

2018 WESTERN STATES SURVEY

Interview Schedule: Colorado

Public Opinion Strategies/FM3

December 2017-January 2018

N = 400 voters in Colorado

Margin of Error: $\pm 4.9\%$



*Fairbank,
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FM3

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 400 respondents received that question.**
 - **"Total base" is the percentage of the total sample, in this survey that is 400 voters.**
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1. Over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited public lands managed by U.S. agencies, such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, or Bureau of Land Management Lands? **(ROTATE)**

<u>2014*</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2018</u>	
13%	15%	19%	Once or twice
20%	19%	22%	3 to 5 times
22%	19%	14%	6 to 10 times
17%	18%	12%	11 to 20 times
22%	25%	22%	More than 20 times
5%	4%	11%	NEVER (DO NOT READ)
1%	*	1%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
95%	96%^	88%^	TOTAL VISITED
34%^	34%	40%^	1-5 TIMES
39%	37%	26%	6-20 TIMES
22%	25%	22%	MORE THAN 20 TIMES

** 2014 Wording: And over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited public lands, such as national parks, national forests, Bureau of Management lands, wildlife refuges, or state parks?*

2. Do you plan to visit a national park sometime in 2018?

<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>	
82%	79%	Yes
15%	13%	No
3%	8%	DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
–	–	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

Q3-4 SPLIT SAMPLED

3. When you think about the economic future of Colorado and the Western U.S., how important do you think the outdoor recreation economy will be - meaning people who come to hunt, fish, camp, see wildlife, as well as those who manufacture and sell equipment for those activities?
(ROTATE)

77% Very important
19% Somewhat important
2% A little important
1% Not important at all

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

96% TOTAL IMPORTANT
3% TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT

4. When you think about the economic future of Colorado and the Western U.S. in attracting good jobs and innovative companies, would you say that due to the presence of public lands and our lifestyle of outdoor recreation, that the West has - **(ROTATE)**

60% A big advantage over other parts of the country
27% A little advantage over other parts of the country
9% No real advantage over other parts of the country

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

87% TOTAL ADVANTAGE
9% NO ADVANTAGE

Q5-6 ROTATED

Thinking some more about people in the Western United States -

5. Do you think most people who live in big cities have values that are similar or different from yours?

(IF SIMILAR/DIFFERENT, ASK) And is that very (choice) or somewhat (choice)?

12% Very similar
28% Somewhat similar
26% Somewhat different
27% Very different

6% UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

40% TOTAL SIMILAR
53% TOTAL DIFFERENT

6. Do you think most people who live in rural areas and small towns have values that are similar or different from yours?

(IF SIMILAR/DIFFERENT, ASK) And is that very (choice) or somewhat (choice)?

32% Very similar
33% Somewhat similar
20% Somewhat different
9% Very different

5% UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

65% TOTAL SIMILAR
30%[^] TOTAL DIFFERENT

Next, I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in Colorado. For each one, please tell me if you think it is **(ROTATE)** an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in Colorado. The first/next one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

	Extremely/ Very Serious	Total Serious	Extremely Serious	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious	Not A Problem	Don't Know/ Refused
Q7-16 SPLIT SAMPLED							
7.	Poorly-planned growth and development						
2018	49%	82%	15%	34%	33%	15%	2%
2017	37%	72%^	16%	21%	34%	22%	7%
2016	33%^	71%^	15%	17%	38%	26%	3%
8.	Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife						
2018	41%	75%^	12%	29%	33%	24%	2%
2017	25%^	65%^	9%	17%	40%	30%	4%
2016	31%^	63%^	10%	20%	32%	33%	4%
2015	26%	71%	10%	16%	45%	27%	2%
2014	31%^	73%	12%	20%	41%	22%	6%
2013	42%	78%^	21%	21%	37%	21%	1%
2012	39%	71%	14%	25%	32%	27%	2%
2011	41%	79%	17%	24%	38%	20%	1%
9.	Unemployment						
2018	21%	64%	2%	19%	43%	34%	2%
2017	25%^	71%	9%	17%	45%	26%	3%
2016	33%	75%	9%	24%	42%	24%	2%
2015	42%	83%^	16%	26%	42%	15%	2%
2014	48%	92%^	17%	31%	45%	7%	1%
2013	58%	94%	29%	29%	36%	6%	1%
10.	Our dependence on fossil fuels						
2018	36%	74%^	10%	26%	37%	20%	6%
2017	30%	64%	12%	18%	34%	29%	8%
11.	Inadequate water supplies						
2018	47%	80%	13%	34%	33%	18%	2%
2015	48%	78%	19%	29%	30%	20%	1%
2013	51%	79%	18%	33%	28%	14%	7%
2012	33%^	72%	16%	18%	38%	28%	*
2011	46%	81%	17%	29%	35%	19%	1%

	Extremely/ Very Serious	Total Serious	Extremely Serious	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious	Not A Problem	Don't Know/ Refused
12.	Lack of resources to properly maintain and take care of national parks, forests and other public lands						
2018	39%^	71%^	12%	28%	32%	26%	3%
2017	22%	62%^	7%	15%	39%	30%	8%
2016	23%^	63%^	7%	17%	40%	32%	5%
2015	35%	73%	10%	25%	38%	25%	2%
13.	Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property						
2018	48%	86%	19%	29%	38%	14%	1%
2016	37%	79%	10%	27%	42%	20%	1%
14.	Low level of water in rivers						
2018	50%	81%	19%	31%	31%	14%	5%
2017	38%	71%	14%	24%	33%	25%	5%
2016	37%	73%	19%	18%	36%	25%	2%
2015	49%^	82%^	19%	29%	33%	16%	2%
2014	51%	82%	23%	28%	31%	15%	3%
2013	69%	93%	40%	29%	24%	5%	1%
15.	Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams						
2018	46%	82%	18%	28%	36%	16%	2%
2017	30%	76%	13%	17%	46%	21%	3%
2016	42%	77%	18%	24%	35%	21%	3%
2015	52%	85%	20%	32%	33%	15%	1%
2014	26%	73%	7%	19%	47%	23%	4%
2013	49%	84%^	28%	21%	34%	16%	*
2012	38%	80%	13%	25%	42%	19%	1%
2011	44%	84%	20%	24%	40%	15%	1%
16.	Rollbacks of laws that protect our land, water, and wildlife						
2018	42%	67%	19%	23%	25%	25%	8%

COLORADO: Summary of Issues - Ranked By % Extremely/Very Serious

Issues	% Extremely/ Very Serious	% Total Serious
Low level of water in rivers	50%	81%
Poorly-planned growth and development	49%	82%
Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property	48%	86%
Inadequate water supplies	47%	80%
Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams	46%	82%
Rollbacks of laws that protect our land, water, and wildlife	42%	67%
Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife	41%	75%
Lack of resources to properly maintain and take care of national parks, forests and other public lands	39%	71%
Our dependence on fossil fuels	36%	74%
Unemployment	21%	64%

Thinking about water in your state -

W1. Many experts say that Colorado 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)**

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2018</u>	
78%	74%	77%	80%	Using our current water supply more wisely, by encouraging more water conservation, reducing use, and increasing recycling of water
				... OR ...
14%	16%	15%	11%	Diverting more water from rivers in less populated areas of the state to communities where more people live
2%	4%	4%	3%	BOTH (DO NOT READ)
3%	3%	2%	1%	SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER (DO NOT READ)
*	1%	1%	1%	DON'T DO ANYTHING/NOTHING/NO NEED (DO NOT READ)
2%	2%	1%	4%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

Moving on... Do you generally approve or disapprove of the job President Trump and his administration are doing in... **(RANDOMIZE)**

(IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE) And, do you **STRONGLY** (choice) or just **SOMEWHAT** (choice)?

	Total Approve	Total Disapprove	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't Know/Refused
17. Handling issues related to our land, water and wildlife?	36%[^]	55%	17%	18%	9%	46%	9%
18. Handling the economy?	46%	50%	29%	17%	13%	37%	4%

19. And in general, would you prefer the administration place more emphasis on... **(ROTATE)**

	2017	2018	
	69%	68%	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
			... OR...
	22%	21%	Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining
	4%	5%	BOTH (DO NOT READ)
	1%	2%	NEITHER/OTHER (DO NOT READ)
	4%	3%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

For each of the following actions that have been taken or are being considered by officials in Washington, please tell me if that is something you support, oppose or don't feel strongly about it one way or the other. The (first/next) one is ... **(RANDOMIZE)**

(IF SUPPORT/OPOSE) And, do you **STRONGLY** (choice) or just **SOMEWHAT** (choice) that action?

	Total Support	Total Oppose	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	No Strong Feelings	Don't Know/Refused
20. Raising fees to enter some of the country's largest National Parks during the peak seasons	40%	44%^	13%	27%	17%	26%	13%	3%
21. Privatizing the management of campgrounds, visitor centers and other services provided at National Parks and other national public lands	30%	53%	13%	17%	17%	36%	14%	3%
Q22 SPLIT SAMPLED								
22. Expanding how much public land is available to private companies which pay for the ability to drill for oil and gas on public lands	27%	63%	6%	21%	13%	50%	8%	1%
Q23 SPLIT SAMPLED								
23. Expanding how much public land is available to private companies which pay for the ability to mine for uranium and other metals on public lands	24%	60%	10%	14%	18%	42%	11%	4%
24. Requiring 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	2018 74%	18%^	58%	16%	6%	11%	7%	2%
	2016 81%^	10%	63%	17%	4%	6%	8%	1%
25. Allowing mining on public lands next to the Grand Canyon National Park, a practice that is currently banned	17%	72%^	6%	11%	12%	59%	8%	4%

COLORADO: Summary of Actions - Ranked By % Support

Actions	% Support	% Oppose
Requiring 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	74%	18%
Raising fees to enter some of the country's largest National Parks during the peak seasons	40%	44%
Privatizing the management of campgrounds, visitor centers and other services provided at National Parks and other national public lands	30%	53%
Expanding how much public land is available to private companies which pay for the ability to drill for oil and gas on public lands	27%	63%
Expanding how much public land is available to private companies which pay for the ability to mine for uranium and other metals on public lands	24%	60%
Allowing mining on public lands next to the Grand Canyon National Park, a practice that is currently banned	17%	72%

Let me tell you about one more proposal --

26. Three years ago, the U.S. government, Western states and governors created plans to protect habitat for the threatened sage grouse and other wildlife. The Interior Department now says these plans should be changed to allow more oil and gas production and other activities. Opponents of changes say that the plans had public input and were created in collaboration with states to avoid wildlife like the sage grouse becoming endangered.

Would you prefer keeping these plans or changing them?

(IF KEEP/CHANGE) And, do you feel that way STRONGLY or NOT-SO-STRONGLY?

47%	STRONGLY KEEP PLANS
20%	NOT-SO-STRONGLY KEEP PLANS
12%	NOT-SO-STRONGLY CHANGE PLANS
14%	STRONGLY CHANGES PLANS
7%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
67%	TOTAL KEEP PLANS
26%	TOTAL CHANGE PLANS

Thinking now about national monuments, which are existing public lands that are managed similar to national parks to prioritize conservation of wildlife habitat, historic and archaeological sites, while allowing for outdoor recreation. Mining, drilling and other industrial activities are NOT allowed, however.

I'm going to read you a list of words and phrases, and please tell me whether you think each one describes national monuments in the West. Does it describe them - **(ROTATE)** - very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not at all? The (first/next) one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

	Total Well	Total Not Well	Very Well	Somewhat Well	Not Very Well	Not At All	Don't Know/ Refused
Q27-33 SPLIT SAMPLED							
27. Helps the economy of nearby communities	86%	12%^	43%	43%	10%	3%	2%
28. National treasures	93%^	7%	60%	32%	5%	2%	1%
29. Important places to be conserved for future generations	94%	5%	68%	26%	5%	*	1%
30. Hurts the economy of your state	26%	72%	9%	17%	21%	51%	2%
31. Places to learn about America's history and heritage	91%	5%	62%	29%	3%	2%	4%
32. Places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday	96%	4%	83%	13%	1%	3%	—
33. Ties up too much land that could be put to other uses	26%^	71%	8%	19%	25%	46%	2%

COLORADO: Summary of National Monument Descriptions - Ranked By % Very Well

National Monument Descriptions	% Very Well	% Total Well
Places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday	83%	96%
Important places to be conserved for future generations	68%	94%
Places to learn about America's history and heritage	62%	91%
National treasures	60%	93%
Helps the economy of nearby communities	43%	86%
Hurts the economy of your state	9%	26%
Ties up too much land that could be put to other uses	8%	26%

Thinking specifically about two national monuments in Utah - Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante, which contain fossils, petroglyphs, cliff dwellings and wildlife habitat -

34. President Trump announced in December that the administration would remove existing national monument protections and reduce the size of the lands conserved as national monuments by approximately two million acres. Would you say that it is - **(ROTATE)** a good idea or a bad idea - to reduce the size of these national monuments?

(IF GOOD/BAD) And is that a very (good/bad) idea or just somewhat?

12% Very good idea
10% Somewhat good idea
12% Somewhat bad idea
58% Very bad idea

8% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

22% TOTAL GOOD IDEA
70% TOTAL BAD IDEA

35. The administration has indicated that it may eliminate protections or reduce the size of other national monuments in the West as well. Would you say that it is - **(ROTATE)** a good idea or a bad idea - to reduce the size or protections at other national monuments?

(IF GOOD/BAD) And is that a very (good/bad) idea or just somewhat?

7% Very good idea
11% Somewhat good idea
12% Somewhat bad idea
60% Very bad idea

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

19%[^] TOTAL GOOD IDEA
73%[^] TOTAL BAD IDEA

For each of the following, please tell me if you agree or disagree with that particular statement. The (first/next) one is... **(READ IN ORDER)**

(IF AGREE/DISAGREE) And do you **STRONGLY** (agree/disagree) with that or just **SOMEWHAT** (agree/disagree) with that?

Total Agree	Total Disagree	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know/ Refused
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Q36-37 SPLIT SAMPLED

36.	Elected officials in Colorado generally reflect my values.	55%[^]	42%[^]	6%	48%	23%	20%	3%
37.	Elected officials in Washington, DC generally reflect my values.	18%	78%[^]	5%	13%	25%	54%	4%

ASKED OF ALL

38.	The increasing number of extreme weather events like wildfires, droughts, and hurricanes is at least in part due to climate change.							
2018	65%[^]	30%	43%	23%	11%	19%	5%	
2013	63%	32%	39%	24%	12%	20%	5%	

COLORADO: Summary of Statements - Ranked By % Agree

Statements	% Agree	% Disagree
The increasing number of extreme weather events like wildfires, droughts, and hurricanes is at least in part due to climate change.	65%	30%
Elected officials in Colorado generally reflect my values.	55%	42%
Elected officials in Washington, DC generally reflect my values.	18%	78%

Now, switching topics and thinking about energy here in Colorado-

SPLIT SAMPLED

39. Which one or two of the following sources of energy would you say best represent the future of energy here in Colorado? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE - ACCEPT 2 RESPONSES. RECORD 1st CHOICE, 2nd CHOICE)**

Ranked By 1st Choice

1st	Comb	
42%	63%	Solar power
22%	58%	Wind power
19%	34%	Natural gas
7%	10%	Coal
3%	13%	Oil
3%	11%	Nuclear
2%	2%	ALL/COMBINATION (DO NOT READ)
–	1%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
2%	3%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

SPLIT SAMPLED

40. Which one or two of the following sources of energy would you say has the most potential to help Colorado's economy? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE - ACCEPT 2 RESPONSES. RECORD 1st CHOICE, 2nd CHOICE)**

Ranked By 1st Choice

1st	Comb	
39%	56%	Solar power
19%	54%	Wind power
21%	34%	Natural gas
6%	13%	Nuclear
5%	12%	Coal
3%	14%	Oil
5%	5%	ALL/COMBINATION (DO NOT READ)
–	1%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
2%	4%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

Thinking specifically about the Colorado River and the rivers and streams which flow into it in Colorado -- 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 very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not at all? The (first/next) one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

	Total Well	Total Not Well	Very Well	Somewhat Well	Not Very Well	Not At All	Don't Know/Refused
W2-W5 SPLIT SAMPLED							
W2. At risk							
2018	79%	17%	43%	36%	12%	5%	4%
2016	77%	17%	36%	41%	7%	10%	6%
W3. Critical to Colorado's economy							
2018	91%	7%	62%	29%	5%	2%	1%
2016	89%	8%^	57%	32%	2%	5%	3%
W4. A national treasure that should be protected							
2018	94%	5%	72%	22%	3%	2%	1%
2016	93%	6%	73%	20%	3%	3%	1%
W5. An attraction for tourism and recreation							
2018	96%	3%	70%	26%	2%	1%	1%
2016	90%	7%	60%	30%	4%	3%	3%

COLORADO: Summary of Colorado River Descriptions - Ranked By % Very Well

Colorado River Descriptions	% Very Well	% Total Well
A national treasure that should be protected	72%	94%
An attraction for tourism and recreation	70%	96%
Critical to Colorado's economy	62%	91%
At risk	43%	79%

Thinking about you for a moment...

D1. In what year were you born?

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	
21%	21%	21%	19%	20%	25%	27%	29%	18 - 34
18%	23%	26%	25%	25%	25%	23%	21%	35 - 44
22%	20%	15%	18%	17%	15%	15%	15%	45 - 54
23%	21%	22%	22%	22%	21%	19%	19%	55 - 64
16%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%	16%	16%	65 AND ABOVE
1%	*	1%	1%	1%	*	*	*	REFUSED

Do you consider yourself to be... **(RANDOMIZE)**

D2. An outdoor recreation enthusiast

75% Yes
 24% No

1% Don't Know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

D3. A conservationist

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	
72%	67%	68%	63%	66%	65%	74%	75%	Yes
26%	30%	29%	31%	28%	30%	21%	21%	No
2%	3%	4%	6%	6%	4%	6%	3%	Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

D4. Do you consider yourself a hunter, an angler or both?

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	
7%	5%	6%	5%	4%	3%	6%	6%	HUNTER ONLY
13%	13%	16%	14%	13%	12%	13%	15%	ANGLER ONLY
19%	20%	16%	20%	20%	23%	20%	23%	BOTH
60%	61%	61%	59%	62%	61%	61%	56%	NO/NEITHER (DO NOT READ)
1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	–	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
39%	38%	38%	39%	38%[^]	39%[^]	38%[^]	44%	TOTAL YES
60%	61%	61%	59%	62%	61%	61%	56%	NO/NEITHER

D5. Which of the following types of outdoor recreation, if any, do you participate in regularly?
(RANDOMIZE :1-6) (ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>	
65%	65%	Hiking
52%	59%	Camping
34%	37%	Bird watching and viewing wildlife
19%	22%	Boating
29%	20%	Mountain biking
16%	19%	Riding an off-road vehicle or snowmobile
7%	7%	Hunting/Fishing (DO NOT READ)
4%	2%	Sports (DO NOT READ)
*	–	OTHER (SPECIFY (DO NOT READ))
11%	10%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
*	–	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

And for statistical purposes only...

D6. How would you describe the area where you currently live? (ROTATE)

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	
25%	23%	16%	19%	20%	19%	21%	20%	A big city
39%	38%	44%	44%	41%	44%	37%	39%	A suburban area
19%	22%	23%	18%	21%	20%	22%	19%	A small town
16%	15%	16%	18%	17%	16%	20%	20%	A rural area
1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE (DO NOT READ)
*	*	*	1%	1%	*	—	—	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
64%	61%	60%	62%^	61%	63%	57%^	59%	TOTAL BIG CITY/SUBURBAN
35%	37%	39%	36%	38%	36%	42%	40%^	TOTAL SMALL TOWN/RURAL

ASKED IF BIG CITY/SUBURBAN IN D6

D6X. Have you ever lived in a small town or rural area or not?

<u>City/ Burb</u>	<u>Total</u>	
67%	39%	Yes
32%	19%	No
1%	*	DON'T RECALL/ REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

