

Arizona Wildlife Conservation Strategy Stakeholder Engagement



Stakeholder Survey Results

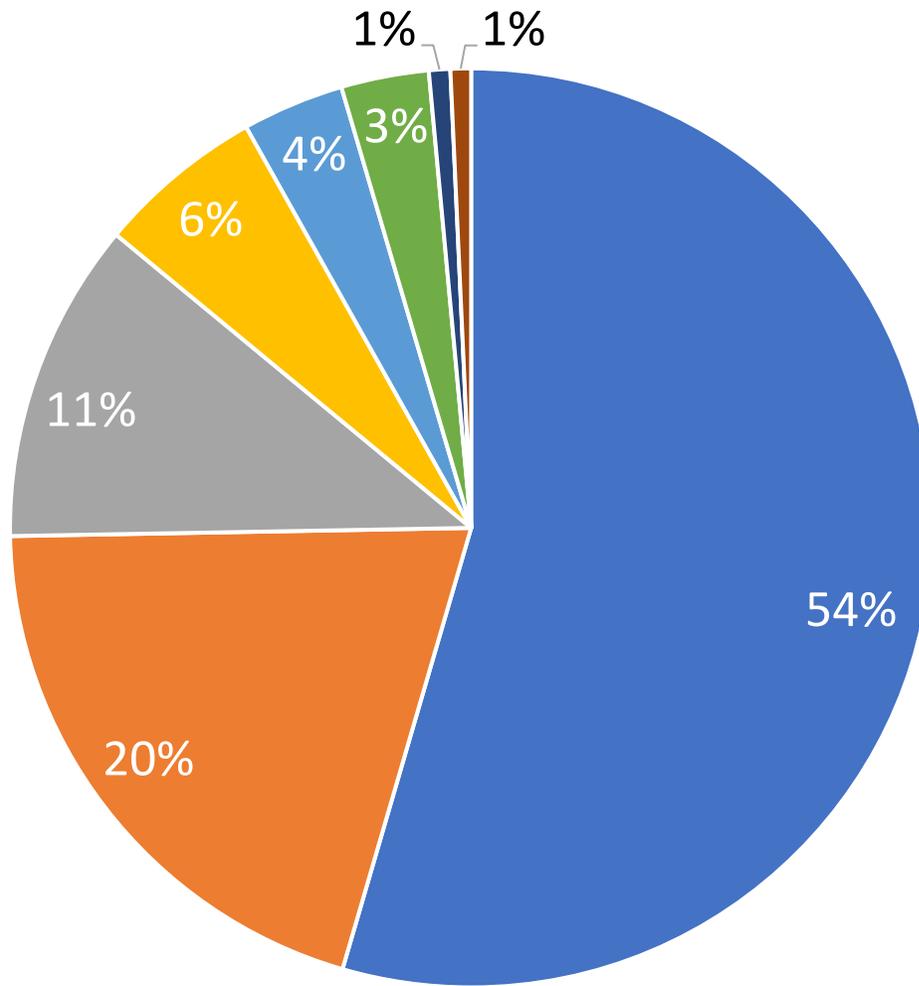
- Survey launched last week of August 2020
 - Outreach
 - Agency email listserv
 - Social media posts
 - Direct email to targeted stakeholders
- Survey closed at 8am on 16 September 2020
- Total of 2,345 survey responses



Affiliation*

100% response

*Note: Most survey respondents self-identified with more than one affiliation.



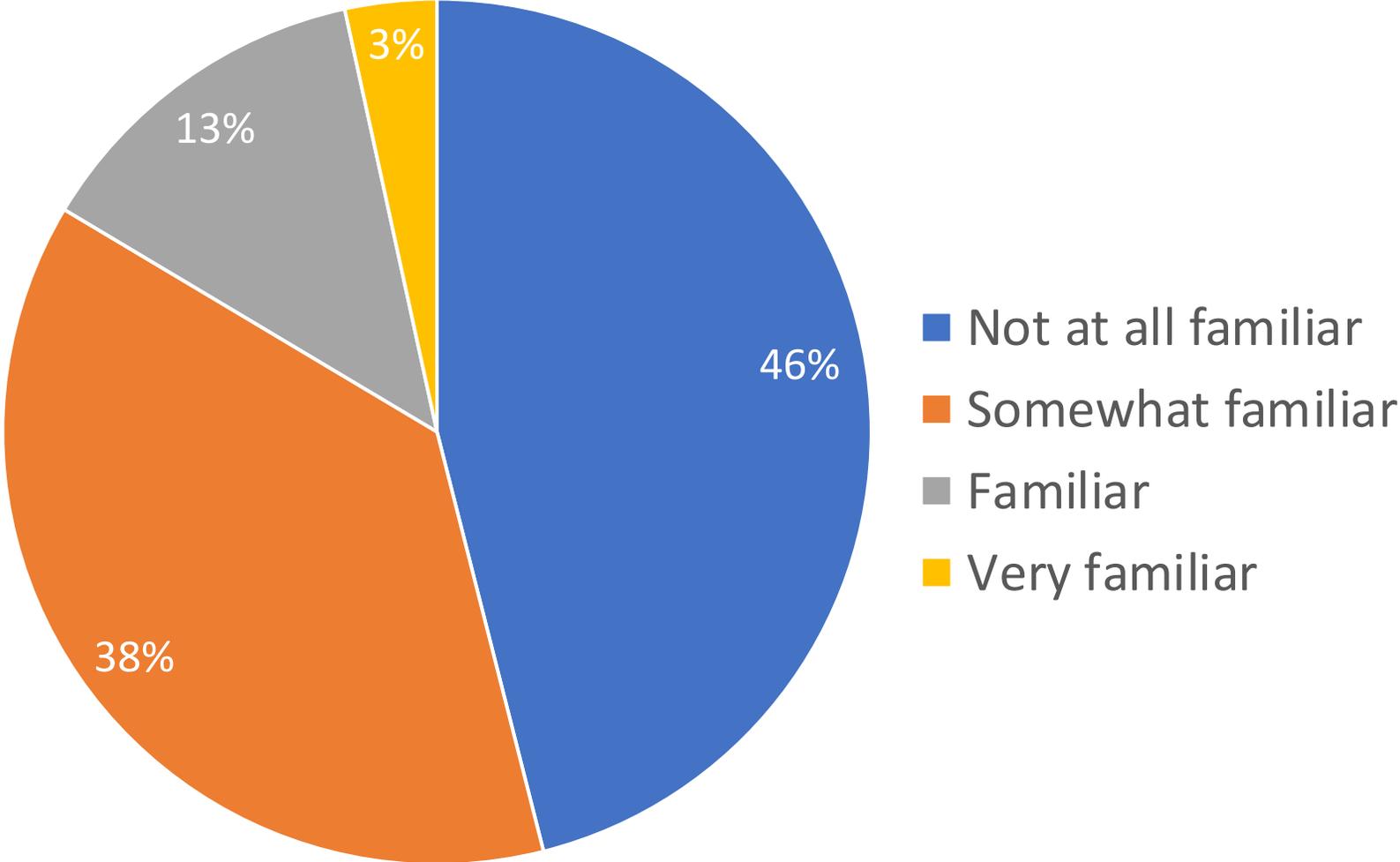
- Interested citizen
- Landowner
- Other
- Conservation organization
- Volunteer on local board/committee
- Academia/educator
- State agency
- Federal agency

OTHER (each less than 1%):

Local government, Tribe, Backcountry hunter & angler, industry, outdoorsman, outdoor writer, naturalist (e.g.)

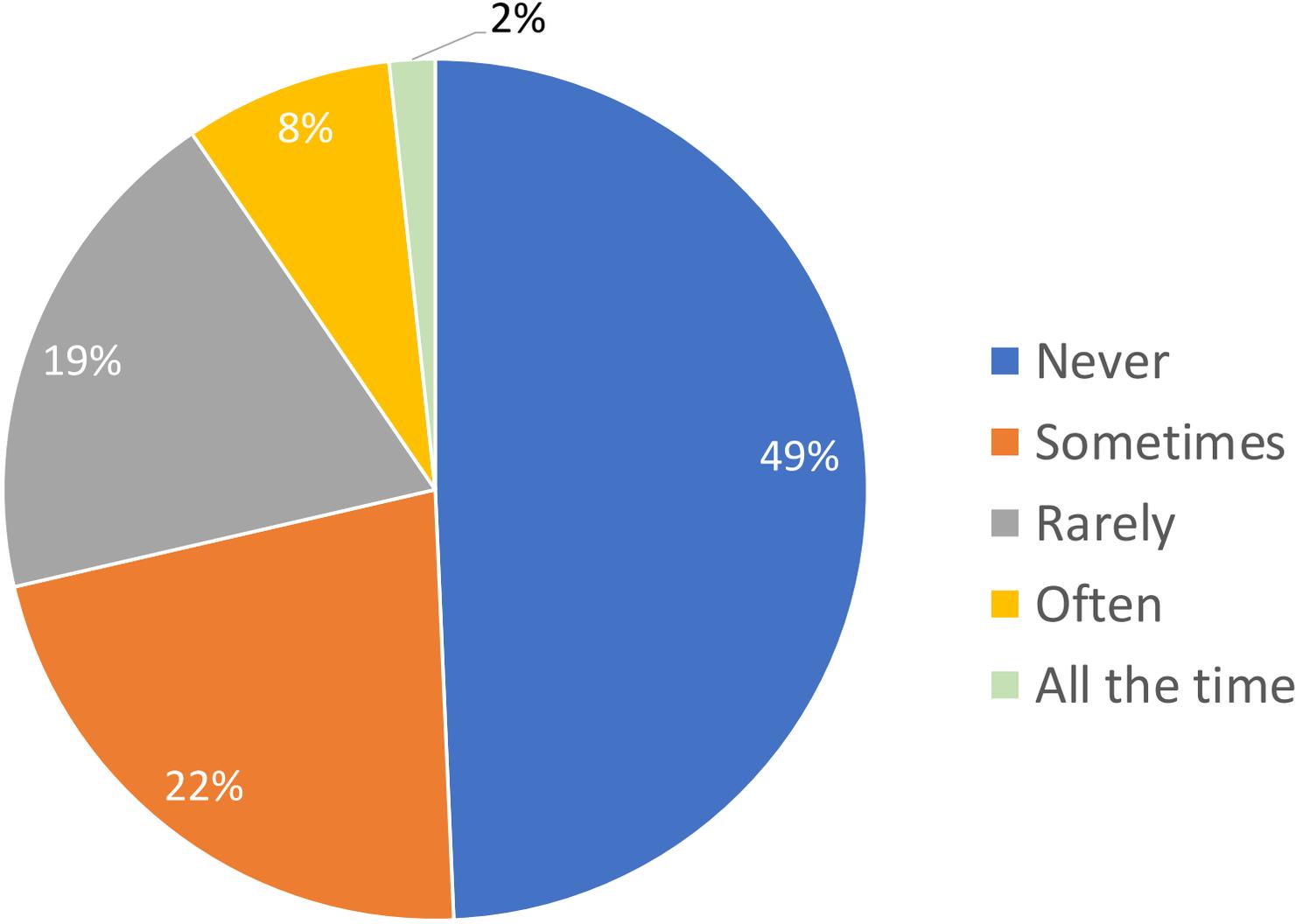
Familiarity with 2012 State Wildlife Action Plan

99.96% response

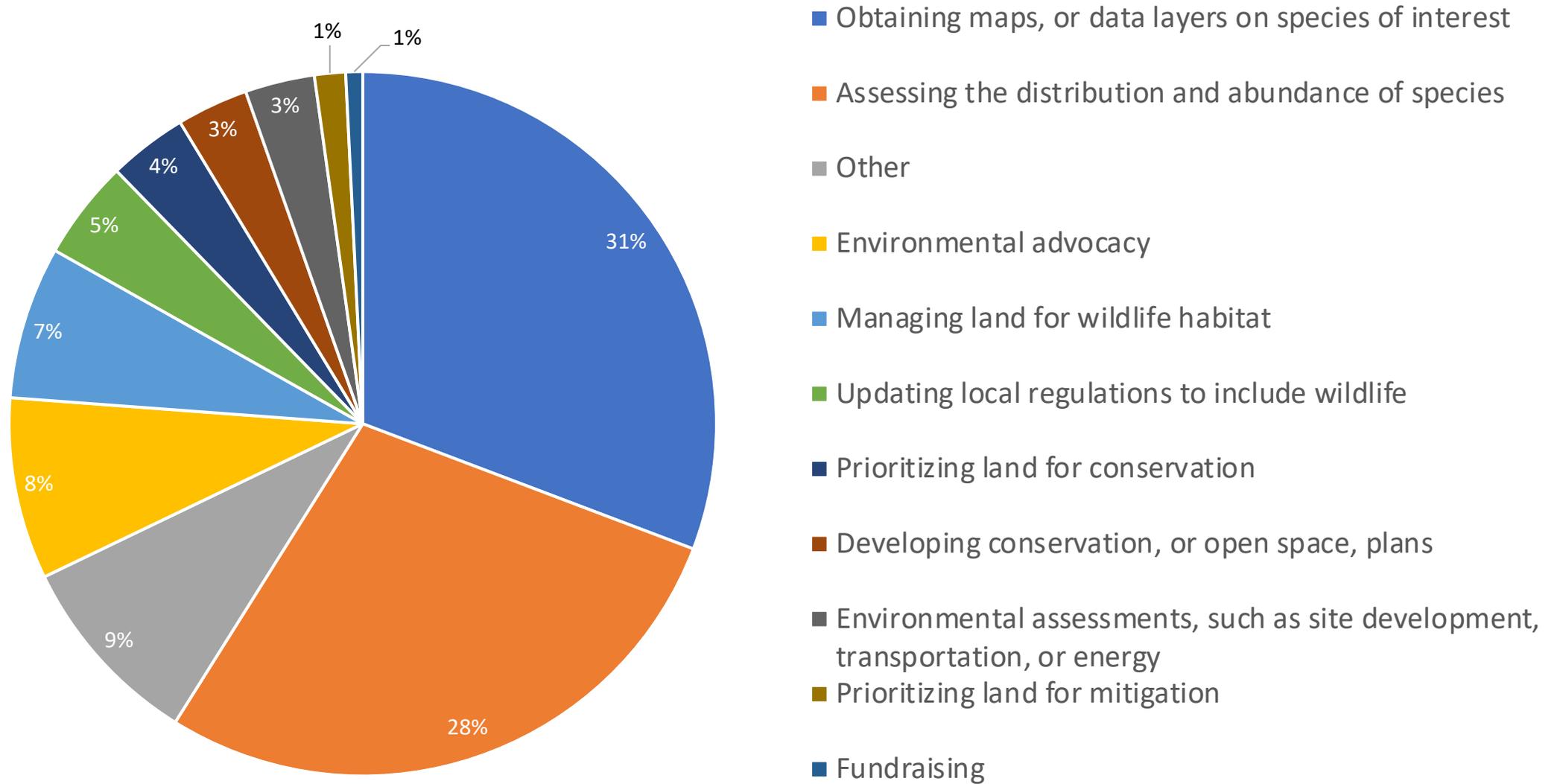


Frequency using information/maps from 2012 State Wildlife Action Plan

99.96% response

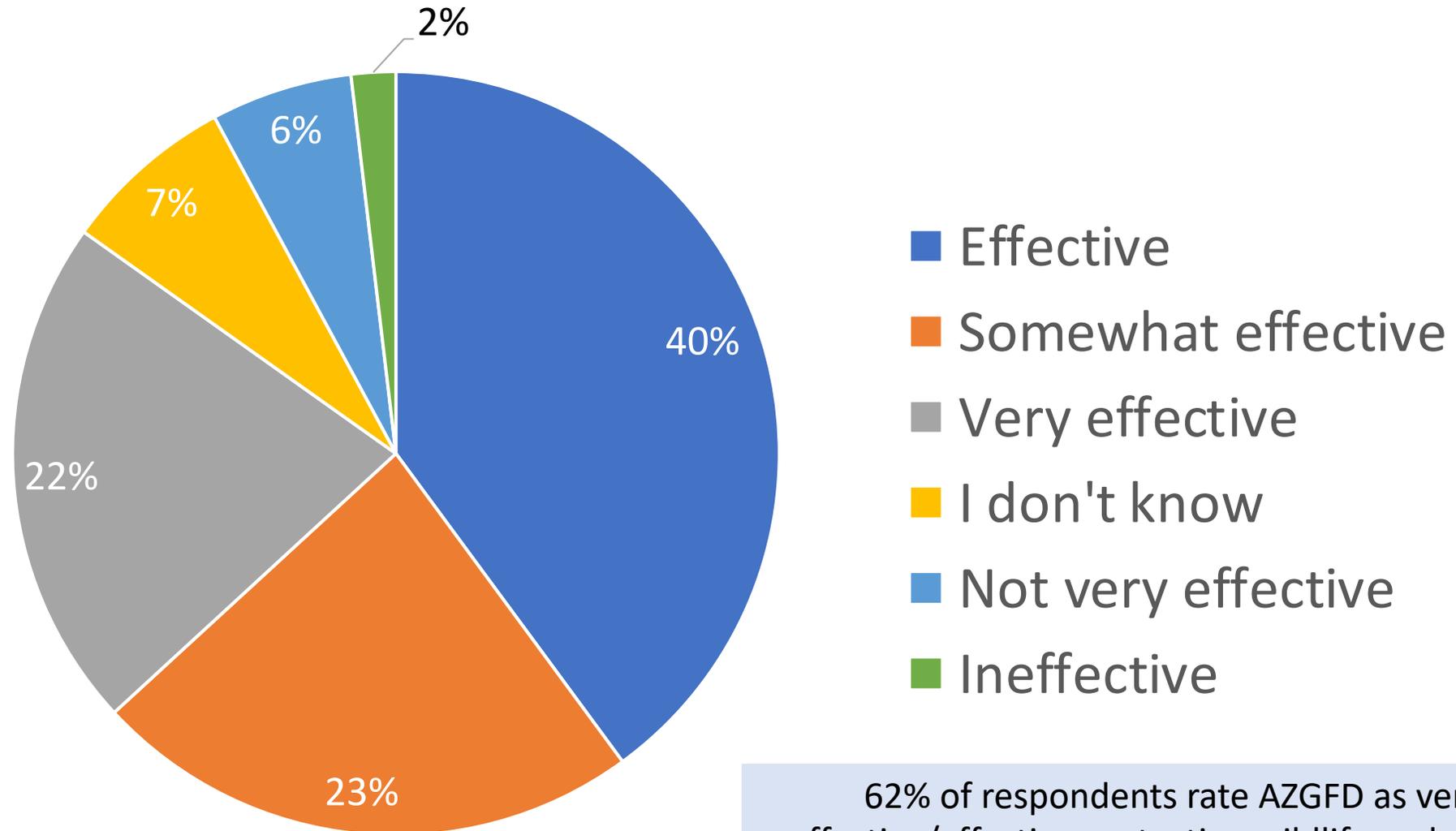


Those that stated in the previous question that they have used the SWAP were asked to describe how they have used it – 99% response from those that have used SWAP



Effectiveness of AZGFD in protecting wildlife and natural lands in last decade

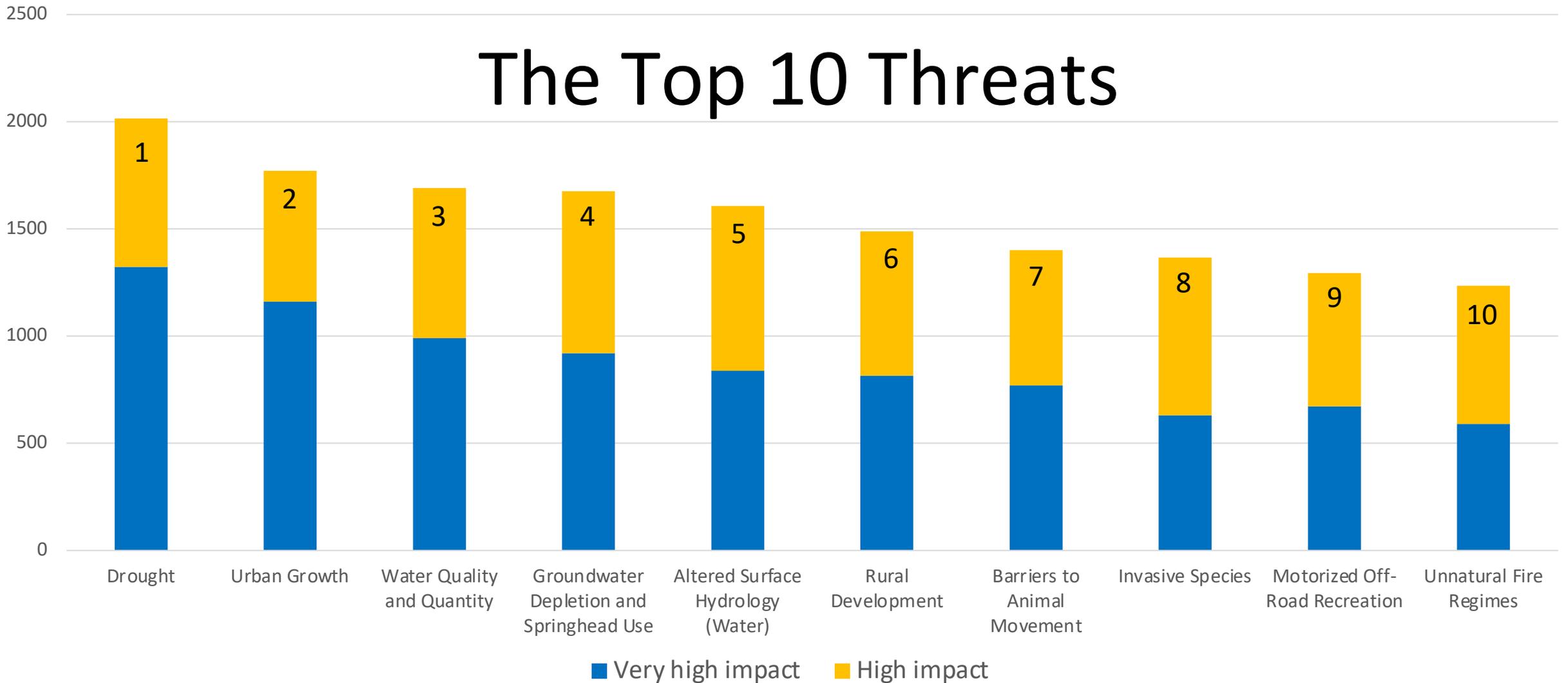
99.96% response



62% of respondents rate AZGFD as very effective/effective protecting wildlife and natural lands in the last decade

Extent to which 22 threats are currently having, or will have, on AZ fish and wildlife/habitats
100% response

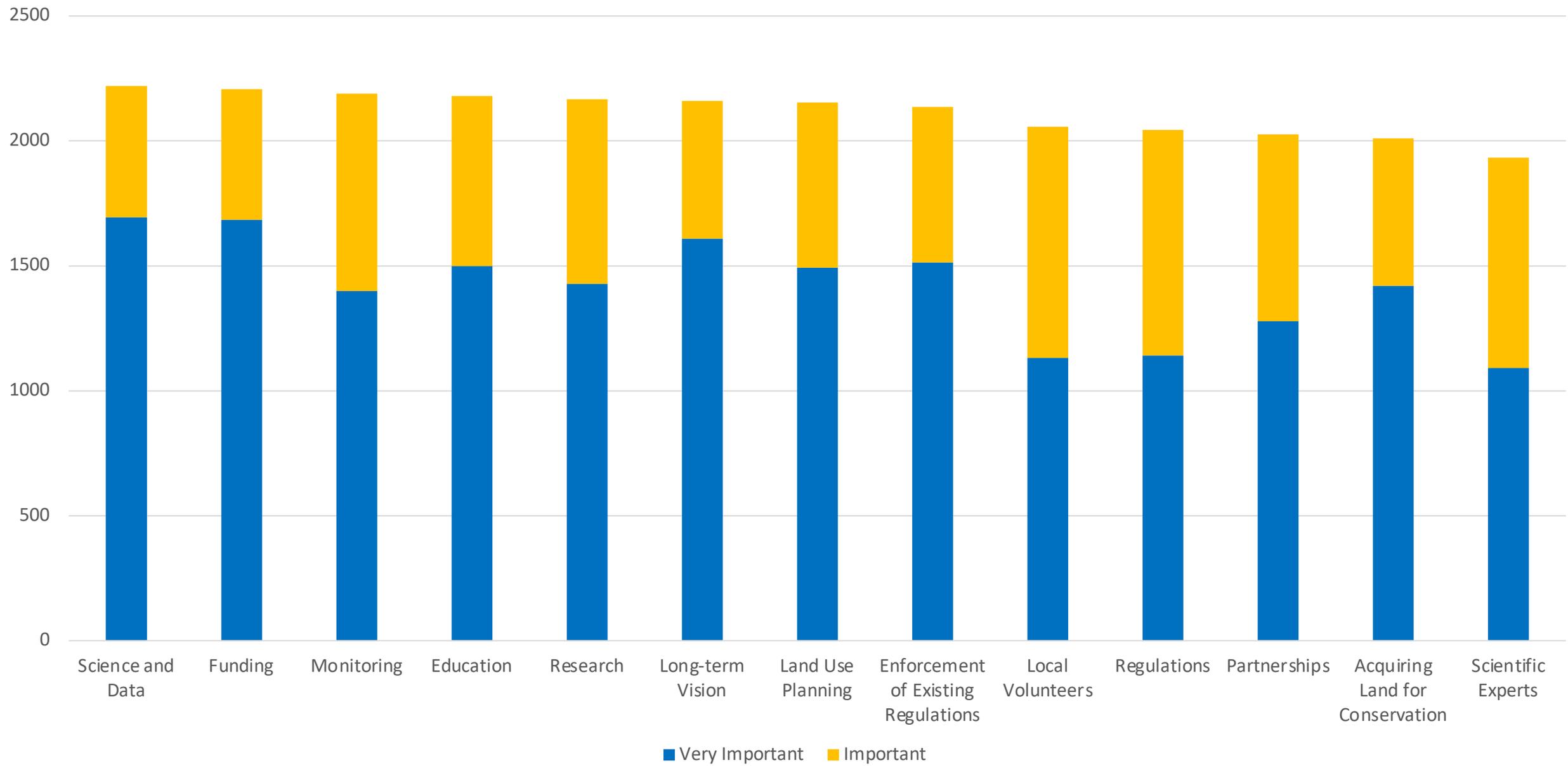
The Top 10 Threats



Other threats included: Border effects, Disease/Pathogens/Parasites, Grazing by ungulates, Illegal fish stocking, Insect infestations, Excess nutrients/algal blooms, Roads for motorized vehicles, Shrub and woodland invasions, Solar energy development, Barriers to private landowners that seek to implement conservation actions

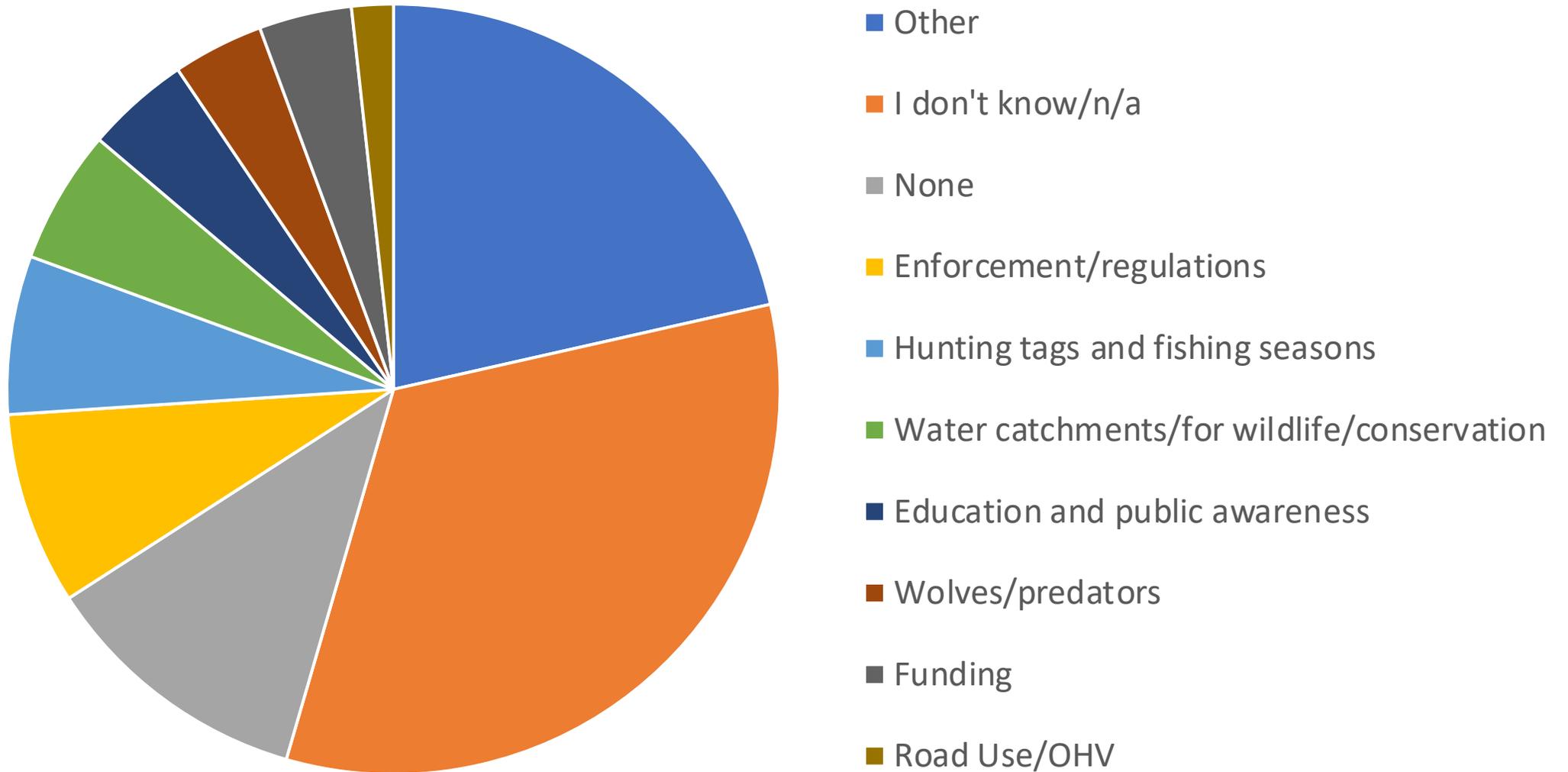
Importance of these activities to addressing key stressors to AZ fish and wildlife/habitats

100% response



Suggested changes to 2012 SWAP

53% response



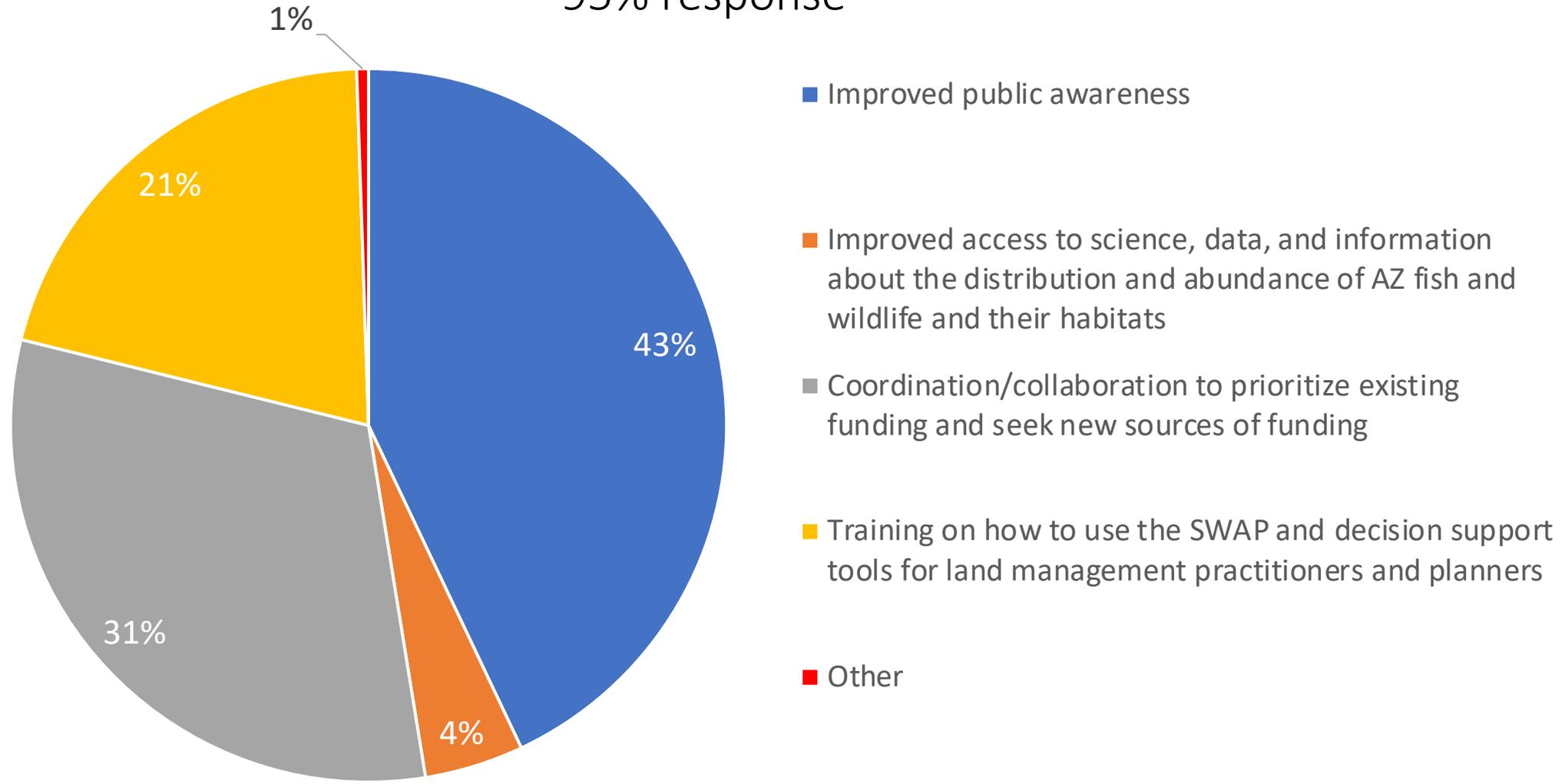
Note: The majority of the “Other” suggested changes did not relate to the SWAP, e.g., political views, etc.

Key Suggested Changes to SWAP

- Consider updating the plan on a shorter time frame, given changes in human population growth.
- Add more species and habitats.
- Add containment and removal of non-natives (burros, invasive species).
- Address wildlife connectivity, including the new border wall.
- Address climate change stressors and response strategies.
- Address the use of trail cameras and hunting.
- Share objectives for wildlife species populations.
- Add a section that describes long-term goals for management, projecting out 25-50 years. Project beyond 10 years.
- Add information on interdisciplinary and trans-sector partnerships to increase collective capacity to achieve key conservation outcomes.
- Add a section directed toward private citizens – a “How Can I Help?” section.
- Provide more focus on the species for which Arizona provides a substantial portion of their range.
- Prioritize species within counties and list their habitat threats with recommendations on how local entities can address those threats.
- Establish stronger performance metrics to evaluate tangible progress, and link budgets to science-ranked priority conservation actions.
- Evaluate the effects of stressors.

Suggestions to improve partnerships, resources or programs to conserve and protect AZ fish and wildlife/habitats

95% response



Anything else AZGFD should consider while developing updated SWAP? 51% response

- 11% of respondents stated “No”.
- The remainder of responses incorporated information from previous responses – no new information
 - For example:
 - Improve public/community relations – public awareness
 - Publish your annual budget
 - Better distribute hunting tags/ Create senior hunting and fishing licenses / eliminate OTC archery tags for non-resident hunters / Qualify bow and firearm hunters
 - Incorporate data from partners
 - Get rid of wolves
 - More public education and awareness
 - Get ownership of state trust lands
 - Incentives for volunteers
 - More research and monitoring
 - Better regulate off-road use
 - Wildlife science
 - Regulate use of trail cameras
 - Evaluate effects of stressors
 - Access to public lands

Two Questions

- The following two questions were asked, as part of the survey, however, the responses were not compiled because of the lack of any discernable patterns in the responses:
 - 3 Most Important Issues Affecting Arizona's Fish and Wildlife and Their Habitats - 99.96% response
 - 3 species of greatest conservation need in Arizona
85% response



Thank you to all 2,345 survey respondents for taking the time and making the effort to contribute to the future of Arizona's fish and wildlife and their habitats.