

Faculty of Environment, Society and Design
Summer Research Scholarship
Lincoln University 2024-2025

PROJECT DETAILS

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Funder: This project is supported by a consortium of funders and led by Xyst
(<https://www.xyst.co.nz/>)

Contact person:

- Brian Dewar: Park Supplies, brian@parksupplies.co.nz
- Leith McFadden: Playground People, leith@playgrounds.co.nz
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Project title: Outdoor fitness equipment research to support professionals in the recreation sector.



Project Description:

Are our communities getting good value from outdoor fitness equipment?

The recreation sector felt there was a large gap in information about outdoor fitness equipment to inform decision makers and understand the social return on investment. Approximately 30 different organisations across NZ supported the need for this research to further understand outdoor fitness equipment as outdoor fitness equipment design is

<p>becoming more complex and equipment prices are increasing.</p> <p>This research project will look to explore some of the following (although not limited too):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the use of outdoor fitness equipment, • the demographics of those utilising the equipment, • distance travelled and type of transportation to the equipment, • understanding of how cultural context, location, or proximity to other facilities affects utilization, • what were consequences of utilizing the equipment, • what layout is most effective, and • what design factors can increase appeal. <p>This project will involve surveying outdoor fitness equipment users and undertaking fieldwork work at identified outdoor fitness equipment sites in a range of locations, followed by a report outlining the findings.</p>
<p>Project Outcomes:</p> <p>The outcome of this project is to present findings (based on fieldwork) in a report format and deliver a presentation to the Advisory Group.</p> <p>The findings from this piece of work will support other outdoor fitness equipment research and assist decision makers across NZ in the parks and recreation sector.</p>
<p>Tasks to be performed by student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fieldwork with park users • Produce a report with the findings • Present to the Advisory Group
<p>Prerequisite skills (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work independently • Good time management • Comfortable approaching and talking to people (surveying) • Ability to analyse findings and convey clearly in report • Must have vehicle available to undertake site visits
<p>Please indicate if Ethics Approval is necessary: Yes</p>
<p>Date: 30th August 2024</p>