

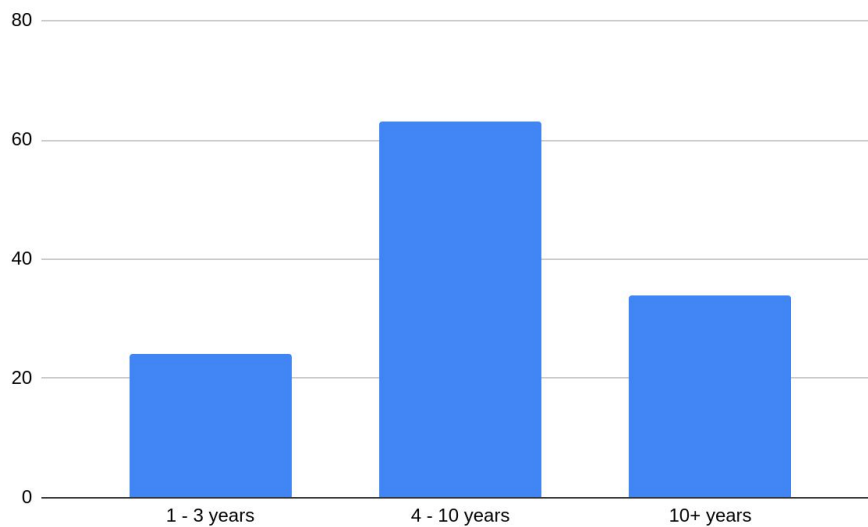


Series 1 Survey Results - Monongahela National Forest Climbing Management Plan

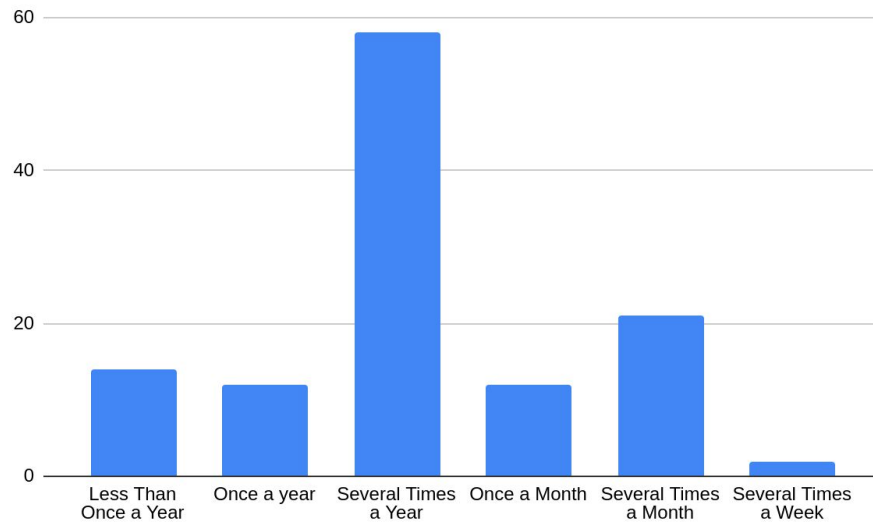
In order to inform the U.S. Forest Service's upcoming Climbing Management Plan for the Spruce Knob-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area of the Monongahela National Forest, Mid Atlantic Climbers developed a survey for climbers in the mid-Atlantic region. Climbing community members were invited to provide input through email and social media from September 13-October 2, 2020. Below is a summary of feedback from 122 survey responses.

Background Information from Survey Participants

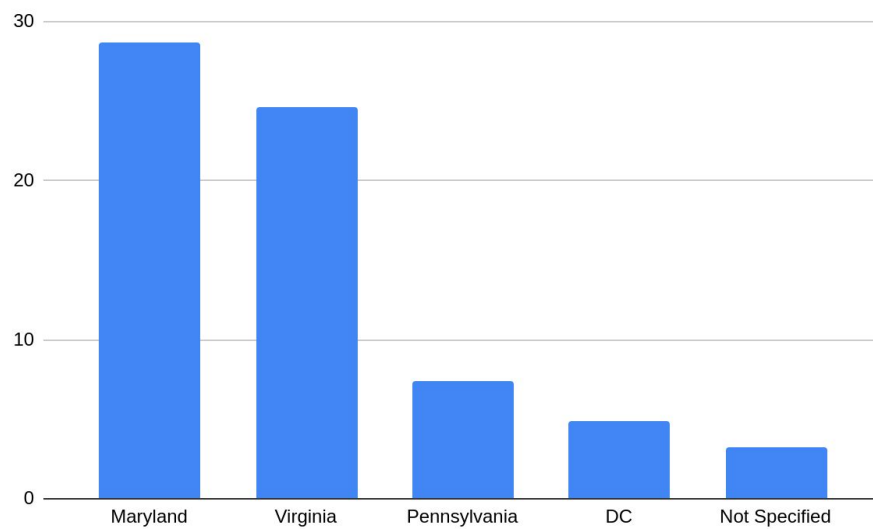
How long have you been climbing?



How often do you visit these locations to climb?

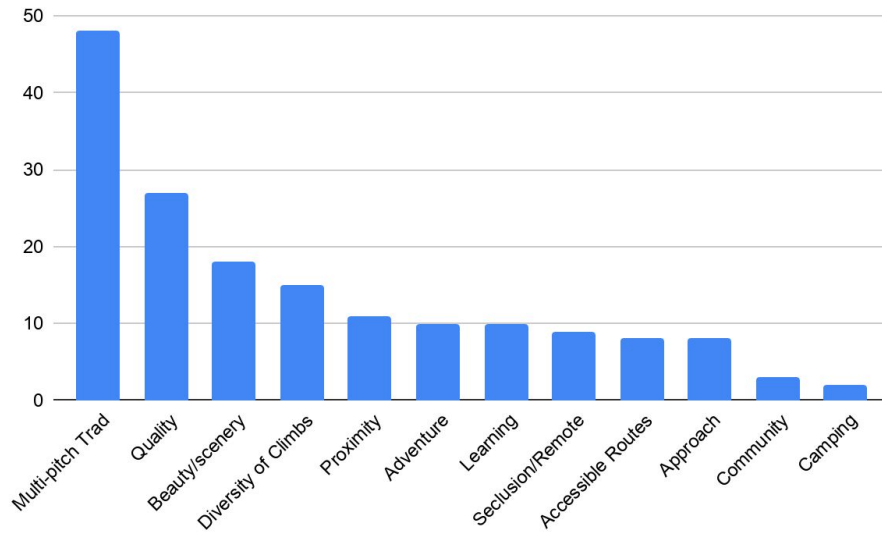


State or District of Residence

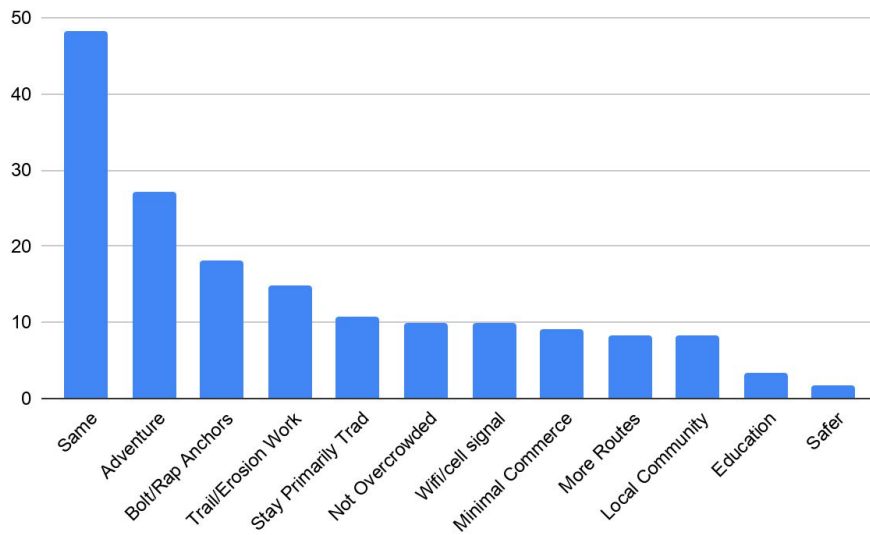


Seneca Rocks

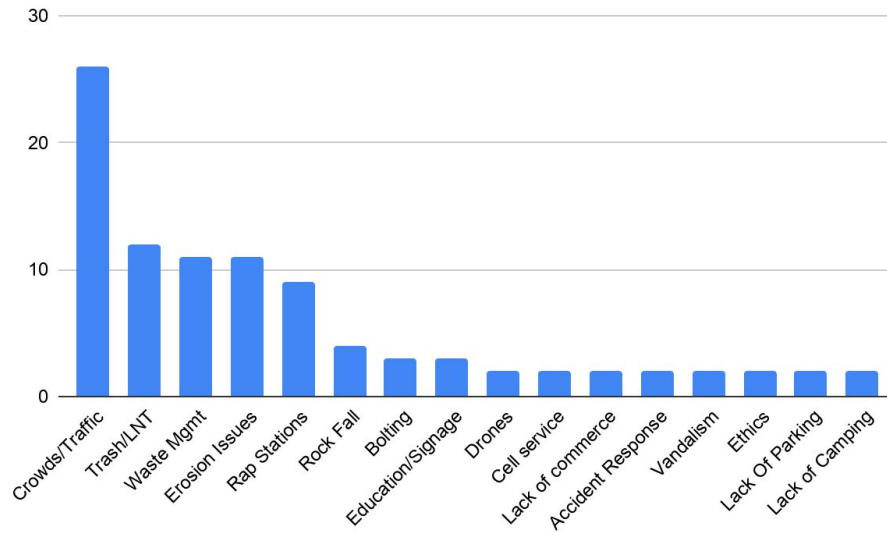
What do you value about climbing at Seneca Rocks?



What would you like the experience at Seneca Rocks to be like 20 years from now?

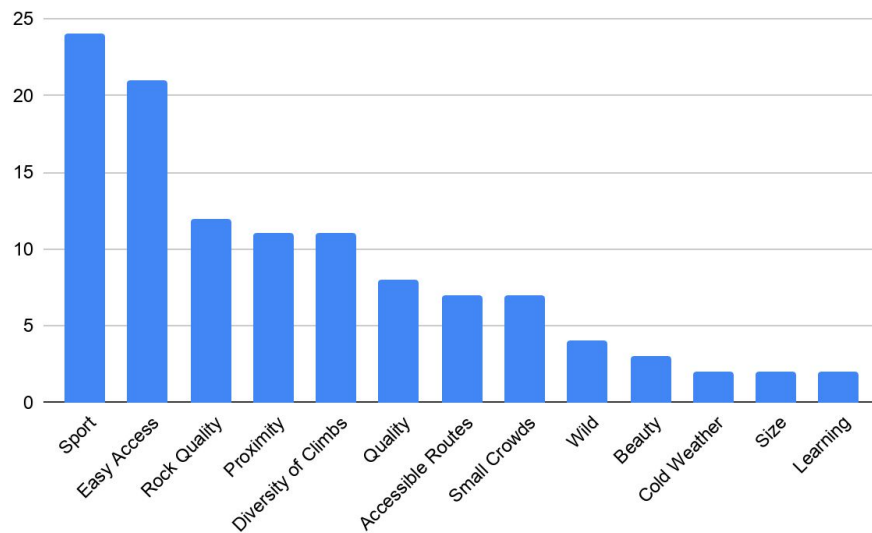


What issues are you currently experiencing at Seneca Rocks? Are there any issues you anticipate becoming an obstacle to the experience you envisioned 20 years from now?

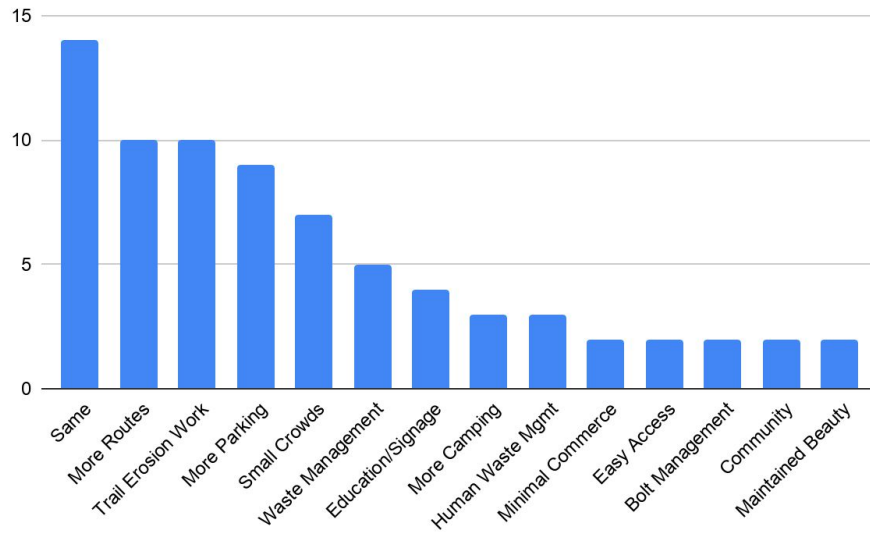


Smoke Hole, Reeds Creek, and Other Nearby Climbing Locations

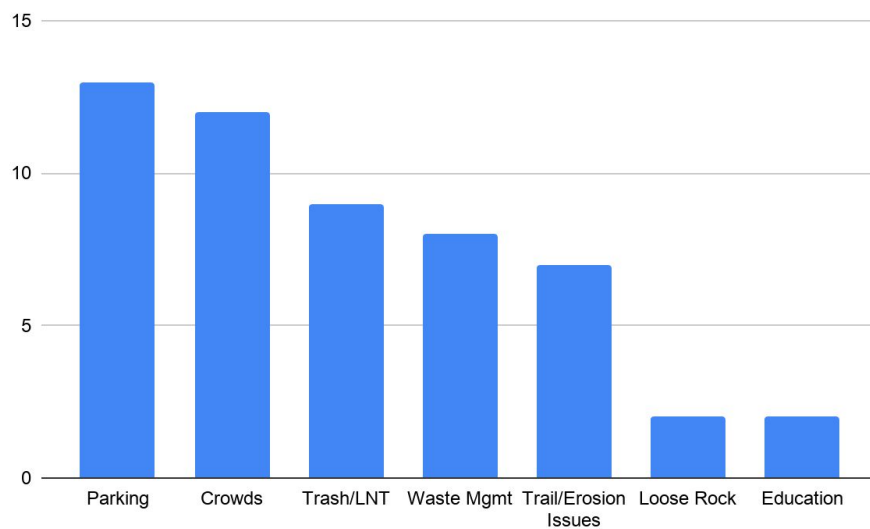
What do you value about climbing at other nearby crags such as Smoke Hole & Reed's Creek?



What would you like the experience at Smoke Hole, Reed's Creek, and any other nearby crags to be like 20 years from now?



What issues are you currently experiencing at these crags? Are there any issues you anticipate becoming an obstacle to the experience you envisioned 20 years from now?





Summary

Climbers in the mid-Atlantic region value Seneca Rocks, Smoke Hole, Reeds Creek, and other climbing opportunities in the Spruce Knobs-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area of the Monongahela National Forest due to the types of climbing available, natural features, and other reasons for enjoyment. Many respondents hope for their experiences to stay the same 20 years from now. However, most of their concerns are due to impacts of increasing crowds, such as trash and other waste management, erosion, insufficient parking and camping, and overall traffic.

Select Seneca Comments

- “It’s the only place of its kind on the east coast.”
- “Multi pitch trad climbing, it’s one of the few purely trad spots around. Also the natural beauty - such an awe factor!”
- “I think that better positioned rappel stations and bolts could improve safety and decrease bottlenecks.”

Select Smoke Hole, Reeds Creek, and Other Nearby Areas Comments

- “The climbing there is as good as anywhere I’ve climbed in Colorado.”
- “One of the few moderate sport climbing areas in the region”
- “More areas nearby developed. So much potential.”