

April 2025

North Loop Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail 2025 Q1 Monitoring Report



Seattle
Parks & Recreation



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Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring Baseline Summary Report

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Parks & Recreation



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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. **Four** 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 Q1 2025 photo monitoring of the North Loop monitoring plots. Photos were taken in March of 2025 to cover first quarter (Jan-Mar) of 2025.

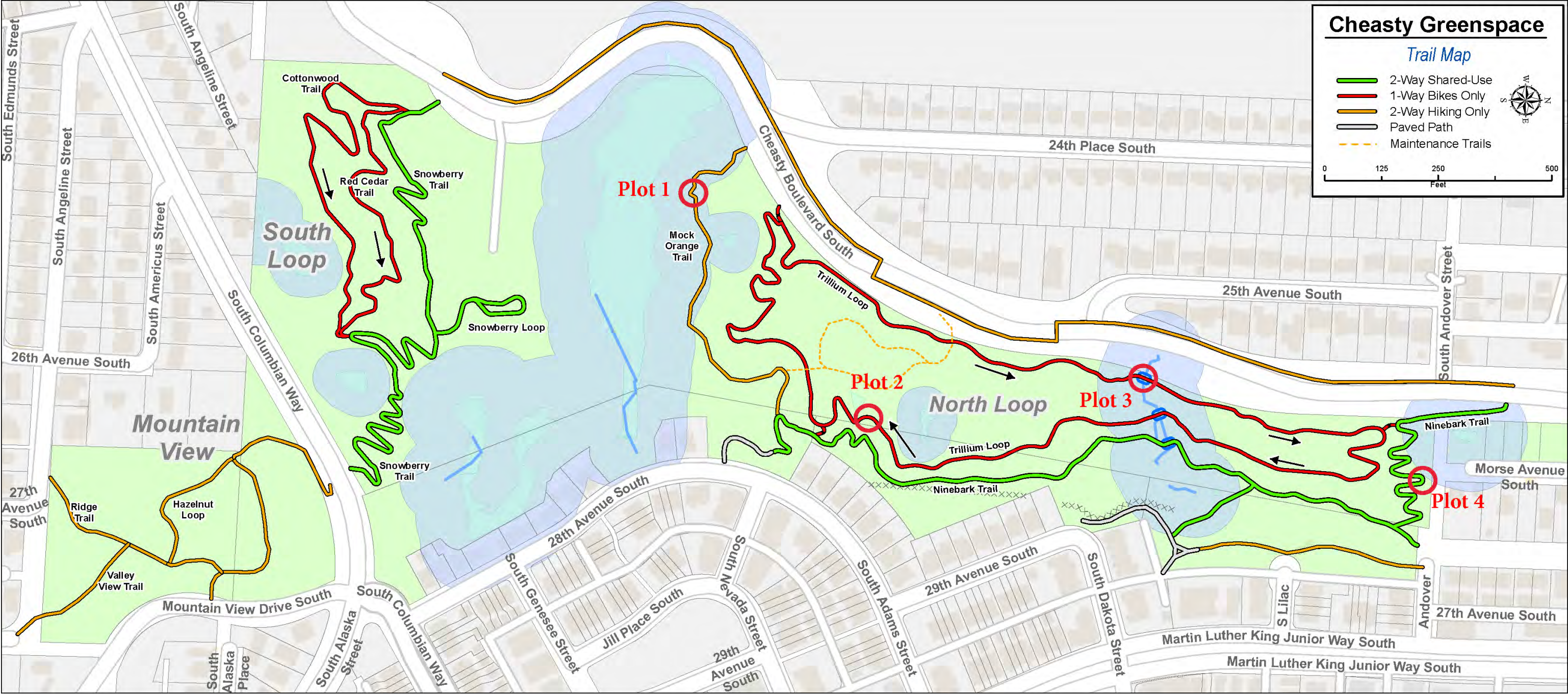
The following report provides photo monitoring results taken in Q1 (March 21, 2025). See map 1 for locations of monitoring plots. The Appendices include photo monitoring for this period.

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

The following trail and vegetation conditions were observed during the photo monitoring visit. Major changes were noted in Plot 1 (habitat maintenance) and Plot 3 (trail rerouting).

Plot 1: No trail construction is planned or occurring in this plot (control plot). Substantial habitat restoration and vegetation management has taken place since the previous monitoring period. Clearing of previously dominant invasive plant species has resulted in moderate exposure of bare ground (approximately 15% of total plot excluding trail surface). Cherry laurel has been removed, sycamore maple sprouts noted (hard to quantify leaf-off). Common blackberry and ivy sprouts noted regenerating throughout plot, follow up stewardship recommended. Limited native tree planting was noted in the plot including Douglas fir, grand fir, western red cedar, and western hemlock. Natural regeneration of several native herbaceous species noted including fringcup, large-leaved avens, and bracken fern.

Plot 2: No substantial changes to trail or vegetation noted from previous monitoring period. Substantial bare ground remains present from ongoing trail construction in vicinity. Trail tread has been leveled and smoothed from previous monitoring period but still under substantial construction. Limited planting noted in plot area including sword fern, fringcup, youth-on-age, and lupine. Very limited tree planting noted with single individual Douglas fir and Sitka spruce trees noted. Some natural native herbaceous regeneration noted including ciliate willow-herb and fringcup.

Plot 3: The trail has been rerouted from the original flag line and is now routed through the west side of the plot. As a result, substantial alteration of the topography has taken place to facilitate the construction of a bridge over the creek. Considerable bare ground was noted within the original plot area (>50% cover). Mature holly and cherry laurel trees remain present. Some native bigleaf maple trees were marked to remove dead branches or fully dead trees (as noted by SPR arborists) for the safety of trail users. Small amounts of blackberry and ivy present. Some limited amounts of snowberry were noted planted in the plot. Some drainage issues were noted up trail of bridge that need to be addressed. Due to trail reroute, we recommend adding additional photo monitoring points to capture the new trail corridor. New photos were taken from the constructed bridge and additional photo locations will be considered during the next monitoring period (Q2-2025).

Plot 4: Trail tread and edges substantially more stabilized since previous monitoring period. Some limited planting was noted including kinnikinnick, osoberry, thimbleberry, salmonberry, snowberry, salal, and serviceberry. Orange trail fencing has been removed and wood straw was noted in places. A fair amount of common blackberry is present in the plot and should be considered for control, along with small amounts of common ivy. Large non-native English hawthorn and Portugal laurel still present. Some minor pruning of beaked hazelnut noted along trail edge. Stinging nettle and fringcup present. All transplanted sword ferns appear dead.

Appendices:

Cheasty Greenspace Mountainbike/Pedestrian Trail
-North Loop

Photo monitoring Year 2, Q1 2025

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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 from plot center.	

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 near plot center)



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



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 1d (W)



Plot 3 Photo Point 2a (Up trail looking N)



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





Plot 3 Photo Point 3b (Down trail from bridge – first photo from this location)



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)



Appendix B

Cheasty Quarterly Monitoring: Q1, 2025

North Loop

Date: 03/31/25- 11:15 AM

SPR Representative: Kellina Stamm

Other Attendees: None

1. Illegal parking on Cheasty Boulevard

No parked vehicles observed. All “No Bikes” signs on the Boulevard trail were legible and installed.

2. Wildlife observed

Some crows, many small birds and a squirrel observed

3. Camping/homeless encampment activity

Active encampments outside the trails were observed around the Andover St end and Morse St, none within the trail system.



Figure 1 Andover St end encampment

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 2 Restoration trail signage

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. Some appear to be from clean up from the trail construction crew, one was left over from an encampment that is no longer in place.



Figure 3 Trash on multi-use trail at old encampment

7. Corrective Actions this Quarter

GSP contractor and volunteers continued plantings in trail system area. Trail was mainly shut down due to first winter compacting, seep areas were observed that need to be adjusted in the spring but no work occurred this quarter outside of installing signage. Community members appear to have installed some wood/debris in seep spots in the trail to allow the paths to be

walked on during the winter, these will be removed and repaired as part of the work toward Physical Completion for the project this summer.



Figure 4 GSP contractor plantings



Figure 5 Seep in trail system

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)

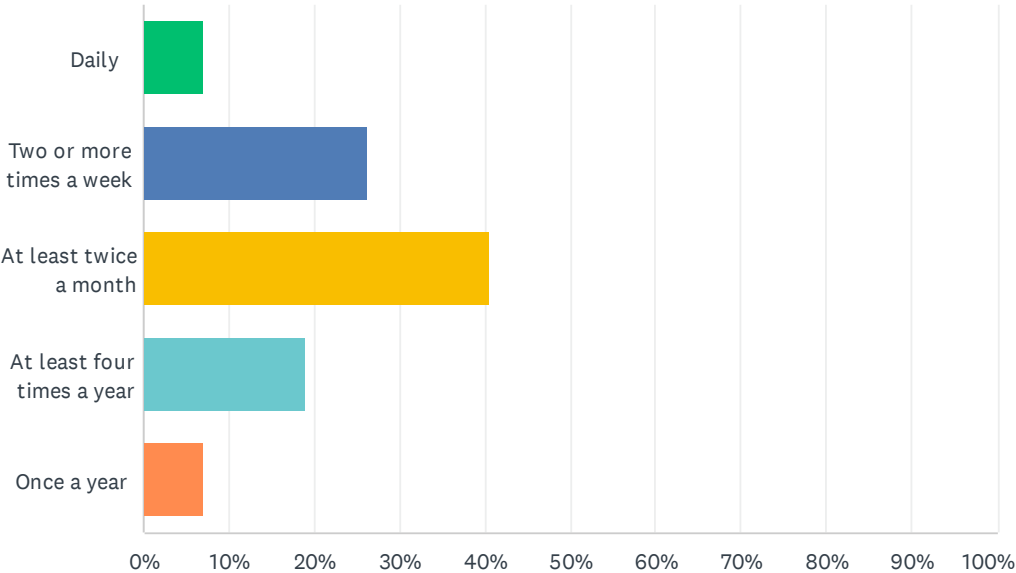
1/1/25-3/31/25

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

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

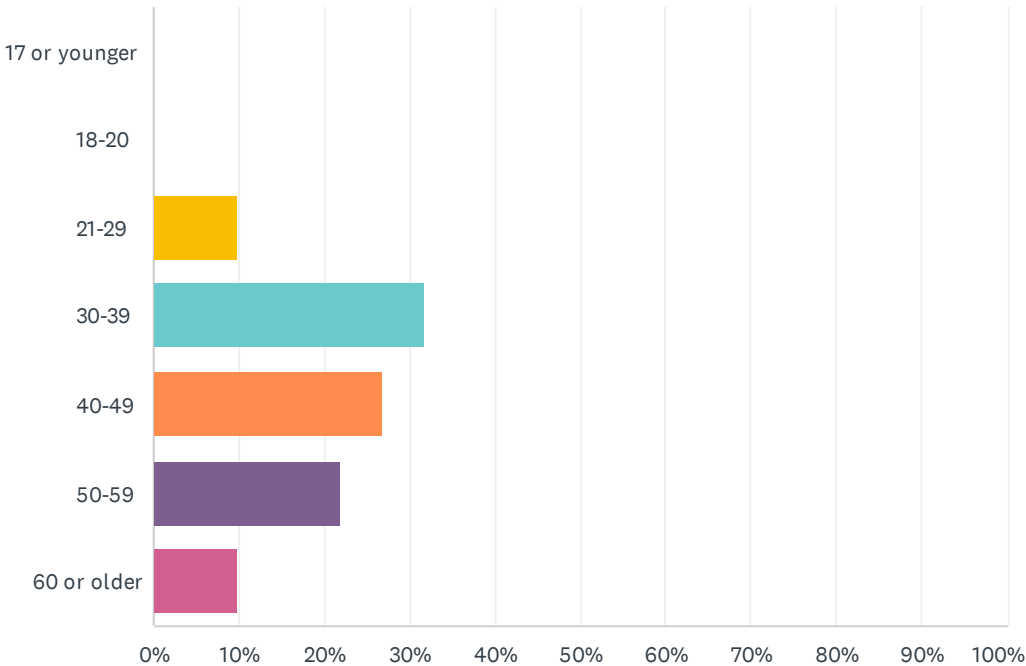
Q2 In what ZIP code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code; for example, 00544 or 94305)

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?

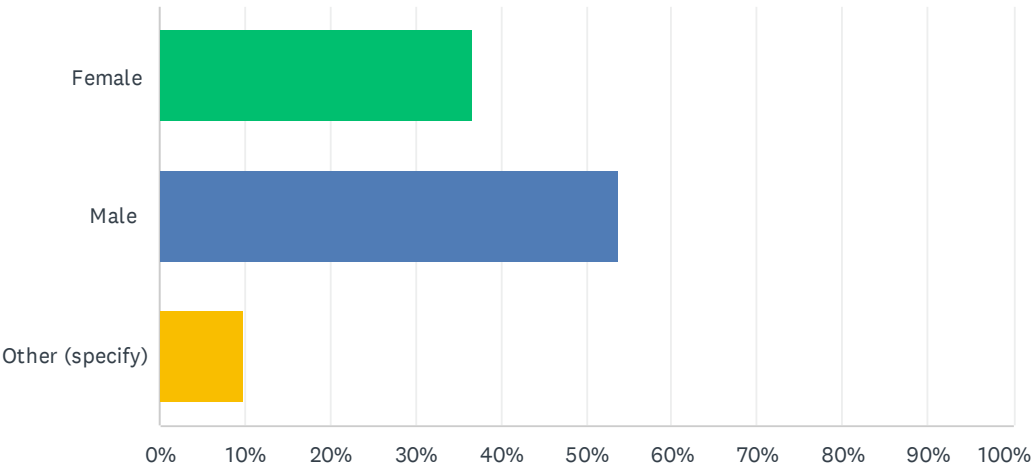
Answered: 41 Skipped: 1



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?

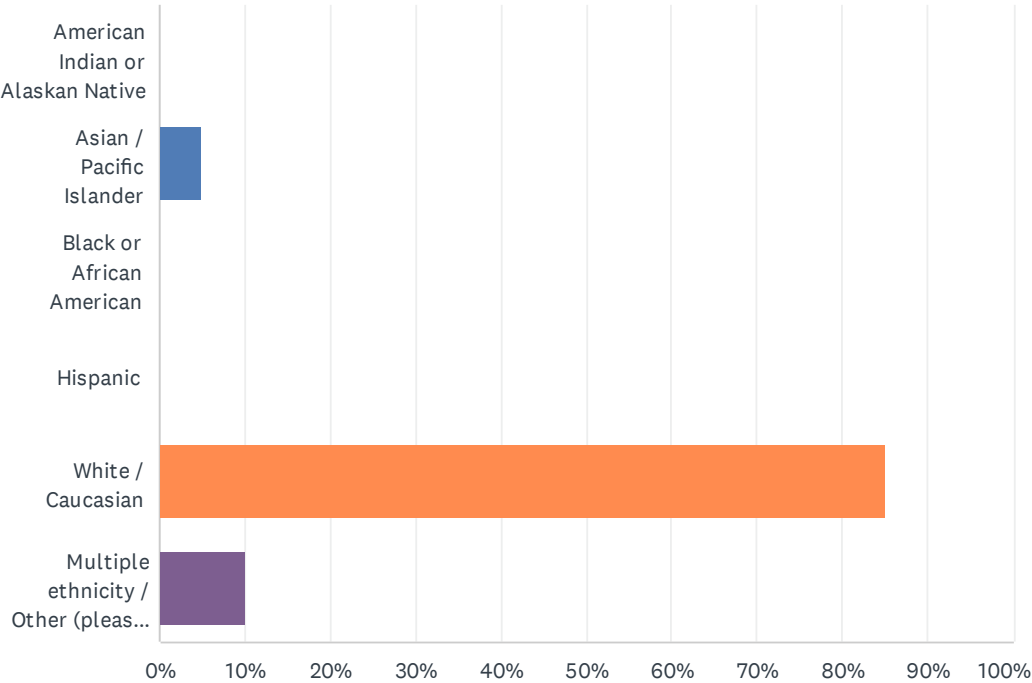
Answered: 41 Skipped: 1



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.)

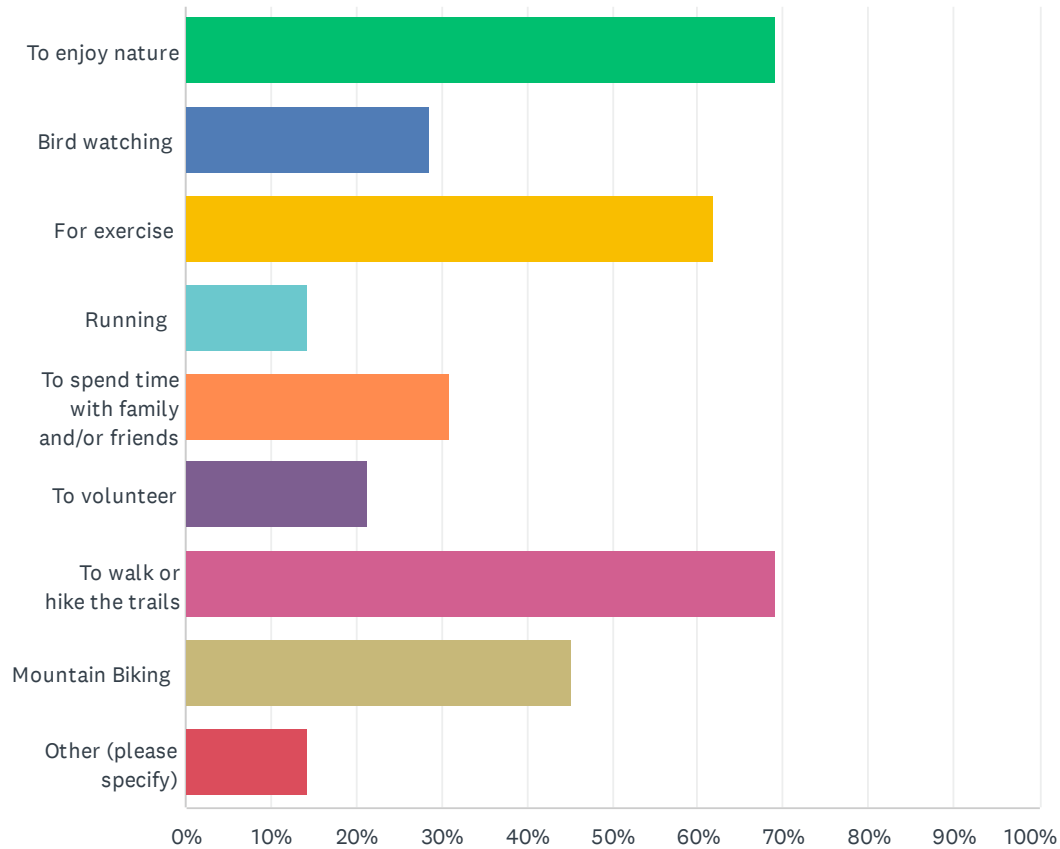
Answered: 40 Skipped: 2



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



City of Seattle Parks & Recreation



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Kelly Stamm

03/31/2025

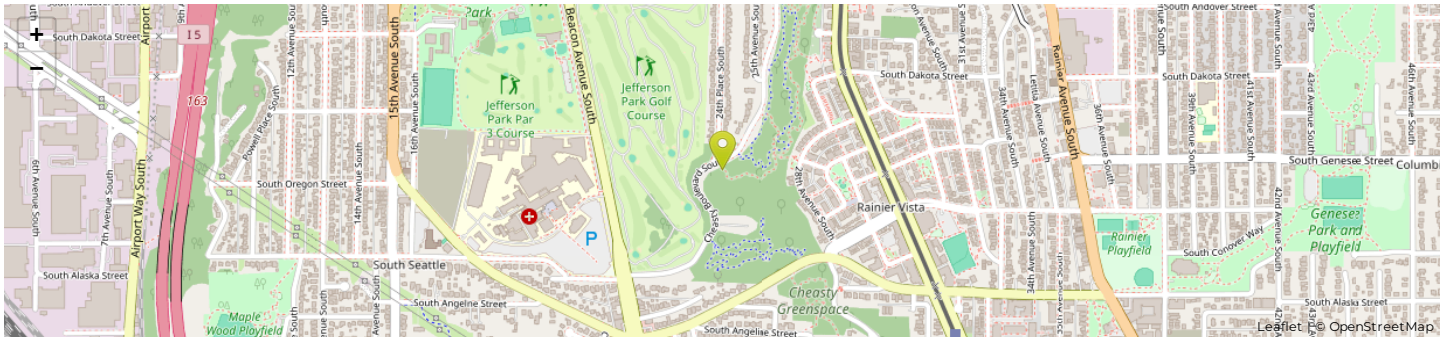
Note: N. of 24th Pl counter was moved to Mock Orange Trail on 01/13/2025, data for all counters is shown this quarter from 01/14/25 to 03/31/25

Cheasty Greenspace- Mock Orange 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

0

Daily Average Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

7

Peak Day Bicyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

Sunday
Mar 2, 2025

3

Peak Day Peds

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Peak Day

Saturday
Feb 15, 2025

42

Daily Avg. - Week Ped&Bike

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

5

Daily Avg. - Weekend Ped&Bike

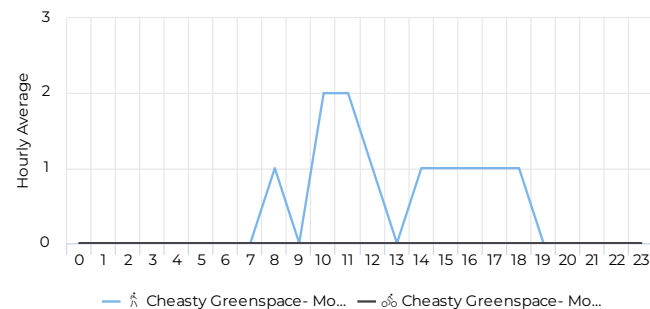
01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

Daily Average

10

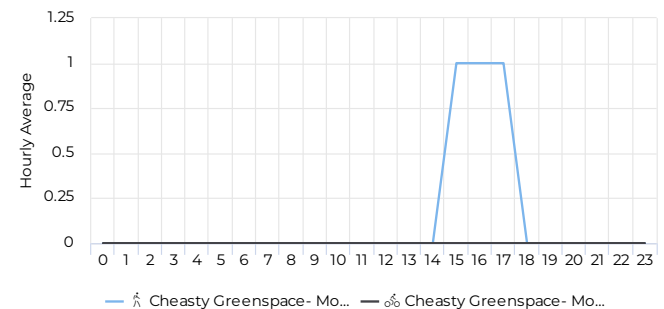
Hourly Profile - Weekend

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Hourly Profile - Weekdays

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



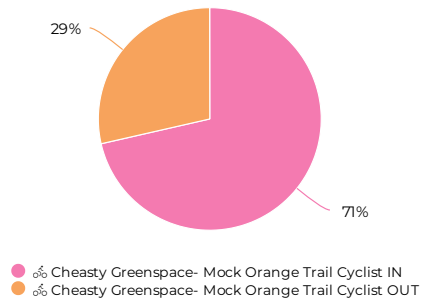
Cheasty Greenspace- Mock Orange Trail

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

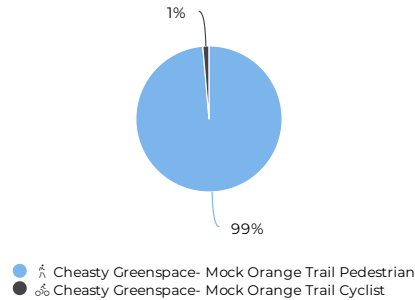
January 14, 2025 12:00 AM → March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

Downhill Vs Uphill Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

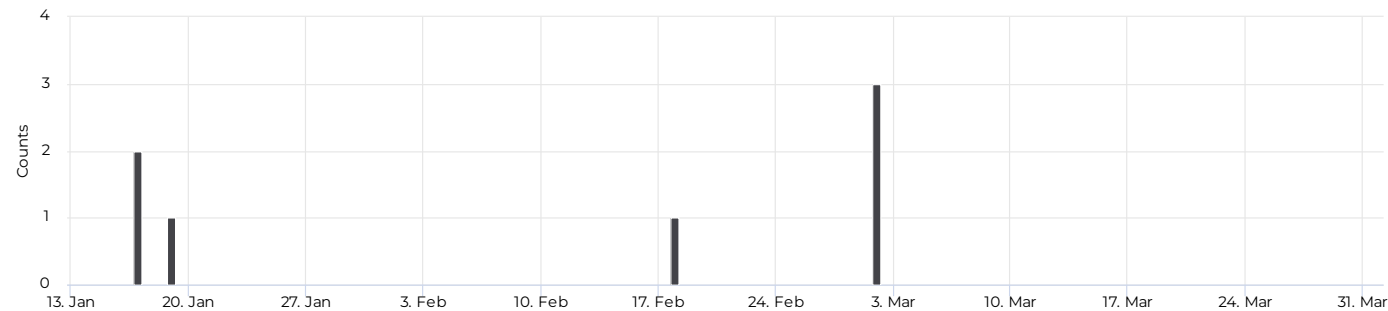


Bike/Ped Distribution



Daily Cyclists

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025



Daily Pedestrians

01/14/2025 → 03/30/2025

