# Public Comment and Opinion Review 

## Oregonians Support Protecting Wolves

There is overwhelming support from Oregonians to keep wolves protected. Listed below is a comprehensive report, detailing public comments submitted and independent polling results.

## Total number of public comments submitted between October 2014 and October 2015:

* $96 \%$ of 10,671 comments submitted to and published by the ODFW Commission have been in favor of wolf conservation.
* Conservation organizations have submitted additional 24,467 comments in favor of wolf conservation and maintaining protections that are not included above including:
- Oregon Wild members - 3,227 petition signatures, 378 e-mails to Governor Brown, 2,253 e-mails to the legislature, 1,483 e-mails to federal representatives, 1,592 e-mails to Governor Kitzhaber, and 2,413 emails to the ODFW Commission
- Cascadia Wildlands members - 432 e-mails
- Center for Biological Diversity - 2,361 e-mails
- BARK - 206 e-mails and 300 petition signatures
- Endangered Species Coalition - 473 petition signatures, 457 emails to the ODFW Commission
- Wild Earth Guardians - 7,004 comments
- Western Environmental Law Center - 274 petition signatures
- Forcechange petition - 1,614 signatures
* An overwhelming majority of testimony in front of the commission has been in favor of maintaining protections but has not been well documented.


## Polling Results

* 2015 Poll: Over 60\% support for continued state ESA protections across all demographics

Mason-Dixon Polling \& Research, Inc. an independent research agency conducted a poll commissioned by Oregon Wild in the spring of 2015. Oregonians supported continuing state ESA protections for wolves across every demographic. Statewide support was at $66 \% .60 \%$ of rural Oregonians and $64 \%$ of Republicans supported continued state ESA protection.

* 2013 Poll: Overwhelming majorities support wolf conservation, protections, and recovery

Conducted in early September, 2013 for Defenders of Wildlife by Tulchin Research, shows that most Californians, Oregonians and Washingtonians want wolf recovery efforts to continue:

- More than two-thirds in each state agree that wolves are a vital part of the America's wilderness and natural heritage and should be protected in their state (OR - 68\%; WA $-75 \%$; CA $-83 \%$ )
- More than two-thirds in each state agree that wolves play an important role in maintaining deer and elk populations, bringing a healthier balance to ecosystems (OR - 69\%; WA $-74 \%$; CA $-73 \%$ )
- At least two-thirds in each state support restoring wolves to suitable habitat in their states (OR - 66\%; WA - 71\%; CA-69\%)
- Large majorities in each state agree that wolves should continue to be protected under the Endangered Species Act until they are fully recovered (OR $-63 \%$; WA $-72 \%$; CA $-80 \%$ )
* 2011 \& 2015 Poll: Eastern Oregonians support moderate positions on wolves

In 2011 and 2015, the University of New Hampshire's Carsey School of Public Policy polled residents in Baker, Union, and Wallowa County on their views of wolves. A distinct and decreasing minority ( $33 \%$ and $27 \%$ ) supported the elimination of wolves. While moderate views increased in a statistically significant manner.

* 1999 Poll - 70\% support return of wolves to Oregon

A 1999 poll of Oregonians cited by ODFW in the 2005 Wolf Conservation Plan (page 6) showed 70 percent support wolves returning to the state.

## 2010 Plan Review Comments

Over $90 \%$ of 20,000 public comments submitted during the 2010 Wolf Plan Review favored stronger protections for wolves

## MASON-DIXON POLLING \& RESEARCH

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## HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

This poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling \& Research, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida from May 26 through May 28, 2015. A total of 625 registered Oregon voters were interviewed statewide by telephone.

Those interviewed on land-lines were selected by the random variation of the last four digits of telephone numbers. A cross-section of exchanges was utilized in order to ensure an accurate reflection of the state. Those interviewed on cell phones were selected from a list of working cell phone numbers. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter registration by county.

The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than $\pm 4$ percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all voters were surveyed. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a gender or regional grouping.

QUESTION: There are currently 77 known gray wolves in the state of Oregon that are protected under the state's endangered species act. Some are seeking to remove these protections and make it easier to kill a wolf. Do you support or oppose keeping current protections for Oregon's gray wolves?

|  | SUPPORT | OPPOSE | UNDECIDED |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | 66\% | 30\% | 4\% |
| REGION | SUPPORT | OPPOSE | UNDECIDED |
| Portland Metro | 72\% | 25\% | 3\% |
| Willamette Valley | 65\% | 30\% | 5\% |
| Rural Oregon | 60\% | 36\% | 4\% |
| SEX | SUPPORT | OPPOSE | UNDECIDED |
| Men | 61\% | 31\% | 8\% |
| Women | 70\% | 29\% | 1\% |
| AGE | SUPPORT | OPPOSE | UNDECIDED |
| 18-34 | 71\% | 26\% | 3\% |
| 35-49 | 68\% | 27\% | 5\% |
| 50-64 | 65\% | 30\% | 5\% |
| 65+ | 60\% | 37\% | 3\% |
| PARTY REGISTRATION | SUPPORT | OPPOSE | UNDECIDED |
| Democrat | 74\% | 25\% | 1\% |
| Republican | 64\% | 30\% | 6\% |
| Independent | 59\% | 35\% | 6\% |

## DEMOGRAPHICS

## PARTY REGISTRATION:

| Democrat | $243(39 \%)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Republican | $190(30 \%)$ |
| Independent or Other | $192(31 \%)$ |


| AGE: | $18-34$ | $122(20 \%)$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
|  | $35-49$ | $157(25 \%)$ |
|  | $50-64$ | $181(29 \%)$ |
|  | $65+$ | $160(25 \%)$ |
|  | Refused | $5(1 \%)$ |
| SEX: |  |  |
|  | Male | $308(49 \%)$ |
|  | Female | $317(51 \%)$ |
|  |  |  |
| REGION: | Portland Metro | $275(44 \%)$ |
|  | Willamette Valley | $165(26 \%)$ |
|  | Rural Oregon | $185(30 \%)$ |

Polling \& Strategic Consulting
September 12, 2013
To: Interested Parties
From: Ben Tulchin and Ben Krompak, Tulchin Research
Re: New Poll Finds Strong Support for Wolf Protection in Western States
Tulchin Research recently conducted a survey on issues relating to the protection and restoration of wolves in California, Oregon, and Washington State. We interviewed 500 registered voters in California, 300 voters in Oregon, and 300 voters in Washington. Our research finds overwhelming majorities of voters in all three states are supportive of efforts to restore wolves to suitable habitat in the region and believe that wolves should continue to be protected under the Endangered Species Act until they are fully recovered.

## Voters Overwhelmingly Favor Wolf Restoration

We asked voters about their attitudes toward restoring wolves to the region and found strong support for these efforts in all three states. Asked whether they would support or oppose restoring wolves to suitable habitat in their state, 69 percent of California voters say they support this as do 66 percent of voters in Oregon and 71 percent of Washington State voters.

| "Do you support or oppose restoring wolves to suitable habitat in your state?" |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | California Voters | Oregon Voters | Washington Voters |
| Total Support | $\mathbf{6 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 6 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 1 \%}$ |
| Total Oppose | $15 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Undecided | $15 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $12 \%$ |

Support for wolf restoration is both broad and deep and extends across the political spectrum, with sizable majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents in all three states favoring the restoration of wolves. Restoration is also supported by wide majorities of both men and women and among voters both under and over age 55.

## CALIFORNIA VOTERS

"Do you support or oppose restoring wolves to suitable habitat in your state?"

|  | BY PARTY |  |  | GENDER |  | AGE |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Men | Women | Age <br> $18-54$ | Age <br> $55+$ |
| Support | $\mathbf{7 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 5 \%}$ |
| Oppose | $12 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $20 \%$ |
| Undecided | $14 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $15 \%$ |


| OREGON VOTERS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Do you support or oppose restoring wolves to suitable habitat in your state?" |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## WASHINGTON VOTERS

"Do you support or oppose restoring wolves to suitable habitat in your state?"

|  | BY PARTY |  |  | GENDER |  | AGE |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Men | Women | Age <br> $18-54$ | Age <br> $55+$ |
| Support | $\mathbf{8 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 7 \%}$ |
| Oppose | $11 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $18 \%$ |
| Undecided | $8 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $15 \%$ |

## Voters Support Continued Endangered Species Act Protection for Wolves

With the federal government proposing to remove wolves from the Endangered Species list and end the protections that go along with that, we asked voters their opinions about the matter. By wide margins, voters in all three states believe that "wolves should continue to be protected under the Endangered Species Act until they are fully recovered." Eight in ten California voters ( 80 percent) agreed with the statement, as did 72 percent of voters in Washington and 63 percent of Oregon voters.

| Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: <br> Wolves should continue to be protected under the Endangered Species Act until they <br> are fully recovered. |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | California Voters | Oregon <br> Voters | Washington <br> Voters |
| Total Agree | $\mathbf{8 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 2 \%}$ |
| Total Disagree | $\mathbf{1 3 \%}$ | $32 \%$ | $\mathbf{2 2 \%}$ |
| Don't Know/No Answer | $\mathbf{7 \%}$ | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ |

## Voters See Wolves as Part of our Natural Heritage, Recognize Role in Maintaining Healthy Deer and Elk Populations

Voters broadly believe that "wolves should be protected in our state" as they are "a vital part of America's wilderness and natural heritage," including 83 percent of California voters, 68 percent of Oregon voters, and 75 percent of Washington voters agreeing with this statement. Additionally, strong majorities of voters in all three states agree that "wolves play an important role in maintaining health deer and elk populations" and thus "restoring wolves to forests and wilderness areas in our state will bring a healthier balance to our ecosystem." This view is held by 73 percent of California voters, 69 percent of Oregon voters, and 74 percent of Washington voters.
"Now l'm going to read you a few statements about policies toward wolves. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each statement."

|  | California Voters |  | Oregon Voters |  | Washington <br> Voters |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total <br> Agree | Total <br> Disagree | Total <br> Agree | Total <br> Disagree | Total <br> Agree | Total <br> Disagree |
| Wolves should be <br> protected in our state. <br> Wolves are a vital part of <br> America's wilderness <br> and natural heritage. | $\mathbf{8 3 \%}$ | $11 \%$ | $\mathbf{6 8 \%}$ | $26 \%$ | $\mathbf{7 5 \%}$ | $20 \%$ |
| Wolves play an <br> important role in <br> maintaining healthy deer <br> and elk populations. <br> Restoring wolves to <br> forests and wilderness <br> areas in our state will <br> bring a healthier balance <br> to our ecosystem. | $\mathbf{7 3 \%}$ | $15 \%$ | $\mathbf{6 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 4 \%}$ | $19 \%$ |

## California Voters Support Protections for Wolves Crossing Over from Other States

In California, we specifically asked voters about policy regarding wolves who cross over into the Golden State from other states. Nearly eight in ten California voters (79 percent) agree that "we should take steps to protect wolves who cross over into California and ensure they reach appropriate habitat."

| Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: <br> We should take steps to protect wolves who cross over into California and <br> ensure they reach appropriate habitat. |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| Total Agree | $\mathbf{7 9 \%}$ |
| Total Disagree | $14 \%$ |
| Don't Know/No Answer | $7 \%$ |

## Conclusion

In conclusion, this poll demonstrates that voters in California, Oregon, and Washington strongly support restoring wolves to suitable habitat in their states and believe that wolves should continue to be protected under the Endangered Species Act until they are fully recovered.

Survey Methodology: From September 4-8, 2013, Tulchin Research conducted a telephone survey among 500 registered voters in California, 300 registered voters in Oregon, and 300 registered voters in Washington. The margin of error for this survey is +/- 5.66 percentage points among voters in Oregon and Washington. The margin of error among California voters is +/- 4.38 percentage points.

## Endangered Species Act Summary

## Methodology

This study was commissioned by the Endangered Species Coalition and conducted by Harris Interactive, using the Harris Poll National Quorum ${ }^{\circledR}$. A total of 1,009 telephone surveys were conducted among adults aged 18 and over within the United States between February $16^{\text {th }}$ to $20^{\text {th }}, 2011$. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region, number of adults in the household, and number of phone lines in the household were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population.

In this summary, statistical testing was conducted between regions and between party ID. Uppercase letters indicate significant differences between the subgroups at the $95 \%$ confidence level.

## Summary of Findings

- Overall, there is strong support for the Endangered Species Act (84\%), with Democrats having the strongest support (93\%).
- Most Americans believe the ESA is a safety net providing balanced solutions to save wildlife, plants and fish that are at risk of extinction (64\%), with Democrats the most likely to believe this (76\%).
- While the majority of Republicans also believe the ESA is a safety net (49\%), they are more likely than those who support other parts to believe the ESA is used by environmentalists and their lawyers to hinder growth and progress (43\%).
- The majority of Americans believe decisions about whether to remove the Endangered Species Act's protections should be based on science, not politics (63\%).
- The majority of Americans agree that:
- Decisions about wildlife management and which animals needs protection should be made by scientists, not politicians (92\%);
- The ESA has helped hundreds of species recover from the brink of extinction (90\%);
- The gray wolf is a vital part of America's wilderness and natural heritage (87\%);
- The ESA is a successful safety net for protecting wildlife, plants, and fish from extinction (87\%); and,
- The ongoing recovery of gray wolves in the Northern Rockies could be one of America's greatest wildlife success stories if the Endangered Species Act is kept in place until the states have science-based management plans approved (78\%).


## Detailed Findings

1. As you may know, the Endangered Species Act is an environmental law established to protect all wildlife, plants and fish that are in danger of extinction. Based on what you know, would you say that you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the Endangered Species Act?

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | North- <br> East <br> (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total <br> GOP <br> (E) | Total <br> DEM <br> (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| Strongly <br> support | $44 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $58 \%^{\mathrm{EG}}$ | $41 \%$ |
| Somewhat <br> support | $40 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $44 \%$ |
| Somewhat <br> oppose | $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $14 \%^{\mathrm{F}}$ | $1 \%$ | $7 \%^{\mathrm{F}}$ |
| Strongly <br> oppose | $6 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Don't <br> know/ <br> refused | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $6 \%^{\mathrm{C}}$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Support <br> (T2B) | $84 \%$ | $85 \%$ | $85 \%$ | $85 \%$ | $80 \%$ | $74 \%$ | $93 \%^{\mathrm{EG}}$ | $85 \%^{\mathrm{E}}$ |
| Oppose <br> (B2B) | $13 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $23 \%^{\mathrm{FG}}$ | $6 \%$ | $11 \%$ |

2. Some people say the Endangered Species Act has been used by environmentalists and their lawyers to hinder economic development, while others say it is a safety net providing balanced solutions to save wildlife, plants and fish that are at risk of extinction. Which is closer to your point of view?

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | North- <br> East <br> (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total <br> GOP <br> (E) | Total <br> DEM <br> (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| The ESA is a safety <br> net providing <br> balanced solutions to <br> save wildlife, plants <br> and fish that are at <br> risk of extinction | $64 \%$ | $57 \%$ | $70 \%^{\mathrm{A}}$ | $68 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $76 \%^{\mathrm{EG}}$ | $63 \%^{\mathrm{E}}$ |
| The ESA is used by <br> environmentalists <br> and their lawyers in <br> the western United <br> States to hinder <br> growth and progress | $26 \%$ | $33 \%^{\mathrm{B}}$ |  | $20 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $43 \%^{\mathrm{FG}}$ | $17 \%$ |
| Don't know/Refused | $10 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $10 \%$ |

3. Some members of Congress are proposing legislation to remove the gray wolf from the Endangered Species Act's protections. Which of the following points of view is closest to your own?

Some/others say the gray wolf isn't endangered anymore and protection under the endangered species act is no longer needed. They say that since environmentalists' lawsuits and the federal courts are interfering with sound wolf management, the Congress has no choice but to turn wolf management decisions over to the states. In this view it is believed states are better equipped than the federal government to manage their own wildlife, and wolf numbers are now high enough to sustain a hunt.

Some/others say that decisions about whether to remove the Endangered Species Act's protections should be based on science, not politics. Gray wolves should continue to receive federal protection until they are fully recovered and the states have implemented effective, science-based management plans that will protect gray wolves at sustainable levels for generations to come.

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | North- <br> East <br> (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total <br> GOP <br> (E) | Total <br> DEM <br> (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| Decisions about <br> whether to remove <br> the Endangered <br> Species Act's <br> protections should be <br> based on science, not <br> politics | $63 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $65 \%$ | $65 \%$ | $62 \%$ | $54 \%$ | $70 \%^{\mathrm{E}}$ | $64 \%$ |
| The gray wolf isn't <br> endangered anymore <br> and protection under <br> the endangered <br> species act is no <br> longer needed | $29 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $39 \%^{\mathrm{F}}$ | $24 \%$ | $29 \%$ |
| Don't know/Refused | $7 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ |

4. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
a. The gray wolf is a vital part of America's wilderness and natural heritage

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | NorthEast (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total GOP (E) | Total DEM (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| Strongly agree | 50\% | 50\% | 40\% | $53 \%{ }^{\text {B }}$ | 53\% | 36\% | 62\% ${ }^{\text {EG }}$ | 45\% |
| Somewhat agree | 37\% | 40\% ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | $50 \%{ }^{\text {CD }}$ | 33\% | 26\% | $42 \%^{\text {F }}$ | 30\% | 42\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ |
| Somewhat disagree | 6\% | 3\% | 6\% | 7\% | 8\% | $10 \%^{\text {F }}$ | 2\% | 7\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ |
| Strongly disagree | 4\% | 4\% | 1\% | 2\% | $8 \%{ }^{\text {BC }}$ | $8 \%{ }^{\text {FG }}$ | 2\% | 3\% |
| Don't know/ refused | 4\% | 3\% | 2\% | 5\% | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | 3\% |
| Agree <br> (T2B) | 87\% | 90\% ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | 90\% ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | 86\% | 80\% | 78\% | 92\% ${ }^{\text {E }}$ | 87\% ${ }^{\text {E }}$ |
| Disagree (B2B) | 10\% | 7\% | 8\% | 9\% | 16\% ${ }^{\text {A }}$ | $18 \%{ }^{\text {FG }}$ | 4\% | 10\% |

## harris

b. The Endangered Species Act is a successful safety net for protecting wildlife, plants and fish from extinction

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | NorthEast (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total GOP (E) | Total DEM (F) | Total IND (G) |
| Strongly agree | 48\% | 52\% | 46\% | 45\% | 50\% | 35\% | 62\% ${ }^{\text {EG }}$ | 43\% |
| Somewhat agree | 39\% | 34\% | 42\% | 42\% | 37\% | 42\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ | 29\% | 47\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ |
| Somewhat disagree | 5\% | 6\% | 6\% | 4\% | 5\% | $11 \%{ }^{\text {FG }}$ | 2\% | 4\% |
| Strongly disagree | 5\% | 4\% | 3\% | 6\% | 6\% | 9\% | 5\% | 4\% |
| Don't know/ refused | 3\% | 3\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agree <br> (T2B) | 87\% | 86\% | 88\% | 86\% | 87\% | 77\% | 90\% ${ }^{\text {E }}$ | 90\% ${ }^{\text {E }}$ |
| Disagree (B2B) | 10\% | 11\% | 9\% | 10\% | 11\% | 20\% ${ }^{\text {FG }}$ | 7\% | 8\% |

## harris

c. The Endangered Species Act has helped hundreds of species recover from the brink of extinction, such as the bald eagle, the gray whale, the Florida panther and gray wolves in the Northern Rockies

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | NorthEast (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total GOP (E) | Total DEM (F) | Total IND (G) |
| Strongly agree | 55\% | 48\% | 53\% | 57\% | 59\% | 47\% | $65 \%{ }^{\text {EG }}$ | 53\% |
| Somewhat agree | 35\% | 39\% | 37\% | 33\% | 31\% | 40\% | 30\% | 37\% |
| Somewhat disagree | 4\% | 3\% | 5\% | 3\% | 4\% | 6\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ | <1\% | $4 \%^{F}$ |
| Strongly disagree | 3\% | 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | 4\% | 4\% | 2\% | 2\% |
| Don't know/ refused | 4\% | $6{ }^{\text {D }}$ | 3\% | 4\% | 1\% | 3\% | 3\% | 4\% |
| Agree <br> (T2B) | 90\% | 88\% | 90\% | 90\% | 91\% | 87\% | 94\% ${ }^{\text {E }}$ | 90\% |
| Disagree (B2B) | 6\% | 6\% | 6\% | 6\% | 8\% | $10 \%{ }^{\text {F }}$ | 3\% | 6\% |

## harris

d. Decisions about wildlife management and which animals need protection should be made by scientists, not politicians

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | North- <br> East <br> (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South <br> (C) | West <br> (D) | Total <br> (E) | Total <br> DEM <br> (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| Strongly <br> agree | $71 \%$ | $68 \%$ | $72 \%$ | $73 \%$ | $72 \%$ | $59 \%$ | $82 \%^{\mathrm{EG}}$ | $69 \%$ |
| Somewhat <br> agree | $21 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $29 \%^{\mathrm{F}}$ | $12 \%$ | $24 \%^{\mathrm{F}}$ |
| Somewhat <br> disagree | $4 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Strongly <br> disagree | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ |
| Don't <br> know/ <br> refused | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $<1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ |
| Agree | $92 \%$ | $90 \%$ | $92 \%$ | $94 \%$ | $92 \%$ | $88 \%$ | $95 \%$ | $93 \%$ |
| (T2B) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

e. The ongoing recovery of gray wolves in the Northern Rockies could be one of America's greatest wildlife success stories if the Endangered Species Act is kept in place until the states have science-based management plans approved

|  |  | Region |  |  |  | Party ID |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | NorthEast <br> (A) | Midwest <br> (B) | South (C) | West (D) | Total GOP (E) | Total DEM (F) | Total <br> IND <br> (G) |
| Strongly agree | 37\% | 32\% | 30\% | 44\% ${ }^{\text {B }}$ | 41\% | 24\% | 51\% ${ }^{\text {EG }}$ | $35 \%{ }^{\text {E }}$ |
| Somewhat agree | 40\% | 46\% ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | 49\% ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | 37\% | 33\% | 43\% | 36\% | 41\% |
| Somewhat disagree | 10\% | 9\% | 10\% | 8\% | 13\% | $16 \%{ }^{\text {F }}$ | 4\% | $12 \%^{\text {F }}$ |
| Strongly disagree | 5\% | 5\% | 3\% | 4\% | 9\% | 9\% | 4\% | 4\% |
| Don't know/ refused | 7\% | 8\% | 9\% | 8\% | 4\% | 8\% | 6\% | 7\% |
| Agree <br> (T2B) | 78\% | 78\% | 78\% | 80\% | 73\% | 67\% | 86\% ${ }^{\text {EG }}$ | 77\% |
| Disagree (B2B) | 15\% | 14\% | 13\% | 12\% | 23\% ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 25\% ${ }^{\text {F }}$ | 8\% | $17 \%{ }^{\text {F }}$ |

On April 6-8, 1999, thepolling firm of Dayis \& Hibbitts conducted a telephone poll of 600 registered Oregon voties. Questions focnsed on the possible retum of wolves to Oregoi. The
results have an error rate of $+1-4 \%$
Whow are highights of the roll recults:

- $\$ 1 \%$ of those surveyed bid hiard or read about a gray wolf crosising into Oregoa fron Idatio.
- In all, $70 \%$ offerarvey respocident fayored the recovery of wolves in Oregon, either through

5y active rixintroduction by wildiff sencies or by allowing woives entering Oregon fiom other states to remain bere.
-. $57 \%$ of respoodents fatt that wild wolves should be allowed to stay in Oregoa when they retom bere on their own; $13 \%$ believed that wild wolves sbould be actively reintroduced ilito Oregurs only $\mathbf{2 3 \%}$ fct that wolves shoald not be allowed in Oregoc gt all.
*. Oi a region-by-region basis, there was little variance among those favoring active wolf reintroduction in Oregar:

Metropolitan Portand $=14 \%$
Willamette Valley $=\mathbf{1 2 \%}$
Noith Coast $=11 \%$
Southwestern Oregon $=13 \%$
Eastran Oregon $=13 \%$

- On a region-by-region basis, there was also supprisingly little varinoce amang those agreeing that wolves who enter Oregon an their own should be allowed to ramain beres

Metropolitan Portand $=60 \%$ :
Willamette Valley $=56 \%$
North Coast $=61 \%$
Southwestem $\mathrm{Orggon}^{2}=54 \%$
Eastern Oregon $=45 \%$

- Two-thirds $(66 \%)$ of those surveged feit that the bees reason to support the eturn of sild wolves to Oregon is, "We owe it to firture gencrations tg leave the most complete ecosystem possible, including predator species like wolves.".
*. When told that the non-profit conservation organization Defenders of Wildififi will compensate ranchers for any-livestock losses cavised by wild wolves, $66 \%$ of those poiled satid they would favor having, wild wolves in Oregion.

For more information, please contact the Oregoe Natural Desert Association at (503) 525-0193 or glyons(Gorda.arg. $\omega$ In April 1999 the fixh Davis \& Hibbitts completed a public opinion poll demonstrating that the majority of Orfonis. is support wolves in Oregon. Over 600 people participated in the poll, representing all regions of the state and a diversity of ages and political persuasions. The poll was conducted not long after a wild gray wolf
察 from Idaho, known as B-45, had migrated into Oregon and was subsequently captured and returned to Tdaho - "Have you heard or read anything recently about a wolf that crossed over from Idaho into eartect Oregon?"

Yesz $61 \%$ No: $38 \%$ Doñ ${ }^{\text {k } k n o w: ~} 1 \%$

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- "Which one of the following comes closer to your point of view?"

Wildlife ôfficials made the right decision to capture the wolf and return it to Idaho: $\mathbf{4 0 \%}$
The wolf should haye been left alone and allowed to continue to roam freely: $\mathbf{4 8} \%$
Dontat know: 12\%
(1) 64

- "Watich one of the following options do you think is best when it comes to having wild wolves in Oregon?

Wild wolves should be actively reintroduced in Oregon by having wildlife agencies transplant them into the state: $13 \%$
Wild wolves should be allowed to stay in Oregon when they return to Oregon on their own: $\mathbf{5 7 \%}$
Wild wolves should not be allowed in Oregon, and if they do come into the state, they should be removed: 23\%
Don't Know: 7\%

- "Rate the following reason [for allowing wolves to stay in Oregon]:"
- "Elk and Deer Populations would be healthier and stronger, because wolves prey on older and weaker animals."

Very Good: 14\% Good: 45\% Poor: 23\% Very Poor: 8\% Don't Know: 10\%

- "Wolves belong here because they were part of Oregon's ecosystem for thousands of years before being exterminated. They belong here so that we can have the most natural and complete ecosystem thossible."

Very Good: 19\% Good: 43\% Poor: 22\% Very Poor: 8\% Don't Known: 9\%

- "Wolves have a right to exist in Oregon, even if they occasionally prey on livestock."

Very Good: 11\% Good: 46\% Very Poor 12\% Don't Know-6\% predator species like wolves."

Very Good: 21\% Good: 45\% Poor: 20\% Very Poor: 8\% Don't Know 6\% "Even though I might never see a wolf, it would be nice to know wolves are living in Oregon."

Very Good: 16\% Good: 43\% Poor: 25\% Very Poor 11\% Don't Know: 5\%
"Wolves would increase tourism in areas of Oregon where they exist."
Very Good: 4\% Good: 17\% Poor: 43\% Very Poor: 26\% Don't Know: 11\%

- "If wild wolves are allowed in Oregon, should livestock ranchers be compensated for any loss they have because of wolf predation?"

Yes: 53\% No: 36\% Don't Know: 12\%

- "If you knew that Defenders of Wildlife, a private, non-profit organization, will compensate ranchers for any livestock losses caused by wild wolves, would you favor or oppose having wild wolves in Oregon?"

Total Favor: 62\% Total Oppose: 32\% Don't Know: 6\%










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