

Pew Charitable Trusts US Public Land Roadless Rule Survey

Topline Report • February 26, 2019

The survey was conducted for the Pew Charitable Trusts telephone (landline and cell) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted from February 19 – February 22, 2019 among a representative sample of 607 total respondents. The margin of error with design effect for the total respondents is +/-4.89% at the 95% confidence level.

Based on total respondents

LAND1. Eighteen years ago, the U.S. Forest Service created a conservation policy that protected the last one-third of America’s undeveloped national forest lands from road-building and most forms of industrial activity.

Supporters of the conservation policy say it is important to protect water quality, wildlife, and recreational opportunities. Opponents say this is a one-size fits all policy that does not provide federal land management officials flexibility to conduct management activities or generate economic benefits through logging and other activities. Do you support or oppose this national conservation policy?

	Total
Support	75%
Oppose	16%
Don't Know	7%
Refused	1%

Based on total respondents

LAND2. Some governors want exemptions from this conservation policy for the national forest lands in their state. I'm going to read you two statements on this and ask which of them comes closest to your view.

First, some (people say that the US Forest Service should allow a state to be exempted from the policy because it harms a state's ability to manage and develop its natural resources. An exemption would allow a state to decide on its own whether to allow road-building, logging, forest improvement projects, and other development in national forests within its borders).

Second, other (people say that the US Forest Service should not exempt a state from the conservation policy because these are national forests that benefit all Americans and do not belong to the state. If the policy is weakened it will allow states to prioritize the interests of logging and mining industries over tourism, fishing, and conservation).

Which of these comes closest to your view?

	Total
Should allow a state to be exempted	34%
Should not exempt a state	59%
Don't Know	5%
Refused	2%

DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

	Total
Male	49%
Female	51%
18-34	30%
35-44	18%
45-54	12%
55-64	17%
65+	21%
Registered to Vote	72%
Not Registered to Vote	25%
Democrat	32%
Independent	36%
Republican	23%
Conservative	31%
Moderate	27%
Liberal	32%
Northeast	18%
Mid-West	21%
South	37%
West	24%
Rural	38%
Non-Rural	62%