



## 2019 Wilderness Poll - November 2019

396 Interviews in Catron/Grant/Hidalgo/Sierra Counties  
November 21-25 and December 6-7, 2019.

### D1. What is your gender?

48% Male  
52 Female

### D2. In what year were you born? (Coded age groups below)

17% 18-34  
17 35-49  
25 50-64  
41 65+

### D3. What county do you live in?

59% Grant County  
23 Sierra County  
9 Hidalgo County  
9 Catron County

### D4. What race/ethnicity best describes you?

59% White / Caucasian  
35 Hispanic or Latino/a  
1 American Indian or Alaska Native  
0 Black or African American  
0 Asian / Pacific Islander  
5 Other

*Polling was conducted online from November 21-25 and December 6-7, 2019. Using its Bias Correct Engine to attain a sample reflective of registered voters, Change Research polled 396 people in the state of New Mexico who are registered to vote in Catron, Grant, Hidalgo, and Sierra counties. Post-stratification weights were made on age, gender, region, race, and 2016 vote to reflect the distribution of voters. The margin of error is 5.9 percentage points. In 95 cases out of 100, the responses to this survey should be within plus or minus 5.9 percentage points of those that would have been obtained from interviewing the entire population of voters.*



**D5. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

- 14% High school diploma, GED or equivalent or less
- 32 Some college, but no degree
- 16 Associate's degree, or two-year college degree
- 21 Bachelor's degree, or four-year college degree
- 18 Graduate degree

**D6. Which of the following best describes you?**

- 25% Strong Democrat
- 13 Weak Democrat
- 7 Independent Democrat
- 11 Independent
- 8 Independent Republican
- 6 Weak Republican
- 30 Strong Republican

**37% Total Democrat**

**27 Total Independent**

**36 Total Republican**

**45% Democrat w/Ind Leans**

**44 Republican w/Ind Leans**

The following are some questions about some issues in your community.

**Q1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:**

**“The headwaters of the Gila River begin in America’s first designated Wilderness area. It is among the Southwest’s last remaining free flowing rivers. It has been called one of the most important birding areas of the United States and is home to wildlife and critical habitat for a number of threatened and endangered species. To prevent recurring dam and diversion proposal threats that would jeopardize the river’s outstanding ecological, historical, cultural and recreational values, the Gila River should be permanently protected for future generations by being designated a Wild and Scenic River by Congress.”**

- 48% Strongly agree
- 17 Somewhat agree
- 9 Somewhat disagree
- 20 Strongly disagree
- 6 Not sure



**65% Total Agree**

**29 Total Disagree**

**Q2. Here are some statements some people have made about permanently protecting the Gila River. Does hearing that make you more likely to support permanently protecting the Gila River, less likely, or does that make no difference to you?**

	<b>More Likely</b>	<b>Less Likely</b>	<b>No Diff</b>	<b>Not Sure</b>
Local people in this community deserve a voice to conserve the values that makes the Gila River special.	67%	11	18	3
It will keep the river healthy and with adequate flows to benefit all users of the rivers, including floaters, fisherman, farms, municipalities, and others.	64%	12	18	5
It will protect from future pollution of the River, preventing its dewatering, and protect its free flow.	61%	16	17	6
It will keep water in the river for New Mexicans to use.	59%	15	21	5
It will preserve the river for future generations to use the river the same way current generations do.	59%	14	22	5
We want to keep the Gila River the way it is by protecting it as a wild and scenic river.	57%	18	20	5
It will protect people’s ability to hunt and fish in the Gila River area.	56%	12	24	8
It will protect existing water rights.	54%	17	20	9
It will add to the tourism and economically benefit (County)	46%	18	29	8
It will protect private property rights.	44%	19	24	13

**Q3. What would you say are the best reasons, if any, to support permanently protecting the Gila River? Please choose no more than two.**

33%	It will keep the river healthy and with adequate flows to benefit all users of the rivers, including floaters, fisherman, farms, municipalities, and others.
28	It will protect from future pollution of the River, preventing its dewatering, and protect its free flow.
27	It will preserve the river for future generations to use the river the same way current generations do.
25	We want to keep the Gila River the way it is by protecting it as a wild and scenic river.
21	Local people in this community deserve a voice to conserve the values that makes the Gila River special.
20	It will protect people’s ability to hunt and fish in the Gila River area.
16	It will keep water in the river for New Mexicans to use.
15	It will protect private property rights.
11	It will protect existing water rights.
10	It will add to the tourism and economically benefit {County}.



**Q4. When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as liberal, moderate, or conservative?**

- 31% Liberal
- 29 Moderate
- 40 Conservative

**Q5. In the November 2016 election for President, did you vote for:**

- 46% Donald Trump, the Republican
- 39 Hillary Clinton, the Democrat
- 7 Did not vote
- 6 Gary Johnson, the Libertarian
- 2 Jill Stein, the Green Party