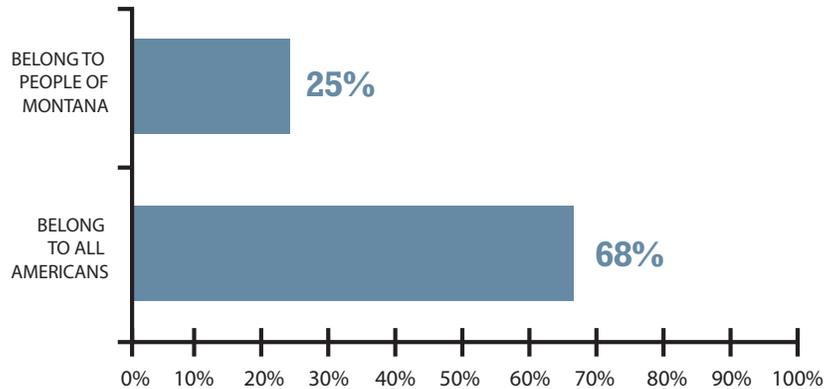


NEW POLLING: Efforts to seize and sell public lands are out-of-step with public opinion in Montana and across the West

A growing fringe of Montana politicians are pushing the misguided plan to seize public lands within the state's borders and auction them off to the highest bidder. Bipartisan [public opinion polling](#) shows that Montanans believe public lands belong to all Americans, and it should stay that way.

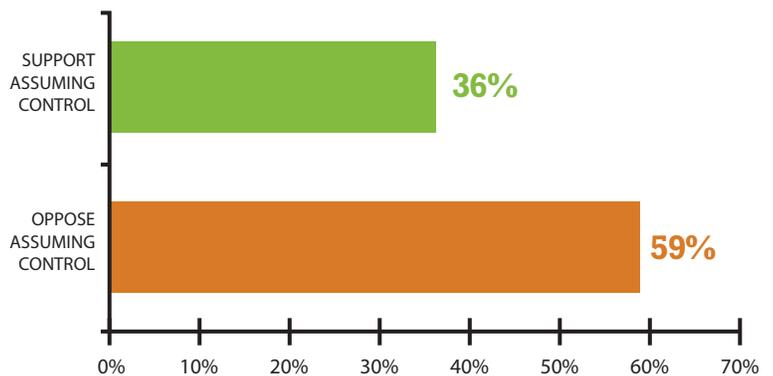
Montana voters agree: The national forests, parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands in Montana belong to all Americans.

“Should these public lands belong to everyone in our country, or belong to the people of Montana?”



Montanans don't think it would be fair or fiscally responsible to force Montana taxpayers to foot the bill for managing America's public lands.

“Please listen to two different viewpoints and tell me which one comes closer to your own even if neither matches what you think exactly?”



People who **SUPPORT** having state government and Montana taxpayers assume full control of managing these public lands, including paying for all related costs because:

- Historically these lands were never meant to be held by the U.S. government forever.
- The states will manage these lands better than national agencies like the U.S. Forest Service.
- The states can allow more logging, mining and other resource extraction on these lands to help raise revenues to fund needs in our states.

People who **OPPOSE** having state government and Montana taxpayers assume full control of managing these public lands, including paying for all related costs because:

- It wouldn't be fair to make Montana taxpayers pay the full cost of managing lands that rightly belong to all Americans.
- Our state requires a balanced budget, so we will be forced to raise taxes or sell off lands to the highest bidder to cover these expenses.
- We will lose access to places Montana families have visited for decades and that we want future generations to enjoy.