Albany Motorsports Park
Att: Theo Newhouse

October 16, 2021

To whom it may concern,

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM RECREATIONAL TRAILBIKE RIDER'S ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (RTRA) TO ALBANY MOTORSPORTS PARK:

The Recreational Trailbike Riders Association strongly supports the Albany Motorsports Park Proposal and its further progression.

RTRA regularly receive feedback about the need for safe, legal riding opportunities in Western Australia. The proposal would have tremendous support from the riding community with, as well as the broader outcomes such as tourism and economic development, increased health and wellbeing, activities for youth in the region as well, improved community safety and social outcomes.

RTRA are a member based organisation which has been formed around 4 key objectives

- To have safer, legal off-road riding opportunities for recreational Trailbike Riders of all ages
- To encourage responsible and safe riding attitudes, including minimising social and environmental damage and how this keeps riding areas open.
- To actively pursue the needs of trailbike riders with state and local government, landowners and other stakeholders.
- To improve the perception of Trailbike riding as a recreational activity.

Our key focus areas are:

- Trails and riding areas
- Advocacy
- Education and Awareness
- Rider Engagement
- Organisational Sustainability

Projects such as the Albany Motorsports Park align with these objectives and are an ideal opportunity to achieve these outcomes in a safe, legal, planned and controlled manner.

Bike sales are currently in excess of 10,000 units per year in Western Australia. This has been suppressed by supply issues but strong growth figures are expected to continue. This includes both dirt bikes (Offroad Vehicles) and Trailbikes (Registered Vehicles). Figures based off National Sales with WA having 10.2% of population and therefore of sales. Arguably we have much higher ownership per capita and some manufacturers are not represented in these figures so more likely would expect sales would be between 12-15,000 units per year. https://www.fcai.com.au/news/index/view/news/723

Our organisation is involved in Pinjar Motorcycle Area which currently sees in excess of 140,000 rider per year making it one of the busiest parks in the State. As our name suggests we are keen to provide Recreational opportunities, Currently competition events are generally well represented. Being able to ride with your kids and family as a unit, and those who don't want to race is important to be able to do so. Programs around such as "Ride Parks Australia" exist where existing tracks are opened to the public for a reasonable fee and riders get to ride a groomed track in a safe, non-competitive environment where

families, friends and kids of all abilities can enjoy social recreational riding. We strongly advocate that facilities be made available for Non-competitive Recreational riding opportunities such as this.
https://www.ma.org.au/ride-park-days/

We cannot stress this enough that these numbers are just a drop in the ocean compared to what is predicted coming with the Electric Bike market. This is the largest growth area and expect will be the largest Trails user group very shortly. Currently, if you are under 16 it is not lawful to use any E-bike on public roads *(Regulation 228 Road Traffic Code 2000)* or DBCA land or estate; Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002 *(Regulation 54)* "Traffic laws apply". The under 16 cohort is often the target market for these kinds of things, and resources such as these will be critical in providing facilities for this market.

Our organisation have had discussions with various enforcement authorities who have expressed feedback "A common concern raised by those who are engaged is that there is no viable place for them to ride". We have also been contacted by other user groups such as the Bibbulmun Track Foundation who are looking to provide alternatives that won't cause conflicts (letter attached).

Consultation processes have identified that Trailbikes and are one of the, and combined with 4wd easily the largest user groups yet have not had proportional planning or investment to suit the level of community engagement and demand. In Peel Trail Bike riding was a clear preferred recreation type from the sample group (38.75%) and the second largest user group in the region (21%) with 4wd(17%). We expect this sentiment would be similar or even more so in other regions. (Peel Trails Survey information attached).

The WA4wd Association's MundAl track extends through this area, is well established, well utilised and would also be synergistic with the Albany Motorsport Park. Attending the recent State Trails forum at the Albany convention centre 13-15 October discussions were held with multiple parties who support the Albany Motorsports Park initiative and provision of facilities for enthusiasts.

The RTRA sees this proposal as providing benefits to our members, riders and the community and strongly supports its further progression. If there are any further queries please contact us on the details below.

Regards

Recreational Trailbike Riders' Association of WA Inc
PO Box 4341 ALEXANDER HEIGHTS WA 6064
w: www.rtra.asn.au
e: info@rtra.asn.au
ABN: 68 936 405 502

> No Licence, No Club Membership – NO WORRIES!
>
> More riding, more often!

Ride Parks Australia – Ride Park Days

MA affiliated clubs now have the opportunity to run Ride Park Days that are safe and controlled non-competition riding days where families, friends and kids of all abilities can enjoy social riding. Available for riders of all ages and no club membership is required.

No Licence Required
– You do not need a state issued motorcycle licence or MA Licence
– At time of booking or at the event, you will have an option to purchase Personal Accident coverage and it is highly recommended
– Junior KickStart Licence or Logbooks are not required
– No minimum age requirement for kids

Riding Gear
– Discipline specific riding gear is essential. (Helmet, goggles/visor, gloves, jersey and pants or suit. Body armour recommended especially for junior off-road riders.)
– Helmets must be in good condition with no damage compromising the safety protection of the helmet

Ride Groups
– Beginner, Intermediate, Experienced
– Parents can be on track with their learner junior riders assisting them

Tracks
– RPA Days are held at MA Affiliated Clubs and Licenced Tracks. If your Club or Track is not MA affiliated just contact your State Controlling Body (https://www.mtas.org.au/contact-us/) to arrange a Track Inspection
– Difficult or advanced technical sections of the tracks will be bypassed for RPA days to ensure riders of all abilities make it around safely and with ease
These days are leisure fun days, not practice days. They are not suitable for experienced racers looking for track time, practice or testing.

Bikes
– Quads must be in dedication Quad only sessions
– Electric bikes welcome and encouraged

Calendar – Check your state calendar for upcoming events **–** State Controlling Body (SCB) websites here (https://www.ma.org.au/about-ma-2/operational-structure/state-controlling-bodies/)

Follow Us – Jump onto Facebook and be sure to follow us at www.facebook.com/RideParksAustralia/ (https://www.facebook.com/rideparksaustralia/)

Questions – email us on mail@ma.org.au (mailto:mail@ma.org.au) or contact your SCB (https://www.ma.org.au/about-ma-2/operational-structure/state-controlling-bodies/)

Club Documents

RPA Guidelines (https://drive.google.com/file/d/17eV5Ryt-UqDb_0yxIdAISRnxN7kO95nU/view?usp=sharing)
COVID Safe Plan (https://drive.google.com/file/d/16IrkTc5dyQIAbt6S6oHMXWr4qnPoNYV2/view?usp=sharing)
Liability Waiver (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gvsLtN5w8Xzc8vThnQ2u8vJx8yGoWii0/view?usp=sharing)
Event Report (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YHWHki4w2jSPUasf8xJpl6SeUwhmasrO/view?usp=sharing)
Attendance Register / Participant Sign On Form Template (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QC78ZZ10zrX-bexvORYCCF0GEuiCui3E/view?usp=sharing)

Clubs, please contact your State Controlling Body (https://www.ma.org.au/about-ma-2/operational-structure/state-controlling-bodies/) for queries on setting up an RPA Day on Ridernet.

COVID Signage

No Handshaking (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wDcRJKCQb326V63oaogJoNjd06k6IWF8/view?usp=sharing)
Protect yourself and others (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fIkSidPJe8T-awMdr2k_PQF_3vCaSkkG/view?usp=sharing)
Sanitise (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gN-Vs1tSdNC1VLdMDuyQJME8Mvj90EJw/view?usp=sharing)
Social Distance (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KhPlNq6e0IJZmNzy2F0Z-s8zQ1_uEUKn/view?usp=sharing)
Bring a pen (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_LWtoN105n7bMnzSGaPmpjSFJQJkeSl9/view?usp=sharing)

State and national regulations and guidelines regarding COVID-19 must be followed at all times

Contact us

Phone: (+61) 03 9684 0500
Fax: (+61) 03 9684 0555
Email: mail@ma.org.au (mailto:mail@ma.org.au)
Street Address
Office 38, 1 International Drive,
Westmeadows, VIC, 3049
Postal Address
PO Box 2162
Gladstone Park, VIC, 3043

Information

Documents (https://www.ma.org.au/forms-sup-regs/forms/)
Supplementary Regulations (https://www.ma.org.au/forms-sup-regs/supplementry-regulations/)
Privacy (https://www.ma.org.au/about-ma/privacy/)
Sitemap (https://www.ma.org.au/sitemap/)
Contact us (https://www.ma.org.au/about-ma-2/contact-us/)
MA Image Gallery (https://www.ma.org.au/ma-image-gallery/)

(https://www.facebook.com/MotorcyclingAus/)
(http://www.instagram.com/motorcyclingaustralia/)
(https://www.ma.org.au/feed)

Subscribe to receive MA Press Releases

Subscribe to receive the MA e-Newsletter

MA would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and ride, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Copyright © 2021 · Motorcyling Australia. All Rights Reserved. Submit an Event (https://events.timely/gg7gmqc/fes)

Bibbulmun Track Foundation
Perth YHA Building, 300 Wellington Street, Perth, Western Australia, 6000
Phone: + 61 (08) 9481 0551
Email: friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au
Web: www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au

29 June 2021

Hon. John Newton Carey MLA
Minister for Local Government
7th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street,
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Minister

RE: REGISTRATION AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAIL BIKES

In 2008, after extensive community consultation, a WA State Trail Bike Strategy *Back on Track* was released.

The Strategy was developed to address increasing community concern over noise, safety, environmental damage, and general nuisance caused by the increasing number of trail bikes in WA and the lack of designated areas for them to be ridden.

Disappointingly, despite bipartisan and widespread industry support, the recommendations in the Strategy have not been implemented; the number of places to ride legally have diminished since the release of the report; and the one purpose-built trailbike park near Perth, the Pinjar Motorcycle Area is due to be harvested, which will make the area less appealing.

The negative impacts, including increased use of walking and mountain biking trails by motorbikes, continues to grow. The damage to trail infrastructure and the surrounding environment from motorbikes not only spoils the experience for non-motorised trail users, but also undermines the work of land managers, not-for-profit trails groups and their volunteers.

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation receives regular feedback from walkers frustrated by the damage done to the Bibbulmun Track and by the inability to identify the riders due to lack of number plates and the use of full faced helmets which not only provide the riders with anonymity but combined with the noise, is very intimidating.

It is now not uncommon to receive reports of groups between seven and 15 riders who also camp illegally at the walker-only campsites. These groups disregard any signage and ride around barriers designed to deter them from accessing the Track.

In a report just last week from a hiker: *I experienced a club ride of 15+ bikes riding very fast on this section last Sunday going north. The barricades on the bridges do not work, enabling them to use the track. From older tyre tracks (I can see) this is not the first. I confronted a biker and he threatened me with violence.*

To be clear these were motor bikes not pedal bikes. They were extremely dangerous to a deaf person on the track (no I am not but I have met them) as they did not slow at all around blind corners.

Bibbulmun Track Foundation
Perth YHA Building, 300 Wellington Street, Perth, Western Australia, 6000
Phone: + 61 (08) 9481 0551
Email: friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au
Web: www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation respectfully suggests:

1. The recommendations made in the *Back on Track*, WA State Trail Bike Strategy 2008 be reviewed and implemented to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts identified in the report including damage to non-motorised trails including the Bibbulmun Track.
2. That DBCA staff resources be increased to patrol our national parks and trails (particularly on weekends) to deter illegal access.
3. That trail bikes and other off-road vehicles be licenced at Point of Sale:
    a. to raise funds for trail bike riding areas and
    b. to enable riders to be identified and educated or prosecuted by DBCA and the Water Corporation if riding in national park or water catchment areas.
4. That designated trails and venues be planned, developed, and maintained to attract trail bike riders.
5. That legislation be amended to allow for the planning and development of off-road vehicle trails when rehabilitating mined areas.

Thank you for considering these growing concerns and our suggestions.

Yours sincerely

Kathleen Broderick

Kathleen Broderick
Chair, Bibbulmun Track Foundation

CC:

Hon Rita Saffioti MLA
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

Hon Dr Tony A Buti MLA
MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

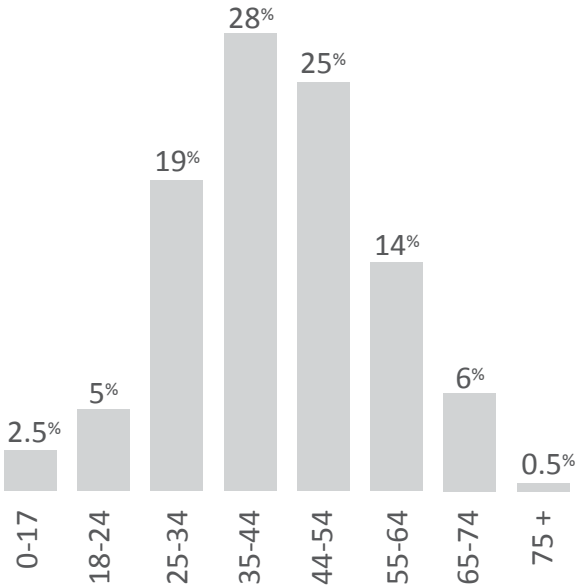
Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

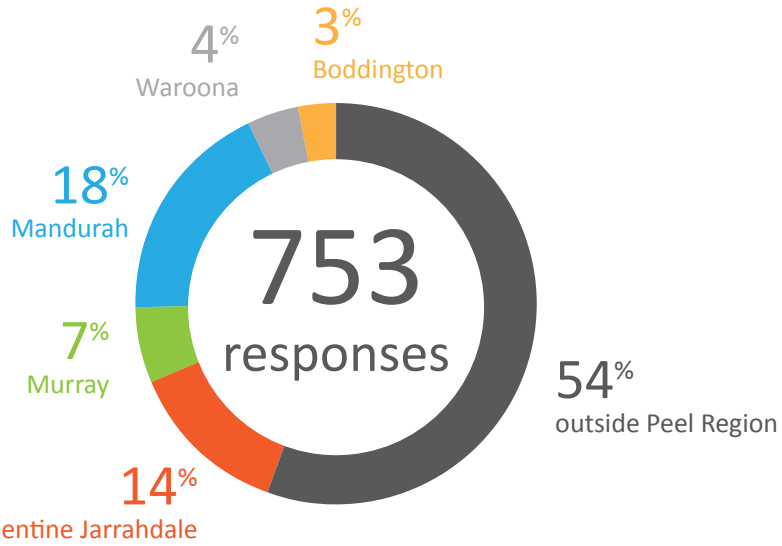
Hon Dave Kelly MLA
MINISTER FOR FORESTRY

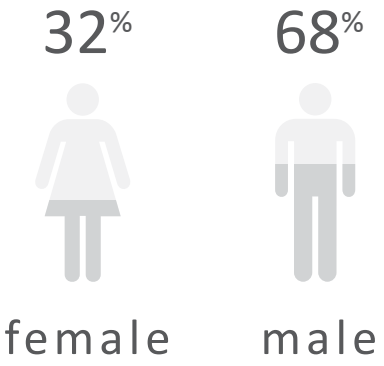
PEEL REGION TRAIL USER SURVEY

July 2018

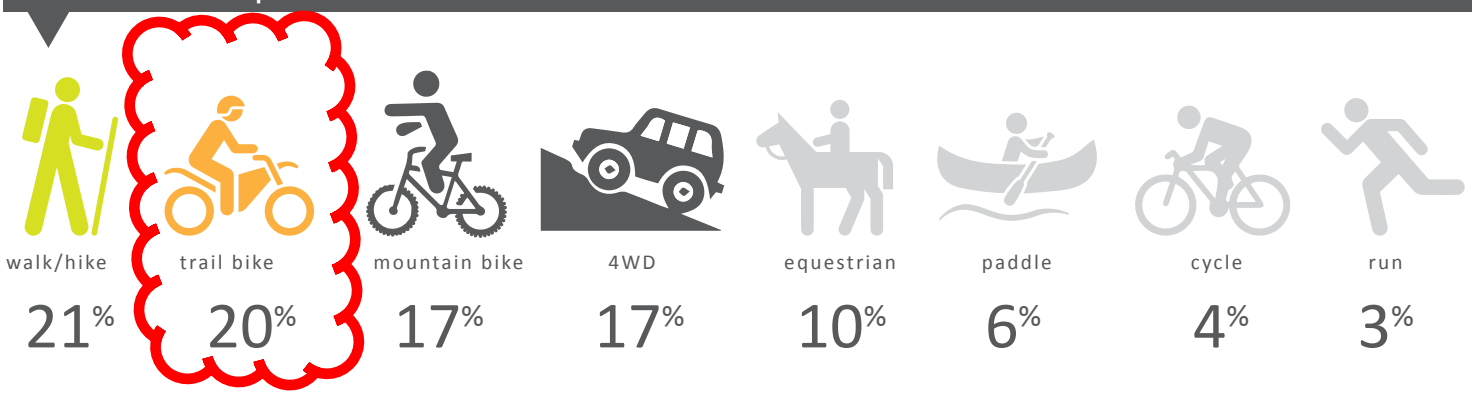
The 5 local governments in the Peel Region(City of Mandurah, Shire of Boddington, Shire of Murray, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and Shire of Waroona) are currently developing a trails strategy for the Peel Region. Recently a trail user survey was conducted to gain a better understanding of trail use and demand in the region. The following is a snapshot of the survey results.







Mode of exploration



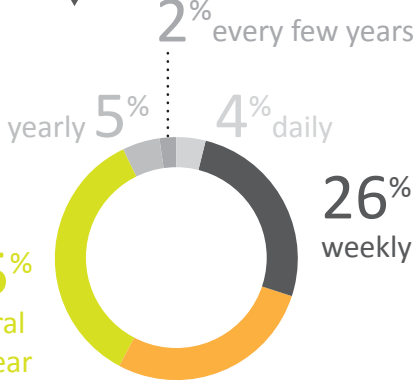
Who with

31% in a small group

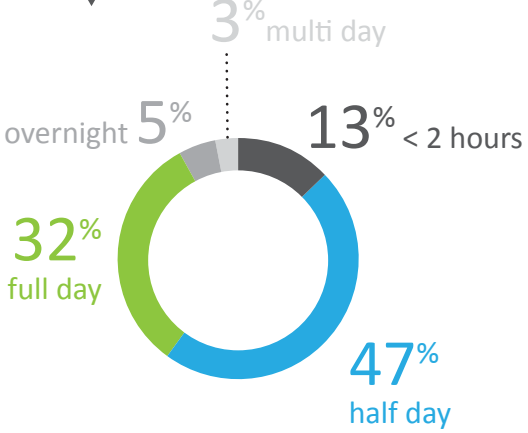
29% with friend or partner

17% solo

How often



How long on the trail



PEEL REGIONAL TRAILS STRATEGY - SURVEY ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Purpose

The purpose of the recent survey in the Peel Region was to gain an understanding of current trends in trail use, trail user groups, individuals trail preferences and feedback on what are considered to be prospective trail locations. The information gathered is informing the MCA currently underway, the results presented here provide a quick snap shot of survey responses.

2. Approach and distribution

The survey period was for three weeks 03/05/2018 – 27/05/2018. The survey was promoted through a variety of mediums including; websites, social media, newsletters, newspaper and word of mouth.

Table 1 Number of responses to the survey over 3 week period

Week 1 responses	595
Week 2 responses	124
Week 3 responses	42
Total responses	**761**

3. Community Profile

The region of Peel encompasses Local Government areas: City of Mandurah, Shire of Boddington, Shire of Murray, Shire of Serpentine and Jarrahdale, and Shire of Waroona. The percentage of respondents that lived in the Peel Region was 44.6% off all surveyed individuals.

The largest response was from the age group 35-44yrs (212), followed closely by 45-54yrs (191), and 25-34yrs (141)

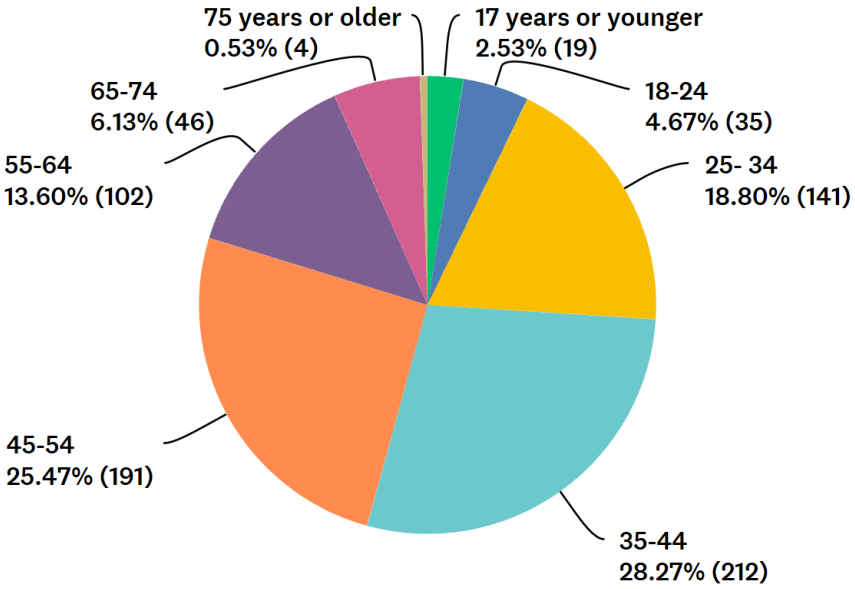


Figure 1 How old are you?

Respondents were asked how they explored the trails of the Peel Region. The predominant method of exploration is on foot; walking and hiking (318). Trail Bike riding is the second most popular method of exploring the trails (303), and both 4WD and Mountain Biking indicated 259 of the 761 individuals participated in trail exploration by these means.

Respondents could select multiple methods of exploring trails, providing a clear indication that the cohort are multiple disciplinary users.

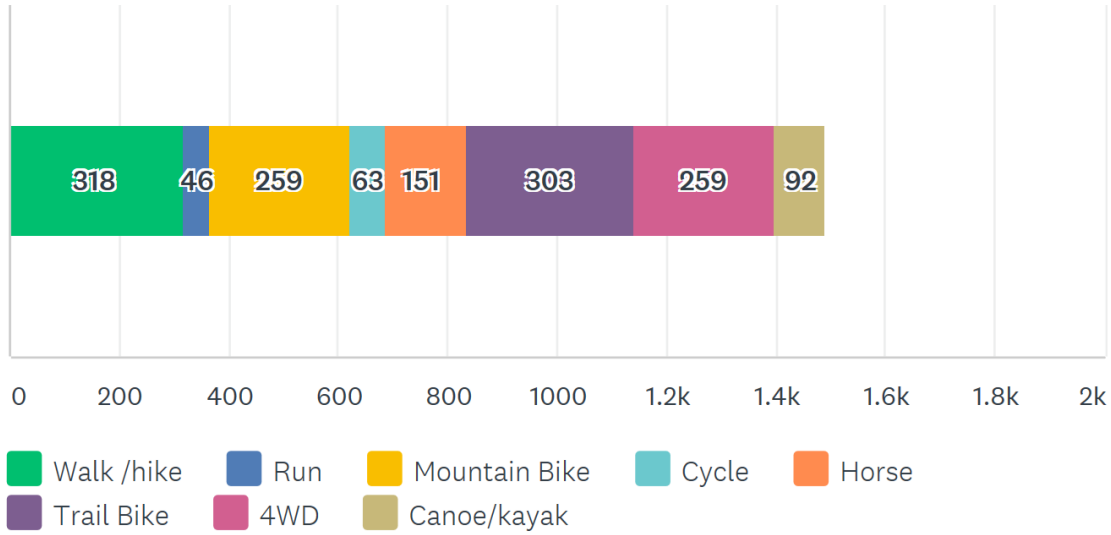


Figure 2 How do you explore trails in the Peel Region?

Trail Bike riding was a clear preferred recreation type from the sample group (38.75%). Followed by Mountain Biking (19.84%), Horse Riding (18.91%), Walk/Hiking (15.98%) and 4WD (15.45%). These statistics indicate that although walking is a popular pastime for the participants as indicated in Figure 2, it may not be the favoured method of recreating. Walking and hiking trails may be a more accessible method of recreation than other trail types.

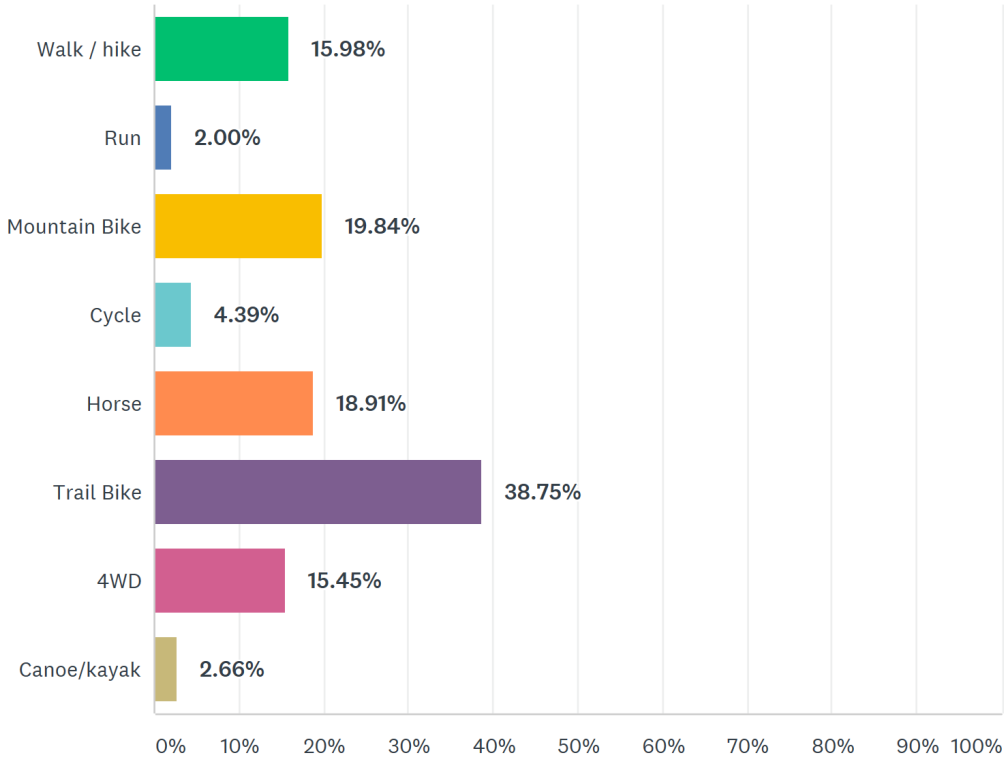


Figure 3 What is your preferred recreation type?

Of the respondents 6% rated their ability at their preferred recreation type as Beginner, 44% rated their ability as Intermediate and 50% rated their ability as Advanced.

Table 2 Percentage of respondents from the Peel Region per activity

	Total Response	No. from Peel Region	%
Walk/Hike	120	79	66 %
Run	15	6	40 %
MTB	149	60	40.3 %
Cycle	31	15	48.4 %
Horse	140	98	70 %
Trail Bike	289	91	31 %
4WD	115	34	30 %
Canoe/Kayak	20	9	45 %

With the ability to make multiple selections, the majority of the group (57%) explored the trails in small groups (less than 6 people). Another common method of exploring the trails was with a friend or partner (54%). Solo use was common with 32%, organised club or social groups 23%, larger groups (over 6 people) 15%, and less than 1% accessed trails via an organised tour. 38 additional comments were left, with the predominant key words “Family” and “Kids/Children”.

A significant volume of people were associated with a trail group or club. 35% were members of an official club or association, 38% were part of a social media trails group and 39% were not a member of a group associated with trails. 3 individuals skipped the question, therefore almost 60% of people were a member of a group or club associated with trails.

Over 60% of the sample group selected word of mouth as the most common method of finding out about trails, 44% follow a trail related social media page or group, and a high proportion of the sample group utilise the Trails WA website.

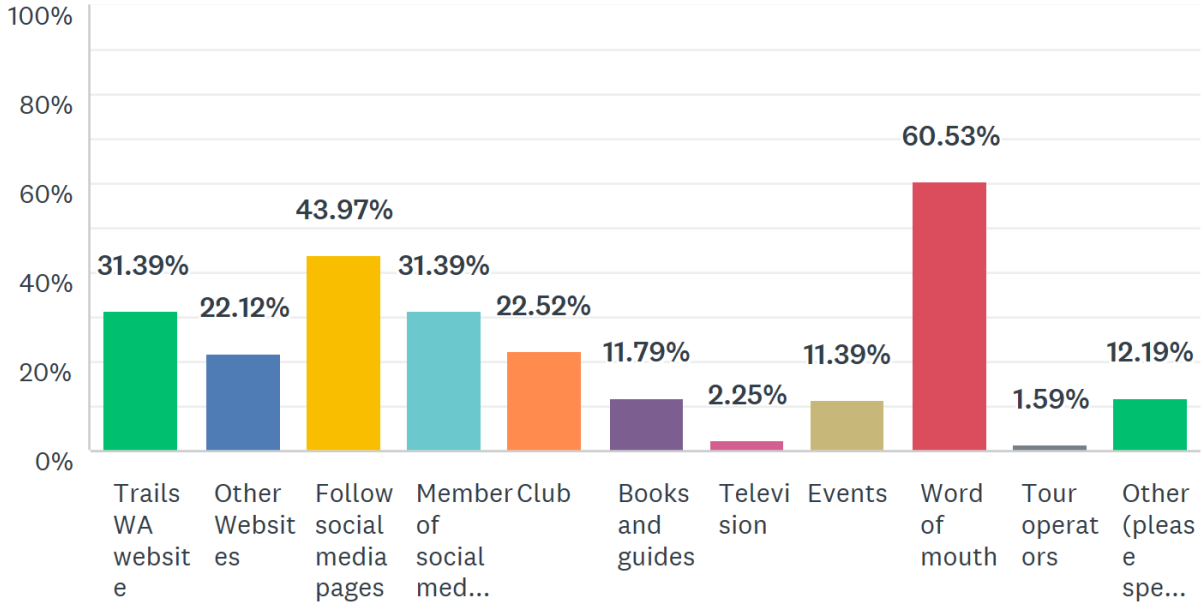


Figure 4 How do you find out about trails, facilities and events?

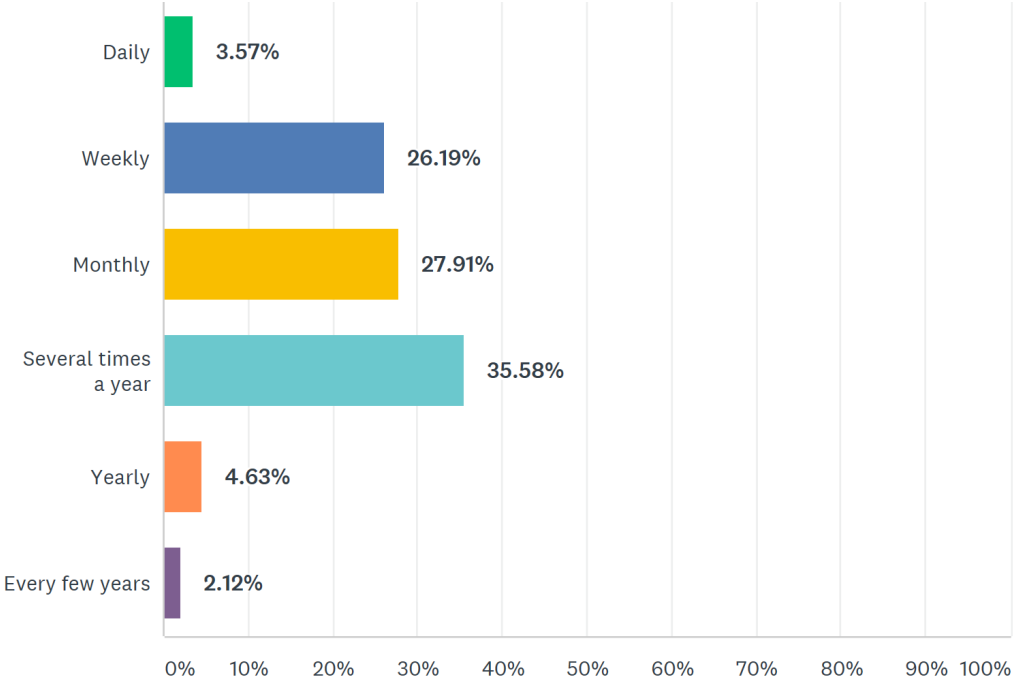


Figure 5 In any year, on average, how often do you visit the trails in the Peel Region?

The majority of people access trails in the Peel Region several times a year, monthly and weekly. A small percentage of people access the trails daily (27 people, 3.57%), and a small percentage access them yearly or every few years.

47% of people spend between 2-4 hrs on the trail that they are utilising, whereas 33% spend the whole day on the trail (>4hrs). 13% spend less that 2hrs, and in contrast 5% will stay overnight on a trail. 3% specified they like to go on multiple day trips on the trails.

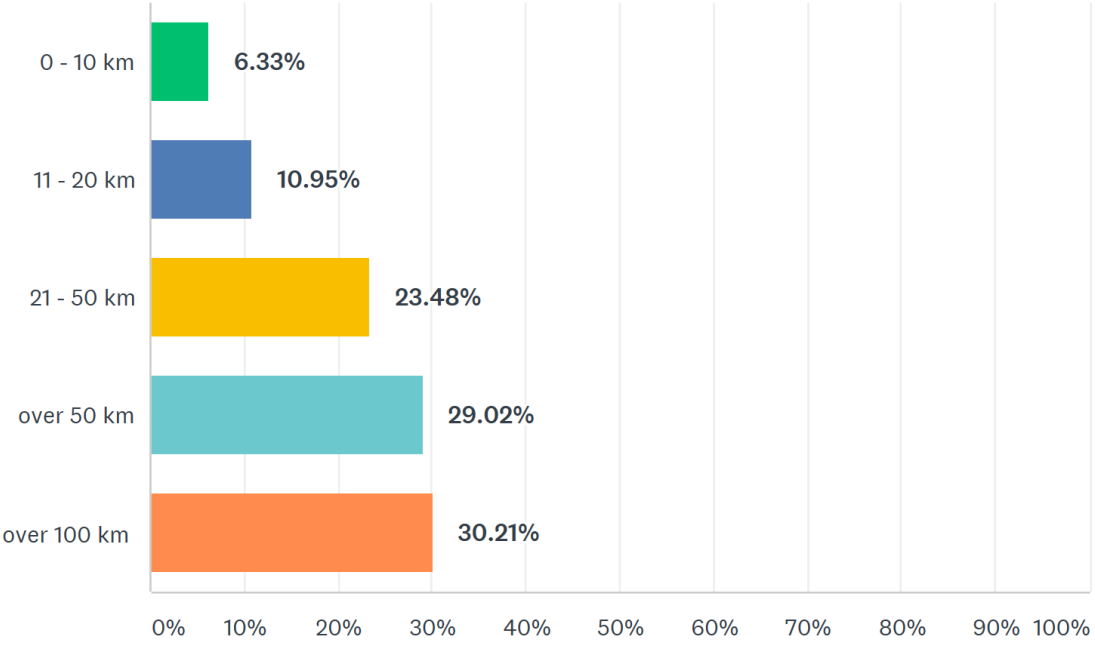


Figure 6 How far would you travel to access a trail or reserve/park?

131 people specified that they would not be willing to travel more that 20km to access a trail or reserve, but 627 people are willing to travel over 20km, with over 30% of the sample group willing to travel over 100km.

Table 3 If staying overnight, what type of accommodation options do you prefer to use?(Please select top 3)

Most Preferred	Defined basic camp site (toilet, tables, fire pits)
	Wild, undeveloped camping (no facilities)
	Formal camping ground (with toilet/showers, camp kitchen, BBQs
	Basic roofed accommodation (with toilet, e.g. Bibbulmun Track Shelters)
	Basic cabin accommodation
	Town based accommodation (e.g. hotel, motel, B&B, self-contained)
	Luxury trail based accommodation
	Other (responses: friends property, horse float friendly, do not stay overnight)
Least Preferred	Town based accommodation (Backpackers)

The 3 main reasons for spending time on the trails in the Peel Region were Exercise/fitness, Time with friends and family and Being in nature.

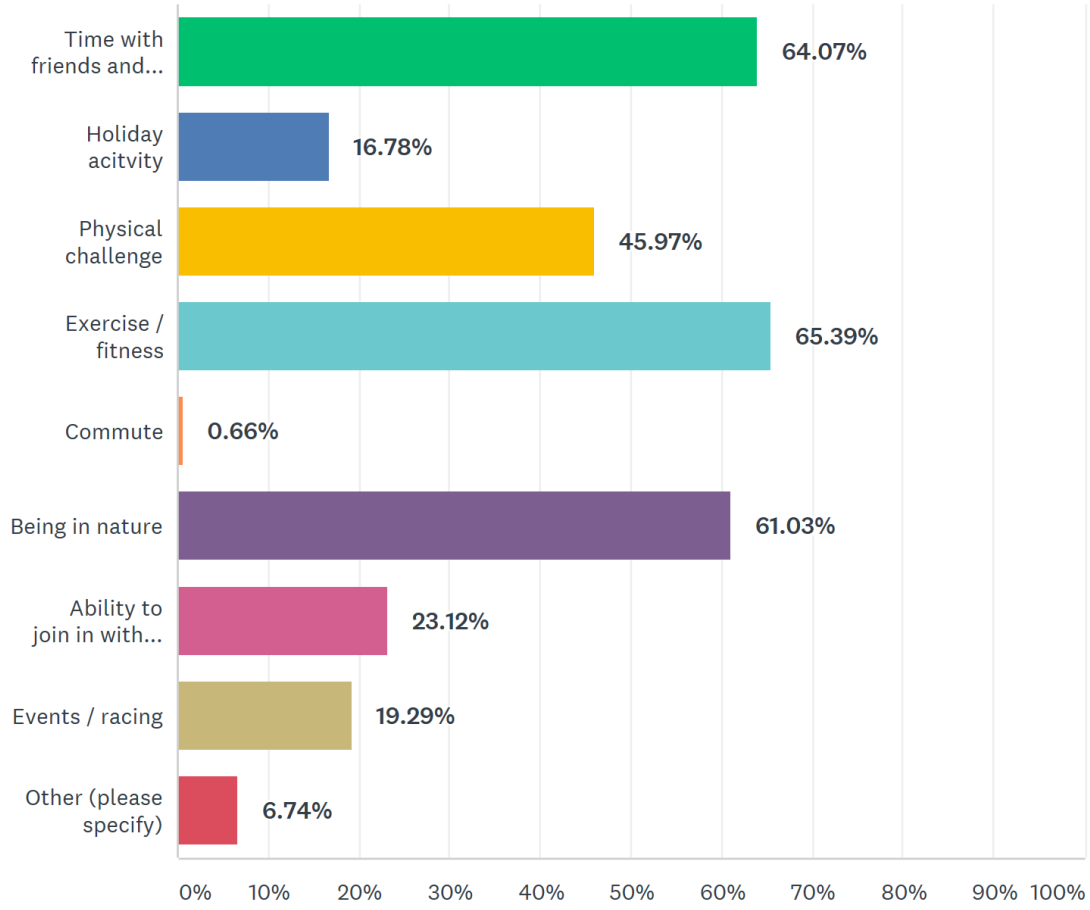


Figure 7 What are the main reasons you use trails ?(Please select top 3)

There was a very distinct preference in trail experience with over 95% of trail users seeking a Forest/Bush experience.

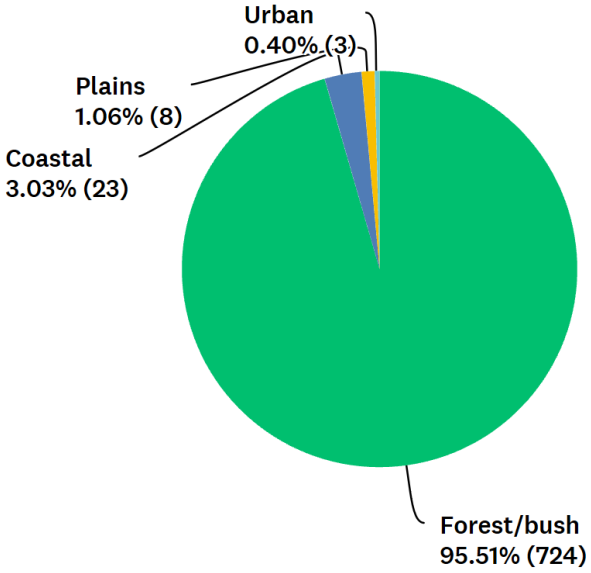


Figure 8 What trail experience are you seeking ?(Please select only one)

When asked to name the top 3 trails/areas that the respondents used most the top 3 responses were:

1. **Dwellingup**
2. **Jarrahdale**
3. **Serpentine**

There were also a large amount of responses panning the region. Through a text analysis the prominent words used were:

Forest Point Waroona North Dandalup Serpentine Blue Rock Langford Park Nanga Track Byford Turner Hill Pinjarra Jarrahdale Mandurah Dwellingup Boddington Trail Gorge Darling Downs Metro Road Marrinup Thicket Munda Biddi Lane Poole Reserve Harvey Scarp Road Jarradale

4. Key feedback on existing facilities:

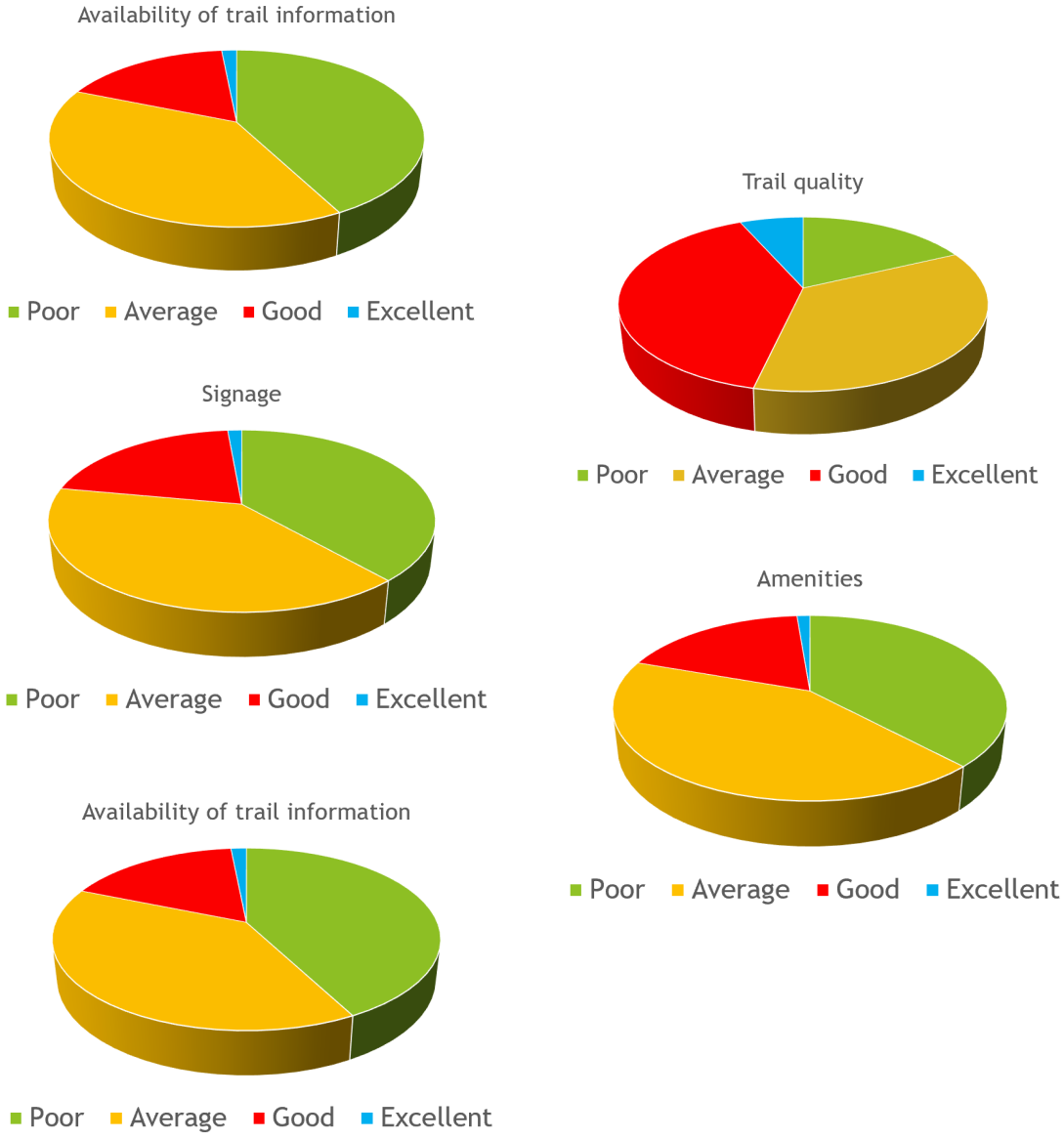


Figure 9 How do you rate the quality of trail related facilities in the Peel Region ?

The survey results show that very few respondents believe that the trail facilities in Peel are excellent. The majority of respondents believe that the trail facilities in the Peel Region are average.

Table 4 How do you rate the quality of trail related facilities in the Peel Region ?

	POOR	AVERAGE	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Trail quality	17.96% 130	35.64% 258	39.78% 288	6.63% 48
Parking	24.96% 176	43.40% 306	28.23% 199	3.40% 24
Signage	38.48% 274	39.47% 281	20.65% 147	1.40% 10
Amenities	38.03% 270	42.39% 301	18.31% 130	1.27% 9
Availability of trail information	42.30% 302	38.94% 278	17.23% 123	1.54% 11

5. General comments

There were 409 written responses when asked if the survey group had any general comments on the trails or facilities in the Peel Region.

The responses included a lot of informative information about individual's specific preferences for the Peel Region There were common themes around linking existing facilities, security, access to water catchments, more signage, more online information, increased parking for horse floats, inclusion of cycle lanes on roads, increased camping facilities for larger groups (school groups), and the most common request was for more trails.

When asked if the respondents would like to be kept informed on the outcomes of the Peel Regional Trails Strategy 269 individuals provided an email address.