

# 2016 WESTERN STATES SURVEY

## Interview Schedule

Public Opinion Strategies/FM3

December 2015

N = 448 total Hispanic voters

(AZ, CO, MT, NV, NM, UT & WY)



Fairbank,  
Maslin,  
Maullin,  
Metz &  
Associates

FM3

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### 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.
- 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 448 respondents received that question.
- "Total base" is the percentage of the total sample, in this survey that is 448 Hispanic voters.

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A. We have the ability to complete this interview in English or in Spanish. Would you rather complete the survey in English or Spanish?

**Total**

98% English  
2% Spanish

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C. Are you registered to vote in (STATE)?

100% YES (CONTINUE)

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Next, I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in **(STATE)**. For each one, please 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 **(STATE)**.

	Extremely/ Very Serious	Total Serious	Extremely Serious	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious	Not A Problem	Don't Know/ Refused
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The first/next one is... **(RANDOMIZE Q1-X1)**

**Q1-9 SPLIT SAMPLED**

1.	Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife	<b>40%^</b>	<b>71%^</b>	14%	25%	31%	22%	8%
2.	Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams	<b>52%</b>	<b>82%</b>	25%	27%	30%	15%	3%
3.	Our dependence on foreign oil	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>	25%	25%	25%	21%	4%
4.	Poorly-planned growth and development	<b>33%</b>	<b>66%</b>	10%	23%	33%	27%	7%
5.	Unemployment	<b>62%</b>	<b>90%</b>	22%	40%	28%	10%	--
6.	The impact of mining on land and water	<b>36%^</b>	<b>67%</b>	16%	19%	32%	23%	10%
7.	Low levels of water in rivers	<b>66%</b>	<b>85%^</b>	38%	28%	20%	11%	4%
8.	Drought	<b>53%^</b>	<b>87%</b>	22%	32%	33%	12%	1%
9.	Too many people moving into <b>(STATE)</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>52%</b>	10%	16%	26%	47%	1%

**Q10-X1 ASKED OF ALL**

10.	Lack of resources to properly maintain and take care of national parks, forests and other public lands	<b>31%^</b>	<b>74%</b>	12%	20%	42%	22%	4%
11.	Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property	<b>40%^</b>	<b>79%^</b>	13%	26%	39%	20%	1%

- continued -

	Extremely/ Very Serious	Total Serious	Extremely Serious	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious	Not A Problem	Don't Know/ Refused
12. Too much partisanship and division in politics	<b>58%</b>	<b>86%</b>	34%	24%	28%	9%	5%
X1. Climate change	<b>48%^</b>	<b>73%^</b>	26%	21%	25%	25%	2%

**Summary of Issues - Ranked By % Extremely/Very Serious**

Issues	% Extremely/ Very Serious	% Total Serious
Low levels of water in rivers	<b>66%</b>	<b>85%</b>
Unemployment	<b>62%</b>	<b>90%</b>
Too much partisanship and division in politics	<b>58%</b>	<b>86%</b>
Drought	<b>53%</b>	<b>87%</b>
Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams	<b>52%</b>	<b>82%</b>
Our dependence on foreign oil	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>
Climate change	<b>48%</b>	<b>73%</b>
Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife	<b>40%</b>	<b>71%</b>
Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property	<b>40%</b>	<b>79%</b>
Poorly-planned growth and development	<b>37%</b>	<b>66%</b>
The impact of mining on land and water	<b>36%</b>	<b>67%</b>
Lack of resources to properly maintain and take care of national parks, forests and other public lands	<b>31%</b>	<b>74%</b>
Too many people moving into (STATE)	<b>26%</b>	<b>52%</b>

13. Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving public lands, waters, and wildlife for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official? Are they... **(READ; DO NOT ROTATE)**
- 45% Very important, they are a primary factor in deciding whether to support an elected public official
  - 40% Somewhat important; they are one of several issues you consider
  - 8% Not too important; they are not a significant factor considering in deciding whether to support an elected public official
  - OR
  - 6% Not at all important for you in deciding whether to support an elected official
  - 1% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
- 84%^ TOTAL IMPORTANT**  
**14% TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT**
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16. When you think about these issues involving public lands, waters, and wildlife in your state - do you think those SHOULD BE - **(ROTATE PUNCHES 1 AND 2)**
- 85% Issues where elected officials and state leaders should work together and seek to find common ground
  - OR
  - 9% Issues where elected officials and state leaders should not compromise if there are differences
  - 2% BOTH **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 1% NEITHER **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 3% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
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**Q14-15 SPLIT SAMPLED**

14. How well do you think that most of the presidential candidates understand issues involving public lands, waters, and wildlife in the West? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

6% Very well  
32% Somewhat well  
40% Not very well  
21% Not at all well

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

**38% TOTAL WELL**  
**61% TOTAL NOT WELL**

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15. How well do you think that most of the candidates for U.S. Congress understand issues involving public lands, waters, and wildlife in the West? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

8% Very well  
32% Somewhat well  
33% Not very well  
23% Not at all well

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

**40% TOTAL WELL**  
**56% TOTAL NOT WELL**

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**Q17 ASKED IN COLORADO, NEVADA, NEW MEXICO & UTAH ONLY**

Thinking about water in your state -

17. Many experts say that **(STATE)** will likely face water shortage situations in the future. They say that we face a choice in how we address that shortage. So, which one of the following would you prefer state water officials invest more time and resources in pursuing? **(ROTATE)**

82% Using our current water supply more wisely, by encouraging more water conservation, reducing use, and increasing recycling of water

OR

11% Diverting more water from rivers in less populated areas of the state to communities where more people live

4% BOTH **(DO NOT READ)**

1% SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER **(DO NOT READ)**

\* DON'T DO ANYTHING/NOTHING/NO NEED **(DO NOT READ)**

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

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18. How willing would you be to make changes in your household activities to reduce your household's water use by 20 percent? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

73% Very willing

21% Somewhat willing

4% Not willing at all

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

**94% TOTAL WILLING**

**4% NOT WILLING**

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**Q19-22 SPLIT SAMPLED & ASKED IN ARIZONA, COLORADO, NEVADA & UTAH ONLY**

Thinking specifically about the Colorado River and the rivers and streams which flow into it in **(STATE)** – I'm going to read you a list of words and phrases, and please tell me whether you think each one describes the Colorado River **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)** very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not at all? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE ITEMS)**

	<b>Total Well</b>	<b>Total Not Well</b>	<b>Very Well</b>	<b>Somewhat Well</b>	<b>Not Very Well</b>	<b>Not At All</b>	<b>DK/Ref (DNR)</b>
19. At risk	<b>77%</b>	<b>13%^</b>	42%	35%	7%	7%	10%
20. Critical to <b>(STATE)</b> 's economy	<b>78%</b>	<b>13%</b>	61%	17%	3%	10%	9%
21. A national treasure that should be protected	<b>92%</b>	<b>6%</b>	84%	8%	5%	1%	2%
22. An attraction for tourism and recreation	<b>79%^</b>	<b>17%</b>	52%	28%	7%	10%	4%

Thinking about public lands -

23. When you think about the presence of national public lands, such as national forests, national monuments, or wildlife refuges in your state -do you think that having such lands... **(ROTATE PUNCHES 1 AND 2)**
- 69% Helps our economy
  - 5% Hurts our economy
  - OR
  - 23% Has little impact on our economy
  - 4% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

Thinking about one idea affecting national public lands --

24. Some Members of Congress have proposed giving **(STATE)** 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 support or oppose this proposal?

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

13%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
15%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
18%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
47%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
8%	NOT SURE <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>
*	REFUSED <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>

**27%^** **TOTAL SUPPORT**  
**65%** **TOTAL OPPOSE**

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Next I'm going to read you several actions the next Congress could take. For each one, please tell me whether you would **(ROTATE)** -- support that action, oppose that action -- OR feel neutral about it. The first/next one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

**(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE ASK:)** And do you **STRONGLY** (support/oppose) this, or just **SOMEWHAT** (support/oppose)?

	<b>Total Support</b>	<b>Total Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Feel Neutral</b>	<b>DK/Ref (DNR)</b>
25. Renew the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which uses some of the money from fees charged to oil and gas companies that drill offshore to protect natural areas, clean water, parks and access to outdoor recreation across the country	<b>72%</b>	<b>10%</b>	50%	22%	5%	5%	17%	1%
26. Make it easier for oil companies to export American crude oil to buyers overseas	<b>35%</b>	<b>47%</b>	17%	18%	11%	36%	16%	2%
27. Continue tax incentives for solar and wind energy production	<b>81%</b>	<b>9%</b>	62%	19%	3%	6%	9%	1%
28. Allow the US Forest Service to treat the largest and most expensive wildfires as natural disasters in order to have access to emergency disaster funding, like the government handles other natural disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes	<b>81%</b>	<b>5%^</b>	60%	21%	2%	2%	12%	2%
29. Increase the royalty fees paid by companies which drill for oil and gas or mine for coal and minerals on national public lands	<b>64%^</b>	<b>18%</b>	46%	17%	7%	11%	16%	2%
30. 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	<b>80%</b>	<b>9%</b>	67%	13%	2%	7%	9%	1%
31. Gradually reduce the amount of new coal mines allowed to operate on national public lands	<b>52%</b>	<b>23%^</b>	31%	21%	9%	13%	23%	2%
<b>Q32-33 SPLIT SAMPLED</b>								
32. Sell significant holdings of public lands like national forests to reduce the budget deficit	<b>29%^</b>	<b>50%^</b>	9%	19%	16%	35%	18%	3%

- continued -

	Total Support	Total Oppose	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Feel Neutral	DK/Ref (DNR)
33. Provide funding for low cost loans or other programs to help modernize irrigation used for farms and ranches to make more efficient use of existing water supplies	89%	6%^	62%	27%	2%	3%	5%	*

**ASKED LAST:** Thinking about one other issue - would you support or oppose or feel neutral about...

34. Future Presidents continuing to protect existing public lands as national monuments	82%	9%	65%	17%	3%	6%	8%	1%
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**Summary of Actions - Ranked By % Support**

Actions	% Support	% Oppose
Provide funding for low cost loans or other programs to help modernize irrigation used for farms and ranches to make more efficient use of existing water supplies	89%	6%
Future Presidents continuing to protect existing public lands as national monuments	82%	9%
Allow the US Forest Service to treat the largest and most expensive wildfires as natural disasters in order to have access to emergency disaster funding, like the government handles other natural disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes	81%	5%
Continue tax incentives for solar and wind energy production	81%	9%
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	80%	9%
Renew the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which uses some of the money from fees charged to oil and gas companies that drill offshore to protect natural areas, clean water, parks and access to outdoor recreation across the country	72%	10%
Increase the royalty fees paid by companies which drill for oil and gas or mine for coal and minerals on national public lands	64%	18%
Gradually reduce the amount of new coal mines allowed to operate on national public lands	52%	23%
Make it easier for oil companies to export American crude oil to buyers overseas	35%	47%
Sell significant holdings of public lands like national forests to reduce the budget deficit	29%	50%

Thinking about some past decisions made by lawmakers - Please tell me if you think the following decision has ended up being **(ROTATE)** -- more of a good thing OR more of a bad thing.

**(IF GOOD/BAD:)** And, do you feel that way STRONGLY or just SOMEWHAT?

	Total Good Thing	Total Bad Thing	Strongly/ Good Thing	Somewhat/ Good Thing	Somewhat/ Bad Thing	Strongly/ Bad Thing	Don't Know (DNR)	Ref (DNR)
<b>ASKED OF ALL</b>								
X2.	The endangered species act, which seeks to protect threatened species and their habitat from development.							
<b>Total</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>11%</b>	36%	19%	6%	5%	33%	*

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Switching subjects -

35. Which one of the following sources of energy would you want to encourage the use of here in (STATE)?  
**IF RESPONSE GIVEN THEN ASK: And which would you NEXT most want to encourage the use of? (READ AND RANDOMIZE)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Choice**

- 60% Solar power
- 14% Wind power
- 5% Natural gas
- 5% Energy efficiency efforts
- 5% Nuclear
- 3% Oil
- 1% Coal
  
- 3% ALL/COMBINATION (**DO NOT READ**)
- NONE OF THESE (**DO NOT READ**)
- 3% UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

**Combined Choices**

- 78% Solar power
  - 52% Wind power
  - 19% Energy efficiency efforts
  - 18% Natural gas
  - 8% Nuclear
  - 6% Oil
  - 4% Coal
  
  - 3% ALL/COMBINATION (**DO NOT READ**)
  - \* NONE OF THESE (**DO NOT READ**)
  - 5% UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

X3. Thinking about the government practice of companies leasing the right to drill and mine for oil, natural gas, coal and other minerals on national public lands - What would you tell the next Administration to do in your state - **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP PUNCHES 1-4)**

- 7% Increase drilling and mining on national public lands;
  - 6% Continue drilling and mining at the current pace WITHOUT any changes in safeguards for land and water
  - 46% Continue drilling and mining at the current pace, BUT WITH increased safeguards for land and water
  - 32% Stop all drilling and mining on national public lands
  
  - 8% UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
- 

36. As you may know, the drop in gasoline prices, which is saving drivers and consumers money at the pump, has also meant a decline in oil and gas production in the West, leading to job losses.

Would you say the western economy benefits more from - **(ROTATE)**

- 76% Lower gas prices which help consumers,  
OR
  - 14% Higher gas prices which help the oil and gas economy?
  
  - 9% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-

Thinking about you for a moment

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

35%	18 - 34
21%	35 - 44
15%	45 - 54
18%	55 - 64
10%	65 AND ABOVE

\* REFUSED

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D2. How many years have you lived in (STATE)?

10%	0-10
21%	11-20
23%	21-30
13%	31-40
11%	41-50
20%	51+

\* DON'T KNOW

1% REFUSED

**32.8 MEAN**

**30.0 MEDIAN**

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Do you consider yourself to be... (ROTATE)

	YES	NO	(DNR) DK/REF
D3. a supporter of the Tea Party?	16%	73%	12%
D4. a conservationist?	57%	35%	8%

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And for statistical purposes only...

D5. How would you describe the area where you currently live? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

- 34% A big city
- 30% A suburban area
- 23% A small town
- 12% A rural area
  
- 1% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **(DO NOT READ)**
- \* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

**64% TOTAL BIG CITY/SUBURBAN**  
**34%^ TOTAL SMALL TOWN/RURAL**

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

- 4% HUNTER ONLY
- 13% ANGLER ONLY
- 21% BOTH
  
- 60% NO/NEITHER **(DO NOT READ)**
- 2% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

**38% TOTAL YES**  
**60% NO/NEITHER**

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D7. **IF R:1 (RESPONDENT FROM FILE) & AZ, CO, NM, NV, WY - RECORD PARTY FROM FILE**

**IF OTHER VOTER IN HOUSEHOLD & AZ, CO, NM, NV, WY, ASK:**

No matter how you feel today, are you registered to vote as ... **(ROTATE)** a Republican, a Democrat, Independent, or something else?

**IF MT & UT, ASK:**

And, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be ... **(ROTATE)** a Republican, a Democrat, Independent, or something else?

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

**Total**

14% REPUBLICAN  
50% DEMOCRAT  
36% INDEPENDENT/ SOMETHING ELSE  
  
\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D8. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)** conservative, moderate ...or... liberal on most issues?

**Total**

30% CONSERVATIVE  
33% MODERATE  
32% LIBERAL  
  
4% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**  
1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D9. What is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES)**

100% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO

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D10. Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

50% MALE  
50% FEMALE

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