

National and Florida Survey of Hunters and Anglers

Conducted for

**The Florida Wildlife Federation
and The National Wildlife
Federation**

By

Bellwether Research & Consulting

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Methodology

- A total of 284 telephone interviews were completed: 240 with respondents randomly selected from a Florida list of current fishing license holders and 44 with respondents randomly selected from a Florida list of current hunting license holders.
- All respondents are self-identified registered voters.
- All said hunting or fishing is an “important” part of their lifestyle.
- Interviewing was conducted June 8th –June 20th, 2004
- Sampling error for all data reported is $\pm 5.7\%$ at a 95% confidence level.

Profile of Florida Hunter-Angler Respondents

- 87% Male
- 50 Mean age of Respondent
- 68% have Children
- 100% Registered to Vote

Profile of Florida Hunter-Angler Respondents

- 82% Wildlife and Conservation Issues Important When Deciding Vote for President
- 100% Hunting or Fishing and Important Part of Lifestyle

Respondent Politics

- 47% Republican
- 12% Independent
- 23% Democrat

More on Politics

Take party politics out of it and:

- 65% said they were Very or Somewhat Conservative
- In November 2000, respondents chose George Bush over Al Gore 64%-20% a 3-1 margin

Why Sportsmen?

- Florida is Fishing Capital of the World
- More recreational fishers than any other state
- Recreational fishing in Florida is \$4 billion industry

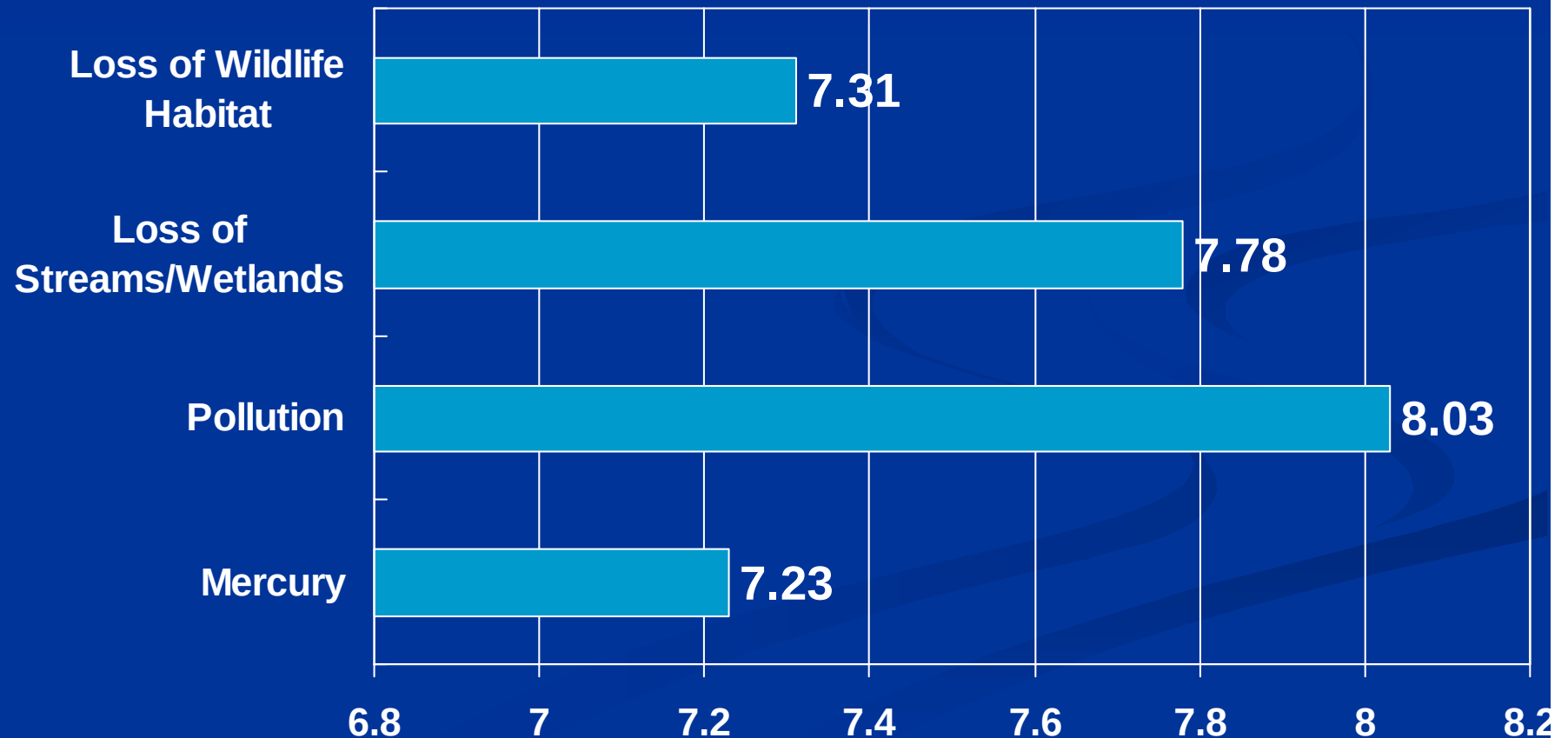
Florida Sportsmen and Women

- Florida's sportsmen and women have highest intensity of concern for pollution of all states sampled
- Pollution rated 8.05 (mean) intensity where 0 is not concerned and 10 is extremely concerned

Top issues impacting hunting and fishing in Florida

0 to 10 scale

% 7-10



**Do you favor or oppose purchasing
sugar cane fields in the Everglades
Agricultural Area so they can be restored
to a natural state for habitat and
increased hunting and fishing
opportunities?**

69% Favor – 20% Oppose

- 41% Strongly Favor
- 28% Somewhat Favor
- 10% Somewhat Oppose
- 10% Strongly Oppose
- 12% Don't Know/Refuse

Do you favor or oppose requiring coal-burning power plants to reduce mercury pollution to the maximum extent possible with current technology?

84% Favor – 11% Oppose

- 66% Strongly Favor
 - 18% Somewhat Favor
 - 5% Somewhat Oppose
 - 6% Strongly Oppose
 - 6% Don't know/Refuse
-
- Among George Bush 2000 voters, 80.2% want the best mercury controls possible

Do you favor or oppose conducting environmental studies to assess the impact that the new water supply and waste disposal will have on fish and wildlife habitat before allowing a permit for development?

85% Favor – 12% Oppose

- 64% Strongly Favor
- 21% Somewhat Favor
- 6% Strongly Oppose
- 3% Don't Know/Refuse

Which of the following statements more accurately reflects your views?

- The Sugar industry comes first. It's such an important part of the state's economy, that we need to keep the extra water in Lake Okeechobee, even if it harms fish and wildlife habitat.
- Fish and wildlife habitat should be protected and we should not store the extra water in Lake Okeechobee even if, on rare occasions, the sugarcane crop faces drought conditions.

Lake Okeechobee Water Storage

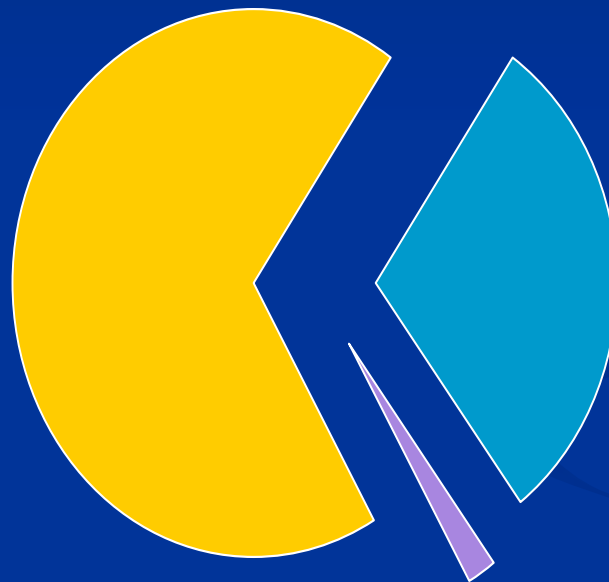
- 22% Sugar Industry comes first – keep the extra water
- **66% Protect fish and wildlife habitat – not store the extra water**
- 12% Don't know/Refuse

Which of the following statements better reflects your opinion?

- Some people say natural wetlands can be filled or drained as long as developers are required to create new wetlands to replace those that are destroyed.
- Other people say that natural wetlands should not be filled or drained in most cases, even if developers replace them with manmade wetlands, because manmade wetlands do not replicate all the important functions of natural wetlands.

Wetlands

72%
Should not be
filled or drained
(69% among 2000
Bush Voters)



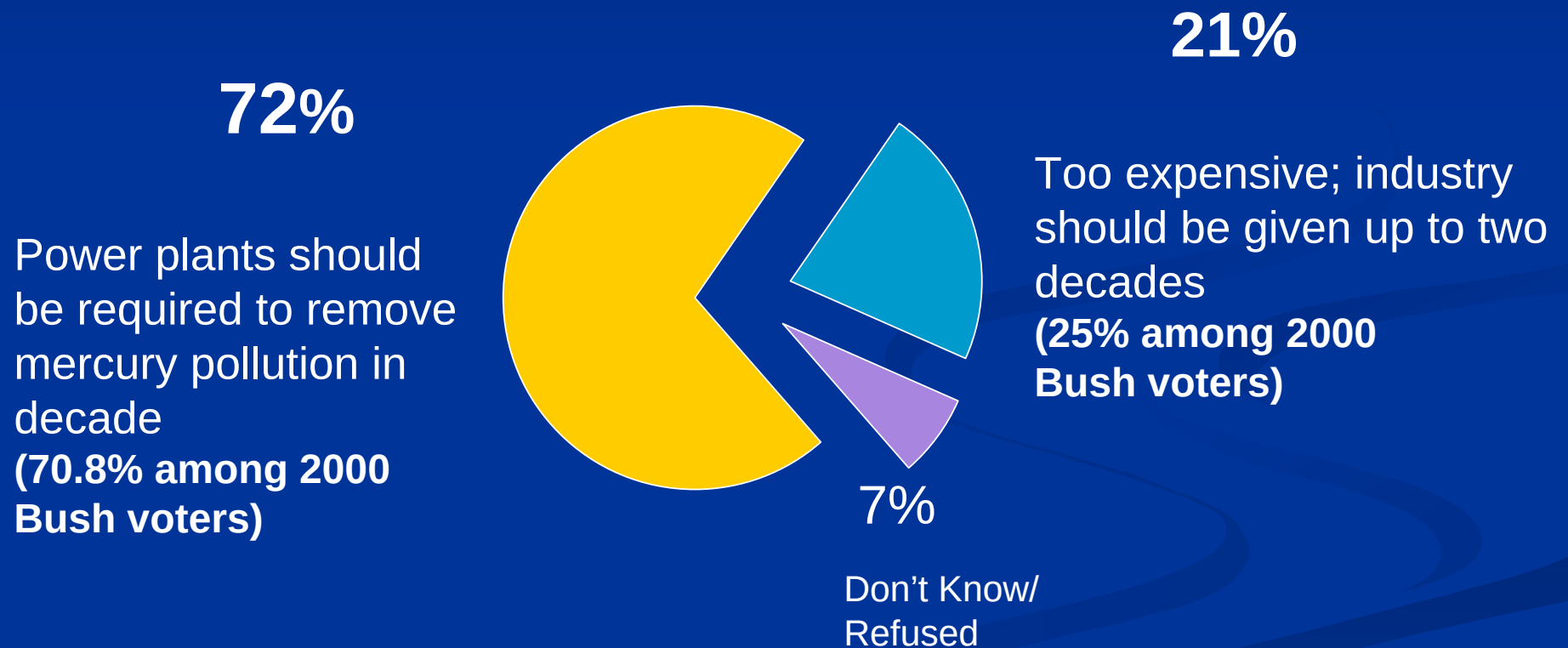
20%
Can be filled or drained
(25% among 2000 Bush
Voters)

7%
Don't Know/
Refused

Which Statement Better Reflects your opinion?

- Some people say that existing technologies could remove almost all of the mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants, and that they should be required to do so by the end of the decade because mercury poses a risk to people, particularly pregnant women and children, and to wildlife.
- Other people say that the technology to eliminate mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants is not yet widely available, making it too expensive and causing higher energy costs for businesses and households, so industry should be given up to two decades to meet this pollution reduction target.

Approach to mercury clean-up



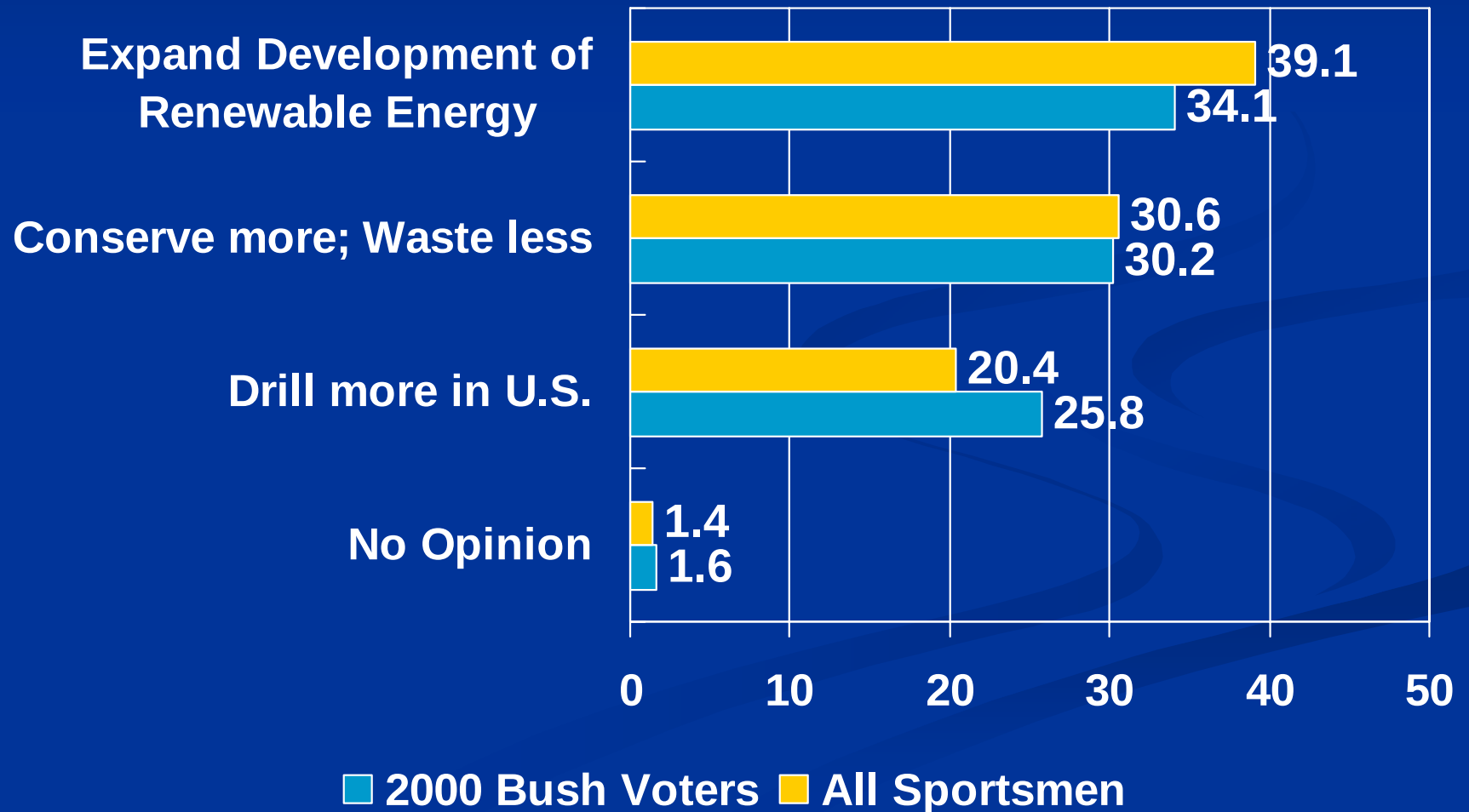
Which of the following to you think is the best way to address America's Energy Needs?

- **20%** Drill for more oil and gas in the U.S., including areas within wildlife refuges and other public lands, to increase our domestic energy supply.
- **31%** Conserve more, waste less, and develop more fuel-efficient cars so we use less oil and gas
- **39%** Rely less on oil and gas and expand development of renewable forms of energy like wind, solar and ethanol
- **9%** No opinion
- **1%** Refused

Which of the following to you think is the best way to address America's Energy Needs?

- Of those who voted for George Bush in 2000
64.3% picked renewables and conservation over
reliance on oil and gas

Best way to address America's energy needs



The Bush administration provided full funding for Florida Everglades restoration, the largest conservation restoration effort in the nation's history.

Do you favor or oppose this policy?

84% Favor – 11% Oppose

- 55% Favor Strongly
- 29% Favor Somewhat
- 4% Oppose Strongly
- 7% Oppose Somewhat
- 5% Don't Know

The Bush administration expanded the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program that helps private landowners restore fish and wildlife habitat on their property.

Do you favor or oppose this policy?

80% Favor – 17% Oppose

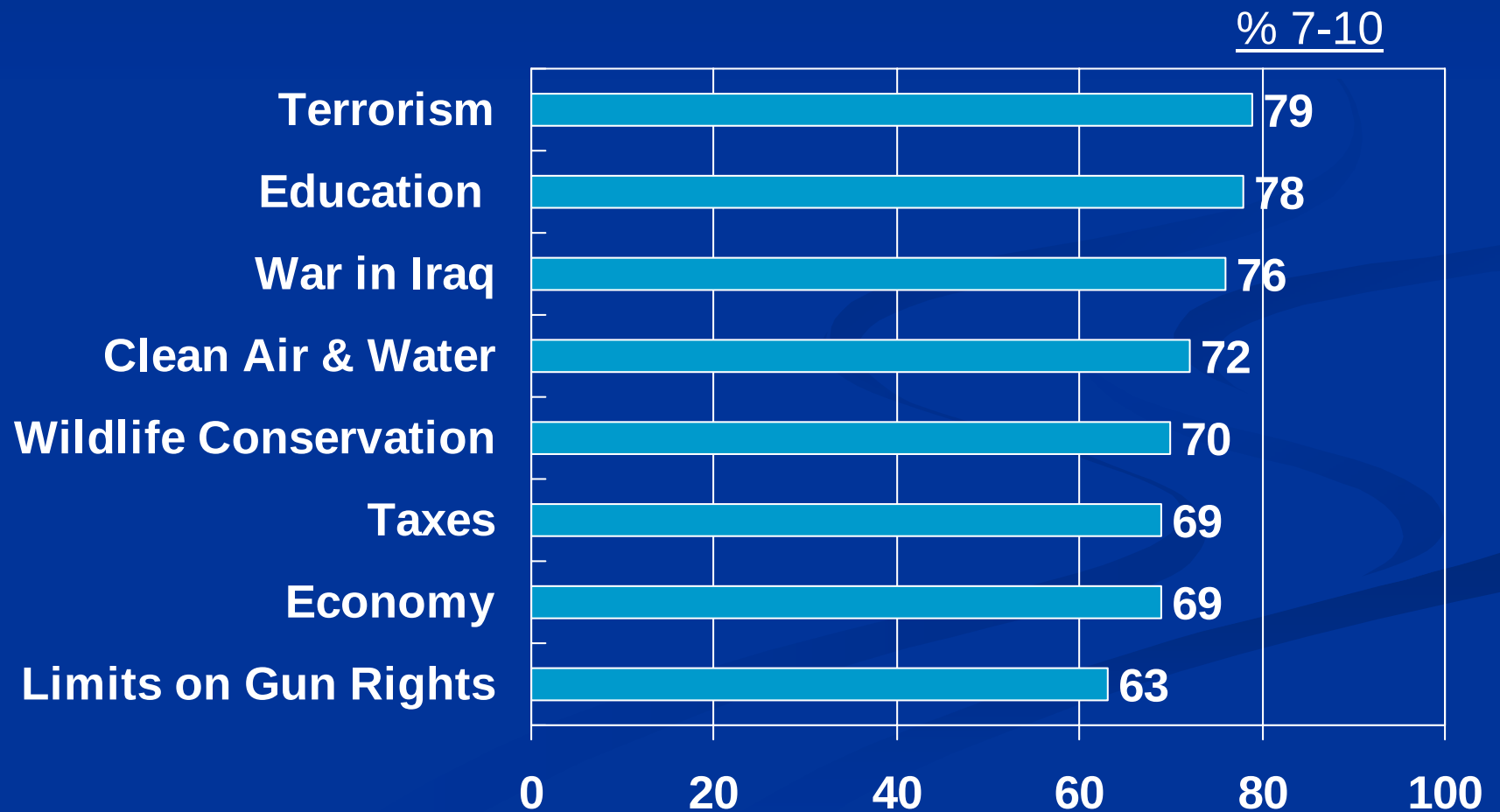
- 54% Favor Strongly
- 26% Favor Somewhat
- 9% Oppose Strongly
- 8% Oppose Somewhat
- 3% Don't Know

What do these results show?

- Florida's Sportsmen and women support:
- Land acquisition
- Habitat Restoration
- Managing Water Resources to protect fish and wildlife
- Extreme Concern about Mercury Pollution and wetlands destruction

National concerns

0 to 10 scale

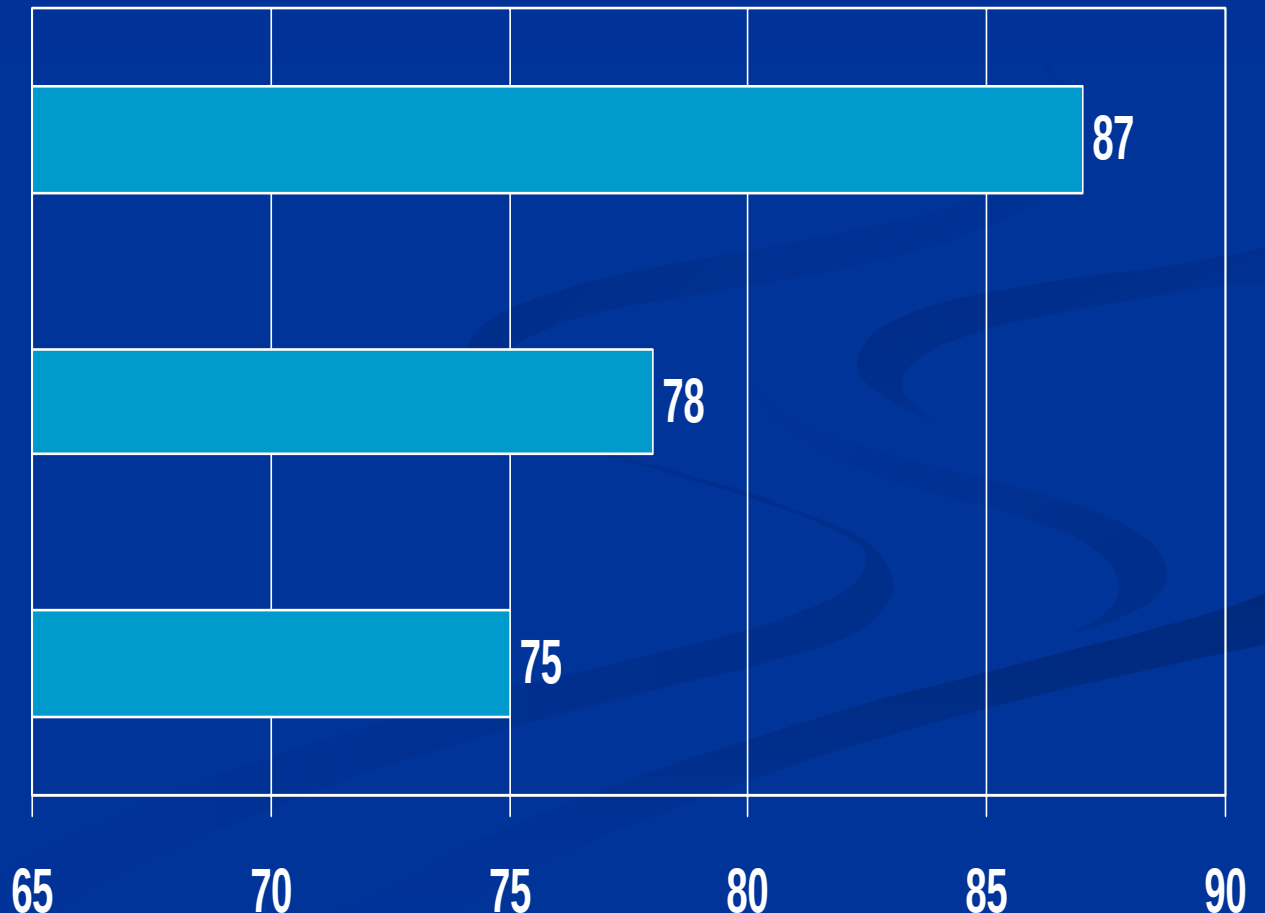


Support for Bush Administration Conservation Policies

Expanded Partners
for Fish & Wildlife
Program.

More than doubled
funding for Forest
Legacy Program.

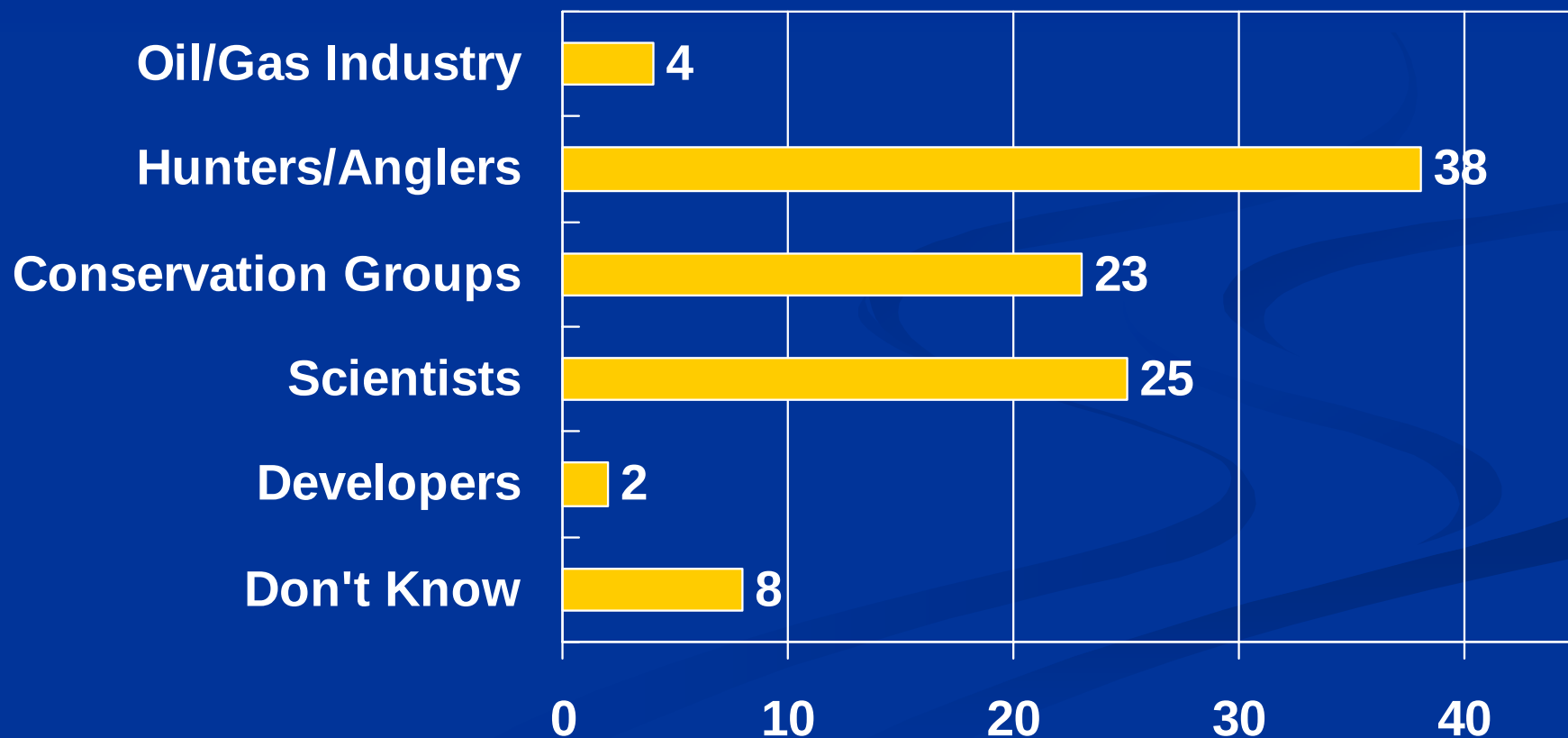
Full funding for FL
Everglades
Restoration-largest
conservation
effort in history.



Who does this Administration Listen to?

- **49% oil and gas industry**
- 15% hunters and anglers
- 8% scientists
- 8% conservation groups
- 7% developers

Who *should* have “most say” with Bush Administration on conservation or hunting / fishing issues

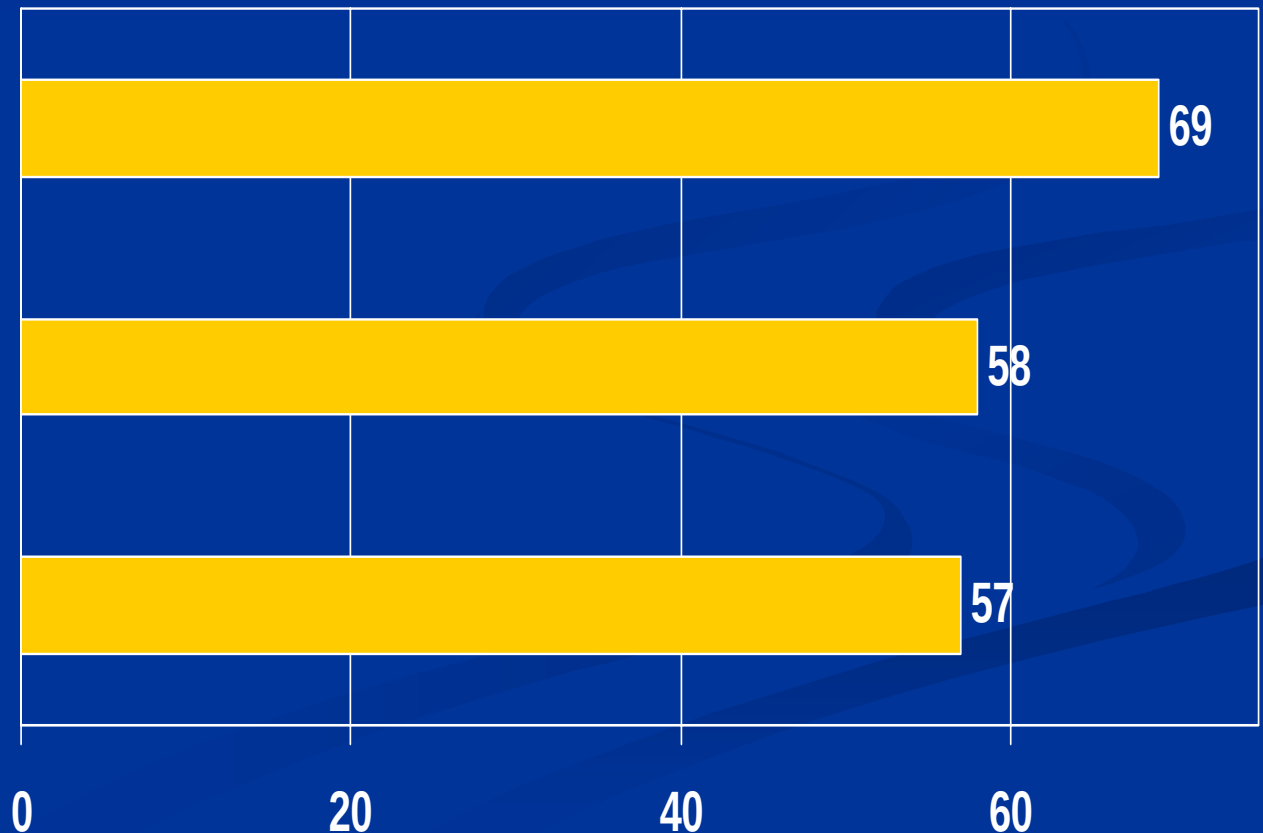


Opposition to Key Bush Administration Policies

Flexibility for coal-fired power plants to reduce mercury.

New Clean Water Act Guidelines-eliminate Wetlands protections.

Clean Water Act exemptions to expedite oil/gas development.



Opposition to Key Bush Administration Policies: By 2000 Bush voters

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