

2009 OFF LEASH SURVEY – SUMMARY OF RESULTS

CONSULTATION

The consultation occurred over five days in April at six different parks. The survey was also available on the web site and at all town halls. It was advertised in both local papers and relevant groups were contacted and advised.

The locations were: Catani Gardens/West Beach,
 Garden City Reserve
 Elwood Beach
 St Kilda Botanical Gardens
 Gasworks Park
 Alma Park

QUESTIONS/RESULTS

1. Postcode

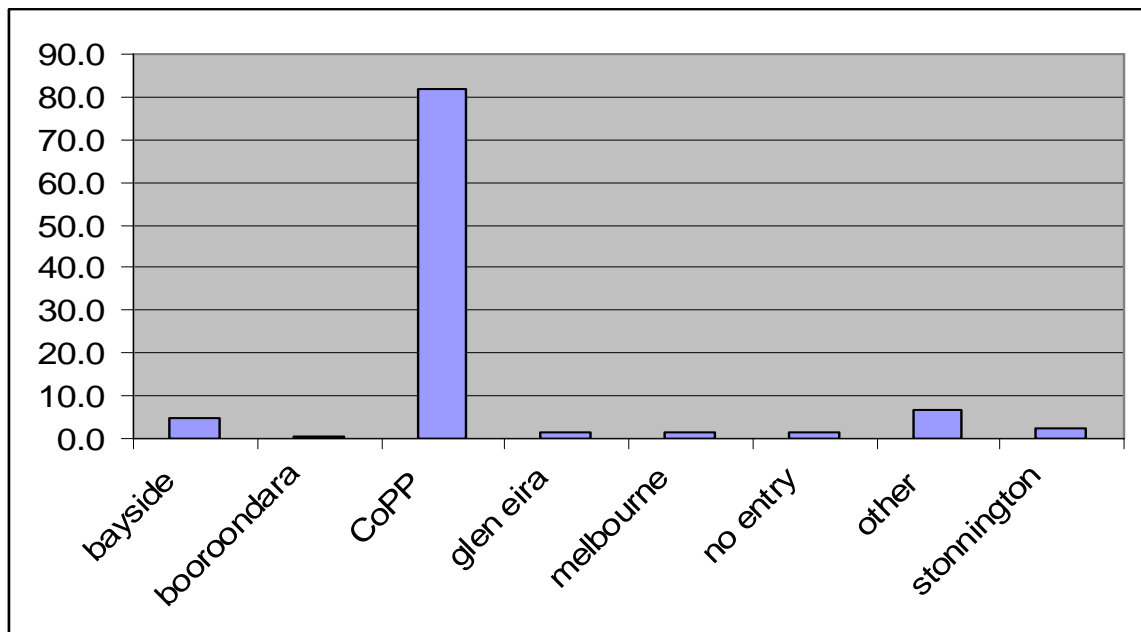


Figure 1: Proportion (%) Use of CoPP Off Leash Parks/Beaches by Residents/Non Residents

2. Do you live with a dog or walk a dog regularly?

142 non dog owners - 22% of feedback

481 dog owners - 76% of feedback

3. Do you visit off leash parks in Port Phillip – if, so which ones?

All beaches and parks were mentioned in the feedback.

An enormous response was seen in relation to the use of Gasworks Park, Lagoon Reserve, Alma Park, all the beaches, and Garden City Reserve.

Reason for Use is Similar for Non dog owners and dog owners

Recreation, socialisation, exercise and location are the general themes that consistently come through in the results, regardless of whether that is with or without a dog.

4. Have you experienced or witnessed any problems in the dog off leash parks and beaches? If yes, please provide details.

Non – dog owners - 54.8% of these had witnessed problems with dogs in off leash areas.

481 dog owners - 40.5% of people had witnessed problems with dogs in off leash areas.

(note: no time limit was placed on this question)

A. Dogs Not Under Effective Control

- 24% overall (36% non dog owners, 21% dog owners)

B. Dog Poo

- 16% overall (39% non dog owners, 9% dog owners)

C. Other Issues (less than 5%)

- Signage (3.75%)
- Non-dog people coming to an off leash park (3.9%)
- Dogs off leash in an on leash area (3.75%)
- Professional dog walkers (1.25%)
- General rubbish in parks and beaches (1.6%)

5. Do you have any suggestions for improving the management of dog off leash areas?

The general themes that came through the feedback are:

- Improved Signage
- Dog poo bags
- Better promotion of dog training
- Improved education of dog owners with respect to etiquette
- More control over professional dog walkers

6. Do you have any other concerns about any other dog or animal related issues that you would like to see addressed? Please detail.

- more visibility of Animal Management Officers
- more patrols in areas like Botanical Gardens
- extend hours of off leash at the beaches
- more off leash areas

7. Age.

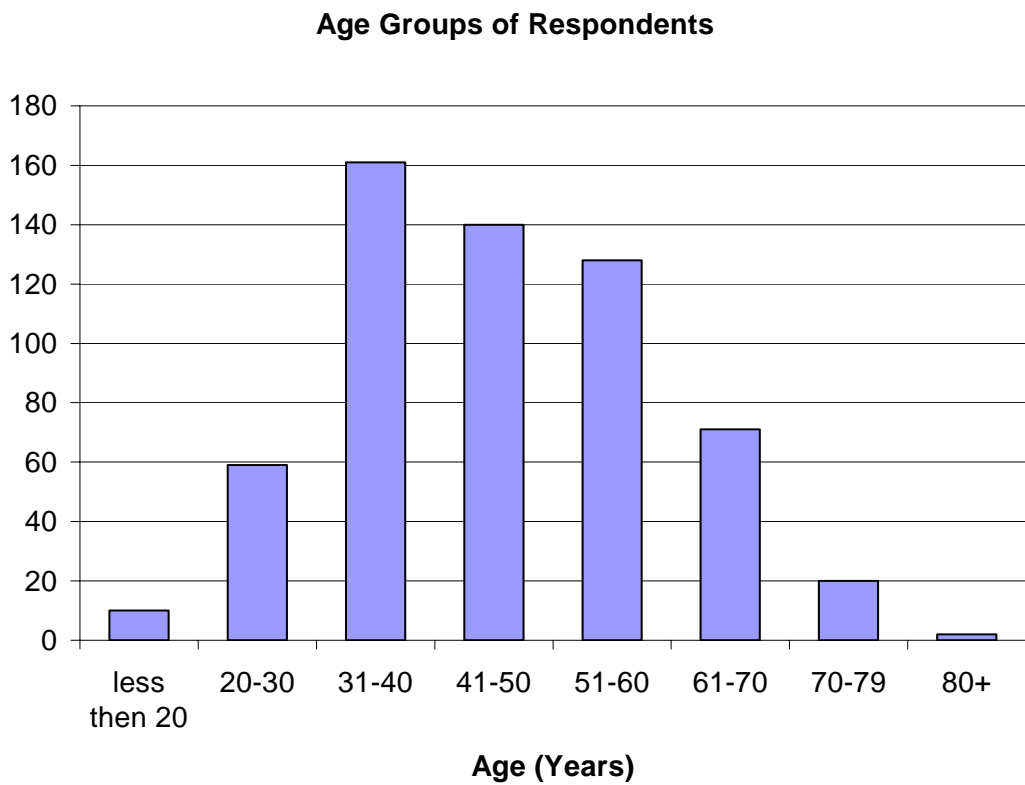


Figure 2: Age Group and Volume of Respondents to the Survey