

GENERAL INFORMATION

author(s)	Vanhellemont M
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MATERIALS & METHODS

study area	
time period	20/04-02/05/2010
goal	Gain insight into how people value/view the Aelmoeseneie forest.
set-up	Printed survey in the postbox of neighbours of the forest. Online-survey via the website of the village of Landskouter and the electronic newsletter of Landskouter.
data collection	
remarks	

RESULTS

The survey was answered by 58 respondents, 34 of which live in Landskouter. The attractiveness of the forest got 7/10 (only 6 persons gave < 5/10). Half of the respondents visits the forest at least once a month and stays in the forest for about 30 min. Most people go to the forest during week-ends (37) in spring, summer, or autumn. People walk (48), jog (11), let their children play (10) or walk their dog (9). They love the naturalness (34) and quiet (33). Most of the visitors find enough paths (35), but more signposts are wanted (49). More benches (21), rubbish bins (16), and a picnic place (11) are asked for. However, half of the respondents is pleased with the present infrastructure and wants to keep the forest as close to nature as possible (29).

The most important complaints about the Aelmoeseneie forest were on the bad state of the forest roads after the exploitation, the open sewer that runs through the forest, and the lack of information about the management and the scientific research in the forest.