



Verde River Recreation Master Plan

Appendix II – Public Survey Results

An important component of the Town of Camp Verde’s River Recreation Master Plan process involved community engagement to solicit the feedback, priorities, concerns, and ideas of community members about recreational opportunities and challenges along the 17-mile stretch of the Verde River that runs through Camp Verde. A critical subset of the community engagement process brought in the input from riverfront property owners, who were most impacted by current, unmanaged recreation use, and would be most affected by expansion of on-river recreational activities and access.

Beginning in July of 2015, a web-based survey was initiated to gather feedback from the riverfront property owners. The survey was also distributed by direct mail to riverfront property owners within Camp Verde. The survey effort was coordinated with neighborhood listening sessions and public meetings for property owners along the Verde River. The focused survey gathered responses from 49 of the 175 property owners who received it.

This outreach was followed up by a survey prepared for use with the general public of residents in Camp Verde. It was identical in most respects to the survey developed for riverfront property owners, however, it was slightly longer, and focused less on the direct impacts experienced by citizens due to recreation, but rather was oriented more toward the general quality of life and recreational opportunity aspects of planning for managed recreation. The web-based survey for the general public was prepared prior to the October 15, 2015 public open house convened by the Town of Camp Verde, and hard copy versions of the survey were distributed to participants at the open house. Overall, the general public survey produced 69 respondents.

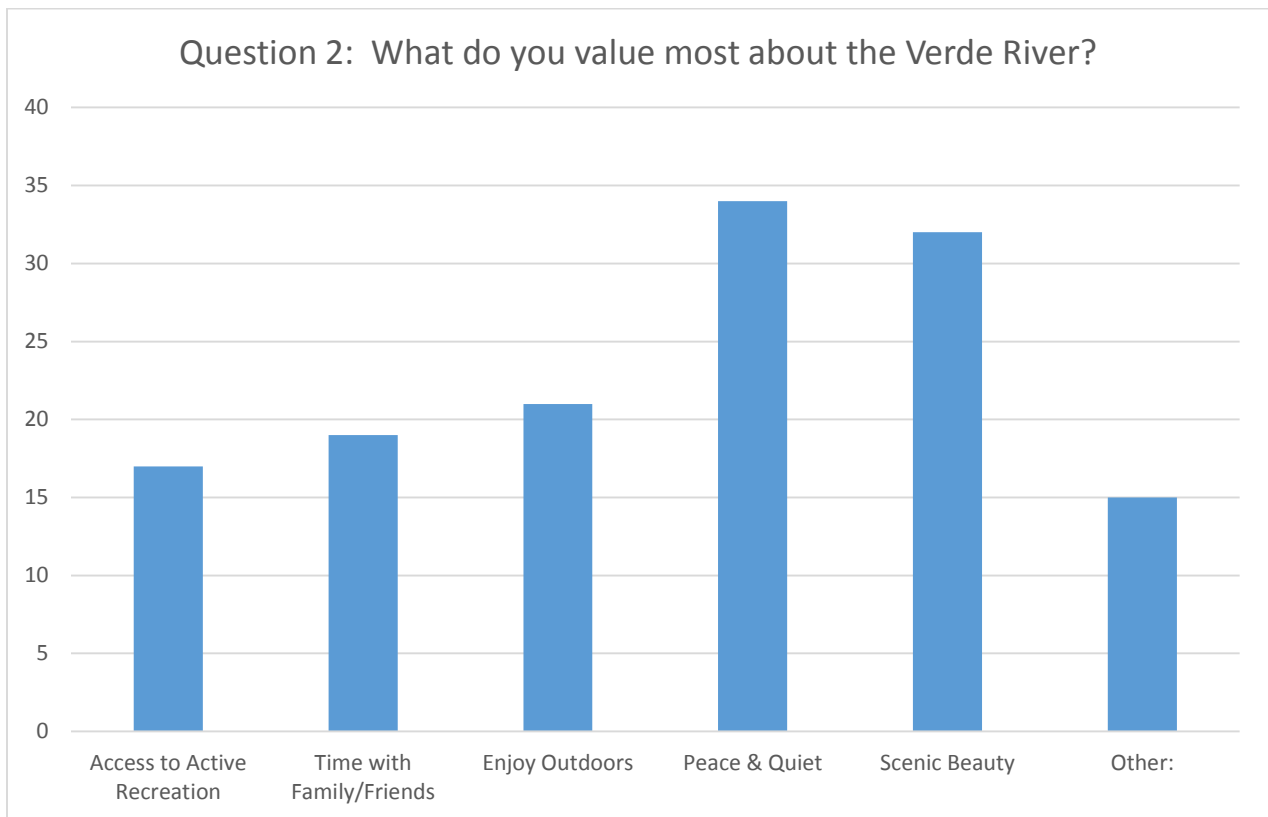
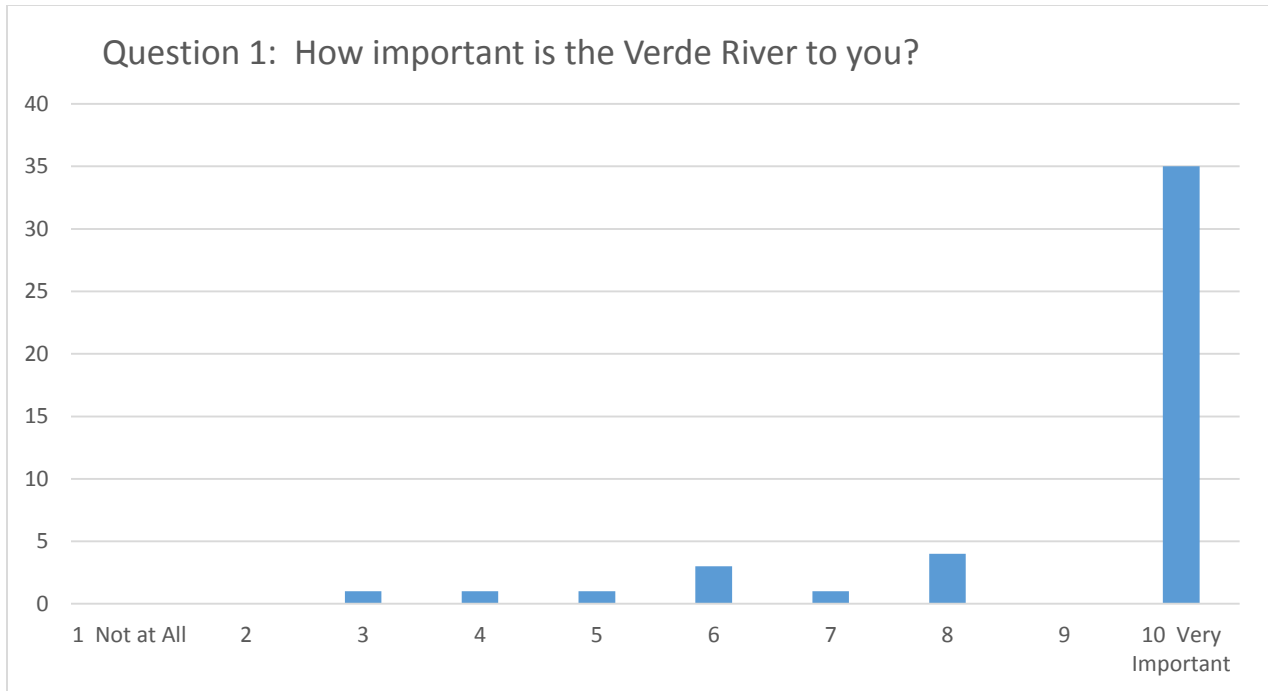
The survey responses are summarized in this appendix, along with a copy of the survey form developed for the riverfront property owners and for the general public.

Riverfront Property Owner Survey Results

The survey produced for riverfront property owner feedback was comprised of seven questions, seeking to understand how riverfront land owners valued the Verde River, ask about problems or challenges with recreational use from the perspective of property owners, and solicit ideas and strategies for addressing those challenges while meeting the community’s need for enhanced recreation opportunities.

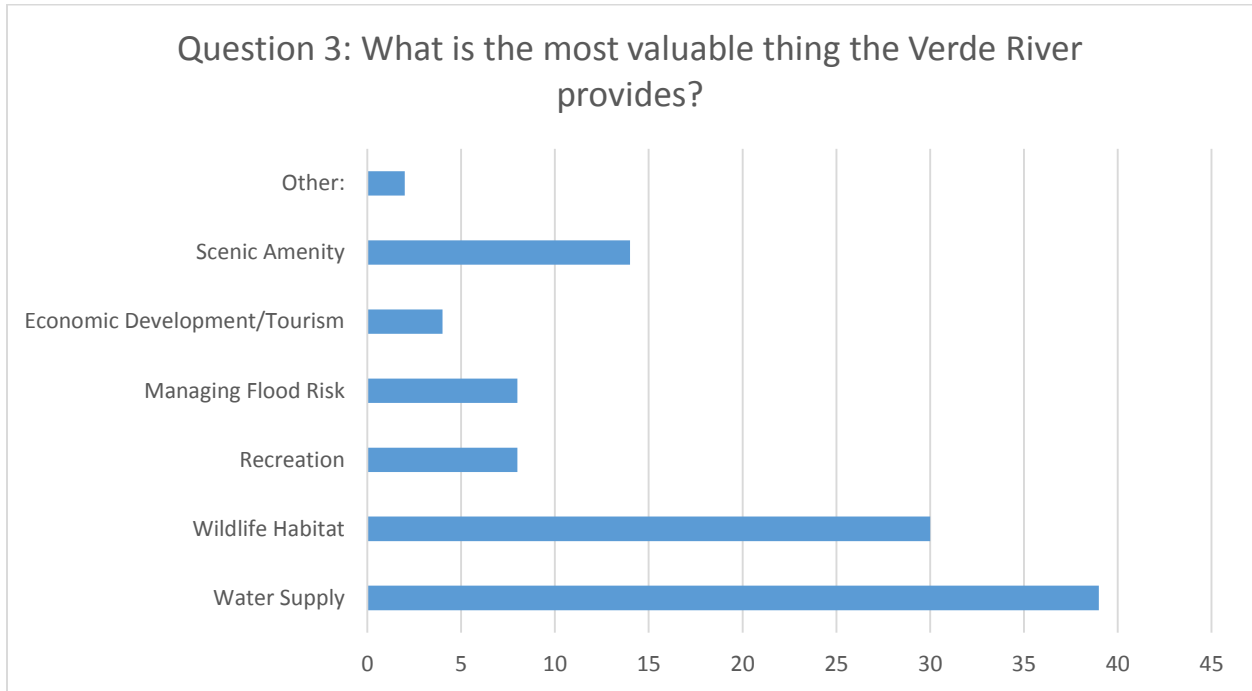
The first four were multiple choice questions about values along the Verde River, and issues or concerns the property owners may have experienced, while the remaining three questions were open-ended to explore solutions to recreational challenges in the community.

The following charts summarize the responses to the first four questions asked in the survey:

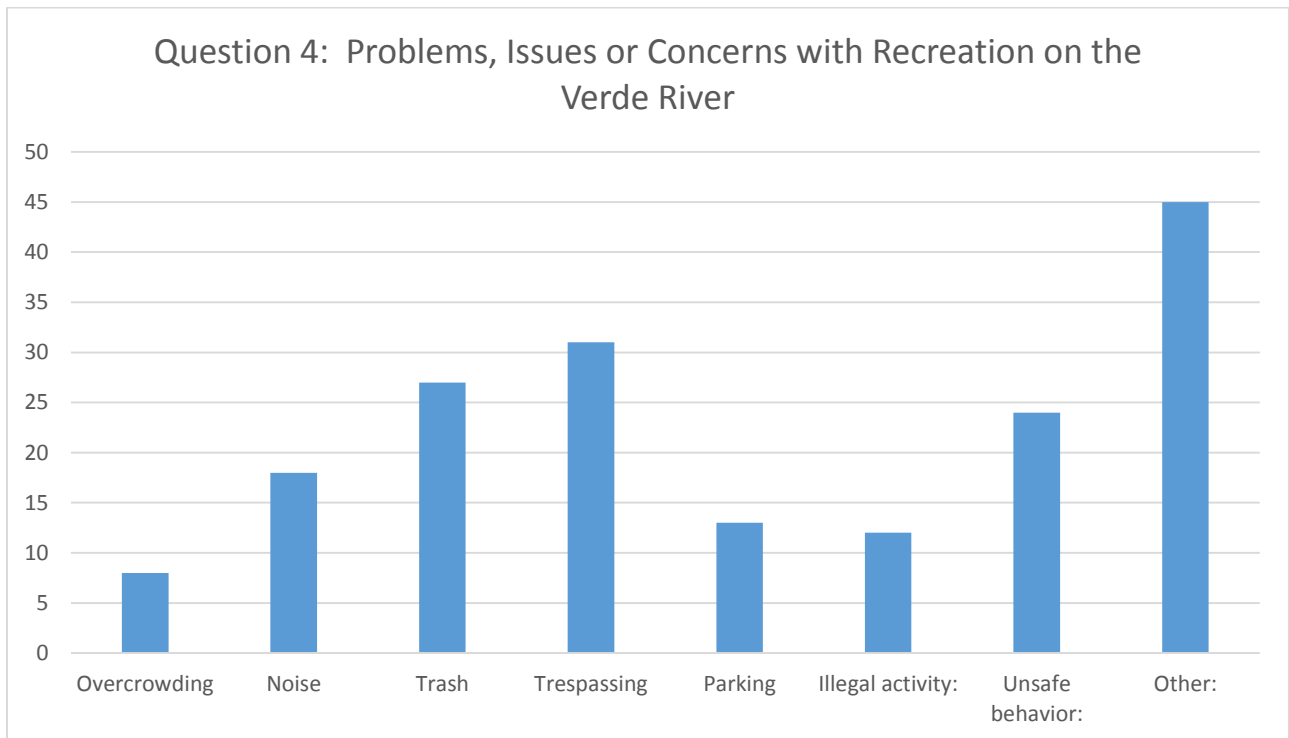


The values of riverfront property owners ranged the full spectrum of options offered, but the attributes most valued were the peace and quiet and scenic beauty offered by the Verde River. Among the most

frequent responses to Question 2 by property owners which landed in the “other” category were privacy (5 respondents), and wildlife/birdwatching (4 respondents).



The majority of survey respondents answered that water supply and wildlife habitat were the most valuable resources provided by the Verde River. In the category of “other,” two respondents noted protecting nature, and that the Verde was one of the only free-flowing rivers left in Arizona.



Question 4 provided an opportunity for survey respondents to share open-ended answers about challenges and problems they experienced directly as a result of recreation on the Verde River. The majority of respondents cited trespassing and trash dumping as the most common issues. Under the header of “illegal activity,” property owners expressed concern with drug use/sales (9 respondents), firearms and shooting, and the dumping of animals. The catch-all of “unsafe behavior” reflected a significant concern with fires and fire-starting (13 respondents), as well as fights, ATV use, unsafe boating, and hunting near people’s homes. The “other” category captured a great deal more variety, but the most commonly expressed concerns involved property damage and stealing, camping by vagrants and transients, public intoxication, unleashed animals, graffiti, and damage to sensitive habitats. A minority of property owners (6 respondents) reported experiencing no problems or concerns.

The remainder of the questions were open-ended, inviting the survey respondents to describe their recommendations and suggestions in their own words to the Town of Camp Verde. The comments shared thus are summarized below for Question 5-7.

Question #5 - What could the Town of Camp Verde do to improve/address concerns you have about recreational activities on the Verde River?
Make it easier to get past irrigation ditches, especially just before White Bridge.
Ensure property owner's rights and privacy are maintained and protected.
Mark the end of the Launch Area with NO TRESPASSING signs and posters informing the people that it is private property and no river access beyond the launch area.
Control traffic in and out and noise on Rustler Trail with speed bumps or restricted speed limit... as a dead end street, I'm concerned about safety. I own three properties on Rustler, two back up to the river; trespassing is an issue now. As most people on Rustler are retired, our kids and grandkids crossing the street is of great concern.
Mark borders of town property clearly, defining that beyond that is trespassing. Post no overnight camping, no fires, provide trashcans, limit hours that it is open from 0900 to 1700.
As the number of people using the waterway increases, I can see where the problems arising from use will increase also. There is a complete lack of respect for private property along the river, mostly by people who do not own river property. I have in the last 20 years here had property stolen, property damaged, livestock killed by unleashed dogs, and literally hundreds of trespassers. I have been physically threatened on several occasions by users of the river. I would prefer that any public use area be outside of town and away from private residences.
Help so that us landowners have the privacy that we paid for and still pay for. And the safety for our family.
Posting of rules & regulations. Enforcement. Patrolling with police presence.
Patrol - strict rules.
Limit reckless ATV travel or at least monitor it - via AZ Game & Fish in Camp Verde, law enforcement. Mount them on ATVs, let them check the river bottom at various intervals. Good PR for residents and tourists.
Not really
Clean up trash. Monitor ATVs - NONE. No vehicles at all! Horses and hikers wanted!!
Not much
Limit amplified music.

Dedicate specific areas for horseback/hiking/biking that is separate from motorized areas. Having more of a presence overseeing activities. Requiring permits to use the area.
We are concerned about too much overcrowding. It is ok for small groups fishing, kayaking.
Present a sustainable maintenance plan.
N/A
Post where private property begins from White Bridge recreation area - so people don't come on private property.
Occasional security boat patrol.
More signs with restrictions & police patrol and enforcement of restrictions.
Create a river walk & bike path along the Verde from Black Bridge to White Bridge.
Somehow secure trails/roads so trash cannot be dumped.
The areas that are now available to the public - enhance those areas for fishing & picnicking. No camping on river - private property rights must be respected.
Vigilance about keeping trash picked up, camping areas away from private property.
Education. Signage with clear language explaining private property rights. Education regarding responsibility for the river and land. Trash removal, etc.
Stop trash dumping, trespassing.
Fire danger. Camp Verde would need to really maintain the river frontage. People go to the river and build fires.
As newcomers (16 months) to Camp Verde and the Verde River, we do not have enough knowledge or experience to comment.
Assure that laws are enforced in riparian areas & private property rights are respected.
Limit access.
Patrol bridge area.
With the good people, fishermen, etc. comes the trash. Take care of the complaints at the meeting July 18, 2015.
A map that shows private property lines to the river and property lines that go across the river! Letting people know "where to ford the river and how many feed they are allowed to ford on private property"!
Make river access more difficult for outside members of the community (not living in property owners neighborhood).
Fence a trail. Signage limiting trespass. Patrol.
Use remote river sections for public access to minimize a negative impact on private property land owners in higher density areas.
Have a buffer between heavy use areas (camping, picnic, boat launch) and residential areas.
Don't let recreation people catch the community on fire.
I am not sure.
Post private land. Put up no motorized vehicle gates.
Post no trespassing signs along private property areas. Close all public access during flooding or high water.
Keep the Verde Ditch and the river flowing.

In response to Question 5 about addressing the challenges, most comments by property owners focused on protection of private property through posting of "No Trespassing" notices, traffic controls, restrictions on access, increased patrols and education of recreational users. Some also suggested the development

of recreational amenities on public lands and other areas further from neighborhoods and homes within the Town of Camp Verde. Buffers, maintained/fenced trails, and enhanced amenities at existing parks were also suggested as a means to focus recreational activity in appropriate areas.

Question 6: Are there specific areas along the Verde River where recreational activities and recreational access should be directed?
No, enjoy the whole river.
Do not add new access, rather improve existing recreational areas.
Launch Area and the river access over off Salt Mine and Beasley Flats.
Horseback riding, shore fishing, tubing... quiet activities and controlled parking - all the river homes back to this area...no overnight camping and no ATVs... with some kind of patrolling and garbage maintenance.
On town land. No legal access should be encouraged or implied on any private property due to liability and risk.
Access should be in areas away from developed private land and residences. Access areas should be fenced with signage informing users of private land and laws regarding trespassing, unleashed animals, dumping.
The areas that are already set up.
White Bridge with easy access.
Beasley Flats.
Recreational activities should be along public park lands. Such as Rezzonico Park or the park by White Bridge. Where persons enter the river, signs should state no exiting the river along the river onto private property.
Yes, already designated river access places. Not on private land.
I don't know.
We don't want a bunch of riffraff in the private areas. Positively no hunting or camping or fishing.
Absolutely - there are miles of river sections that are either YAN, National Forest, SRP, TNC, US Indian Reservation, AZ State Parks, and United States of America. Some of these properties are in Yavapai County; however, the Town and the County could either partner or cooperate in order to accomplish this project.
Downstream from White Bridge.
Areas where there are official and maintained river access.
Expand the areas that are there now.
Develop, control and limit public use to the areas of which the Town of Camp Verde owns.
On public lands and previously designated areas.
No hunting in city limits or near occupied buildings.
No comment.
Somewhere police/fire & ambulance can get to.
In public places - not on my land. People do not respect the area.
The river at public access points should be encouraged. Private property access limited and protected and respected.
At the bridges (White & Black).
Black Bridge, White Bridge, any Forest Service access site.
Close to park @ Bridge - on 260 park.

The river access off of 260, toward Cottonwood, Beasley Flats.
Yes, the areas listed on the maps all show access to the river in unpopulated areas on undeveloped areas. These are the proper access points instead of populated neighborhoods like Rustler Trail
Obviously wher road access exists or can be planned in level areas close to river, as meanderlands.
Beasley Flats.
Public areas easily accessed by law enforcement, medical and fire departments.
Where they are further away from the homes.
Keep the motorized vehicles farther away from the river itself to protect habitat for wildlife & the integrity of the river itself for scenic amenities.
Where parking is available.
White Bridge to Beasley - boating, hiking. Area behind Basha's to I-17. Trails in SRP woods by I-17. Hiking & horses only!
No
Highway 260, the bridge area should be expanded and beautified.
Finnie Flat where there are not private property owners.

In responding to Question 6 about appropriate areas to focus river-related recreational activity, property owners felt primarily that existing sites should be improved and maintained or expanded, rather than opening up new access areas. There was also a plurality that recommended that any future sites for river access be directed to public land areas, again, away from neighborhoods and residences.

Question 7 requested any further comments from property owners about the recreational planning process that did not fit neatly into one of the other questions or to further elaborate on ideas or concerns.

Question 7 – Is there anything else you'd like to add about planning & managing river recreation in Camp Verde?
Have more access points and work on getting trails along the river.
It is our obligation to protect the Verde River to the fullest extent.
Education on what the term private property means.
Post a phone number for anyone to call to report violations and suspicious behavior.
I'm sure that I am not the only river property owner that has grown frustrated by the actions of people who use the river. In the planning and management process, I would like to see the views of owners given priority as we are the ones most affected by use of the river. Everyone has the right to use the river for enjoyment, but much of that use is at the expense of owners in many ways such as loss of peaceful, private settings, garbage left by trespassers, noise made by groups having parties, and just a general lack of respect for the river and other people's property.
I don't think that we as property owners have to pay all the things we do, which are high prices and that people get to just do what they want on our land. That's not right and I know we have had to have the police out a few times because of some of the things that have happened and have had people not caring what time it is and knocking on our doors at 9 and 10 at night. Its not just our house that this has happened to either.
Designated safe pull-outs for canoers. Inform public of swimming hazards, polluted water. Protection of wildlife natural to area from elk to javelina.
Patrol and adhere to rules. Rezzonico Park?
No.

I'm all for it if it is cleaned up and monitored. If my horse ride isn't ruined. I need river access - Black Bridge to Interstate 17. I can't pick up all the litter that ends up there behind Bashas. Community education is needed. Especially for young fellas who like to fish down there. Pack it in, pack it out. Don't leave sofas and mattresses down there! Monitored!! Thanks! I live on the river right below the confluence of Beaver Creek. The property below mine is fenced off by the river for cattle and an eagle's nest. So no walking access here behind the library. I ride my horse from my house under Black Bridge to I-17. It is gorgeous, some private property. I tread quietly. This area would need quiet - no ATVs. I don't want to lose my river trail. Please!! The homeowners get nervous.

Do it without raising taxes on the people.

Thank you for addressing these issues, making it safer and more enjoyable for all users. And for protecting the river resource.

Wonderful idea!! Is it possible to also utilize flood zoned lots (owned by Town of Camp Verde) along Clear Creek for bird watching, hiking, etc.?

No.

Require permits and educational materials.

It must be expected that, as recreational use increases, all negative aspects listed will also increase. I'm on Rustler Trail (our "Camp"). Under present levels of use (very light), there have been no real problems (except as stated under #4), but with increased use, we can all expect problems will develop. An excellent example of proper use/management of the Verde River ecosystem (as well as adjacent upland camping sites) is Dead Horse Ranch State Park. E.g. undeveloped, meanderland sites could be similarly developed, assuming low-frequency floods can be controlled by structural investments. Yes, its' costly, but \$ must be expended to protect this valuable resource form recreational impacts.

The river and the meanderlands have and will again flood. Any development must consider that and must minimize the cost to repair and upkeep. Without revenue from river activities and further development, taxes will need to be increased to cover the increase in COST! This is unacceptable as the city is currently building a library without proper funds to pay for it so TAXES have to go up even further! Not acceptable. After the meeting the other evening, I spoke to several land owners on Rustler Trail where I live. Further evaluation by all parties come to the conclusion that since Rustler Trail is a developed neighborhood that shutting off TOTAL access to the I-17 river corridor on both sides of the freeway is the best solution. You have the following other options for access, Black Bridge Park, White Bridge Park, Simington Ranch option, Clear Creek access, Rocking R Ranch, and possible other uninhabited access points. Any development around I-17 access will result in more traffic on Rustler Trail. So closing over an access is best for us as residents. Hate to recommend this solution, but something must be done.

Just remember the areas like Fossil Creek that have been trashed and/or closed due to public access.

Stiff penalties - money - for dumping trash, abuse of rules. We have the greatest town in all of Arizona. I'm so pleased to live here!

Must remember when river runs high or floods, there is a lot of debris displaced or buried under sand, making it unsafe for hiking, etc. or even maintaining a trail along River. A trail or access across private property would expose the property owner to unforeseen liability issues. This must be addressed.

Do not allow campfires along the river. Canoeing may be encouraged.

Enforce current regulations (no camping in city limits), trespassing, littering.

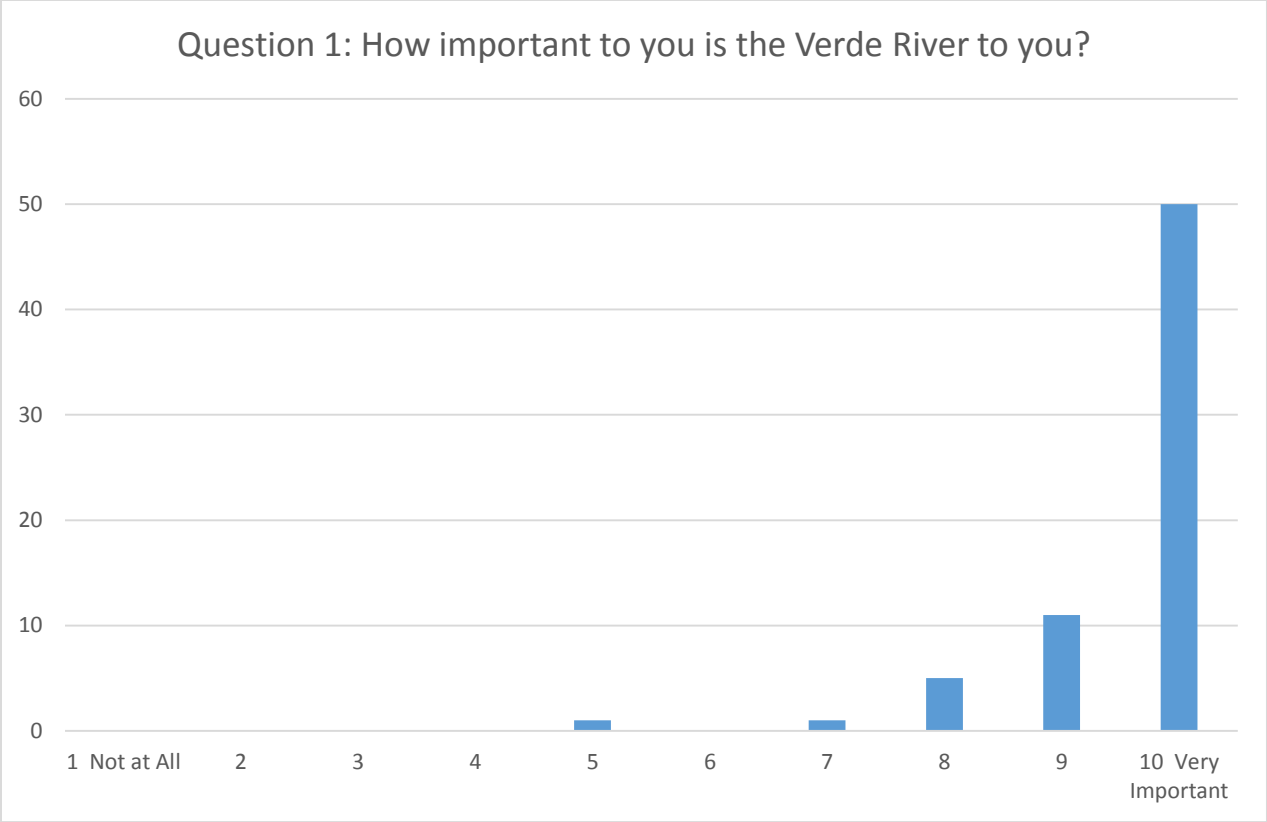
Clear signage. Educational materials, perhaps a visitors check-in facility with a pass system to ensure people agree to the legal and ethical responsibilities of enjoying the river. I would love to contribute

more to this process. Advocate, writer, native Arizonan, resident. Please call me if I can help. So happy to see this vital issue being addressed!
Keep it clean, safe and quiet.
I do not want to have to clean horse poop off my property in order to mow.
Information to all who might use the river for recreation. Available at launch sites and stores, and web site.
More officials on duty to monitor activities!
Protecting the resource - private or public - is essential.
I am not willing in any way to give up any of my land along the river. There is Forest land next to my land that used to have signs up that said no motorized. They are gone and it never stopped anyone.
Signage about private property!
I encourage the Town leaders to seriously consider planning a river recreation corridor in areas with less density. Many property owners along the Verde River purchased our property at a higher cost for the privacy. Opening our property to the public will create a situation that not only invades the privacy of our property, but allows public access to our private property that can and will become unsafe for residents.
No motorized craft or vehicles in the areas.
Brief users not to hang out in privately owned areas (maybe with signs).
Thank you for caring and sharing. God bless your effort.
Private meandering land is private and access needs to be requested.
This has been discussed before. The consensus of opinion among the neighborhood is that we do not want any form of public access to the river along private properties or in the meanderland of our subdivision.

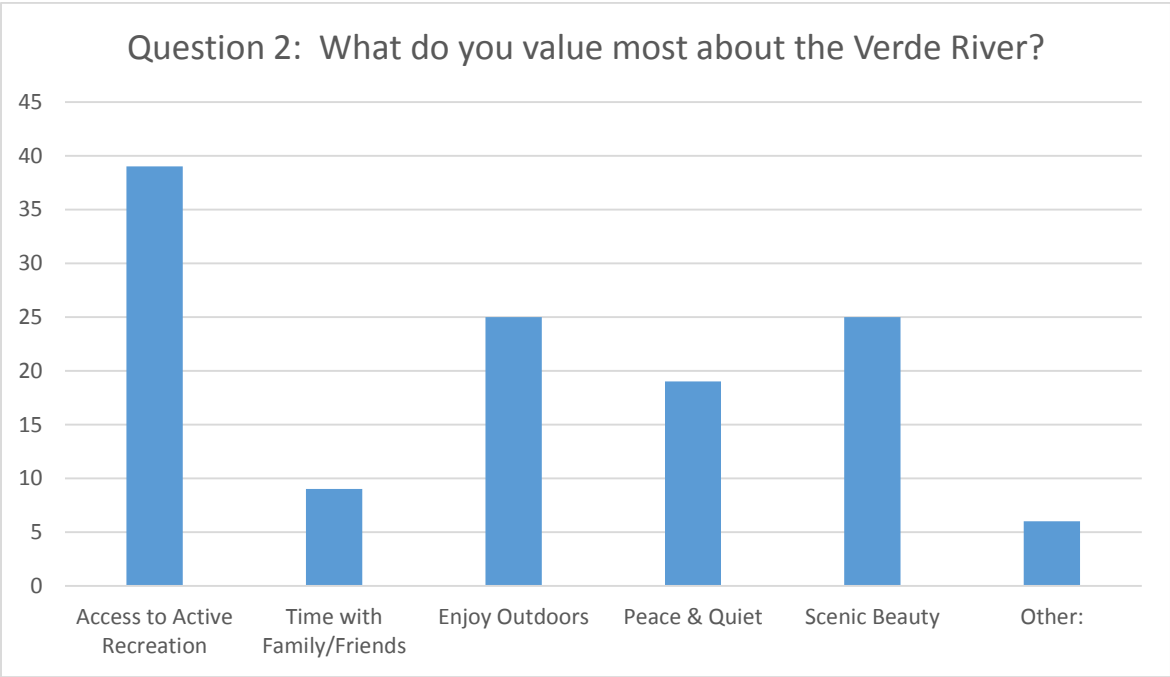
General Public / Camp Verde Resident Survey Results

The survey produced more broadly for the general public was slightly longer, and while asking similar questions, also included some additional questions about recreational activities and habits. The survey was a total of 21 questions long, and provided a measure of how the public valued the Verde River, the type and frequency of recreational activities enjoyed on the river, as well as priorities about amenity development to improve recreation in the community. The public was also asked, similar to riverfront property owners, about issues or concerns they had with river recreation and possible solutions. Lastly, some basic demographic data was collected about the survey respondents.

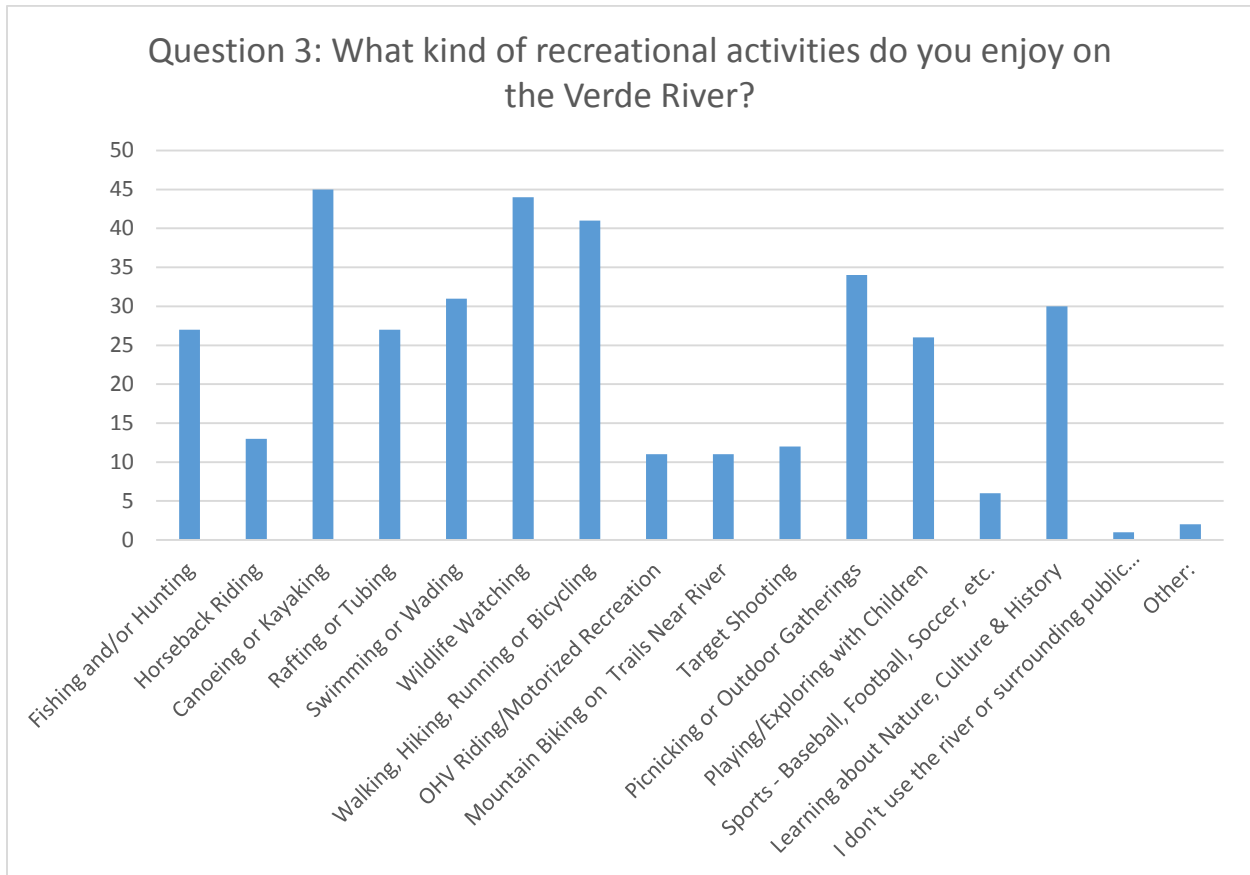
The following charts summarize the responses to the multiple choice questions contained within the survey:



Question 1, as with the riverfront property owner survey, ascertains the level of value that residents place on the Verde River running through the Town of Camp Verde. As with riverfront property owners, the general public expressed a high level of value for the river as a resource.



Question 2, unlike the riverfront property owner responses, saw much more emphasis placed on access to active recreational opportunities. Among the “other” responses offered by survey respondents, wildlife values were most frequently cited (by 2 respondents), along with water as a resource, including for use in irrigation, and a recognition of its value in an arid climate.



Responses to Question 3 ranged the full spectrum of recreational activities as well. However, the top five of the most popular recreational activities selected by survey respondents included active recreational activities along the river, from kayaking and canoeing, wildlife watching, picnicking, walking, hiking, or biking along the river, and lastly, learning about nature, culture and history. While there is a great diversity in recreational activities taking place, the striking thing about the responses was how few survey respondents declared that they do not engage in any type of recreation at all.

Question 4 was an open-ended question giving respondents the opportunity to share how the Town of Camp Verde could improve or enhance their ability to enjoy recreation in the community. The responses to this query are summarized in the table below.

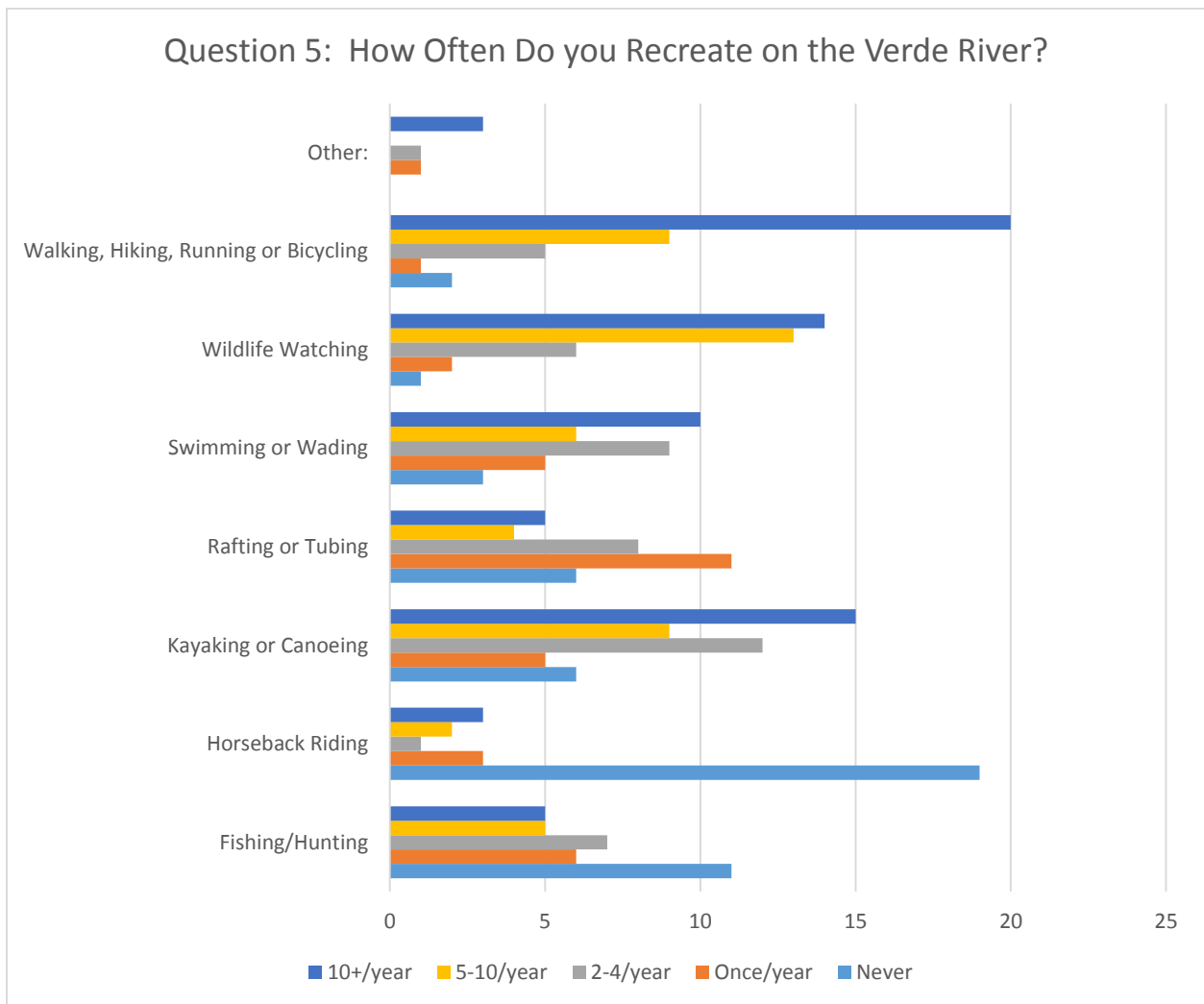
Question 4: What could the Town of Camp Verde do to improve/enhance your ability to enjoy your favorite recreational activities in the area?
Organize horseback overnight outings.
Easier access to the river. Possibly more access than the two we have.
Improved education about river access points, where they are, what kinds of recreation is supported.
Better access.

Better maintained road to river would be nice.
I like it just the way it is.
Turn the lights back on for the tennis courts! Plenty of folks play at night in summer and winter. And use the expensive planters built in Butler Park. Plant something in them.
Development of a hiking/mountain biking trail.
Make river access easy. Clean up public use areas, on lower Clear Creek and Bullpen.
Keep all the roads open!
Doesn't seem like they do anything now, so anything would help.
Make a whitewater park above the put-in.
Limit commercial recreation (tours, etc.).
Public access to the river.
Easier accessibility.
Make sure there is enough water in the river to support the natural functions of the river ecosystem.
Education programs related to the river.
Better river access, better trails along the river corridor.
Limit non local access.
Add trails for biking-walking.
Clean it!!!! The trees need thinned!!!
More access points.
Camp Verde needs more ball fields, playgrounds, etc. for children.
Education our children how important the Verde River is as resource for our community!
I believe it will be important to address litter in the area. Often we see glass, and fast food containers. If we are making access well known, I fear it getting worse.
More planned accesses to river and walking trails.
River clean ups and more trails.
Build a park with the entrance on McCracken, no matter what [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] say or do.
Open more river access areas - improve the trails.
Better access; keeping it clean and safe. Ongoing, continuous enforcement of current laws.
Create walking paths in park areas and bicycle lanes on current roadway; wind them through town.
More law enforcement - trash/dispersed all over.
Provide more signage giving info on boating: timing, proper gear, potential hazards.
Maybe we can teach "Leave No Trace" along with a boating trip. And/or teach "Leave No Trace" to our schools.
Increase access to river and riparian areas.
Better access points. River walk. Policing trash and vagrants.
River trails. Build park with access on McCracken.
Plan recreational use as the Town is doing. Need actions to reduce/eliminate trash, shooting, illegal uses (drugs, camping, etc.)! And work on base flow consistency.
Parking availability at kayak put-in/out and not be a problem to private land owners.
More access to public lands.
Removed diversion dams - make man-made rapids that are diversions. Remove salt cedar and other invasive plants.

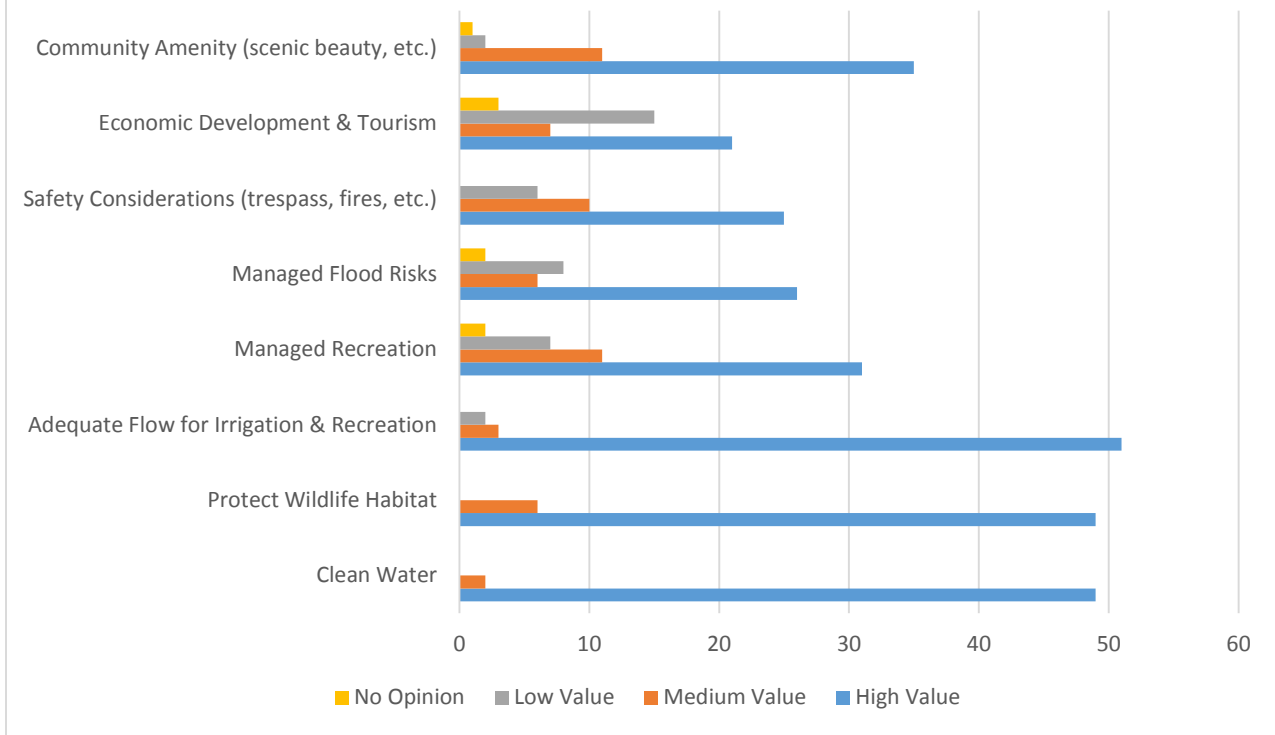
Improve public education regarding floating/paddling the river.

More public river access for boating.

Unsurprisingly, the general public comments about ways to improve their recreational experiences focused primarily on expanded and improved river access and improved facilities, in marked contrast to the survey responses from property owners. Question 5 (below) gathered some basic statistics on how often Camp Verde residents enjoy their favorite recreational activities in a given year.



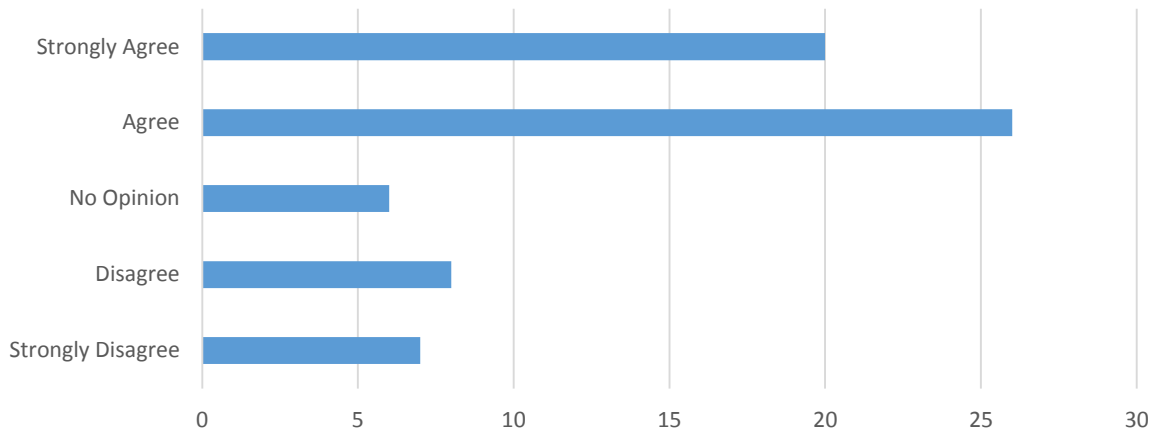
Question 6: What is most important to you about the Verde River?



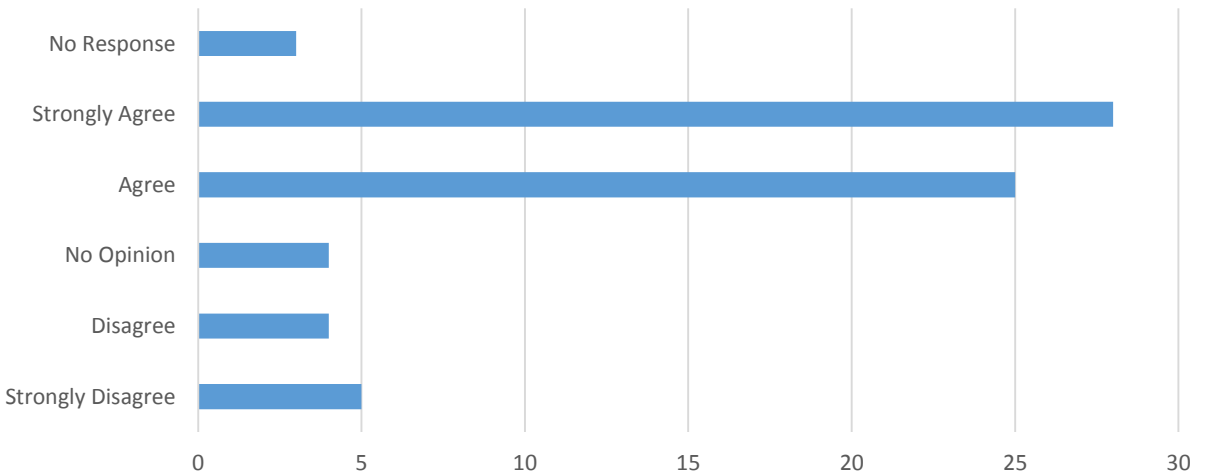
In assessing the general public about the features of the Verde River that they cherish the most about the Verde River, three values stand out – clean water, protection of wildlife habitat, and providing adequate flows for irrigation and recreation.

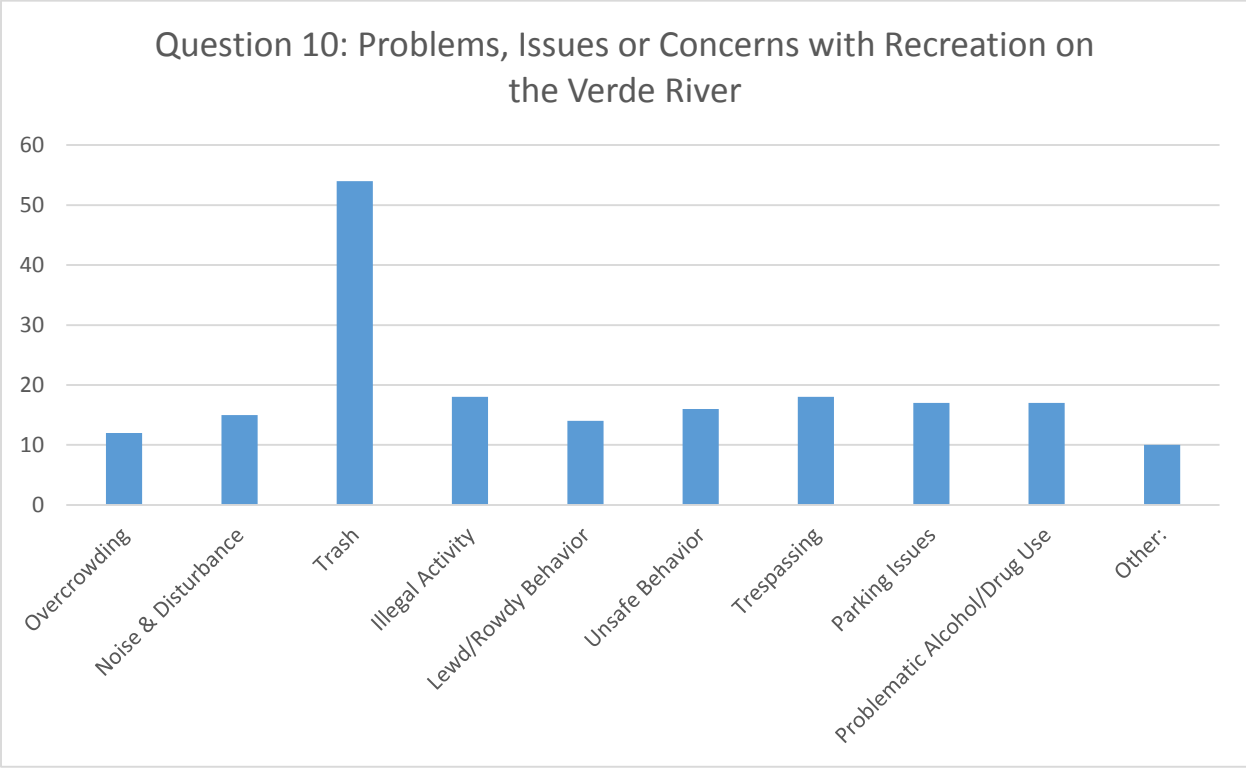
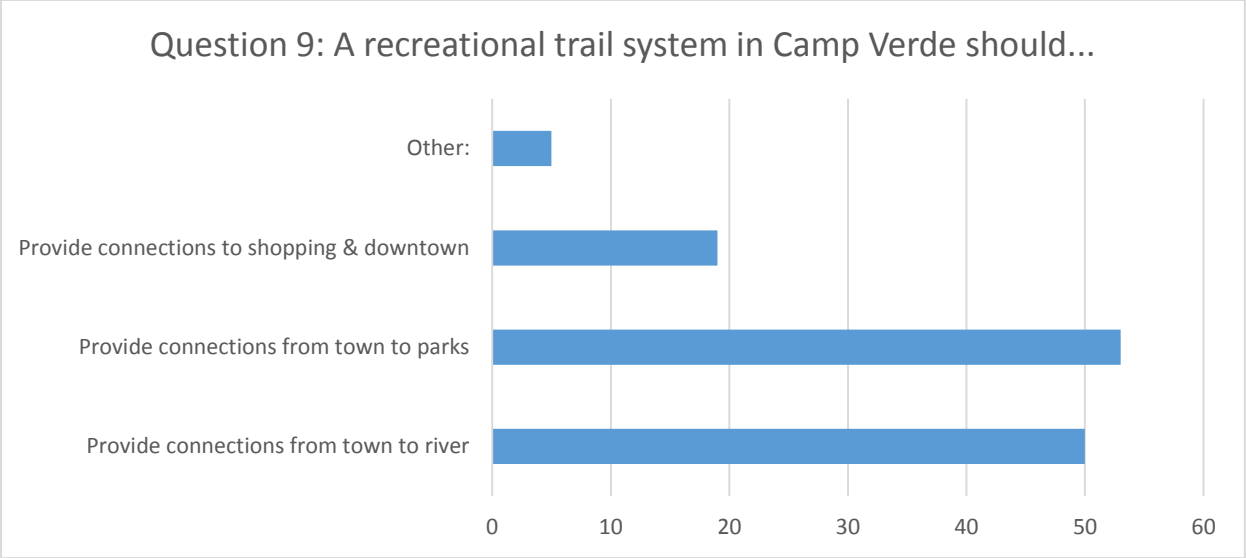
Questions 7, 8 and 9 all attempt to evaluate the priority that the general public places on development of a connected trail system, and expanded river access. As the responses demonstrate, there is support for an interconnected trail system in Camp Verde, and even stronger support for enhanced river access.

Question 7: The development of a network of trails along public lands should be a priority.

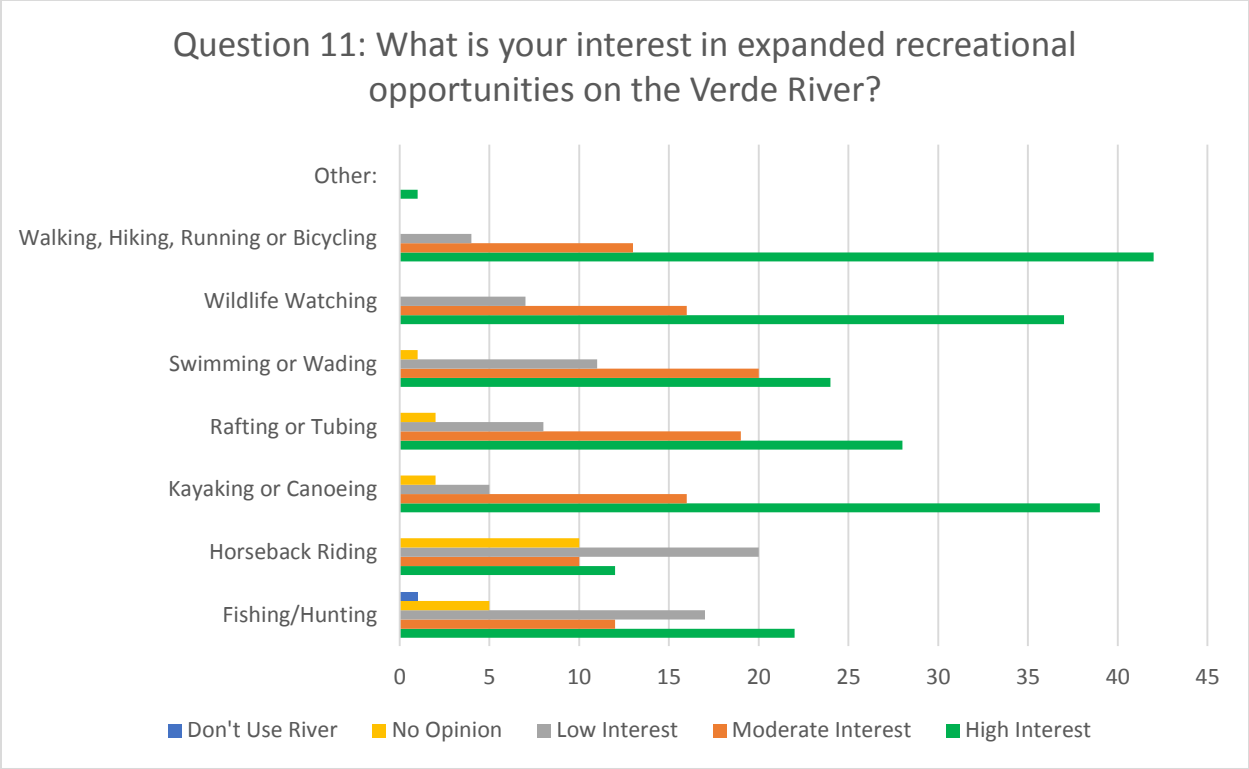


Question 8: The development of enhanced river access to the Verde River should be a priority.

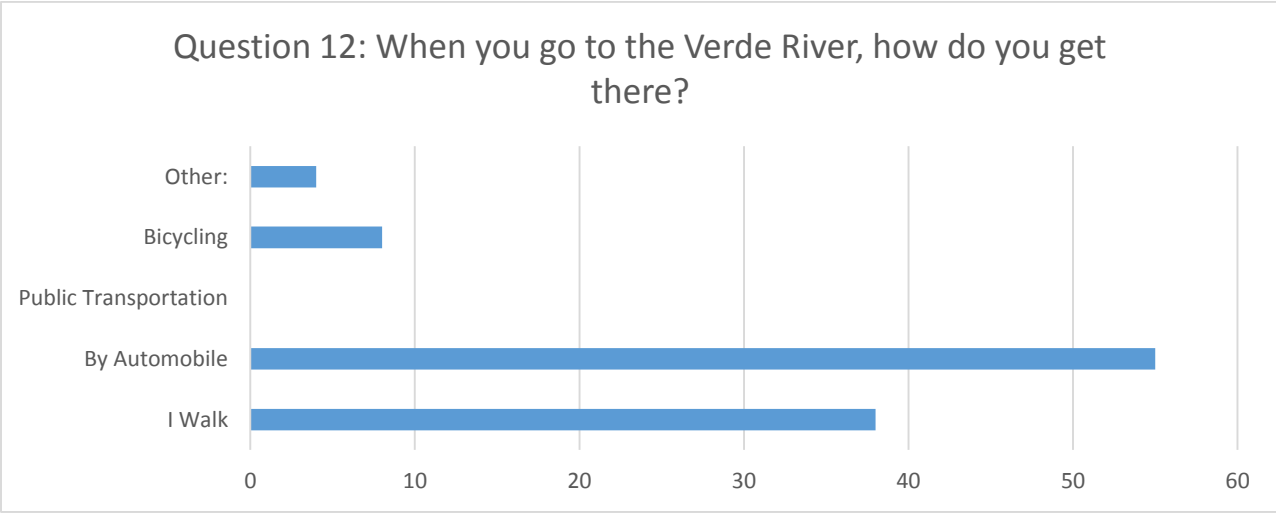




Question 10 summarizes the responses of the general public about concerns, issues, or other challenges that they have experienced or observed relative to river recreation in Camp Verde. Far and away, most respondents noted issues with trash. There were a smattering of responses that landed in the “other” catch-all category, and some of those concerns reflected some of the concerns expressed by private property owners as well – illegal camping, off-road ATV use, firearms and shooting, unleashed dogs, and unsafe behavior.



Question 11 sought to identify priorities for expanded recreation on the Verde River. While several categories ranked fairly high, the three most frequently selected activities included opportunities for walking, hiking, running or bicycling on trails along the river, followed by kayaking and canoeing opportunities and wildlife watching opportunities close behind.



In understanding how the public tends to access to areas allowing for river recreation, by far the majority of respondents indicated that they drive to the Verde River. Parking issues should therefore be considered in planning for improved river access for the community. However, a large number of residents have also indicated that they walk to the Verde River in order to recreate. As a follow up, the open-ended Question 13 further explores where and how Camp Verde residents tend to access the Verde River and their favorite

recreational activities. As a review of the table will show, most people access the Verde River through existing river access points at Black Bridge, White Bridge, Beasley Flat and Clear Creek.

Question 13: Where do you currently access the Verde River?
Anywhere
Black and White River Bridges
260
Mostly at White Bridge or Clear Creek
White Bridge, Black Bridge, Black Canyon Wash, Dead Horse State Park, Bridgeport
I-17, White Bridge, Black Bridge, Beasley Flat
Beasley & Clear Creek
By my house in West Verde
White Bridge, Cedar Flat Recreation Area
We lost our Fort River Caves access because the Town took it over. Perhaps due to a tax problem? We now ask permission to use a private residence although we live in the development. When we did have access it was blocked by high weeds. Now we have to ask permission of a private resident who lives along the river.
Beasley Flat
White Bridge
Salt Mine Road
Beasley Flat
Anywhere I can get to it
Beasley Flat
West Clear Creek, Beaver Creek
Numerous different places and always looking for more access points off the beaten path
Public or private access
White Bridge, Beasley Flat, Black Bridge
Beasley Flat, Gap Creek
Beasley Flat to Gap Creek
Clear Creek access point
Black Bridge
The nearest convenient location
Quarterhorse area
Anywhere
Beasley Flat or some of the bridges
Newton Road/I-17/Rezzonico Park/White Bridge/Clear Creek & Beasley Flat
Through private lands, or near town
Quarterhorse
Numerous locations
At my home
Black Bridge and Clear Creek river access
Black Bridge, White Bridge and Freeway Bridge

Every possible known access point the public uses
Da River
Bignotti, Black Canyon, Black Bridge, White Bridge, Beasley, Childs, Gap Creek
Newton, Hayfield Draw, spot off 260, my house, beach off of [??], White Bridge, Beasley, Clear Creek, I-17, Sheeps Crossing, places in Cornville, various dirt roads, everywhere
private property
White Bridge, near Thousand Trails, few miles above Beasley Flats, Rockin' R Ranch put-in, etc.
My home on the river, Black Bridge, Beasley Flat, Verde Lake Club estates, White Bridge, Clear Creek
Would use river if easier access for seniors made available
My home
White Bridge, I-17 (under), Clear Creek access, Beasley
White Bridge, Black Bridge, I-17
Rezzonico, I-17
my property
Beasley Flat and Clear Creek
White Bridge, Clear Creek, Beasley Flat, Gap Creek
I-17 (I live nearby)
Off the 260
Home
Behind my house below Black Bridge
White Bridge, Clear Creek access, Beasley Flats
Home

When asked where additional river recreation access points could or should be provided, the general public response was mixed. Many felt that there was no need, or weren't sure if there was a need, for additional or expanded river access points. For those who did respond in the affirmative, that additional river access points should be provided, several suggested the I-17 property (5 respondents), and a few more suggested Homestead Park and Rockin' River Ranch.

Question 14: Do you think additional river access points should be provided? If so, where?
Closer to town
Not sure, but need more access than we have
Not sure, but need more access than we have
Yes, it would be great to have access upstream of Black Bridge
Diamond S
Along the main roads in Camp Verde, by the twin bridges
No
Yes
No, Black Bridge and other RAP need development
West of town
Not needed
No

Anywhere public can get to it
In town
No
No
Yes, anywhere is great
It would be nice. Need less diversion dams.
No
No
Yes...
No
I think we have plenty of public access locations
No, not currently unless there is revenue to help maintain those areas. The focus should be in providing revenue opportunities to maintain these lands prior to opening us up for more trash spread everywhere and illegal activity. Not to mention promoting travel along the river where so many have private land. Are these areas going to be properly marked to protect those who have invested along the river?
Yes
Ideally, where there is public lands
Yes. Don't really know.
Yes. Near the freeway we have land available.
Yes - current plan is very encouraging.
Parking lot for horse rigs across from High School for Beaver Creek ride to Montezuma Castle
Public lands, parks
Unsure
No
Improved access at the Clear Creek RAP. It's a steep mud slide after a good rain, which is when people want to use it.
I think I-17 area would be good for the river and good for the private land owners.
2 or 3 between White Bridge and Clear Creek
I'm satisfied with proposed sites.
I-17 - old soccer field (private now)
Uncertain
I-17 / Homestead Parkway - McCracken
Yes - don't know.
Would use river if easier access for seniors made available.
Yes - would have to check map. Like the four sites discussed in meeting 10/15/2015
Yes, but no good idea for a priority.
No opinion
Yes, many places I use not many people know about.
Don't make more, improve the ones we have for boating
Yes
I-17, Rockin' River Ranch, Homestead Park

Yes - at freeway bridge

Lastly, as with the riverfront property owners, the general public survey respondents were asked to make any closing comments, questions or thoughts near the end of the survey.

Question 15: Anything else you would like the Town of Camp Verde to consider about the Verde River and recreation management.

We need better access of trails along the river for those who are handicapped or cannot walk very well.

No increase of taxes.

Expanding river recreation access will be good for the quality of life of Camp Verde and surrounding region - but important to do it well. Educate users.

I would use it more if there was more water in the river during the summer.

Keep it country. Don't make it Sedona like.

Improve trails for White Bridge and Cedar Flat for put in and take out.

Wikiup Mesa could offer some nice trails if developed and could be comparable to Dead Horse trail system. Beasley Flat area although out of town limits would be a great spot for an extended hiking/biking trail system and offers amazing river valley views.

Would love to see lots more hiking trails and better improvements for picnics, better access for kayak trips.

Installing a white water park between White Bridge and Beasley.

Undo FEMA flood restudies that make land unusable.

Horseback riding is damaging to riparian areas.

I hope it is successful.

The trash that people leave is inexcusable. Not sure what can be done.

Manage irrigation to provide more flow to river.

Don't ruin it like Sedona. Too much traffic, people.

Town of Camp Verde should look into what other towns across the Four Corners area have done that has greatly improved their town attractiveness along river use: Durango, Salida, Pagosa Springs, etc. For example, creating a small "play wave/play park" (just one or two features) close to a town (Camp Verde, Clarkdale, etc.) would bring a lot of people to the area. You don't need a lot of cfs/flows to do so. Engineers can work with what we have river flow-wise. I think this is an investment that would really pay off. Especially if feature is nearby a town park, and connected to bike paths.

A usage fee or permit for non local residents to access river.

Please consider thinning the trees! They are sucking the river dry.

Please remember that, while its wonderful to create opportunities for residents to enjoy the river, it should not be done at the expense of the river itself. Too often, rivers can become overcrowded and trash-filled, losing their natural beauty, when they are turned into tourist attractions.

Trash is a sad truth to our river. I'm on the river 2x per week. I would love to see a group or volunteer system for trash removal.

Keep it clean and open for multiple uses - including ATVs.

Make it easier to kayak past the ditches.

A safe tube run. Camping allowed at Rockin' River Ranch.

More camping.

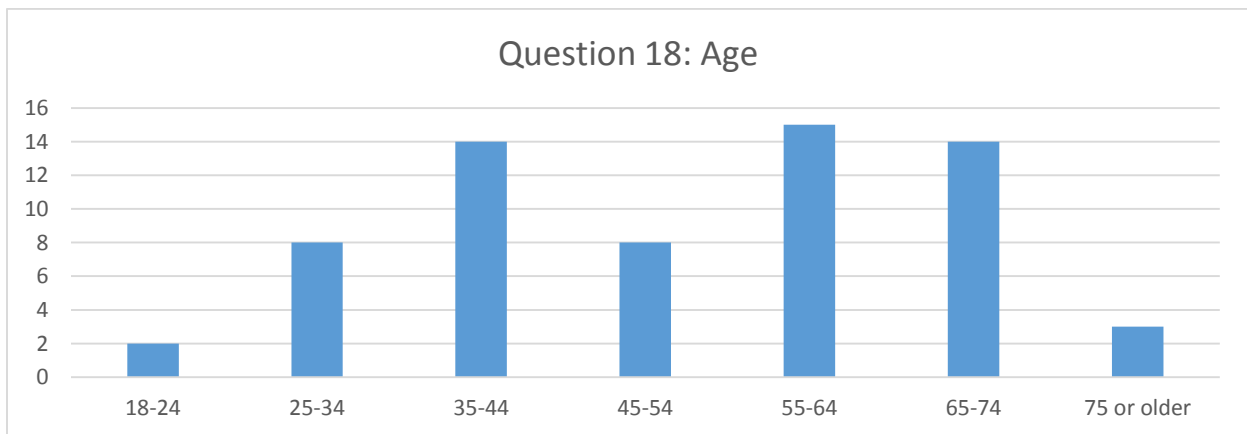
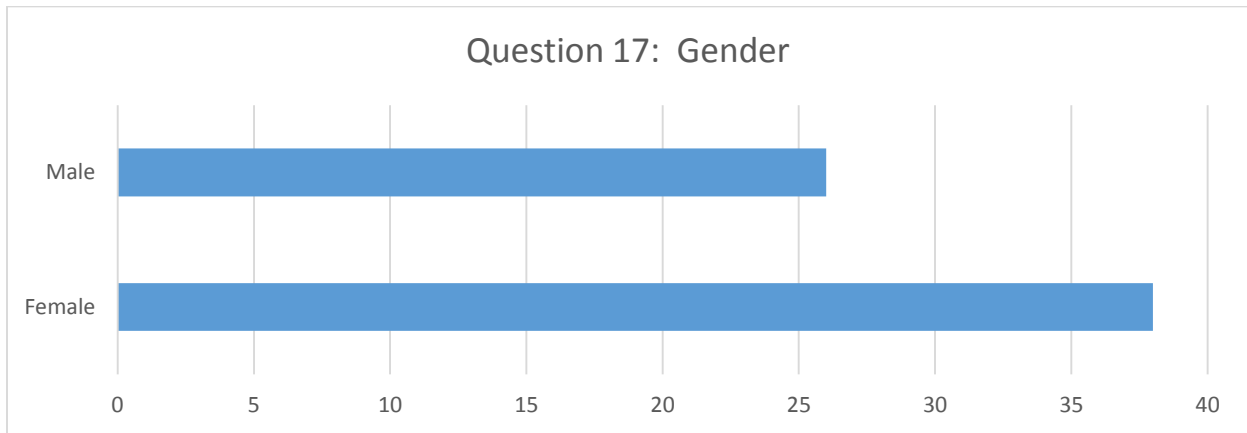
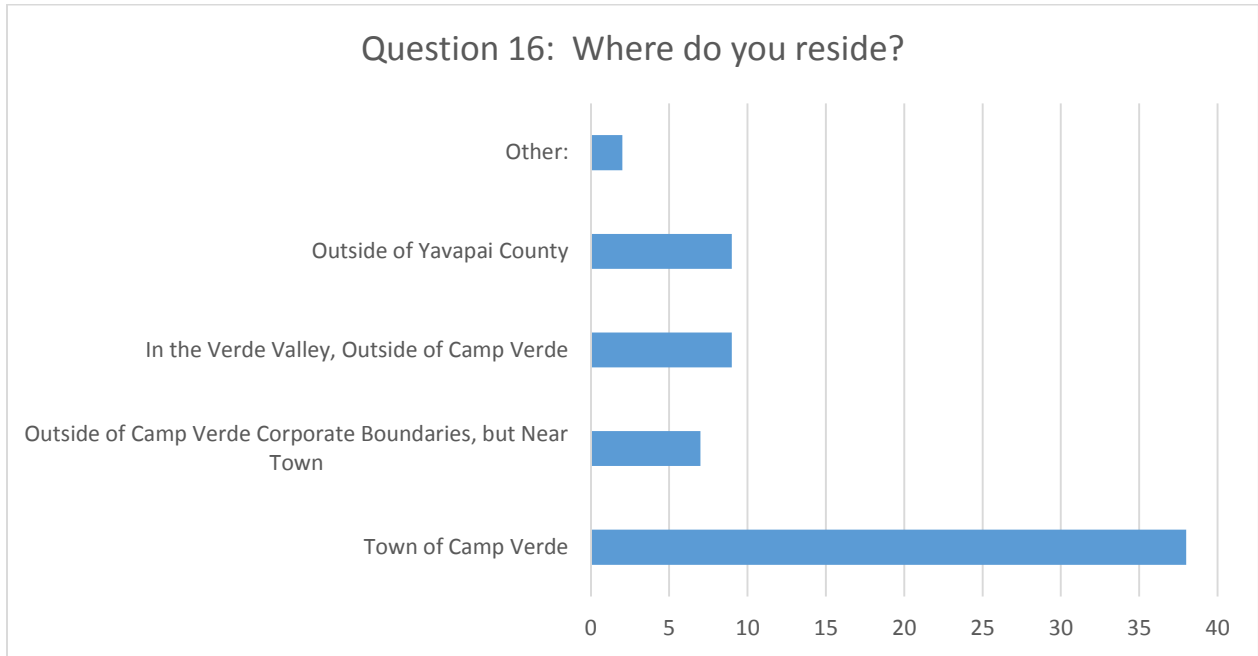
A tube run. I-17 to Rezzonico Park.
Make the river recreation plan just one component of a comprehensive water focus for Camp Verde. Other elements are use of wastewater (treated) for non-potable uses, and groundwater recharge as examples. Water conservation and water-wise programs.
Please keep the dialogue going with public meetings every so often.
Tourism dollars.
Enforcement and police presence.
Education and enforcement
No desert landscaping at Black Bridge Park - plan pecan trees and grass.
Limited commercial permitting. Don't over-do like Sedona. Boat launches.
Go slowly and do it right. Costs concern me.
Turning the ditch dams into permanent, stable gates that are designed with a white water rapid. They do this in the east quite a bit.
Be sure new construction is above floods!
I love that you are reaching out to the community - I hope volunteers will help out as well.
I recently took an ATV to Fossil Creek. It was disgusting - trash, clothes, etc. - general disrespect by those people using it. No one there to regulate it. Why have this open if you can't regulate it? No park rangers, etc. It won't be long and this will be polluted and no longer the beautiful spot it is. This is irresponsible to allow usage without regulation. How/what will happen to wildlife with too many people - they will leave because their habitat will be compromised. Where will the funding come from to 1) develop these plans, 2) maintenance (continual management & park rangers to do it, 3) river clean up and flood issues created from same, and 4) what happens when funds get tight and cuts need to be made? I used to live in Colorado with many planned park systems/green belts for citizens. The walkways are clearly marked with signage identifying each area, distance from area to area, and mapping. Just like other areas there needs to be precautions to citizens using it - heat, water, wildlife, etc. Tim to go from Point A to Point B. Posted regulations & what the punishment is for breaking laws/regs. Fines, etc.
Pick up litter along river.
Respect private property rights. Bring the rule of law to the river. Allocate the resources necessary to maintain and patrol riparian areas. There is huge benefit/huge risk involved. It must involve investment by the whole community (long-term). This river is the premier asset of the community and it should be treated accordingly.

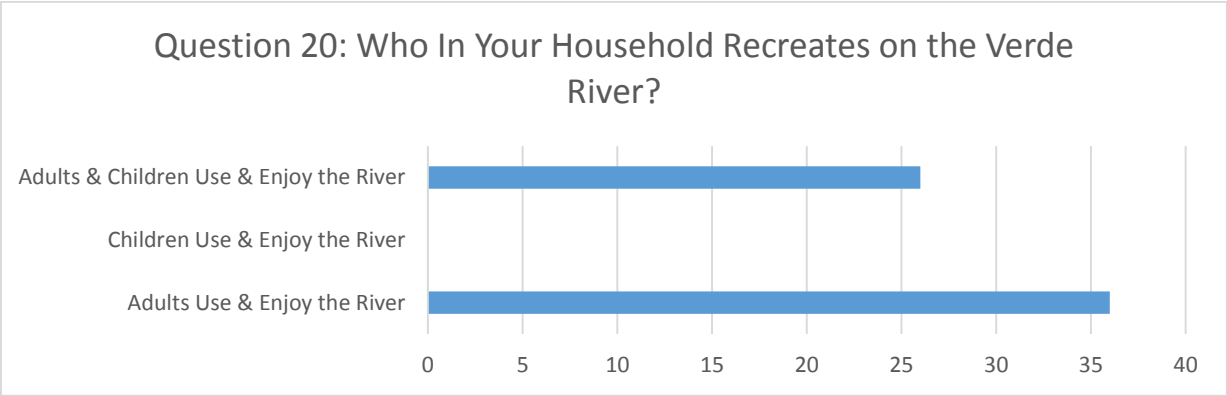
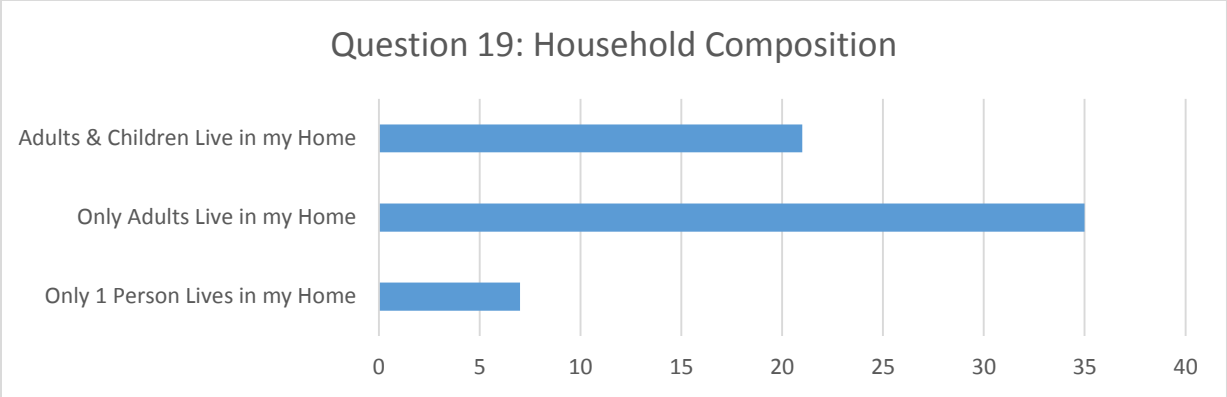
While the responses are reasonably mixed, there was considerable appreciation for the community involvement that was incorporated into the Town of Camp Verde's planning process. Many survey respondents also expressed some concern about the resources necessary to both address current problems in managing recreation as well as covering the costs of additional investments. There was some general support for enhancing river access and recreational opportunities, but most favored a cautious, comprehensive approach that considered the wildlife and natural values of the river, as well as the ensuring that the resources were in place to manage recreation well.

Demographic Information for General Public Survey Respondents

Lastly, the survey prepared for the general public included some basic demographic information that would be useful to the planning process. These questions were excluded from the riverfront property owner pool since that survey was directed at a specific community group. As will be noted from the survey

responses, the majority of respondents do reside within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Camp Verde. Many of the other respondents live in the Verde Valley outside of Camp Verde.





As you may note from reviewing the demographics of the survey participants, there was reasonable diversity in those who participated, including community members from all ages, and ranging from families with children to adult-only households and retirees. [Steve – does this reflect the general demographics of the Town pretty well? Was there any big demographic left off?]

[Insert copy of riverfront property owner survey]

[Insert copy of general public survey]