

February 2025

# North Loop Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring Q3-Q4 Monitoring Report



**Seattle**  
Parks & Recreation



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# Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring Baseline Summary Report

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February, 2025

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*All photos in this report by Nelson Salisbury - © EarthCorps, 2024.*

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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 phase one of the South Loop Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project at the Cheasty Natural Area in South Seattle. The proposed monitoring plan was intended to track general changes to the vegetation as a direct result of trail construction throughout the 3-year pilot project timeline. Five vegetation monitoring plots were established prior to trail construction in order to obtain representative baseline vegetation structure and composition data. South Loop monitoring will continue through the end of 2025.

In 2024, SPR contracted with EarthCorps to extend this monitoring plan into the North Loop section associated with phase two of the Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project. Four monitoring plots were established prior to and during trail construction to obtain baseline vegetation structure and composition data. The following report summarizes the results of the **Q3-Q4 2024 photo monitoring** of the North Loop monitoring plots. Photos were taken in September of 2024 to cover both the third and fourth quarters of 2024.

The following report provides photo monitoring results taken late in Q3 (**September 19, 2024**). See map 1 for locations of monitoring plots. The Appendices include photo monitoring for this period.

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

Year 1 Baseline/Trail construction:	2024
Year 2 monitoring:	2025
Year 3 monitoring:	2026

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Map 1: Plot Locations



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## **2. Plot Data Summary**

Vegetation composition was generally unchanged from previous baseline monitoring performed in May of 2024 (see North Loop Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring Baseline Summary Report, January 2025). The major differences noted were at Plots 1 and 3 where substantial trail construction had occurred. Trail construction in these plots resulted in ground disturbance along the new trail corridors within these plots that substantially altered the existing vegetation in these areas. The following photos can be compared to baseline photos to track changes between these periods.

**Appendices:**

Cheasty Greenspace Mountainbike/Pedestrian Trail  
-North Loop  
  
Photo monitoring Year 1, Q3-Q4 2024

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Plot	# of Photos
1	6
4 photos at plot center in cardinal directions. 2 photos looking up and down trail.	

Plot 1 Photo Point 1a (N)



Plot 1 Photo Point 1b (E)





Plot 1 Photo Point 1c (S)



Plot 1 Photo Point 1d (W)





Plot 1 Photo Point 2a (Down trail looking E)



Plot 1dPhoto Point 2b (Up trail looking W)





Plot	# of Photos
2	6
4 photos at plot center in cardinal directions. 2 photos looking up and down trail.	

Plot 2 Photo Point 1a (N)



Plot 2 Photo Point 1b (E)





Plot 2 Photo Point 1c (S)



Plot 2 Photo Point 1d(W)





Plot 1 Photo Point 2a (Down trail looking SW)



Plot 1dPhoto Point 2b (Up trail looking NE)





Plot	# of Photos
3	6
4 photos at plot center in cardinal directions. 2 photos looking up and down trail.	

Plot 3 Photo Point 1a (N)



Plot 3 Photo Point 1b (E)





Plot 3 Photo Point 1c (S)



Plot 3 Photo Point 1d (W)







Plot 3 Photo Point 2b (Down trail looking S)





Plot	# of Photos
4	8
4 photos at plot center in cardinal directions. 2 photos looking up and down trail from plot edges, 2 photos from bend apex looking up and down trail..	

Plot 4 Photo Point 1a (N)



Plot 4 Photo Point 1b (E)





Plot 4 Photo Point 1c (S)



Plot 4 Photo Point 1d (W)





Plot 4 Photo Point 2a (Down trail NE from edge)



Plot 4 Photo Point 2b (Up trail NW from edge)





Plot 4 Photo Point 3a (Down trail SE from bend)



Plot 4 Photo Point 1d (Down trail SW from bend)





## **Cheasty Quarterly Monitoring: Q4, 2024**

### **North Loop**

**Date:** 12/31/2024- 10:30 AM

**SPR Representative:** Kellina Stamm

**Other Attendees:** Matt Blossom, EMBA

**1. Illegal parking on Cheasty Boulevard**

One parked vehicle observed by Cheasty Yard. All “No Bikes” signs on the Boulevard trail were legible and installed.

**2. Wildlife observed**

Some crows and many robins observed, along with other small birds. The Merlin App identified American Crow and American Robin by auditory recording.

**3. Camping/homeless encampment activity**

No active encampments, no homeless activity observed.

**4. Use/disuse of social trails**

One construction trail exists from Cheasty to Watercourse 1, will monitor to see if a social trail develops. Social trail from Cheasty Blvd down Andover ROW appears to be in less use than prior to construction. Restoration trails are in existence.



*Figure 1 WC1 construction trail*

**5. Damage and degradation to wetlands not protected by fencing**

No damage or degradation to wetlands was observed, and straw wattles are in place on all trails.

**6. Trash and dumping**

Some trash and dumping observed, including shopping carts, tires and miscellaneous.



*Figure 2 Trash on multi-use trail*

## **7. Corrective Actions this Quarter**

Project reached substantial completion, including boardwalk installation. SPR volunteers and EMBA continue to complete finishing on trail tread, and downed tree branches and trunks were removed after the wind storms. Mountain bike loop continues to be closed while soil compacts.



*Figure 3 Mountain bike loop*



*Figure 4 Multi-use trail*

## 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

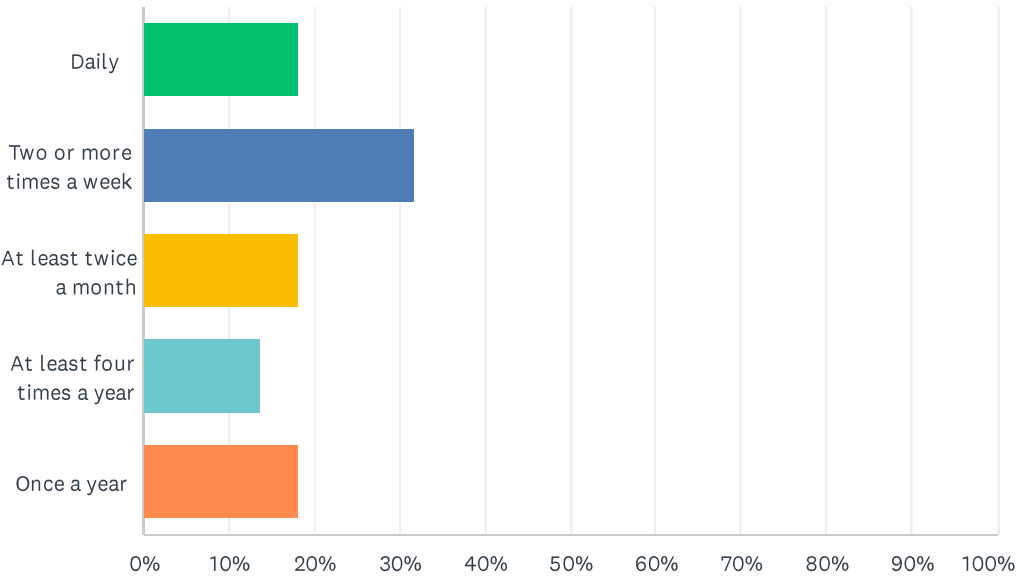
## Report Type

	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)

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

Answered: 22    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Daily	18.18%	4
Two or more times a week	31.82%	7
At least twice a month	18.18%	4
At least four times a year	13.64%	3
Once a year	18.18%	4
TOTAL		22

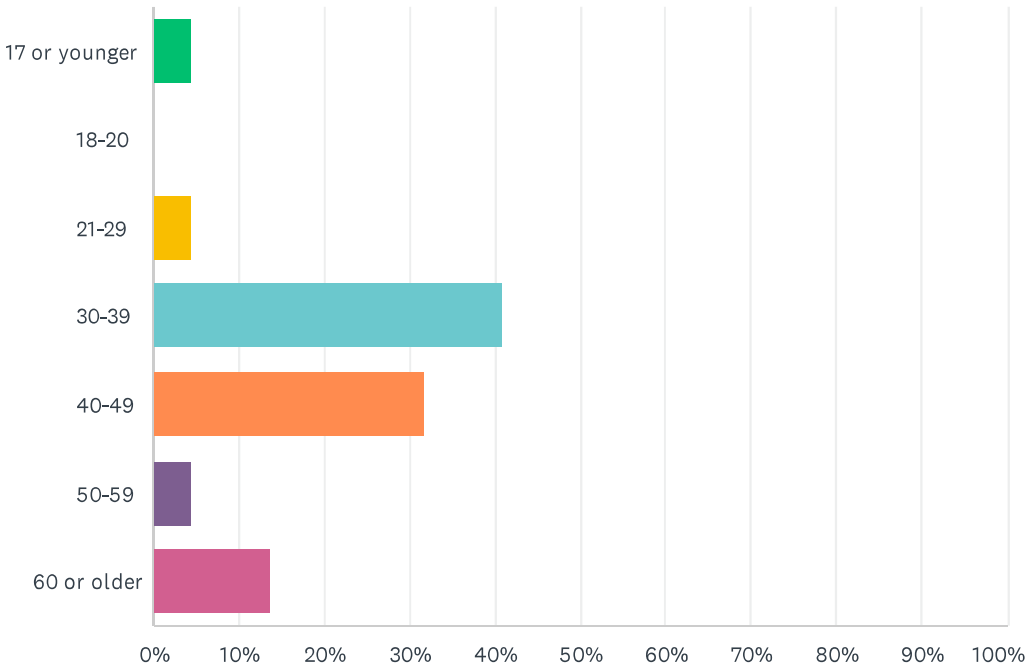
Q2 In what ZIP code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code; for example, 00544 or 94305)

Answered: 22   Skipped: 0

Tag	Quantity	Percentage
98108	9	41%
98118	4	18%
98144	6	27%
Other	3	14%

Q3 What is your age?

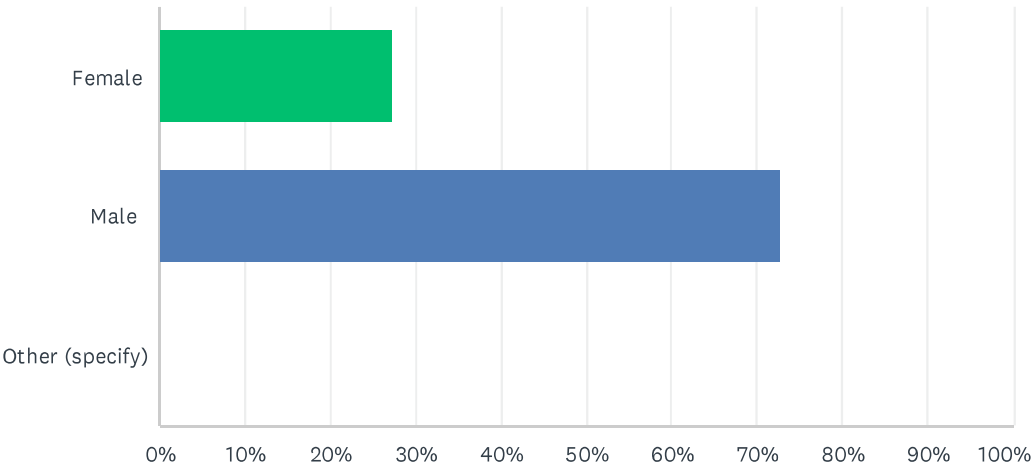
Answered: 22    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	4.55%	1
18-20	0.00%	0
21-29	4.55%	1
30-39	40.91%	9
40-49	31.82%	7
50-59	4.55%	1
60 or older	13.64%	3
TOTAL		22

Q4 What is your gender?

Answered: 22    Skipped: 0

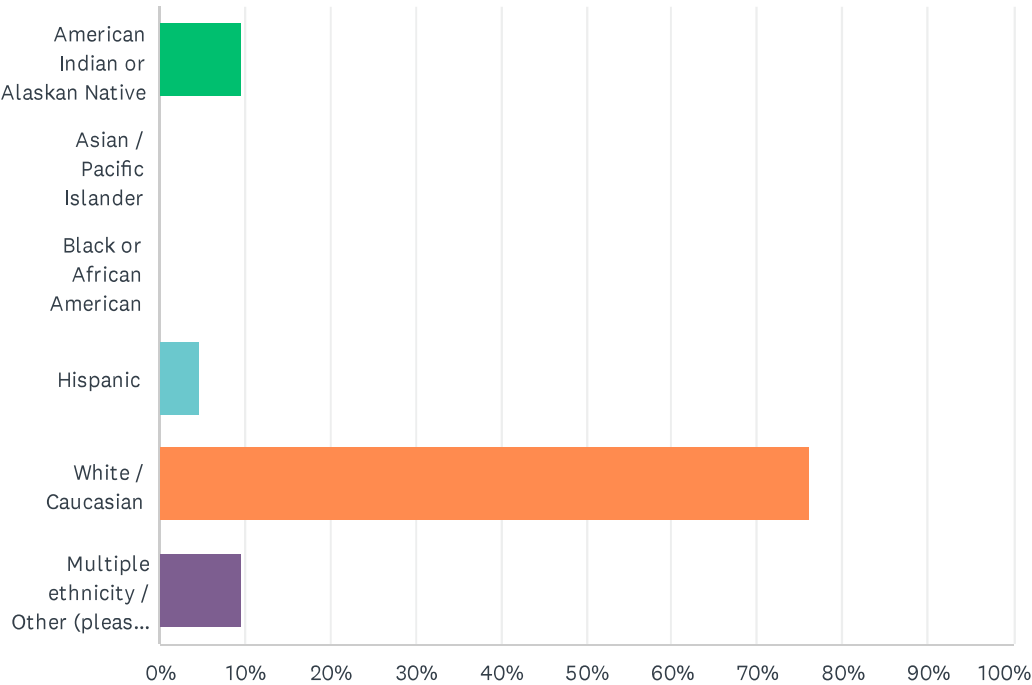


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	27.27%	6
Male	72.73%	16
Other (specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		22



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

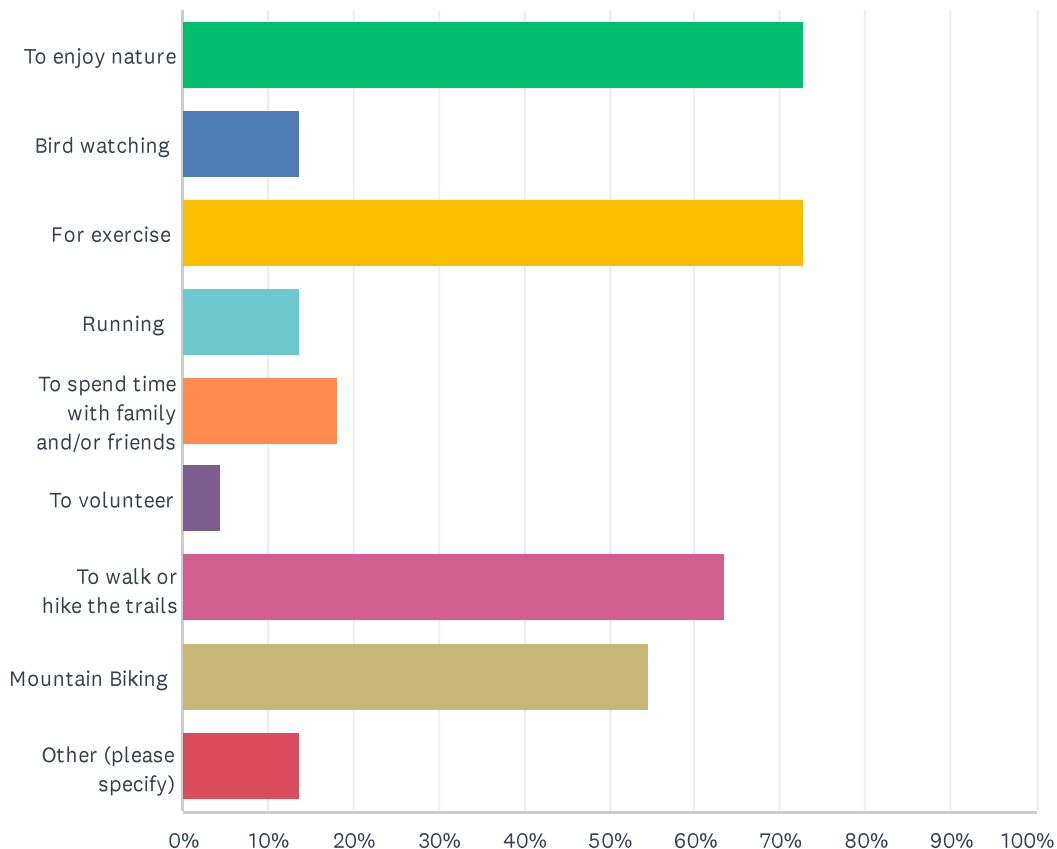
Answered: 21    Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	9.52%	2
Asian / Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic	4.76%	1
White / Caucasian	76.19%	16
Multiple ethnicity / Other (please specify)	9.52%	2
TOTAL		21

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

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To enjoy nature	72.73%	16
Bird watching	13.64%	3
For exercise	72.73%	16
Running	13.64%	3
To spend time with family and/or friends	18.18%	4
To volunteer	4.55%	1
To walk or hike the trails	63.64%	14
Mountain Biking	54.55%	12
Other (please specify)	13.64%	3
Total Respondents: 22		

Q7 Rate your experience of the trail

Answered: 22    Skipped: 0

4.2★  
average rating



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.00% 0	9.09% 2	13.64% 3	22.73% 5	54.55% 12	22	4.23