



Montana Wildlife Federation

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Hunters and Anglers Say Nation's Energy Policy "Is on the Wrong Track"

According to a national poll of hunters and anglers, sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation, a majority of America's sportsmen say global warming is an urgent problem that needs immediate action.

According to the survey, more than three-quarters of America's hunters and anglers (76 percent) agree that global warming is occurring, and the same percentage said they have observed changes in climate conditions where they live, such as warmer, shorter winters, hotter summers, earlier spring and less snow. More than half (54 percent) said they believe these changes are related to global warming. Nearly three-quarters (73 percent) believe it either is currently impacting or will impact hunting or fishing conditions.

The survey also reveals that sportsmen are deeply dissatisfied with the nation's current energy policy and support a major shift to depend less on fossil fuels that produce global warming pollution while developing a new generation of alternative and renewable energy sources.

Eighty-one percent of the sportsmen polled agree with the assertion that the nation is addicted to oil. An even greater number, 86 percent say the current administration and Congress are not doing enough to break that addiction. Overall, more than two-thirds (69 percent) of sportsmen say the nation is on the wrong track in meeting its energy needs.

An overwhelming majority of 78 percent says conserving more, developing fuel efficient vehicles and expanding the use of renewable sources are the best way to address America's energy needs, rather than drilling for more oil and gas within the United States (supported by 15 percent).

The National Wildlife Federation commissioned Responsive Management of Harrisonburg, Virginia, to conduct the non-partisan survey. From late March through April 2006, 1,031 hunters and anglers were polled, chosen from state lists of individuals holding hunting and fishing licenses. The poll has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.05 percent at a 95 percent confidence level.

