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# **Clark County Voters and Protections for Gold Butte**

April 2012

# Methodology

## **Sample**

325 interviews among a representative sample of likely general election voters in Clark County, Nevada

## **Method**

Telephone interviews conducted April 21-22, 2012

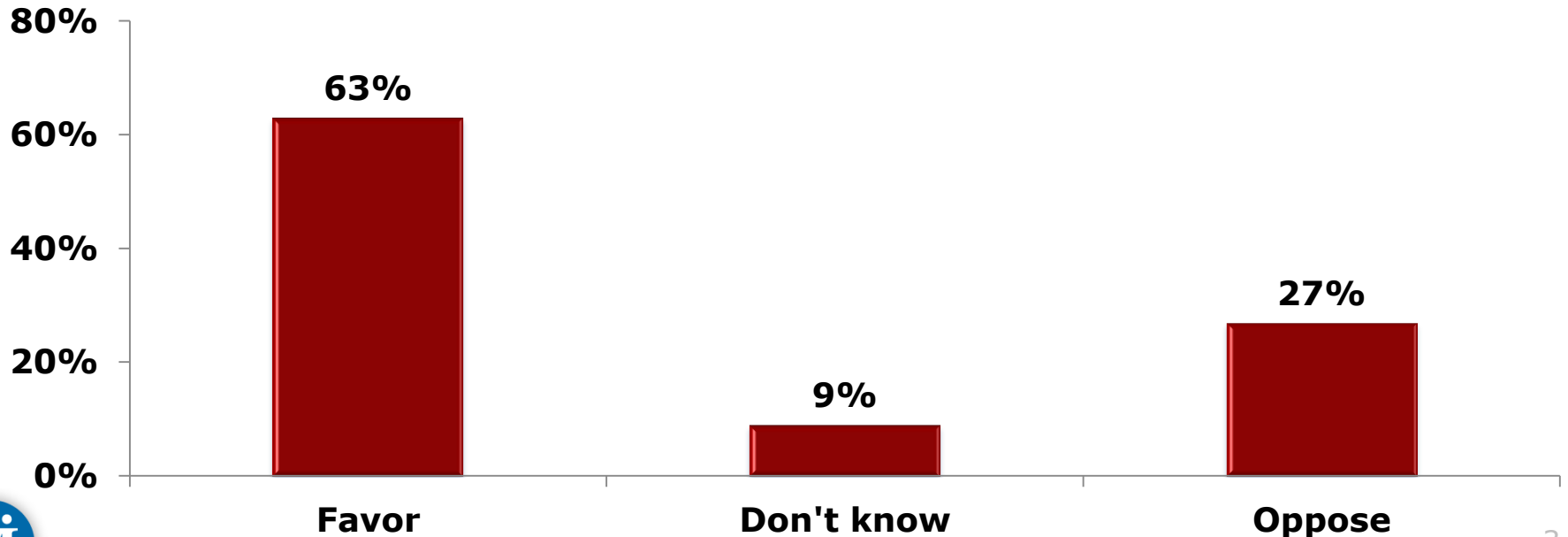
## **Sampling Error**

Plus or minus 5.5% at the 95% confidence level

# Additional Wilderness in Nevada?

"As you may know, most of the federal public lands in Nevada are managed for a variety of public uses. Some of the lands are designated as wilderness, like Mount Charleston Wilderness or Rainbow Mountain Wilderness near Red Rock. Wilderness lands can be used for hiking, camping, livestock grazing, horseback riding, and hunting. However, new mining claims, oil and gas development, the use of motorized vehicles, such as jeeps and dirt bikes, and mountain biking are not allowed in wilderness lands.

Would you favor or oppose protecting ADDITIONAL public lands as wilderness in Nevada?"



# Additional Wilderness: Key Subgroups - 1

	<b>Favor</b>	<b>Don't know</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Net favor</b>
<b>All voters</b>	63%	9%	27%	<b>+36%</b>
<b>Party registration</b>				
Republicans	35%	14%	51%	<b>-16%</b>
Democrats	80%	6%	13%	<b>+67%</b>
Independents/others	70%	8%	21%	<b>+49%</b>
<b>Gender</b>				
Men	57%	9%	34%	<b>+23%</b>
Women	69%	9%	21%	<b>+48%</b>
<b>Age</b>				
18-54	70%	7%	23%	<b>+47%</b>
55+	55%	11%	35%	<b>+20%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Caucasians	60%	9%	31%	<b>+29%</b>
Non-Caucasians	79%	5%	18%	<b>+61%</b>

# Additional Wilderness: Key Subgroups - 2

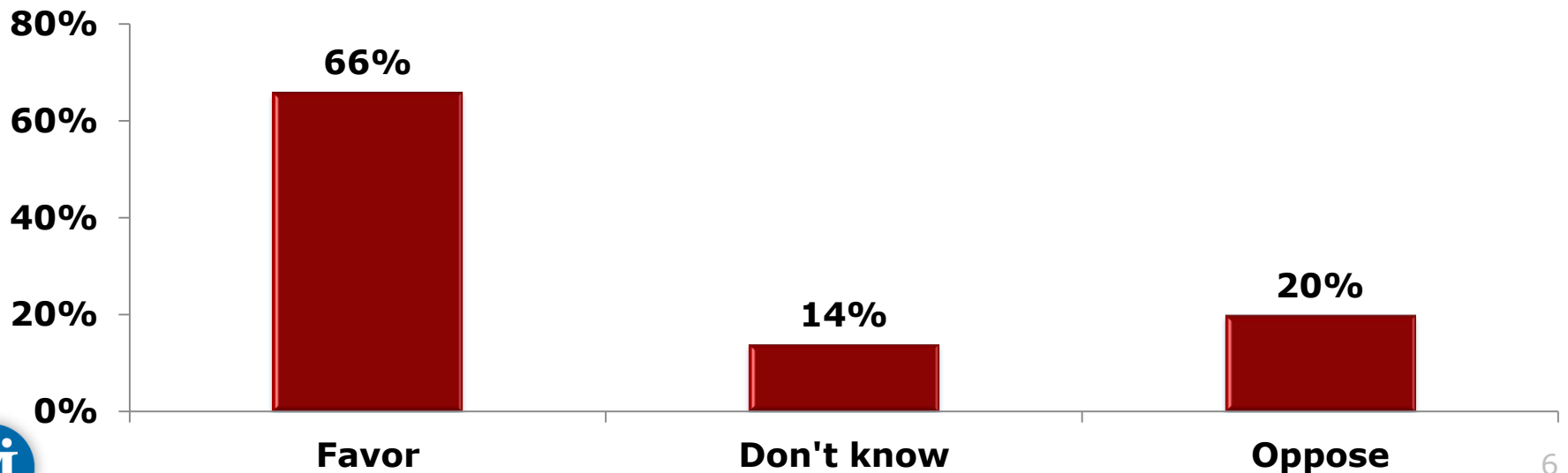
	Favor	Don't know	Oppose	Net favor
<b>All voters</b>	63%	9%	27%	<b>+36%</b>
<b>Riding off-road vehicles</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	58%	4%	37%	<b>+21%</b>
Rarely/never	65%	10%	25%	<b>+40%</b>
<b>Fishing or hunting</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	62%	4%	34%	<b>+28%</b>
Rarely/never	64%	11%	25%	<b>+39%</b>
<b>Hiking or camping</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	68%	7%	25%	<b>+43%</b>
Rarely/never	57%	12%	31%	<b>+26%</b>
<b>Mountain or road biking</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	58%	7%	34%	<b>+24%</b>
Rarely/never	65%	10%	26%	<b>+39%</b>



# Gold Butte Conservation Area Proposal

"The Gold Butte proposal would change the way some public lands are managed in the Gold Butte region of Nevada near Valley of Fire State Park, south of Mesquite. The proposed changes in how these lands are managed, or overseen, include conserving the most pristine areas in the region as wilderness. The proposal would also create a national conservation area surrounding these wilderness areas. The non-wilderness lands within the broader national conservation area would be managed primarily for conservation but would allow for a wider range of recreational uses such as off-road vehicle and mountain biking use, without closing any roads.

Based on this information, do you favor or oppose designating Gold Butte as a national conservation area?"



# Gold Butte Conservation Area Proposal: Key Subgroups - 1

	<b>Favor</b>	<b>Don't know</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Net favor</b>
<b>All voters</b>	66%	14%	20%	<b>+46%</b>
<b>Party registration</b>				
Republicans	57%	13%	29%	<b>+28%</b>
Democrats	72%	13%	15%	<b>+57%</b>
Independents/others	69%	15%	16%	<b>+53%</b>
<b>Gender</b>				
Men	67%	12%	21%	<b>+46%</b>
Women	66%	15%	19%	<b>+47%</b>
<b>Age</b>				
18-54	76%	10%	14%	<b>+62%</b>
55+	53%	18%	30%	<b>+23%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Caucasians	64%	13%	23%	<b>+41%</b>
Non-Caucasians	70%	14%	18%	<b>+52%</b>



# Gold Butte Conservation Area Proposal: Key Subgroups - 2

	Favor	Don't know	Oppose	Net favor
<b>All voters</b>	66%	14%	20%	<b>+46%</b>
<b>Riding off-road vehicles</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	73%	4%	23%	<b>+50%</b>
Rarely/never	65%	15%	20%	<b>+45%</b>
<b>Fishing or hunting</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	66%	9%	25%	<b>+41%</b>
Rarely/never	67%	14%	19%	<b>+48%</b>
<b>Hiking or camping</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	68%	10%	21%	<b>+47%</b>
Rarely/never	64%	16%	20%	<b>+44%</b>
<b>Mountain or road biking</b>				
Frequently/occasionally	75%	7%	18%	<b>+57%</b>
Rarely/never	64%	15%	21%	<b>+43%</b>





# Summary and Highlights

- Protecting additional public lands in Nevada as wilderness is favored by roughly six-in-ten Clark County voters (63% favor/27% oppose).
- A proposal designating Gold Butte as a national conservation area with wilderness is supported by a 66-20% margin countywide.
  - Majorities of voters in all subgroups throughout the county favor the proposal, including Republicans, Democrats and Independents.
  - In addition, voters who recreate on Nevada public lands also support designating the Gold Butte area as a national conservation area with wilderness.
- By a two-to-one margin, voters are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports a proposal to designate the Gold Butte area as a national conservation area with wilderness, but for roughly a third, this information would not impact their vote today.

