2025 WESTERN STATES SURVEY
Interview Schedule – TREND

In this document:

- *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*

- *A carrot (^) denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.*

- *2025 trend is shown among the states that were interviewed in the first trend point.*
    - *2011 States: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY*
    - *2012-2015 States: AZ, CO, MT, NM, UT & WY*
    - *2016-2017 States: AZ, CO, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY*
    - *2018-2024 States: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY*

Switching topics –

The following are some different agencies which deal with issues in your state. For each one, please indicate whether you **(ROTATE)** approve or disapprove of the job they are doing at this time.

(ON PHONES IF CHOICE) Is that STRONGLY (approve/disapprove) or just SOMEWHAT (approve/disapprove)?
(ON PHONES IF DON'T KNOW/NEVER HEARD OF) Have you not heard of **(INSERT)** or do you just not have an opinion of the job they are doing at this time?

	TOTAL APPROVE	TOTAL DIS-APPROVE	STRNGLY APPROVE	SMWHT APPROVE	SMWHT DIS-APPROVE	STRGLY DIS-APPROVE	NO OPIN	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/REF (DNR/ NOT ONLINE)

The first/next one is…**(RANDOMIZE)(DO NOT SHOW ONLINE)**

3. U.S. Forest Service **(ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**

	TOTAL APPROVE	TOTAL DIS-APPROVE	STRNGLY APPROVE	SMWHT APPROVE	SMWHT DIS-APPROVE	STRGLY DIS-APPROVE	NO OPIN	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/REF (DNR/ NOT ONLINE)
2017	**76%**	**12%**	38%	38%	7%	5%	9%	2%	*
2025	**79%**	**10%**	41%	38%	6%	4%	8%	1%	2%

4. National Park Service **(ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**

	TOTAL APPROVE	TOTAL DIS-APPROVE	STRNGLY APPROVE	SMWHT APPROVE	SMWHT DIS-APPROVE	STRGLY DIS-APPROVE	NO OPIN	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/REF (DNR/ NOT ONLINE)
2017	**82%**	**10%**	45%	37%	6%	4%	6%	1%	1%
2025	**86%**	**7%**	48%	38%	4%	3%	6%	1%	*

6. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service **(ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**

	TOTAL APPROVE	TOTAL DIS-APPROVE	STRNGLY APPROVE	SMWHT APPROVE	SMWHT DIS-APPROVE	STRGLY DIS-APPROVE	NO OPIN	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/REF (DNR/ NOT ONLINE)
2017	**76%**	**10%**	33%	43%	6%	4%	10%	3%	*
2025	**75%^**	**9%^**	35%	39%	6%	2%	14%	1%	1%

7. Bureau of Land Management **(ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**

	TOTAL APPROVE	TOTAL DIS-APPROVE	STRNGLY APPROVE	SMWHT APPROVE	SMWHT DIS-APPROVE	STRGLY DIS-APPROVE	NO OPIN	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/REF (DNR/ NOT ONLINE)
2017	**56%**	**25%**	16%	40%	13%	12%	13%	5%	1%
2025	**62%**	**17%**	21%	41%	11%	6%	15%	4%	2%

Next, **ONLINE:** please read / **PHONE:** I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in **(INSERT STATE)**. For each one, please **ONLINE:** indicate/ **PHONES:** tell me if you think it is **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)** an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in **(INSERT STATE)**.

	EXT/VERY SERIOUS	**EXTREMELY SERIOUS**	**VERY SERIOUS**	**SOMEWHAT SERIOUS**	**NOT A PROBLEM**	**DK/REF (DNR/NOT ONLINE)**

The (first/next) one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

9.   Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife **(ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**

2011	**38%**	15%	23%	38%	23%	2%
2020	**43%**	15%	28%	32%	24%	1%
2021	**55%**	23%	32%	29%	15%	1%
2022	**55%**	25%	30%	33%	11%	1%
2023	**52%^**	24%	27%	30%	17%	1%
2024	**58%^**	23%	34%	30%	11%	2%
2025	**54%^**	27%	28%	31%	14%	1%

10.   Inadequate water supplies **(ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**

2011	**40%**	15%	25%	35%	24%	1%
2020	**45%**	17%	28%	34%	20%	1%
2021	**51%**	24%	27%	34%	14%	2%
2022	**70%**	35%	35%	19%	9%	2%
2023	**61%**	32%	29%	25%	13%	--
2024	**62%**	32%	30%	23%	15%	--
2025	**63%^**	34%	30%	25%	11%	1%

11.   Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property **(ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**

2016	**32%**	11%	21%	45%	22%	1%
2020	**47%**	18%	29%	35%	18%	*
2021	**60%**	30%	30%	30%	10%	*
2022	**63%**	30%	33%	28%	9%	--
2023	**53%**	25%	28%	31%	15%	1%
2024	**57%**	27%	30%	31%	11%	1%
2025	**60%**	31%	29%	30%	9%	1%

12.   Low level of water in rivers **(ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**

2013	**60%**	31%	29%	27%	11%	2%
2020	**55%^**	24%	30%	26%	17%	2%
2021	**61%**	31%	30%	27%	10%	2%
2022	**75%**	42%	33%	20%	4%	1%
2023	**69%^**	40%	30%	24%	7%	--
2024	**72%**	36%	36%	22%	5%	1%
2025	**68%**	35%	33%	23%	7%	2%

	EXT/VERY SERIOUS	EXTREMELY SERIOUS	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT A PROBLEM	DK/REF (DNR/NOT ONLINE)
13.	**Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams (ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**					
2011	**42%**	19%	23%	39%	18%	1%
2020	**52%^**	21%	32%	31%	15%	1%
2021	**55%^**	26%	30%	31%	12%	1%
2022	**54%**	23%	31%	35%	10%	1%
2024	**58%**	25%	33%	28%	13%	1%
2025	**59%**	29%	30%	29%	12%	--
14.	**Population declines of fish and wildlife (ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**					
2021	**48%**	21%	27%	32%	17%	3%
2022	**51%**	21%	30%	31%	16%	2%
2023	**47%^**	18%	28%	36%	14%	3%
2024	**54%**	22%	32%	32%	13%	1%
2025	**52%**	24%	28%	30%	14%	4%
15.	**Loss of natural areas (ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**					
2011	**36%**	15%	21%	35%	27%	2%
2020	**44%**	18%	26%	33%	21%	2%
2022	**55%^**	23%	33%	32%	12%	1%
2023	**49%^**	21%	29%	32%	17%	1%
2024	**57%**	24%	33%	28%	15%	*
2025	**55%**	26%	29%	30%	15%	*
16.	**The rising cost of living (ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**					
2022	**75%^**	40%	34%	23%	2%	--
2023	**78%**	46%	32%	19%	3%	--
2024	**83%**	54%	29%	14%	3%	--
2025	**81%**	51%	30%	17%	2%	*
17.	**Climate change (ASKED OF SAMPLE A, N=1,683)**					
2011	**27%**	11%	16%	28%	43%	2%
2020	**46%**	23%	23%	20%	33%	1%
2021	**54%^**	33%	22%	20%	25%	--
2022	**52%**	31%	21%	25%	22%	1%
2023	**49%**	28%	21%	25%	25%	1%
2024	**54%**	32%	22%	21%	25%	--
2025	**56%**	32%	24%	21%	22%	1%
18.	**Air pollution and smog (ASKED OF SAMPLE B, N=1,634)**					
2011	**40%**	16%	24%	38%	22%	*
2020	**43%**	16%	27%	35%	22%	--
2021	**43%**	20%	23%	34%	23%	--
2022	**49%**	22%	27%	34%	17%	--
2024	**55%^**	26%	28%	27%	18%	--
2025	**53%**	23%	30%	28%	19%	--

Thinking about national public lands in **STATE** such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, or national wildlife refuges –

19.   Which one would you prefer your Member of Congress place more emphasis on in upcoming decisions regarding national public lands – **(ROTATE :1-2)**

2019	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	
65%	67%	69%	67%	68%	70%	72%	Ensuring we protect sources of clean water, our air quality and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on our national public lands …OR…
24%	25%	27%	28%	26%	26%	24%	Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining
6%	4%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	BOTH **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**
2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	NEITHER/OTHER **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**
4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	UNSURE/REF **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**

20.   Over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited national public lands such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, or other national public lands? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

2014	**2021**	**2022**	**2024**	**2025**	
16%	22%	20%	25%	20%	Once or twice
22%	21%	20%	25%	25%	3-5 times
22%	13%	18%	15%	18%	6-10 times
14%	14%	11%	9%	11%	11-20 times
21%	19%	19%	12%	14%	More than 20 times
5%	12%	11%	13%	12%	Zero/None
*	--	1%	1%	--	Unsure/Refused **(DNR/SHOW ONLINE)**

Thinking now about our national public lands, such as U.S. forests and national monuments. There are a number of actions which could be taken in the next year or two. For each one, please **ONLINE:** indicate / **PHONES:** tell me if you would **(ROTATE)** support or oppose each one.

(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) And, do you STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	(DNR/NOT ONLINE) DK	REF

The (first/next) one is... **(RANDOMIZE)(DO NOT SHOW ONLINE)**

22. Keeping the requirement that oil and gas companies, rather than taxpayers, pay for all of the clean-up and land restoration costs after drilling is finished. **(ASKED OF N=1,634)**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2021	**93%**	**6%**	77%	16%	4%	2%	1%	--
2022	**91%**	**7%**	74%	17%	4%	3%	1%	1%
2023	**91%**	**8%**	69%	22%	4%	4%	1%	--
2024	**90%**	**9%**	69%	21%	6%	3%	1%	--
2025	**92%^**	**7%**	75%	18%	4%	3%	1%	--

23. Removing protections on some areas of existing national public lands, particularly national monuments, to allow more drilling, mining and other development. **(ASKED OF N=1,683)**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2024	**27%^**	**71%**	10%	18%	25%	46%	1%	--
2025	**27%**	**72%**	10%	17%	22%	50%	1%	--

24. Only allowing oil and gas companies the right to drill in areas of public land where there is high likelihood to actually produce oil and gas. **(ASKED OF N=1,634)**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2023	**72%**	**26%**	35%	37%	14%	12%	1%	1%
2024	**66%**	**32%**	30%	36%	16%	16%	2%	--
2025	**71%**	**27%**	35%	36%	12%	15%	1%	1%

25. Managing public lands to ensure there are more outdoor places free of light pollution to see the stars at night. **(ASKED OF N=2,519)**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2024	**89%^**	**10%**	50%	38%	8%	2%	1%	--
2025	**89%**	**9%**	53%	36%	6%	3%	1%	1%

26. Ensuring that Native American tribes have greater input into decisions made about areas within national public lands that contain sites sacred to or culturally important to their tribe. **(ASKED OF N=2,484)**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2021	**83%^**	**16%**	60%	22%	9%	7%	1%	--
2023	**85%^**	**13%**	59%	27%	8%	5%	1%	--
2025	**86%**	**13%**	56%	30%	9%	4%	1%	*

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	(DNR/NOT ONLINE) DK	REF

27. Continuing to require oil and gas producers who operate on national public lands to use updated equipment and technology to prevent leaks of methane gas during the extraction process and reduce the need to burn off excess natural gas into the air.**

	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE	STR SUPPORT	SMWT SUPPORT	SMWT OPPOSE	STR OPPOSE	DK	REF
2016	80%^	10%	63%	18%	3%	6%	2%	--
2018	75%	16%	58%	17%	5%	11%	3%	--
2025	87%^	12%	61%	27%	7%	5%	1%	--

2021-2024 language read – "Requiring oil and gas companies, rather than federal and state governments, to pay for all of the clean-up and land restoration costs after drilling is finished."

**2016 & 2018 language read – "Requiring oil and gas producers who operate on national public lands to use updated equipment and technology to prevent leaks of methane gas during the extraction process and reduce the need to burn off excess natural gas into the air." A "no strong feelings" response was also allowed these years, 8% in 2016 chose this response and 6% in 2018 chose this response.*

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35. And, do you think that existing national monument designations for some public lands protected over the last decade **(ROTATE)** should be kept in place OR should they be removed?

(ON PHONES IF CHOICE) And would you DEFINITELY (keep in place/remove) or just PROBABLY (keep in place/remove) the protections?

2017	2025	
60%	57%	Definitely keep in place
20%	31%	Probably keep in place
6%	6%	Probably remove
7%	3%	Definitely remove
7%	3%	UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**
80%	*88%*	*TOTAL KEEP IN PLACE*
13%	*9%*	*TOTAL REMOVE*

37.   Some people have proposed giving state government control over national public lands, such as national forests, national monuments, and national wildlife refuges in its borders. The state government would decide the future management of the lands, but state taxpayers would pay all costs, including the cost of maintenance and preventing and fighting wildfires.

Do you **(ROTATE)** support or oppose this proposal?

(ON PHONES IF CHOICE) And would that be STRONGLY (support/oppose) or just SOMEWHAT (support/oppose)?

2017	**2025**	
17%	12%	Strongly support
20%	21%	Somewhat support
17%	25%	Somewhat oppose
39%	40%	Strongly oppose
7%	2%	UNSURE **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**
1%	--	REFUSED **(DNR/NOT ONLINE)**
37%	*33%*	*TOTAL SUPPORT*
56%	*65%*	*TOTAL OPPOSE*

*2017 language read – "Some Members of Congress have proposed giving state government control over national public lands, such as national forests, national monuments, and national wildlife refuges in its borders. The state government would decide the future management of the lands, but state taxpayers would pay all costs, including the cost of maintenance and preventing and fighting wildfires."