

To: The Water Foundation
From: The Mellman Group, Inc.
Re: Findings From A Survey In Washington State
Date: August 11, 2021

This analysis represents the findings of a survey of 800 registered voters in Washington State who were interviewed July 22-27, 2021. The majority of this multi-mode study was conducted by live interviewers who were contacted using both cell phones and land lines, and the balance were randomly selected text-to-online interviews. The margin of error is +/-3.5% at a 95% level of confidence. The margin of error is higher for subgroups.

WASHINGTON VOTERS SUPPORT REMOVING LOWER SNAKE RIVER DAM TO PREVENT SALMON EXTINCTION

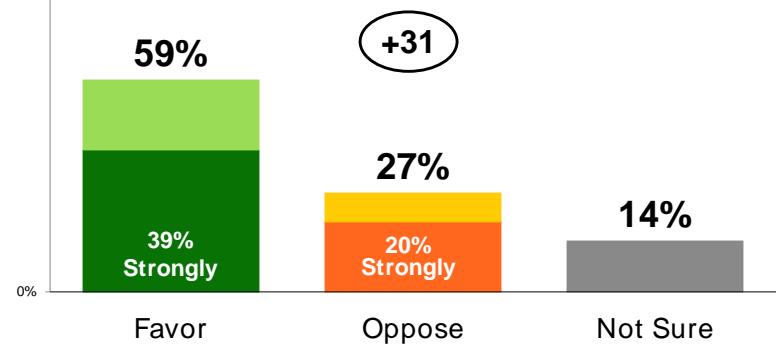
A large majority (59%) support a plan to remove the four Lower Snake River dams in order to protect salmon. This plan includes investments in clean energy, improving transportation for farm products, and preserving irrigation. Only 27% oppose such a plan.

With 39% *strongly* supporting this plan, intense support is considerably higher than overall opposition.

A Large Majority Favor A Plan To Remove the Dams And Protect Salmon

It has been proposed that the four Lower Snake River dams be removed to protect salmon and that the federal government provide money to Washington State to increase the production of clean energy, improve transportation for the farm products affected by the removal of the dams, and preserve irrigation for those farms.

Do you **favor** or **oppose** this plan?



This plan garners majority support among Democrats (71%) and independents (55%), with support even outstripping opposition among Republicans (44% favor to 42% oppose).

There is significant support for dam removal to protect salmon across the state, with 63% in the Seattle market and 47% in Eastern Washington favoring the plan.

CONCERN ABOUT SALMON EXTINCTION IS WIDESPREAD, STRETCHING ACROSS PARTISANSHIP AND GEOGRAPHY

Concern about salmon in Washington State is considerable, with more than 6-in-10 (62%) expressing at least a great deal of concern that salmon are going extinct.

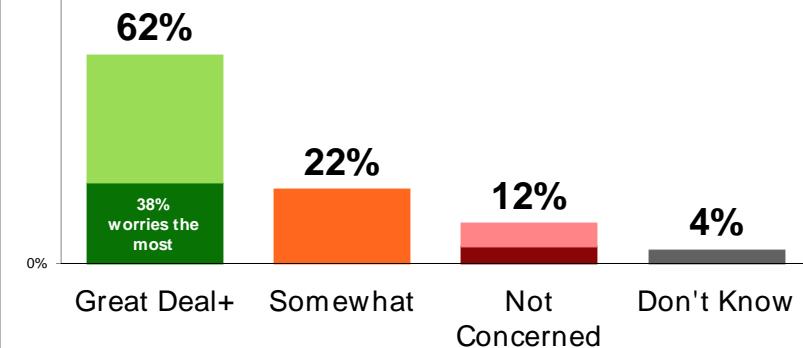
Moreover, that concern is widespread:

- Majorities of Democrats (71%), independents (56%) and Republicans (56%) have at least a great deal of concern about salmon extinction.
- Three quarters of voters in Seattle (69%) media market and nearly half in Eastern Washington (45%) also have at least a great deal of concern about salmon extinction.

Washingtonians Express A Great Deal Of Concern About Salmon Extinction

I'm going to list some things people tell us they are concerned about personally. After each, please tell me whether it is one of the things that worries you the most, a great deal, some, not too much, or not at all. If you are not sure, please say so and we'll go on.

Salmon are going extinct

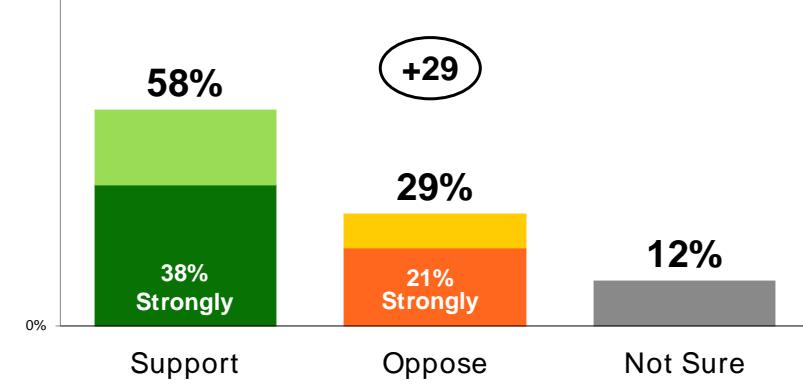


WASHINGTONIANS WANT STAKEHOLDERS TO COME TOGETHER TO SUPPORT A PLAN TO REMOVE THE DAMS AND SAVE SALMON

Voters favor a stakeholder process that leads to removal of the dams to enhance salmon recovery. Fifty-eight percent (58%) would support a stakeholder-developed plan that removes the dams – including 72% of Democrats, 51% of independents, and 45% of Republicans. A stakeholder plan also gets support in Seattle (63%) and in Eastern Washington (45%).

By 2:1, Voters Support A Stakeholder Plan To Remove The Dams And Help Salmon

If, after bringing together scientists, tribes, businesses, farmers, and communities, a stakeholder process put forward a salmon recovery plan that removes the four dams on the Lower Snake River, would you **support** or **oppose** the plan developed by this process?



THERE ARE ELECTORAL RISKS FOR THOSE WHO OPPOSE A STAKEHOLDER PROCESS

More voters say they would vote against than for, a politician who opposed the stakeholder process. While 23% say they would vote for a candidate who opposed a stakeholder plan that resulted in removal of the dam, a larger 30% say they would vote against such a candidate.

SUMMARY

This survey demonstrates considerable support for removing the four Lower Snake River dams in order to prevent salmon extinction. Concern about salmon is widespread across the state and across partisanship, with majorities supporting removing the dams. Moreover, by 2 to 1, voters support a process that brings stakeholders together to develop a plan to remove the dams, with electoral risk for those who oppose a stakeholder plan.