Wyoming Statewide Phone Survey

Interview Schedule
May 6-9, 2019
Project #: 19020
N=400 Registered Voters
Margin of Error = +4.9%

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.*

- *^ Denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.*

- *Sample A was asked of ½ of the sample, N=194. Sample B was asked of ½ of the sample, N=206.*

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1.   Would you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Wildlife are an important part of my daily life."

        (IF CHOICE GIVEN THEN ASK) And do you (agree/disagree) strongly or just somewhat?

        86%   TOTAL AGREE
        14%^   TOTAL DISAGREE

        60%   Strongly agree
        26%   Somewhat agree
        11%   Somewhat disagree
         2%   Strongly disagree

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

(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)
2.   How important would you say the presence of wildlife is to Wyoming's quality of life?

        88%   EXTREMELY/VERY IMPORTANT
        12%^   SOMEWHAT/NOT IMPORTANT

        56%   Extremely important
        32%   Very important
        10%   Somewhat important
         1%   Not that important

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

(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)
3.   How important would you say the presence of wildlife is to Wyoming's economy?

        85%   EXTREMELY/VERY IMPORTANT
        15%^   SOMEWHAT/NOT IMPORTANT

        55%   Extremely important
        30%   Very important
        11%   Somewhat important
         3%   Not that important

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

Next, I'm going to read you a list of potential problems in Wyoming. After I read each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in Wyoming. **(RANDOMIZE)**

RANKED BY % EXTREMELY SERIOUS

	Extremely Serious	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious	Not a Problem	(DNR) DK	(DNR) REF
4. Decline in numbers of big game animals, such as moose and mule deer						
	24%	28%	29%	14%	5%	--
	52%			**43%**		
7. Wildlife and vehicle collisions with mule deer, antelope or elk						
	20%	28%	41%	10%	1%	--
	48%			**51%**		
6. Migration of animals like mule deer and antelope being disrupted by oil and gas development **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**						
	19%	14%	31%	31%	5%	--
	33%			**62%**		
5. Migration of animals like mule deer and antelope being disrupted by fences, highways and other barriers **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**						
	14%	21%	31%	32%	2%	--
	35%			**63%**		

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8. In the last ten years, would you say the populations of most migrating animals like mule deer here in Wyoming has – **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

13% Increased
38% Decreased
40% Stayed about the same

9% UNSURE/ REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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9. How much have you seen, read or heard about efforts here in Wyoming to ensure that big game animals like mule deer, elk, antelope and moose are able to more safely migrate from winter to summer habitat and back again? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

    60% *TOTAL A LOT/SOME*
    40% *TOTAL NOT MUCH/NOTHING*

    21% A lot
    39% Some
    25% Not much
    15% Nothing at all

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

The following items are potential threats to animals like mule deer that migrate each season in Wyoming. For each one, please indicate how serious a threat you believe it is to those animals' ability to migrate. If there is one with which you are not familiar, please just say that and we will move on. **(RANDOMIZE)**

RANKED BY % MAJOR THREAT

	Major Threat	Minor Threat	Not really a Threat	(DNR) Not Fam	(DNR) DK	(DNR) REF
13.	Development in migration areas					
	44%	31%	19%	5%	1%	*
11.	Highways across migration paths					
	37%	39%	19%	4%	1%	*
14.	Climate change					
	28%	26%	39%	5%	1%	1%
12.	Oil and gas drilling in migration areas					
	26%	34%	31%	6%	3%	--
10.	Barbed wire and other types of fences which can injure or kill wildlife trying to jump over or get through them					
	25%	44%	26%	3%	2%	--

Research has shown that populations of migrating animals, particularly mule deer, are in decline over the last few decades due in part to disruptions in the corridors of land through which they migrate to find higher quality food or forage, and ensure optimal health. Let me ask you about some specific actions which Wyoming is currently undertaking or may undertake in the future in order to maintain healthy populations of migrating animals in the state.

For each one, please indicate whether you support or oppose that specific approach being used in Wyoming. **(RANDOMIZE)**

(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK:) And would that be STRONGLY (support/oppose) or just SOMEWHAT (support/oppose)?

RANKED BY % STRONGLY SUPPORT

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
22. Constructing more over-or under-passes to allow migrating animals to move across major highways and reduce accidents						
	64%	23%	6%	6%	1%	*
	86%^		**13%^**			
21. Requiring the Wyoming Depart of Transportation to ensure that only wildlife friendly fencing is used when it replaces fences along state highways in areas where animals migrate.						
	55%	25%	7%	11%	2%	*
	80%		**18%**			
20. Assisting landowners who voluntarily agree to replace unsafe fences in migration corridors with newer fencing that allows wildlife to safely jump over and go under fences while keeping cattle inside						
	54%	32%	5%	8%	1%	1%
	85%^		**13%**			
15. Designating small portions of public lands like in National Forests where wildlife migrate each year as areas which should NOT be open to oil and gas drilling						
	51%	18%	9%	19%	2%	1%
	69%		**28%**			
16. Providing fair market compensation to private land owners like ranchers who voluntarily agree to conserve some of their land in migration corridors as wildlife habitat						
	46%	36%	7%	9%	1%	1%
	82%		**16%**			

Continued…

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref

18. Requiring horizontal drilling which allows oil and gas to be extracted from an angle so that well pads are not placed as close to the migration corridors given noise and activity can affect animals passing through

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	38%	36%	11%	12%	4%	--
	74%		**22%^**			

17. Placing a limit on drilling in migration paths during the season when animals typically pass through that area in order to ensure noise, vibrations and lights do not disrupt traditional migration areas

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	36%	30%	12%	19%	2%	1%
	66%		**31%**			

19. Providing modest compensation to ranchers who agree to set aside some grasslands for food for migrating animals, rather than for cattle which sometimes compete with migrating animals for the same grasses

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	35%	35%	11%	16%	2%	*
	70%		**28%^**			

_____

Thinking about some reasons why someone might say the state of Wyoming should do more to maintain healthy populations of migrating animals in the state. For each one of the following statements, please indicate if that is a very convincing, somewhat convincing, not very convincing or not at all convincing reason why the state should do more. **(RANDOMIZE)**

RANKED BY % VERY CONVINCING

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref

29. Well-placed over- or under-passes with game-proof fencing reduces wildlife-vehicle collisions by about 85 percent. After construction of an overpass near Pinedale, vehicle collisions with big game fell from 85 to 16 per year. **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	68%	26%	1%	3%	3%	--
	93%^		**4%**			

Continued…

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref

30. Outdoor recreation like wildlife viewing, hunting and fishing is a wonderful part of the Wyoming way of life, but it also benefits our economy. Wildlife-related activities contribute more than one billion dollars to our state economy, provide more than seventy-two million in tax revenue, and support nearly ten thousand jobs, according to a recent University of Wyoming analysis of the state economy. **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	65%	30%	3%	2%	*	--
	95%			***5%***		

25. We have a responsibility to conserve Wyoming wildlife for our children and grandchildren. Unless we take the proven steps that help protect our migrating animals like elk and antelope, our children will not be able to enjoy the presence of wildlife in their lives. **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	45%	31%	15%	9%	*	--
	76%			***24%***		

27. The longest known land animal migration in North America is in Wyoming, the migration of mule deer from the Red Desert to the Hoback Basin.   Conserving migration corridors conserves some of what is so unique and special about Wyoming. **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	35%	49%	6%	9%	1%	--
	84%			***15%***		

26. Some species like mule deer do not adapt quickly to changes, with little to no flexibility in when and where they migrate. Conserving their traditional migration corridors is vital to their health. **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	31%	39%	18%	11%	--	*
	71%^			***29%***		

23. In deer and similar species, migration is a learned behavior, passed from generation to generation. Once a migration path is blocked, some will stop migrating completely, affecting their health when food is less available. **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	30%	35%	21%	13%	--	--
	66%^			***34%***		

24. Studies show that mule deer populations have declined by forty percent in the past twenty years and is believed to be in large part due to problems they now have reaching the best forage, or feeding, locations during migration. **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**

	Very Conv	Somewhat Conv	Not Very Conv	Not at All Conv	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
	30%	30%	21%	18%	1%	*
	60%			***39%***		

Continued…

	Very Conv	**Somewhat Conv**	**Not Very Conv**	**Not at All Conv**	**(DNR) DK**	**(DNR) Ref**
28. Some species like mule deer tend to avoid energy infrastructure even if has been in place for years, limiting their habitat and sometimes blocking migration paths. **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**						
	15%	30%	27%	24%	5%	--
	45%			**50%^**		

The following list is a number of types of people and organizations that might discuss issues related to wildlife migration. Please tell me whether or not you would consider that person or organization to be a believable source of information about that issue. If you have never heard of that type of person or organization, or have no opinion about it, please tell me that instead. **(RANDOMIZE)**

(IF BELIEVABLE ASK:) And would that be VERY believable or just SOMEWHAT believable?
(IF NOT BELIEVABLE ASK:) And would that be NOT VERY believable or NOT AT ALL believable?

RANKED BY % VERY BELIEVABLE

	Very Believable	**Somewhat Believable**	**Not Very Believable**	**Not at All Believable**	**(DNR) No Opin**	**(DNR) Nvr Hrd of**	**(DNR) DK/Ref**
32. Wyoming Game and Fish							
	67%	28%	3%	2%	*	--	*
	95%		**5%**				
37. Wildlife biologists from University of Wyoming							
	54%	35%	5%	3%	1%	2%	*
	89%		**8%**				
35. Hunters **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194RESPONDENTS)**							
	51%	37%	7%	1%	4%	--	*
	88%		**8%**				
34. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**							
	50%	38%	7%	5%	--	--	*
	88%		**12%**				
38. Ranchers and farmers **(SAMPLE B, ASKED OF N=206 RESPONDENTS)**							
	45%	44%	7%	3%	1%	--	--
	89%		**10%**				

Continued…

	Very Believable	Somewhat Believable	Not Very Believable	Not at All Believable	(DNR) No Opin	(DNR) Nvr Hrd of	(DNR) DK/Ref
33. Bureau of Land Management **(SAMPLE A, ASKED OF N=194 RESPONDENTS)**							
	31%	46%	15%	5%	2%	*	--
	*78%^*			*20%*			
31. Conservation organizations							
	22%	45%	15%	11%	4%	2%	1%
	67%			*26%*			
36. Oil and gas workers							
	15%	41%	24%	15%	5%	*	1%
	56%			*38%^*			

And for statistical purposes only –

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

        18%   18 to 34
        23%   35 to 44
        15%   45 to 54
        25%   55 to 64
        18%   65 and over

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

D2.   What was the last level of education you completed?   **(DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)**

        23%   HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
        33%   SOME COLLEGE
        43%   COLLEGE+

        23%   GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
         5%   TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
        28%   SOME COLLEGE
        28%   GRADUATED COLLEGE
        15%   GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

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

D3.   Do you consider yourself a hunter, an angler or both?

>   ***68%   TOTAL HUNTER/ANGLER***
>
>   14%   HUNTER ONLY
>   11%   ANGLER ONLY
>   43%   BOTH
>
>   32%   NO/NEITHER **(DO NOT READ)**
>   --   UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

D4.   How would you describe the area where you currently live?   **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

>   ***18%   TOTAL CITY/SUBURB***
>   ***82%   TOTAL SMALL TOWN/RURAL***
>
>   8%   A big city
>   10%   A suburban area
>   45%   A small town
>   37%   A rural area
>
>   --   DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **(DO NOT READ)**
>   --   REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

D6.   How dependent is your household income on the farming and ranching economy?   Is it…

>   ***39%^   TOTAL DEPENDENT***
>
>   17%   Very dependent
>   23%   Somewhat dependent
>   60%   Not that dependent
>
>   1%   UNSURE / REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

D7.   How dependent is your household income on the oil and gas economy?   Is it…

    43%^   ***TOTAL DEPENDENT***

    17%   Very dependent
    25%   Somewhat dependent
    56%   Not that dependent

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

(ASK IF NOT FROM FILE)
D8.   No matter how you feel today, are you registered to vote as … **(ROTATE)**

    a Republican,
    a Democrat,
    Independent, or something else?

    70%   REPUBLICAN
    18%   DEMOCRAT
    11%   INDEPENDENT/ SOMETHING ELSE

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

D9.   Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)** conservative, moderate ...or... liberal on most issues?

    55%   CONSERVATIVE
    29%   MODERATE
    14%   LIBERAL

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

D10.   Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

    48%   MALE
    52%   FEMALE