



Montana Statewide Survey Interview Schedule

Project #16273
May 7,9-11, 2016
Public Opinion Strategies/ FM3

N=500 Registered Voters
Margin of Error: +4.38%

In this Interview Schedule:

- *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*
 - *An carrot (^) denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.*
 - *"Skip base" is the percentage of voters that are asked a question because they meet a criteria based on a response to a previous question, meaning not all 500 respondents received that question.*
 - 6/14: Trend data from a telephone survey of 500 Registered Voters conducted June 17-19, 2014
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1. Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving clean water, clean air, open spaces and public lands for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official? Are they... **(READ; DO NOT ROTATE)**

<u>6/14</u>	<u>5/16</u>	
48%	41%	Very important, they are a primary factor in deciding whether to support an elected public official
38%	48%	Somewhat important; they are one of several issues you consider
9%	7%	Not too important; they are not a significant factor considering in deciding whether to support an elected public official
4%	4%	Not at all important for you in deciding whether to support an elected official
1%	*	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
86%	88%^	TOTAL IMPORTANT
13%	11%	TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT

2. I'm going to read you a pair of statements, and please tell me which one comes closest to your own views, even if neither of the statements matches your views exactly. **(ROTATE PUNCHES 1 AND 2)**

<u>6/14</u>	<u>5/16</u>	
77%	74%	We can protect land and water and have a strong economy with good jobs at the same time, without having to choose one over the other.
		... Or ...
19%	23%	Sometimes protections for land and water and a strong economy are in conflict and we must choose one over the other.
2%	1%	BOTH (DO NOT READ) (Prompt: But if you had to choose which one would come closest to your view?)
2%	1%	NO OPINION/UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
*	*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

In the last twelve months, so since May 2015, have you visited any of the following?

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW (DNR)	REFUSED (DNR)
3. A National Park	60%	40%	*	--
4. Other national public lands, such as a National Forest, Wildlife refuge, or wilderness area	79%	21%	*	—

(ASKED Q5 IF Q3:1 [VISITED A NATIONAL PARK]; ASKED OF N=298 RESPONDENTS)

5. And thinking about the last time you visited a National Park, was your experience there –

- 73% Very positive
- 22% Somewhat positive
- 5% Somewhat negative
- Very negative

-- NO OPINION/UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

95% TOTAL POSITIVE
5% TOTAL NEGATIVE

As you may have heard, this year is the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the National Park Service which manages the National Parks like Glacier and Yellowstone as well as many historic and cultural sites like the Little Bighorn Battlefield here in our state.

6. Would you say that the work of the National Park Service at our National Parks and historic and cultural sites is – (**ROTATE**) more important today than in the past, less important today than in the past, or equally as important today as in the past?

- 32% More important
- 5% Less important
- 63% Equally important

* UNSURE (**DO NOT READ**)
 -- REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

7. Focusing on two National Parks here in Montana – Glacier and Yellowstone, have you ever been to those national parks? **(CLARIFY IF NEEDED – Which ones?)**

- 7% Glacier only
- 11% Yellowstone only

- 79% Both **(DO NOT READ)**
- 2% Neither **(DO NOT READ)**

- UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**
- REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

98%^ TOTAL ANY

(ASKED Q8 OF SAMPLE A; ASKED OF N=249 RESPONDENTS)

8. How important would you say the presence of National Parks here in Montana is to YOU and your family?

- 65% Very important
- 28% Somewhat important
- 6% Not very important
- 1% Not at all important

- UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**

93% TOTAL IMPORTANT
7% TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT

(ASKED Q9 OF SAMPLE B; ASKED OF N=251 RESPONDENTS)

9. How important would you say the presence of National Parks here in Montana is to OUR STATE?

- 84% Very important
- 14% Somewhat important
- 1% Not very important
- 1% Not at all important

- UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**

98% TOTAL IMPORTANT
2% TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT

I'm going to read you a list of words and phrases, and please tell me whether you think each one describes the national parks here in Montana. Does it describe it – **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)** -- very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not at all? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE ITEMS)**

	TOTAL WELL	TOTAL NOT WELL	VERY WELL	SOME-WHAT WELL	NOT VERY WELL	NOT AT ALL WELL	DON'T KNOW (DNR)	REF-USED (DNR)
(ASKED Q10-12 OF SAMPLE A; ASKED OF N=249 RESPONDENTS)								
10. Critical to Montana's economy	92%	7%	62%	30%	4%	3%	1%	--
11. National treasures	95%	3%	73%	22%	2%	1%	2%	--
12. Overcrowded	66%	31%	20%	46%	22%	9%	2%	1%
(ASKED Q13-15 OF SAMPLE B; ASKED OF N=251 RESPONDENTS)								
13. Critical to the economy of the communities nearby	97%	3%	78%	19%	3%	*	*	--
14. Places to learn about America's history and heritage	91%	8%^	56%	35%	5%	2%	1%	*
15. In need of additional resources to manage and protect them	82%^	12%	39%	42%	8%	4%	6%	--
(ASKED Q16 OF FULL SAMPLE)								
16. Places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday	97%	2%^	87%	10%	*	1%	1%	1%

Summary of National Parks Phrases - Ranked By % Very Well

National Parks Phrase	% Very Well	% Total Well
Places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday	87%	97%
Critical to the economy of the communities nearby	78%	97%
National treasures	73%	95%
Critical to Montana's economy	62%	92%
Places to learn about America's history and heritage	56%	91%
In need of additional resources to manage and protect them	39%	82%
Overcrowded	20%	66%

Taking a step back and thinking about all publicly owned lands – Generally speaking, do you believe enhancing and protecting public lands, such as local, state and national parks, national forests, and wilderness has a positive impact, a negative impact, or no real impact on each of the following:

	POS. IMPACT	NO IMPACT	NEG IMPACT	DK/REF (DNR)
(ASKED Q17-21 OF SAMPLE A; ASKED OF N=249 RESPONDENTS)				
17. Tourism				
6/14	84%	9%	4%	4%
5/16	86%	7%	6%	1%
18. Wildlife				
6/14	81%	10%	5%	4%
5/16	87%	9%	3%	1%
19. Protecting clean water				
6/14	81%	13%	2%	4%
5/16	85%	10%	4%	2%
20. Maintaining what is best about Montana				
6/14	81%	8%	6%	5%
5/16	83%	13%	2%	1%
21. Opportunities for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation				
6/14	80%	11%	6%	3%
5/16	80%	8%	10%	2%
(ASKED Q22-26 OF SAMPLE B; ASKED OF N=251 RESPONDENTS)				
22. Protecting clean air				
6/14	71%	16%	6%	7%
5/16	74%	22%	3%	1%
23. Protecting our culture and heritage				
6/14	74%	18%	4%	3%
5/16	83%	14%	2%	1%
24. Jobs and the economy				
6/14	62%	17%	14%	6%
5/16	77%	16%	6%	1%
25. The overall quality of life in Montana				
6/14	80%	11%	6%	3%
5/16	83%	13%	3%	1%
26. Opportunities for children to explore and learn about nature				
6/14	85%	11%	2%	2%
5/16	92%	6%	*	1%

Summary of Public Lands Impacts - Ranked By % Positive Impact

Public Lands Impact	% Positive Impact
Opportunities for children to explore and learn about nature	92%
Wildlife	87%
Tourism	86%
Protecting clean water	85%
Maintaining what is best about Montana	83%
Protecting our culture and heritage	83%
The overall quality of life in Montana	83%
Opportunities for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation	80%
Jobs and the economy	77%
Protecting clean air	74%

27. When you think about the economic future of Montana in attracting good jobs and innovative companies, would you say that due to the presence of public lands and the Montana lifestyle of outdoor recreation, that the state is – **(ROTATE)**

6/14 5/16

52%	51%	In a better position than other states
12%	11%	In a worse position than other states
31%	36%	About the same as other states
3%	2%	UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
1%	--	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

Thinking about the government practice of allowing companies to lease some national public lands to drill and mine for oil, natural gas, coal and other minerals– For each of the following types of areas, please tell me if you think that is an appropriate or not appropriate place to allow drilling or mining.

	NOT APPROPRIATE	DON'T KNOW (DNR)	REFUSED (DNR)
28. On public lands near national parks	35%	63%	1%
29. On public lands that are considered sacred sites to Native Americans	20%	77%	2%
30. On public lands that are frequently used by outdoor recreationists like hunters, anglers, or hikers	35%	62%	2%
31. On public lands near farms and ranches	52%	44%	3%
32. On public lands that are NOT environmentally sensitive	73%	23%	3%

Public Lands Drilling/Mining Location	% Appropriate
On public lands that are NOT environmentally sensitive	73%
On public lands near farms and ranches	52%
On public lands near national parks	35%
On public lands that are frequently used by outdoor recreationists like hunters, anglers, or hikers	35%
On public lands that are considered sacred sites to Native Americans	20%

Thinking more specifically about some proposals here in Montana that would affect public lands – for each one, please tell me whether it sounds like something you would support or oppose. **(IF SUPPORT/ OPPOSE, ASK: Is that strongly SUPPORT/OPPOSE or just somewhat?)**

33. Some elected officials have proposed giving Montana 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, and Montana taxpayers would pay the costs, including maintenance, invasive weed control and fighting wildfires. Do you support or oppose giving state government control over national public lands?

19% Strongly Support
22% Somewhat Support
18% Somewhat Oppose
38% Strongly Oppose

3% UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
1% REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

41% TOTAL SUPPORT
55%^ TOTAL OPPOSE

34. The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project in western Montana would ensure access to hunting and fishing sites, increasing protections for approximately eighty five thousand acres of existing public lands by adding them to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat and Mission Mountains wilderness areas; open a high quality area for snowmobiling, and maintain timber harvesting. Do you support or oppose this project?

35% Strongly Support
39% Somewhat Support
7% Somewhat Oppose
11% Strongly Oppose

6% UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
1% REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

74% TOTAL SUPPORT
18% TOTAL OPPOSE

Thinking some more about this –

35. This particular project was crafted with input from many different communities and types of people and has the support of different local groups from snowmobilers, to loggers, hunters, land owners and conservation organizations. Are you more likely or less likely to support the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project knowing how it was crafted, or does it really make no difference in how you feel?

20% Much more likely
17% Somewhat more likely
50% No difference
6% Less likely

7% Unsure (**DO NOT READ**)

37% TOTAL MORE LIKELY

36. Decades ago, the federal government sold leases allowing oil and gas companies to drill on public lands in what is called the Badger-Two Medicine area of Lewis and Clark National Forest, which connects Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The Blackfoot Indian tribe were not included in the original decisions to sell the leases and object as they consider this area to be sacred land. Do you support or oppose allowing oil and gas drilling in the Badger-Two Medicine area?

12% Strongly Support
13% Somewhat Support
21% Somewhat Oppose
49% Strongly Oppose

4% UNSURE (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

25% TOTAL SUPPORT

70% TOTAL OPPOSE

37. Two new mines have been proposed in the Paradise Valley, within a few miles of the northern entrance to Yellowstone National Park and upstream of the Yellowstone River. These new sulfide mining operations would be used to extract gold from underground rock formations containing sulfur. Do you support or oppose allowing these new mining operations?

16% Strongly Support
18% Somewhat Support
19% Somewhat Oppose
41% Strongly Oppose

3% UNSURE (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

34% TOTAL SUPPORT
61%^ TOTAL OPPOSE

-
38. Thinking more about whether or not to allow new gold mines within a few miles of the northern entrance to Yellowstone National Park – There are different viewpoints about this issue. Please indicate which one comes closest to your view, even if neither matches what you think exactly. **(ROTATE VIEWPOINTS)**

56% (Some/Other) people say that we should oppose these new mines, because they are located upstream of the Yellowstone River in an area that is important for wildlife and a gateway for visitors which many local businesses rely upon. Gold mines have a bad track record of leaving taxpayers on the hook to clean up toxic metals from our lands and allowing toxins like sulfuric acid into our waters. Montana is growing its economy because of recreation and our natural beauty. We should not risk allowing more industrial mining.

...OR...

40% (Other/some) people say that they support the new mines because many Montanans are struggling to get by and we need economic opportunities that will create good-paying jobs, rather than low-wage, service jobs. Besides mining has come a long way, and it is now possible to safely mine using modern technology, advanced water treatment systems and other safeguards for the environment.

1% BOTH EQUALLY (**DO NOT READ**)
1% NEITHER (**DO NOT READ**)
2% UNSURE (**DO NOT READ**)

D1. To ensure we have a representative sample of voters in your state, please tell me in what year you were born.

19% 18 - 34
24% 35 - 44
16% 45 - 54
20% 55 - 64
20% 65 AND ABOVE

2% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

Thinking about you for a moment –

Do you consider yourself to be...

	YES	NO	DK/REF (DNR)
D3. A conservationist?			
6/14	67%	27%	5%
5/16	75%	21%	4%

D4. Which of the following types of outdoor recreation do you participate in regularly? (**ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**)

64% Hiking
17% Mountain biking
42% Bird watching and viewing wildlife
28% Riding an off-road vehicle or snowmobile
61% Camping
43% Kayaking, canoeing or boating
39% Snow shoeing or skiing
4% Hunting/Fishing

1% OTHER (**SPECIFY _____**) (**DO NOT READ**)

8% NONE OF THESE (**DO NOT READ**)

* UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

And for statistical purposes only

D5. How would you describe the area where you currently live?

- 30% A city
 - 7% A suburban area
 - 25% A small town
 - 37% A rural area

 - * DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE (**DO NOT READ**)
 - REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

D6. Do you consider yourself a hunter, an angler or both?

- 7% HUNTER ONLY
 - 13% ANGLER ONLY
 - 40% BOTH
 - 39% NO/NEITHER

 - UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

 - 61% TOTAL HUNTER/FISHER**
-

D7. And, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be(**ROTATE**)

- _____ a Republican,
 - _____ a Democrat,
 - _____ An Independent, or something else?

 - 30% REPUBLICAN
 - 24% DEMOCRAT
 - 44% INDEPENDENT/ SOMETHING ELSE

 - 2% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

D8. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

___ conservative,
moderate
...or...
___ liberal
on most issues?

42% CONSERVATIVE
36% MODERATE
21% LIBERAL

1% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

D9. Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

48% MALE
52% FEMALE
