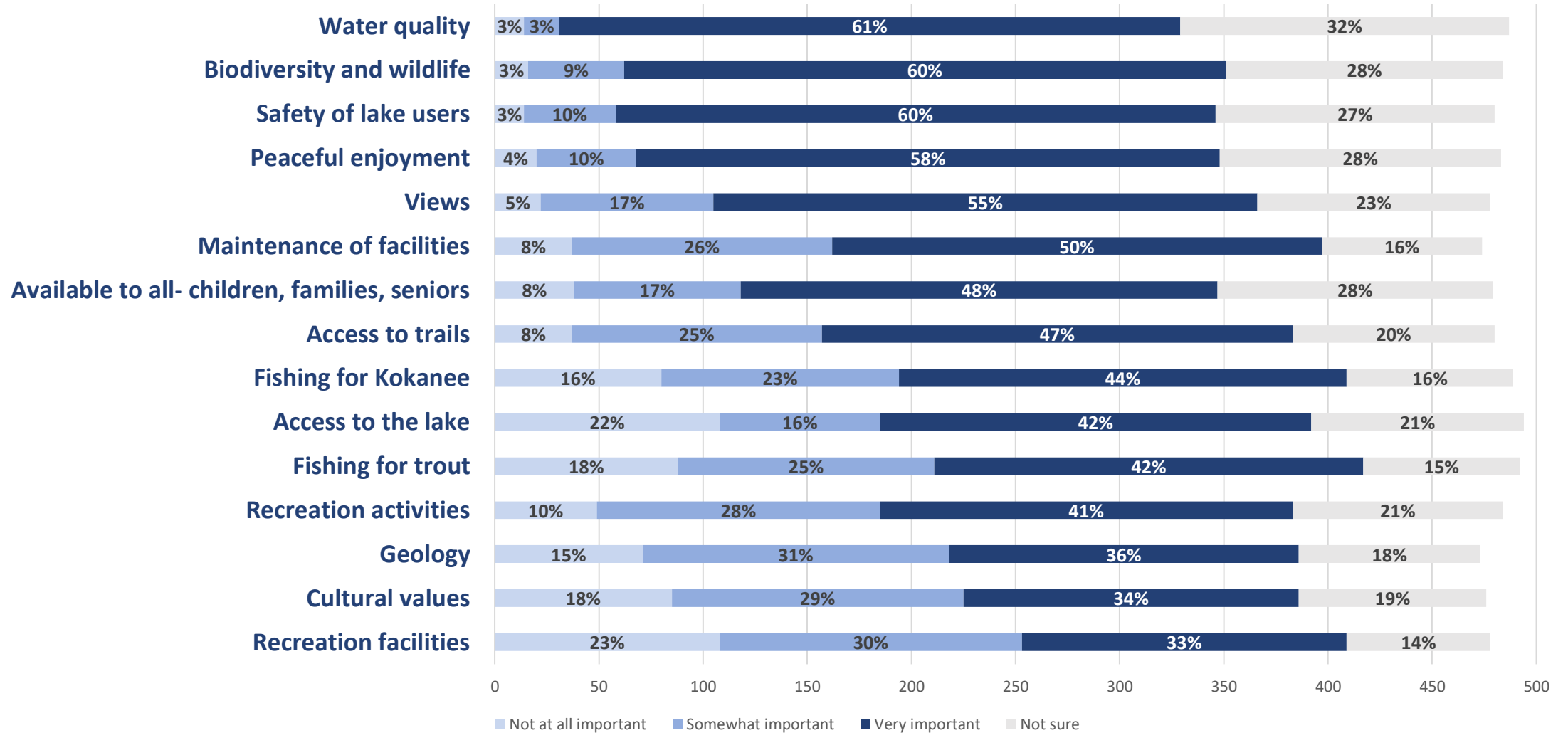
Length of Visit



Q: How long is or was your typical visit?

N: 501

Important Values of Paul Lake Park



Q: What values of Paul Lake Park are important to you?
 N: 474-494 (variable for each row)

Other Values

Theme	Number of Mentions
Environmental Protection (86 comments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect wildlife (27)• Manage shoreline erosion (20)• Protect nesting sites (19)• Prioritize water quality (14)• Limit pollution (6)
Concerns with Motorboats (84 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concerned about safety for other water users (swimming, kayaking, sailing, etc.) (20)• Minimize motorboats on the lake (16)• Wakes / wake boats damage local ecosystems (13)• Lake is too small and narrow to accommodate motorboats (12)• Limit the size of the boats (11)• Too close to urban cores to increase access for motorboats (6)• Limit horsepower allowances (4)• Limit speeds (2)

Q: Are there any other values important to you that are not listed above?

N: 209

Other Values (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Boat Launch Bollards (66 comments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the bollards (35) Keep the bollards in place (31)
Peace and Tranquility (63 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the lake quiet and calm (46) Minimize boat congestion (9) Minimize partying (5) Keep the lake exactly how it is (3)
Equal Access to the Lake (23 comments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility (11) Access for family boating (6) Access for seniors (6)
Maintenance and Upkeep (18 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better garbage management (7) Keep Paul Lake Park clean (4 mentions) Clean the beach from weeds/goose droppings (4 mentions) Trail maintenance (3)
Safety (12 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety for children (5) Better wildfire planning (5) Designated evacuation routes (2)

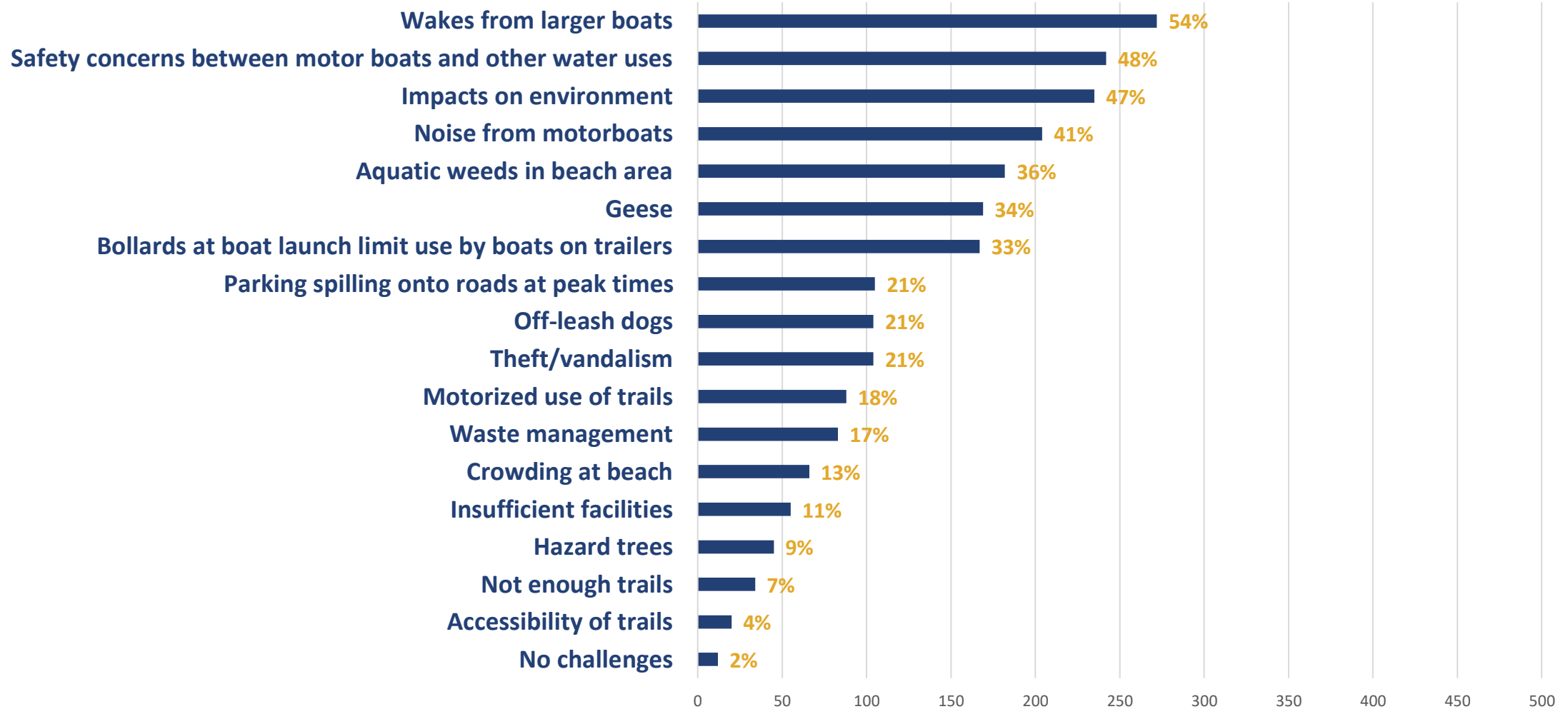
Q: Are there any other values important to you that are not listed above?

N: 209

Other Values (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
First Nations Interests (4 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect Indigenous interests (4)
Other (10 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traffic management (3)• Protect property values in the area (3)• Upgrade facilities (2)• Respect (2)

Challenges of Paul Lake Park



Q: What challenges do you see, if any? (Check all that apply)

N: 503

Other Challenges

Theme	Number of Mentions
Concerns with Motorboats (35 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lake cannot support more motorboats (8)• Boat traffic congestion (6)• Wakes / wake boats damage local ecosystems (4)• Noise (4)• Limit motorboat speeds (4)• Limit motorboat size (4)• Motorboats should not be allowed (3)• Potential for overuse (2)
Environmental Concerns (29 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect nesting sites (8)• Protect wildlife (6)• Protect the environment (5)• Manage shoreline erosion (4)• Protect habitats (3)• Protect bird species (3)

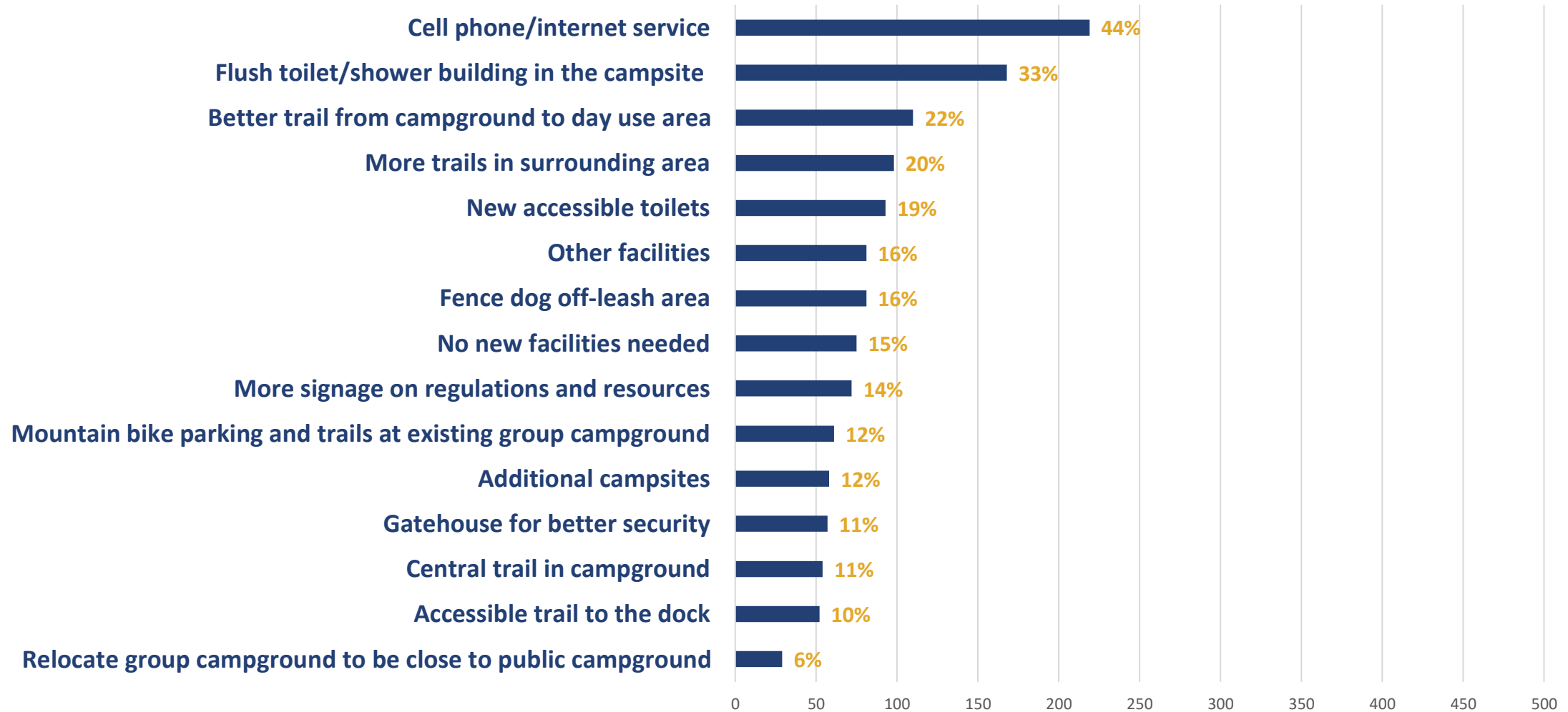
Other Challenges (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Boat Launch Bollards (21 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the bollards in place (18)• Remove the bollards (4)
Safety (16 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritize safety for non-motor activities (5)• Reckless driving (3)• Lack of cell service (2)• Safety for children (2)• Fire risks / ground fuel (2)• Bikes on pedestrian paths (2)
Equal Access to the Lake (11 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lake should be accessible for everyone (not just residents) (5)• Access for people with disabilities (2)• Access for seniors (2)• Upgrades needed for boat launch (2)

Other Challenges (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Cleanliness (7 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Litter management (2)• Weed removal needed (2)• Goose droppings (3)
Other (15 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parking (5)• Unauthorized use (3)• Jet skiers (3)• Stress of day-users (2)• Conflict among user groups (e.g., day users vs campers and boaters vs swimmers and paddlers) (2)

Improvements in Paul Lake Park



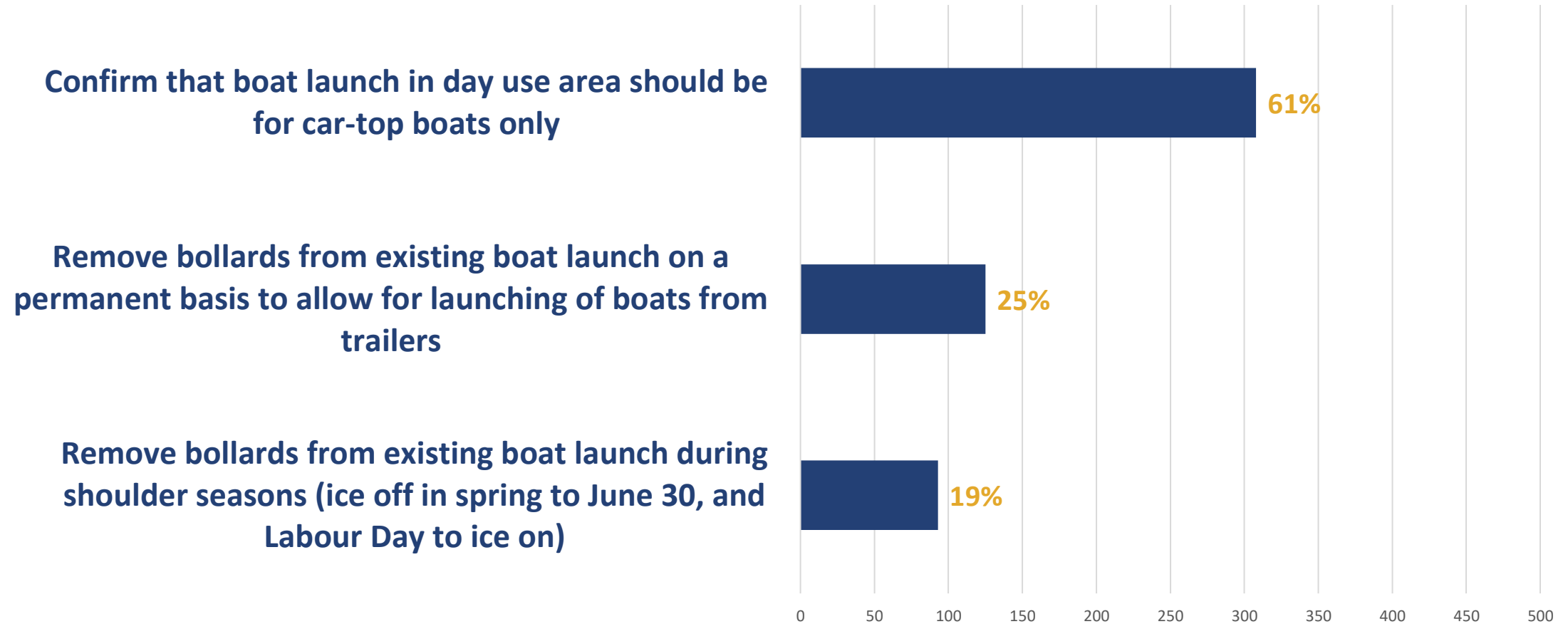
Other Improvements

Theme	Number of Mentions
Boat Launch Bollards (44 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove the bollards (37)• Keep the bollards in place (5)
Facility Improvements (18 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve boat launch (5)• More parking (5)• Irrigate the day use area (2)• Facilities needed on Harper Mountain Road (2)• More campsites (2)• Better serviced campsites (2)
Safety (13 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More signage (no cell service, invasive species, wake damage, nature, nesting sites, swimmers' itch, no motorized use of trails) (9)• Dog management (2)• More park ranger presence (2)

Other Improvements (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Accessibility (10 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to the lake for seniors (4)• Equal access for everyone (not just residents) (2)• Wheelchair access (2)• Extending day-use season for winter access (2)
Trails (10 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More trails (4)• Better trail maintenance (4)• No motorized vehicles on trails (2)
Environment (8 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goose management (3)• Wildfire planning (3)• Protect nature/biodiversity (2)

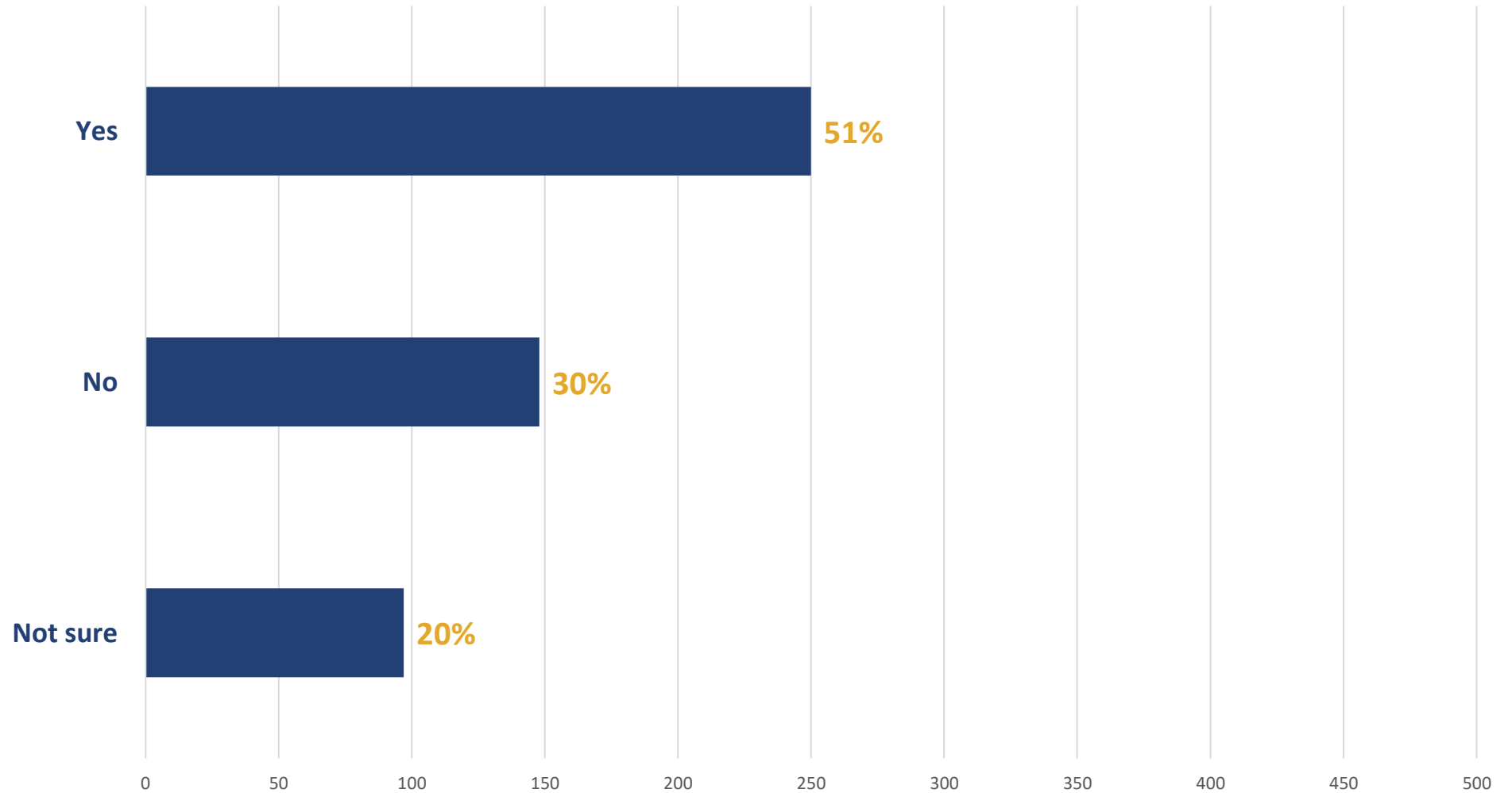
Management Direction and Facilities for Boating



Q: Based on the existing management plan, boat launching in Paul Lake Park is restricted to car-top only in order to provide a quiet and safe experience for day and beach users. This makes it difficult for older people and those with physical disabilities to access good fishing areas in the lake for Kokanee and trout. There have been requests to remove the bollards at the boat launch to enable trailer access. Others are concerned that this could increase the number of motorboats on the lake. BC Parks has no authority to regulate boat speed or type because most of the lake is outside the park. What management direction and facilities for boating would you like to see in Paul Lake Park? (respondents were able to check more than one option)

N: 500 (31 respondents chose two options)

Establishing a Speed Limit



Q: Establishing a boating speed limit (e.g., 20 kph) involves a rigorous process with Transport Canada. Do you think that BC Parks and/or others should encourage this process?
N: 495

Additional Comments or Management Strategies

Theme	Number of Mentions
Concerns with Motorboats (217 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wakes / wake boats damage local ecosystems (39)• Lake is too small and narrow to support more motorboats (34)• Limit speeds (26)• Limit horsepower (23)• There are other nearby lakes for motorboats (21)• Increasing congestion of boat traffic (15)• Ban all motorboats (13)• Proximity to urban core risks overuse (12)• Electric motors only (9)• Limit the number of boats allowed on the lake (9)

Additional Comments or Management Strategies (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Environmental Protection (131 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage shoreline erosion (23)• Protect nesting sites (21)• Protect wildlife (16)• Prioritize water quality (14)• Protect the environment (14)• Protect local bird species (10)• Manage pollution (9)• Protect animal habitat (8)• Weed removal needed (4)• Manage goose droppings (4)• Manage invasive species (3)• Keep it clean (3)• Litter management (2)
Boat Launch Bollards (104 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the bollards in place (76)• Remove the bollards (20)• Slightly widen the bollards (6)• Remove bollards in the shoulder season (2)

Q: Please provide any additional comments on Paul Lake Park and potential management strategies.

N: 266

Additional Comments or Management Strategies (cont'd)

Theme	Number of Mentions
Safety (64 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritize water safety for non-motorized activities (37)• Wildfire planning (7)• More monitors/ park rangers needed (6)• Dog enforcement (3)• Unauthorized uses (3)• Evacuation routes needed (3)• Better signage needed (3)• Cell service needed (2)
Peace and Tranquility (44 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep Paul Lake Park quiet and peaceful (20)• Keep the park the same (12)• Noise is a growing concern (10)• Ban sea-doods (2)
Engagement (12 mentions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback (6)• Include local resident voices in decision-making (6)