

2018 WESTERN STATES SURVEY

Interview Schedule: Montana

Public Opinion Strategies/FM3

December 2017-January 2018

N = 400 voters in Montana

Margin of Error: $\pm 4.9\%$



*Fairbank,
Maslin,
Maullin,
Metz &
Associates*

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>	
11%	9%	12%	Once or twice
19%	14%	19%	3 to 5 times
13%	13%	13%	6 to 10 times
15%	16%	12%	11 to 20 times
38%	43%	36%	More than 20 times
4%	4%	7%	NEVER (DO NOT READ)
*	1%	1%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
96%	96%^	92%	TOTAL VISITED
30%	23%	31%	1-5 TIMES
28%	29%	25%	6-20 TIMES
38%	43%	36%	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>	
71%	86%	Yes
25%	10%	No
4%	4%	DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
–	–	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

Q3-4 SPLIT SAMPLED

3. When you think about the economic future of Montana 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)

79% Very important
17% 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 Montana 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)**

50% A big advantage over other parts of the country
27% A little advantage over other parts of the country
16% No real advantage over other parts of the country

7% UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**
* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

76%^ TOTAL ADVANTAGE
16% 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)?

8% Very similar
20% Somewhat similar
22% Somewhat different
42% Very different

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

28% TOTAL SIMILAR
64% 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)?

47% Very similar
32% Somewhat similar
10% Somewhat different
6% Very different

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

80%^ TOTAL SIMILAR
16% TOTAL DIFFERENT

Next, I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in Montana. 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 Montana. 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	33%^	74%	12%	22%	40%	21%	5%
2017	22%	70%^	11%	11%	47%	26%	5%
2016	30%	69%	11%	19%	39%	26%	5%
8.	Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife						
2018	42%	77%^	13%	29%	34%	22%	1%
2017	29%	59%	11%	18%	30%	38%	3%
2016	30%	62%	11%	19%	32%	35%	3%
2015	34%	63%	8%	26%	29%	36%	1%
2014	27%	64%	10%	17%	37%	34%	2%
2013	33%	63%^	11%	22%	29%	37%	1%
2012	33%	69%	11%	22%	36%	31%	–
2011	35%	72%	14%	21%	37%	27%	*
9.	Unemployment						
2018	28%	66%^	10%	18%	39%	31%	3%
2017	26%	68%	10%	16%	42%	30%	2%
2016	31%	66%	11%	20%	35%	29%	5%
2015	30%	73%	14%	16%	43%	24%	3%
2014	43%	87%	19%	24%	44%	12%	1%
2013	46%	82%	12%	34%	36%	16%	2%
10.	Our dependence on fossil fuels						
2018	35%	66%	7%	28%	31%	28%	6%
2017	26%	53%	11%	15%	27%	41%	5%
11.	Inadequate water supplies						
2018	29%	57%	7%	22%	28%	39%	4%
2015	17%	44%	6%	11%	27%	54%	2%
2013	19%^	43%	6%	12%	25%	54%	3%
2012	25%	54%	9%	16%	29%	44%	2%
2011	21%	50%	7%	14%	29%	47%	3%

	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	38%	71%	16%	22%	33%	23%	6%
2017	20%	58%	9%	11%	38%	40%	2%
2016	25%	59%	8%	17%	34%	36%	5%
2015	21%	63%	8%	13%	42%	35%	2%
13. Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property							
2018	64%	93%	31%	33%	29%	5%	3%
2016	38%	80%	14%	24%	42%	19%	1%
14. Low level of water in rivers							
2018	34%	61%	14%	20%	27%	33%	6%
2017	27%	63%	11%	16%	36%	33%	4%
2016	32%^	68%	15%	18%	35%	30%	2%
2015	21%	57%	8%	13%	36%	41%	2%
2014	30%	61%	12%	18%	31%	38%	2%
2013	32%	70%	12%	20%	38%	25%	5%
15. Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams							
2018	32%	69%^	16%	16%	36%	28%	4%
2017	27%	68%^	10%	17%	40%	32%	*
2016	26%	62%	8%	18%	36%	36%	2%
2015	22%	63%	9%	13%	41%	36%	1%
2014	24%	67%	10%	14%	43%	31%	2%
2013	26%	65%	9%	17%	39%	33%	2%
2012	31%	71%	15%	16%	40%	29%	*
2011	38%	78%^	16%	22%	39%	22%	1%
16. Rollbacks of laws that protect our land, water, and wildlife							
2018	44%	66%	22%	22%	22%	26%	8%

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

Issues	% Extremely/ Very Serious	% Total Serious
Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property	64%	93%
Rollbacks of laws that protect our land, water, and wildlife	44%	66%
Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife	42%	77%
Lack of resources to properly maintain and take care of national parks, forests and other public lands	38%	71%
Our dependence on fossil fuels	35%	66%
Low level of water in rivers	34%	61%
Poorly-planned growth and development	33%	74%
Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams	32%	69%
Inadequate water supplies	29%	57%
Unemployment	28%	66%

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?	46%	45%	25%	21%	7%	38%	9%
18. Handling the economy?	54%	39%	36%	18%	8%	31%	7%

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

	2017	2018	
63%	58%	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...	
24%	28%	Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining	
5%	8%	BOTH (DO NOT READ)	
2%	2%	NEITHER/OTHER (DO NOT READ)	
6%	4%	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/OPPOSE) 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	42%[^]	50%	15%	26%	18%	32%	7%	1%
21. Privatizing the management of campgrounds, visitor centers and other services provided at National Parks and other national public lands	32%[^]	53%	15%	16%	17%	36%	12%	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	33%	54%	13%	20%	11%	43%	9%	4%
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	30%	54%	8%	22%	14%	40%	10%	5%
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 77%	9%	57%	20%	3%	6%	9%	4%
	2016 79%[^]	10%	58%	20%	3%	7%	8%	3%
25. Allowing mining on public lands next to the Grand Canyon National Park, a practice that is currently banned	23%[^]	64%[^]	10%	14%	11%	54%	8%	5%

MONTANA: 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	77%	9%
Raising fees to enter some of the country's largest National Parks during the peak seasons	42%	50%
Expanding how much public land is available to private companies which pay for the ability to drill for oil and gas on public lands	33%	54%
Privatizing the management of campgrounds, visitor centers and other services provided at National Parks and other national public lands	32%	53%
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	30%	54%
Allowing mining on public lands next to the Grand Canyon National Park, a practice that is currently banned	23%	64%

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?

42%	STRONGLY KEEP PLANS
12%	NOT-SO-STRONGLY KEEP PLANS
11%	NOT-SO-STRONGLY CHANGE PLANS
23%	STRONGLY CHANGES PLANS
12%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
54%	TOTAL KEEP PLANS
34%	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%	11%	54%	32%	8%	3%	3%
28. National treasures	86%	12%^	58%	28%	7%	4%	2%
29. Important places to be conserved for future generations	89%	9%	67%	22%	4%	5%	2%
30. Hurts the economy of your state	25%	73%	12%	13%	16%	57%	2%
31. Places to learn about America's history and heritage	88%	7%	59%	29%	5%	2%	5%
32. Places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday	93%	4%	70%	23%	2%	2%	3%
33. Ties up too much land that could be put to other uses	29%	64%	16%	13%	17%	47%	7%

MONTANA: 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	70%	93%
Important places to be conserved for future generations	67%	89%
Places to learn about America's history and heritage	59%	88%
National treasures	58%	86%
Helps the economy of nearby communities	54%	86%
Ties up too much land that could be put to other uses	16%	29%
Hurts the economy of your state	12%	25%

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?

20% Very good idea
10% Somewhat good idea
9% Somewhat bad idea
51% Very bad idea

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

30% TOTAL GOOD IDEA
61%^ 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?

16% Very good idea
13% Somewhat good idea
12% Somewhat bad idea
52% Very bad idea

7% UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

29% TOTAL GOOD IDEA
64% 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 Montana generally reflect my values.	58%	38%	8%	50%	25%	13%	4%
37.	Elected officials in Washington, DC generally reflect my values.	20%	77%	5%	15%	26%	51%	3%

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		57%	39%	37%	20%	11%	28%	3%
2013		62%^	36%	34%	27%	13%	23%	2%

MONTANA: Summary of Statements - Ranked By % Agree

Statements	% Agree	% Disagree
Elected officials in Montana generally reflect my values.	58%	38%
The increasing number of extreme weather events like wildfires, droughts, and hurricanes is at least in part due to climate change.	57%	39%
Elected officials in Washington, DC generally reflect my values.	20%	77%

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

SPLIT SAMPLED

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

Ranked By 1st Choice

<u>1st</u>	<u>Comb</u>	
33%	57%	Wind power
19%	40%	Solar power
15%	36%	Natural gas
13%	24%	Coal
8%	14%	Oil
2%	4%	Nuclear
7%	7%	ALL/COMBINATION (DO NOT READ)
1%	2%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
3%	4%	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 Montana's economy? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE - ACCEPT 2 RESPONSES. RECORD 1st CHOICE, 2nd CHOICE)**

Ranked By 1st Choice

<u>1st</u>	<u>Comb</u>	
27%	48%	Wind power
20%	33%	Coal
19%	38%	Solar power
12%	28%	Oil
10%	27%	Natural gas
3%	6%	Nuclear
5%	6%	ALL/COMBINATION (DO NOT READ)
*	2%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
3%	3%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

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>	
19%	21%	19%	15%	15%	21%	21%	23%	18 - 34
21%	21%	21%	23%	25%	24%	26%	22%	35 - 44
14%	17%	15%	15%	15%	16%	16%	16%	45 - 54
24%	21%	22%	24%	26%	19%	17%	20%	55 - 64
21%	20%	22%	22%	19%	20%	20%	19%	65 AND ABOVE
1%	*	*	1%	—	—	*	*	REFUSED

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

D2. An outdoor recreation enthusiast

87% Yes
 12% 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>	
76%	70%	73%	73%	73%	71%	78%	82%	Yes
31%	25%	23%	22%	21%	24%	17%	14%	No
3%	4%	5%	5%	6%	4%	5%	4%	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>	
9%	5%	8%	6%	9%	9%	9%	11%	HUNTER ONLY
12%	9%	12%	10%	10%	8%	12%	11%	ANGLER ONLY
39%	44%	40%	47%	43%	46%	45%	41%	BOTH
40%	42%	40%	37%	37%	37%	33%	36%	NO/NEITHER (DO NOT READ)
*	—	*	*	1%	*	1%	*	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
60%	58%	60%	63%	62%	63%	66%	64%[^]	TOTAL YES
40%	42%	40%	37%	37%	37%	33%	36%	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>	
57%	72%	Hiking
60%	66%	Camping
39%	50%	Bird watching and viewing wildlife
33%	47%	Boating
24%	34%	Riding an off-road vehicle or snowmobile
16%	28%	Mountain biking
12%	10%	Hunting/Fishing (DO NOT READ)
3%	3%	Sports (DO NOT READ)
*	—	OTHER (SPECIFY (DO NOT READ))
12%	4%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
1%	*	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>	
8%	9%	19%	11%	12%	14%	9%	11%	A big city
14%	11%	8%	10%	11%	13%	13%	12%	A suburban area
40%	40%	38%	34%	39%	31%	28%	39%	A small town
37%	39%	34%	43%	36%	42%	49%	38%	A rural area
1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	*	1%	1%	DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE (DO NOT READ)
—	*	*	*	*	*	—	*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
22%	20%	27%	21%	24%^	27%	22%	22%^	TOTAL BIG CITY/SUBURBAN
77%	79%	72%	77%	75%	73%	77%	77%	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>	
83%	19%	Yes
17%	4%	No
—	—	DON'T RECALL/ REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

