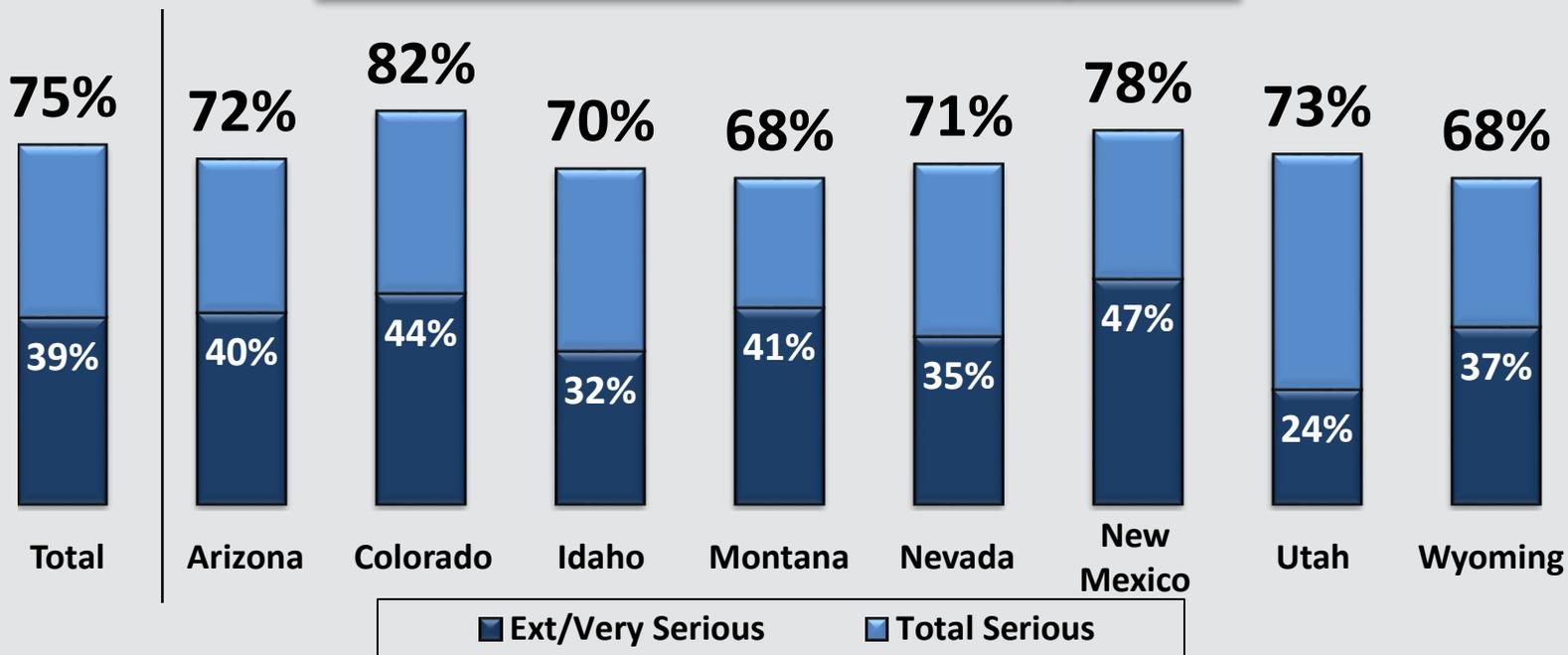


Wildlife in the West

Loss of wildlife habitat is seen as a problem in every Western state.

We asked voters to tell us whether they thought the loss of habitat for fish and wildlife in their state was an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem at all. An overwhelming majority of respondents in each Western state believe this is a serious problem, with significant proportions in most states characterizing it as an extremely/very serious problem.

Loss of Habitat for Fish and Wildlife – By State



Westerners prioritize protection of habitat over production of more energy.

Conservation and recreation are more important priorities for public lands than domestic energy production according to Western voters. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of voters advocate for Congress ensuring protections for “sources of clean water, air quality and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on our national public lands.” Fewer than one-in-four place the emphasis on domestic energy production.

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%

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

24%

By more than a two-to-one margin, voters in the region also say that “allowing increased oil and gas production on eighty percent of the ‘critical habitat’ that western states had identified in 2015 in order to try and restore the threatened sage grouse” is a bad policy change (50%) rather than a positive one (21%).



There is overwhelming and strong support for strategies to conserve wildlife migration corridors in the West, similar to what Wyoming is undertaking.

Survey respondents were asked... "In Wyoming, university researchers, state wildlife biologists, and ranchers worked together to track the movement of antelope, mule deer, and other wildlife. They identified specific areas where these animals migrate along every year and have proposed ways to protect these wildlife, such as highway overpasses or underpasses to ensure safety of both drivers and animals, incentives for landowners who conserve habitat, and ways to reduce disturbance from development in these migration areas."

Asked in all but WY: Does this effort sound like something you would support or oppose implementing in your state?*

Asked in WY: Do you support or oppose this effort in Wyoming?***

There is near unanimity in support for this conservation of migration corridors across all Western states. Support for conservation of migration corridors is also strong across party lines with 92% of Democrats in support, 86% of Independents in support, and 82% of Republicans in support. Sportsmen also are very supportive of this effort, with 86% in support.

Support for Migration Corridor Conservation – By State

