

In April of 1999 the firm Davis & Hibbitts completed a public opinion poll demonstrating that the majority of Oregonians support wolves in Oregon. Over 600 people participated in the poll, representing all regions of the state and a diversity of ages and political persuasions. The poll was conducted not long after a wild gray wolf from Idaho, known as B-45, had migrated into Oregon and was subsequently captured and returned to Idaho.

- **“Have you heard or read anything recently about a wolf that crossed over from Idaho into eastern Oregon?”**
Yes: **61%** No: **38%** Don’t know: **1%**
- **“Which one of the following comes closer to your point of view?”**
Wildlife officials made the right decision to capture the wolf and return it to Idaho: **40%**
The wolf should have been left alone and allowed to continue to roam freely: **48%**
Don’t know: **12%**
- **“Which one of the following options do you think is best when it comes to having wild wolves in Oregon?”**
Wild wolves should be actively reintroduced in Oregon by having wildlife agencies transplant them into the state: **13%**
Wild wolves should be allowed to stay in Oregon when they return to Oregon on their own: **57%**
Wild wolves should not be allowed in Oregon, and if they do come into the state, they should be removed: **23%**
Don’t Know: **7%**
- **“Rate the following reason [for allowing wolves to stay in Oregon]:”**
 - “Elk and Deer Populations would be healthier and stronger, because wolves prey on older and weaker animals.”
Very Good: **14%** Good: **45%** Poor: **23%** Very Poor: **8%** Don’t Know: **10%**
 - “Wolves belong here because they were part of Oregon’s ecosystem for thousands of years before being exterminated. They belong here so that we can have the most natural and complete ecosystem possible.”
Very Good: **19%** Good: **43%** Poor: **22%** Very Poor: **8%** Don’t Know: **9%**
 - “Wolves have a right to exist in Oregon, even if they occasionally prey on livestock.”
Very Good: **11%** Good: **46%** Very Poor **12%** Don’t Know **6%**
 - “We owe it to future generations in Oregon to leave the most complete ecosystem possible, including predator species like wolves.”
Very Good: **21%** Good: **45%** Poor: **20%** Very Poor: **8%** Don’t Know **6%**
 - “Even though I might never see a wolf, it would be nice to know wolves are living in Oregon.”
Very Good: **16%** Good: **43%** Poor: **25%** Very Poor **11%** Don’t Know: **5%**
 - “Wolves would increase tourism in areas of Oregon where they exist.”
Very Good: **4%** Good: **17%** Poor: **43%** Very Poor: **26%** Don’t Know: **11%**
- **“If wild wolves are allowed in Oregon, should livestock ranchers be compensated for any loss they have because of wolf predation?”**
Yes: **53%** No: **36%** Don’t Know: **12%**
- **“If you knew that Defenders of Wildlife, a private, non-profit organization, will compensate ranchers for any livestock losses caused by wild wolves, would you favor or oppose having wild wolves in Oregon?”**
Total Favor: **62%** Total Oppose: **32%** Don’t Know: **6%**