



**National Wildlife Federation
Nationwide Opinion Survey of Hunters and Anglers
March/April 2006**

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Responsive Management conducted this national survey of hunters and anglers on behalf of the **National Wildlife Federation**. The survey was administered in March through April, 2006. A total of 1,031 telephone interviews were completed: 212 interviews with those who fished only, 148 interviews with those who hunted only, and 671 interviews with those who both fished and hunted. The interviews were only of those 18 years of age and older.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. To ensure the integrity of the telephone survey data, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all to participate. When a respondent could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day. The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1.

The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The data were weighted to represent the actual nationwide population of anglers only, hunters only, and those who participated in both activities. Sampling error was ± 3.05 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. The proportions of hunters only, anglers only, and hunter/anglers was designed to correspond with the most recent (2001) *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation* conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Census Bureau.

1. Overall, how would you rate the importance of fishing or hunting to you personally, on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important?

Mean = 7.5 Percent giving rating of 10: 28%

2. In your personal experience, would you say the quality of hunting and fishing habitats has improved, stayed the same, or gotten worse within the past few years?

Improved	22%
Stayed the same	31%
Gotten worse	42%
Don't know	5%

3. How concerned are you that the wildlife or fish populations in the areas where you typically hunt or fish will decrease significantly or disappear in the next 10 years?

Very concerned	44%
Somewhat concerned	27%
Not at all concerned	27%
Don't know	2%

4. Have you observed any of the following conditions where you live?

Earlier spring?	37%
Earlier bloom times?	32%
Hotter summers?	39%
Warmer, or shorter winters?	54%
Drying wetlands?	28%
Unusual drought?	30%
Less snow?	36%
Less ice cover on ponds, lakes, or rivers?	28%
(Do not read:) None of these	24%

5. Have you observed any of the following conditions where you live?

More wildfires, forest fires, or brush fires?	15%
Unusual flooding?	13%
More intense storms, including hurricanes?	31%
Changing migratory bird patterns?	15%
Decreasing bird, fish, or wildlife populations?	35%
New pests or invasive species?	20%
(Do not read:) None of these	38%

4a. Do you believe that [seasonal weather condition given in question 4] that you have observed [is/are] related to global warming?

Yes	54%
No	22%
Don't know	24%

5a. Do you believe that [natural disaster/wildlife condition(s) given in question 5] that you have observed [is/are] related to global warming?

Yes 44%
 No 35%
 Don't know 21%

Questions 6 through 11 asked about agreement or disagreement with six statements. The results are tabulated here and then shown individually below.

Statement	Strongly agree (%)	Strongly or moderately agree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)	Strongly or moderately disagree (%)
6. Is global warming occurring?	47	76	7	13
7. Global warming is primarily caused by pollution from burning fossil fuels.	30	56	11	22
8. Global warming is a serious threat to fish and wildlife.	48	70	11	22
9. Global warming is a serious threat to humans.	45	69	12	22
10. Global warming is an urgent problem requiring immediate action.	46	67	13	25
11. Global warming threatens the economy and jobs across the nation.	30	54	17	35

6. Global warming is defined as the rise in temperature of the Earth's atmosphere. Do you agree or disagree that global warming is currently occurring?

Strongly agree	47%
Moderately agree	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	3%
Moderately disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	7%
Don't know	8%

7. Do you agree or disagree that global warming is primarily caused by pollution from burning fossil fuels?

Strongly agree	30%
Moderately agree	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	5%
Moderately disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	17%

8. Global warming is a serious threat to fish and wildlife. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	48%
Moderately agree	23%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	6%

9. Global warming is a serious threat to humans. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	45%
Moderately agree	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	12%
Don't know	6%

10. Global warming is an urgent problem requiring immediate action. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	46%
Moderately agree	21%
Neither agree nor disagree	3%
Moderately disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	13%
Don't know	5%

11. Global warming threatens the economy and jobs across the nation. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	30%
Moderately agree	23%
Neither agree nor disagree	1%
Moderately disagree	17%
Strongly disagree	17%
Don't know	10%

12. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

Global warming is already beginning to impact hunting and fishing conditions	34%
Global warming will impact hunting and fishing conditions in future generations	39%
Global warming will have little or no impact on hunting and fishing conditions, and concern about it is overblown	23%
(Do not read:) Don't know	4%

Questions 13 through 17 asked about agreement or disagreement with five statements. The results are tabulated here and then shown individually below.

Statement	Strongly agree (%)	Strongly or moderately agree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)	Strongly or moderately disagree (%)
13. Addressing global warming should be a high priority. We can improve the environment and strengthen the economy by investing in clean, renewable energy technologies that create jobs while reducing global warming pollution.	58	82	8	14
14. The U.S. should reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide that contribute to global warming and threaten fish and wildlife habitat.	52	78	9	14
15. The U.S. should be a world leader in addressing global warming.	60	80	10	15
16. Congress should pass legislation that sets a clear national goal for reducing global warming pollution with mandatory timelines because industry has already had enough time to clean up voluntarily.	51	75	11	19
17. Legislation to address global warming should include funding to protect fish, wildlife, and their habitat from the impacts of global warming.	54	76	11	17

13. Addressing global warming should be a high priority. We can improve the environment and strengthen the economy by investing in clean, renewable energy technologies that create jobs while reducing global warming pollution. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	58%
Moderately agree	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	6%
Strongly disagree	8%
Don't know	2%

14. The U.S. should reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide that contribute to global warming and threaten fish and wildlife habitat. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	52%
Moderately agree	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	9%
Don't know	6%

15. The U.S. should be a world leader in addressing global warming. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	60%
Moderately agree	20%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	10%
Don't know	4%

16. Congress should pass legislation that sets a clear national goal for reducing global warming pollution with mandatory timelines because industry has already had enough time to clean up voluntarily. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	51%
Moderately agree	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	2%
Moderately disagree	8%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	4%

17. Legislation to address global warming should include funding to protect fish, wildlife, and their habitat from the impacts of global warming. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree	54%
Moderately agree	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	1%
Moderately disagree	6%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	5%

Questions 18 through 20 asked about agreement or disagreement whether the federal government should provide incentives, such as tax breaks and subsidies, for three actions. The results are tabulated here and then shown individually below.

Statement	Strongly agree (%)	Strongly or moderately agree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)	Strongly or moderately disagree (%)
18. (What about) to make energy conservation technologies more affordable for citizens	69	87	7	10
19. (What about) for industries to replace some energy from oil, gas, and coal with renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power	61	86	7	11
20. (What about) for companies that develop new energy efficient technologies that reduce global warming	57	84	9	13

18. (What about) to make energy conservation technologies more affordable for citizens? (Do you agree or disagree that the federal government should provide incentives, such as tax breaks and subsidies, for this?)

Strongly agree 69%
 Moderately agree 18%
 Neither agree nor disagree 1%
 Moderately disagree 4%
 Strongly disagree 7%
 Don't know 1%

19. (What about) for industries to replace some energy from oil, gas, and coal with renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power? (Do you agree or disagree that the federal government should provide incentives, such as tax breaks and subsidies, for this?)

Strongly agree 61%
 Moderately agree 25%
 Neither agree nor disagree 1%
 Moderately disagree 4%
 Strongly disagree 7%
 Don't know 1%

20. (What about) for companies that develop new energy efficient technologies that reduce global warming? (Do you agree or disagree that the federal government should provide incentives, such as tax breaks and subsidies, for this?)

Strongly agree	57%
Moderately agree	27%
Neither agree nor disagree	1%
Moderately disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	9%
Don't know	2%

Questions 21 through 26 asked about support or opposition with five elements of the proposed McCain/Lieberman bill and then overall support or opposition to the bill. The results are tabulated here and then shown individually below.

Statement	Strongly support (%)	Strongly or moderately support (%)	Strongly oppose (%)	Strongly or moderately oppose (%)
21. The bill would provide \$500 million annually to state wildlife agencies for fish and wildlife conservation.	58	84	7	12
22. The bill would provide funding to boost research and development of advanced clean energy technologies, including new ways of using crops from America's farms to create fuels that substitute for oil.	70	92	4	6
23. The bill would provide funding to America's auto industry to help retool auto plants to incorporate the latest gas-saving technologies.	49	71	17	25
24. The bill would provide funding to develop a new generation of advanced nuclear power plants.	32	57	18	29
25. The bill would provide payments to farmers and landowners who conserve soil and plant trees for reforestation.	64	85	6	12
26. Overall, do you support or oppose legislation with the provisions in the McCain/Lieberman bill?	34	77	4	10

21. The bill would provide \$500 million annually to state wildlife agencies for fish and wildlife conservation. Do you support or oppose this element of the bill?

Strongly support	58%
Moderately support	26%
Neither support nor oppose	1%
Moderately oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	7%
Don't know	3%

22. The bill would provide funding to boost research and development of advanced clean energy technologies, including new ways of using crops from America's farms to create fuels that substitute for oil. Do you support or oppose this element of the bill?

Strongly support	70%
Moderately support	22%
Neither support nor oppose	1%
Moderately oppose	2%
Strongly oppose	4%
Don't know	1%

23. The bill would provide funding to America's auto industry to help retool auto plants to incorporate the latest gas-saving technologies. Do you support or oppose this element of the bill?

Strongly support	49%
Moderately support	22%
Neither support nor oppose	2%
Moderately oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	17%
Don't know	2%

24. The bill would provide funding to develop a new generation of advanced nuclear power plants. Do you support or oppose this element of the bill?

Strongly support	32%
Moderately support	26%
Neither support nor oppose	6%
Moderately oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	18%
Don't know	7%

25. The bill would provide payments to farmers and landowners who conserve soil and plant trees for reforestation. Do you support or oppose this element of the bill?

Strongly support	64%
Moderately support	21%
Neither support nor oppose	2%
Moderately oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	6%
Don't know	2%

26. Overall, do you support or oppose legislation with the provisions in the McCain/Lieberman bill?

Strongly support	34%
Moderately support	43%
Neither support nor oppose	6%
Moderately oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	4%
Don't know	8%

27. Is the country on the right track or the wrong track when it comes to global warming?

Right track	26%
Wrong track	43%
Don't know	31%

28. Now, I'm going to tell you about two candidates for office. Please tell me which one you would be more likely to favor.

Candidate A believes we must take action now to reduce pollution contributing to global warming and supports strong laws. Candidate B believes more study is needed on global warming and believes there should only be voluntary responses rather than government regulation. Which candidate would you be more likely to favor? [Note that the order of which candidate position was read first was randomized to eliminate question order bias.]

"Strong laws" candidate	64%
"More study" candidate	28%
Don't know	8%

29. In general, how much of an influence do candidates' conservation policies or views have on your actual voting behavior? Would you say they have a major influence, a minor influence, or no influence?

Major influence	37%
Minor influence	43%
No influence	17%
Don't know	3%

30. Which of the following do you think is the best way to address America's energy needs?

Drilling for more oil and gas in the U.S., including areas within wildlife refuges and other public lands, to increase our domestic energy supply.	15%
Conserve more, waste less, and develop more fuel-efficient vehicles so we use less oil and gas.	27%
Rely less on oil and gas and expand development of renewable forms of energy like wind, solar, and ethanol.	51%
(Do not read:) Don't know	7%

31. President Bush said in his State of the Union address that "America is addicted to oil". Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Strongly agree	69%
Moderately agree	12%
Neither agree nor disagree	1%
Moderately disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	8%
Don't know	3%

32. Are the Administration and Congress doing enough to break America's addiction to oil? (Asked of those who agree that America is addicted to oil.)

Yes	6%
No	86%
Don't know	8%

33. Is the country on the right track or the wrong track in meeting our national energy needs?

Right track	18%
Wrong track	69%
Don't know	13%

34. Do you consider your place of residence to be a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area NOT on a farm or ranch?

Large city or urban area	14%
Suburban area	17%
Small city or town	25%
Rural area on a farm or ranch	15%
Rural area NOT on a farm or ranch	22%
Don't know	2%
Refused	4%

35. How many children, age 17 or younger, do you have living in your household?

No children	67%
1 child	14%
2 children	8%
3 children	5%
4 children	1%
Don't know	2%
Refused	3%

36. Do you consider yourself a farmer, a rancher, or both?

Farmer	9%
Rancher	2%
Both	3%
Neither	81%
Don't know	1%
Refused	4%

37. Are you a member of a labor union?

Yes	16%
No	78%
Don't know	2%
Refused	4%

38. May I ask your age?

65 years or older	22%
55-64 years old	22%
45-54 years old	25%
35-44 years old	15%
25-34 years old	4%
18-24 years old	5%
Don't know	3%
Refused	4%

39. Do you consider yourself an evangelical Christian? (IF ASKED: The term "evangelical Christian" means different things to different people. Please respond according to what it means to you. You may also say that you don't know.)

Yes	50%
No	39%
Don't know	5%
Refused	6%

40. Are you currently a registered voter?

Yes	82%
No	11%
Don't know	2%
Refused	5%

41. On political issues, do you consider yourself conservative, moderate, or liberal?

Conservative	36%
Moderate	37%
Liberal	11%
Don't know	9%
Refused	7%

42. What is your political affiliation?

No political affiliation / Independent / moderate	29%
Republican	27%
Democrat	31%
Other	1%
Don't know	3%
Refused	10%

41a. Are you a registered Republican? (Asked of those whose affiliation is Republican.)

Yes	77%
No	19%
Don't know	4%
Refused	0%

42b. Are you a registered Democrat? (Asked of those whose affiliation is Democrat.)

Yes	88%
No	8%
Don't know	4%
Refused	0%

43. During Presidential election years, would you say that you vote always, usually, sometimes, rarely, or never?

Always	64%
Usually	11%
Sometimes	7%
Rarely	5%
Never	5%
Don't know	2%
Refused	6%

44. During non-Presidential election years, would you say that you vote always, usually, sometimes, rarely, or never?

Always	44%
Usually	20%
Sometimes	13%
Rarely	8%
Never	8%
Don't know	2%
Refused	6%

45. Did you vote in the 2004 Presidential election? (IF ASKED: It is possible to have voted in the 2004 Presidential election and not be a currently registered voter.)

Yes	77%
No	15%
Don't know	2%
Refused	6%

46. Whom did you vote for in the 2004 Presidential election? (Of those who voted.)

George W. Bush	53%
John Kerry	29%
Ralph Nader	0%
Other	0%
Don't know	2%
Refused	16%

47. Do you plan to vote in the 2006 non-Presidential election this November?

Yes	76%
No	9%
Don't know	8%
Refused	6%

48. Respondent's gender (not asked, but observed by interviewer).

Male	75%
Female	25%