

# Conservation & Public Lands in the West

*Even in the face of rising gas prices and energy costs, Westerners want their Member of Congress to place more emphasis on protecting the conservation value of public lands versus allowing more energy production on these lands. They also offer overwhelming support for several conservation proposals – including 30x30 and executive orders to create national monuments. They prioritize efforts to conserve land, waters, and wildlife habitat.*

In line with the past four years, and despite recent increases in gas prices and energy costs, more than two-thirds of Western voters would prefer their Member of Congress to emphasize protecting the environment and conserving public lands, rather than allowing mining and drilling on public lands. By more than a 2-to-1 margin, Westerners want Congress to focus on “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” (68 percent) versus “ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining” (26 percent).

2019      2020      2021      2022      2023

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.

65% 67% 69% 67% 68%

Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining.

24% 25% 27% 28% 26%