



LRPP Survey Report

Part A: Survey Results Summary

Summary findings of the August 2013 Long Range Property Plan Task Force survey of Cascade Pacific Council members related to camping properties and programs

Survey results are organized in three parts so that members may select which level of detail they desire:

Part A: Survey Results Summary	Brief Summary of report findings	8 pages
Part B: Survey Results Detail	Detailed data analysis	78 pages
Part C: Survey Results Appendix	Extensive list of text responses	198 pages

Methodology & Respondents

Questions were presented in topic areas of interest to the Long Range Property Planning (LRPP) Core Group. Questions were developed with input from the BSA National Council, and after review of many other organizations' property planning member surveys and reports.

Ten demographic questions, and 49 program and property related questions were presented. Some were presented to specific sub-groups (ie: adults, or adults in a specific program group) in order to understand the various perspectives of youth, parents, and adult leaders.

The survey was published on July 26, 2013, and participation invitations sent to all subscribers of the council Compass Points Bulletin email newsletter, to district email newsletters, roundtable announcements, and other methods. Members were encouraged to share the survey invitation with all youth and adult members. The survey was active for 62 days, closing on September 23, 2013.

1,605 respondents started the survey. 87 submissions were removed from final tabulation, because they were significantly incomplete, resulting in 1,518 responses for analysis; a completion rate of 94.6%.

A total of 3,769 individuals were invited to participate in the survey (3,708 by council email newsletter, 61 by LRPP email newsletter). The response rate, calculated by these first-person invitations is 40.28%. An undetermined number of pass-along invitations that members were encouraged to make toward members in their units would lower this response rate, but it is not possible to accurately calculate that rate.

At the time of the survey, the council had 18,731 traditional* youth members and 9,900 adult members, for a total of 28,631 members. The total-membership response rate is 0.75% for youth, 13.92% for adults, and 5.30% combined. **Traditional' members are those registered in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout programs.*

IP addresses were evaluated to ensure that there were not a significant number of responses from a single IP address, which may indicate a person attempting to submit multiple responses. We also evaluated responses from the IP address of the council office, and found only six responses, which is reasonable given the number of employees that also serve as volunteer leaders.

Detailed results are contained in this report. The following details give a general understanding of the respondent pool:

Respondents identified themselves as:

Youth Members:	140	(9.2%)
Registered Adult Leaders:	1,129	(74.3%)
Parents of a Youth Member:	249	(16.4%)
Total:	1,518	

Youth Members:	140	(9.2%)
Adults (Leaders & Parents):	1378	(90.8%)
Total:	1,518	

Male Youth Members:	133
Female Youth Members:	7
Male Adult Leaders:	791
Female Adult Leaders:	338
Male Parents of Youth Members:	97
Female Parents of Youth Members:	152
Total:	1,518

Male:	1,021
Female:	497
Total:	1,518

Age range:	
7-10:	23
11-13:	23
14-17:	90
18-20:	21
21-29:	31
30-39:	239
40-49:	549
50-59:	335
60-69:	151
70-79:	47
80+:	9
Total:	1,518

Program Association:	
A Cub Scout Pack:	410
A Boy Scout Troop:	848
A Varsity Team:	45
A Venture Crew:	71
An Explorer Post:	4
A Sea Scout Ship:	7
A Council Committee:	29
A District Committee:	69
Other: (fill-in box provided):	35
Total:	1,518

Summary of Findings

Analysis of submissions reveals several key points, here organized in sections as presented to the survey participants:

Section A: Basic Demographics

The survey was completed by 1,518 persons, mainly adults (1,378 / 90.8%), and most in Boy Scout troops. We received 140 (9.2%) responses from youth members (23 Cub Scouts, and 117 older Scouts), providing some insight into their perspective. [Q 8]

Responses were widely received from all corners of the council's geographic boundaries, and from all of the eighteen counties that it serves. Most of the responses were from population centers in the Portland Metro area, consistent with member distribution. [Q9]

Responses were received from every program, from Cub Scouts through Exploring. Members involved in Boy Scout programs returned the most responses, followed by Cub Scouts, Venturing, and district-level volunteers. [Q6]

Section B: What Youth Want

Desired camping styles:

Cub Scouts are interested in overnight camping and family camping activities, and they are only moderately interested in day camp. They show strong interest in trekking activities, although these are not currently offered in the Cub Scout program. Parents of Cub Scouts believe that their sons want family camping and overnight camping, and they also believe that their sons want day camping, although far fewer boys themselves want day camping. Volunteer leaders of Cub Scouts believe their Scouts are interested in overnight camping. Similar to parents, leaders believe the boys want day camping at a higher level than expressed by boys themselves. [Q11-13]

Older Scouts want overnight camping and trekking activities, and moderately desire family camping. Parents of older Scouts believe their Scouts want overnight camping and trekking activities, with moderate family camping, similar to what older Scouts themselves indicate are their desires. Leaders of older Scouts strongly believe that Scouts want overnight weekend and overnight summer camping, as well as trekking activities. This group believes family camping is less desired by Scouts than either the Scout or parent group does. [Q11-13]

Members feel that the week-long overnight camping experience is something that Cub Scouts and older Scouts alike should experience once each year. They feel that weekend camping experiences should be had by Cub Scouts twice per year, and by older Scouts on a monthly basis. They also feel that families should have camping experiences twice per year for all age groups. [Q14-15]

Desired camping activities:

Cub Scouts want to participate in shooting activities at camp, and desire water activities such as swimming, boating, and fishing, as well as STEM-related activity areas. Older Scouts show interest in shooting, high-adventure, water activities, and also an affinity for STEM-related activities and programs. [Q16-23]

Activities not currently offered by CPC camps:

Cub Scouts indicated interest in these activities that are not currently offered at CPC summer camps: swimming, motor-boating, paintball, kayaking, canoeing, soccer, fishing, and geocaching.

Older Scouts indicated interest in these activities that are not currently offered at CPC summer camps: zip-lines, SCUBA, jet skiing, ATV riding, paintball, auto mechanics, chess and games, disc golf, geocaching, hunter education, mountain climbing, skiing, and service projects. [Q16-23]

Section B: Selecting a camp:

When selecting summer camps, Leaders indicate that the most important factors are cost of camp for youth participants, and having a service-oriented, knowledgeable, and experienced camp staff. Other factors such as cost of camp for adults, dining facilities, travel distance, and recommendations by others are also important to leaders. [Q24-25]

Section C: Property Utilization

As a whole, the properties that members have ever visited are Camp Meriwether (most), Scouters' Mountain, Butte Creek Scout Ranch, Camp Clark, and Camp Baldwin. The least visited are Camp Royce-Finel (least), the Sea Base, Phlox Lodge, Camp Morrison, and Camp Ireland. [Q26]

When asked what properties they have ever visited, the properties most often indicated by Cub Scouts were Scouters' Mountain (most), Butte Creek, Camp Meriwether, and Aubrey Lodge. When asked what properties they have ever visited, the properties most often indicated by older Scouts were Camp Meriwether (most), Camp Baldwin, Scouters' Mountain, Butte Creek, and Camp Pioneer. [Q26]

As a whole, members most often visit Camp Meriwether, Scouters' Mountain, Camp Lewis, Camp Ireland, Butte Creek Scout Ranch, and Camp Baldwin. [Q28]

Cub Scouts most often visit Scouters' Mountain, Camp Ireland, Camp Lewis, and Butte Creek Scout Ranch. Older Scouts most often visit Camp Meriwether, Camp Baldwin, Scouters' Mountain, and Camp Lewis. [Q28]

When asked which property they visited most recently, members most often indicated Camp Meriwether, Scouters' Mountain, Camp Clark, Camp Baldwin, and Butte Creek Scout Ranch. It

should be noted that the survey occurred in late summer, so summer camp may have been the most recent camping experience for many respondents. [Q27]

For individual properties that members have never visited, they indicate they have never heard of them, suggesting a need for better promotion and visibility of properties as resources to support unit activities and camping programs. [Q31-32]

Section D: Property Improvements

Each camp received individual rankings for various facility areas. From a holistic perspective, members indicated that the areas that need the most improvement across all CPC properties are 1) signage, 2) parking lots, 3) outhouses and roads, 4) shower houses and health lodges, and 5) restrooms and tents. These areas are commonly seen by first-time visitors, that most are visible immediately upon entering camp, and that most are experienced in a personal way by visitors. [Q30-39]

Section E: Length of Camp

Cub Scouts prefer a full week of day camp, their parents and leaders prefer three to five days. Their strong preference is for day camp during morning and afternoon hours, from 9am to 3pm or 10am to 4pm. [Q40-41]

There is a strong interest in whole-pack camping for day and overnight camps, where the entire pack attends camp and participates in age-level based tracks (rather than different camps for each age group). [Q42-43]

Weekend camping is very popular among all groups. Adults as a whole are willing to spend about fifteen nights per year on camping outings, and volunteer leaders of all age groups are willing to spend more nights camping than parents are. [Q44-45]

Section F: Distance to Camp

Most members are willing to drive 30-60 minutes to day camp, 1.5-2 hours to a weekend camping site, and 2-4 hours to a week-long summer camp. Many older Scouting youth and leaders are willing to travel four or more hours. [Q46]

Most adults are willing to drive 30-60 minutes to a one-day adult leader training session, 1-2 hours to a weekend training session, and 2-4 hours to a week-long training. [Q46]

Section G: Camping Styles

Tent camping, cabin camping, and Adirondack camping are strong favorites among youth and adults of all age groups. [Q47]

Adults feel that tent camping, Adirondack camping, and cabin camping provide positive outdoor learning experiences for Cub Scouts, and that tent camping, trail camping, snow camping, and Adirondack camping are positive outdoor learning experiences for older Scouts. Adults downplayed recreational-vehicle camping and tailgate camping for all age groups, and do not feel that trail camping and snow camping are positive outdoor learning experiences for Cub Scouts. [Q48]

Section H: Facilities and Amenities

Youth members desire tents and Adirondacks for weekend and week-long camping experiences; and those, plus cabins, for family camping outings. Likewise, adults desire tents and Adirondacks for weekend and week-long camping, adding cabins for family camping and for weekend and week-long adult training sessions. [Q49-50]

Youth report that they spend 47% of their time in their campsite while camping; adults spend 42% of their time in the campsite. [Q51]

At summer camp, youth and adults all indicate that 1) running water in their campsite, 2) showers somewhere in camp, 3) flush-toilets somewhere in camp, and 4) telephone and electricity somewhere in camp are all important amenities. During weekend camping, their desires are similar, with a slight increase in adults' desire for communication such as cellphone service and access to a telephone somewhere in camp. When summer camp and weekend camping alike, having access to internet, electricity, and flush toilets and showers in the campsite were the least desired of choices presented. [Q52-54]

Section I: Who Decides Where to Go Camping?

When asked who makes decisions about where to go camping, respondents clearly indicate that adults make camping plans in the Cub Scout program, and that youth do in older Scout programs. [Q55]

Section J: Barriers

Camping barriers for Cub Scout groups include available leader time, non-Scouting activities, and cost. In older Scout programs, conflicts with non-Scouting activities are a dominant barrier, along with lack of leader time, and cost. Weather is also reported to be a notable barrier. [Q56]

Section K: Compass Points Bulletin

Thirty-four percent of respondents indicated that they either do not receive, or do not know if they receive, the council's weekly electronic newsletter. [Q57]

Section L: Other Comments

Slightly more than half of respondents feel that the survey was too long, and slightly less than half feel that it was 'just right.' [Q59]

[This concludes the Survey Report Summary (Part A)]