



To: Interested Parties

From: Andrew Maxfield, Ph.D.

MSCR LLC

Re: Key Results from a Survey in Montana on the “the Breaks” National Monument

Date: June 19, 2017

MSCR LLC conducted a telephone survey of a random sample of 702 likely 2018 voters in Montana from May 21-25, 2017. This telephone survey was conducted by live interviewers reaching land lines and cell phones. The random sample of 702 voters has a worst-case 95% confidence interval of ±3.7% to ±5.2%. Andrew Maxfield, Ph.D., of MSCR LLC is a pollster with 25 years of experience conducting survey research for Democratic candidates and advocacy groups around the country.

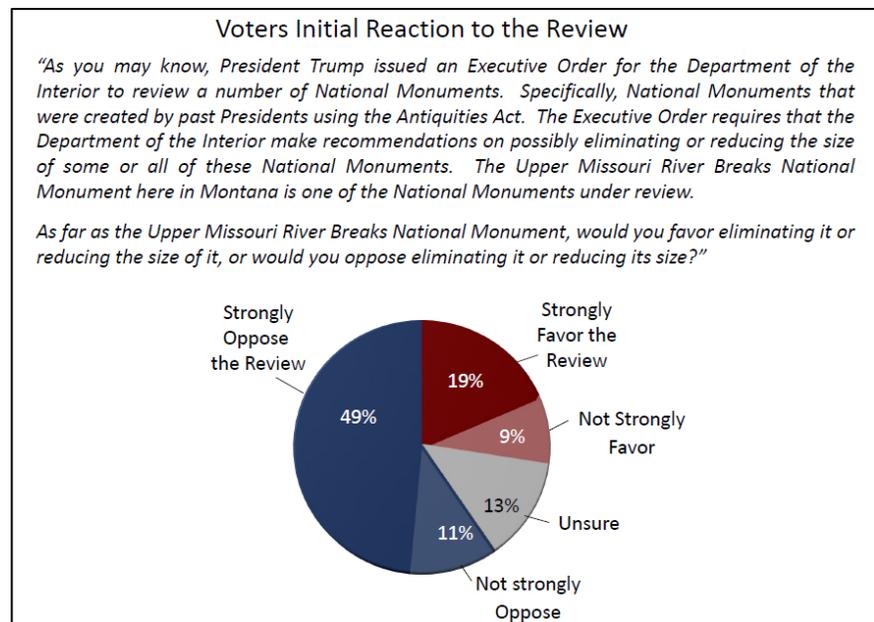
President Trump’s ordered review of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument is underway, a review that could lead to a reduction in the size of the “Breaks” National Monument or its elimination. Most Montana voters, however, say the Breaks National Monument should be left just the way it is.

Voters were asked about the review early in the survey and fully 59% of Montanans oppose reducing the size or eliminating the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, with

nearly half saying they are strongly opposed (the wording of the question can be seen in the figure to the right.) Only 28% say they favor eliminating or reducing the size of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

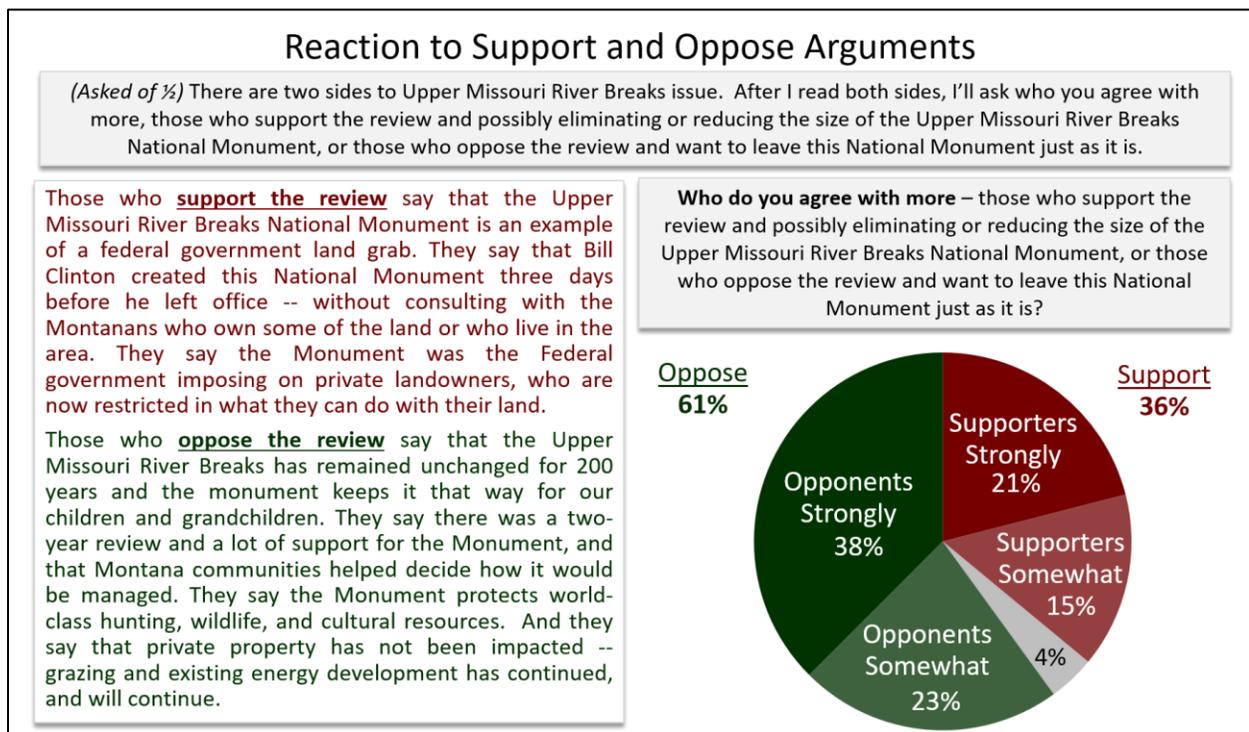
Opposition to reducing the size or eliminating the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument spans all

four corners of the state and a plurality of self-identified Republicans (43% oppose reducing the size or eliminating the Monument, 41% favor), a majority of self-identified Independents (54% oppose, 32% favor), and the vast majority of self-identified Democrats in Montana (84% oppose, 9% favor).



The clear preference of Montana voters is to leave National Monument alone. After the question about possibly reducing the size or eliminating the “Breaks” National Monument, voters were asked whether they prefer protecting more land as National Monuments, opening up National Monuments to put the land to different uses, or leaving National Monuments just as they are. A majority of 58% of Montana voters say National Monuments should left as they are, 22% say National Monument land should be put to different uses, and 16% say more land should be protected as National Monuments.

When voters here arguments from both sides of the debate over the “Breaks,” very little changes in terms opinions regarding the review. As is indicated below, respondents were read the argument that the Breaks National Monument was a Federal government “land grab.” They were also read the argument that Montanans had input into the National Monument designation and that the Monument protects unique lands for future generations. After hearing both arguments, the disposition of voters is largely unchanged: 61% oppose the review, 36% support it.



If the Department of Interior concludes its review and recommends reducing the size of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument or eliminating it entirely, the Federal government will be at odds with a majority of Montanans. If the Trump Administration goes further and decides to press ahead with scrapping this National Monument, it will be despite the strong preference of most Montanans and they could face a public outcry.