

Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring – South Loop

Year 3 2025 Quarter 1 Monitoring Report

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Seattle
Parks & Recreation

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April, 2025



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 <i>All photos and maps in this report by Nelson Salisbury- © EarthCorps, 2025.</i>	
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1. **Introduction**

Seattle Parks and Recreation contracted with EarthCorps in 2020 to develop and implement a monitoring plan prior to the construction associated with the [Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project](#) at the Cheasty Natural Area in South Seattle. This report summarizes the findings for the Year 3 Quarter 1 monitoring period (January-March, 2025).

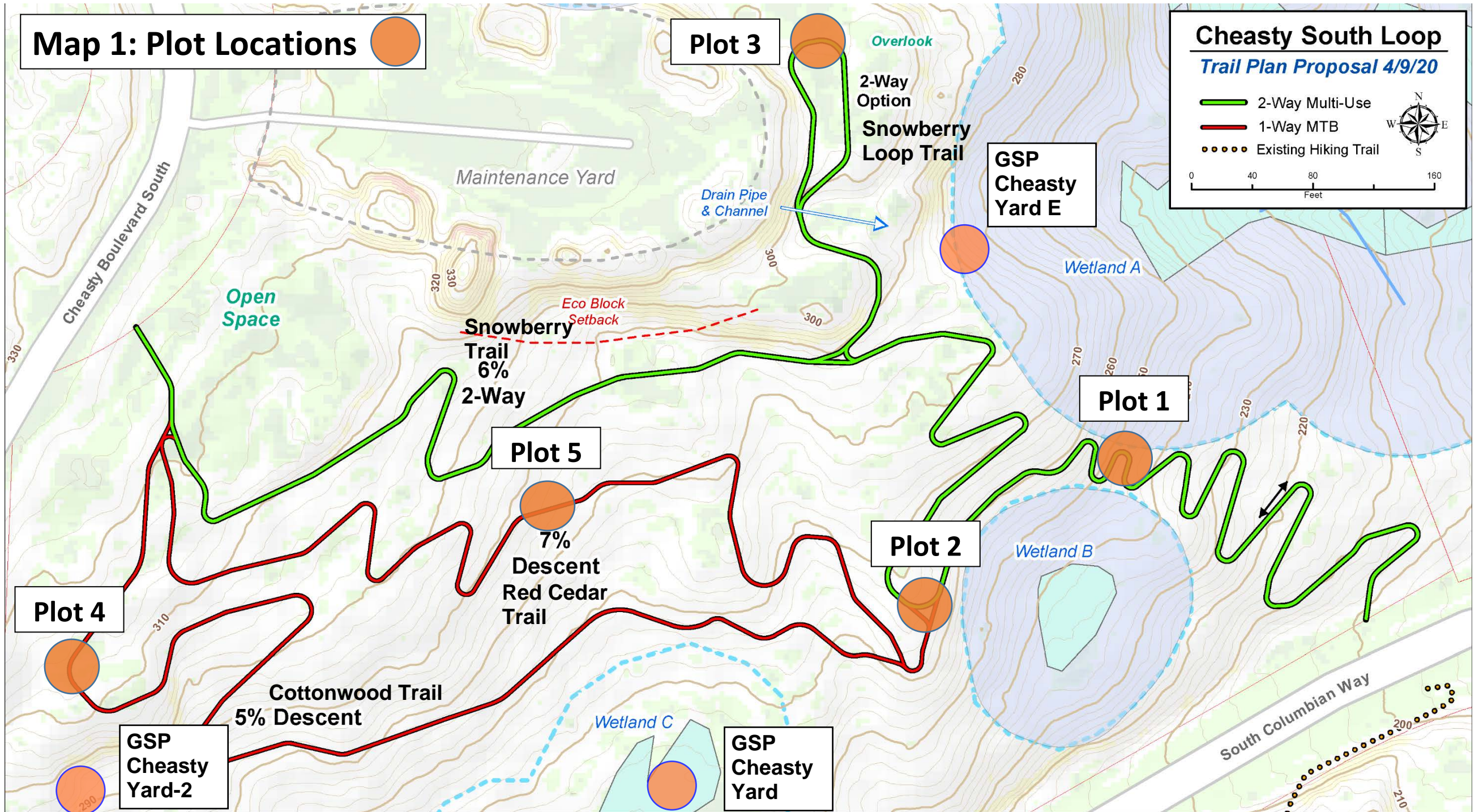
EarthCorps performed the following monitoring tasks for Quarter 1 on March 21, 2025:

- Cheasty Boulevard Car Parking Monitoring
- Plot Level Observational Vegetation Monitoring
- Plot Level Photo Monitoring

The following table describes the proposed monitoring year designations for this three-year reporting period:

Baseline (pre-construction):	2020
Trail construction:	2021
Trail construction continued:	2022
Year 1 monitoring:	2023
Year 2 monitoring:	2024
Year 3 monitoring:	2025

See Map 1 below for plot locations.



2. Cheasty Boulevard Car Parking Monitoring

EarthCorps performed an observational survey for illegal or improperly parked cars along Cheasty Boulevard between Beacon Ave S and S Andover. During the site visit on March 21, 2025, there were no improperly parked vehicles along the monitored road segment (see photos below). No other parking issues were observed at this time. In addition, there were no occupied homeless encampments noted near or within the Mountain Bike South Loop.



3. Plot Level Linear Observational Vegetation Monitoring

Qualitative observations of vegetation conditions were noted along the linear trail edges within each plot. These observations are intended to identify and document general conditions and note any damage or decline to the native vegetation along the trail edges and to note any issues or concerns with non-native species within the plot. These observations will be updated at each quarterly visit and compliment the photo monitoring. Trends can be compared over time. The following observations were noted during the site monitoring visit on March 21, 2025.

Plot #1: No substantial changes noted to trail structure or vegetation noted. Edges are becoming well vegetated with grass and some native species (sword fern and trailing blackberry). Non-native common blackberry and English ivy persist in portions of the plot and adjacent to trail tread. Overall tread appears stable with some minor signs of linear erosion noted. General invasive plant management is recommended in the vicinity of plot #1.

Plot #2: Trail edges well vegetated including seeded grass along portions of the trail. No substantial changes in vegetation were noted. Common ivy and blackberry continue to persist within the plot and should be targeted for control. Non-native foxglove was also noted within the plot. Usual tree pruning was noted on young Douglas firs and western red cedars planted directly adjacent to the trail. Otherwise, native vegetation throughout plot is healthy.

Plot #3: No substantial change to vegetation noted. Herb bennet (*Geum urbanum*) persists and control should be considered. Some minor ponding noted on clay trail surface. Ivy and common blackberry persists.

Plot #4: Fairly substantial trail construction has occurred in plot 4. The curved embankment has been expanded and rebuilt extending the trail width, which affected some vegetation and resulted in some exposed bare ground. Some plant debris was noted being used as a temporary cover on the inside of the berm (see photos). Poison hemlock is present throughout the area and should be targeted for control. Scotch broom was noted just outside the plot. Some minor pruning of cottonwood trees and tall Oregon grape noted along the newly constructed trail edge.

Plot #5: Edge vegetation appears healthy and continues to infill and expand in previously bare areas. Other bare areas (especially trail right) covered with leaves and debris providing adequate cover. Native fringe cups also establishing trailside. Heavy cover of common blackberry (and some ivy) noted throughout plot. Ongoing pruning of young western red cedar trees that are planted directly at trail edge. Trail construction from 2024 and disturbance from past tree fall event appears to have been stabilized.

4. Trail Plot Level Photo Monitoring

Photos were taken at each plot in the same manner established in 2022 Q4. Generally, photos were taken at the edge of the 1/10 acre plot looking along the trail corridor(s) towards the center of the plot. These photos can be compared to previous photo monitoring (and future iterations) to show change over time. Photos are included in Appendix A.

Cheasty Greenspace Mountainbike/Pedestrian Trail – South Loop

Photo monitoring Year 3, Q1 2025

[Contents](#)

1. APPENDIX A: PLOT PHOTO MONITORING – MAR 2025	9
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Plot	# of Photos
1	4
3 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking NE (1 photo), #2 southern switchback looking NW and NE (2 photos), and #3 bottom of trail looking N (1 photo)	

Plot 1 Photo Point 1 (NE)



Plot 1 Photo Point 2a (NW)



Plot 1 Photo Point 2b (NE)



Plot 1 Photo Point 3 (N)



Plot	# of Photos
2	8
4 photos at each of the individual trail legs that enter or exit the plot (3 looking downhill and 1 looking uphill) starting at NW trail and continuing clockwise. #1 top of south leg looking SE. #2 at top of north leg looking SW. #3 at top of 2-way looking S. #4 at bottom of 2-way looking SW.	

Plot 2 Photo Point 1 (SE)



Plot 2 Photo Point 2 (SW)





Plot 2 Photo Point 4 (SW)



Plot	# of Photos
3	4
4 photo points at: #1 looking N (1 photo) along trail from entering plot from the S, #2 looking SW and SE (2 photos) from the trail bend, and #3 looking NE along trail entering plot from the E.	

Plot 3 Photo Point 1 (N)



Plot 3 Photo Point 2a (SW)



Plot 3 Photo Point 2b (SE)



Plot 3 Photo Point 3 (NE)



Plot	# of Photos
4	4
3 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking SW (1 photo), #2 at end of line-intercept transect looking N and E (2 photos), and #3 bottom of trail looking SW (1 photo)	

Plot 4 Photo Point 1 (SW)



Plot 4 Photo Point 2a (N)



Plot 4 Photo Point 2b (E)



Plot 4 Photo Point 3 (SW)



Plot	# of Photos
5	2
2 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking NE (1 photo) and #2 bottom of trail looking SW (1 photo)	

Plot 5 Photo Point 1 (NE)



Plot 5 Photo Point 2 (SW)



Cheasty Quarterly Monitoring: Q1, 2025

South Loop

Date: 03/31/25- 10:30 AM

SPR Representative: Kellina Stamm

Other Attendees: None

1. Illegal parking on Cheasty Boulevard

No illegal parking seen. All “No Bikes” signs on the Boulevard trail were legible and installed.

2. Wildlife observed

Some crows observed, a couple robins, chickadees and a squirrel along with other small birds.

3. Camping/homeless encampment activity

No active encampments.

4. Use/disuse of social trails

Social trail at Columbian Way still in place, others are filling in with vegetation.



Figure 1 Columbian Way social trail

5. Damage and degradation to wetlands not protected by fencing

No damage or degradation to wetlands was observed, and construction silt fencing and straw wattles have been removed.

6. Trash and dumping

A trash pile observed on the multi-use trail toward Columbian Way (near some skunk cabbage!), another pile at the Snowberry Loop yard, and small amounts elsewhere on the trail system.



Figure 2 Trash on multi-use trail

7. Corrective Actions this Quarter

Sections of trail tread and berms continue to be maintained by volunteers. Volunteers added mounds on the green downhill trail and appear to have widened the trail in sections and added major berms. Some new features were added on the blue downhill trail as well.



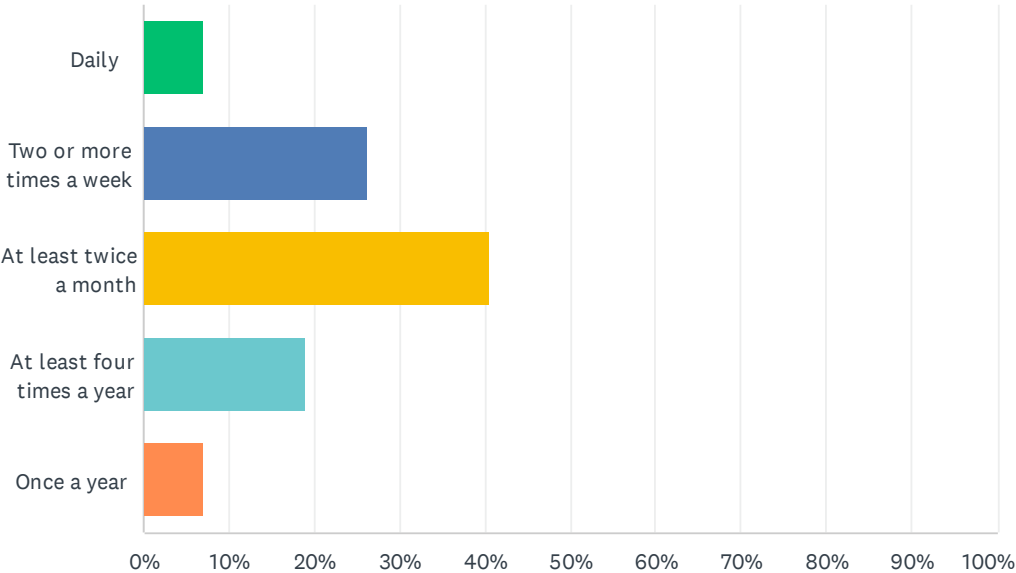
Figure 3 Trail tread maintenance



Figure 4 Added Berms

Q1 How often do you visit the Cheasty Pedestrian and Mountain Bike Trail?

Answered: 42 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Daily	7.14%	3
Two or more times a week	26.19%	11
At least twice a month	40.48%	17
At least four times a year	19.05%	8
Once a year	7.14%	3
TOTAL		42

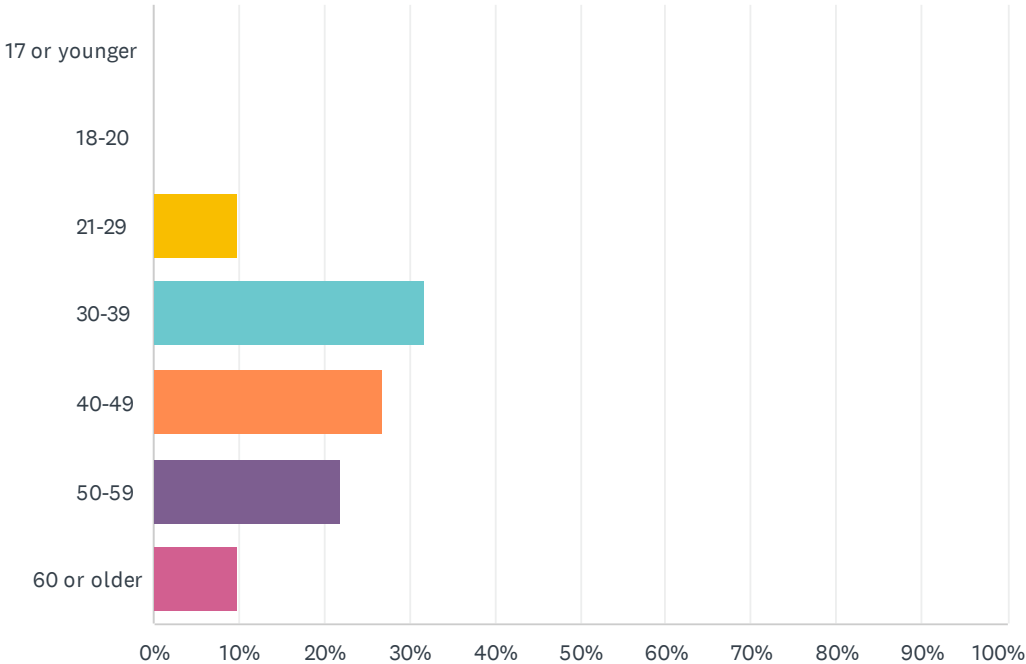
Q2 In what ZIP code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code; for example, 00544 or 94305)

Answered: 42 Skipped: 0

Tags						+ New Tag		
98108	98108	<div></div>	40.48%	17	View all	Edit	Delete	
98118	98118	<div></div>	19.05%	8	View all	Edit	Delete	
98144	98144	<div></div>	16.67%	7	View all	Edit	Delete	
Untagged		<div></div>	26.19%	11	View all			

Q3 What is your age?

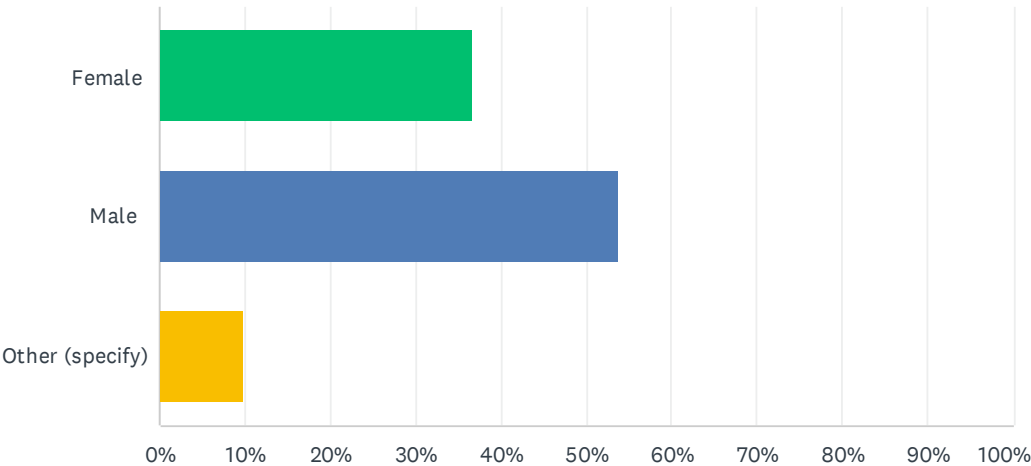
Answered: 41 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	0.00%	0
21-29	9.76%	4
30-39	31.71%	13
40-49	26.83%	11
50-59	21.95%	9
60 or older	9.76%	4
TOTAL		41

Q4 What is your gender?

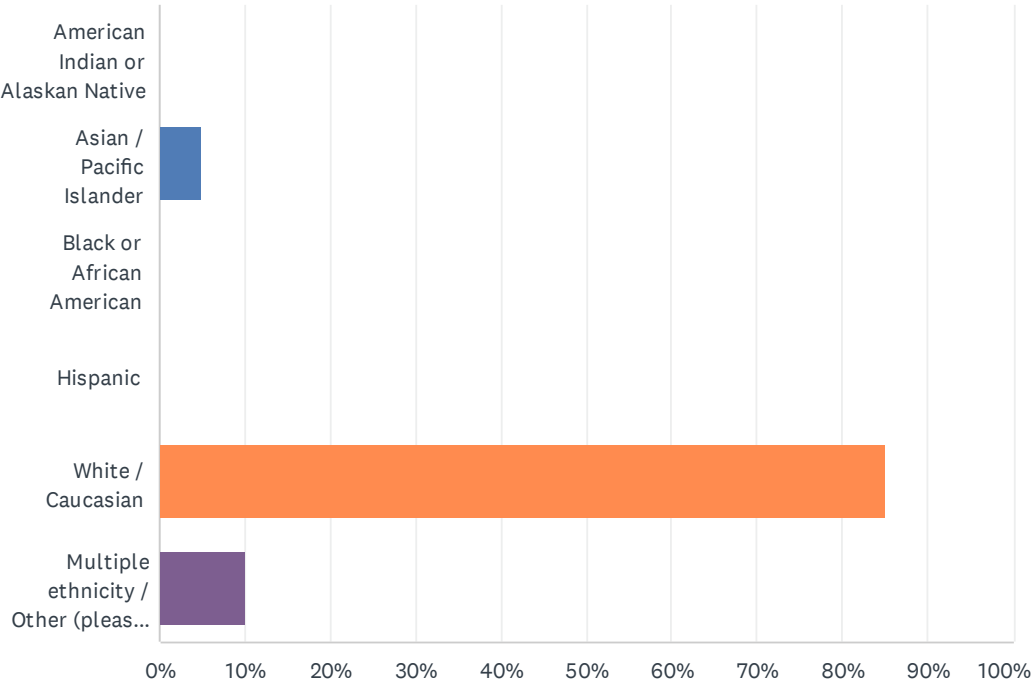
Answered: 41 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	36.59%	15
Male	53.66%	22
Other (specify)	9.76%	4
TOTAL		41

Q5 Which race/ethnicity best describes you? (Please choose only one.)

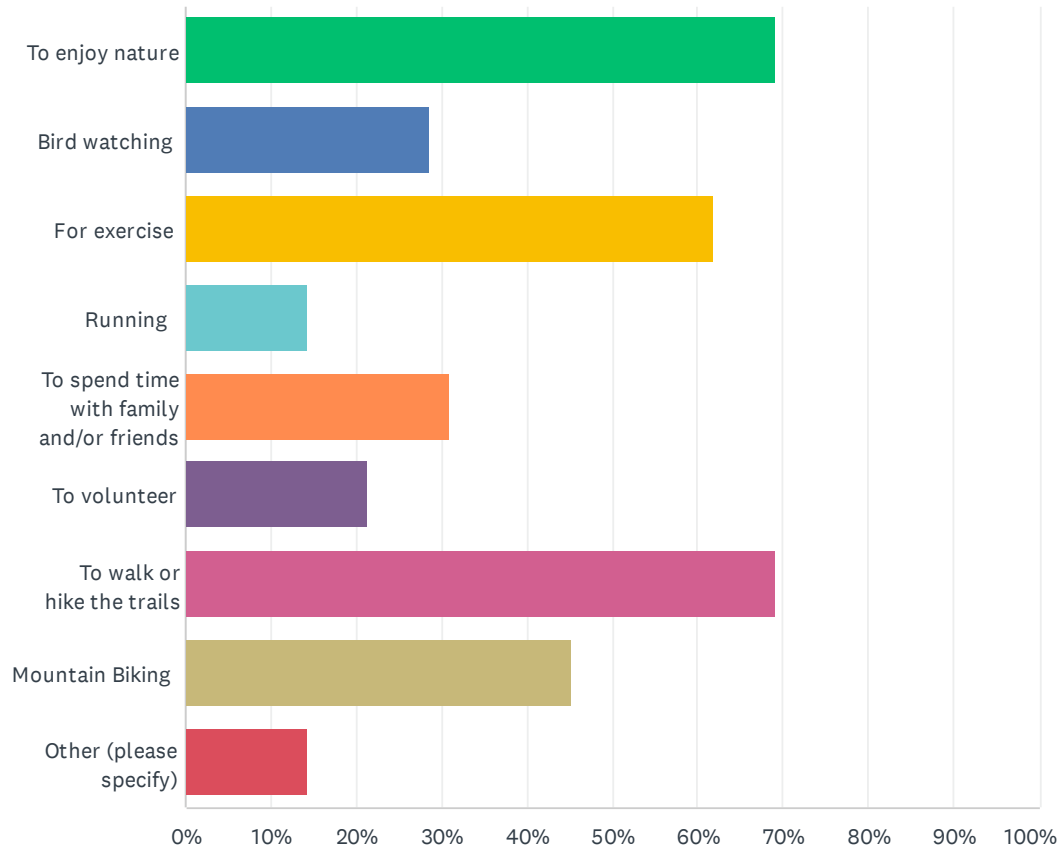
Answered: 40 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.00%	0
Asian / Pacific Islander	5.00%	2
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic	0.00%	0
White / Caucasian	85.00%	34
Multiple ethnicity / Other (please specify)	10.00%	4
TOTAL		40

Q6 Why do you visit the Cheasty Pedestrian and Mountain Bike Trail? (check all that apply)

Answered: 42 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To enjoy nature	69.05%	29
Bird watching	28.57%	12
For exercise	61.90%	26
Running	14.29%	6
To spend time with family and/or friends	30.95%	13
To volunteer	21.43%	9
To walk or hike the trails	69.05%	29
Mountain Biking	45.24%	19
Other (please specify)	14.29%	6
Total Respondents: 42		

Q7 Rate your experience of the trail

Answered: 36 Skipped: 6

4.6★
average rating



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	13.89% 5	16.67% 6	69.44% 25	36	4.56

Cheasty Boulevard FindIt FixIt Data Summary

10/1/22-03/31/23

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	20	0	0	0	2	1	0	
Other parts of Blvd	7	0	3	2	0	0	0	
On Trails	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	27	1	3	2	2	1	0	

04/01/23-06/30/23

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	10	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Other parts of Blvd	7	1	1	1	0	5	0	
On Trails	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	18	1	1	1	0	5	2	

7/1/23-09/30/23

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Other parts of Blvd	7	1	0	1	1	0	0	
On Trails	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
Total	8	1	0	1	2	2	0	

10/1/23-12/31/23

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Other parts of Blvd	6	1	1	0	1	1	3	
On Trails	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Total	12	1	1	0	1	2	4	

1/1/24-3/31/24

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Other parts of Blvd	9	1	1	1	0	1	1	
On Trails	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	

4/1/24-7/30/24

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Other parts of Blvd	7	1	4	0	0	0	2	
On Trails	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Total	12	2	4	0	1	0	2	

*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and 25th Ave S

7/1/24-9/30/24

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	8	1		1	1	1	2	
Other parts of Blvd	10	2	1		1		4	
On Trails								
Total	18	3	1	1	2	1	6	

*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and 25th Ave S

10/1/24-12/31/24

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	12	0	0	0	0	4	2	
Other parts of Blvd	4	1	0	1	0	1	1	
On Trails	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	16	1	0	1	0	5	3	

*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St (expanded this quarter with North Loop opening)

1/1/25-3/31/25

Report Type								
	Illegal Dumping	Encampment	Pothole	Electrical	Signage	Vegetation	Parking	
Near Trails*	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other parts of Blvd	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	
On Trails	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	7	3	0	0	0	1	0	

*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St

Appendix E



City of Seattle Parks & Recreation



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Kelly Stamm

03/31/2025

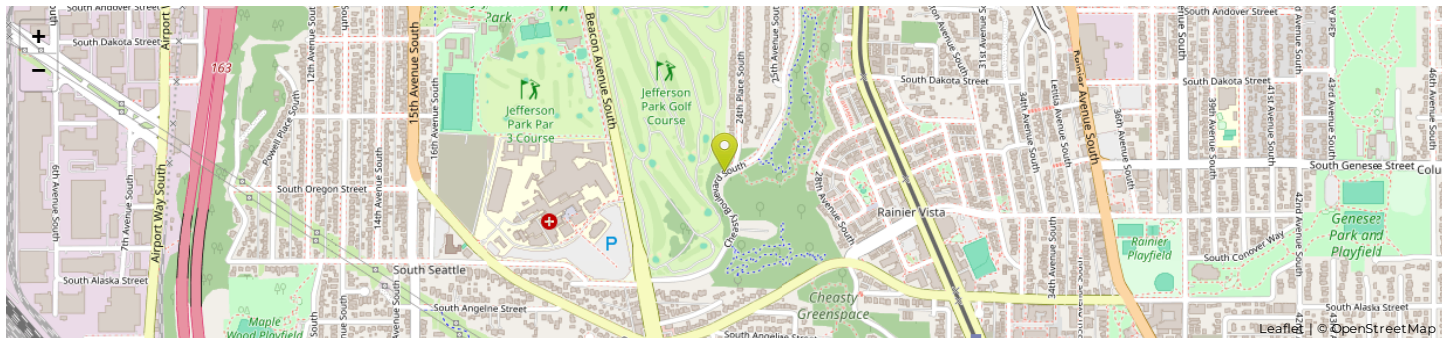
Note: N. of 24th Pl counter was moved to Mock Orange Trail on 01/13/2025, data for all counters is shown this quarter from 01/14/25 to 03/31/25

Cheasty Trails- Blvd Pedestrian- S. of 24th Pl

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

January 14, 2025 12:00 AM → March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

Location



Daily Average Bicyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

0

Daily Average Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

360

Peak Day Bicyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

Friday
Feb 28, 2025

3

Peak Day Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

Wednesday
Feb 12, 2025

671

Daily Avg. - Week Ped&Bike

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

383

Daily Avg. - Weekend Ped&Bike

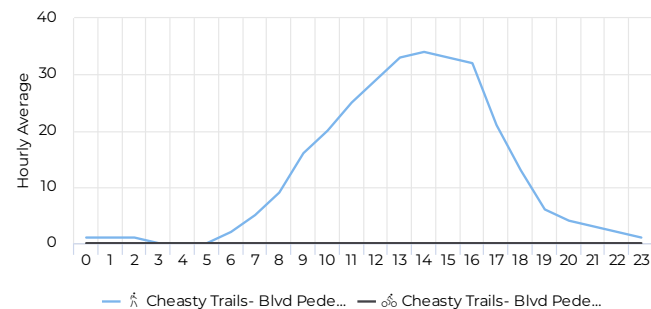
01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

291

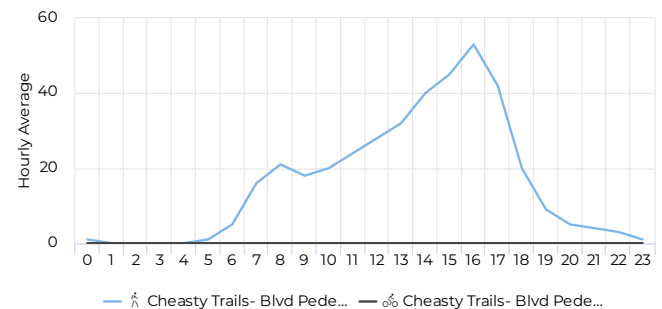
Hourly Profile - Weekend

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Hourly Profile - Weekdays

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



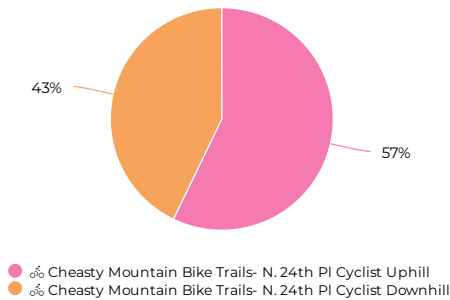
Cheasty Trails- Blvd Pedestrian- S. of 24th Pl

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

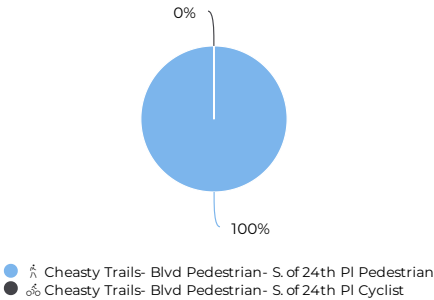
January 14, 2025 12:00 AM → March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

Downhill Vs Uphill Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

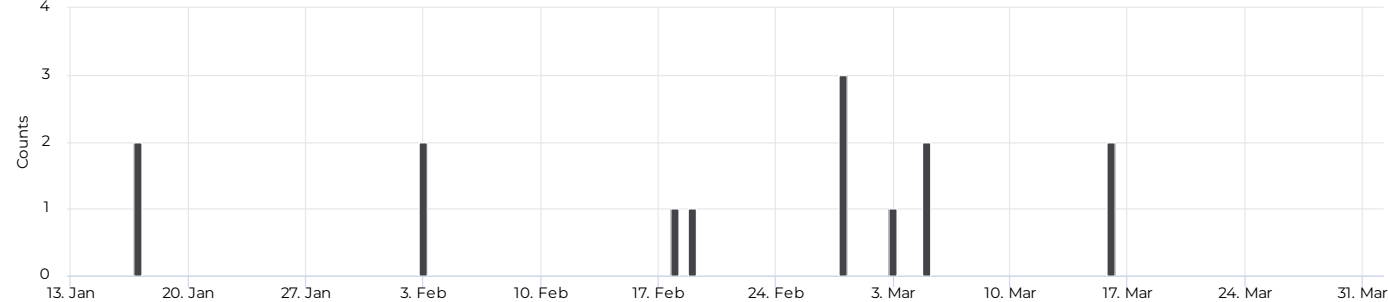


Bike/Ped Distribution



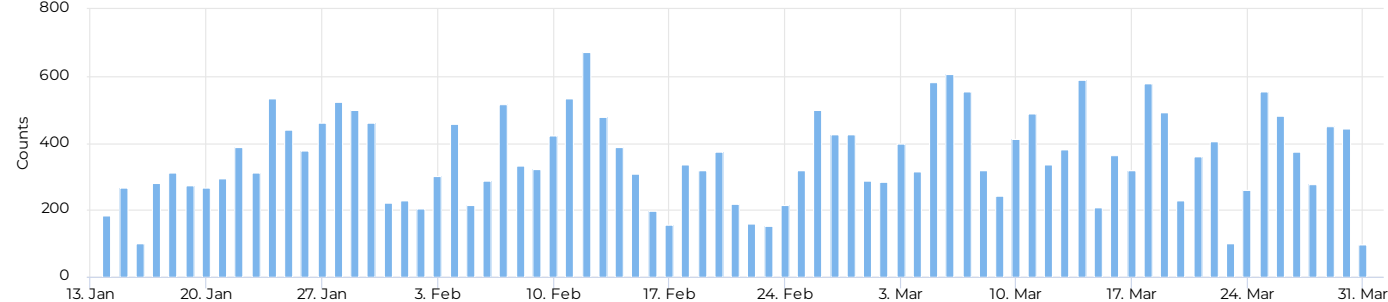
Daily Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Daily Pedestrians

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

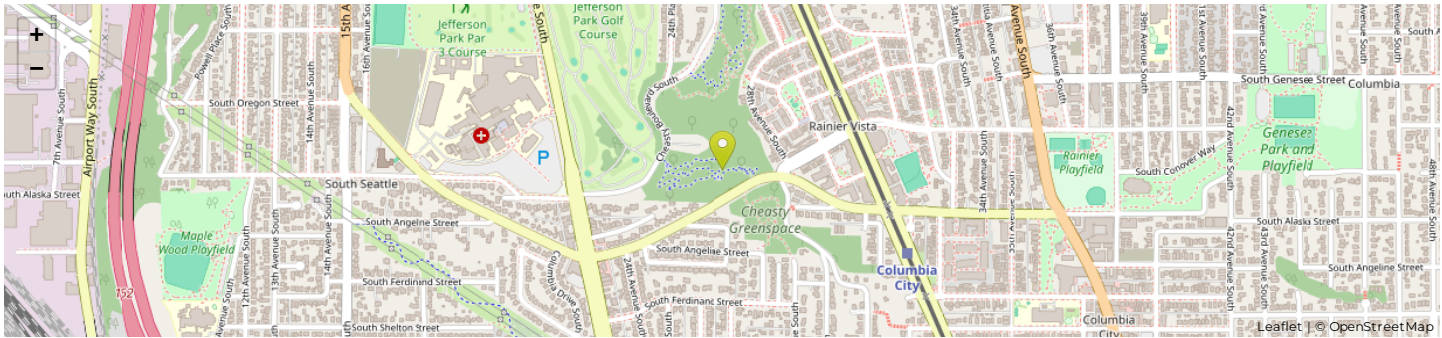


Cheasty Trails- Multi-Use Snowberry Trail

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

January 14, 2025 12:00 AM → March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

Location



Daily Average Bicyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

28

Daily Average Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

31

Peak Day Bicyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

140

Wednesday
Mar 26, 2025

Peak Day Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

90

Wednesday
Mar 26, 2025

Daily Avg. - Week Ped&Bike

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

52

Daily Avg. - Weekend Ped&Bike

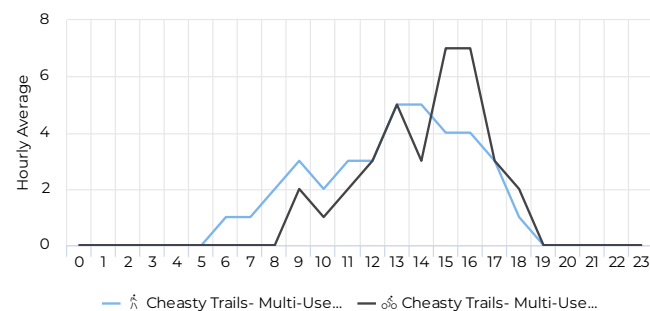
01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

73

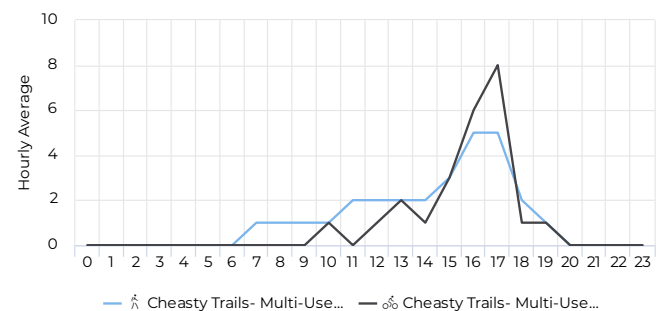
Hourly Profile - Weekend

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Hourly Profile - Weekdays

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



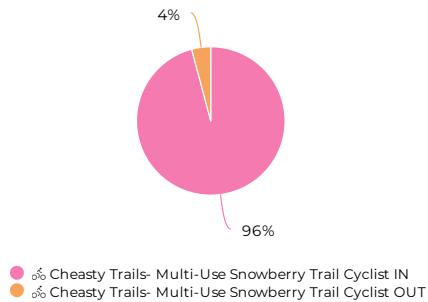
Cheasty Trails- Multi-Use Snowberry Trail

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

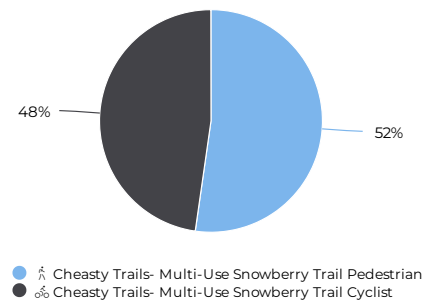
January 14, 2025 12:00 AM → March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

Downhill Vs Uphill Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

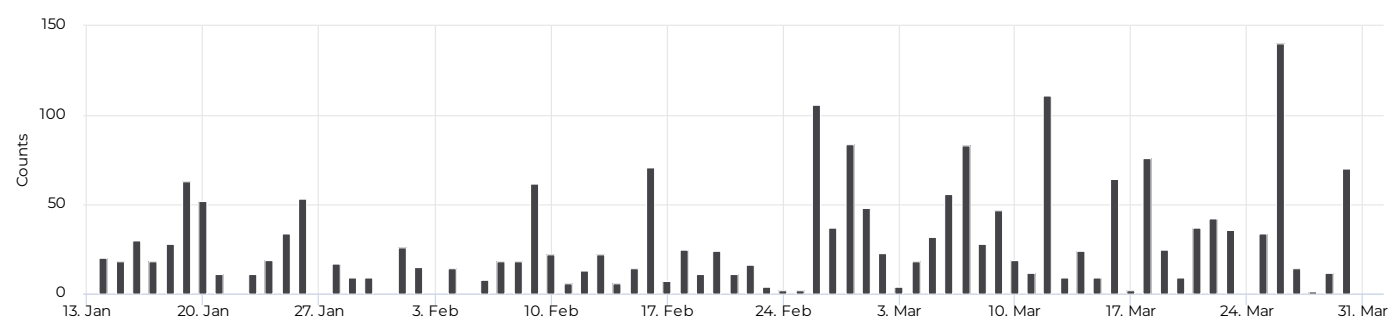


Bike/Ped Distribution



Daily Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Daily Pedestrians

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

