

Reducing Environmental Impacts of Camping

DNB311 - ID Studio 7: Capstone

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Words: 3817

Research Report



Academic Integrity

Authenticity Statement

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge, the content of this report is my own work. This report has not been submitted for any subject or for other purposes. I certify that the intellectual content of this report is the product of my own work and that all the assistance received in preparing this report and sources have been acknowledged.

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AI Use Statement

I have utilised Generative AI in this report (ChatGPT) to assist in various ways. The way I have used AI includes reducing word number, to edit sections of text, and grammar checking.

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Executive Summary

Camping is one of the fastest-growing forms of outdoor recreation in Australia, allowing people to experience some of the country's most pristine and remote locations. The rise in popularity, supported by a flourishing camping and 4WD market, has firmly embedded the activity into modern Australian culture. However, this growth has outpaced the infrastructure available to manage the negative environmental impacts associated with camping.

Using a triangulated research methodology, this project explored these issues through surveys and interviews with key stakeholders. The data gathered highlights the main factors driving unsustainable behaviours and provides justification for design interventions that could help address them. The findings show a clear disconnect between camper needs and existing waste management solutions, underscoring the importance of innovation in this space.

By combining secondary research with primary data, this project compares real-world behaviours against the current product market to explain why waste management remains a persistent problem. The analysis demonstrates that design has a critical role to play in bridging this gap, offering opportunities to create sustainable, practical, and culturally aligned solutions that reduce the environmental impact of camping while supporting positive user behaviour.

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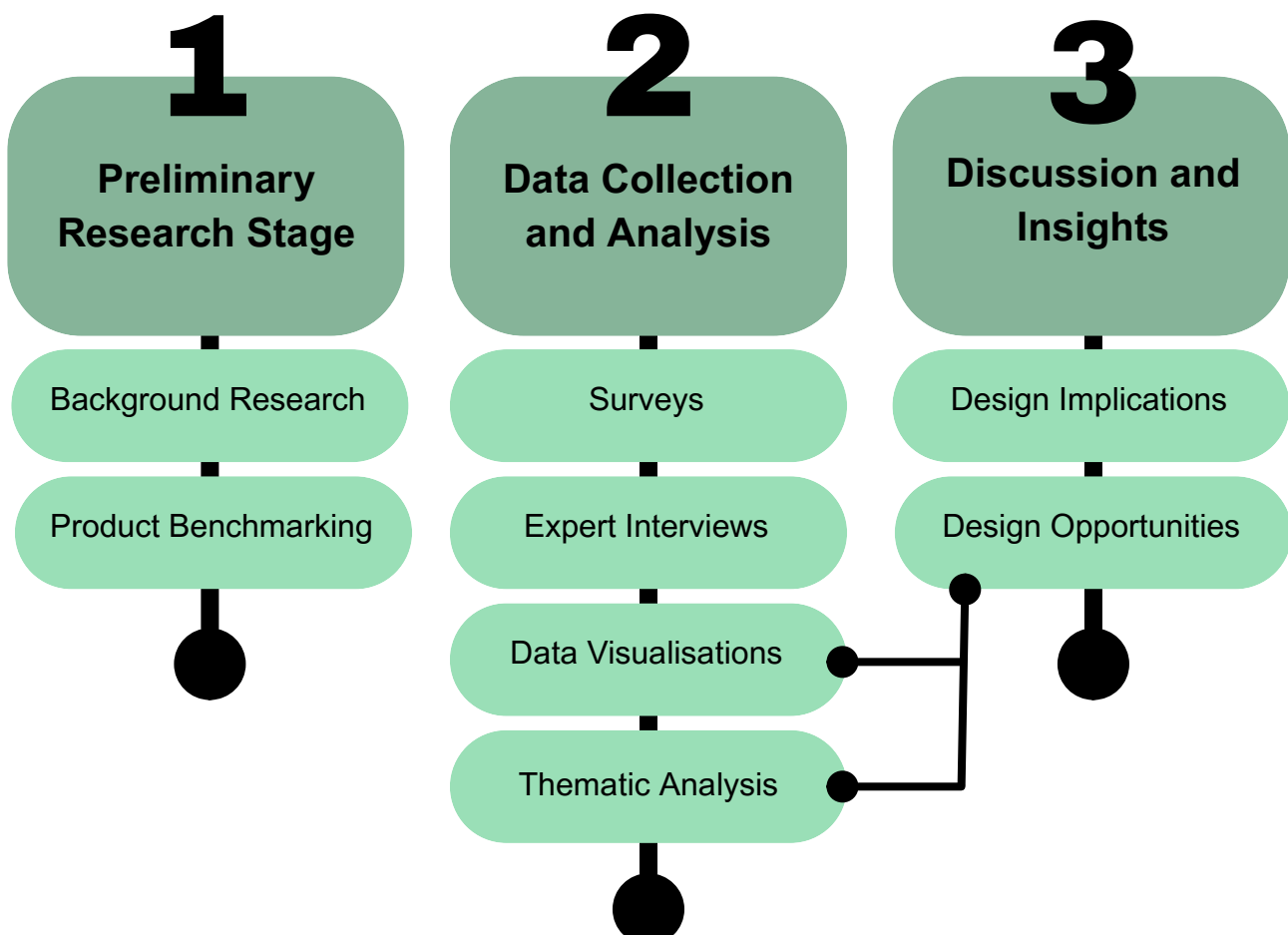
Introduction

Camping is an exponentially growing form of outdoor recreation in Australia allowing people to temporarily live in some of the most pristine and remote locations the country has to offer. The growing appeal for camping along with a flourishing Camping/4WD market has permanently engrained the activity into modern Australian culture. However, the rapid increase in popularity has quickly outweighed the current infrastructure in place to deal with the negative environmental impacts camping tends to have. Aspects of camping such as waste management and disposal are often overlooked as it is not something campers want to be thinking about until they need to. This is reinforced by the lack of products on the market to alleviate the stresses of waste management. As popular camp sites and national parks are

degrading from the effects of camping, there has been an increase in campsite closures which has caused mass contention within the camping community. This provides a unique opportunity to identify the leading negative impacts and explore why they are happening and what can potentially be done to fix it.

Project Aim

This project explores these impacts to identify design opportunities that support more sustainable camping habits. Focusing on real user behaviour and campsite challenges, the project will develop a portable, practical solution that helps reduce waste and environmental stress. The goal is to create a product that supports responsible camping while remaining convenient and easy to use.



Background

The camping industry in Australia is one of the fastest growing industries in the country, reporting an estimated \$3.6 billion total spent on outdoor recreation (Baht, 2023). Of this spending, 36% of it is specifically buying camping products. This rapid growth has come as a result of COVID-19 where 62% of campers claim that the overseas travel restrictions were responsible for their engagement in camping (Godwin, 2023). An analysis of Google Trends found that Australia is ranked second globally for the search 'Camping Products' in the last 5 years (Google Trends, 2025).

While these statistics remain impressive and a clear indication that Australia has some of the most sought-after National Parks in the world, this comes with its own consequences. This section will explore how various factors are having a negative impact on our environment.

Human Waste

K'gari (formerly Fraser island) has multiple studies into how human defaecation in and around camping areas can affect the health of campers and the environment. One of the main ways campers tend to deal with solid human waste is to simply dig a shallow hole which can severely affect the surrounding waterways. One study found that only 32% of faecal matter and only 1% of toilet paper, tissues and tampons were properly discarded (Carter, 2015). This can affect the ground water within these zones with the study finding they had nutrient readings 1.5-30 times higher than non-camping zones in which some samples were deemed to exceed Queensland water quality standards. (Carter, 2015).

Rubbish Waste

Rubbish waste can include any include any foreign items that are brought in and left at camp zones. This is an accelerating issue for Australian national parks and a leading factor in camp closures. A group of conservationists, Ocean Crusaders, often run initiatives to clean the beaches and camp zones of K'gari and reported that in between January and August of 2022, an estimate of 40 tonnes of waste was removed from the island with 80% of it washed up from the ocean and the remaining left by visitors. (K'gari Adventures, 2022). The national Clean Up Australia Day organisation reports that plastic dominates as the material type found in national parks across the country making up 80.7% of all rubbish. Soft plastics such as food wrappers make up 24.6% of this and is the leading item across accounted for waste (Clean Up Australia, 2024).

Wildlife Interference

Human activity in national parks often alters wildlife behaviours as reported on K'gari where discarded food has drawn dingoes into dangerous interactions with campers. Analysis of almost 8,000 human-dingo interactions found that 14% of them were food related as a result of campers not storing food properly or not disposing of scraps appropriately (Behrendorff, 2023). Additionally, the assumption from campers that organic waste is okay for the environment has led to an increase of animal species prioritising human introduced food sources instead of consuming their natural prey, leading to all kinds of ecological implications (Narraway, 2024).

Benchmarking

The product market as previously discussed is a booming industry with consistent innovation and solutions to problems. However, if there is one area within the market that gets overlooked, it's waste management. This section will explore the current market and the products on offer to combat these existing environmental issues and analyse why these products do or don't solve them. Figure 1 shows the most popular products amongst campers in both categories, rubbish and human waste.

Product	Price	Packability	Mat. Quality	Aesthetics	Ease of Use	Capacity	Score
Drifta Bin Box	4	1	5	3	5	3	21
BCF Pop Up Bin	5	5	3	2	5	4	24
Blacksmith Wheel Bag	1	4	5	4	3	1	19
Companion Bin Stand	5	5	4	2	4	5	25
Ironman Pop Out Bin	5	4	3	4	4	2	22
Cleanwaste GO Toilet	1	5	4	1	3	1	15
Adventure Kings Toilet	4	1	3	3	4	5	19
OLPRO Foldable Toilet	3	5	4	3	4	3	22

Figure 1. Benchmarking comparison table of top rated products

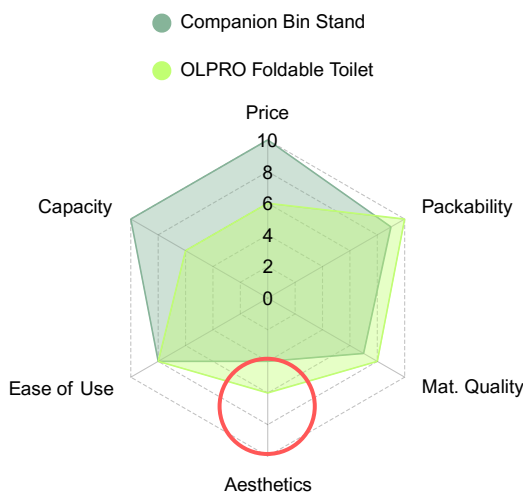


Figure 2. Companion vs OLPRO radar graph



Figure 3. OLPRO



Figure 4. Companion

Figure 2 displays the highest ranking products of their category (rubbish and toilet). Here we can see visually what the current best products are doing well and can clearly see their weaknesses. The 'Companion Bin Stand' offers excellent capacity for a great price. This comes at a compromise for its aesthetics and material quality, opting for a basic look and cheaper materials. The 'OLPRO Foldable Toilet' has a great design when it comes to packability and ease of use but is quite small and could be considered impractical for larger groups.

Lack of Quality Aesthetic

While this may not seem like an important aspect for products in this context, perhaps the sheer neglect for this could be playing a pivotal role in deflecting user purchases and usage. Functionally, the OLPRO achieves its goal successfully, however attaching a large price tag to a product that doesn't look fully refined is always going to affect usage.

Packability/Portability

The ability to pack down camping gear into a smaller size for transport is an extremely important feature for camping products. It allows the camper to transport far more gear for their trip which will inherently make many aspects of the trip both more convenient and safe. It's not only seen in waste management but across all products including sleeping, cooking and shelter. Figure 5 shows how this can be done exceptionally well with various mechanisms allowing the members and supports to collapse and neatly fold down.



Figure 5. Packability of products

Product Limitations

As previously mentioned, while these products excel in some aspects, there is obvious neglect for others. Both products are almost entirely made out of plastic which negatively impacts the durability and sturdiness, both extremely important attributes for outdoor camping gear. The excessive use of cheap plastics used result in lacklustre aesthetic offering no variation in surface finish or colour. Additionally, the way these products work only solves one aspect of the overall problem. While they are successful at compacting smaller for easier transportation, they do not help the user during the process of transporting and disposing of the waste. In the case of the 'Companion Bin Stand', the product extends quite large which almost invites the user to not worry about the amount of waste they are creating and gives them a false sense of security that their waste is managed. This is of course until they must remove the bin bag from the stand and need to somehow find a way to transport it to larger skip bins without creating any leakage. Similar issues arise for the 'OLPRO Foldable Toilet' where only the act of 'creating' human waste is made easier for the user. Every stage after the user has created waste is neglected and perhaps assumed that the user will dispose of their waste in a sufficient way.

Summary

In summary, while there can be some examples of thoughtful design when it comes to waste management in the camping industry, most of the market is full of products that neglect many important phases of waste transportation and disposal. Minor variation in the materials used to make these products often leads to underwhelming aesthetic outcomes and only repels users from investing in such an under looked aspect of their camping experience. This highlights various gaps in the market for design intervention that can satisfy the neglected areas of the waste cycle and improve overall impact that camping has on our environment.

Research

Overview

This section will detail the research methodology used and will present the key findings from the results. A combination of written and visual analysis will seek to present the collected data in the most digestible way and filter the most relevant information.

Methodology

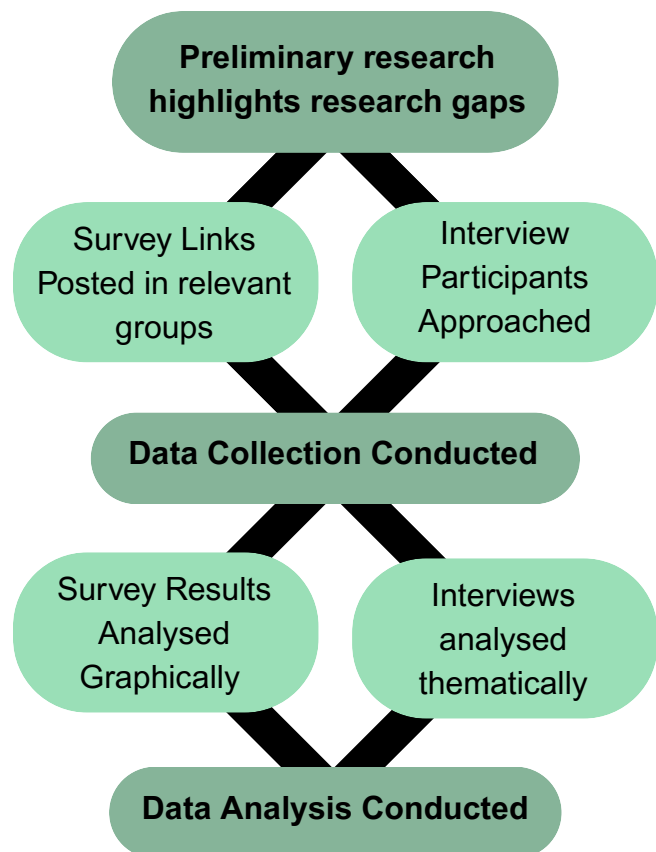
A triangulation research methodology was used for this phase of the research, where secondary online research is followed by a combination of stakeholder surveys and interviews attempt to provide both quantitative and qualitative primary data.

Secondary Research

The initial background research conducted on page 2 provided a solid foundation of what research has already been done, what questions have been answered, and where the gaps are in our current knowledge on the topic. Identifying these gaps was vital in making sure the research I conduct is constructed in a way that can purposefully answer the research questions that have not been answered by the current literature. These relevant and reliable studies helped shape my own research and break it down into various sub-topics to explore and discover which one poses the greatest problem within this context.

Surveys

The survey portion of the data collection was conducted purely online using a combination of software and websites. The survey itself was constructed on 'Survey Monkey' as it provided a straight forward and efficient platform to easily make basic surveys. It was intentionally made to be brief and to the point with only 10 questions comprised of multiple choice responses in order to provide quantitative data and maximise the number of responses from participants. The link for the survey was posted in various camping groups on Facebook including the largest camping page in Queensland, 'Queensland Camping', which has over 350 thousand members along with various similar pages. I wanted to avoid posting in camping groups that are based outside of Queensland and certainly not outside of Australia, as the problems I am researching won't necessarily translate equally to other regions of the world. Overall, this strategy was successful with 24 responses to the survey sufficiently providing primary evidence for the current waste management methods and behaviours Queensland camper's practice.



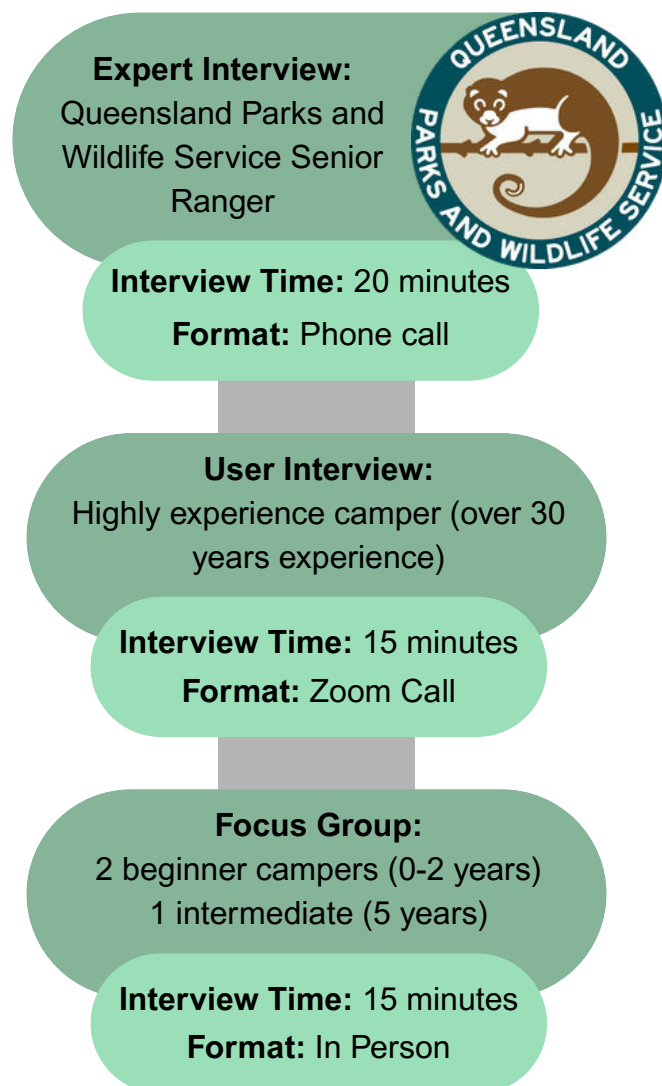
Interviews/Focus Group

While surveys are efficient in gathering quantitative data from a large sample of participants, interviews are crucially important at recording more nuanced answers to questions more specifically tailored for the problem. The process of gathering participants for this phase was particularly challenging and required persistent emails to various relevant organisation until I received any replies.

However, after weeks of arranging I managed to organise a 20 minute informal interview with a senior ranger from the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service which was ultimately the most important participant for this type of research. They're entire organisation's purpose is to maintain and protect Queensland's national parks and enforce the law in order to do so.

Additionally, I conducted an interview with a highly experienced camper to inform myself on the differences in waste management between someone who has invested a lot of money into their setup compared to campers that are just starting out. This led to me interviewing 3 beginner-intermediate campers simultaneously in the format of a focus group. This was intended to help each participant think longer between answers for which they may not be as prepared for as an experienced camper. This was successful as they were able to bounce off one another and provide more elaborate answers than they may have during a one-on-one interview.

Ultimately, through this method I used I was able to collect qualitative data from various user experiences. The initial expert interview helped inform the direction I needed to go with the next interview and continue to adapt my questions depending on the participant.



Summary

The overall methodology implemented for this portion of the project ensures feedback from a diverse range of people and sample sizes. The deliberate choices in methods to collect this data help gain the most relevant answers in an optimally efficient way. However, its important to acknowledge limitations in these methods such as survey bias and leading interview questions as they can become a natural part of research data collection. Keeping this in mind throughout this process ensured that the data collection was as accurate as possible given my limited resources.

Analysis and Findings

Overview

This section will present the findings from the various data collection methods outlined in the previous section and discuss the analysis methods used to comprehend the data.

Survey Data Analysis

The first survey question was designed to gauge the type of camping the participants are mostly engaging in, as caravan/camper trailers are less likely to have the same waste issues as someone camping out of a car due to their extensive on board facilities. In Figure 6, we can see a only a small percentage of the participants use a caravan which gives the rest of the surveys responses more merit as we know that most of the sample are the participants most relevant to the issue being explored.

It's also pretty safe to assume that most people who selected 'Car Based', also selected 'Tent/Swag' as they tend to operate co-operatively and since the question allowed multiple answers. This would explain the fairly equal response for the two options.

Figure 6. What type of camping do you mostly engage in?

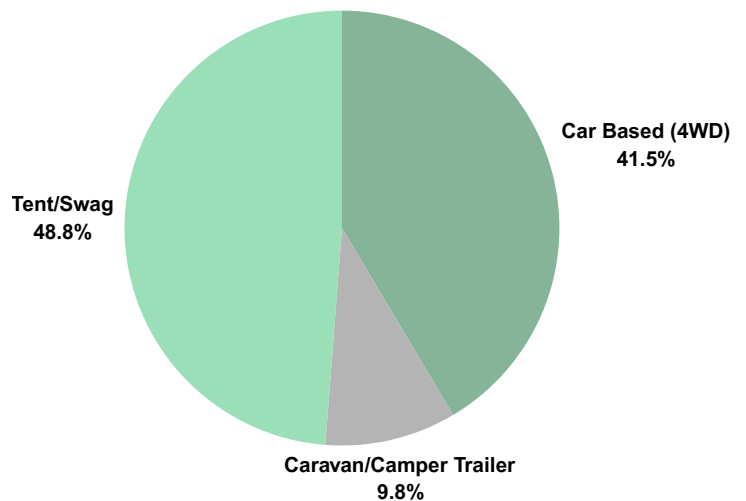
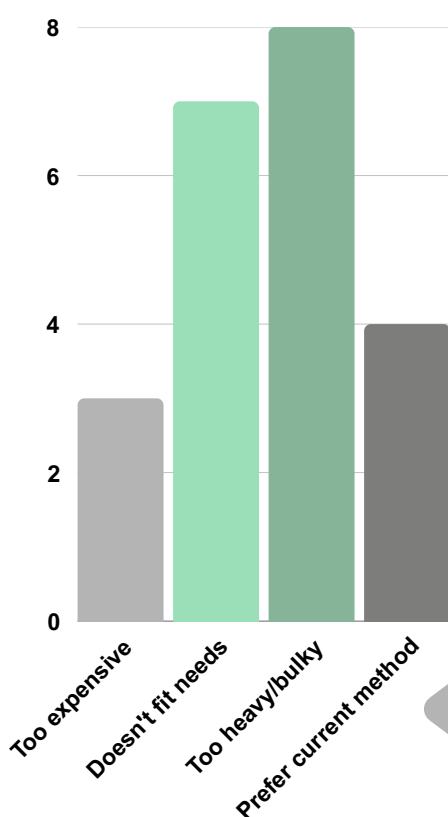


Figure 7. If you haven't bought an alternative, why?



79%

Believe that their biggest challenge with rubbish while camping is lack of space.

Claim to use either a portable camping toilet or seek nearby public facilities.

83%

66%

Believe rubbish waste is more difficult to deal with while camping than human waste.

Have never considered purchasing alternative rubbish storage products. Why?

58%

Interview Data Analysis

All interviews underwent thematic analysis to reveal repetitive themes and convert the qualitative data into quantitative. This helps to better understand the most frequent themes visually and find what topics were most prevalent. Figure 8 is a simplified version of the coding table used to analyse each interview which consists of 4 main themes, each having their own codes. Each theme has a colour code which corresponds with the colours in Figure 9. Similarly, the codes each have a number which corresponds with the numbers in Figure 9.

Theme	Code No.	Code Name	Frequency
Facilities and Infrastructure	1	Waste Disposal Locations	10
	2	Pressure on Amenities	6
	3	Visitor Volume/Capacity	6
Behaviour and Responsibilities	4	Responsible Behaviours	12
	5	Irresponsible Behaviours	13
	6	Group Influence	6
Waste Management Practices	7	Rubbish Management (Positive)	8
	8	Rubbish Management (Negative)	7
	9	Human Waste Management (Positive)	11
	10	Human Waste Management (Negative)	4
Products and Innovation	11	Market Gaps	5
	12	Desired Product Features	8

Figure 8. Simplified Thematic Coding Table

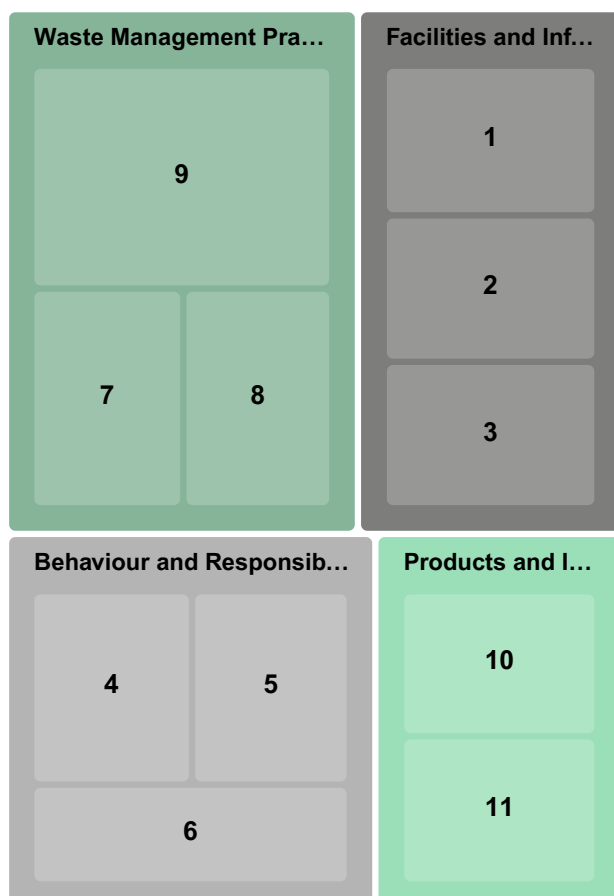


Figure 9. Theme Frequency Tree Diagram

This Tree Map visually shows the comparison in frequency between the four major themes.

‘Waste Management Practices’ and ‘Behaviour and Responsibilities’ both contribute **32%** of the total codes identified each, making them the two leading themes of discussion at a combined total of **64%**.

‘Facilities and Infrastructure’ made up around **22%** of all identified codes, which was mostly spoken about with the QPWS Senior Ranger.

Finally, discussion around ‘Products and Innovation’ was the least spoken about making up **14%** of the total codes identified.

Key Interview Quotes

“What in your opinion do you think are the main barriers preventing stronger waste management in Queensland?”

“...so I think it is a cultural issue in Australia, first and foremost...And I think it comes back to, it doesn't matter how many you put out, doesn't matter how many signs you put out, people will still choose to do the wrong thing.” - Senior Ranger

“Are there any waste management products on the market that you've seen that manages this problem well?”

“No, well, I'm not aware of products on the market... I also see people, you know yes, they've got their bin bags, but I'll see people will condense it into you know plastic 40 litre tubs that you know they can put back in the car so it doesn't leak.”

“So you've seen sort of individual innovation, people coming up with their own ideas instead of relying on products on the market essentially?”

“Oh, that's exactly right.” - Senior Ranger

“What sort of waste management behaviours do you typically see while you're camping?”

“Most people are all right, but they'll just do the normal, just hang a rubbish bag, just off the side of their car or off a gazebo or something... but most of the time, like no one's, separating anything like recyclables to normal general waste... or like even go down the option of just burning half of it because it's just easier. Means you got to take home less of your rubbish.” - Experienced Camper

“If you felt as though there were products on the market that made waste management more convenient and easier, would it be something you'd invest in?”

“I personally can't stand having those plastic bags tied up to the gazebo 'cause a hole always somehow rips in them and putting rubbish inside it, you have to like open it up and put it in... Blokes normally overfill it and it breaks and then animals get into it and oh, it's so many things is wrong with it. But if there was something sturdy that I can chuck my stuff in and maybe collapsible or something to save space in the car... that would be a lifesaver.” - Beginner Camper

Discussion

Rubbish vs Human Waste

Consistent links between the survey and interview data revealed that rubbish management and disposal remains a greater challenge for Queensland campers than managing human waste. Eighty-three percent of survey participants reported using portable toilets or nearby facilities, suggesting a cultural shift towards more responsible behaviour compared with earlier findings such as Carter (2015). Thematic analysis of interviews supported this trend, with 11 positive codes relating to human waste management compared to only four negative. In contrast, participants provided numerous examples of poor rubbish practices such as hanging plastic bags, overfilling bins, or burning waste, which continue to create significant environmental risks. This indicates that while human waste issues have improved, rubbish disposal behaviours are lagging and demand targeted design interventions.

Benchmarking and Data Findings

The benchmarking analysis of existing waste management products reinforced these findings by highlighting gaps between camper needs and current market offerings. Fifty-eight percent of survey participants reported never considering specialised waste management products, most commonly because they were perceived as too heavy and bulky. This aligns with benchmarking data that identified collapsibility and portability as weak points in leading products. The fact that 83 percent of campers also identified lack of space as their greatest challenge further strengthens the case for compact and transportable solutions. The interview with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service ranger supported this by noting that campers often rely on improvised methods such as tubs or makeshift containers rather than investing in available products. Together, these findings point to a consistent disconnect between product design and user behaviour.

Contribution to Research Gap

This research contributes important new knowledge by shifting focus from only identifying environmental impacts to exploring the behaviours that drive them. Much of the existing literature comments on what the impacts are, such as plastic accumulation or wildlife interference, without addressing why campers persist with unsustainable practices. By showing how factors like cost, convenience, and packability shape camper decision-making, this study helps explain why the market has lacked refined solutions. Companies have had limited incentive to innovate because the behavioural drivers of waste management have been poorly understood. The findings presented here begin to fill that gap, offering insights into how products must align with cultural expectations of convenience, affordability, and ease of use. In doing so, they provide both a foundation for design opportunities and a pathway towards more sustainable camping practices across Queensland.

Design Implications

Adaptability

The data reveals that there is no 'one way' to camp, as many users partake in the activity in a variety of ways. Solo campers without a vehicle would require different design features compared to a camper using their car for instance. Perhaps a design that can be adapted to cater to multiple camping formats could be possible and more useful for the user. This flexibility could stop users from relying on their own improvised methods which could more often lead to negative waste management practices.

Portability

The whole purpose of camping is to be mobile and essentially create a 'home away from home'. This means the designs portability is a crucial aspect that needs to be considered. The solution should be collapsible, compact, lightweight to ensure the product isn't a burden on their setup, but rather a crucial tool to save space and be sustainable. It's already a consistent feature across all products in the market and therefore will be an expectation for new designs.

Organisation

Data revealed that users find the organisation and separation of recyclable waste to be a particularly common pain point amongst campers. This practice often gets neglected while camping due to limited space and perhaps willingness to organise waste as it's created. This provides a unique opportunity to design a product that makes this process easy and more convenient.

Convenience

During the interview with the QPWS Ranger a major area of discussion was around Australian culture and how acclimatised we are to convenience. This means for users to buy in to a new product, they must feel that it adds value to their setup. By ensuring the waste management portion of their experience is more convenient, the user can spend more time doing the things that they'd prefer to do while camping.

Compaction

A major pain point that was noticeable during one of the survey questions was the campers believe that lack of space is one of the leading challenges for waste management. Large full bags of rubbish waste are much harder to fit back into a vehicle to properly dispose if they aren't compacted down to a smaller size. Benchmarking proved there is no current products offering a way for users to easily condense the size of their waste which is a unique gap in the market ready for design intervention.

Durability

Durability was a consistently highlighted area of frustration expressed by the research participants as their current methods often lead to leaks and potential for increased negative wildlife interaction. The design must prioritise this factor as the very nature of camping is a rough setting demanding heavy duty gear made from high quality materials and manufacturing processes.

Conclusion

This report explored the challenges that waste management while camping poses to Australian national parks, where rising participation is overwhelming existing infrastructure. Analysis of current products shows that little effort has been made to address these issues, leaving waste management as a neglected area of the camping equipment industry. This is not due to a lack of user need, as findings from multiple data collection methods indicate that the community is actively seeking alternatives to improve environmental sustainability. The combination of user feedback and benchmarking has revealed clear design opportunities with the potential to deliver a product that makes camping more sustainable for both users and the environment.

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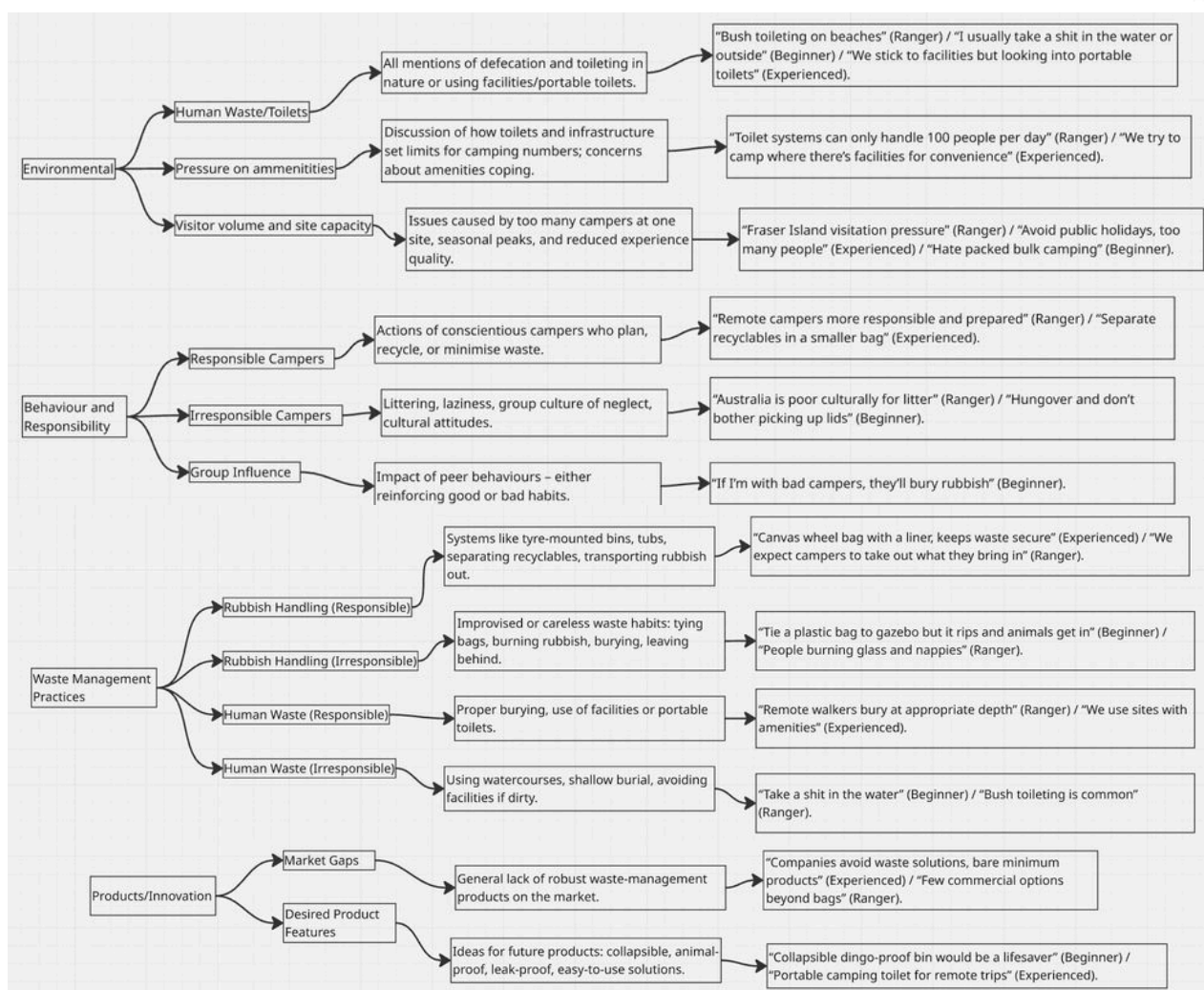
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Appendix

Themes/Coding

Matrix of Themes Across Interviews

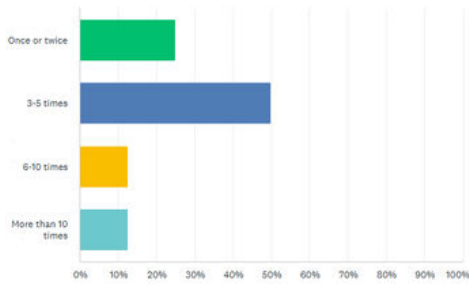
Theme	Sub-Category	Example	Frequency Across Interviews
Environmental Impacts	Human Waste	Bush toileting, portable toilets, facilities	High (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), High (Beginner)
	Overcrowding & Visitation	Visitation pressure, avoiding peak times	High (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), Medium (Beginner)
Waste Management	Rubbish – Responsible	Bins, tubs, recycling separation	Medium (Ranger), High (Experienced), Medium (Beginner)
	Rubbish – Irresponsible	Burning, burying, leaving bags	High (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), High (Beginner)
	Human Waste – Responsible	Facilities, proper burying, portable toilets	Medium (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), Low (Beginner)
	Human Waste – Irresponsible	Toileting in water, shallow burial, avoiding facilities	Medium (Ranger), Low (Experienced), High (Beginner)
Behaviour & Responsibility	Responsible Behaviours	Recycling, prepared campers	Medium (Ranger), High (Experienced), Low (Beginner)
	Irresponsible Behaviours	Laziness, cultural littering, bad campers influence	High (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), High (Beginner)
Products & Innovation	Market Gaps	Few waste products, bare minimum	Medium (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), Low (Beginner)
	Desired Innovations	Collapsible bins, dingo-proof, better toilets	Low (Ranger), Medium (Experienced), High (Beginner)



Full Survey Questions and Results

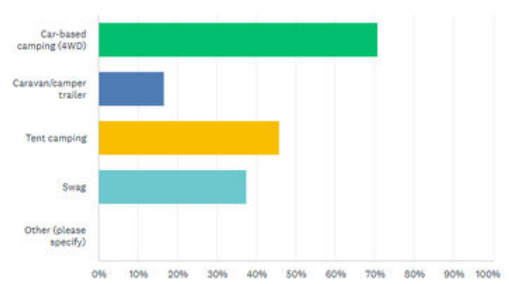
How often do you go camping in a year?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



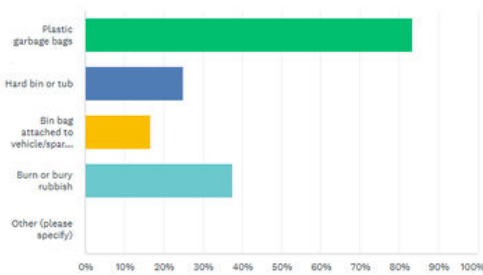
What type of camping do you usually do? (tick all that apply)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



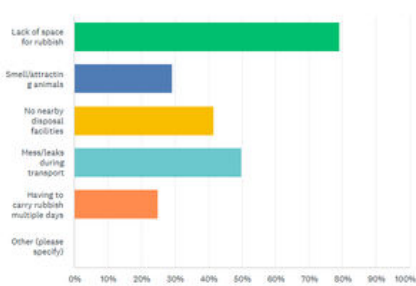
How do you currently store rubbish when camping? (tick all that apply)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



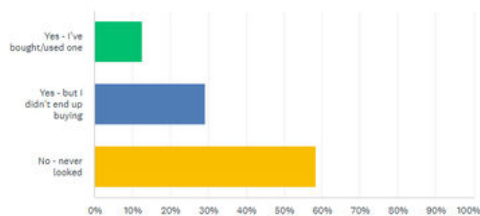
What are your biggest challenges with rubbish while camping? (choose up to 2)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



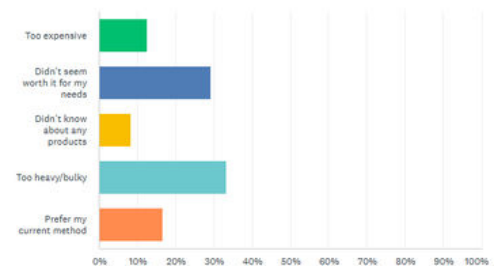
Have you ever looked into alternative rubbish storage or compaction products?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



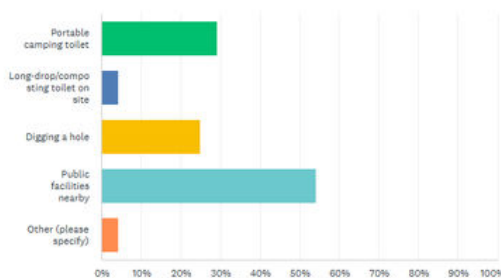
If you haven't bought an alternative, what was the main reason?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



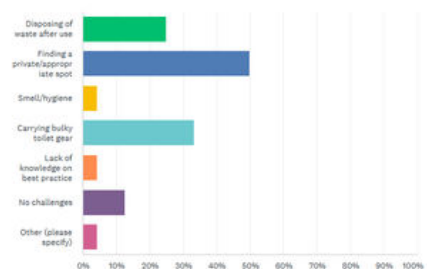
How do you usually manage toilet needs when camping? (tick all that apply)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



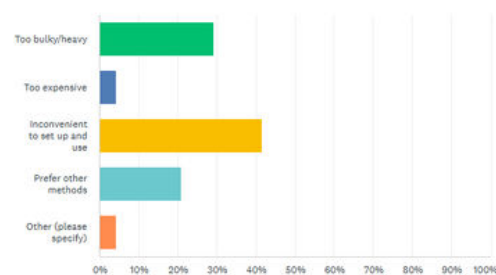
What's your biggest challenge with toilet waste when camping? (choose 2)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



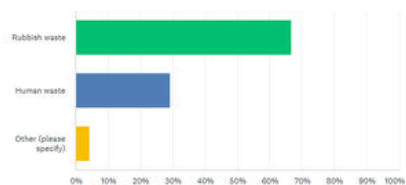
If you don't use a portable toilet, why not?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



Overall, which of these types of waste is the most difficult to deal with while camping in your opinion?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



Ranger/Camper Interview Questions

Ranger Interview

1. From your perspective, what are the biggest environmental impacts caused by campers in Queensland's national parks?
2. How significant is the problem of rubbish and poor waste disposal compared to other camping-related issues, such as erosion, vegetation loss, or fire risk?
4. In your experience, what types of waste (e.g. plastics, food scraps, human waste) create the most challenges for wildlife and ecosystems?
5. What strategies or infrastructure currently exist in Queensland's parks to manage camping waste, and how effective do you think they are?
6. Do you believe education campaigns (e.g. signage, ranger talks, "leave no trace" messaging) are successful in changing camper behaviour? Why or why not?
7. How do you balance allowing public access for camping with protecting sensitive environments from overuse and waste impacts?
8. Have you noticed particular patterns in who creates the most waste issues — for example, inexperienced campers versus regular visitors?
9. Are there examples where a new approach (such as waste-return programs, designated pads, or stricter fines) has worked well to reduce waste impacts?
10. What are the main barriers preventing stronger waste management in Queensland campgrounds (e.g. budget, enforcement, camper resistance)?
11. Looking forward, what changes or innovations would you like to see introduced to better manage camping waste and protect Queensland's natural areas?

Draft Camper Interview Questions

1. When you go camping, how do you usually manage the rubbish you create?
1. Do you normally bring rubbish back home with you, or rely on bins provided in the park/campground? Why?
1. What kinds of rubbish do you notice you create the most while camping (e.g. food wrappers, bottles, cans, leftover food)?
1. How do you usually manage food scraps? Do you pack them out, burn them, or dispose of them another way?
1. What about human waste — if toilets aren't available, how do you or your group normally handle it?
1. Have you ever found it difficult to store or carry waste in your vehicle while camping? Can you tell me about those challenges?
1. Do you feel the bins and waste facilities provided at campsites are usually adequate? If not, what problems have you noticed?
1. Have you ever seen other campers leaving rubbish behind or not disposing of waste properly? How did that make you feel?
1. What would make it easier for you to manage waste responsibly while camping (e.g. better facilities, information, gear, penalties)?
1. Do you think waste left by campers affects the environment or wildlife? In what ways?

Social Media Post and Groups Posted

**Flynn Wood** • Camping in Queensland
August 17 at 7:51 PM · 🌐

Gday QLD Campers, Help Shape the Future of Eco-Friendly Camping Gear!

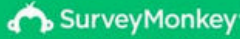
I'm a QLD-based industrial design student researching how campers manage waste in the outdoors, from rubbish to toilet waste, and how we can make it easier, cleaner, and better for the environment.

If you've ever struggled with overflowing bin bags, no disposal spots, smelly gear, or awkward "bush toilets", your experience is exactly what I need to hear.

The survey only takes 2 minutes and any response would help me heaps for this project!

Thanks guys 😊

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/822J28B> ✓



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Camping in Queensland Sustainability Survey

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[View in group](#)

Camping in Queensland

🔒 Private group · 364.1K members · ⓘ AI enabled

Qld Camping & 4x4 Adventures

🔒 Private group · 23.8K members · ⓘ AI enabled

Camping Queensland

🔒 Private group · 37.6K members · ⓘ AI enabled

Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc. - K'gari Wongari.

🔒 Private group · 3.7K members

Australia Free Camping

🔒 Private group · 200.3K members · ⓘ AI enabled

Camping/4wd Industry

- Current Solutions**
 - Roof top tents** - \$2,000-5,000
 - Pop-up tents** - \$100-300
 - Ute Canopies** - \$2k-20,000
- Current problems:**
 - Quick set up/down solutions exists but are incredibly expensive
 - It seems only the core parts of the camping setup have been optimised, little attention has been made to the more subtle parts of the setup
- Potential directions**
 - Modularity**
 - This also involves modularity to better optimise the set up times depending on the situation
 - Allowing users to better customise their camping equipment to suit their needs. (sleeping arrangements, storage)
 - Off-grid living**
 - Products that help users reach more extreme environmental areas
 - Accessibility**
 - Adapting camping equipment for elderly, disabled, younger kids
 - Making camping more appealing to users that don't think camping was for them
 - Improving environmental impact**
 - One of the major elements that deter users from camping is the lengthy pack up/down times and lack of convenience
 - Mass camping in environmental areas has proven to make a negative environmental impact
 - Bringing home comforts to camping**
 - Combining storage and sleeping solutions (canopy, rooftop tent setups)
 - Off-grid power (12v)**
 - 12v system accessories
 - Home away from home comforts
- Why do people camp?**
 - Family/Friends bonding**
 - Potentially products that offer group entertainment while camping
 - Larger groups require adapted equipment to accommodate their needs
 - Connection to nature**
 - Meditation
 - Wildlife observation
 - Mental/Physical health**
 - Escape the noise
 - Technology detox
 - Natural appreciation
 - Camping activities (hiking, fishing)
- Testing Self sufficiency**
 - What products do people use at home but wouldn't use while camping?

Current Solutions

- Waste management (rubbish is poorly stored allowing animals, nature to disperse the trash)
- Camping toilets are still something campers tend to avoid using
- Ground erosion and damage (fire, vehicle, foot traffic damage)

Current problems:

- Waste management (rubbish is poorly stored allowing animals, nature to disperse the trash)
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Strategies to Prevent Australian 4x4 Track Closures | Hamer 4x4

One technique presented each involved the following: 4x4 driving to collect rubbish and dispose of it properly. 4x4 driving to collect rubbish and dispose of it properly.

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FOR CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT - Interview - Reducing the Negative Environmental Impacts of Camping
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QWPS Ranger Full Transcript

So yeah, first question. So from your perspective, what are the biggest environmental impacts caused by campers in Queensland's national parks? Yeah, that's that's a really good question. It's a big, big question. The reason, the reason being when you understand our operating environment. Essentially we've got terrestrial parks you know inland and then we've got a lot of parks on the beach. So you're probably familiar with the issues at Skip Point and you know Gallery, Fraser Island where you know these are the issues not per se, it's the visitation, it's probably the volume of visitation and the ongoing impacts. You know bush toileting is fish on a beach, which is not in our region, it's on the coast. Yeah you know People have essentially now got a, it's a fine, you know we can issue fines in a fineable offence. If people aren't bringing in you know chemical toilets and stuff you buy from from you know camping shops, you know the proper chemical toilet can't be a plastic bag in a bucket or something like that. Yeah So, keeping's probably camping in some respects is an easy one to manage. So what we currently do is when we open up a camping area or or you know a couple of years ago they just did the big, big redevelopment of Girraway National Park, which is just South of South of Warwick. I don't know if you know where that is. Yeah, a little bit, yeah. Yeah So when we do the redevelopment there, we actually have a number of protesters that kick in. For a range of reasons. So firstly, one thing they do is they look at the physical geographic area. How big is it? And then from that they go, we've got some, I suppose models or or methodologies where we then start to look at, if the area is so big, how many people can it physically handle? Or alternatively, if we've got existing facilities there and we want to do a you know, how big is our existing facilities? How much visitation can this handle? So where I'm sort of going with that is, um, probably the first thing we look at is essentially human waste and toilets. So we work backwards from there. So would you in your, would you say human waste is sort of the forefront of um the environmental impacts sort of campers have or um is it sort of um it's it's it's so where I'm going with this is it's a tool to manage capacity. So for example if we've got composting or chemical toilets we know you know from the manufacturers designs that they can handle X amount of liquids and X amount of solids per day and then there's some models that work out you know and produces X amount of solid and X amount of liquid. So from there we can work out, well, this system that we're going to put in can only handle 150 or 100 people per day. And that then gives us the mechanism to then cap the numbers of that said camping area. So for example, you know, it's capped at 100, you know, and that's probably a really good tool because there's some of our camping areas where we don't have allocated spots, we can then start to manage the visitor experience around that. So for example, if the site can only carry 100 people, well on average we know that's 20 to 24 family groups can occupy that site. Or that part of the camping area. So that then means you know there's enough space for people to have a, good visitor experience that that provides for you to have enough room that provides for, you know, not our amenities can cope. That provides for us to know, you know, we need X amount of car parking space. You know And then we have the camping permit system on top of that, which is the ultimate tool for us to manage numbers because once those hundred spaces, for example, are taken up, we then know, well, there's no more capacity in the system. Yeah. Yeah So does it kind of make a bit of sense? Yeah. Yeah That's good. Human waste is probably, you know, because then, you know, and it's a bit of hand in glove. If we've got a really, really big site, you know, we might put two tall blocks in at one at either end so we can, you know, so the

range reasons, that's where they you know take only photos, leave only comes from. But yeah, you'll see people, you know, if it's combustible, i.e. paper, cardboard, whatever, yeah, by all means, I don't have the issue of people to burn that, you know, in a fireplace per se. But when you're trying to burn bottles and nappies and you know that's that's not all. So I think it's it's a society. It's about personal responsibility, you know And as you know, you know, you can see, you know, bins everywhere there and people will still choose to to drop whatever they drop in the garden. So yeah. But I think supply more is the answer. I think it's about, um, society in general. So um to sort of move it more specific to the sort of direction I was sort of thinking of going, um So one of the big issues I personally have when I go camping is obviously the type of way I'm managing rubbish is typically just sort of a bin bag hung up, um, you know, loosely. I don't have a typical camping bin, you know, the ones that go over the rear tire carrier. And this is sort of similar thing for, I guess a lot of people. It's just the usual bin bag. Um And one of the biggest problems I sort of have with that is how big they can expand and they fill up and then having to try and fit many of those back into the car. Um to be able to take them to, uh, you know, dumping bins. Um, is this sort of a problem? Um, I guess, yeah. Do you see any other issues like this or um, I guess a better question is, is there a specific product on the market that you feel manages, um, this kind of problem the best at the moment? Yeah, it's actually a good question. I think there's probably a couple of things to that. Like, you know, people are obviously bringing it in, coming in in the car or the back of the hand, you know, you can repack it back in the car. I think probably first and foremost the issue is probably, people as far as being diligent in how they manage their work. We see people bringing wheelie mints on the back for you. I see that quite often. Um, I know that Fraser is a bit different where, you know, you've got to secure your food, make your food scraps for, you know, the dingoes or the mongrels. For obvious reasons because, you know, that is first and foremost a people problem then, not an animal problem. Um, but yeah. I also see people, you know yes, they've got their bin bags, but I'll see people will condense it into you know plastic 40 litre tubs that you know they can put back in the car so it doesn't leak and all that sort of stuff and they'll bring that out empty with other bits and pieces in it. No, well, I'm not aware of products on the market. You know We see all sorts. We see people you know bringing in wheelie bins. We see people packing you know waste and rubbish diligently back into their Yeah. So you've seen sort of individual innovation, people coming up with their own ideas instead of relying on products on the market essentially. Oh, that's exactly right. We've had a young guy, a group of young guys recently. They had two women there. They had one for their cans and bottles and one for their, you know, food scraps or non-perishables or um You know, and they were using paper plates and stuff like that. I think they lived off sausage and bread for the week and beer, but that's another story. But but yeah, we see all sorts, mate. Yeah, I'll just ask you one last question. I don't want to take too much of your time. Just just a final question. Just looking forward, what kind of changes or innovations would you like to see introduced to better manage camping waste and better protect Queensland's natural areas? Yeah, you know, parks and forests, like we managed to take forest as well. We don't, yeah, we often see a bit of litter, but I'm not saying we don't tend to see copious amounts of of waste that, you know, you do see on the Facebook, in the department's Facebook page, you know, the centres where, you know, a store will go through and people will abandon magazine bows because they're broken or all that sort of stuff.

site can handle more. So that's, it's probably... I don't work in the assets team, so I can't say it's big at all, but certainly the pressure on on amenities. OK so so it's one of the major tools we have to then manage the impacts on the camping area or the environment or the visitor experience. It's all sort of, I suppose you can look at it not as one individual issue, you can look at it as a collective, what's the word I look for, as as as as several data points to sort of come up with a good solution, I suppose is what I'm trying to say. Yeah, awesome. Interesting. Um So obviously that's for sort of um facilitated sites. Would you expect to see a bigger difference when it comes to campsites that are completely away from amenities and um, do you see an increase in? Um, littering behaviour or um, incorrect usage of human waste management sort of thing. Not really. Um, not really. Like I don't attend too many remote sites, but you know, generally speaking, you know, you are gonna get litter from time to time. It's human nature. But probably quite a quantifiable, you know, if you're going on the Great Walk at at um Canarva National Park for example, which is 4 days, it's a four day hike, it's about 80 odd K. Generally speaking, to talk to a person who's environmentally responsible, I want to say that, you know, you've got to want to go to these areas. You've got to be prepared. You've got to have the pack, you've got to have the gear, you've got to have the food, you've got to be self-sufficient, you know, you've got to have all the equipment. And And as a consequence of that, you know, particularly human waste, you know, There is the expectation that, you know, people need to, you know, defecate, so to speak, that they'll bury an appropriate depth to do all that sort of stuff. So, I don't go to those remote parks too often. I'll order those sites, but, you know, with human nature, you are gonna have issues. But probably, you know, it's about frequency as well. Like, it's the numbers of those campsites. I think it's, it's only a couple hundred people a year that go to those. Great walks, for example. Whereas you have a couple 100 people that you're only, um, you know, in spring for one night, you know, it's probably not the easiest question to answer because no, yeah, that's um, yeah, we tend to find a high level of responsible camp but with those great walks and those more remote places because you're going to want to go there as opposed to just driving in from from somewhere. So it's sort of assumed that the, the type of people that are going to want to access these places typically, you know, hold environmental health in good value and probably have the gear to be able to, you know, be sustainable by themselves. I think that's a fair assumption. But I I don't have any evidence. No, that's, yeah, that's totally when you see them and get carbon on the Great Wall, you know. The way they present, the way they talk, you know, they're responsible environmental management. Um So just another question. Um, what in your opinion do you think are the main barriers preventing stronger waste management in Queensland? Um, is it sort of a budget thing or a cultural thing? Um, yeah, I think it's probably. Culturally, we are pretty poor. Like you drive along any roadside in Queensland or walk down any street, you know, we are unfortunately really poor as a society for for litter. You know, you drive down, I don't know, where do you live from? I live in Brisbane, so around Warner area. So you drive down the Warrior Highway to Toowoomba, you know, you'll see litter everywhere. You know, you drive down the European Highway. France, for example, or Italy, generally speaking, you don't see much litter. And if you go to Japan, you know, you don't see any litter. And conversely, in Japan too, you don't see people eating in public or you don't see bins out on the street either. So I think it is a cultural issue in Australia, first and foremost. You know, as a cost management exercise, you know all of our national parks, we don't you know, we expect you to take out what you bring in and that's where you know for

you know so we don't see waste per se, is a big issue. Yes, you might go out, you might pick up a half a dozen balls, and maybe a nappy or something else, which is which is unfortunate, it's just reality of human nature. So, I personally don't see waste as a big issue for us in our region. And I must, I should probably quantify this at the start. Glen, our beach is sort of it's what they call southwest region, so we start down at Girraway which is the top of Cunningham's Gap, up to the Lockyer Valley to Gatton, and then sort of up to Kingaroy, and then from there to Taroom, up to Emerald, and then back to Tambo, and then out to Charleville, sort of their region. So in that we've got about 1.8 million hectares of state forest, or 1.5 million hectares. So what we have certain parks like the Bunyons and Canarvon National Park. Gorge in particular, the Gorge section, it gets high areas of visitation. Uh We tend not to have the waste issues per se. I think probably the biggest issue with waste, as I said and rubbish, is human nature and then you know other things like we own a throwaway society, so you know, like in some cases, like they had that issue a couple years ago, you'll see on a Facebook page somewhere, if you might, through the photos, point where the everyone's gazebos got broken and essentially abandoned them, so we had piles of aluminium to dispose of. Umm But that's a manufacturing issue in terms of it's a whole new quick shade. Yeah, exactly. Yeah, individual parts. Umm So yeah, that's really a hard one to answer. You know I think at the end of the day, we are talking about you know human nature and you know if you want to talk about waste, you know it's probably your utility here and there. And I think it comes back to, it doesn't matter how many you put out, doesn't matter how many signs you put out. People will still choose to do the wrong thing. You know, and yes, well we we can issue fines, and we often do, but we can issue fines for a range of offences. So there's for littering in a national park or a state forest. You know, they're defecating within 50 metres of a watercourse, isn't a fence we can infringe for. There's burning non-combustibles, so, you know, throwing glass or or whatever. You know, in a fire, there's offences in the Forestry Act, which is a state forest about, you know, abandoned vehicles. There's offences in there for breaking glass. There's just trying to think, you know, for we have had occasions where neighbors have chosen to dump or bury dead livestock on our parks and forests. That's rare, but that does happen. So we do we do have powers and a range of powers dealing with that stuff. Quite often, you know there's no witnesses and no one's only up to doing these things and our staff will find you know bottles in a fireplace through to you know decaying livestock dumps you know in a forest somewhere. So So, yeah, I don't know if I answered your questions.

Experienced Camper Full Transcript

OK. I think that's working. Cool. So I've got a bunch of questions.

I probably won't ask them all. I'll just like kind of pick and choose because you might like accidentally just answer questions anyway. And I might just like ask follow-up questions and stuff that aren't necessarily on here. So the first question is what first got you interested in camping and got you camping and what keeps you going back and keep doing it?

I pretty much like where I grew up was like we grew up on 2 1/2 acres at the back of Fernie. So like I was outside a lot and it just drew me into that sort of environment a lot, I guess just being outside and like. Being with my siblings and and whatnot. And then, yeah, like as I got older, then Ian came into the picture. We like got out a lot more and then we grew up on the property, which was the 100 acres. And then like, yeah, that just got us into. We pretty much camped there for like 3 years before we put a slab down for a shed. So like, yeah, we had like a full tent set up with gazebos like permanently for like years. So that was pretty sick. Through like my teen years. And then, yeah, like that just gave me that sort of, yeah, like drive and like passion, I guess to just keep doing it cause it was just sick and it was just so instilled in me. And everything about being outside was just cool. So yeah, yeahSo when you go camping now, like what type of experiences are you usually looking for when you go camping or what kind of camping are you doing today? Yeah, like today, like I'm definitely more obviously as with like a family growing, it's like you calm down a bit more. But like even after going out with friends and stuff heaps, like the type of camping I wanted to do was more experience based and like actually going to like find cool places that were out of the ordinary and like. You know, go see things I haven't seen before or go experience like a view or a um like destination that you know, like I wanna go to that's cool, you know, has different things that it can offer, whether it's like a waterfall or like a hike or purely just the views or um, you know, whatever that sort of thing is. But yeah, that's sort of where I'm at with it now. Like I always try and find somewhere different each time and go somewhere close to water or umYeah, somewhere we can go for a walk or actually try and find activities to do.

Are there any types of camping you tend to avoid? And if so, what sort of puts you off of them?

Yeah, the type of camping that I avoid nowadays is basically just like, pretty much like two types. One is just like where any, just like people are just gonna be getting loose. Like I just don't really want to get around that anymore. And then the other is I feel like an obvious one, you know, in a sense, but a lot of people still do it and it's just like the bulk, like packed sort of camping where it's, um, like long weekends or public holidays and you know, like, um, like peak periods is where I don't want to be camping where there's like 1000 people in like a, you know, 50 meter area of you. UmYeah. So I always try and get away and get on my own a bit more. Yeah. So sort of moving into more specifically like how you manage waste, just thinking about your most recent camping trip or just a recent camping trip, how do you manage your rubbish from start to finish? Pretty much from start to finish like I've always could have been going. Ended up investing in one of those canvas um wheel bags for the back of my canopy and then ended up putting a bin in it so I could put a liner in there and then that's just where all the rubbish goes. And then um, any recyclables I'll try and keep off to the side just cause they're not getting mixed in with general like food waste and what not. So you can sort of keep them separate in like a smaller bag um sort of thing. And I've got that section in my canopy where I can store stuff like that. So I've always been pretty like good and conscious with that. Yeah. Do you find that?

Yeah, because the next question was what products have you looked into using and how effective do you think they are?

And then obviously affect like certain rules. If you're at like a private, like a more of like a private camp, they'll either like knuckle down and then the rules change. Or same with like Queensland camping sites like throughout national parks and state forests and stuff that'll even. That starts to get a bit harder with Rangers coming around, nitpicking you when you know you're sitting there trying to do the right thing maybe. So yeah, it's usually a negative experience and it's gets a bit annoying.

And just finally, like are there any ideas you'd sort of have or to do with waste management that you think products? On the market just don't do that well. If there was something you could change about the way you do waste management, what would it be or what do you, you know, even products on the market that you see people use, like what's your opinion on that kind of thing?

Yeah, I don't know. It's a bit of a hard one. I haven't looked too far into it outside of like just the, like campus bags that I've got, um which I think are like a like a good option at the moment. Cause like I haven't really seen anything else. Not like again, not that I've looked into it, but I haven't seen anything else whenever I just generally look at camping supplies. Like I feel like waste is a bit of a hard one to manage, so not many companies go down that route. To try and like tackle that, like there's just bare minimum sort of things and like you can just go get your own bags and just hang them off your cars or whatever. Or there might be like a little bin that you can drag along or stuff like that. But there probably could be more. But yeah, like I just don't think companies want to deal with that in a sense because it is a hard one. So it just limits your options, something chronic. I've definitely tried to think about it and how we can be more sustainable with camping and like waste and whatnot, but it's yeah, it is a harder one.

So you've obviously invested in one of those rear tire bins. How effective would you say that's been? And is there any challenges or negatives you've found with how that product works so far?

Uh, that's pretty effective. Um, like a lot of, like, I've got a camping table that has like a little thing off to the side of it where you can put a bin liner and that sort of stuff, but it puts it really low to the ground. So like if you've just got a general bag, like, you know, any animal can get into like a Guyana or a Bush Turkey or something. So having it on the back of a car higher off the ground is actually pretty good. UmAnd then like, it'll also put it under my awning that I have. So it's still protected and out of the weather, um, for the most part. So like you're not having to. And it's got like a lid on it as well. So it sort of keeps it contained if it's got a bit of a smell to it. UmSo you don't have to put a bag like, you know, out of your camp in a sense. So it's pretty good, I reckon, and I'm glad I invested in it. UmAnd I don't really know how else you could make that better. Um, but yeah.

Do you find any issues with like how much rubbish do you reckon you could? Sort of fit in there. And would you be able to carry, say, you know, a week's worth of rubbish in one of those bins or would you eventually have to go to other facilities to kind of restart?

Yeah, yeah, it's, yeah, it's a bit of a hard one, I guess, cause like we haven't really done camping trips outside of like a few days, but I think it would start to get. Too full and you'd either have to double up and then have to find somewhere to put your other rubbish bag while you're filling up another one, um, and use other facilities to like dump it sooner rather than later. UmBut then that would just come down to being smarter with how we bring food and like pack food and you know, mhm umSo yes, since uh, investing in that product. Do you just have any other challenges, um, with storing, carrying or disposing of waste while camping? Not for our particulars, um like set up for and um like periods for how long we go camping for. So no, not yet. UmAnd then uh, so also how do you? Manage, uh, sort of like human waste, toilet waste. Are you usually sticking to campsites that are near facilities or um, do you have other methods that you tend to rely on? Yeah, we pretty much stick to anywhere that has facilities and like amenities to be able to use them. That's very much something we go for. But I'm also looking into the option of a, like a portable camping toilet that we can use wherever. And then that means we can go to places outside of the norm that have facilities and you can be completely self-sustainable, pretty much so. And then, you know, there's plenty of dumping sites for that sort of human waste around. Yeah, when you're camping, have you sort of noticed how other people tend to deal with their rubbish? Like, obviously you're quite organised with how you deal with yours, but what sort of behaviours have you seen while you've been camping or people that you've been with while camping? Yeah. Most people are all right, like, but they'll just do the normal, just hang a, hang a rubbish bag, just like off the side of their car or off a gazebo or something, and then they can fill it up with whatever they want. But most of the time, like no one's, no one's separating anything like recyclables to like normal general waste. And then like a lot of people are just like dump stuff on the ground and they'll pick it up later and then like maybe an animal will get into it or like even go down the option of just burning half of it because it's just easier. Means you got to take home less, less of your rubbish. So yeah, yeahUm, have you ever come across a campsite that was left in a poor condition? And uh, if you did, how did that sort of affect your experience? Yeah, yeah, I've come across heaps like that. Um, I can't put a number to it, but there's definitely been plenty of them over the years and umYeah, it just makes you annoyed cause like, you know, you're there trying to do the right thing and you can see there's other people around trying to do the right thing.

But then there's just certain groups that just don't care.

Beginner Campers Full Transcript

Alright, so first question is what first got you guys interested in camping and what kind of experience do you guys expect to gain while you guys go camping? I started going camping with my family, so that's what got me into it. And when I go camping, I expect to have fun. I expect to like relax and do some activities that I just wouldn't be able to do when I'm at home. I've only recently started camping and I think the main thing about camping for me is to get away from the usual schedule, but I don't like it when it's too long. Yeah, I've always camped on and off throughout my life, but the thing I love about camping nowadays is being able to just fully disconnect from reality, phone signal off and out in the wilderness. Sweet.

Second question, what kinds of camping do you guys typically do?

For example, do you guys stay at campgrounds with other people where there's facilities or do you prefer to kind of get away from that where there's no facilities per say? Like if I'm with mates, I'd prefer like a sport with no facilities because we're probably like away from other people and can. Probably get up to a bit more fun, but honestly like I like camping anywhere. I think I would prefer if it's away from the facility, but in Gold Coast most of the time it's all facilitated. I way prefer to camp where there's no facilities out in the wilderness, but I like to camp with a lot of gear. So you have all the cooking gear, you have all the seats, but I don't like being around human-made things. So in saying that, you guys prefer to camp away from facilities.

How would you guys go about dealing with waste while you're away from facilities?

I'm going to be exposing myself probably like. Digging a hole and yeah, leave the rest up. Like rubbish as well. Rubbish. Just chuck it in like a plastic bag and take it home with me. Yeah. Are you talking about wasters and like. Both, human waste and rubbish waste. Oh like shit okay. Little bit of, little bit of sea bog, bog in the water. Floater. Yeah, the floaty. No, but rubbish. I think with rubbish you have to keep on top of it. If you're on top of it, you will. You wouldn't have to stress about it in the morning. Yeah, I'm gonna be honest. When I camped, I usually either take a shit in the water or I take a shit outside, even if there is facilities. Sometimes they're pretty gross. And then with rubbish, if I'm with some responsible campers, we would put it in a bin and then take, sorry, put it in a plastic bag, take it with us and then dispose of it. If on a few occasions I've been with some bad campers, you'd put it in a plastic bag and then bury it. That's horrible. Yeah, that's horrible. Um, so have you guys at any point looked into products to kind of manage with the waste? And if you have, how effective do you think they are at doing their job? Uh, just done plastic bags all my life that always works. Haven't really looked any deeper. There's like, I know there's some where it's it's like a loop and it has a lid and you put the plastic bag in it, but that's like the most advanced thing. I know I've seen some portable rubbish bin, but I think Rubbish bag is pretty sufficient right now. Yeah, tying a plastic bag up to the gazebo is normally the move. And with taking a dump. Yeah, I know sometimes there's those like, like acid toilets or something. There's chemical toilets, but nobody wants to deal with them. They would just rather have a bucket and. A bit of plastic and shit in it and then tie the plastic up and chuck it out. No, you're a dog. No, I'm shit in nature. That's what dogs do. So just a couple of other questions.

So with the ways you guys go about waste management now, what kind of challenges do you guys have with that and do you see any sort of negative impact on the environment from the way you guys manage with?

With like rubbish, I'd say I'm all good with and with like toilet stuff though, I try and keep the toilet paper to a minimum if like it's if I'm not doing a floater in the water. But yeah, so I'm pretty good I'd say. I think with rubbish it's the little like the little things like the lid.

Or like the little like plastic that like comes off of like certain stuff. That's the ones that like usually go unnoticed and you're too lazy to pick up. Um, I think if you shit in those shit it's fine. Especially if there's no one around cause it'll just float away. But if you shit in. The Bush, you're gonna have to burn somehow or like make sure no one else steps in it. See, look, I reckon if you take a poop in the Bush, it'll just degrade away. The the bad stuff is when there's plastic left around. And if like a dingo gets into the rubbish bag and leaves rubbish around, that might even be an occasion to not pick it up. And drive away because no one wants to touch all the like, you know, rubbish waste. But if it's been torn apart or something, then you can get a bit carried away with leaving your rubbish.

Bro, you can with some shit people.

So final question.

If you felt as though there were products on the market that made waste management more convenient and easier, would it be something you'd invest in or are you pretty happy with your own methods?

I'm pretty happy with my own methods, but if there was like something that genuinely just made it so.

Yeah if you are camping remote there's no chance of leakage from bags and stuff and it just didn't cost much and it was space efficient then yeah like potentially.

You know I would want something that can collect the bottle lids because that is a mission to pick up when it drops on the ground and you know when you're drinking you don't really notice it.

But the next morning you usually see a bunch of them on the ground and you have to decide whether to pick it up or if you're hungover, you might get a bit lazy.

For me, I think a product would be awesome because I personally can't stand having those plastic bags tied up to the gazebo cause a hole always somehow rips in them and like putting rubbish inside it, you have to like open it up and put it in and then.

Blokes normally overfill it and it breaks and then animals get into it and oh, it's so many things is wrong with it.

But if there was something sturdy that was dingo proof, they can Chuck your stuff in and maybe collapsible or something to save space in the car.

That would be a lifesaver.

Sweet.

I'll leave it there.