



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Evergreen Park

ACRD Park Services 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Bamfield - Waterfront Parcel B

2022 Completed Projects	Ongoing and New 2023 Projects	Future Projects
Multiple Park Services		
Parks and Trails Construction Guidelines	Website Enhancements	Parks Acquisition Policy
	Parks Commission Review and Development of Procedures/Guidelines	Parks Donation and Dedication Policy/Program
	Parks and Trails Volunteer Program	Parks Regulatory Bylaws
	Signage Upgrades	
	Public Access Working Group	
	Signage Design Guidelines	
	Priority Infrastructure Condition Assessments	
Regional Parks		
West Coast Multi-Use Pathway Detailed Design	Log Train Trail Park Management Plan	Hole in the Wall Working Group
Franklin Bridge Concept Design	West Coast Multi-Use Pathway Construction	Franklin Bridge Construction (grant dependent)
Log Train Trail Condition Assessment	China Creek Lease Extension	
	Regional Parks Allocation/Governance Review	
Bamfield Community Parks		
Grappler Wharf Float Replacement	Grappler Wharf Infrastructure Extension	Bamfield Parks Master Plan
Grappler Wharf Boat Launch Works	Grappler Wharf Tenure Expansion	E. Scott Building Renovation
	West Park Revitalization	
	E. Scott Playground Replacement	
	Bamfield Active Transportation Plan	
Beaver Creek Community Parks		
Evergreen Park Bridge	Evergreen Fencing	Nordstrom Park Playground
	Beaver Creek Parks Master Plan	Beaver Creek Kitsuksis Crown Land Trails
Cherry Creek Community Parks		
Maplehurst Park Management Plan	Maplehurst Access Initiatives	Cherry Creek Kitsuksis Crown Land Trails
	Maplehurst Renaming	
Sproat Lake Community Parks		
Lakeshore Pathway Extension	Sproat Lake Active Transportation Plan	Great Central Boat launch upgrades
Cougar Smith Water System Upgrades	Tennis Court Crack Repair	Faber Pathway Extension
	Basketball Court Erosion Repair	Taylor Arm Drive Park Infrastructure
	Cougar Smith Drainage Landscaping	Sproat Lake Parks Master Plan

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Beaver Creek - Evergreen Park

2022 in Review

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) parks services began collecting trail counter data in March of 2022 at 13 locations at ACRD trails. By utilizing this data, we are able to estimate that the total traffic for these 13 counter locations was 105,112 from March – December of 2022. The ACRD and formal volunteers also constructed 2.5 km of new trail within the Sproat Lake and Bamfield communities. Throughout the region over 50 volunteers contributed an estimated 2,450 hours to stewardship, trail maintenance, governance and other park initiatives.

Background and History

The ACRD established its regional parks service in 1970 and operates 5 community park services: Beaver Creek Community Parks, Cherry Creek Community Parks, Sproat Lake Community Parks, Bamfield Community Parks and Long Beach Community Parks.

Regional Parks can have a variety of roles, but their key objectives are to meet the outdoor recreation needs of the region, while containing regionally unique environmental features, and contributing to attracting tourism as a regional destination. Community parks are designed to serve residents within their local area, providing outdoor recreation opportunities and promoting a sense of community. Regional Parks are funded by the entire Regional District and Community Parks are funded by the individual electoral areas in which they are located. The ACRD currently owns and/or operates six Regional Parks and twenty-seven Community Parks.

Advisory community park commissions exist in Electoral Areas A (Bamfield) and D (Sproat Lake), both of which have popular multi-use neighborhood parks. Sproat Lake also has a community trail system. The ACRD may delegate to these Parks Commissions any or all of the administrative powers with respect to the use, management, improvement, operation, and control of park property held by the ACRD.

Mission Statement

“The ACRD will work with all citizens to be good stewards of our environment and to provide safe and welcoming opportunities to play, learn, contemplate, and build community.”

Goals:

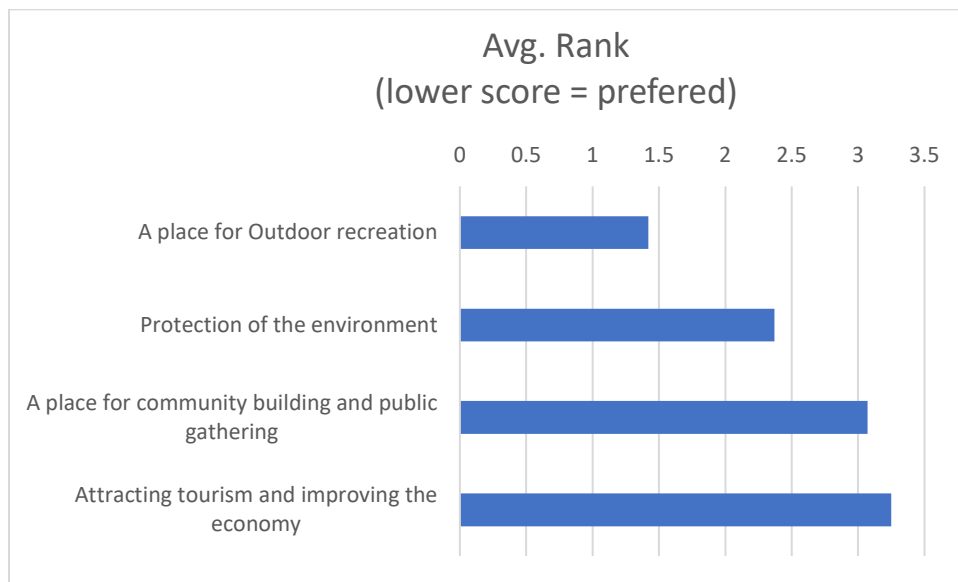
1. Positive Impact – improve quality of life, promote healthy lifestyles, contribute to the economic and environmental wellbeing of the community and region
2. Operations/Service Levels – Park and trail user experience meets the needs and expectations of the community/parkshed
3. Acquisition – Represent and protect an array of regionally significant natural and cultural areas
4. Infrastructure – Build and maintain infrastructure to ensure safety and environmental sustainability
5. Community Engagement – Engage the community to provide an opportunity for full participation to guide the development of the parks and trails, build community, volunteerism, and increase awareness.

Positive Impact

Goal: Improve quality of life, promote healthy lifestyles, contribute to the economic and environmental wellbeing of the community and region

Positive Impact Measurable 1: Benefits

One job of the ACRD Parks services is to recognize, measure and promote the benefits ACRD parks bring to their communities. Within the 2022 Log Train Trail Management Plan Online Survey some general Regional Parks Service questions were included. When asked what you value most about ACRD Regional Parks and Trails the overwhelming highest ranked answer was 'A place for outdoor recreation'.



Although there is a lack of current relevant local data, there have been a significant number of studies and works completed that demonstrate the benefits of parks and trails which are applicable to the ACRD. This information is summarized below:

ACRD parks provide health and environmental benefits.

- Parks are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.
- Parks contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- According to studies by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, creating, improving, and promoting places to be physically active can improve individual and community health and result in a 25 percent increase of residents who exercise at least three times per week.
- A study by Penn State University showed significant correlations to reductions in stress, lowered blood pressure, and perceived physical health to the length of stay in visits to parks.
- Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

ACRD parks provide Economic Value.

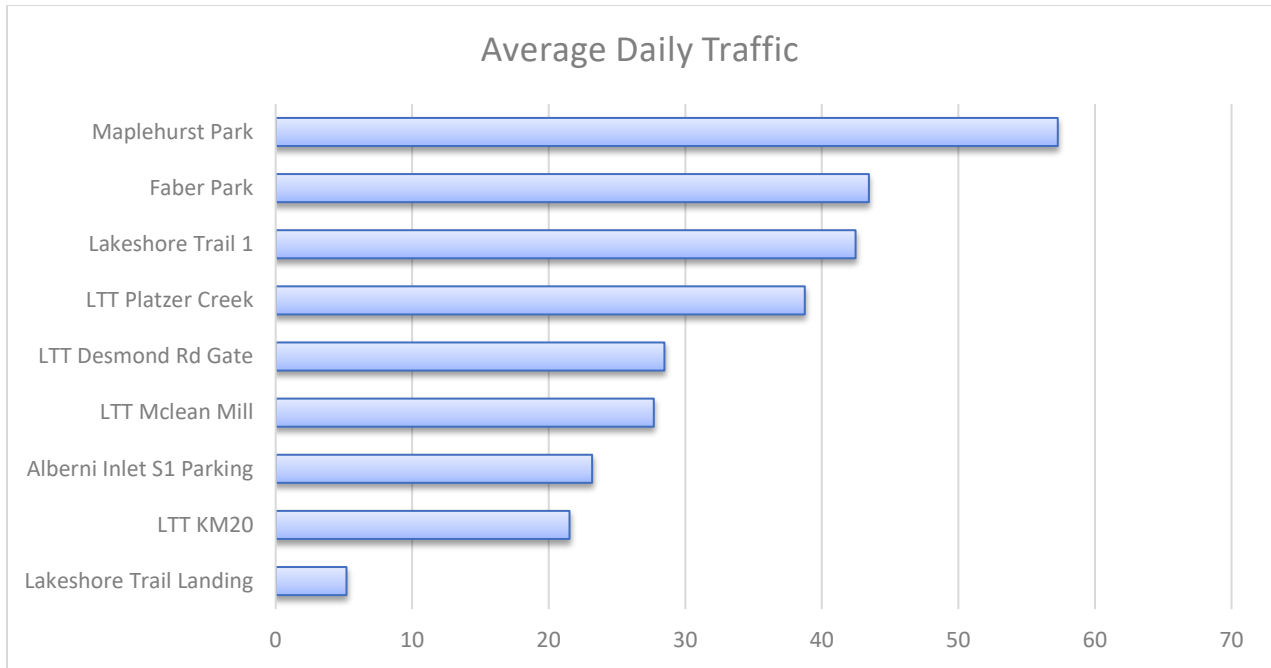
- Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the value of privately owned land the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.
- Quality parks and recreation are cited as one of the top three reasons that businesses cite in relocation decisions in a number of studies.
- Parks provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies. Economic activity from hospitality expenditures, tourism, fuel, recreational equipment sales, and many other private sector businesses is of true and sustained value to local and regional economies.

ACRD parks provide Social Importance.

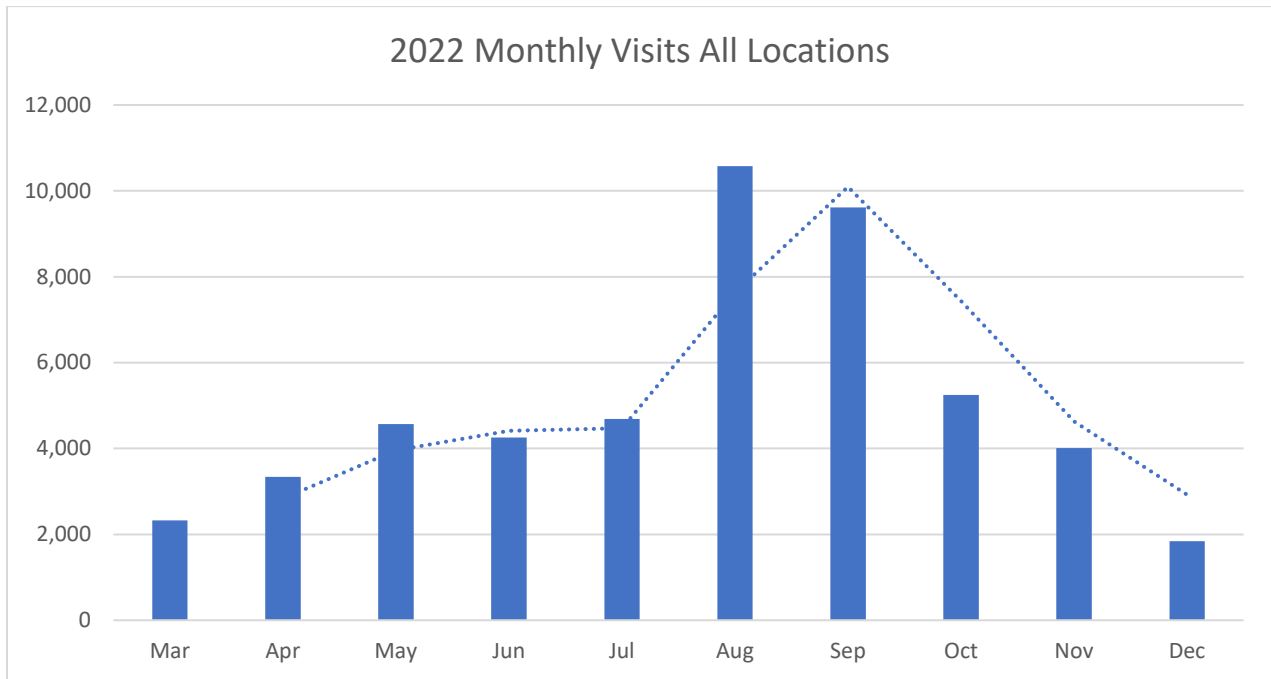
- Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.
- Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.
- Parks and recreation programs provide places for health and well-being that are accessible by persons of all ages and abilities, especially to those with disabilities.
- Access to parks and recreation opportunities have been strongly linked to reductions in crime and to reduced juvenile delinquency.
- Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to the community.

Positive Impact Measurable 2: Park and Trail use trends

The ACRD has recently started using 2 types of trail counters. The first and most common is an Infrared Trail counter which counts people, walkers, hikers, joggers, horseback riders, cyclists etc. It senses and detects the infrared wavelength that people emit as they pass the counter. The second is an Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) counter which counts vehicles such as ATVs, quads, motorcycles, 4x4s, bicycles etc. This counter utilizes a magnetometer to detect when one of these vehicles passes. These counters are a good tool to better understand park use and visitation trends, but the data should only be utilized as an indicator as it may not represent 100% accurate verified counts. The graph below shows average daily traffic from infrared counters at specific locations where trail counters were set up in 2022.



The trail counter data is valuable to see seasonal trends as shown below



An example of further detailed trail counter information is attached as Appendix A for the Log Train Trail at the McClean Mill intersection.

Positive Impact Measurable 2: Number of non-community members traveling to use parks and trails

The Alberni-Clayoquot region holds unique and scenic geography which makes it a highly popular destination for domestic and international visitors and has the potential for an abundance of outdoor activities for residents and tourists alike. As a regional government, park services utilize our spectacular landscape to enhance quality of life, promote the region as a desirable location for business, and be environmental stewards of our natural environment and resources. Parks play a vital role in the social, economic, and physical wellbeing of ACRD residents and its communities.

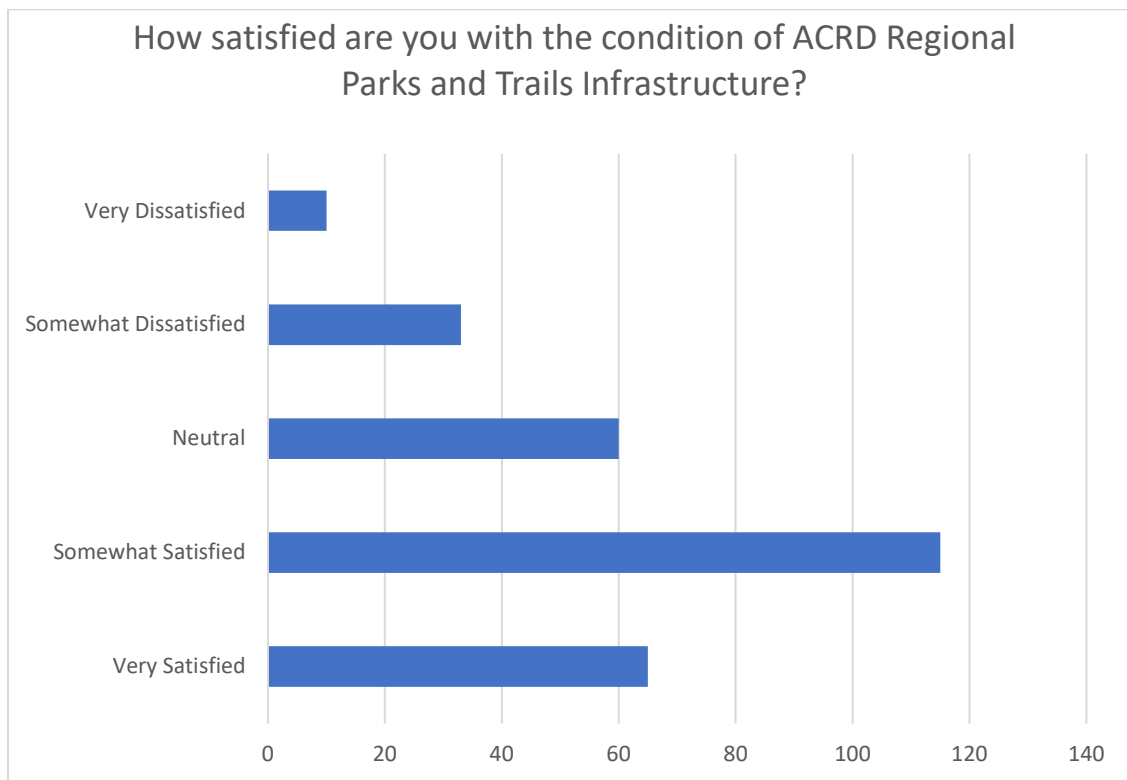
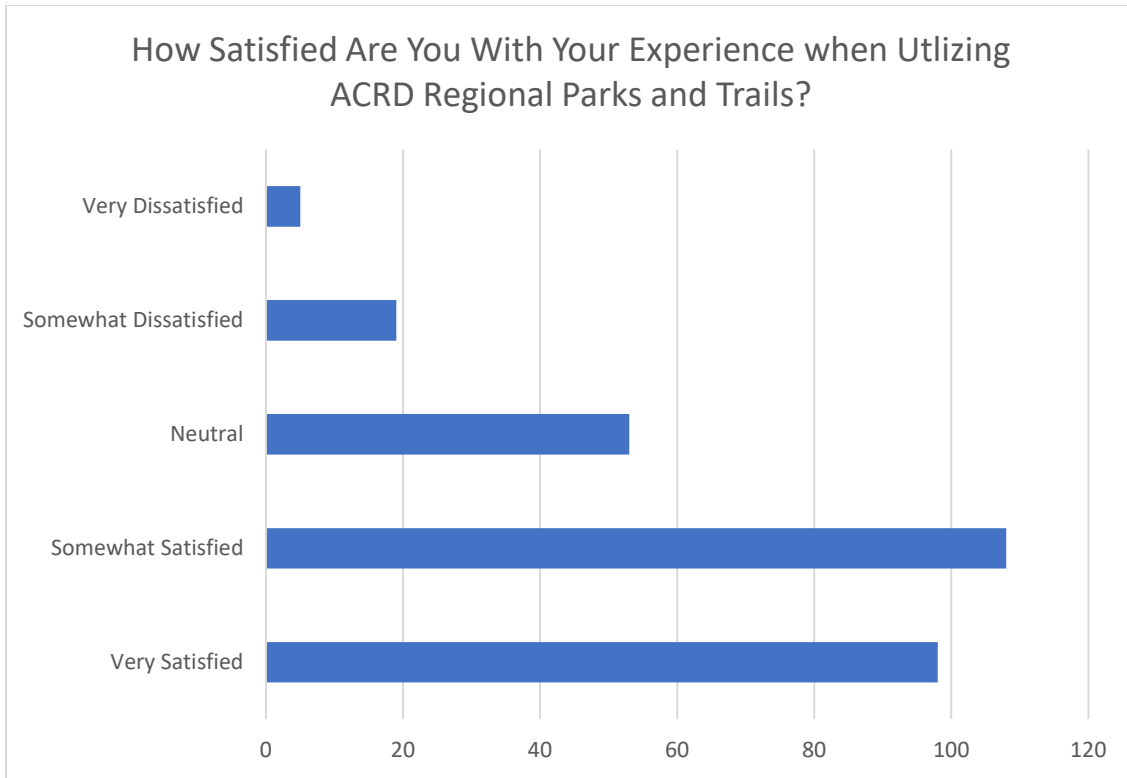
Operations/Service Levels

Goal: Park and trail user experience meets the needs and expectations of the community/parkshed

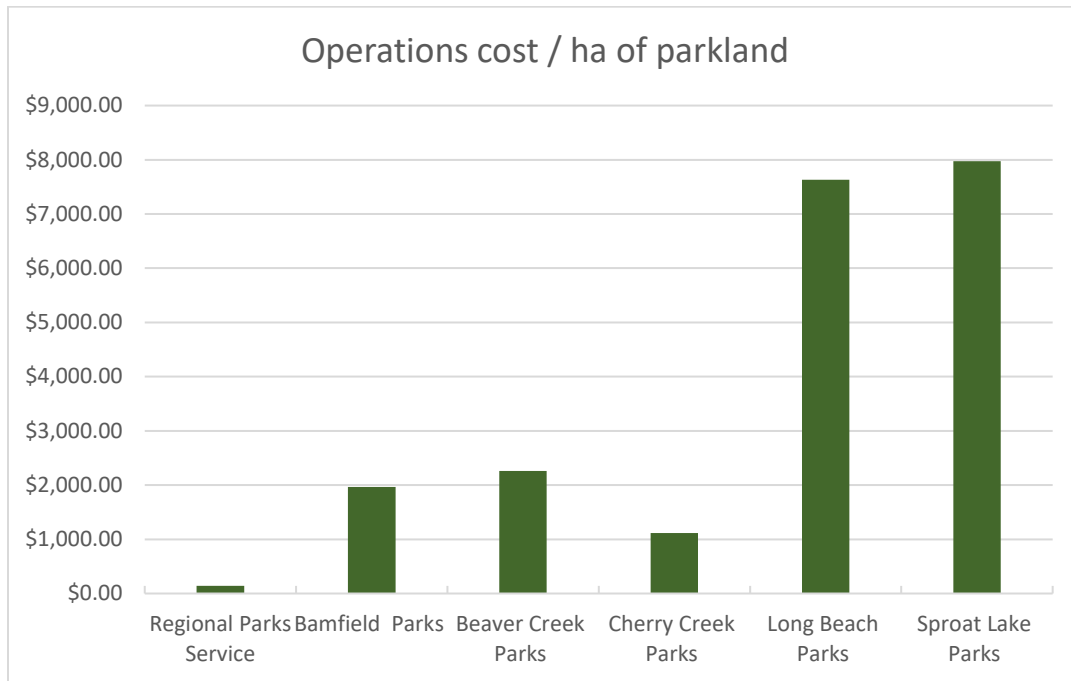
Operations/Service Levels Measurable 1: User Satisfaction Score

User Satisfaction is strongly related to a user’s expectations for what experience they will have at a given park or trail. To meet customer expectations and achieve sustainable service delivery, the ACRD Board approved specific Level of Service (LOS) Categories for each park and trail in 2021. Level of Service were established based on the ACRD policy objectives, community expectations, legislative requirements, and resource constraints. They ranged from Level 1: which is the highest level of service for high profile parks with intensive public use; to Level 4: which is no routine maintenance for inactive parkland parcels. The LOS Categories are detailed in Appendix C.

Level Of Service	Parks
Level 1	West Coast Multi Use Pathway (Under Construction)
Level 2	China Creek Regional Park, Salmon Beach Public Square, Eileen Scott Park, West Park, Cougar Smith Park, Faber Park, Faber Road Trail, Lakeshore Road Trail, Cherry Creek Pathway, Nordstrom Park
Level 3	Alberni Inlet Trail, Log Train Trail, Mount Arrowsmith Regional Park, Eagle Bay, West Coast Magic Park, Boat Launch Great Central Lake, Maplehurst Park and Trails
Level 4	Willowbrae Park, South Bamfield Park, Hatchery Park, Sander Park, Bishop Park, Klitsa Park, Highland Park, Karen Place Plark, Chase Park



Operations/Service Levels Measurable 2: Cost per km/m² for maintenance/operations.



The above table illustrates operations cost per hectare of parkland. Many variables contribute to determine this, but the most significant variable is level of service. For example, the Cherry Creek Parks service is comprised of mostly Maplehurst Park which holds a large area of natural forest with little to no infrastructure and requires a low level of service as the trails have been maintained by volunteers. Whereas the Sproat Lake Parks service is mostly comprised of developed parkland (Cougar Smith, Faber, Lakeshore and Faber Trails) which have a higher level of service along with contracted maintenance.

For more in depth information please see Appendix A – Park Service Data Sheet

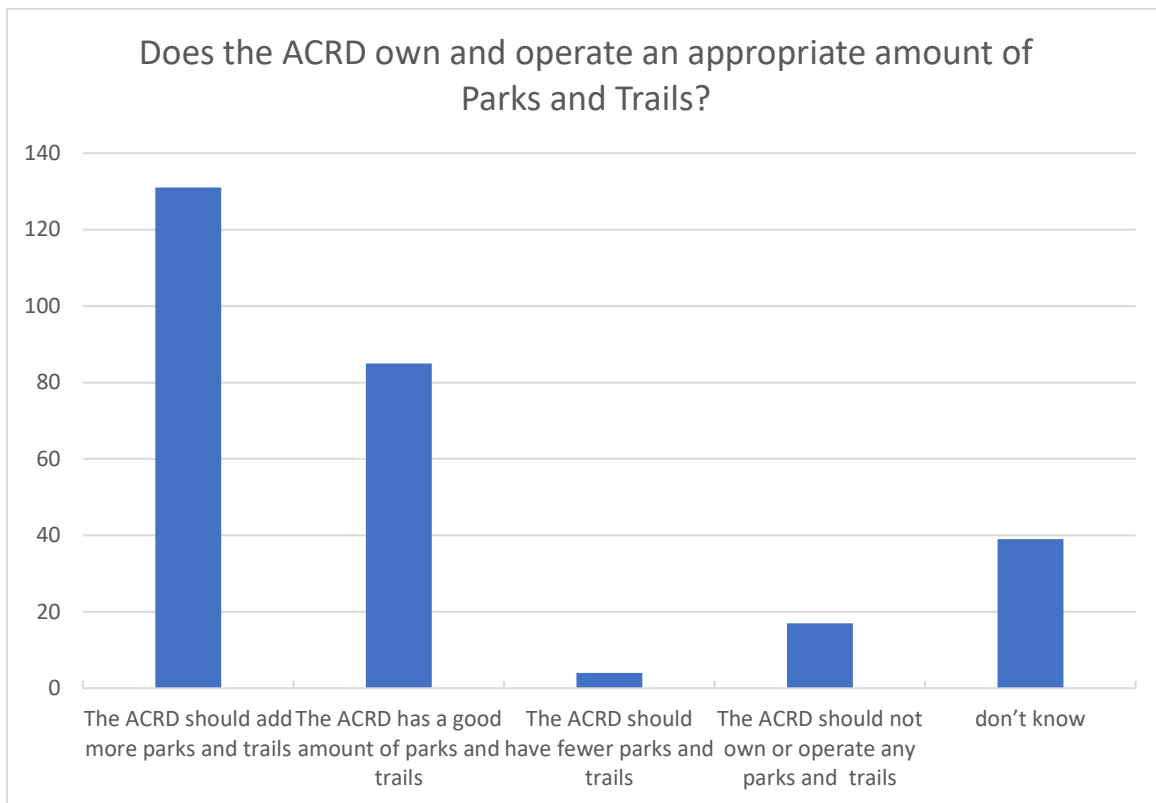
Staff polled current volunteers from the Bamfield Parks Commission, Sproat Lake Parks Commission, Alberni Valley Outdoor Club, Backcountry Horsemen – Alberni Chapter and the Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Island Section. These organizations were asked to provide a brief description of volunteer contributions within ACRD Parks as well as estimated total volunteer hours, donated materials, equipment hours and supplies. Through these discussions it was estimated that 2,450 hours of volunteer labour by over 50 volunteers was dedicated to the operations and maintenance of parks and trails owned or operated by the ACRD in 2022. It is a challenge to place a dollar value and account for the true benefits the ACRD parks services and its communities receive from volunteers. Of note: each volunteer organization expressed the concern that the average age of volunteers is high and continues to rise. Without an influx of additional volunteers from a younger generation, there is a risk that many of the current volunteers will age out of their programs soon, resulting in these organizations dedicating less time spent performing the operations and maintenance of ACRD Parks and Trails. This would result in lowered LOS or the requirement for the ACRD to fund these works in order to maintain existing LOS.

Acquisition

Goal: Represent and protect an array of regionally significant natural and cultural areas

Acquisition Measurable 1: acquisition of new regional or culturally significant park land.

There were 0 hectares of parkland/trail acquired in 2022. The addition of parkland under an ACRD parks service must demonstrate that it benefits the community or region in helping to achieve economic, social, and environmental goals. When the opportunity to acquire parkland occurs, the following should be considered: existing parkland inventory, natural features and public open space in addition to local preferences for parkland, impacts on taxes, impacts on sustainability, and impacts on developable land. The ACRD requires parkland dedication through the subdivision process where it meets stated parkland planning objectives/goals for the area and only considers cash in lieu of parkland where the provision of land for a park is not ideal.



The development of an ACRD Parkland acquisition policy is needed to consistently achieve the above mentioned goal and better guide organizational strategic parkland acquisitions in the future.

Infrastructure

Goal: Build and maintain infrastructure to ensure safety and environmental sustainability

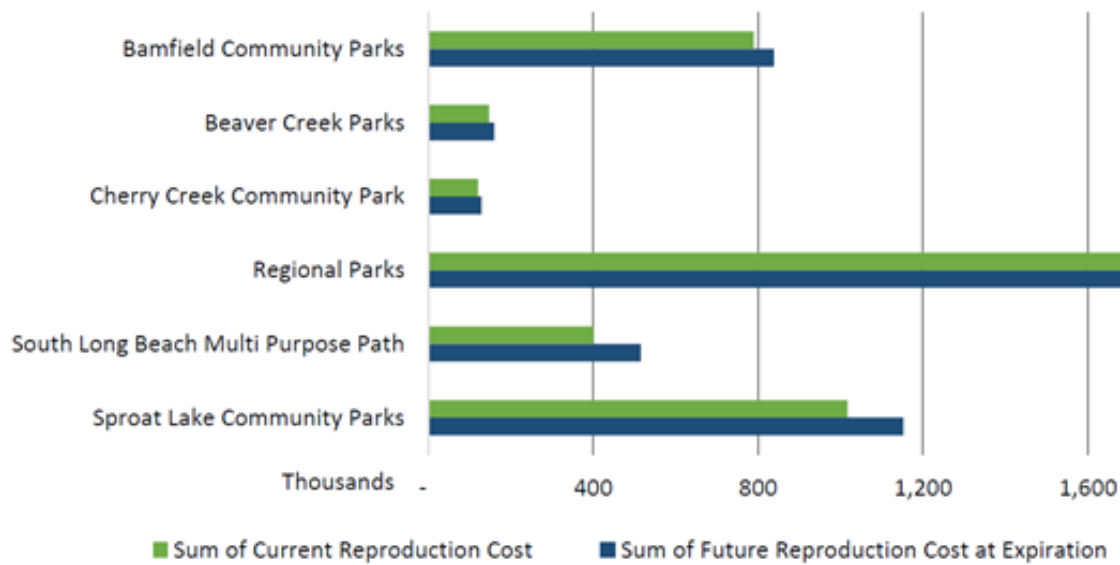
Infrastructure Measurable 1: Infrastructure meets adopted standards

Service Name	2021 Census pop	Asset Replacement Value	Asset Replacement Value/Person	# of Parks in Service	Park Area	Ha/1,000 People	Trails and Pathways
Regional Parks Service	31,731	\$1,582,600	\$49.88	6	614.40 Ha	19.36	52.09 km
Bamfield Community Parks	256	\$788,900	\$3,081.64	7	8.46 Ha	33.05	0.35 km
Beaver Creek Community Parks	2,946	\$147,000	\$49.90	6	6.66 Ha	2.26	1.83 km
Cherry Creek Community Parks	1,977	\$119,760	\$60.58	2	14.97 Ha	7.57	2.36 km
Long Beach Community Parks	875	\$400,000	\$457.14	2	0.93 Ha	1.06	2.70 km
Sproat Lake Community Parks	1,843	\$1,016,600	\$551.60	10	10.57 Ha	5.74	6.66 km
Total		\$4,054,860		33	655.98 Ha		65.99 km

In September of 2021 the ACRD Board adopted the Parks Asset Management Plan (AMP). The purpose of the AMP was to better guide the Board, management and staff in decision-making, sustainable service delivery, and proactivity versus reactivity.

Prior to the AMP's creation, an Asset Registry was created in which component valuations, approximate expiration dates, and condition assessments were used to calculate required annual financial contribution from requisition and parcel tax in order to maintain desired levels of service. Maintaining and updating of this asset registry will be informed by pursuing updated condition assessments, and improving asset data collection standards and practices.

Figure 1.2 - Current and Future Replacement Costs by Service Area



Parks infrastructure has a total current replacement value of \$4.05 million. This does not include a contingency for construction, engineering, financial, legal or administration costs. Subject to inflation, the estimated future replacement costs are \$4.44 million for current infrastructure at the end of the components estimated service life.

Infrastructure Measurable 3: Safety Incidents

The ACRD received 5 complaints and 5 reports of an incident within their parks services in 2022. It is believed that there is underreporting from the public regarding this statistic. Staff hope to focus efforts to improve signage and communications to encourage public feedback as well as report any observed concerns or incidents within ACRD parks.

As per the Park and Playground Inspection and Maintenance Policy.

- All 5 ACRD playgrounds received comprehensive inspections twice during the 2022 calendar year.
- Staff conducting Playground inspections are certified through the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association.
- All ACRD Parks general infrastructure is inspected by staff conducting routine maintenance and repairs and does not follow a set schedule.

The Municipal Insurance Association (MIA) performed a loss control inspection at Cougar Smith Park, Faber Park, Great Central Lake Boat Launch, and Evergreen Park. These inspections are intended to identify potential sources of risk and liability. A number of low to medium priority concerns were identified which staff have incorporated into the operations workplan to address.

Community Engagement

Goal: Engage the community to provide an opportunity for full participation to guide the development of the parks and trails, build connection and volunteerism, and increase awareness.

The ACRD Parks Services have been built and continue to thrive due to dedicated local community volunteers who value their local parks and trails. The continued development and growth of ACRD Parks requires thoughtful input and advice regarding acquisition, development and care of local parks and trails from local users, neighbors, and the community as a whole. ACRD parks services are a space where local residents have a say and can be involved in building the local parks and trails that best serve their community.

Community Engagement Measurable 1: Volunteers

Within the general Regional Parks Service questions from the Log Train Trail online survey, 41.7% of respondents answered, 'I have not volunteered within ACRD parks but would be interested in doing so'.

Parks Commissions

The ACRD has two community parks commissions one in Bamfield and one in Sproat Lake. These commissions provide advice and contribute volunteer organization and hours towards the following parks matters pertaining to their specific Electoral Area community parks functions:

- Annual Parks Budget
- Park and Trail Development
- Park Amenities
- Parkland Acquisition Opportunities
- Park Volunteer Engagement and Direction
- Community Park Events
- Being aware of and representing the views of the community
- Responding to matters in partnership with ACRD staff

Parks Commissions provide a formal structure and processes for the community to participate and provide input into their community parks services. Establishing formal procedures and structure for ACRD Parks Commissions will ensure these commissions are effective, and volunteer hours are being used efficiently.

If dedicated volunteers are available the Park Commission model can be created for other Community Parks services where a parks commission is absent (Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek, West Coast)

Other Local Community Groups/Volunteers

A substantial portion of volunteer hours spent within ACRD parks and trails are done by local community groups whose focus extends beyond just ACRD Parks. These groups include the Backcountry Horsemen Society, the Alberni Outdoor Club, Bamfield Community Affairs, and the Alpine Club of Canada plus many other informal community groups. These groups, under their own initiatives, have taken on activities to enhance or maintain certain aspects of ACRD Parks. Supporting these groups in their activities and formalizing a relationship with the ACRD ensures that these activities are meeting the

needed established standards required of a local government, as well as establishing processes for the consideration of proposed initiatives and projects.

Community Engagement Measurable 2: Public Participation in Engagement Activities

There are many avenues of community engagement for ACRD parks such as parks commissions, other local community groups, open houses, or tools such as letsconnectacrd.ca, surveys and social media.

Park Management Plans

The process of creating Park Management plans relies on meaningful public engagement to guide the long term vision and management priorities for specific parks. This process utilizes tools such as letsconnectacrd.ca, open houses, surveys, stakeholder interviews etc. in an effort to receive a full understanding of the broad communities wishes, concerns, preferences, and ideas. ACRD Parks have identified 8 prioritized parks and park services to develop management plans for over the next 4 years, and the goal is to develop a management plan every 6 months. They will also be routinely engaging with the public on specific park management initiatives.

Between January and May 2022, the ACRD engaged the public and stakeholders in the park management planning process for Maplehurst Park through an online survey, site meetings, interviews and a public open house, receiving 251 online survey responses, and 24 in-person stakeholder interviews. The information collected through this engagement formed the basis of the plan and recommendations were developed for short, medium, and long-term improvements for signage, access, community involvement and maintenance. Key themes that emerged from the public engagement events were:

- Keep the park the way it is/keep it natural
- Prioritize protecting sensitive ecosystems when it comes to allocating park budgets
- Improve wayfinding
- Improve the parking situation at the end of Willow Road by developing and providing parking at other access points, in particular at Kitsuksis Road
- Improve access to the park from the Cherry Creek neighbourhood
- Increase connectivity between the park trail system and other community trails
- Protect the trails on the adjacent Crown lands
- Expand the park
- Build relationships with First Nations
- Work collaboratively with the woodlot tenure holder to develop trails and access points.

In September of 2022, the ACRD began the Log Train Trail Management Plan with an online public survey and an open house event completed by the end of 2022. The survey received 286 responses and the open house had 65 attendees sign in with many more attendees having not signed in. More public engagement events on this project are planned in 2023. During the online public survey 10 additional questions were asked regarding the Regional Parks Service in general, these questions were designed to help guide Regional Parks Operations and Development. The results of those questions are included **within Appendix B.**

Completed 2022 Projects

Maplehurst Park Management Plan – K. Albert Consulting has prepared the Maplehurst Park Management Plan after collecting and compiling background research, First Nations engagement,

stakeholder engagement, and public consultation. The draft plan was presented to the Committee of the Whole on June 29th for feedback which was incorporated into the final proposed management plan. This plan was then referred to First Nations and posted online for public comment. The final plan was updated to reflect the received public comments and was adopted by the ACRD Board along with staff recommendations for project options.

Evergreen Park Bridge – The Evergreen Park Bridge project was 100% funded through the IBA-ICIP (Integrated Bilateral Agreement for the Investing in Canada infrastructure Program) and the installation of the structure was completed in August of 2022. An inspection by the Municipal Insurance Association in September of 2022 recommended fencing requirements at each end of the bridge to address liability concerns. Remaining funds available through IBA-ICIP were allocated to construct this fencing.

Lakeshore Pathway Extension – The Lakeshore Pathway Extension was 100% funded through the IBA-ICIP (Integrated Bilateral Agreement for the Investing in Canada infrastructure Program). This extension added 1.2 km of crushed gravel pathway to the Sproat Lake trail network bringing this trail to the intersection at Sproat Lake Landing.

Franklin Bridge Feasibility – The Franklin Bridge Feasibility project was funded through the Province of BC Infrastructure Planning grant. Herold Engineering completed a site review of the proposed bridge crossing, assessed the historical bridge structure and prepared Class D costed options for three separate potential structure types ranging from \$681,000 - \$1,210,000. After review of the feasibility study the ACRD Board directed staff to consider this project when appropriate Grants become available.

Development of Parks and Trails Construction Guidelines - Through the project planning phase ACRD staff identified comparable documents from other British Columbia Regional Districts who had developed similar publicly available information. The Regional Parks Design Guidelines developed by the Regional District of Central Okanagan was identified as the preferred example for the ACRD to model its own guidelines after. Specifically, it incorporated a wealth of engineered supplementary detail drawings for various infrastructure that ACRD Parks routinely construct and operate for the public. After multiple estimates from potential proponents to create a unique ACRD guideline document similar to the RDCO document, staff concluded that there was insufficient budget. After discussion with RDCO staff, the ACRD was given their guideline document and have permission to utilize them as their own without the need of recreating something similar at great expense.

Log Train Trail Condition Assessment - Prior to beginning the Log Train Trail Management Plan a condition assessment of the tread quality from a material and drainage standpoint for the full length of the trail, including some areas outside of ACRD jurisdiction. This condition assessment will help inform the Management Plan and the ACRD Regional Parks Asset Management plan.

Projects in Progress

Signage Design Guidelines – The ACRD has partnered with the City of Port Alberni to develop a standardized signage design guideline document. Lime Design Inc. has produced a document which outlines separate sign categories and templates which will be applied when installing new park signage on ACRD owned and operated parkland. This project requires engagement with First Nations to incorporate protocols and potential partnerships for signage that include language, branding and other content.

Public Access Working Group - The ACRD sits on a public access working group along with representatives from the Province of BC and Mosaic Forest Management. The goal of this group is to

improve public access to privately managed forest lands within the Alberni Valley. A pilot project on the Ash Main was identified as the first area of focus and if successful that model could be replicated to other areas. This project has encountered a legal hurdle which has stopped it from progressing in the last half of 2022.

West Park Pavilion – Members of the Bamfield community have driven the concept of a revitalized west park as a community gathering place. Through grant funds and in-kind donations the main structure has been constructed, however, as of February 2023 the stairway entry steps and pathway, adventure pods, wood carving and informational signs are yet to be completed. Grand opening is anticipated for May 2023.

Parks and Trail Data Collection Development- To better understand and track park use and service needs, the development of a data collection and tracking system has been created. This project utilizes trail counters, condition assessments, annual comprehensive inspections and public engagement tools to standardize park data which will be routinely collected and tracked annually to provide better insights into the who, what and why for our parks services. The establishment of baseline data is anticipated to take roughly 2-3 years after which this project would be considered complete, and the maintenance of that data would become operational.

Log Train Trail Park Management Plan – In the fall of 2022, the ACRD along with MDI Consulting began consulting with the community to identify a long term vision for the Log Train Trail, including priorities for trail improvement and protection of the natural environment. The management plan will identify short, medium, and long term management actions that are achievable and take into account the ACRD's resources and capacity. It is anticipated that the final plan will be presented to the ACRD Board in Summer of 2023.

Website Enhancements - The ACRD website is a valuable tool to support the ACRD parks community engagement goal of engaging the community to provide an opportunity for full participation to guide the development of the parks and trails, build community, volunteerism, and increase awareness. The community should be easily able to utilize the ACRD website to obtain information on a variety of aspects of the ACRD parks services, such as learning about parks and trails, new initiatives, and projects. Easily navigating to information for how the public can become more involved in community groups such as parks commissions, local community groups which volunteer within ACRD Parks, or how they can provide feedback to staff. The first round of website enhancements has been completed and work continues to progressively add to parks website development.

Grappler Wharf Tenure Extension – The province of BC has identified that Grappler wharf infrastructure has expanded beyond its allowed tenure area and is required to either apply to expand this tenure area or bring all infrastructure within the tenure boundaries. An initial application has been filed to expand and it is under review by the province.

Parks and Trails Volunteer Program – The ACRD Parks services receive a significant benefit from community volunteers. Each volunteer organization has expressed concerns that the average age of volunteers is high and rising. Without an influx of additional volunteers from a younger generation, there is a risk that many of the current volunteers will age out of their programs soon resulting in these organizations dedicating less time spent performing the operations and maintenance of ACRD Parks and Trails. In 2022, the ACRD began with reviewing its Parks Commission structure and developed a draft

Parks Commission Handbook. Further support for volunteers outside of formal parks commission roles is a priority with the goal of retaining and attracting more members dedicated to volunteering in ACRD Parks.

West Coast Multi-Use Pathway – Staff have completed obtaining land tenure and detailed design of the required infrastructure for this project. The ACRD have been successful in their Stage 2 ICE-T Grant application and the BC Active Transportation Grant program. In Spring of 2023 the West Coast Multi Use Pathway project can move to the tendering stage, with potential for the construction phase to begin in 2023.

Eileen Scott Playground Replacement - The existing playground in Eileen Scott Park is beyond its useful life and is a substantial liability risk to the ACRD. Refurbishment of key safety concerns is needed immediately, and its replacement is needed as soon as possible. Public engagement regarding the potential replacement infrastructure began in the fall of 2022. It is proposed that community works funds which are allocated in the 2025 budget be moved up to the 2023 budget to allow for this project to begin. If those funds are not moved forward decommissioning of the existing structure will be required, and a play structure at Eileen Scott Park will not be available to the public until replacement funds are available.

Maplehurst Park Willow Road Parking – Informed by the Maplehurst Park Management plan the ACRD Board directed staff to apply for a license of occupation and a Nominal Rent Tenure Lease with the Province of BC for a parking facility within MOTI right of way and Crown Lands at the end of Willow Road. Design and planning of this area is complete, the process to obtain a tenure lease with the province for the crownland area may take some time if approved. If not approved alternative options will be considered.

Projects on the Horizon

Grappler Wharf expansion – The Bamfield Parks Commission have proposed the extension of the public wharf facility that it operates from Centennial Park. Prior to an extension the ACRD marine tenure must be expanded. This project is to be funded and lead by the Bamfield Parks Commission.

Sproat Lake Active Transportation Plan – The Sproat Lake Electoral area has pursued expanding their trails and pathway network under the Community Parks Service for many years. Currently there are 6.66 km of formalized trails as well as many additional km of informal trails. This plan will require community, stakeholder and first nations consultation, data collection, mapping and potential survey works. The final plan will identify and prioritize achievable locations for formal trail and pathway expansion that reflect the needs and wants of the Sproat Lake community.

Beaver Creek Parks Master Plan – The active parks within Beaver Creek are Nordstrom and Evergreen, along with 4 inactive parks. The future development, operations and maintenance at Nordstrom and Evergreen parks have no formal direction or on record public engagement to this point. A process to collect information from the public and identify wants and needs for the next 10 – 20 years would provide valuable guidance and inform decisions over that time period.

Eileen Scott Park Building Renovation - Substantial repair needs have been identified at the public building at Eileen Scott Park. The Bamfield Parks Commission have \$30,000 in funds originally dedicated to a roof replacement. Those funds would be available if the ACRD were successful in obtaining the

green and inclusive community buildings grant. If successful this project would include roof, window, replacement, as well as upgrades to building insulation, electrical, lighting, heating bathroom fixtures etc.

LTT Trail major maintenance/improvements - After the LTT Park management plan is completed it is expected that improvements and maintenance initiatives will be proposed.

Maplehurst Park Cherry Creek Access Project – The preferred Cherry Creek Access is from Cowley/Best Road. An access from this location would require the construction of a parking area off the Road Right of Way (a Section 57 permit with BC Sites and Trails), some but not substantial, trail construction and a footbridge over Kitsuksis Creek. Planning for this project will begin after the Willow Road parking infrastructure project is complete.

Nordstrom Park Playground Project Scoping – At the conclusion of the Beaver Creek Community Parks Master Plan the development of a Nordstrom Park Playground project may be added to the Beaver Creek Community Parks workplan.

Regional Parks Allocation/Governance Review – The governance structure of the Regional Parks Service requires periodic revisiting and endorsement of the ACRD to ensure the vision, values and direction of the service are being met. With the addition of new parks and trails to the service (such as the West Coast Multi Use Pathway) this impacts the balance of park assets throughout the region.

Parks Acquisition Policy - The development of a ACRD Parkland acquisition policy is needed to consistently achieve the above mentioned acquisition goals. This policy development is to be placed on the Lands and Resources Coordinator’s work plan in coordination with the Planning department.

Parks Donation and Dedication Policy/Program – There is currently no formal structure for the ACRD to accept donations or dedications to their parks services. The ACRD routinely receives inquiries to provide memorial bench services.

Great Central Boat Launch - The Great Central Boat Launch is classified as a marine access point consisting of a parking lot and some crushed gravel dumped to create the “launch” area. The ACRD has not dedicated annual operating funds towards inspections and maintenance of the parkland to ensure safe operating conditions. With increased development and increased recreational marine use at Great Central Lake, this marine access point has begun to see greater use as a recreational boat launch. Along with this increased use we have received increased complaints regarding the condition of the launch and parking area as well as trespassing on neighbouring properties. If the ACRD were to change the classification of this parkland from an unmaintained marine access point to a public recreational boat launch so that it better meets current and future demand it will require improvements to the boat launch and parking facilities. Prior to pursuing this project, the ACRD Board will need to provide direction on Regional Parks governance, and if it stays within the Sproat Lake Community Parks service, the Sproat Lake Parks Master Plan will incorporate potential development and level of service within that planning process.

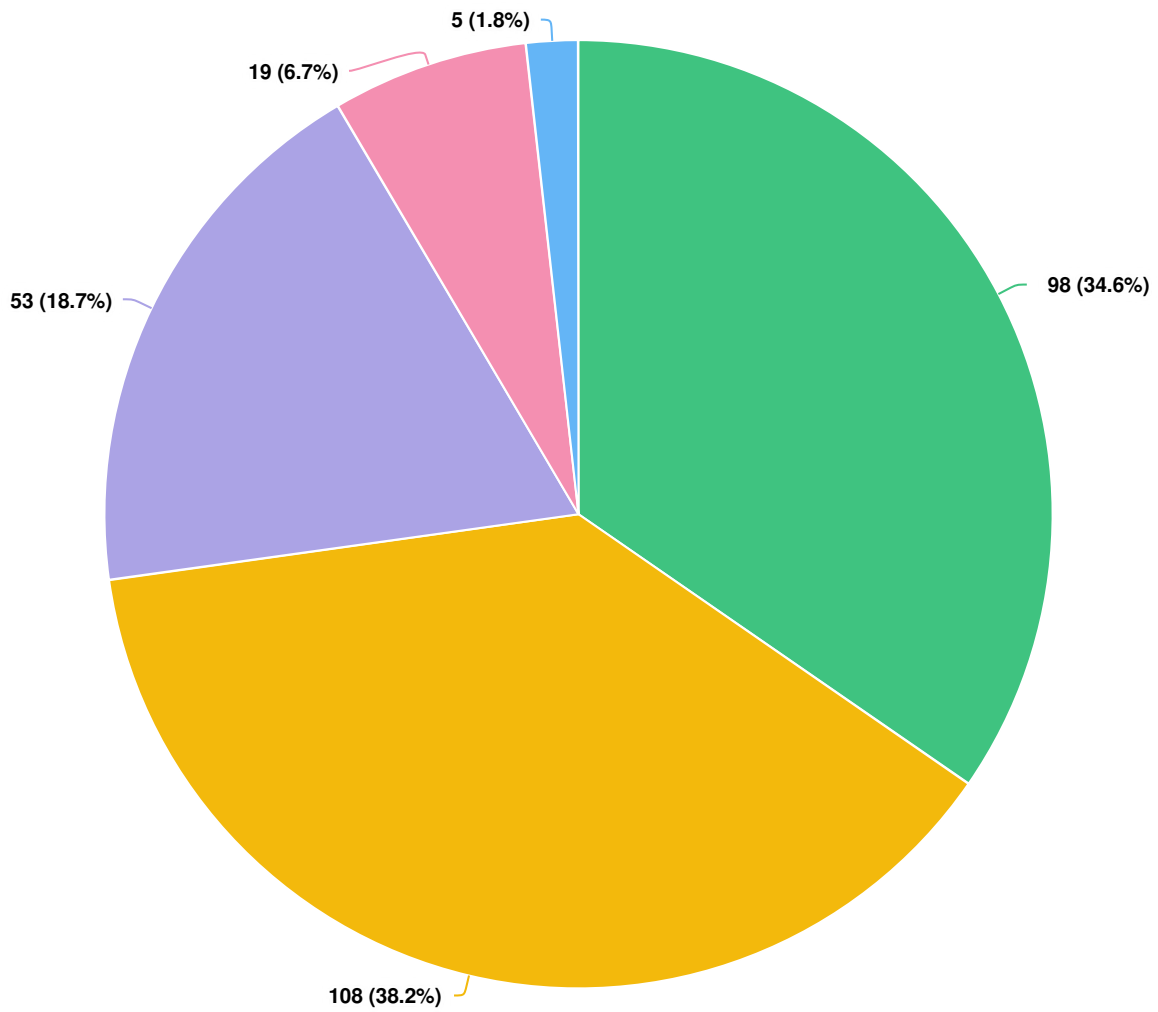
Future Park Management Plans – The ACRD anticipates creating two park management plans per year for the next 3 years: Beaver Creek Parks – 2023, Bamfield Community Parks – 2024, Sproat Lake Community Parks – 2024, Mount Arrowsmith Regional Park – 2025, Alberni Inlet Trail – 2025.

Appendix A – Park Service Data Sheet

Variable	Regional Parks Service	Bamfield Parks	Beaver Creek Parks	Cherry Creek Parks	Long Beach Parks	Sproat Lake Parks	Total
2021 Census population	31,731	256	2,946	1,977	875	1,843	-
Asset Replacement Value	\$1,582,600	\$788,900	\$147,000	\$119,760	\$400,000	\$1,016,600	\$4,054,860
Asset Replacement Value / Person	\$49.88	\$3,081.64	\$49.90	\$60.58	\$457.14	\$551.60	-
# of Parks in Service	6	7	6	2	2	10	33
Total Parkland Area (Ha)	614.4	8.46	6.66	14.97	0.93	10.57	655.99
Ha/1,000 People	19.36	33.05	2.26	7.57	1.06	5.74	-
Trails and Pathways (KM)	52.09	0.35	1.83	2.36	2.7	6.66	65.99
2022 Financial Plan base operations cost	\$88,450.41	\$16,632.38	\$15,054.09	\$16,738.00	\$7,100.00	\$84,272.01	-
2022 Service Tax Requisition	\$90,000.00	\$16,869.00	\$29,000.00	\$10,996.00	\$6,999.86	\$116,505.00	-
Operations Cost / Person	\$2.79	\$64.97	\$5.11	\$8.47	\$8.11	\$45.73	-
2022 Requisition / Person	\$2.84	\$65.89	\$9.84	\$5.56	\$8.00	\$63.21	-
Operations cost / ha of parkland	\$143.96	\$1,966.00	\$2,260.37	\$1,118.10	\$7,634.41	\$7,972.75	-
New park land aquired 2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Safety incidents / complaints	2	2	4	2	0	0	10
Trail Counter estimated annual traffic count	50956	Insufficent data	Insufficent data	20906	Insufficent data	33250	105112

Appendix B – Regional Parks General Survey

Q17 | How satisfied are you with your experience when utilizing ACRD Regional Parks and Trails?

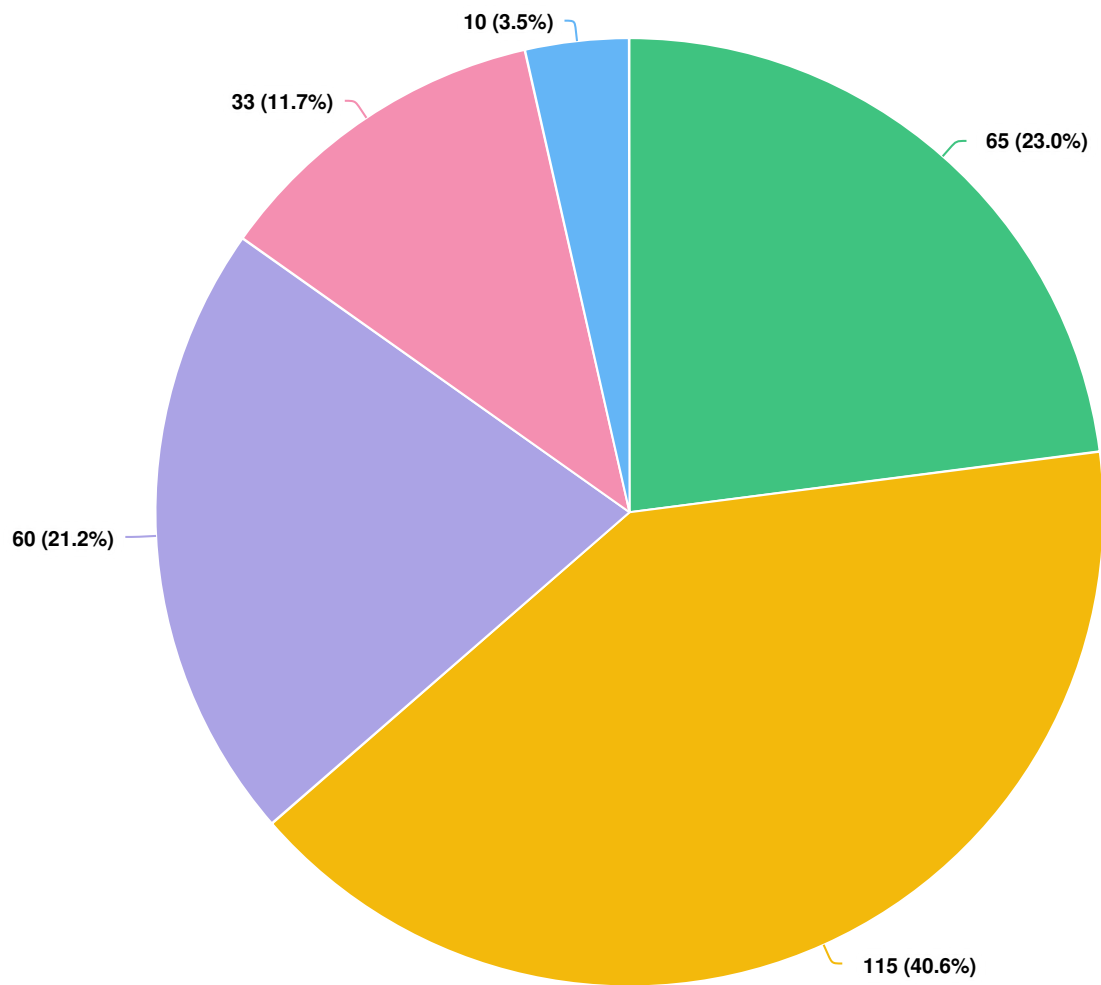


Question options

- Very dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neutral
- Somewhat satisfied
- Very satisfied

Optional question (283 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q18 | How satisfied are you with the condition of ACRD Regional Parks and Trails infrastructure?



Question options

- Very dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neutral
- Somewhat satisfied
- Very satisfied

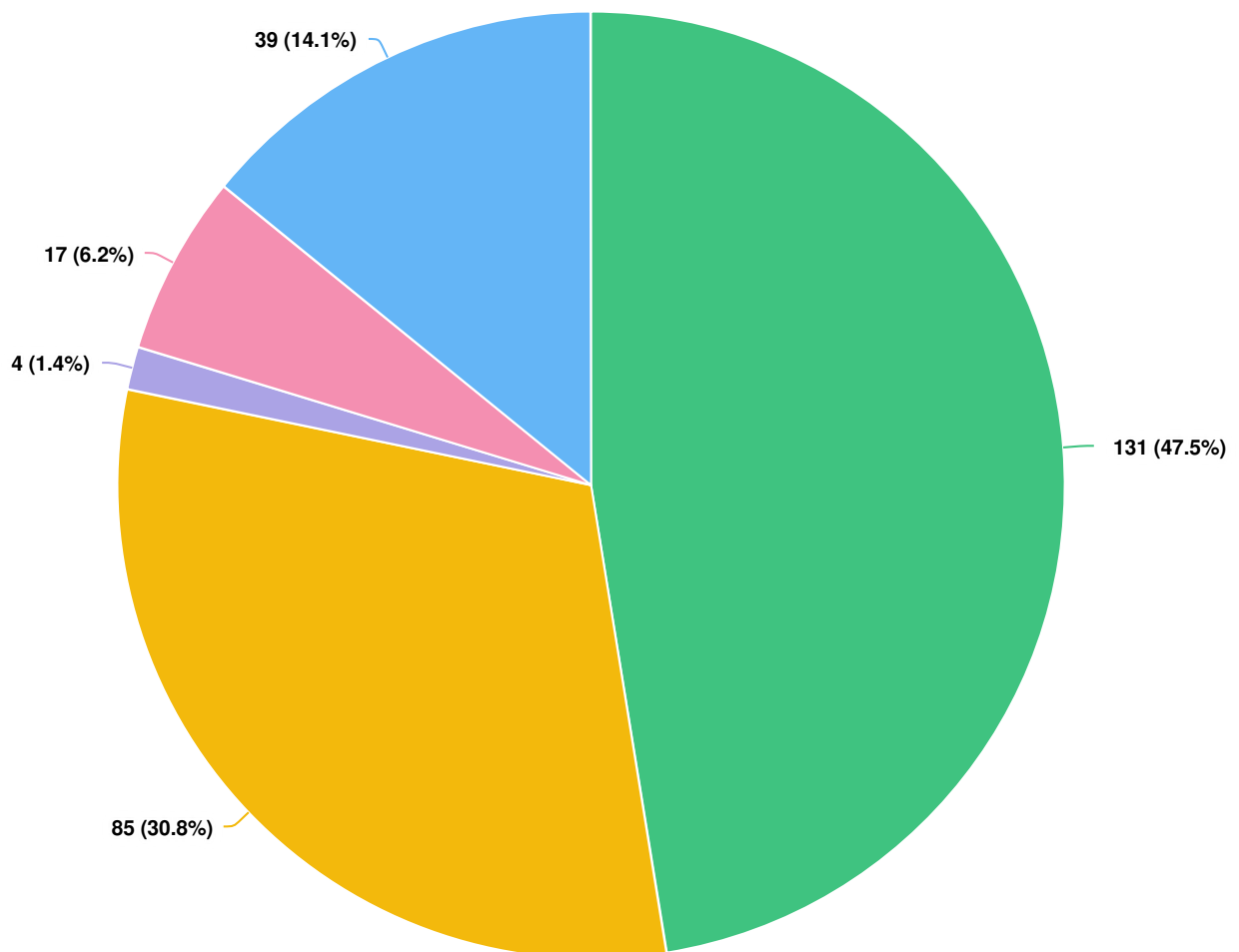
Optional question (283 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q19 | Prioritize what you value most about ACRD Regional Parks and Trails

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
A place for outdoor recreation	1.42
Protection of the environment	2.37
A place for community building and public gathering	3.07
Attracting tourism and improving the economy	3.25
Other (see next question to describe)	3.83

Optional question (258 response(s), 28 skipped)
Question type: Ranking Question

Q21 Does the ACRD own and operate an appropriate amount of Parks and Trails?

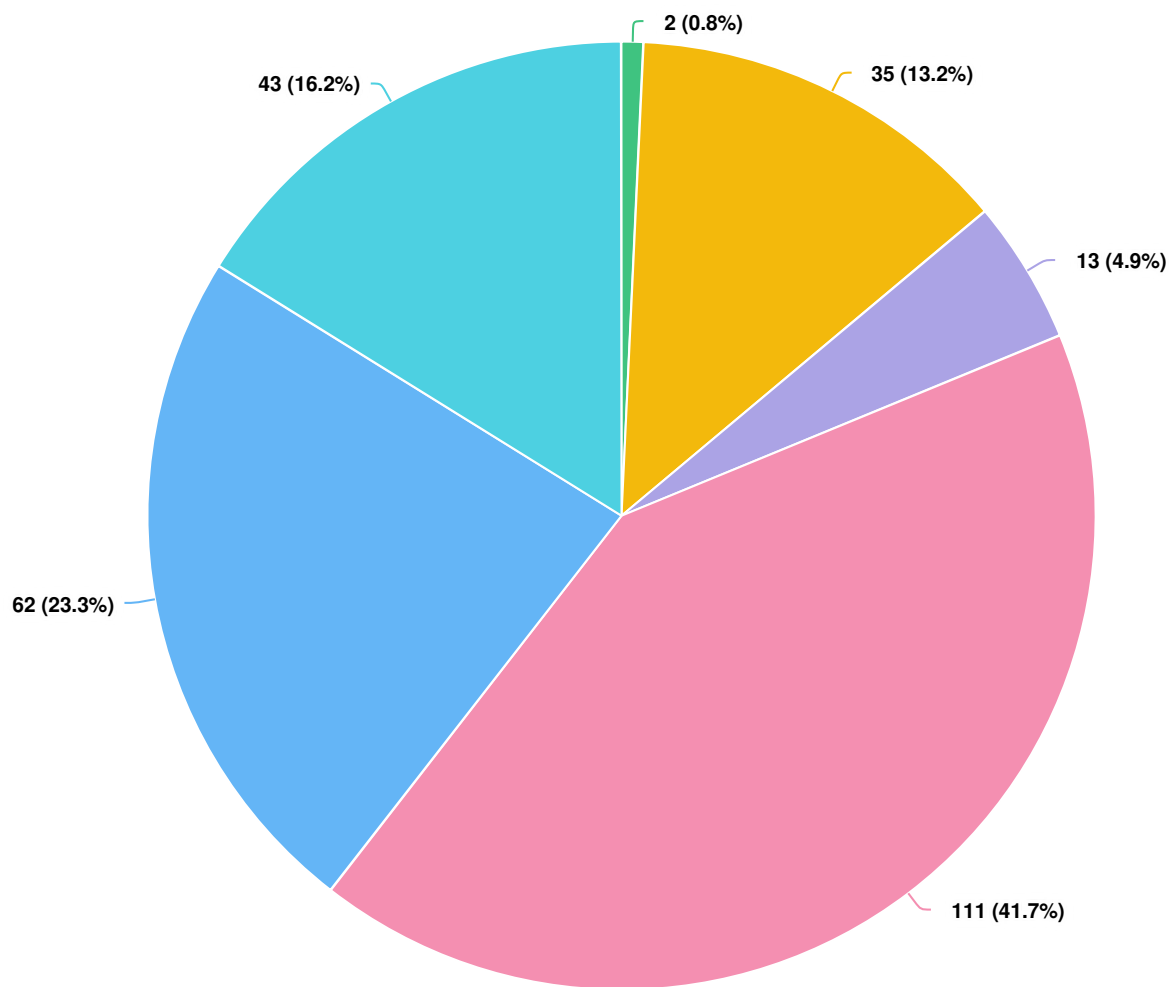


Question options

- Don't know
- The ACRD should not own or operate any parks and trails
- The ACRD should have fewer parks and trails
- The ACRD has a good amount of parks and trails
- The ACRD should add more parks and trails

*Optional question (276 response(s), 10 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q22 In most cases, ACRD parks have been built and continue to operate because of volunteerism of community members. Which choice best describes your willingness to volunteer for ACRD parks?



Question options

- Other (please describe):
- I am not interested in volunteering
- I have not volunteered within ACRD parks but would be interested in doing so
- I used to volunteer within ACRD parks but no longer do
- I volunteer with a community group that helps improve ACRD parks
- I sit on an ACRD parks commission

Optional question (266 response(s), 20 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

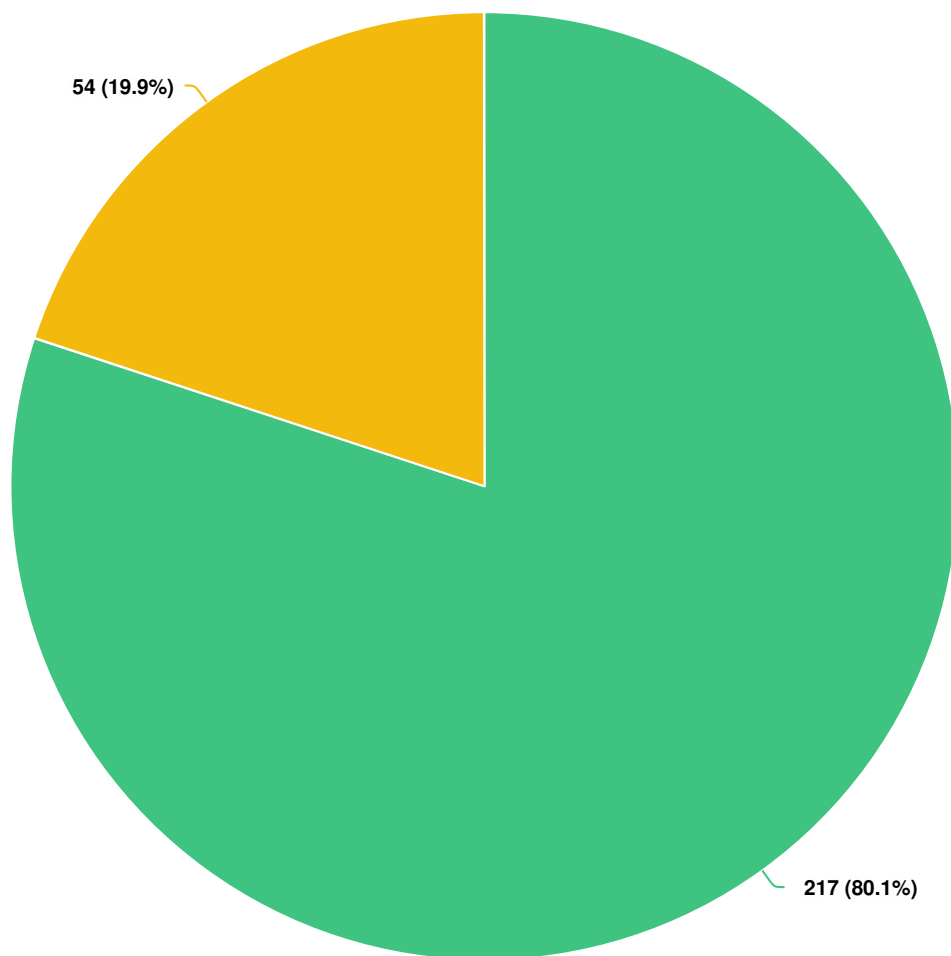
Q23 Please prioritize which aspect(s) you believe are in need of increased investment from the ACRD.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Park Maintenance (scheduled landscaping, garbage removal, repair, etc.)	2.15
Park Infrastructure (new signage, trails, benches, playgrounds, etc.)	2.31
New Parkland Acquisition (increase number of parks and trails)	2.50
Improved Community Engagement (more communication, strengthening volunteerism)	2.72

Optional question (224 response(s), 62 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question

Q24 | The 2022 tax rate for Regional Parks was 0.007/\$1,000 of assessed value. This would have resulted in a property owner paying \$2.80 in 2022 if their property was worth \$400,000. Do you believe this tax rate provides good value for the service provi...



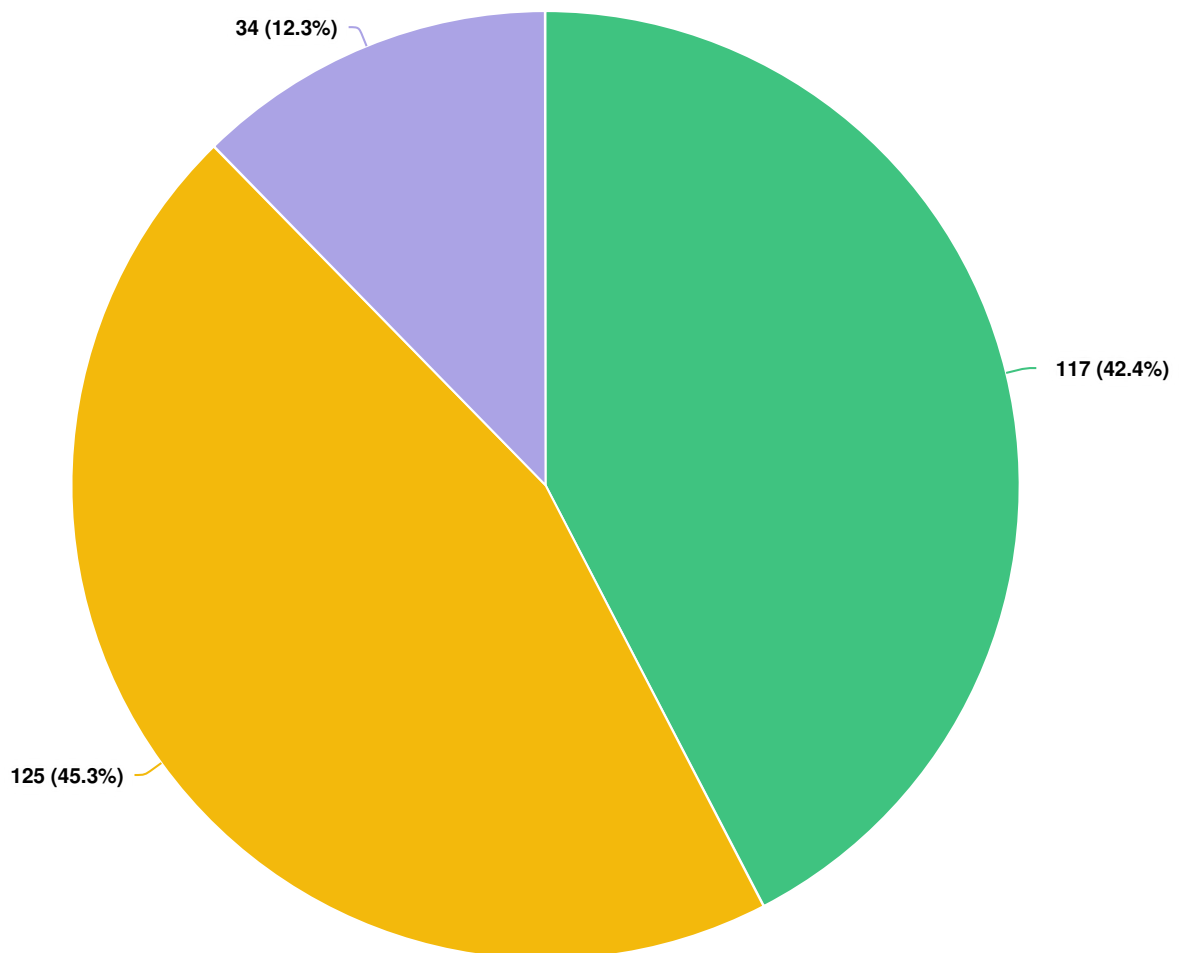
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (271 response(s), 15 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Q25 Assuming the Level of Service is directly correlated to the tax rate, which statement do you support?

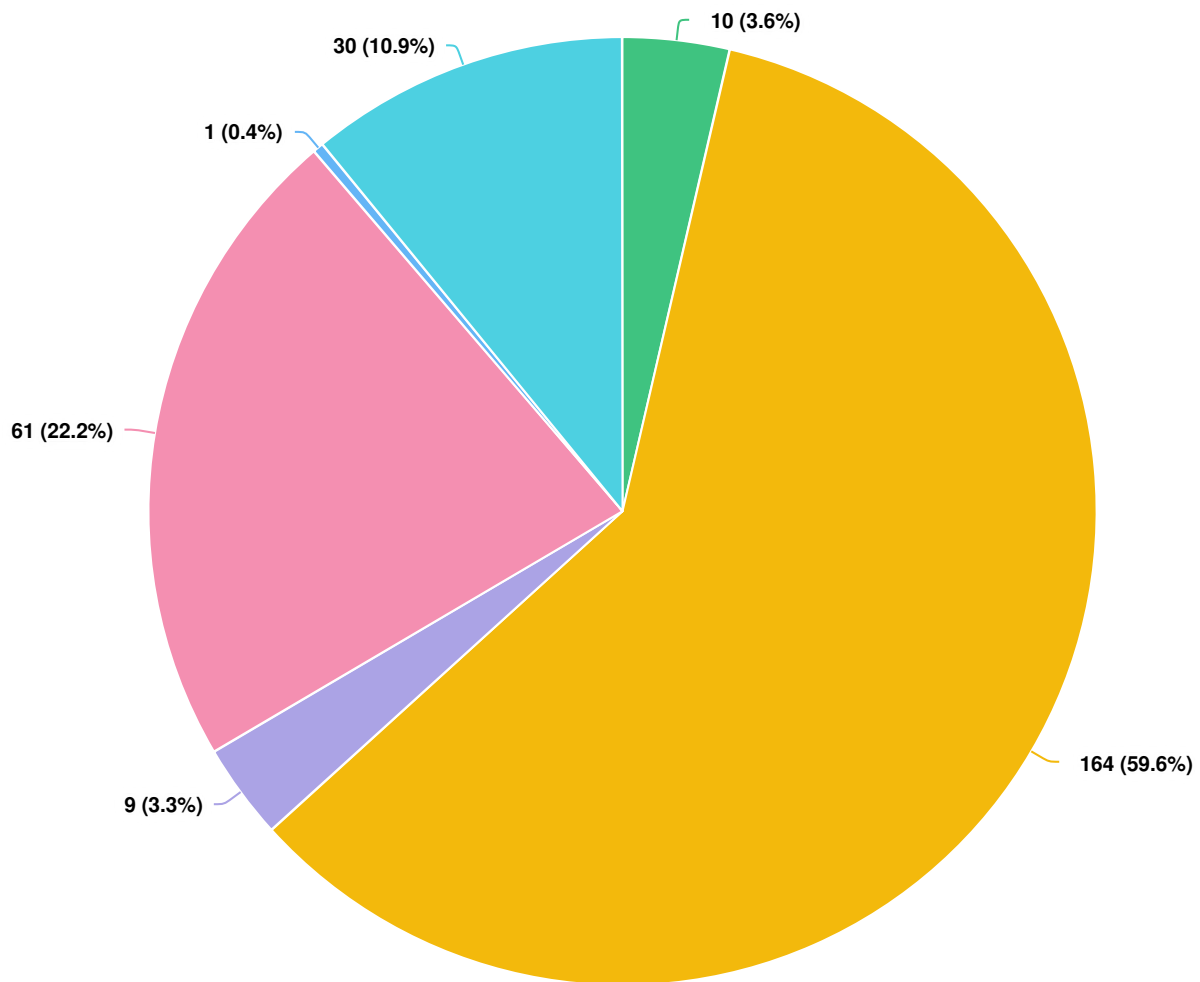


Question options

- I support service cuts to the Regional Parks service and decreasing the tax rate.
- I support maintaining the existing Regional Parks service and maintaining a stable tax rate.
- I support the expansion of the Regional Parks service and an increase in its tax rate.

Optional question (276 response(s), 10 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q26 How did you hear about the survey?



Question options

Other (please specify): Poster Word of Mouth Newspaper Social Media ACRD website

Optional question (275 response(s), 11 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Appendix C – Level of Service Categories

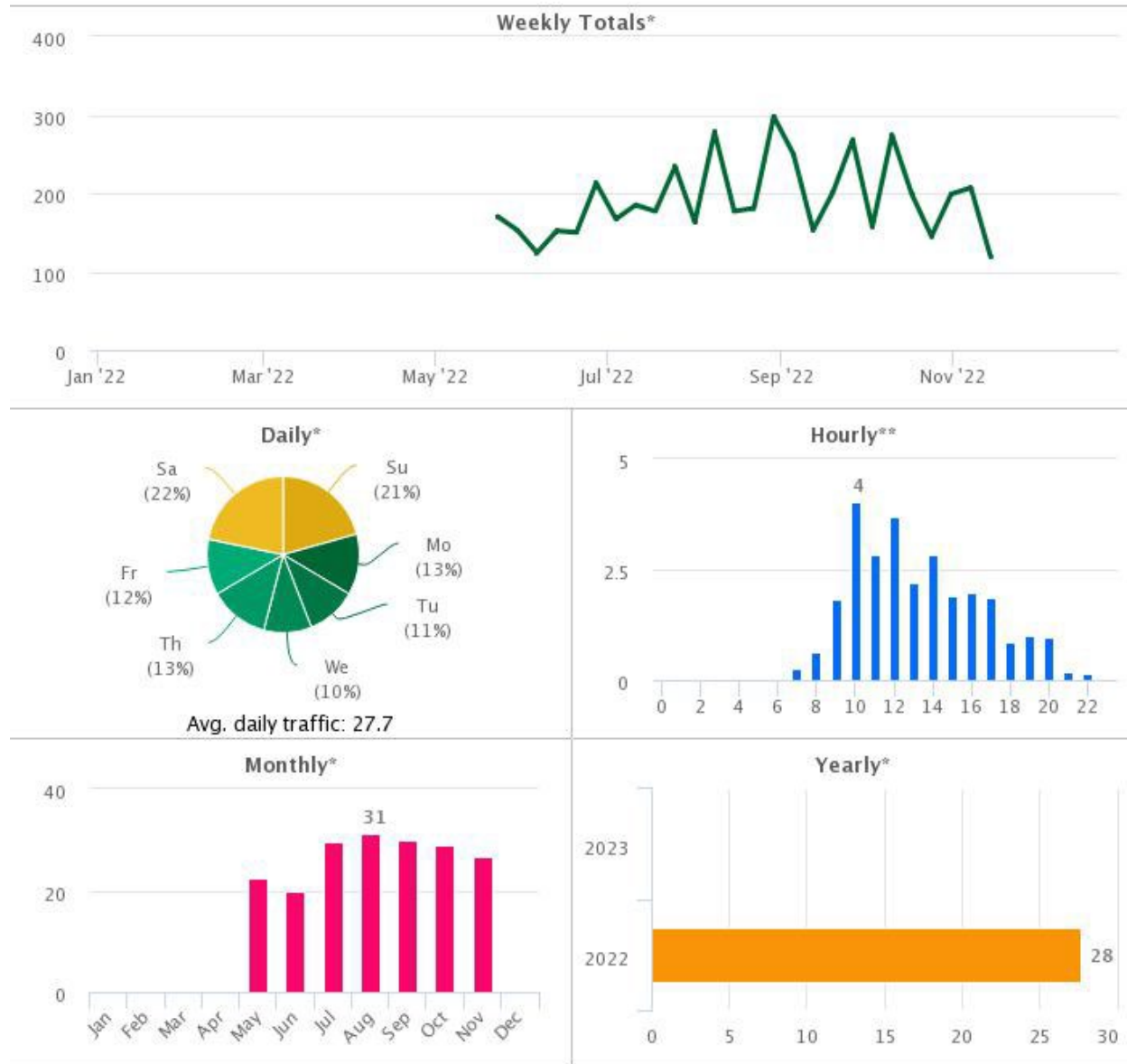
The below Level of Service Categories were approved by the ACRD Board of Directors in 2021, these levels of services work well with a large parkland area but staff have found are not as relevant with linear trails and pathways such as The Log Train Trail, Alberni Inlet, Lakeshore, Faber and MUP. In 2023, Separate Level of Service Categories for Trails and Pathways will be prepared and presented to the Board.

LEVEL OF SERVICE CATEGORIES		
LEVEL	STANDARD	USE
LEVEL 1 – HIGHEST LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The park or trail is maintained for first-class appearance. - Generally, impeccably clean and well-groomed. - Maintenance and monitoring performed weekly to multiple times a week. - Infrastructure is designed to highest standard and inspected regularly to ensure maintained public safety and high functionality. - Vegetation including trees, shrubs and grasses are kept pruned and manicured to be in exceptional condition and aesthetically pleasing. - No accumulated debris or litter onsite. 	Highly visible, high profile parks and trails with intensive public use.
LEVEL 2 – MEDIUM TO MODERATE LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parks and trails are kept neat, order and groomed but not to the same standard as Level 1. - There is tolerance to the effects of “wear and tear”, moderate traffic and natural processes. - Maintenance and monitoring performed bi-monthly to weekly. - Infrastructure is designed to safely accommodate current level of use and is routinely inspected to ensure public safety. - Vegetation including trees, shrubs and grasses are kept pruned and maintained to accommodate current park use. - Little to no accumulated debris or litter. 	Medium to high level of intensive public use.
LEVEL 3 – LOW TO MEDIUM LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural park space. - Maintenance and monitoring performed monthly or in response to public complaints. - Limited and low maintenance infrastructure designed for less intensive uses. - Vegetation pruned or maintained in the event of a safety concern. - Debris or litter cleaned up in response to a public complaint. 	Intended to be a natural park space or low to medium use of constructed trail.
LEVEL 4 – NO ROUTINE MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural park space. - No scheduled routine maintenance or monitoring. - No assets onsite. - Vegetation management, debris or litter clean up occurs in response to public complaint. 	Inactive park with no infrastructure.

Appendix D – Example of Infrared Counter Data Sheet

LTT Mclean Mill

Site report: from 2022-01-01 to 2023-01-01
 Made by: MMCGREGOR@ACRD.BC.CA on 2023-03-02
 Made with: TRAFx DataNet (www.trafx.net)



* Weekly and Daily are calculated from Average Daily Traffic (ADT); Monthly and Yearly show ADT values.
 ** Based on last year of data only.