

Impact of Federally Managed Lands on County Government

Seth Grigg, Policy Analyst
Idaho Association of Counties
(208) 345-9126
sgrigg@idcounties.org

IAC Position on Federal Lands Interim Committee

The Idaho Association of Counties supports HCR21 and the work of the Federal Lands Interim Committee to explore the transfer of ownership of certain federal lands from the federal government to the State of Idaho provided that in the event that there is a transfer of federal land to State ownership, the State of Idaho will permanently provide continuous funding to respective counties for State owned lands.

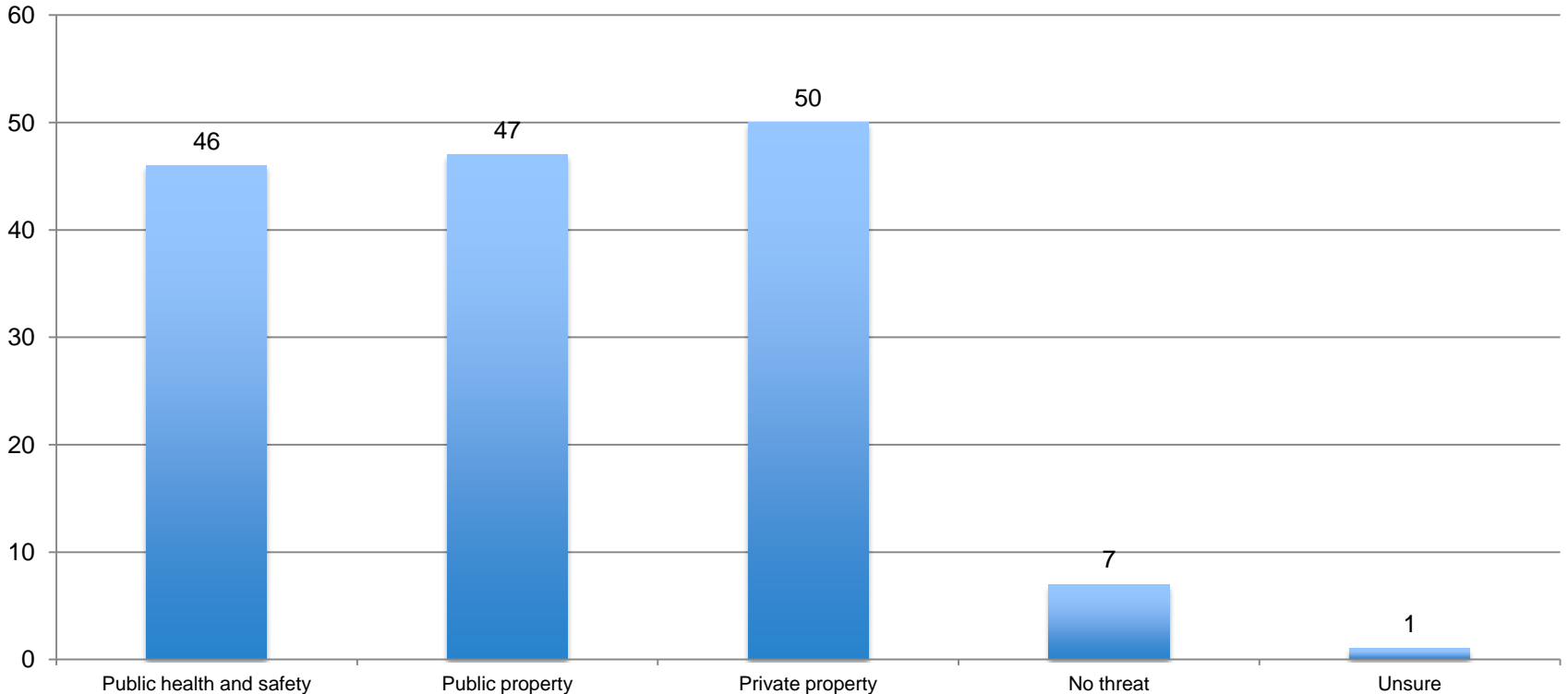
Survey Responses

Number of Responses: 66 out of 132 (50%)

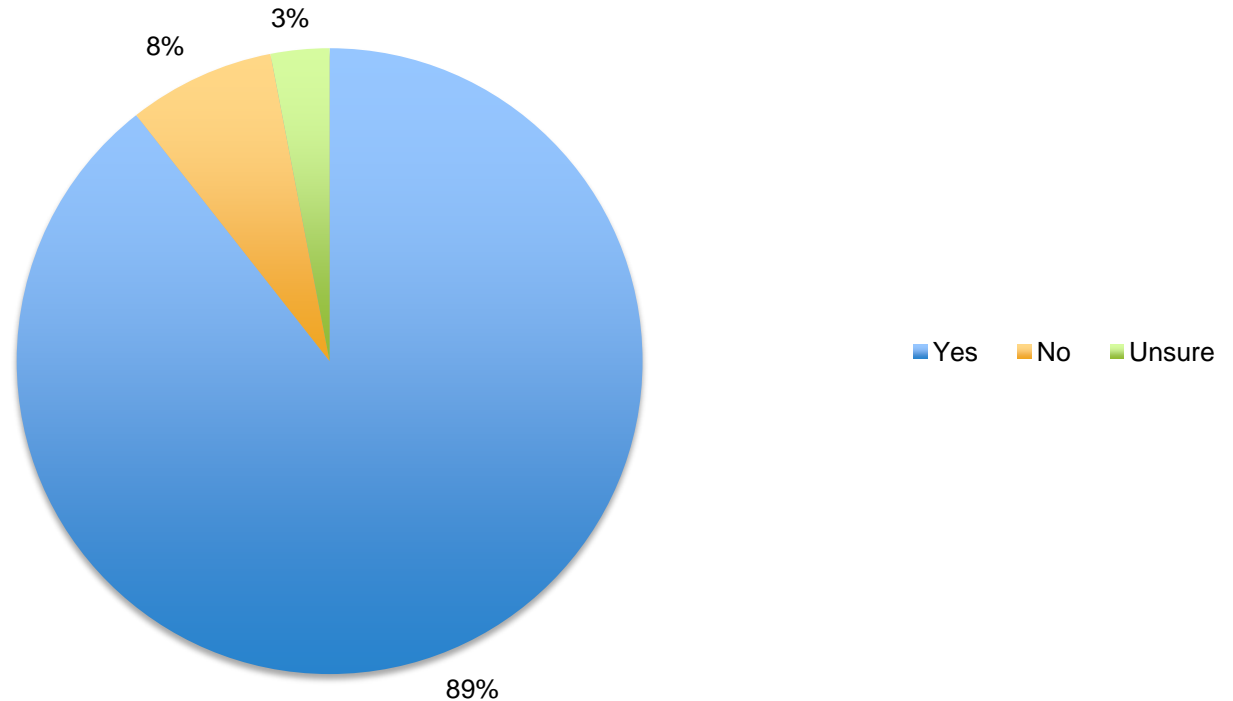
Number of Counties with Responses: 34
out of 44 (77.3%)

Missing Counties: Adams, Bear Lake,
Camas, Caribou, Custer, Gooding, Jefferson,
Minidoka, Payette, and Power

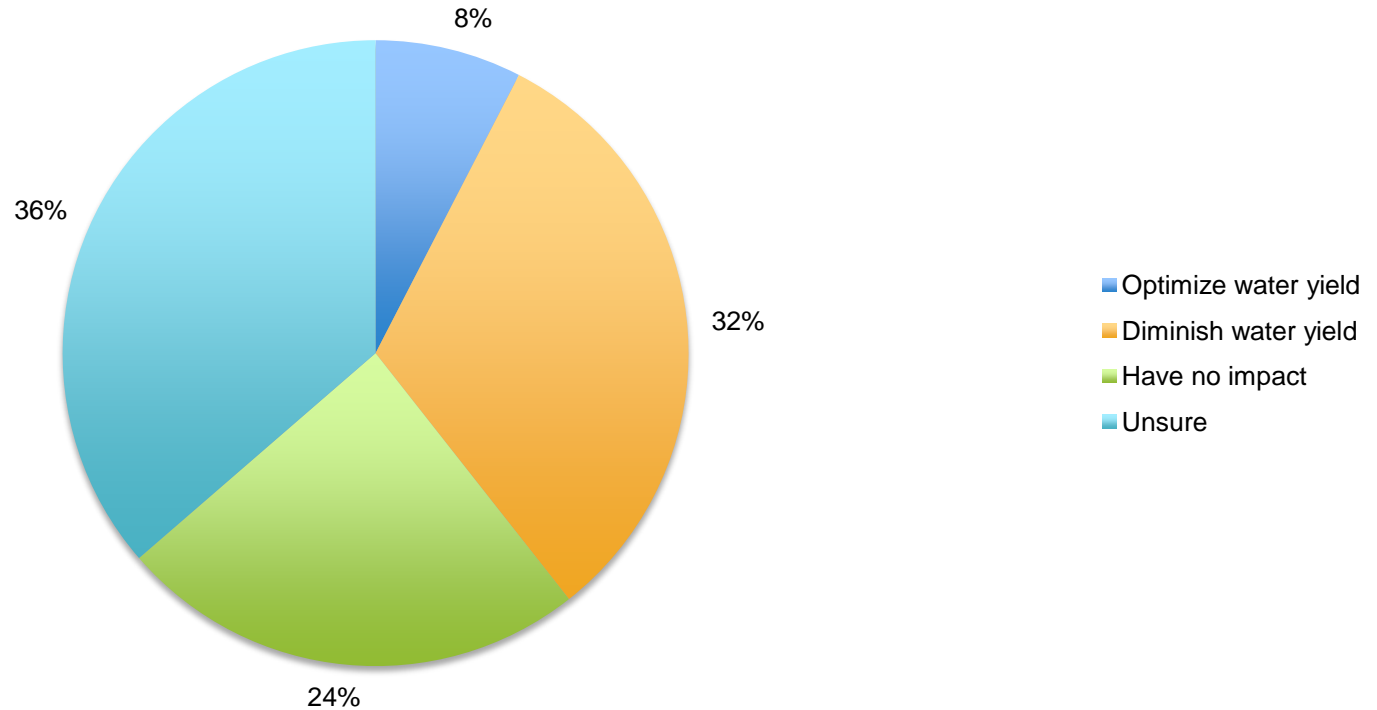
Q1: Do current wildfire conditions on federal lands within your county pose a significant threat to (select all that apply):



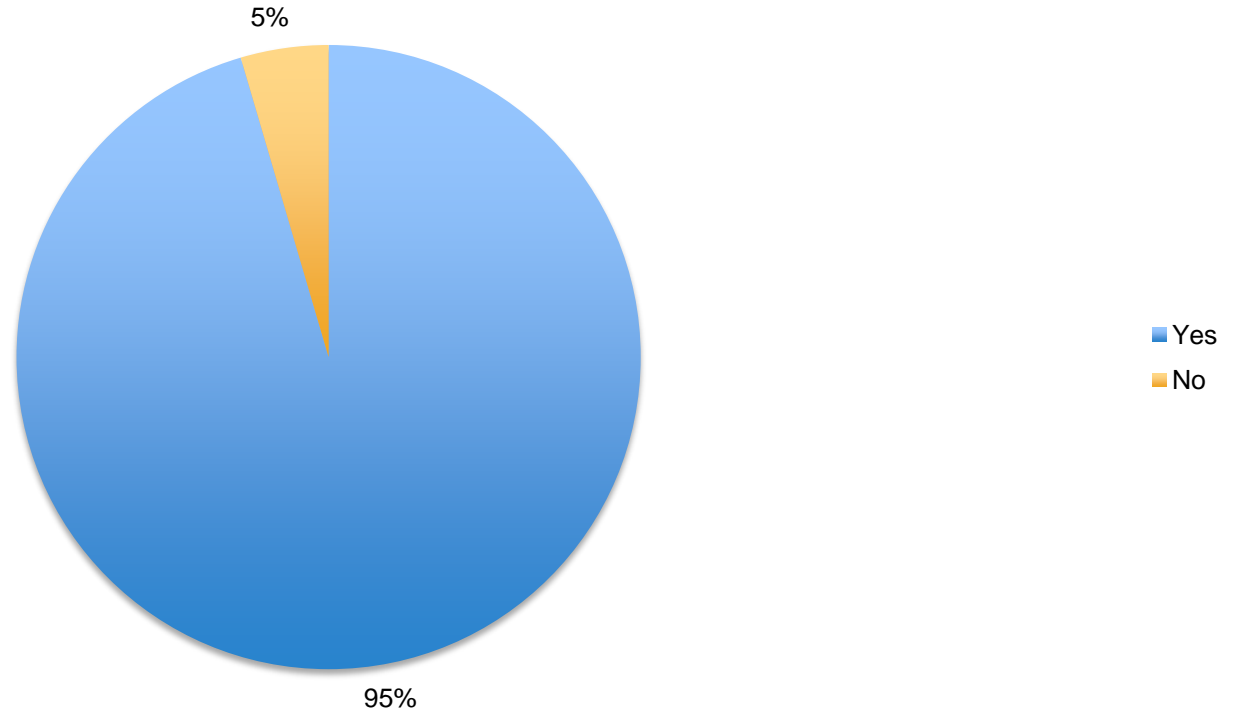
Q2: Do you believe fire hazard on federally managed lands should be reduced to protect public health and safety within your county?



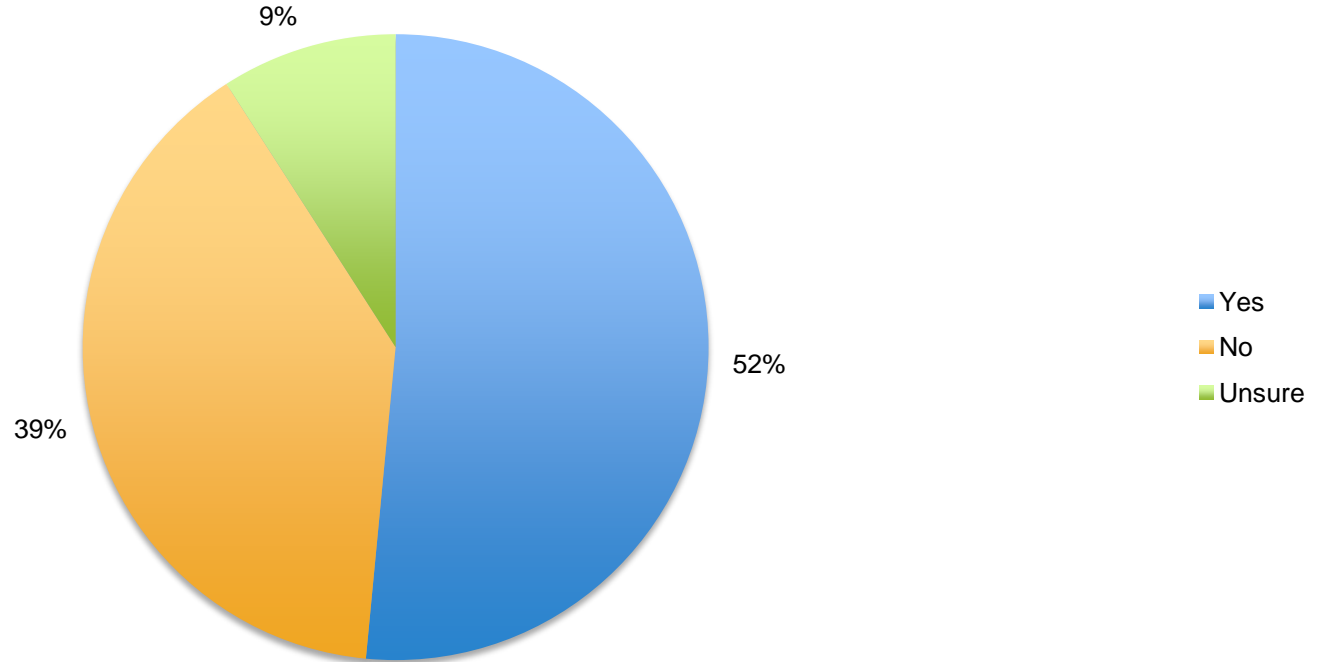
Q3: Regarding the water supply your citizens use, does current federal land management of watersheds:



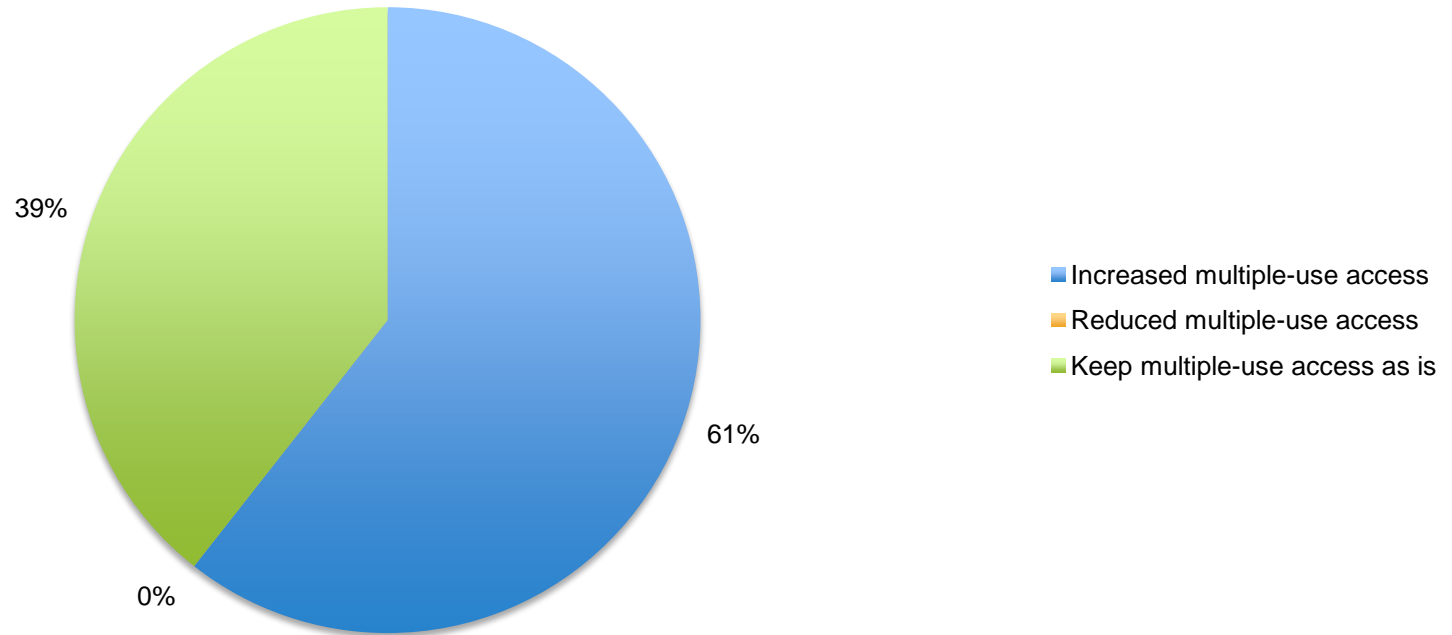
Q4: Is it important for people of your county to have motorized access to public lands for sustenance activities such as gathering wood, picking berries, harvesting wild game, etc.?



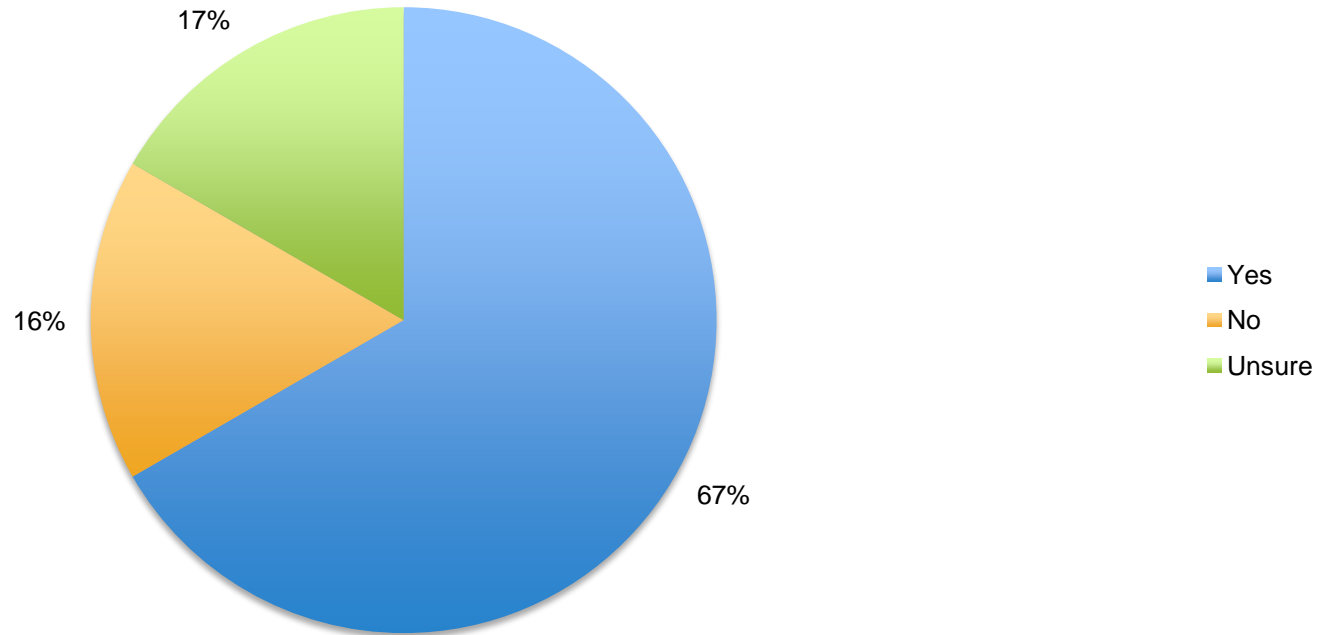
Q5: Is there an adequate supply of motorized roads on federal lands in your county to accommodate emergency ingress/egress, facility maintenance, public access, and resource management?



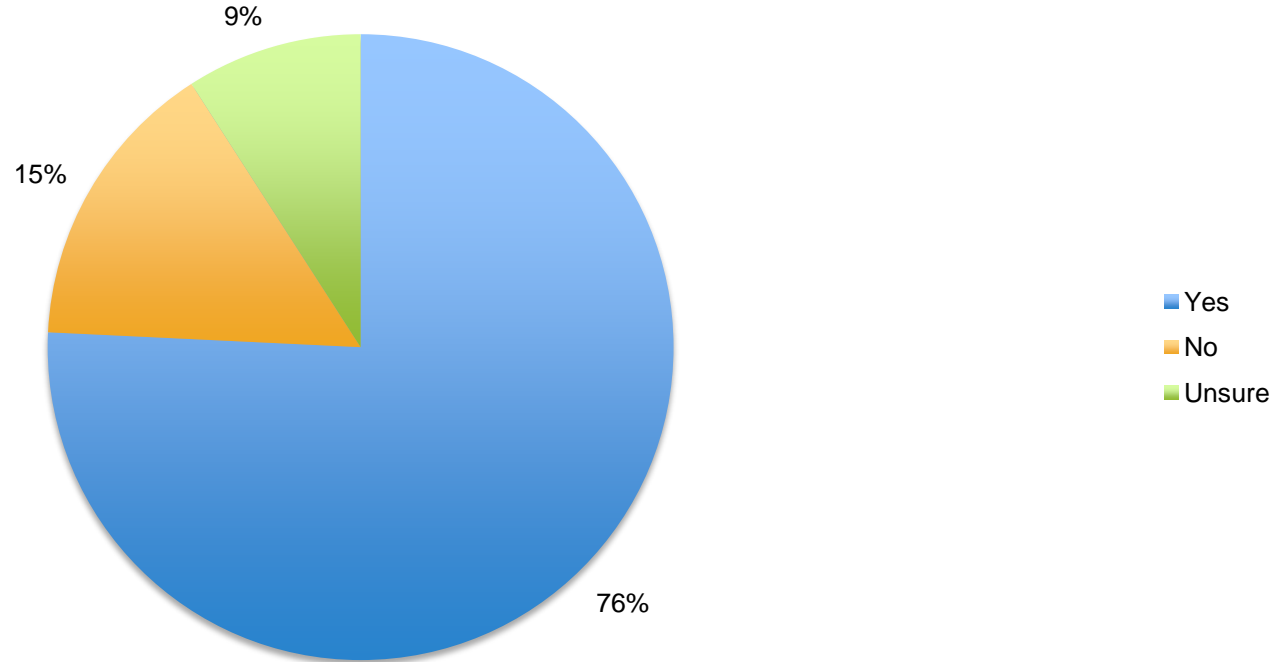
Q6: Regarding multiple-use recreational access routes on federal lands, does your county desire:



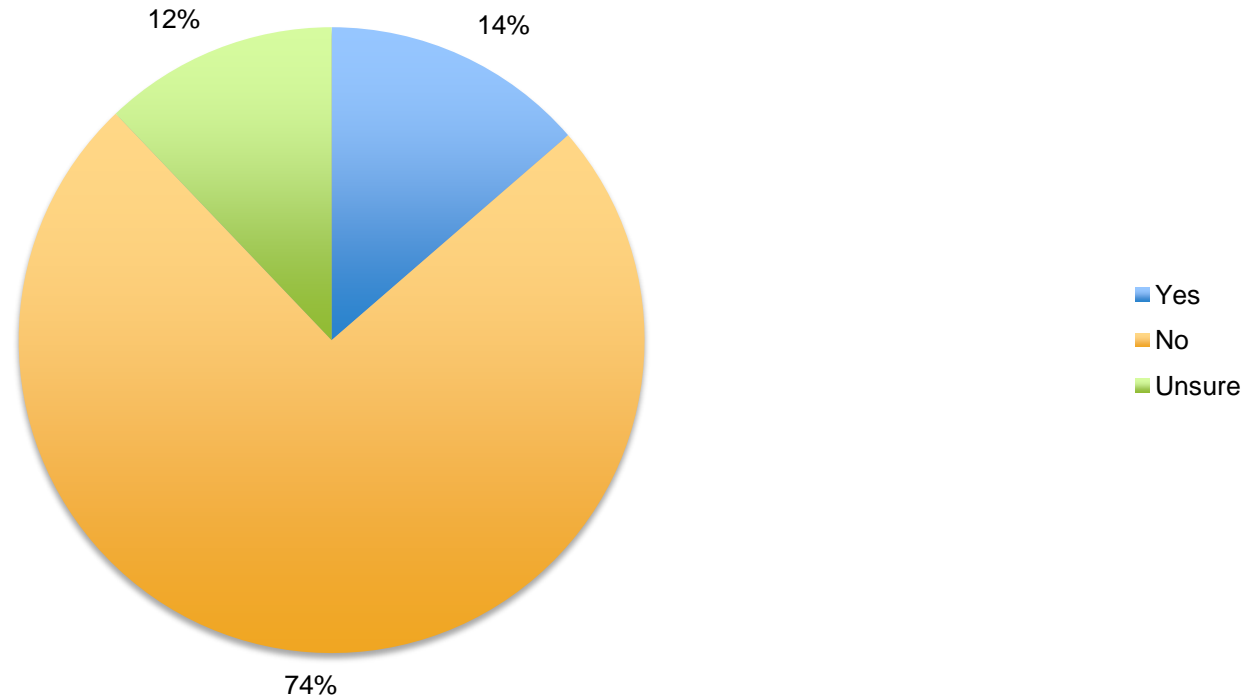
Q7: Do you believe current fuel loads on any of the federal lands within your county could result in severe, uncontrollable, or catastrophic wildfires?



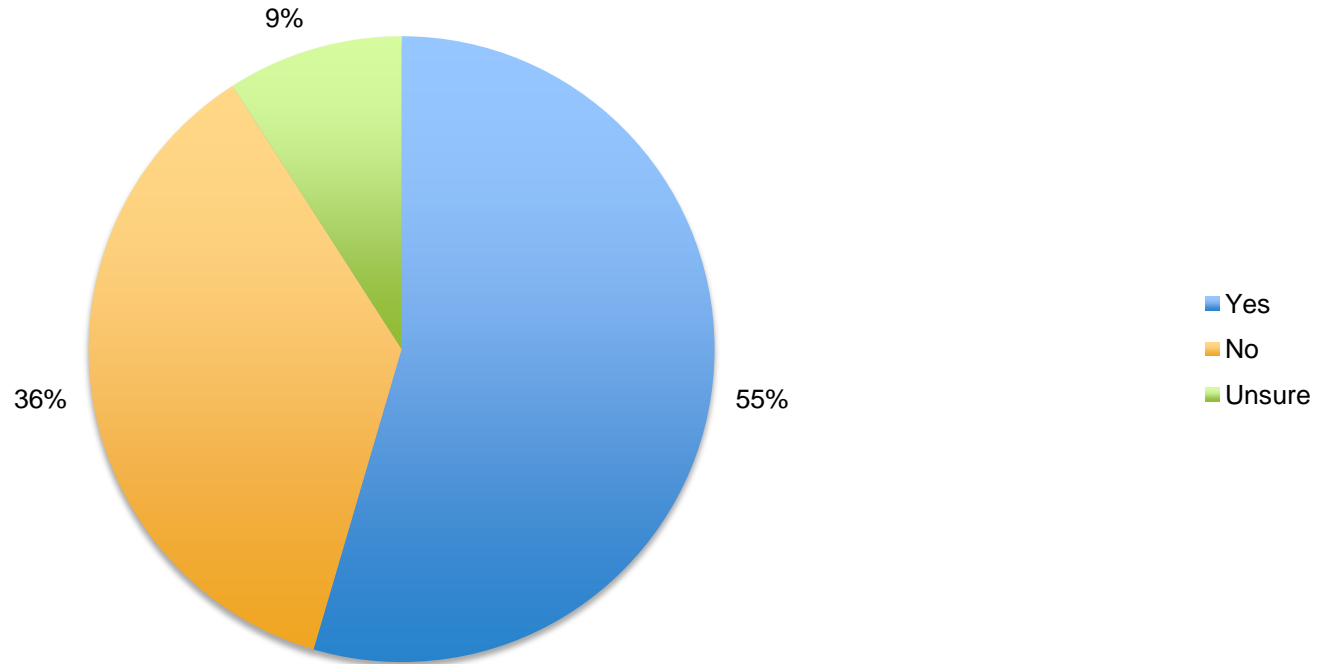
Q8: Is a high intensity wildfire on federal lands likely to cause a loss of important fish & wildlife habitat or harm threatened or endangered species in your county (e.g. grizzly bear, sage grouse, wolverine, bull trout, caribou, slickspot pepper grass, etc.)?



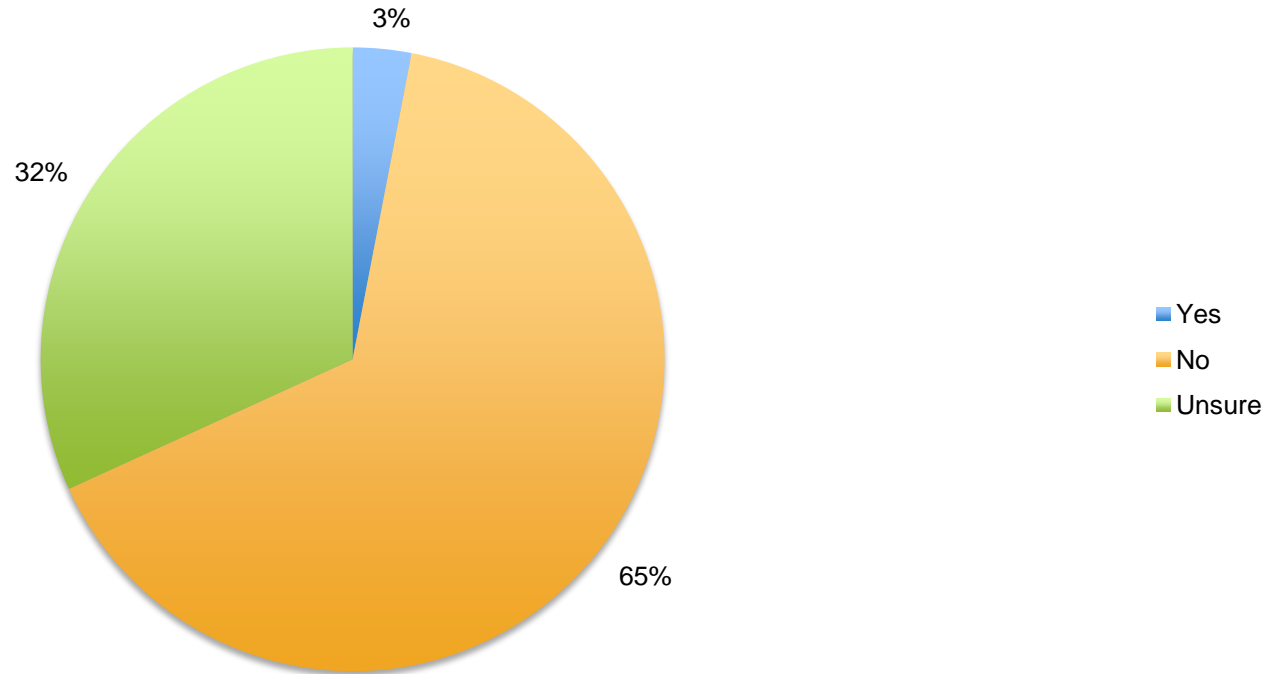
Q9: Are environmental threats such as noxious weeds and bark beetle adequately controlled on federal lands within your county?



Q10: Does the air quality in your county fall below acceptable health standards due to smoke originating from fire on federally managed lands?



Q11: Is the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) your county receives from federally managed lands equivalent to the amount that actual land taxation of these lands would bring?



PILT Background

- Established in 1976 as part of FLMPA
- Payment is guaranteed but subject to annual appropriation (fully funded since 2008)
- PILT benefits from broad Congressional support
- Payment can be used for any general county government expenditure
- Payment is to offset impact of tax exempt federal lands on county services

PILT Formula

Alternative A:

- $(\$2.54 \times \text{Eligible Acres}) - \text{Eligible Prior Year Federal Land Payments}$

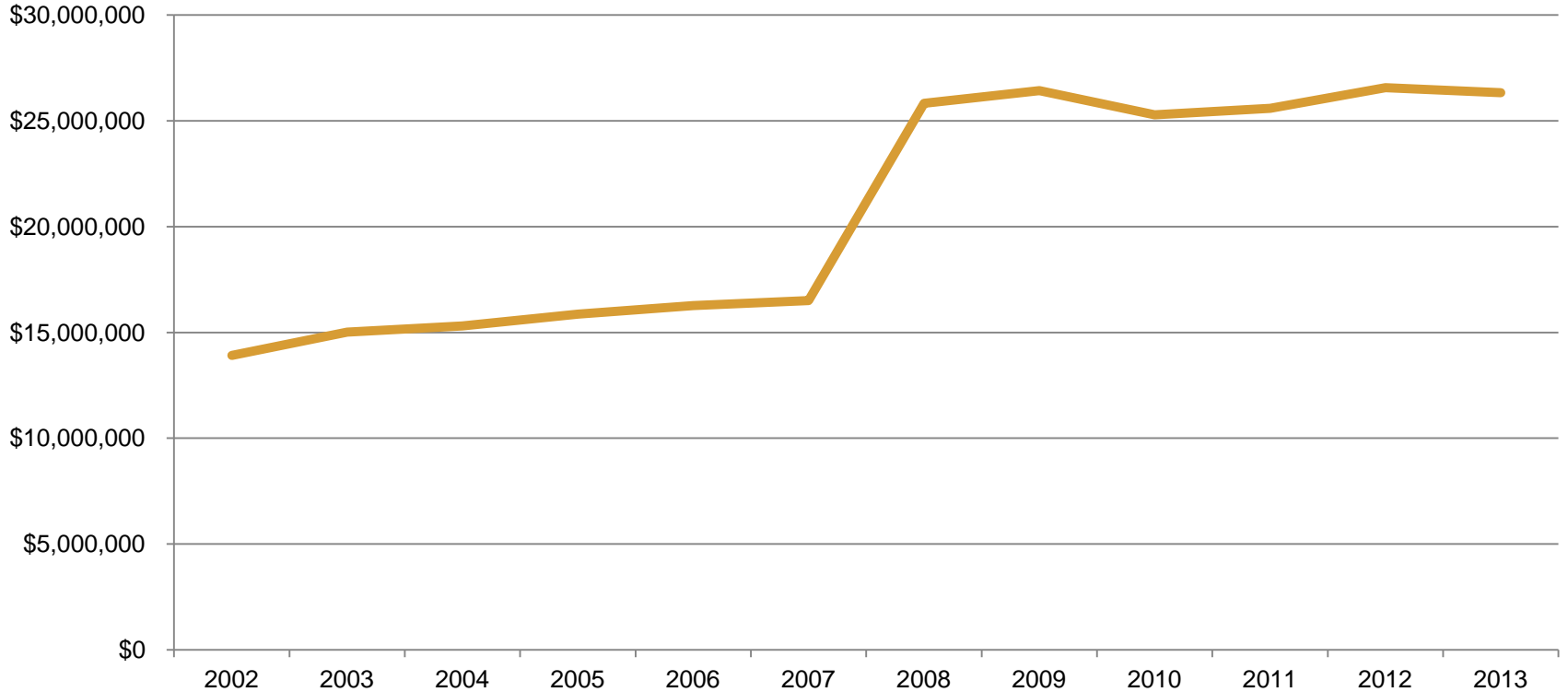
Alternative B:

- $\$0.35 \times \text{Eligible Acres}$

Population Scale:

- $\$64.45$ to $\$171.11$ per capita

PILT, 2002-2013



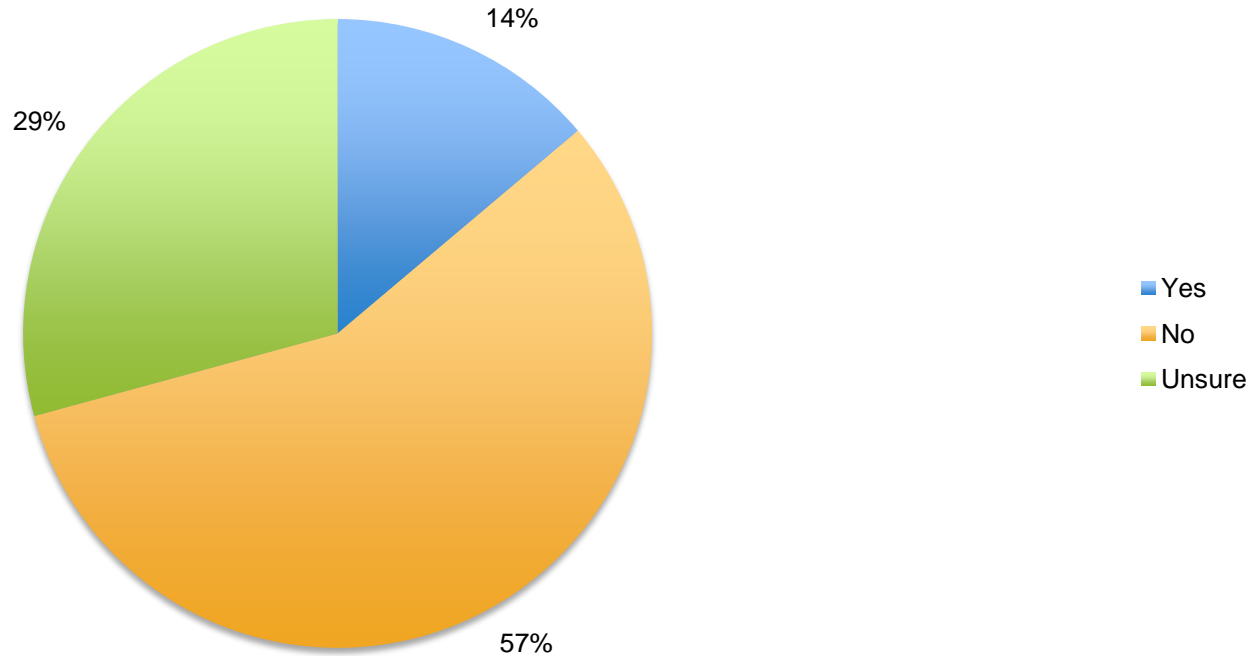
Fiscal Impact of Losing Federal PILT (if no State Based PILT): Cassia County

Revenue Source	2012	% of Total Revenues	2012 (PILT = NPS Acres)	% of Total Revenues
P-Tax	\$4,258,500	49.94%	\$4,258,500	65.21%
State Revenues	\$2,236,483	26.23%	\$2,236,483	34.25%
PILT	\$2,032,557	23.84%	\$35,585	0.54%
Total	\$8,527,540	100.00%	\$6,530,568	100.00%
Lost Revenues				-\$1,996,972

Fiscal Impact of Losing Federal PILT (if no State Based PILT): Owyhee County

Revenue Type	2012	% of Total Revenues	2012 (PILT = Wilderness)	% of Total Revenues
Property Tax Revenues	\$1,970,358	42.59%	\$1,970,358	42.36%
State Revenues	\$1,434,538	31.01%	\$1,434,538	30.84%
PILT	\$1,221,357	26.40%	\$1,246,850	26.80%
Total	\$4,626,253	100.00%	\$4,651,746	100.00%
New Revenues	\$25,493			

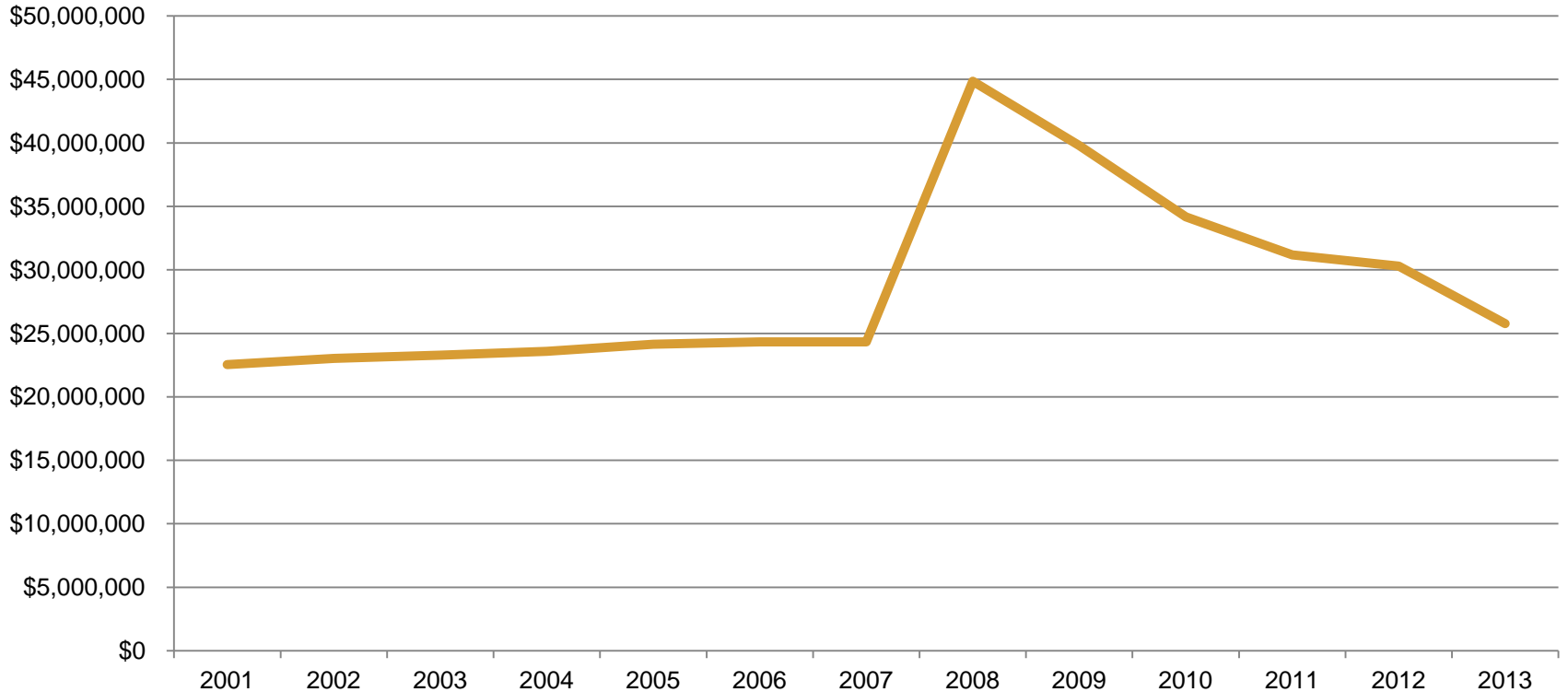
Q12: Is the amount your county derives from the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program equivalent to the amount that your county could derive from responsible harvest or extraction of natural resources?



SRS Background

- Craig-Wyden, 2001
- Intended as an offset lost forest revenues due to declining economic activity on USFS land
- Designed as a temporary funding source until new management policies or new land revenues could be identified
- Reauthorized in 2007, 2008, 2012, and 2013
- Funds dedicated for county roads and county schools

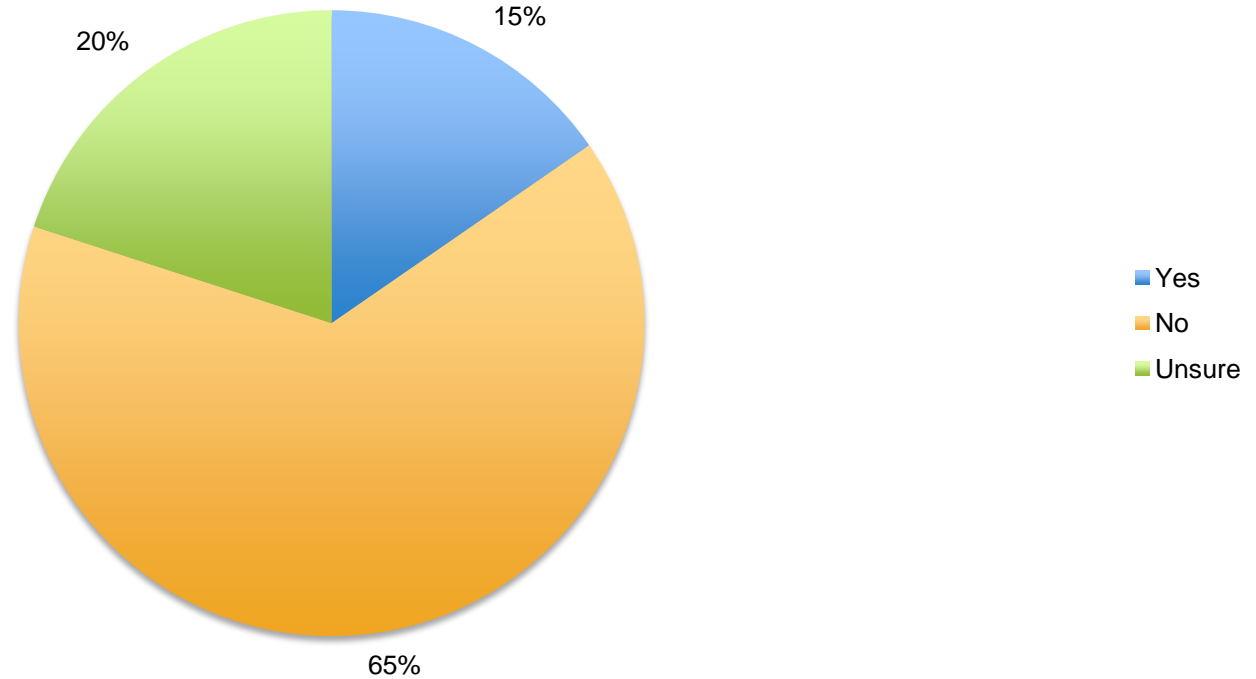
SRS, 2001-2013



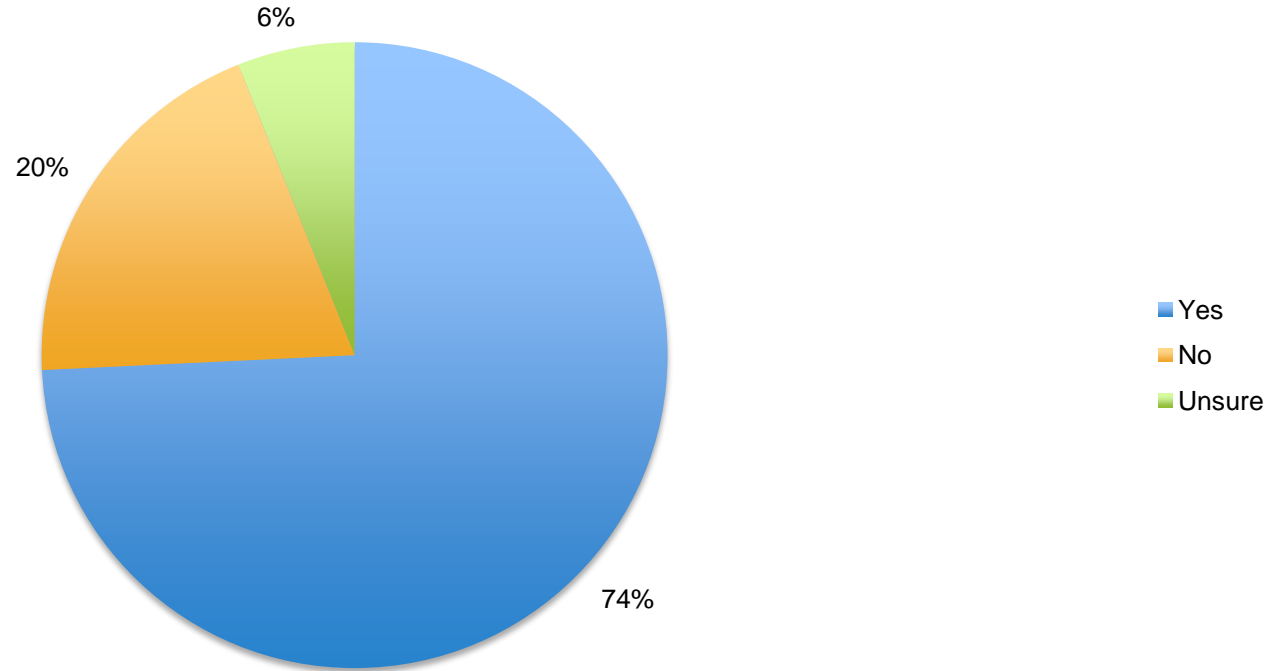
Road & Bridge Fund Revenues (2012)

County	P-Tax	State Hwy Funding	SRS	Total
Bear Lake	\$499,490 (31.6%)	\$891,463 (56.4%)	\$188,377 (12.0%)	\$1,579,330
Fremont	\$358,812 (15.5%)	\$1,390,211 (60.0%)	\$569,040 (24.5%)	\$2,318,063
Shoshone	\$0 (0%)	\$998,323 (37.6%)	\$1,658,374 (62.4%)	\$2,656,697
Valley	\$0 (0%)	\$1,583,000 (55.1%)	\$1,292,783 (44.9%)	\$2,874,783

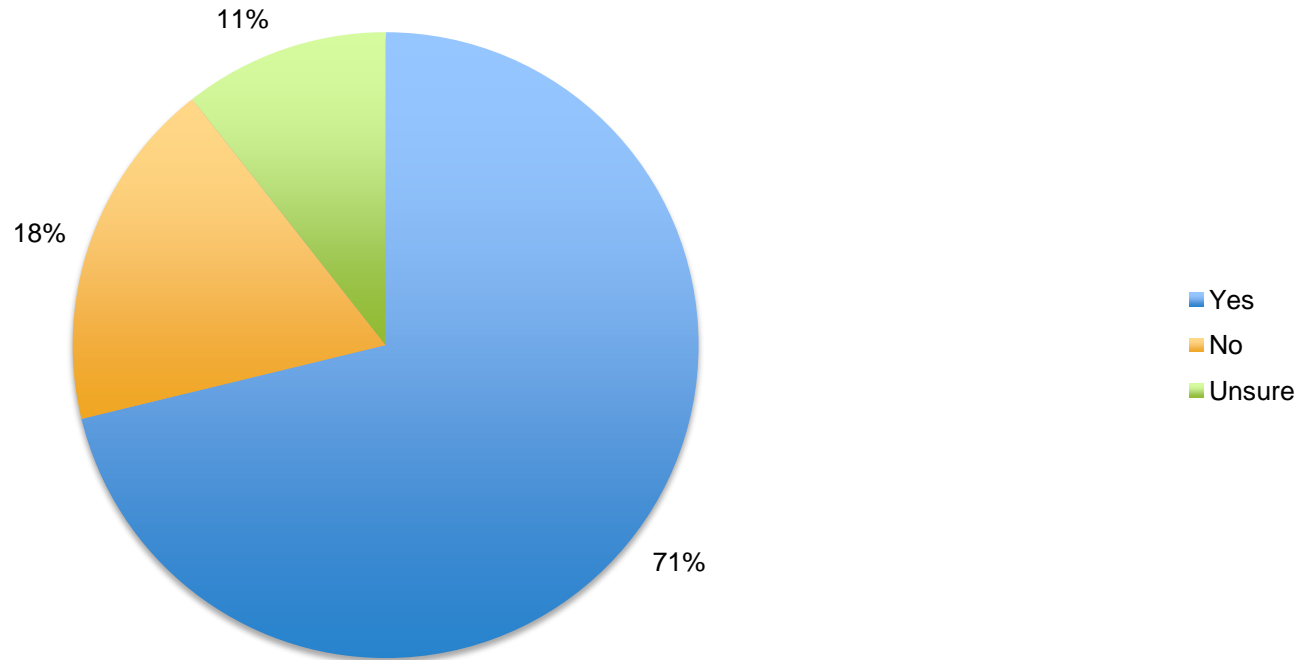
Q13: Is the economic productivity and number of related private sector jobs commensurate with the resource production capacity of the federally managed lands within your county?



Q14: Are federal policies for threatened or endangered species adversely impacting private landowners, businesses, industries, or citizens within your county?



Q15: Has federal land management resulted in adverse impacts to your county's economy?



Questions?