



## Lake County Community Wildfire & Recreation Survey Summary Report April 2021

### Executive Summary

The Lake County Community Wildfire & Recreation Survey collected data from 488 participants: 485 in English and 3 in Spanish. The majority (61%) of the survey population own and occupy their residence full-time. Most respondents live in either the City of Leadville (39%) or in the rural forested subdivision (35%) areas of the county.

Survey respondents identified the three things they love most about Lake County as **community, landscapes** and **recreation**. Community identity included such factors as: culture, charm, affordability, amenities, diversity, spirit, location, and its people. Respondents qualified landscapes with many different adjectives including beautiful views, scenic, gorgeous, playground, open spaces, natural, rural, and wilderness. Recreation was defined as both indoor and outdoor recreation and included: accessibility, abundance, programming, trails, and seasonal options.

Respondents shared what they believed are some of the most pressing challenges for Lake County including **housing, infrastructure** and **recreational impacts**. When describing housing challenges, respondents used terms like affordability, availability and prices. They also mentioned issues related to short-term rental properties, second homeowners and lodging availability as other impactful concerns. Infrastructure challenges included roads, bridges, broadband, water, sewer, power, parking, and traffic. And recreational impacts included such items as adequate and illegal camping, bikes, trash, congestion, bad behaviors, disregard for regulations, dogs, facilities, over-crowding and over-use, and trail maintenance and cleanliness.

Survey respondents are highly aware of the risk of wildfire, with 80% indicating that a major wildfire is very likely or likely to happen in lake County in the next five years. Yet personal concern and preparedness for wildfire lags awareness. Even though respondents believe that a wildfire is likely to occur, they are in denial about it impacting their own residence. Only 29% indicated a great deal of concern and 30% are only moderately concerned about a fire occurring near their residence. Additionally, only 42% of respondents think it's very likely (16%) and likely (26%) that their property will be destroyed by a fire on the scale of the Hayden Pass or Weston Pass fires (over 30,000 acres).

Sixty-six percent (66%) of respondents feel confident that they can easily obtain timely and reliable information in the event of a local wildfire, however, only 41% have signed up for the Lake County Everbridge or Code Red systems. Only 16% think it is very likely (and 26% that it is likely) that their property would be destroyed by a wildfire.

Over 60% indicate they have already taken some action to reduce fire risks on their own property by clearing vegetation, mowing dead grass, moving firewood or clearing plants within 5 feet of structures. Over 70% of respondents believe that reducing homeowner policy rates or increasing access to homeowners insurance would motivate them to take action to reduce risk on their own property. However, the top factor residents indicate would encourage them to act was “information about what to do,” which is consistent with the lack of clarity about where to get such information regarding fire risk reduction. This suggests an opportunity for education on why/how much private lands treatment matters and what fully effective treatment entails, in order to develop increased urgency for action (assuming additional work on private lands is generally warranted). Once that sense of need is established, the data suggests that support to do the work and to remove cleared vegetation, combined with ongoing encouragement, would increase.

Eighty three percent (83%) of respondents characterized the health of Lake County public forests as either good or very good, while professionals consider it to be poor. The advancing beetle kill epidemic, high forest density and fuel loads related to decades of fire suppression and increasing drought/climate change are perceived by citizens as top threats to forest health.

A strong majority of respondents support land management activities to mitigate wildfire risks including: 90% who support land management partners removing excess trees/brush (thinning) and clearing trees (patch cuts); 80% support land management partners burning piles of vegetation following thinning; and 81% support land management partners conducting a controlled burn ignited by fire managers. Eighty-eight percent (88%) also think these activities are beneficial to wildlife. Some expressed concerns, including: 1) lack of trust in public agencies and government to conduct the work cost-effectively and responsibly, 2) concern that such efforts are overly optimistic and arrogant, and 3) with regard to emergency preparedness, concerns about proper planning and egress issues. These challenges could be addressed through more transparent planning and prioritization of treatment activities, more effective communication around treatment activities (pre- and post-work), and education about how the safety and air quality impacts of controlled burns are managed.

With 53% of respondents recreating outdoors and 45% recreating both outdoors and indoors, it is important to understand and plan for recreational impacts that will result from an increasing population, growth and wildfire risk. A majority of respondents believe there is an economic value to recreation with 89% who believe that recreation supports locally owned businesses and 83% who believe that visitors coming to recreate support better shopping and dining opportunities. However, there are some concerns about protecting some of the values that are important to residents as recreations use is forecasted to grow. Most respondents (90% - 92%) believe it is important to protect

smaller wildlife (such as eagles and trout) and larger wildlife such as elk and bighorn sheep. Additionally, 92% of respondents believe it is important to maintain the quality of recreational experiences, including 72% who believe that maintaining multi-use opportunities is important. Just over half of the respondents also want to see more development of facilities (such as restrooms) and more recreation (such as trails/roads).

To address some of these concerns and impacts, respondents believe it is important for government to manage recreation growth to 1) protect wildlife and water quality (91%), 2) maintain exceptional experiences (85%), 3) focus new recreation development where it will have the least impact to wildlife (82%), 4) improve existing recreation infrastructure (picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, paved trails, etc.) (67%) 5) develop more non-motorized trails (hiking, biking, horseback riding, etc.) (62%), and 6) improve existing recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.) (60%).

Respondents were interested in annually supporting these efforts financially by paying for wildfire treatment with an average of \$66, for outdoor recreation with an average of \$45, and for indoor recreation with an average of \$32. Respondents also provided over 181 additional ideas and suggestions for how to address some of these concerns and impacts. Many of those ideas revolve around funding and fee, recreation facilities and programming, control, management and limiting growth, and regulation and enforcement. Clearly residents are interested in this work over 250 people provided an email address and asked to stay informed about what Lake County is doing to manage growth and the risk of severe wildfire.

This survey was intended to inform government and public agency partners and to inspire community action to better manage wildfire risk and recreational impacts. The results indicate opportunities to:

- Increase community wildfire preparedness,
- Help private landowners understand the value of/need for action to reduce risk to their homes, the work they need to do, and develop additional programs to support such actions.
- Provide more transparent planning and prioritization of public and private land wildfire risk management activities, coupled with more effective communication about planned and completed work.

Leaders of county government and emergency management, local fire protection teams, and state and federal land and wildlife management agencies have and continue to work hard to protect the community from the risks of severe fire and to support forest health and fire resilience. We thank them for their service. This survey is a first step in a process to transparently assess current conditions, perceptions and opportunities and then take action to protect the community values and assets that are so important to Lake County residents.

## DATA Summary by Section

### Demographic & Community Values Section

The Lake County Community Wildfire and Recreation Survey collected data from **488 participants** (485 in English and 3 in Spanish). The survey was open from March 15 to April 15, 2021 to collect responses.

The majority of respondents (61%) *Own and Occupy Full Time* and 28% *Own and Occupy Part Time*. Four percent (4%) *Own and Rent Part Time* and less than 1% *Own and Rent Full Time*. Six percent (6%) of the respondents selected *I am a Full Time Renter*. [Q1: Table 1]

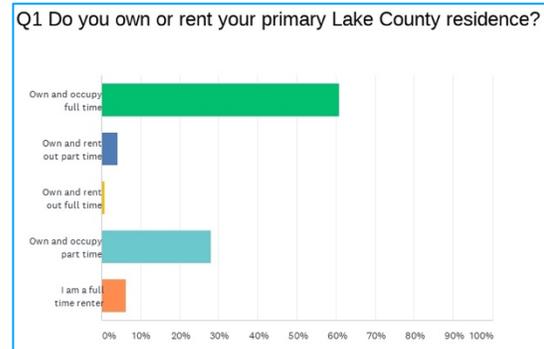


Table 1

Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the respondents **reside** in the *City of Leadville* and 35% live in *Rural Subdivisions (Forested)*. Eleven percent (11%) reside *Adjacent to Town*, 5% live in *Rural Subdivision (Open Grass Lands)*, another 2% are from *Town Lakes Village* and 8% indicated *Other*. [Q2 Table 2]

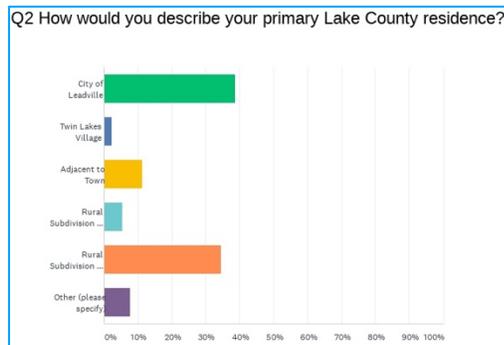


Table 2

*Other* included the following responses:

Mount Massive Lakes	16.22%	6
Beaver Lakes Estates	13.51%	5
Twin Lakes	13.51%	5
Mt Massive Lakes	10.81%	4
Pan Ark	8.11%	3
forest	8.11%	3

When asked, in an open-ended question, to describe the three things they **love most about Lake County**, the highest percentages of responses in summary categories included the following: *Community* (32%), *Landscapes* (28%) and *Recreation* (21%). Additional answers included: *Tranquility* (7%), *Climate/Seasons* (5%), *Access* (4%), *History* (2%), *Wildlife* (1%) and *No Pollution* (1%). Within the *Community* category there were several aspects identified including *Low Population Density/Size* (36%), *People* (34%), and *Culture/Charm* (18%).

When asked, in an open-ended question, to describe the three most **pressing challenges for Lake County** (when considering the coming growth in population and tourism, the highest percentage of responses in summary categories included *Housing* (16%), *Infrastructure* (13%), *Recreation Impacts* (8%) and *Environmental Impacts* (8%). Additional answers included: *Development/Growth* (7%), *Community Culture* (7%), *Economic Conditions* (7%), *Population/Density* (5%), *Services* (4%), *Government* (4%), *Employment*

(4%), Fire (3%), Food (3%), Pollution (3%), Safety (3%), Tourists (3%), and Health Care (1%).

Respondents were asked to rank specific items by how important they are to Lake County specialness. Natural Resources received the highest percentage of Extremely Important responses at 91%, Outdoor Recreation received 79% and Rural Character was a 67%. [Q5: Table 3]

	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT SO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Affordability	31.66% 151	41.72% 199	19.92% 95	5.87% 28	0.84% 4	477	2.03
Culture/arts	13.47% 64	33.89% 161	35.79% 170	13.47% 64	3.37% 16	475	2.59
Strong job market	21.67% 104	39.17% 188	28.13% 135	8.75% 42	2.29% 11	480	2.31
Natural resources (scenic beauty, clean waters, wildlife, healthy forests, etc.)	90.64% 436	8.32% 40	1.04% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	481	1.10
Outdoor recreation opportunities (e.g., trails, paddling, hunting, fishing)	79.00% 380	17.46% 84	3.12% 15	0.21% 1	0.21% 1	481	1.25
Indoor recreation opportunities (e.g. aquatic center and programming)	17.67% 85	31.39% 151	32.85% 158	14.14% 68	3.95% 19	481	2.55
Quality of health care	41.41% 200	41.82% 202	13.04% 63	3.31% 16	0.41% 2	483	1.80
Quality of schools	43.98% 212	34.02% 164	14.32% 69	3.94% 19	3.73% 18	482	1.89
Rural character and open space	67.43% 323	24.63% 118	6.68% 32	1.04% 5	0.21% 1	479	1.42
Friendly small-town culture	64.09% 307	28.60% 137	6.26% 30	0.63% 3	0.42% 2	479	1.45
Low crime rate	63.49% 306	28.22% 136	7.26% 35	0.83% 4	0.21% 1	482	1.46

Table 3

## Wildfire Section

When asked how they would characterize the health of Lake County public forests, 53% of the respondents selected *Good*. The remaining selections included the following: *Very Good* (30%), *Poor* (11%), *Excellent* (5%) and *Very Poor* (2%). [Q6: Table 4]

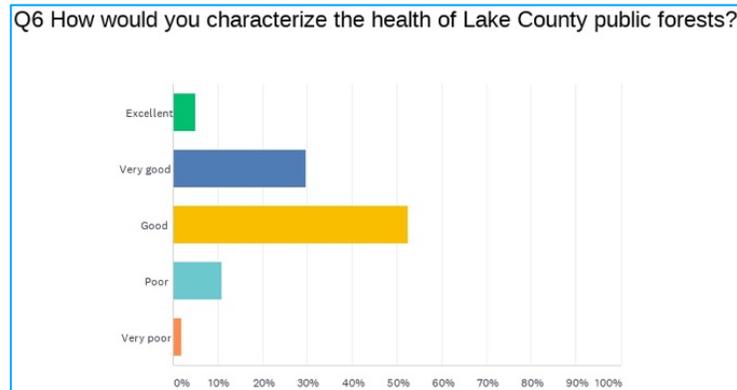


Table 4

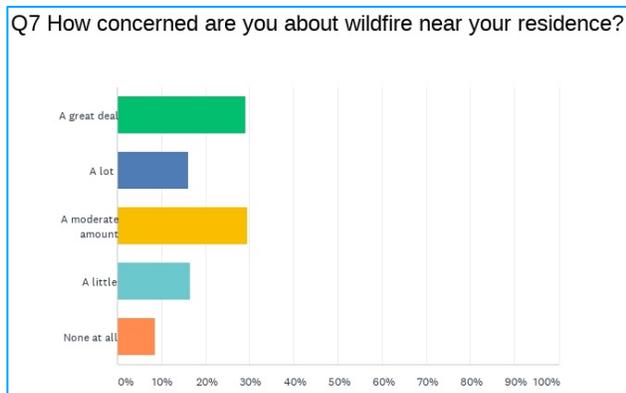


Table 5

Respondents were asked to indicate how concerned they are about wildfire near their residence, 30% indicated *A Moderate Amount* and 29% said *A Great Deal*. Seventeen percent (17%) indicated *A Little*, 16% selected *A Lot* and 9% said *None at All*. [Q7: Table 5]

Eighty percent of respondents (80%) believe that the likelihood of a major wildfire occurring in Lake County in the next 5 years is either *Very Likely* or *Likely*. Seventeen percent (17%) think it is *Neither Likely nor Unlikely*, 3% said *Unlikely* and less than 1% responded *Very Unlikely*. [Q8: Table 6]

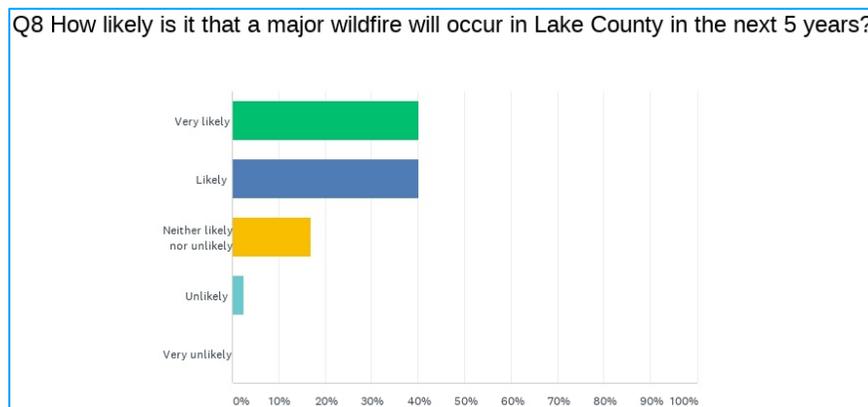


Table 6

A total of 94% of respondents believe that if a wildfire were to occur in Lake County (on the scale of the Hayden Pass or Weston Pass fires or over 13,000 acres) it is *Very Likely* (71%) and *Likely* (23%) that the air quality would become unhealthy. A total of 93% believe that it is *Very Likely* (65%) and *Likely* (28%) that wildlife habitat would be severely damaged. A total of 85% of the respondents believe that it is *Very Likely* (45%) and *Likely* (40%) that local businesses would be negatively impacted. A total of 85% of the respondents also believe that it is *Very Likely* (44%) and *Likely* (41%) that the Arkansas River water quality trout habitat would be damaged. A total of 72% of respondents believe that it is *Very Likely* (44%) and *Likely* (41%) that their community water supply would be threatened. A total of 42% of respondents believe that it is *Very Likely* (19%) and *Likely* (23%) that the route/egress from their property may present challenges. Finally, a total of 42% of respondents believe that it is *Very Likely* (16%) and *Likely* (26%) that their property would be destroyed. [Q9: Table 7]

	VERY LIKELY	LIKELY	NEITHER LIKELY NOR UNLIKELY	UNLIKELY	VERY UNLIKELY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The air quality would become unhealthy.	71.49% 331	22.89% 106	3.67% 17	1.73% 8	0.22% 1	463	1.36
Wildlife habitat would be severely damaged.	64.79% 300	27.65% 128	6.26% 29	0.86% 4	0.43% 2	463	1.44
Local business would be negatively impacted	44.40% 206	40.30% 187	11.42% 53	3.23% 15	0.65% 3	464	1.75
Arkansas River water quality / trout habitat would be damaged	44.37% 205	40.91% 189	11.69% 54	3.03% 14	0.00% 0	462	1.73
My community water supply would be threatened.	32.33% 150	39.44% 183	19.18% 89	7.33% 34	1.72% 8	464	2.07
The route/egress from my property may present challenges	19.05% 88	23.38% 108	23.59% 109	21.00% 97	12.99% 60	462	2.85
My property would be destroyed.	15.80% 73	25.76% 119	29.44% 136	20.35% 94	8.66% 40	462	2.80

Table 7

Respondents were asked if they feel confident that they could easily receive timely and reliable information in the event of a local wildfire, 66% said *Yes* and 34% responded *No*. [Q10: Table 8]

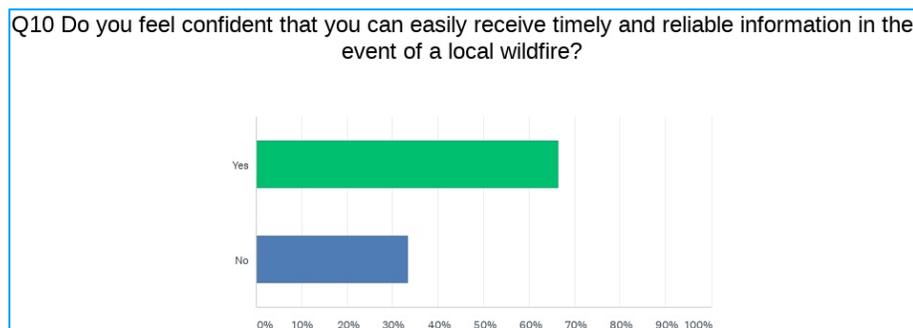


Table 8

Only 41% of the respondents have signed up for the Lake County Everbridge or Code Red systems (that contact those registered with a reverse 911 call). The other 59% of the respondents have not signed up for this type of emergency communication system. [Q11: Table 9]

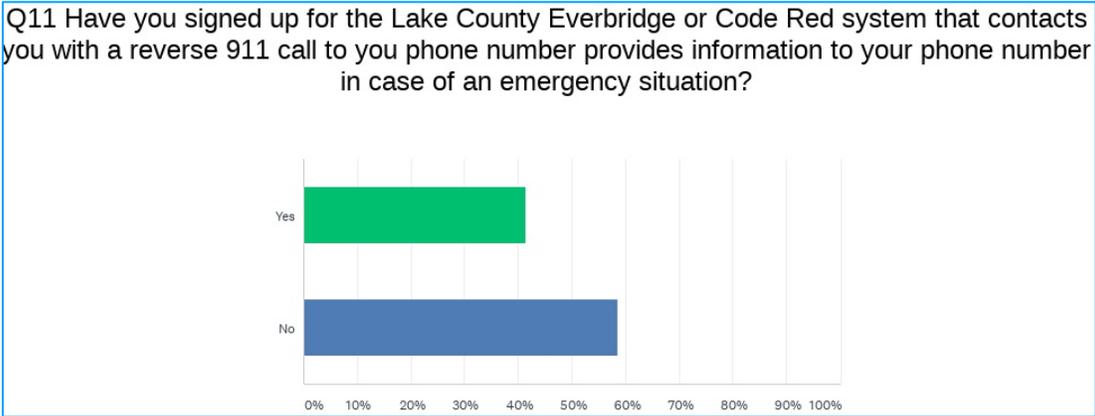


Table 9

Respondents were asked to indicate how important they think it is to protect these items below from wildfire and/or post wildfire flood events. The percentages below are the combined total percentage of those indicating *Extremely Important* and *Important* in ranked order from highest to lowest in importance.

Lake County	Combined %
The lives of firefighters and first responders	99%
Human life	96%
Drinking water	95%
Wildlife	88%
Infrastructure (cell phone towers, power lines, roads)	85%
Water quality in local streams and gold medal trout waters	84%
Property (AKA Homes/WUI)	80%
Threatened and endangered species (ex. lynx, boreal toad)	78%
Arkansas river recreation (rafting and fishing)	64%
Forest recreation (ex. major trail systems)	62%
Tourism and economy	62%
Scenic views	63%

*The Lives of Fire Fighters and First Responders* received the **highest percentage of Extremely Important** responses at 93%, *Human Life* received 86%, *Drinking Water* was a 69% and *Wildlife* at 53%. [Q12: Table 10]

	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT SO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Human life	85.84% 400	10.30% 48	3.00% 14	0.64% 3	0.21% 1	466	1.19
Property	40.56% 187	38.61% 178	17.14% 79	3.04% 14	0.65% 3	461	1.85
Drinking water	68.55% 316	26.25% 121	4.34% 20	0.43% 2	0.43% 2	461	1.38
Infrastructure (cell phone towers, power lines, roads)	41.47% 192	43.63% 202	12.74% 59	1.73% 8	0.43% 2	463	1.76
Forest recreation (ex. major trail systems)	23.54% 109	38.01% 176	28.08% 130	8.21% 38	2.16% 10	463	2.27
Arkansas river recreation (rafting and fishing)	23.28% 108	40.52% 188	25.86% 120	8.19% 38	2.16% 10	464	2.25
Wildlife	52.39% 241	36.30% 167	8.26% 38	1.74% 8	1.30% 6	460	1.63
Water quality in local streams and gold medal trout waters	48.28% 224	36.21% 168	12.93% 60	1.72% 8	0.86% 4	464	1.71
Threatened and endangered species (ex. lynx, boreal toad)	43.32% 201	35.99% 167	14.87% 69	3.66% 17	2.16% 10	464	1.85
Scenic views	29.07% 134	34.06% 157	25.38% 117	8.89% 41	2.60% 12	461	2.22
The lives of fire fighters and first responders	93.32% 433	5.82% 27	0.22% 1	0.43% 2	0.22% 1	464	1.08
Tourism and economy	20.47% 95	42.24% 196	27.37% 127	7.97% 37	1.94% 9	464	2.29

Table 10

Respondents were asked to indicate how acceptable various approaches to supporting healthy, fire-resilient forest would be for them. *Citizens cutting and removing excess trees and brush on their property* received the highest percentage of *Extremely Acceptable* and *Very Acceptable* responses with a total of 92%, and *Land Management partners removing excess trees/brush (thinning) and clearing trees (patch cuts) on public lands* received 90%. Fifteen percent (15%) of respondents selected *Not so Acceptable* and *Not at All Acceptable* for *Citizens having the ability to remove trees and brush on public lands adjacent to their property*. [Q13: Table 11]

	EXTREMELY ACCEPTABLE	VERY ACCEPTABLE	SOMEWHAT ACCEPTABLE	NOT SO ACCEPTABLE	NOT AT ALL ACCEPTABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Citizens cutting and removing excess trees and brush on their property.	69.25% 322	23.23% 108	5.59% 26	1.94% 9	0.00% 0	465	1.40
Citizens having the ability to remove trees and brush on public lands adjacent to their property.	27.21% 126	31.10% 144	26.35% 122	11.66% 54	3.67% 17	463	2.33
Land Management partners removing excess trees/brush (thinning) and clearing trees (patch cuts) on public lands	59.18% 274	30.89% 143	7.78% 36	1.51% 7	0.65% 3	463	1.54
Land management partners burning piles of vegetation following thinning	46.34% 215	33.62% 156	13.79% 64	4.74% 22	1.51% 7	464	1.81
Land management partners conducting a controlled burn ignited by fire managers	45.57% 211	35.21% 163	15.33% 71	2.38% 11	1.51% 7	463	1.79
Land management partners allowing a naturally ignited fire to burn on public lands.	27.98% 129	33.62% 155	26.68% 123	9.54% 44	2.17% 10	461	2.24

Table 11

When asked if they have done any wildfire-related activities on their primary Lake County residence, respondents provided the following:

- Reduced my home fire risk by clearing vegetation on my property (ex. cleared weeds, brush, and trees) = **65% (Yes)**, 12% (No), 23% (N/A)
- Reduced my residence fire risk by mowing dead grass, moving firewood, or clearing plants within 5 feet of structures. = **63% (Yes)**, 20% (No), 17% (N/A)
- Made my residence more fire resistant (ex. replaced roofing, siding, added hardscaping) = 46% (Yes), 37% (No), 17% (N/A)
- My subdivision HOA or POA has taken action to reduce risk = 23% (Yes), 29% (No), 48% (N/A)
- Helped reduce vegetation on community property = 16% (Yes), **72% (No)**, 12% (N/A)
- Helped neighbor(s) reduce vegetation on their properties = 15% (Yes), **63% (No)**, 22% (N/A)
- Helped reduce vegetation on nearby public lands = 11% (Yes), **78% (No)**, 11% (N/A)

Respondents were also asked what factors would encourage them to take action to reduce wildfire risks on their own residences. *Understanding the wildfire risk level on my property* received the highest percentage of *A Great Deal* and *A Lot* responses with a total of 76%, and *Reduced homeowner insurance policy rates or increased access to homeowners insurance* received 72%.

Fifteen percent (15%) of respondents selected *A Little and Not at All* for *A list of recommended contractors that could be hired to do the work*. [Q15: Table 12]

	A GREAT DEAL	A LOT	A MODERATE AMOUNT	A LITTLE	NOT AT ALL	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
A list of recommended contractors that could be hired to do the work	18.00% 83	22.56% 104	24.95% 115	14.10% 65	20.39% 94	461	2.96
Financial assistance	32.66% 146	17.45% 78	19.69% 88	13.65% 61	16.55% 74	447	2.64
Help doing the physical work (thinning trees / removing debris)	28.14% 130	24.46% 113	21.43% 99	12.55% 58	13.42% 62	462	2.59
Encouragement to do the work (ex. a community wildfire cleanup day)	25.54% 118	28.35% 131	22.73% 105	12.12% 56	11.26% 52	462	2.55
Assistance in removing cut vegetation or debris (ex. with county provided dumpsters/chippers)	38.31% 177	29.87% 138	14.94% 69	8.01% 37	8.87% 41	462	2.19
Reduced homeowner insurance policy rates or increased access to homeowners insurance	41.34% 191	31.17% 144	14.94% 69	6.06% 28	6.49% 30	462	2.05
Information about what needs to be done	39.82% 182	33.26% 152	14.22% 65	7.88% 36	4.81% 22	457	2.05
Understanding the wildfire risk level on my property	43.20% 200	33.05% 153	14.47% 67	4.97% 23	4.32% 20	463	1.94

Table 12

## Outdoor & Indoor Recreation Section

Respondents were asked to indicate how they recreate in Lake County. Fifty-four percent (54%) responded that they only recreate outdoors, 45% said they recreate both inside and outside, less than 2% (1.53%) do not recreate at all, and less than 1% (.44%) recreate only indoors. [Q16: Table 13]

Respondents were also asked to indicate how strongly they agree or disagree with the following statements related to outdoor recreation growth:

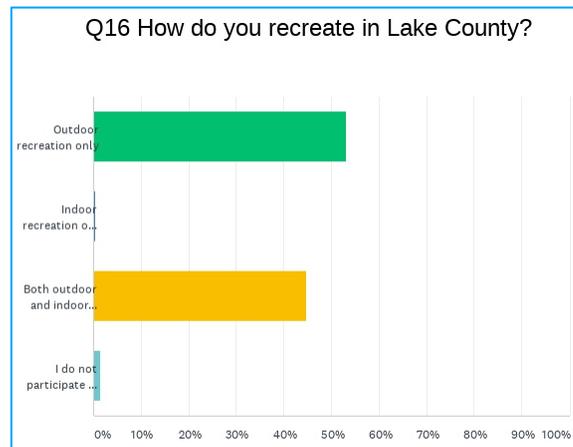


Table 13

- Visitors coming to recreate support better shopping and dining opportunities
- Outdoor recreation tourism supports locally owned businesses
- Increasing outdoor recreation use is being managed in a sustainable way
- The benefits of visitors coming to recreate outweigh any negative impacts
- Public Lands managers do enough to protect natural resources user impacts.

*Outdoor recreation tourism supports locally owned businesses* received the highest total of percentages of *Strongly Agree* and *Agree* responses with a total of 89%, and *Visitors coming to recreate support better shopping and dining opportunities* received 83%.

A combined total of 37% of respondents selected *Strongly Disagree* or *Disagree* that *The benefits of visitors coming to recreate outweigh any negative impacts.* [Q17: Table 14]

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Visitors coming to recreate support better shopping and dining opportunities	42.14% 193	41.27% 189	10.92% 50	5.46% 25	0.22% 1	458	1.80
Outdoor recreation tourism supports locally-owned businesses	50.33% 230	39.39% 180	7.00% 32	2.63% 12	0.66% 3	457	1.64
Increasing outdoor recreation use is being managed in a sustainable way	16.78% 76	25.39% 115	30.24% 137	19.65% 89	7.95% 36	453	2.77
The benefits of visitors coming to recreate outweigh any negative impacts	10.96% 50	23.68% 108	27.41% 125	26.54% 121	11.40% 52	456	3.04
Public Lands managers do enough to protect natural resources user impacts.	5.30% 24	20.75% 94	43.05% 195	22.74% 103	8.17% 37	453	3.08

Table 14

Respondents were also asked to indicate how strongly they agree or disagree with the several statements regarding recreation. *I regularly take advantage of outdoor recreation opportunities, such as roads, trails and campgrounds* received the highest total of percentages of *Strongly Agree* and *Agree* responses with a total of 92%, *I regularly take advantage of outdoor recreation opportunities, such as bike trails, groomed trails, fishing, archery or shooting, etc.* received a combine total of 86% and *Recreation is a strong reason why I came here / have stayed here* received 81%.

A combined total of 44% of respondents selected *Strongly Disagree* or *Disagree* that *I regularly use recreation opportunities and facilities in other counties (Please indicate what type of facilities below and I regularly take advantage of indoor recreation opportunities, such as Aquatic Center Gym, 6th St. Gym, Climax Leadership Center, Public Library, etc.* received 40% of the *Strongly Disagree* or *Disagree* responses. [Q18: Table 15]

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Recreation is a strong reason why I came here / have stayed here	57.99% 265	23.19% 106	12.04% 55	4.81% 22	1.97% 9	457	1.70
I regularly take advantage of outdoor recreation opportunities, such as roads, trails and campgrounds	60.75% 277	31.36% 143	5.92% 27	1.75% 8	0.22% 1	456	1.49
I regularly partake in programs, sport leagues, and special events	12.11% 55	16.96% 77	27.09% 123	28.63% 130	15.20% 69	454	3.18
I regularly take advantage of outdoor recreation facilities such as Huck Finn Ice Rink/Skatepark/Tennis Courts, Dutch Henry Tubing Hill, Community Park Field, parks and playgrounds	17.66% 80	23.84% 108	20.09% 91	27.81% 126	10.60% 48	453	2.90
I regularly take advantage of outdoor recreation opportunities, such as bike trails, groomed trails, fishing, archery or shooting, etc.	55.92% 255	29.82% 136	7.89% 36	5.26% 24	1.10% 5	456	1.66
I regularly take advantage of indoor recreation opportunities, such as Aquatic Center Gym, 6th St. Gym, Climax Leadership Center, Public Library, etc.	14.70% 66	22.94% 103	22.49% 101	23.83% 107	16.04% 72	449	3.04
I regularly use recreation opportunities and facilities in other counties (Please indicate what type of facilities below.	12.56% 56	20.85% 93	22.87% 102	25.56% 114	18.16% 81	446	3.16

Table 15

Respondents were asked to consider, as recreation use continues to expand in Lake County, how important are the following:

- Protect wildlife such as elk and bighorn sheep

- Maintain the quality of recreational experiences
- Protect smaller wildlife such as eagles and trout
- Maintain multi-use opportunities
- Develop more facilities, such as restrooms
- Develop more recreation, such as trails/roads
- Promote additional tourism

*Protect smaller wildlife such as eagles and trout* received the highest total of percentages of *Extremely Important* and *Very Important* responses with a combined total of 95%, *Protect wildlife such as elk and bighorn sheep* received a combine total of 92% and *Maintain the quality of recreational experiences* received 92%.

A combined total of 36% of respondents selected *Not at All Important* or *Not So Important* for *Promote additional tourism*. [Q19: Table 16]

	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT SO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Protect wildlife such as elk and bighorn sheep	64.47% 294	28.07% 128	6.80% 31	0.44% 2	0.22% 1	456	1.44
Maintain the quality of recreational experiences	59.34% 270	32.75% 149	6.81% 31	0.66% 3	0.44% 2	455	1.50
Protect smaller wildlife such as eagles and trout	67.03% 305	28.13% 128	4.18% 19	0.66% 3	0.00% 0	455	1.38
Maintain multi-use opportunities	34.37% 155	37.92% 171	21.51% 97	4.88% 22	1.33% 6	451	2.01
Develop more facilities, such as restrooms	27.41% 125	32.02% 146	29.61% 135	8.99% 41	1.97% 9	456	2.26
Develop more recreation, such as trails/roads	25.22% 115	25.00% 114	28.29% 129	16.23% 74	5.26% 24	456	2.51
Promote additional tourism	9.43% 43	19.96% 91	33.77% 154	23.25% 106	13.60% 62	456	3.12

Table 16

Respondents were asked to consider how important it is for Lake County government to do any of the following:

- Acquire land and/or surface leasing options for future recreation development
- Improve existing recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.)
- Improve existing recreation infrastructure (picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, paved trails, etc.)
- Develop more recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.)
- Develop more recreation infrastructure (picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, paved trails, etc.)
- Develop additional recreational programming
- Develop more non-motorized trails (hiking, biking, horseback riding, etc.)
- Manage recreation growth to protect wildlife and water quality
- Manage recreation growth to maintain exceptional experiences
- Focus new recreation development where it will have the least impact to wildlife

*Manage recreation growth to protect wildlife and water quality* received the highest total of percentages of *Extremely Important* and *Very Important* responses with a combined total of

91%, Focus new recreation development where it will have the least impact to wildlife received 82% and *Manage recreation growth to maintain exceptional experiences* received a combine total of 85%.

A combined total of 26% of respondents selected *Not at All Important* or *Not So Important* for *Develop more recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.)*. [Q20: Table 17]

	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT SO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Acquire land and/or surface leasing options for future recreation development	21.51% 97	26.39% 119	33.92% 153	13.97% 63	4.21% 19	451	2.53
Improve existing recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.)	29.14% 132	30.68% 139	29.36% 133	8.83% 40	1.99% 9	453	2.24
Improve existing recreation infrastructure (picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, paved trails, etc.)	28.98% 131	37.83% 171	25.88% 117	5.97% 27	1.33% 6	452	2.13
Develop more recreation facilities (recreation center, active field complex, etc.)	19.78% 89	19.56% 88	34.22% 154	21.33% 96	5.11% 23	450	2.72
Develop more recreation infrastructure (picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, paved trails, etc.)	20.18% 91	27.94% 126	35.03% 158	14.41% 65	2.44% 11	451	2.51
Develop additional recreational programming	12.72% 57	22.54% 101	41.07% 184	20.31% 91	3.35% 15	448	2.79
Develop more non-motorized trails (hiking, biking, horseback riding, etc.)	30.75% 139	30.75% 139	23.01% 104	11.50% 52	3.98% 18	452	2.27
Manage recreation growth to protect wildlife and water quality	66.30% 301	24.89% 113	7.05% 32	1.54% 7	0.22% 1	454	1.44
Manage recreation growth to maintain exceptional experiences	53.52% 243	31.06% 141	11.89% 54	2.64% 12	0.88% 4	454	1.66
Focus new recreation development will it will have the least impact to wildlife	51.54% 234	29.52% 134	15.20% 69	2.64% 12	1.10% 5	454	1.72

Table 17

## Community Support Section

Respondents were asked how much money they would be willing to pay on an annual basis to support action to mitigate wildfire risk [Q21: Table 18], outdoor recreation facilities and programming [Q22: Table 19] and indoor recreation facilities and programming [Q23: Table 20].

- Mitigate wildfire risk average number is \$66
  - \$0 = 5%
  - \$1 - \$24 = 11%
  - \$25 - \$49 = 10%
  - \$50 - \$74 = 22%
  - \$75 - \$99 = 10%
  - **\$100 = 41%**

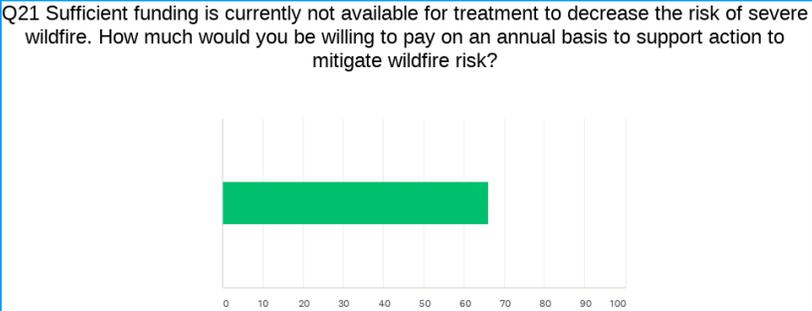


Table 18

- Outdoor recreation facilities and programming average number is \$45
  - \$0 = 15%
  - \$1 - \$24 = 20%
  - \$25 - \$49 = 14%
  - \$50 - \$74 = 23%
  - \$75 - \$99 = 6%
  - **\$100 = 22%**

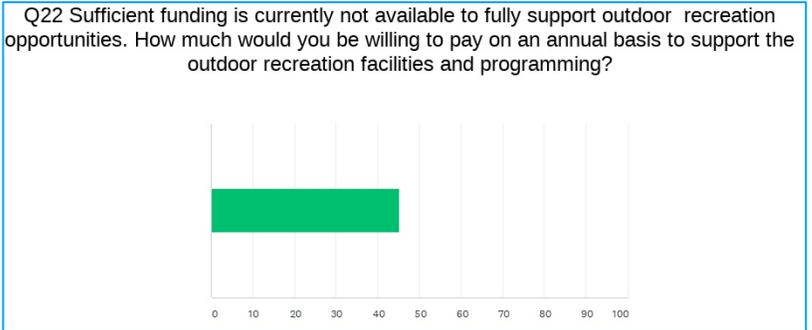


Table 19

- Indoor recreation facilities and programming \$32
  - \$0 = 25%
  - **\$1 - \$24 = 26%**
  - \$25 - \$49 = 16%
  - \$50 - \$74 = 16%
  - \$75 - \$99 = 2%
  - \$100 = 14%

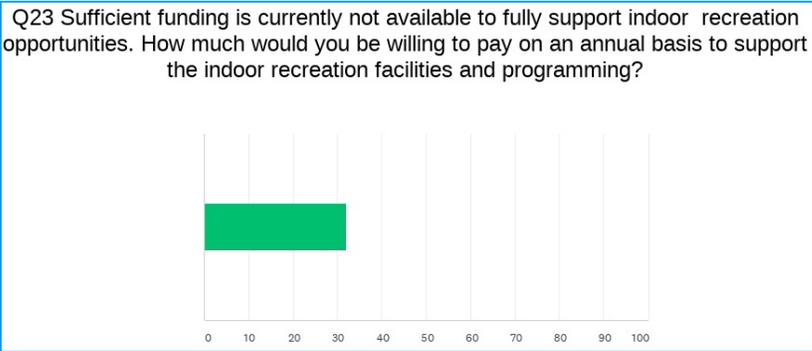


Table 20

There were 181 written responses when asked if respondents wanted to provide any additional ideas about how Lake County can maintain quality of life as it grows. [Q24]

Ideas that were presented fell into several categories including the following:

- Funding/Fees (24%)

- Recreation Facilities & Programming (20%)
- Control/Manage/Limit Growth (16%)
- Regulations/Enforcement (13%)
- Inclusion/Government (8%)
- Infrastructure (8%)
- Education (5%)
- Amenities (3%)
- Events (3%)

Two hundred and seventy-two respondents (272) provided an email address to stay informed about what Lake County is doing to manage growth and the risk of severe wildfire. Their email will not be shared or used for any other purpose. [Q25]

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