America’s Wildlife Values

The Social Context of Wildlife Management in the U.S.

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Primary Investigators

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  • Tara Teel - Colorado State University
  • Alia Dietsch - The Ohio State University

• Co-Investigators
  • Jeremy Bruskotter – The Ohio State University
  • Mark Duda – Responsive Management
  • Andrew Don Carlos - Colorado State University
  • Leeann Sullivan - Colorado State University
Survey Overview

2018 Public survey: Looked at Wildlife Value Orientations (WVOs) across all 50 states.

2018 Agency survey – Examined Fish and Wildlife agency culture, attitudes, and WVOs of 28 states.

2004 Public survey – Looked at WVOs across 19 western states.

2018 Surveys: How do the WVOs of ODFW employees differ from Oregonians at large.

2004-2018 Public Survey: How have the WVOs of Oregon residents changed over time.
Survey Questions

• Domination Scale:
  • Wildlife is subordinate and should be used to benefit humans.
  • Wildlife should be killed if they threaten lives or property.
  • Populations of wildlife should support fishing and hunting.

• Mutualism Scale:
  • Embraces wildlife as part of a person’s extended social network.
  • See animals as family or companions and deserving of caring and rights, like humans.
  • Human and wildlife living side by side without fear.
Wildlife Value Orientations

Traditionalist – Someone who scored high on the domination scale and low on the mutualism scale.

Mutualist - Someone who scored low on the domination scale and high on the mutualism scale.

Distanced - Someone who scored low on both the domination scale and the mutualism scale

Pluralist – Someone who scored high on both the domination scale and the mutualism scale
### Wildlife Value Orientations – Oregon changes from 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Traditionalist</th>
<th>Mutualist</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oregon 2004</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
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<td>Oregon 2018</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% rate of change</td>
<td>-16.7%</td>
<td>+17.6%</td>
<td>-4.5%</td>
<td>+4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Potential reasons for shift:
Found correlations with mutualism and:
- increased urbanization
- increased education levels
- increased income levels

Oregon Rate of Change

-30.0% -20.0% -10.0% 0.0% 10.0% 20.0% 30.0%

% rate of change

- Traditionalist
- Mutualist
- Pluralist
- Distanced
All but two of the 19 states had a negative rate of changes to traditionalist WVOs.

- Wyoming and North Dakota had small increases.
Oregon and the West – 2004 to 2018

- All but two of the 19 states had a positive rate of changes in mutualist WVOs
  - Colorado and Hawaii had small decreases
## Wildlife Value Orientations – Oregon and the public

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<td>2018 ODFW</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>+28</td>
<td>-29.5</td>
<td>+3.5</td>
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### Agency vs Public

![Bar chart showing comparison between ODFW and Oregon Public]

- **Traditionalist:**
  - ODFW: 55.5%
  - Public: 27.5%
  - Difference: +28

- **Mutualist:**
  - ODFW: 10.5%
  - Public: 40%
  - Difference: -29.5

- **Pluralist:**
  - ODFW: 24.5%
  - Public: 21%
  - Difference: +3.5

- **Distanced:**
  - ODFW: 9.5%
  - Public: 12.5%
  - Difference: -3

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*Figure: A male elk (Cervus canadensis) symbolizing wildlife conservation.*
Wildlife Value Orientations – Oregon and the public

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<th>Representation</th>
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<th>Delegation</th>
<th>Complete Control</th>
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<tr>
<td>currently includes the <em>general public</em></td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td><strong>35.3%</strong></td>
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<td>4.4%</td>
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## Public Trust Amongst Traditionalists vs. Mutualists

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<td>Oregon</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>62.7%</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>81.7% (Maine)</td>
<td>71.1% (Vermont)</td>
<td>26.7% (Indiana)</td>
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Further Information

http://www.wildlifevalues.org/

State and National Reports Available

Other topics include:
- Lethal control of wildlife
- Funding preferences
- Future participation in hunting and fishing
- Environmental protections and private property rights by WVO
- Race/Ethnicity breakouts

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