

Spotter Talks in 2014: 1904
 Trained Spotters in 2014:
 73,928
 Total # of Spotters: 350-400k
 COMET (Both Courses):
 13,481

Skywarn®

Current Updates and Future Opportunities

NWS Skywarn Program updates

COMET Training
 MOU with ARRL
 MOU with Spotter Network
 Guidebook updates
 FEMA/EMI Class: G365
 Policy Directive Update
 Facebook Page (12k+)

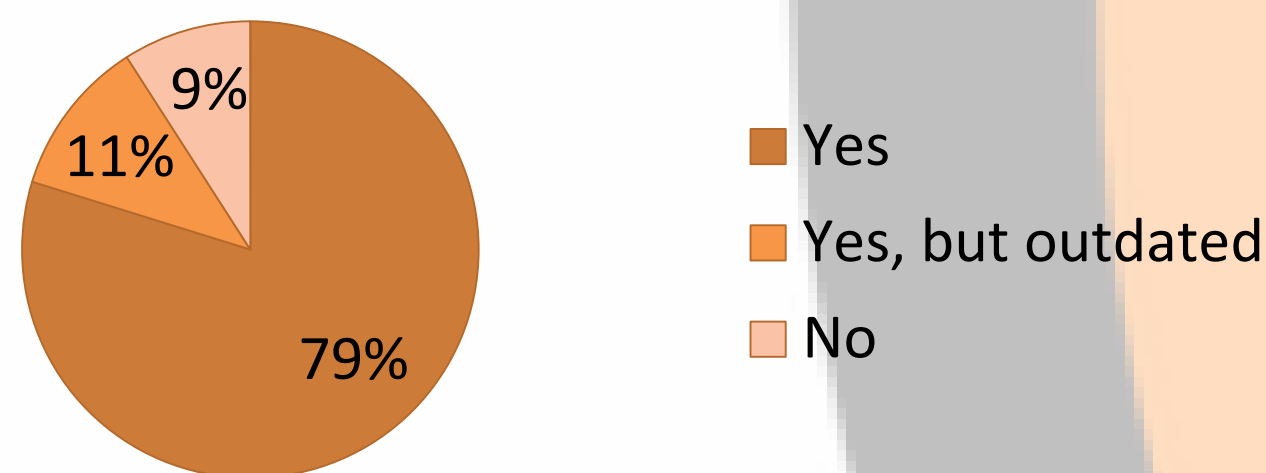
Poster 416: 3rd Weather-Ready Nation Symposium
 Tanja Fransen, NOAA/NWS Glasgow
 Richard Smith, NOAA/NWS Norman
 Joshua Jans, Spotter Network
 Chris Maier, NOAA/NWS Silver Spring

In early 2014, the National Weather Service conducted a survey of the Warning Coordination Meteorologists regarding their Skywarn Program. 97 responses were received. Note, some offices were without a WCM during this time. Some of the responses are shared below along with recommendations for future improvements to the program.

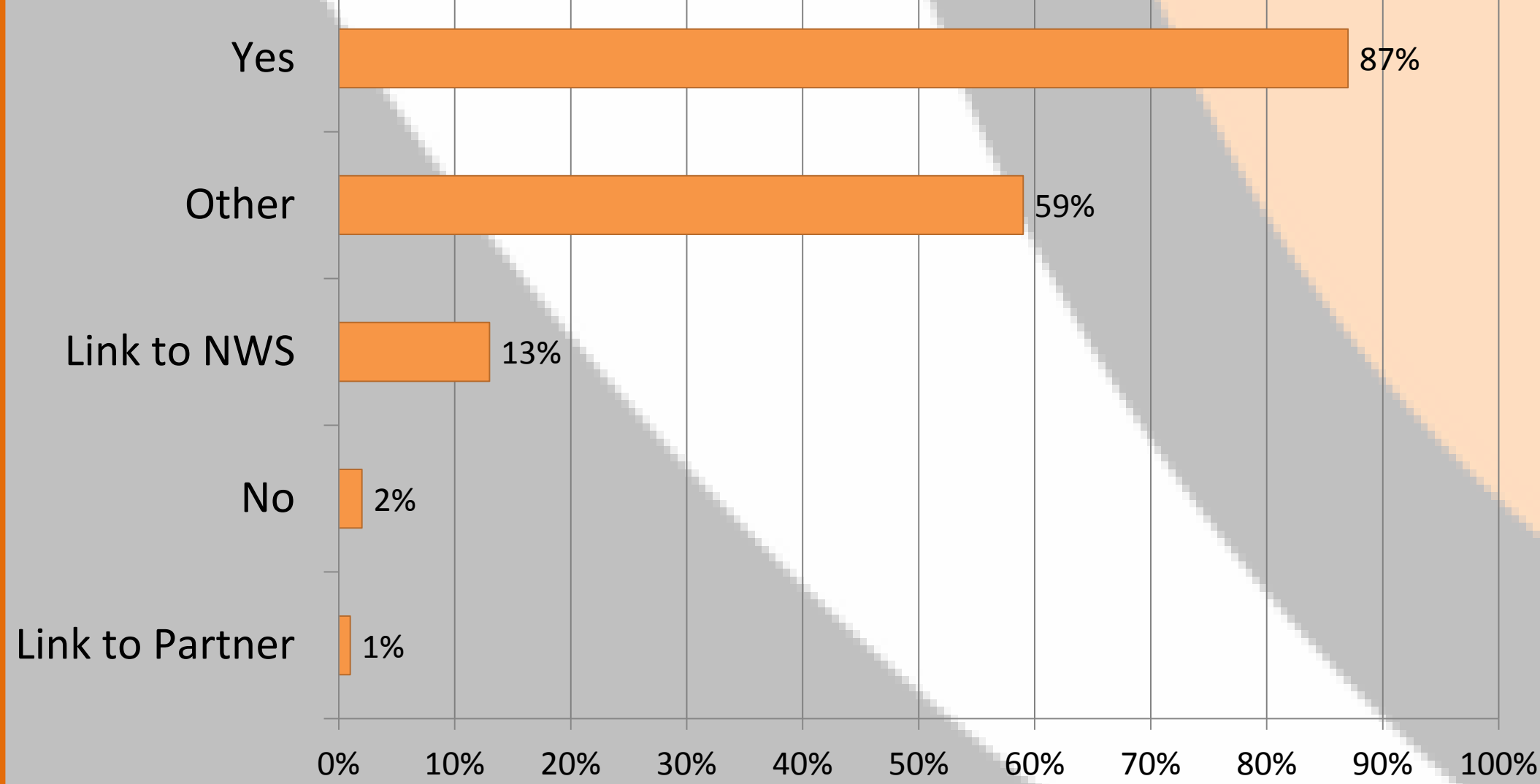
NWS Skywarn Program Future Needs

- **Integrate with Weather Ready Nation**
 - Many opportunities to spread the WRN message to trained spotters
- **Improved consistency between offices**
 - Hear too often from spotters that this is a problem
 - Some Skywarn Spotters feel neglected and see little NWS presence in their communities
 - Some NWS offices are not getting trained spotters to report, is it worth their time and effort to keep going out in this age of social media?
 - Skywarn vs Storm Spotter, not all offices recognize this is the same thing
- **National Database**
 - Spotter keeps their data updated
 - Can print their own certificates saving WFO time
 - Can keep track of how often people report and/or attend training
 - Reward great spotters
- **Integration of new technologies**
 - Collaboration with tool developers
 - Need a portal for partners to come through
- **Better use of social media/virtual operations with Skywarn**
- **Improved website, verified Facebook/Twitter accounts**

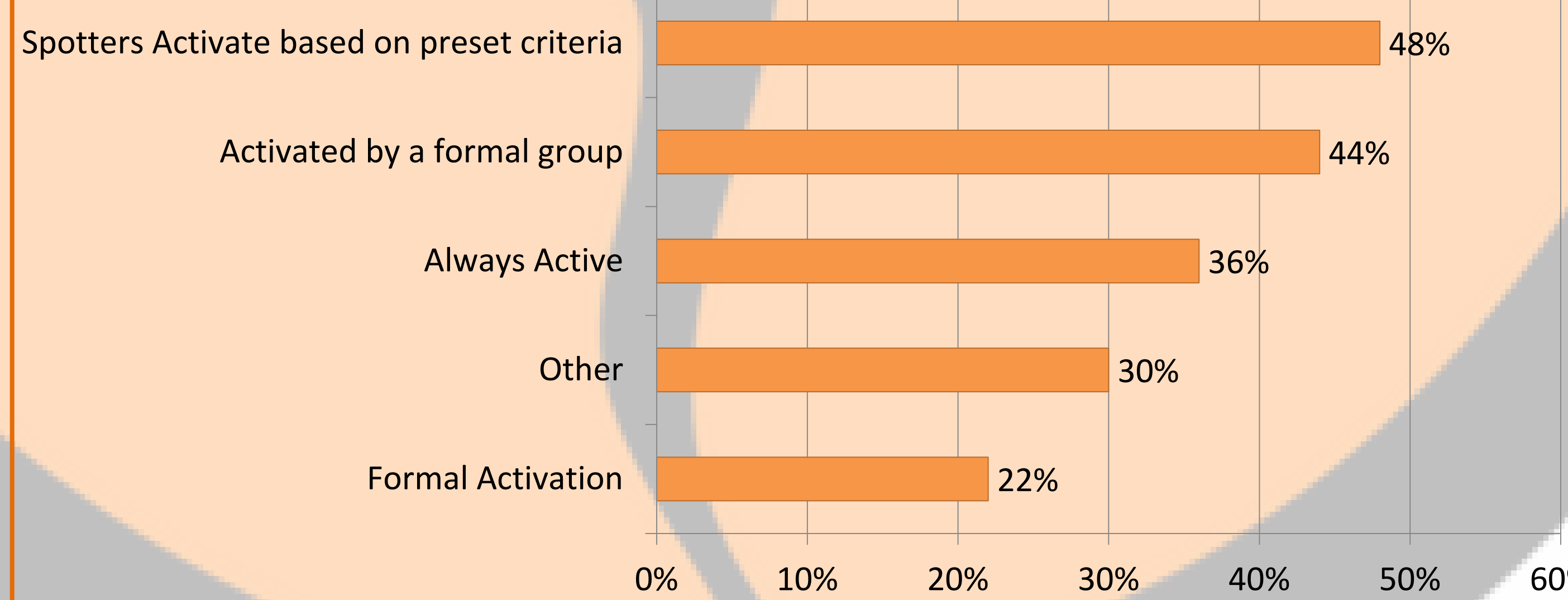
Does your Office have a Spotter Database?



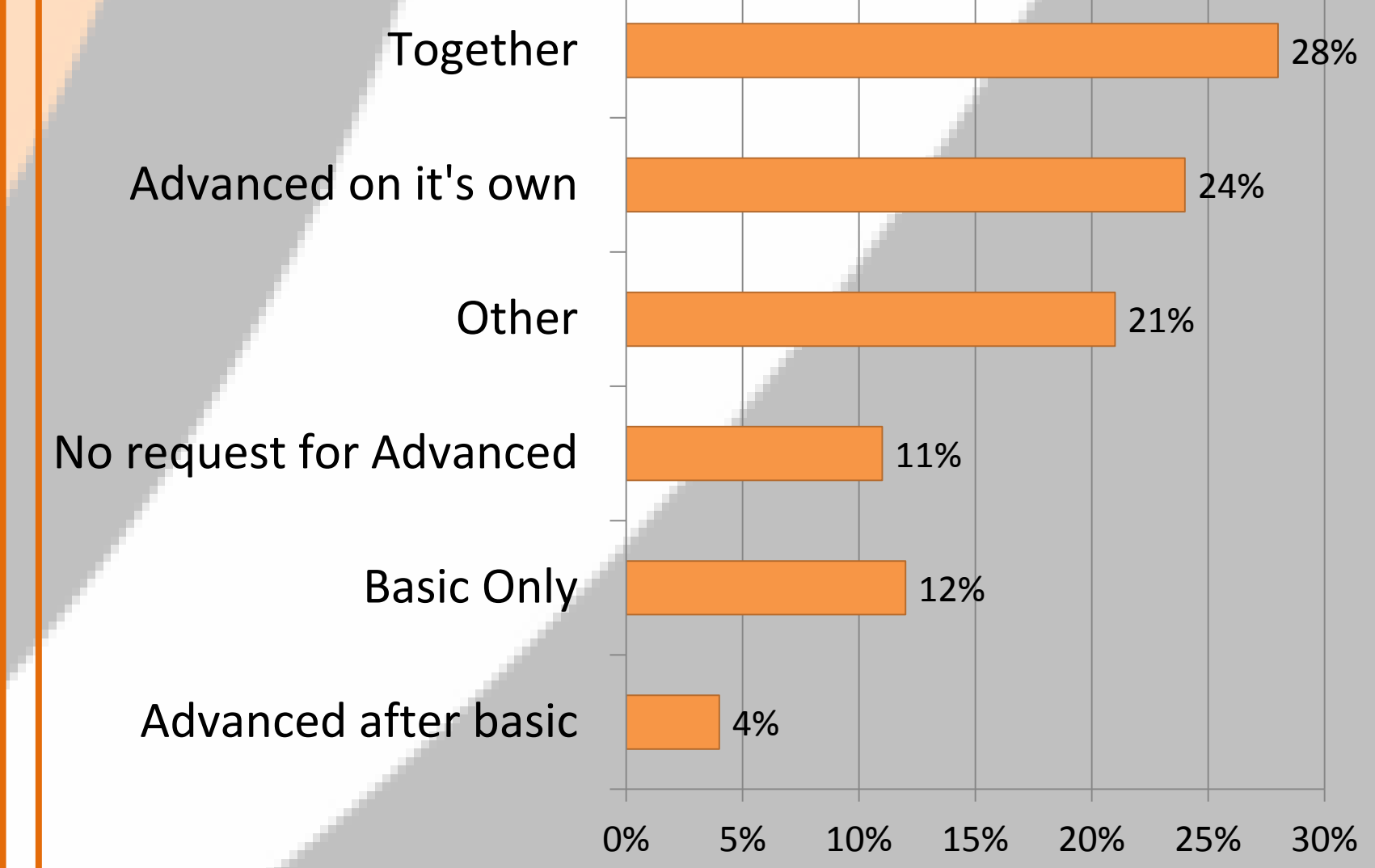
Do you have a Skywarn Page on your Website?



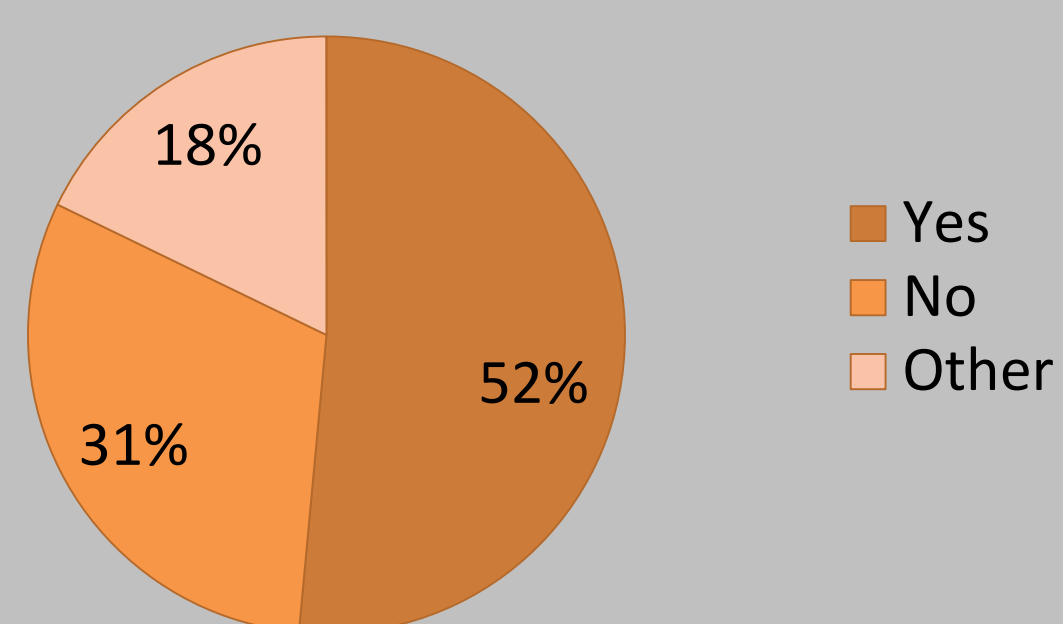
Spotter Activation?



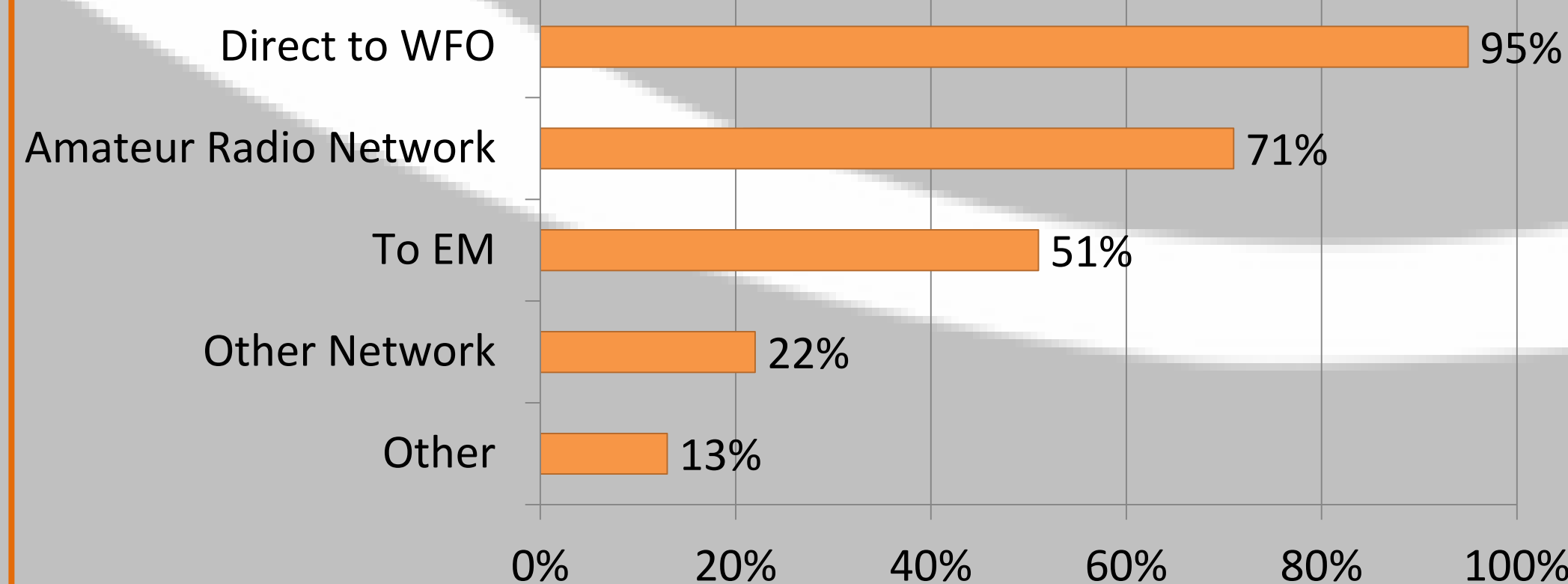
Basic and/or Advanced Training?



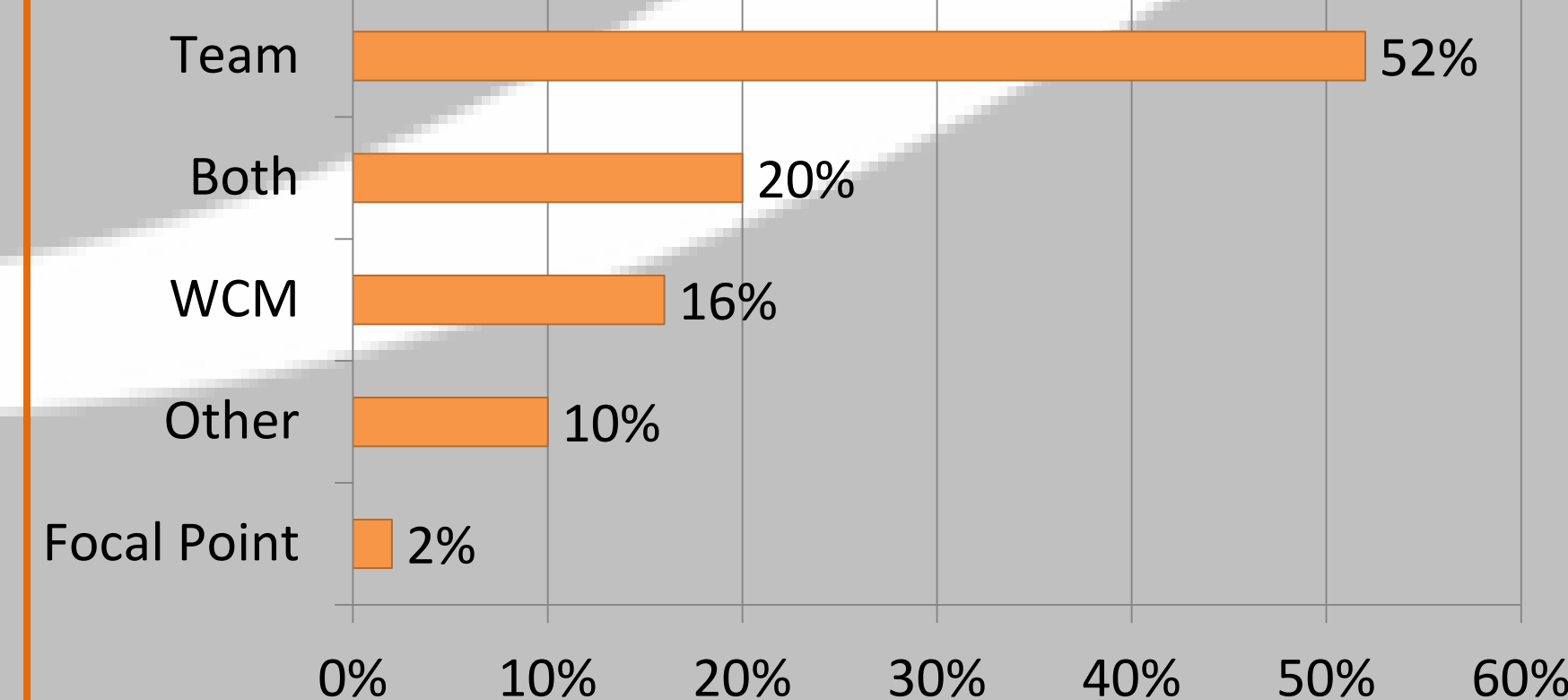
Does your Program include spotters who have completed COMET modules?



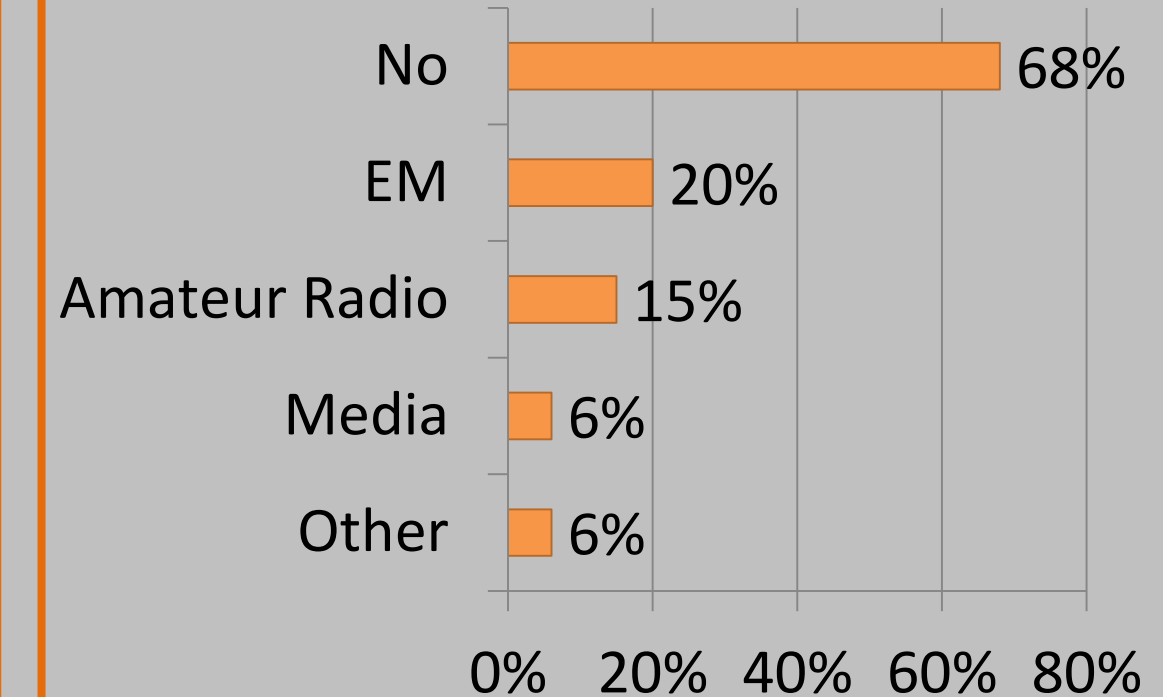
How do your Skywarn Spotters Report?



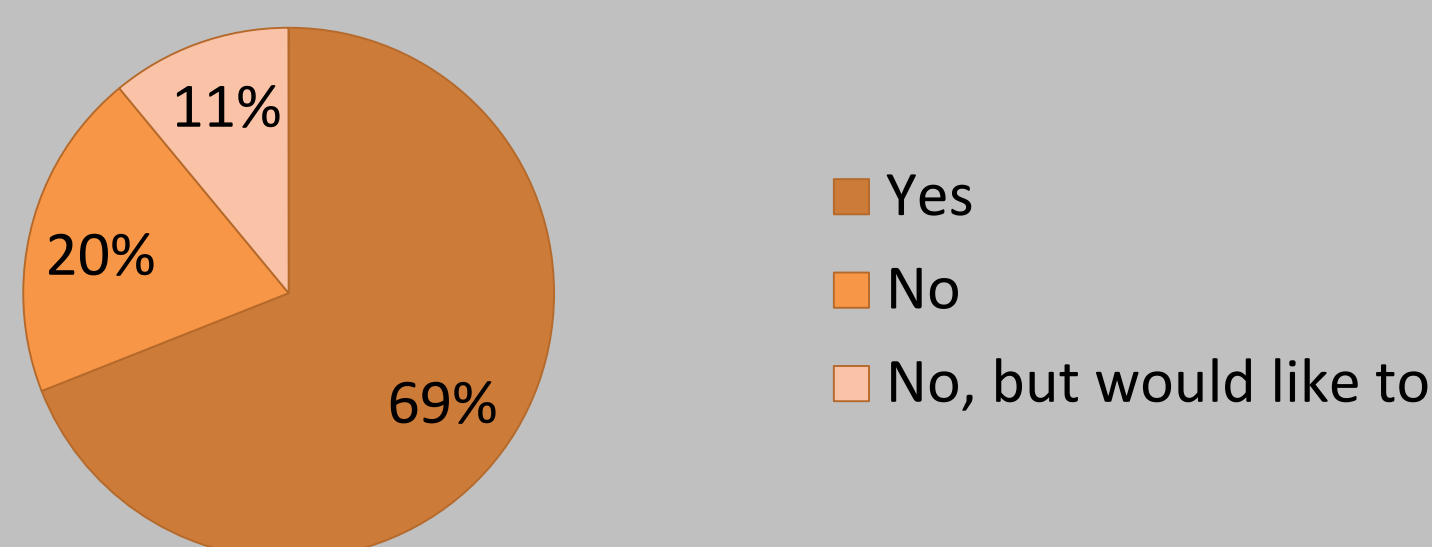
Who manages Skywarn in your office?



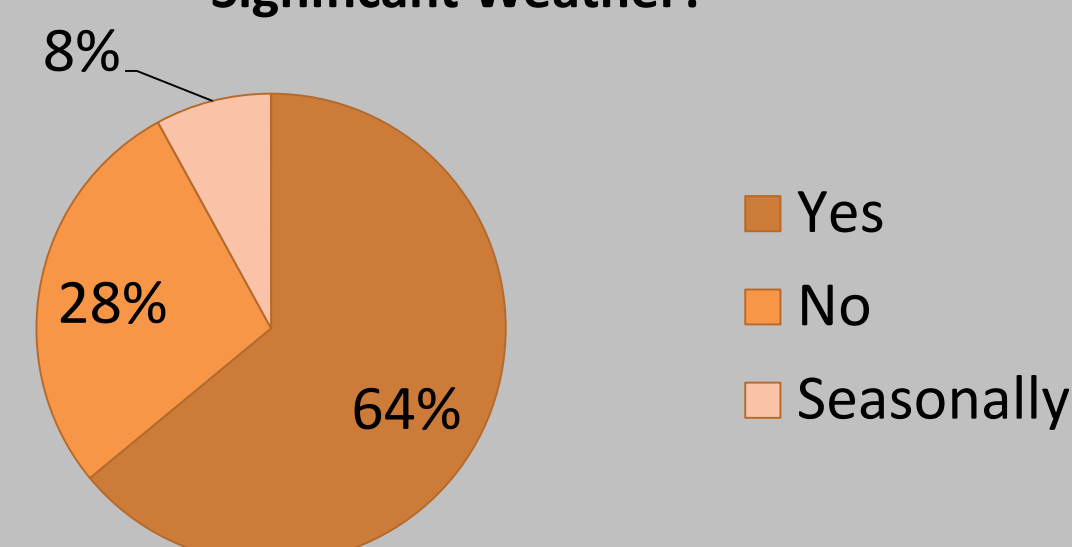
Do Partners conduct training in your CWA?



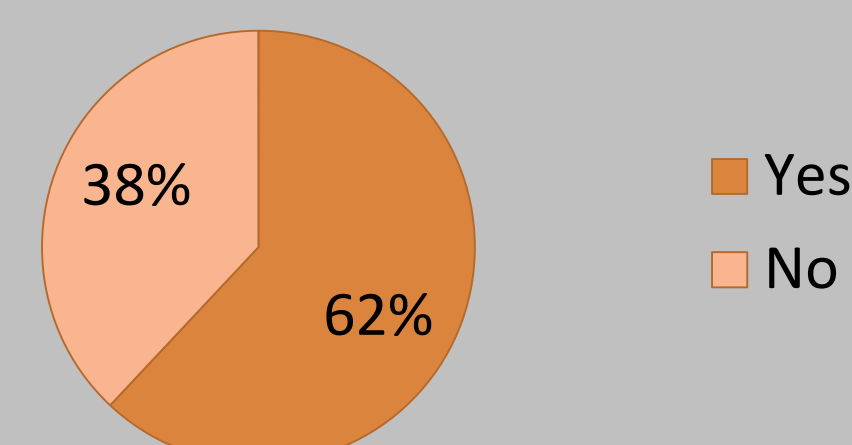
Do you utilize Spotter Network Reports?



Amateur Radio Network at Office During Significant Weather?



Do you give out certificates of Attendance?



Do you use Spotter Numbers?

