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BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
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COMMISSIONER

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DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

Date: June, 1 2015
To: Board Members
From: Gary Fish
Subject: Survey of Land Trusts Regarding Invasive Plant Management

At the April 24 meeting you decided to table the discussion on a policy regarding application of pesticides to private lands open to use by the public until we got some feedback from land trusts. Curtis and I contacted the Maine Land Trust Network (MLTN) and they have done a survey of their members to see how a rule change would impact their invasive plant programs or if they had a program at all.

Fifty-one of eighty land trust organizations responded to the survey that was administered by MLTN. Highlights of the results are as follows (summary of all questions also included):

1. Does your organization do invasive plant management with herbicides? 47% yes, 53% No
2. If yes, how often? <1/time yr 48%, 1/time yr 19%, 2 – 3/times yr 30%, >4/times yr 4%
3. Do you hire a licensed applicator? 26% yes, 26% No, 48% N/A
4. Impact of rule change (close entire parcel)? 39% Stop altogether, 23% Stop on some parcels, 18% No change and 20% Not sure.

Based on the survey results and your past deliberations, please discuss the below options provide input to the staff about the appropriate policy going forward.

Board Policy

Upon further consideration, on June 5, 2015, the Board determined that adoption of the following policy best serves the public interest:

Option 1: The Board determined that because pesticide applications to recreational areas, trails and parks pose a risk to sensitive populations, the exemption from consideration as an area open to the public is inappropriate. Therefore pesticide applications under those conditions will require supervision by a licensed commercial applicator unless the entire property is unoccupied for the entire seven days following the application of pesticides.

Option 2: The Board determined that because pesticide applications to recreational areas, trails and parks pose minimal risks, the exemption from consideration as an area open to the public is appropriate when the public is excluded from treated areas for seven days. Therefore pesticide applications under those circumstances will not require supervision by a licensed commercial applicator.

Herbicide Treatment of Upland Pla...

Summary Design Survey Collect Responses Analyze Results

CURRENT VIEW

+ FILTER + COMPARE + SHOW

No rules applied

Rules allow you to FILTER, COMPARE and SHOW results to see trends and patterns. [Learn more](#)

SAVED VIEWS (1)

Original View (No rules applied)

+ Save as...

EXPORTS

SHARED DATA

No shared data

Sharing allows you to share your survey results with others. You can share all data, a saved view, or a single question summary. [Learn more](#)

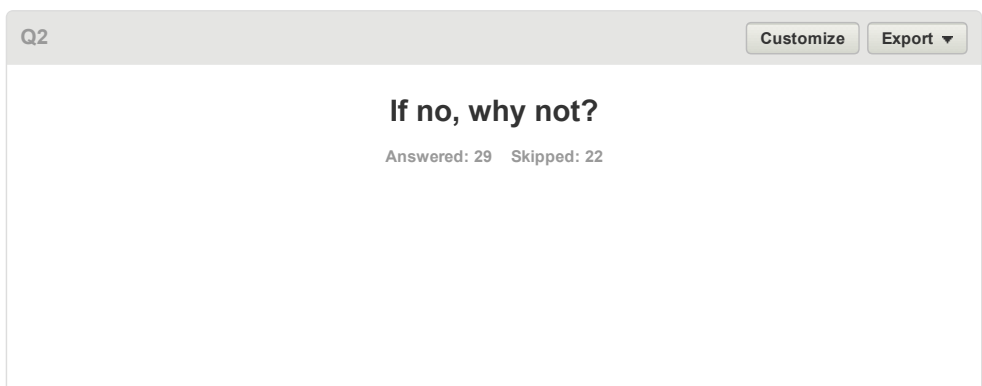
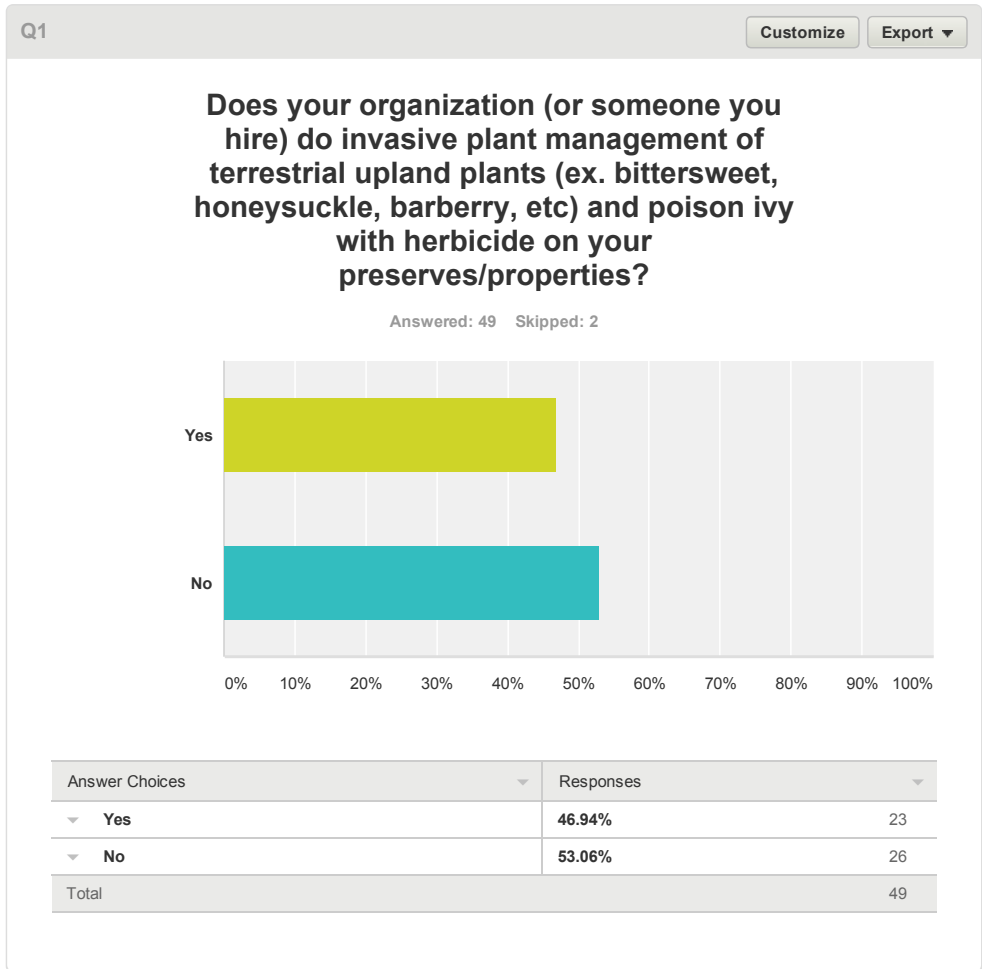
Share All

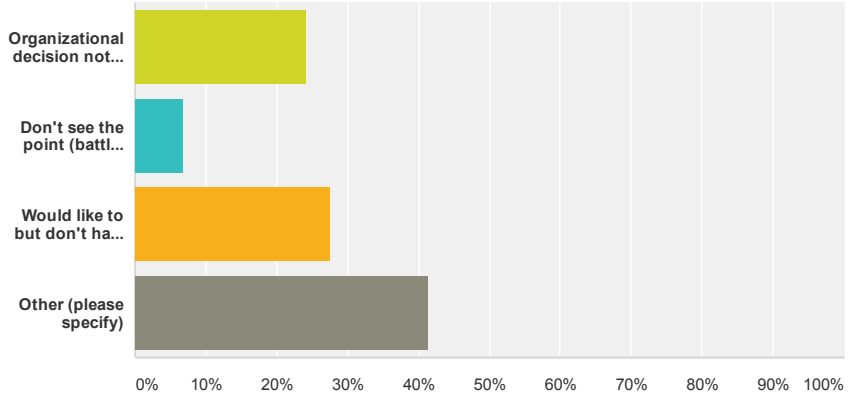
RESPONDENTS: 51 of 51 Export All Share All

Question Summaries **Data Trends** **Individual Responses**

All Pages

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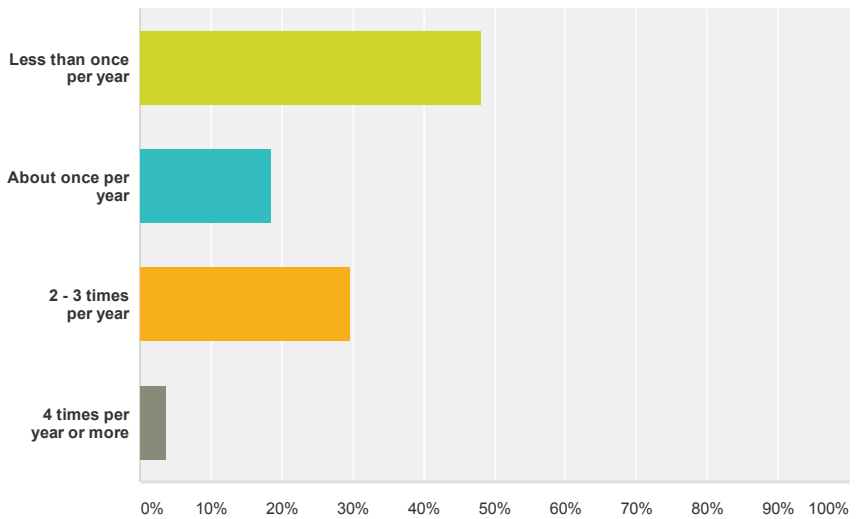
Answer Choices	Responses
Organizational decision not to use chemical herbicides	24.14% 7
Don't see the point (battling invasive plants feels like a no-win situation)	6.90% 2
Would like to but don't have capacity (people, money, time)	27.59% 8
Other (please specify)	41.38% 12
Total	29

Q3

Customize Export

If yes, how often?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 24



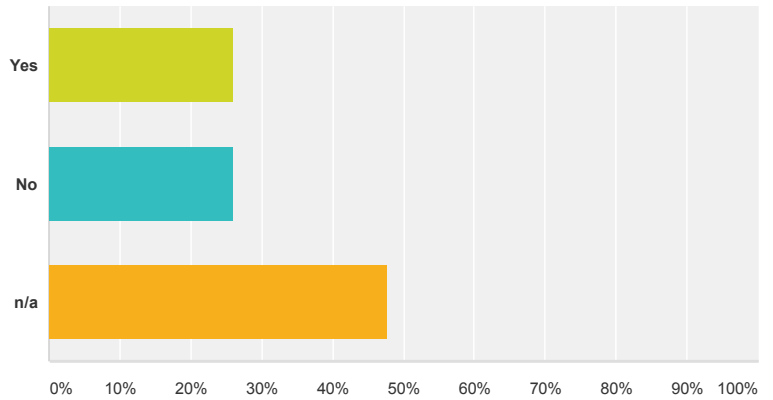
Answer Choices	Responses
Less than once per year	48.15% 13
About once per year	18.52% 5
2 - 3 times per year	29.63% 8
4 times per year or more	3.70% 1
Total	27

Q4

Customize Export

When you do invasive plant management with herbicides, do you hire a licensed pesticide applicator?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 5



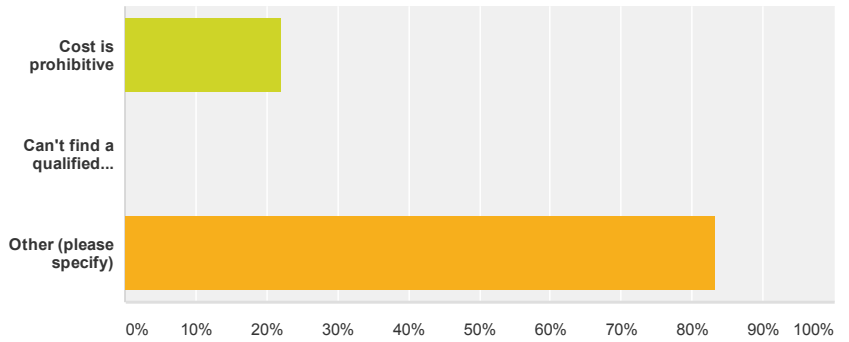
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	26.09%	12
No	26.09%	12
n/a	47.83%	22
Total		46

Q5

Customize Export

If you do invasive plant management with herbicides but don't hire a licensed applicator, why not?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 33



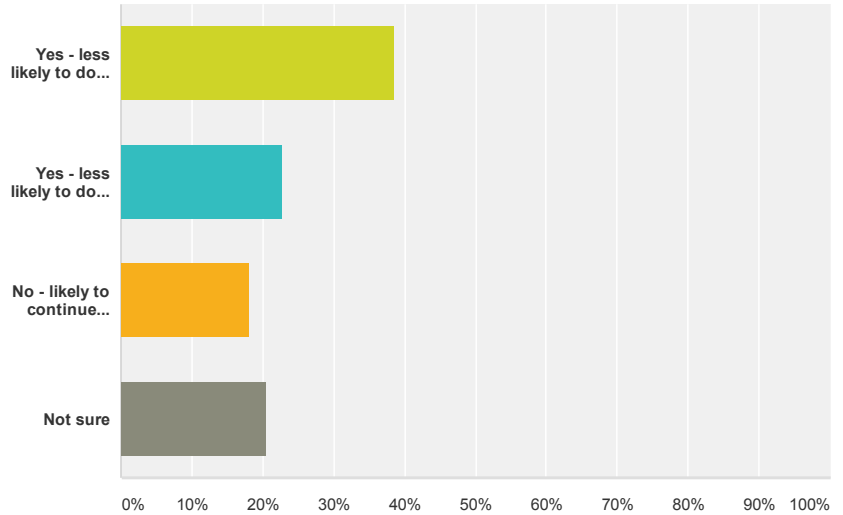
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Cost is prohibitive	22.22%	4
Can't find a qualified applicator	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	83.33%	15
Total Respondents: 18		

Q6

Customize Export

Would your organization be less likely to undertake invasive plant management with herbicides if you had to close the entire preserve/property for 7 days (under consideration) versus only having to close the area or trail for 7 days (current rule)?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes - less likely to do invasive plant management with herbicide on ALL properties if rule is changed	38.64% 17
Yes - less likely to do invasive plant management with herbicide on CERTAIN properties if rule is changed	22.73% 10
No - likely to continue invasive plant management with herbicide at the same level regardless	18.18% 8
Not sure	20.45% 9
Total	44

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02 Jun 2015