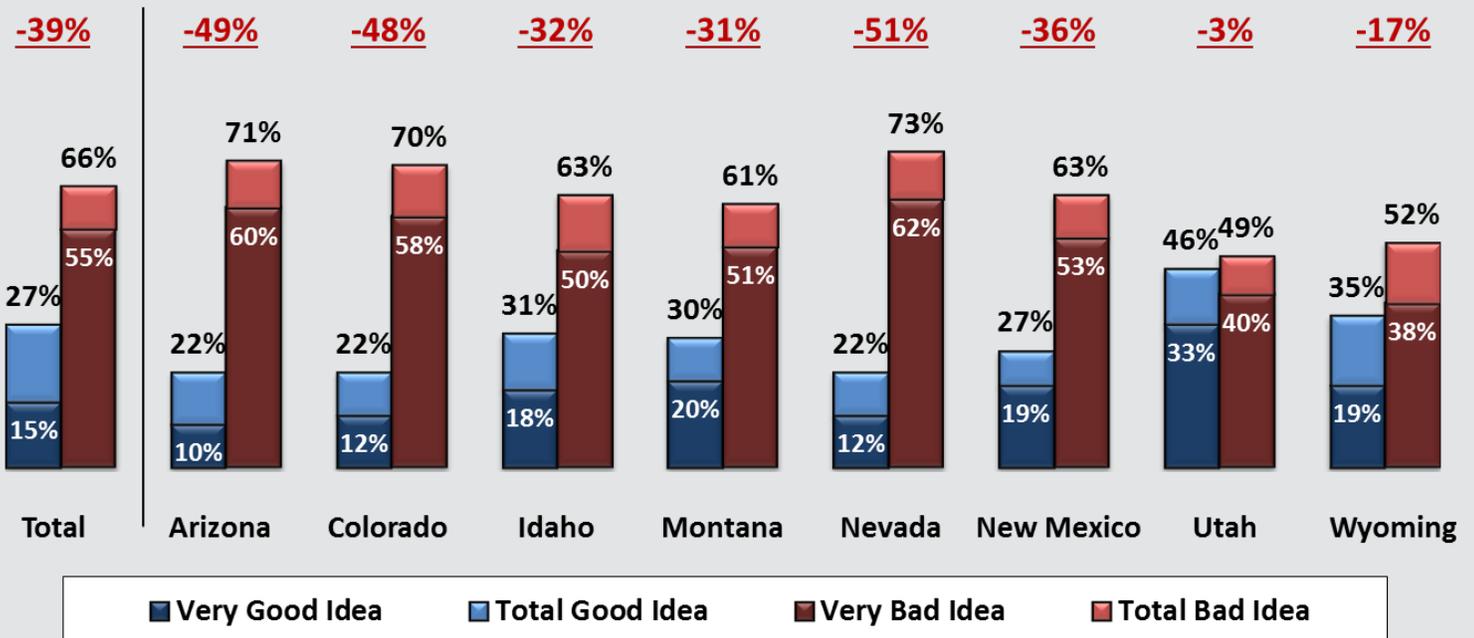


National Monuments

Two-thirds of Western voters say that reducing the size of two Utah Monuments is a bad idea.

Fully 66% of voters in this region say it is a bad idea to reduce the size and the protections on public lands in these National Monuments, while only one-in-four (27%) believe this is a good idea. As some voters are not familiar with these monuments, a brief neutral description was used so that all respondents would be reacting with the same basic information: *“Thinking specifically about two national monuments in Utah – Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante, which contain fossils, petroglyphs, cliff dwellings and wildlife habitat - 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.”* Voters in every state are more likely to view this as a bad idea than a good idea, although Utah is the most divided.

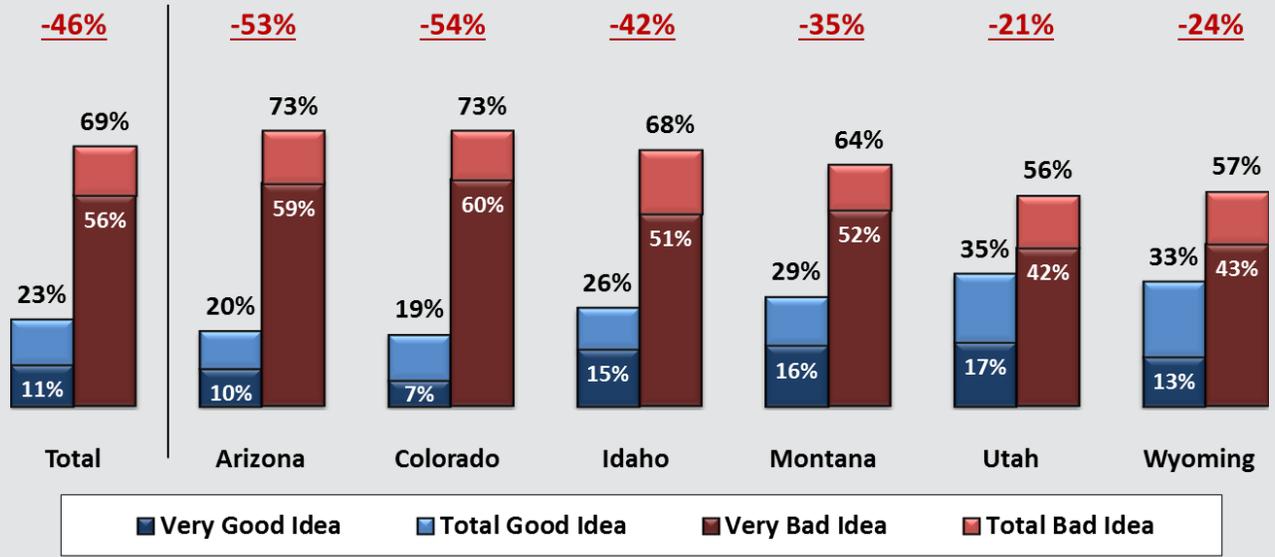
Evaluation of National Monuments Reduction – By State



Moving forward, majority of voters say it is a bad idea to reduce the size or change the status of other Monuments.

In six of the eight states, voters were asked generically about changes moving forward. A majority in each of these states say that it would be a bad idea for the Administration to “eliminate protections or reduce the size of other National Monuments in the West.”

Evaluation of Additional Monuments Changes – By State



And similarly, seven-in-ten Nevadans say it would be a bad idea to scale back or eliminate protections for the “newly established Gold Butte National Monument, just south of Lake Mead.” Just 19% feel this would be a good idea.

Likewise, 68% of New Mexico voters say it would be a bad idea to eliminate protections for National Monument lands in their state including “the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Rio Grande del Norte National Monuments.” Only 25% feel this would be a good idea.

The response to actions affecting National Monuments is not surprising given that Westerners overwhelmingly perceive National Monuments positively.

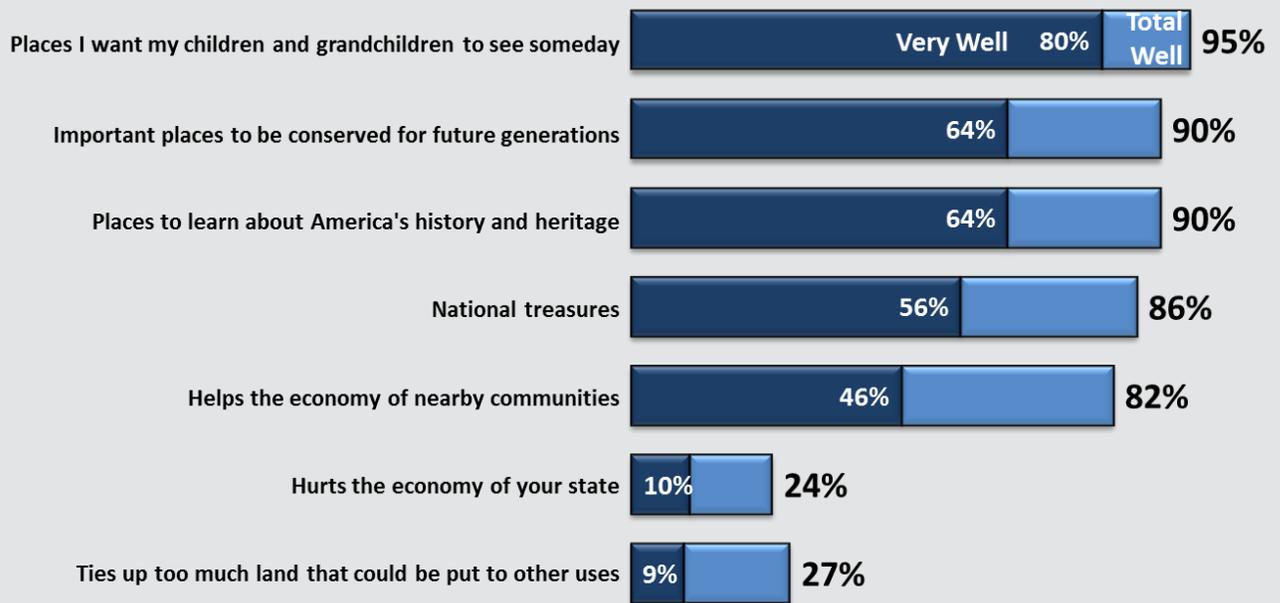
More than four-in-five Western voters say that every one of the positive attributes tested regarding National Monuments describe those types of public lands. Fully 95% say that “places I want my children and grandchildren to see someday” describes National Monuments (80% say it describes them “very well”). We see the same overwhelming view that these are “important places to be conserved for future generations” (90% describes, 64% describes very well), “places to learn about America’s history and heritage” (90%, 64% very well) and “national treasures “(86%, 56% very well).



Westerners also believe that National Monuments are economically beneficial both for nearby communities and their state.

Fully 82 percent view them as helping the economy of nearby communities, with almost half (46%) saying it describes them very well. At the same time, they reject the idea that they hurt the economy of their state – 72% say that does NOT describe National Monuments. Fewer than one-in-four (24%) say “hurts the economy of your state” describes them well (only 10% think it very well describes them). This dynamic is true in every single state and with all sub-groups. Two-thirds of GOP voters (66%) in the region reject the idea that National Monuments hurt the economy of their state, as do 76% of Independents and 74% of Democrats.

Summary of National Monument Descriptions Ranked By % Very Well



It is also worth noting that few voters think that National Monuments tie up “too much land that could be put to other uses,” either. Just 27% say that describes Monuments well, with only 9% saying it describes them very well. In fact, a majority of Westerners across the political spectrum reject the idea that Monuments tie up too much land including 57% of Republicans, 74% of Independents and 81% of Democrats.