## METHODOLOGY

A total of 500 interviews were conducted among a representative sample of voters statewide. In addition, an oversample of 120 voters age 18-40 were conducted using a combination of both live phone and online interviews. In total, N=316 18-40 year-olds were interviewed (N=196 from the main sample and N=120 oversample).

Landline (27%) and cell phone (63%) interviews conducted November 17-21, 2019.

Plus or minus 4% at the 95% confidence level, for the main sample; plus or minus 6% at the 95% confidence level for the oversample.





## DEMOGRAPHY

Region		Gen	der
<ul> <li>Seattle</li> <li>Other King Co.</li> <li>Kit./Pierce/Snoh./ Thurston Cos.</li> <li>Misc. West</li> <li>East</li> </ul>	11% 19% 30% 22% 19%	<ul> <li>Men</li> <li>Women</li> </ul>	49% 51%
Party ID		TV M	arket
<ul> <li>Republicans</li> <li>Democrats</li> <li>Inds./others</li> </ul>	21% 36% 36%	<ul> <li>Seattle</li> <li>Spokane</li> <li>Yakima</li> <li>Portland</li> </ul>	74% 10% 7% 9%

#### **Partisan Vote Behavior**

• Hard Reps.	22%
<ul> <li>Soft Reps.</li> </ul>	11%
<ul> <li>Inds./don't know</li> </ul>	19%
<ul> <li>Soft Dems.</li> </ul>	13%
• Hard Dems.	35%



A	ge
<ul> <li>18-34</li> <li>35-44</li> <li>45-54</li> <li>55-64</li> <li>55+</li> </ul>	23% 18% 16% 18% 25%

#### **Vote History**

0-1/4
2-4/4
3-4/4

25% 75% 54%



### POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT



## Voter Mood

"First, do you believe things in Washington state are generally headed in the right direction, or do you think things are pretty much headed off on the wrong track?" (Q1)



	Right direction	Don't know	Wrong track	Net right direction
Party ID				
Republicans	9%	15%	76%	-67%
Democrats	71%	19%	10%	+61%
Inds./others	36%	15%	50%	-14%









### Perceptions of Dams on Lower Snake River



#### Most Important Use of the Snake River

"Now I'd like to ask you some questions about energy and the environment. What, in your opinion, is the most important use of the Snake River in Washington state?" (Q2)





20%

36%

11%

17%

20%

#### Most Important Use of the Snake River: *Key Subgroups*

		Region					
	All voters	Seattle	Other King Co.	K/P/S/T Cos.	Misc. West	East	
Habitat for salmon and wildlife	36%	49%	41%	39%	30%	27%	
Generation of hydroelectric power	20%	17%	18%	20%	23%	21%	
Irrigation for crops	11%	6%	13%	10%	9%	18%	
Shipping transportation for agricultural products and other goods (N=29)	6%	7%	3%	4%	9%	7%	
Recreation and tourism (N=18)	4%		2%	3%	4%	8%	
Commercial fishing (N=11)	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%	3%	
Don't know/none/other	21%	20%	21%	21%	22%	18%	



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#### Most Important Use of the Snake River: *Key Subgroups (2)*

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		Age					Party ID		
	All voters	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Reps.	Dems.	Inds./ others
Habitat for salmon and wildlife	36%	39%	43%	43%	35%	25%	20%	52%	30%
Generation of hydroelectric power	20%	19%	20%	11%	25%	23%	25%	17%	21%
Irrigation for crops	11%	10%	12%	13%	9%	12%	17%	6%	14%
Shipping transportation for agricultural products and other Goods (N=29)	6%	7%	2%	1%	7%	10%	8%	4%	7%
Recreation and tourism (N=18)	4%	4%	3%	6%		5%	7%	2%	3%
Commercial fishing (N=11)	2%	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Don't know/none/other	21%	19%	18%	24%	21%	22%	20%	17%	23%



### Perceptions of Dams on Lower Snake River 🐽

"As you know, there are many different ways that electrical energy is generated here in the Northwest. Which one of the following sources do you think supplies the majority of energy in Washington state?" (Q3)



Majorities among all key subgroups say hydro is the major source of power for Washington state.

72%

60%

### How Many Hydroelectric Dams on Lower Snake?

"To the best of your knowledge, how many hydroelectric dams are on the lower Snake River in Washington state?" (Q4)



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**40%** 

### Perceptions of Salmon in the Snake

"To the best of your knowledge, over the last decade, have salmon populations in the Snake River..." (Q5) "And what year would you say Snake River salmon populations were at their highest?" (Q6)







#### Reasons for Declining Salmon Numbers

"Which one of the following would you say has had the greatest impact on salmon populations in the Snake River?" (Q7)





#### Reasons for Declining Salmon Numbers: *Key Subgroups*

	All voters	Seattle	Other King Co.
Lack of adequate fish passage through Snake River dams	23%	24%	23%
Habitat destruction	17%	16%	21%
Pollution/water quality	14%	13%	12%
Climate change/water temperatures	13%	13%	12%
Overfishing	12%	14%	13%
Ocean conditions (N=30)	6%	5%	5%
Don't know/none/other	14%	15%	14%



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#### Region K/P/S/T Misc. West **East** Cos. 22% 21% 29% 13% 19% 13% 18% 12% 14% 13% 13% 13% 9% 17% 10% 8% 6% 6% 13% 12% 17%

#### Reasons for Declining Salmon Numbers: *Key Subgroups (2)*

		Age					Party ID		
	All voters	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Reps.	Dems.	Inds./ others
Lack of adequate fish passage through Snake River dams	23%	15%	25%	33%	22%	26%	17%	27%	22%
Habitat destruction	17%	20%	22%	11%	16%	13%	12%	20%	17%
Pollution/water quality	14%	23%	12%	13%	9%	12%	15%	12%	17%
Climate change/water temperatures	13%	12%	12%	13%	12%	15%	3%	16%	13%
Overfishing	12%	13%	10%	12%	17%	10%	23%	9%	11%
Ocean conditions (N=30)	6%	7%	7%	3%	7%	5%	12%	4%	6%
Don't know/none/ other	14%	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%	18%	12%	13%





#### Salmon Recovery

"And which one of the following do you think will have the biggest impact on restoring salmon populations in Washington state?" (Q8)

Improving fish passage mechanisms at hydroelectric dams on the Snake River	
Improving habitat for salmon	
<b>Reducing commercial overfishing</b>	
Improving ocean conditions and water temperatures	
Returning rivers to their natural, free-flowing state	
<b>Reducing tribal overfishing</b>	
Removing dams on the lower Snake River	
Managing predatory animals such as sea lions	
Reducing the number of hatchery fish	2%
None/other	2%
Don't know	
0	<b>%</b>



Improving fish passage mechanisms at hydroelectric dams on the Snake River in a leading response for all parties, although Republicans are equally as likely to say reducing tribal overfishing.





#### Perceptions of Fish Passage on Lower Snake 👳

"Based on what you know or have heard, what percentage of salmon are able to successfully pass through hydroelectric dams on the lower Snake River in Washington state?" (Q9)



### Attitudes Toward Dam Removal

"Would you support or oppose removal of hydroelectric dams on the lower Snake River in Washington state in order to help restore salmon populations?" (Q10)









#### Oppose

#### Attitudes Toward Dam Removal: *Key Subgroups*

	Support	Don't know	Oppose	Net support
All voters	39%	21%	40%	-1%
Region				
Seattle	54%	22%	24%	+30%
Other King Co.	45%	32%	23%	+22%
K/P/S/T Cos.	43%	21%	36%	+7%
Misc. West	39%	15%	46%	-7%
East	18%	18%	65%	-47%
Gender				
Men	31%	20%	48%	-17%
Women	46%	22%	31%	+15%
Age				
18-34	38%	23%	39%	-1%
35-44	28%	28%	45%	-17%
45-54	50%	27%	23%	+27%
55-64	35%	17%	48%	-13%
65+	43%	14%	42%	+1%
Party ID				
Republicans	22%	13%	65%	-43%
Democrats	55%	23%	22%	+33%
Independents/others	32%	22%	46%	-14%





#### INFORMED REACTIONS TO DAM REMOVAL

"Now I'm going to read you a few facts about energy, fish and environmental protection in Washington state.

Currently, Washington state gets 75% of its clean, renewable electricity from hydropower. Some of that power comes from the dams on the lower Snake River in Eastern Washington. The dams on the lower Snake River also provide irrigation for farms, transportation for Washington farm products like wheat, and, because we are able to barge products up and down the river, protect the environment by keeping thousands of semi-trucks off our road and highways. Those dams have come under scrutiny by environmental groups who want the dams removed, because they claim the dams are harming salmon runs and the Puget Sound orca. NOAA Fisheries and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are not convinced that removing the dams would have any impact on salmon and orca populations in Puget Sound.

After hearing this, would you support or oppose removal of hydroelectric dams on the lower Snake River in Washington state in order to help restore salmon populations?" (Q11)





#### INFORMED REACTIONS TO DAM REMOVAL: Key Subgroups

	Oppose (initial)	Oppose (informed)	Shift
All voters	40%	58%	+18%
Region			
Seattle	24%	53%	+29%
Other King Co.	23%	52%	+29%
K/P/S/T Cos.	36%	59%	+23%
Misc. West	46%	57%	+11%
East	65%	71%	+6%
Gender			
Men	48%	63%	+15%
Women	31%	54%	+23%
Age			
18-34	39%	56%	+17%
35-44	45%	68%	+23%
45-54	23%	48%	+25%
55-64	48%	58%	+10%
65+	42%	61%	+19%
Party ID			
Republicans	65%	78%	+13%
Democrats	22%	47%	+25%
Independents/others	46%	62%	+16%





# WILLINGNESS TO PAY FOR DAM REMOVAL <sup>22</sup>

"How willing would you be to pay higher electric rates in order to remove the dams on the lower Snake River?" (Q12) IF Q12=RESPONSE 1, 2 OR 3 (WILLING): "How much more per month would you be willing to pay in order to remove the dams to help restore salmon populations?" (Q13, N=270)





#### WILLINGNESS TO PAY FOR FISH PASSAGE 23

"If the dams were to remain operational, how willing would you be to pay higher electric rates in order to provide funds to improve fish passage at the dams to help restore salmon populations on the Snake River?" (Q14)

IF Q12=RESPONSE 1, 2 OR 3 (WILLING): "How much more per month would you be willing to pay in order to fund improved fish passage at the dams to help restore salmon populations?" (Q15, N=392)

month



