

Built environment dominates over the natural environment

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There is a growing financial burden of touristic infrastructure in forests on the owners by development and maintenance. The main reason is an ever-increasing expectation for higher quality of built elements in natural environment, unlike we expected in our preconception as a growing touristic load.

Our surveys show, that more than 20% of visitors in the mountains are local residents, and further 45% arrive from within 50 km, thus 65% of visitors are familiar with the visited area.

About 15% of respondents said that their last visit in the forest was more than one year ago. Therefore it seems clear, that the surrounding mountains of the cities are the key recreational targets for citizens of the investigated settlements.

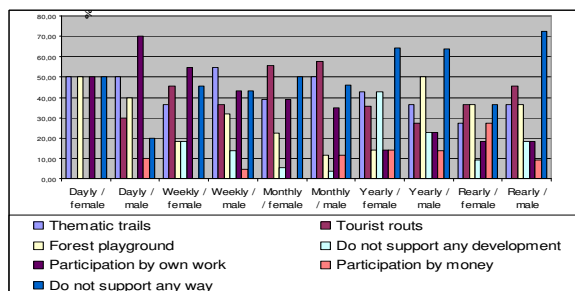


Figure 1. Support and participation of infrastructure development by visiting frequency

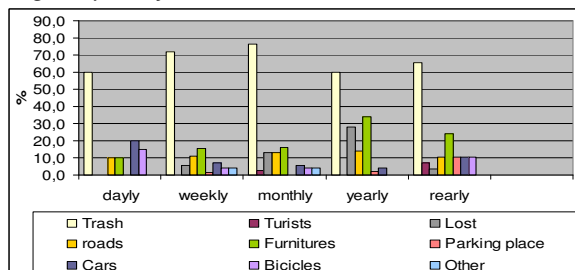


Figure 2. Toleration of load of forest visitors by visiting frequency

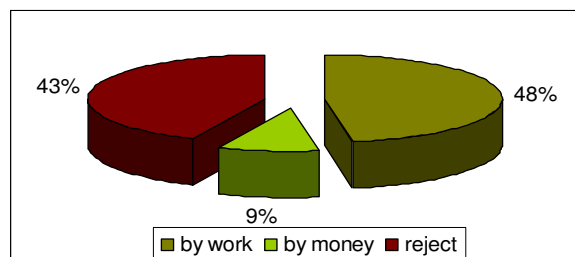


Figure 3. Willingness to participant of infrastructure development in forest

A general result was of the research that respondents show a higher tolerance towards touristic load and lower towards pollution than the expected.

Acknowledgements: We wish to thank for TÁMOP 4.2.1.B-09/1/KONV-2010-0006.

Observed at the majority of respondents that the typical activity, there is a higher needs for infrastructure development with more frequent visit attitude. (Figure 1)

The sensitivity towards different kind of environmental load appeared to be independent from the frequency of forest visit. (Figure 2)

The rejection of personal involvement is inversely proportion to the frequency of forest visit. This is a traditionally untapped potential for forestry to involve citizens into touristic developments and maintenance. (Figure 3)