



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

FLORIDA

Public Opinion

October 2019

Survey conducted October 30 through October 31, 2019. 1,385 likely 2020 General Election voters participated in the survey. Survey weighted to match expected turnout demographics for the 2020 General Election. Margin of Error is +/-2.5% with a 95% level of confidence. Totals do not always equal 100% due to rounding.

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Q1: In 2015 state officials allowed the first trophy hunting season in 20 years on Florida's unique black bears, and over 300 bears were killed in just 2 days before the hunt was shut down. The hunt also may have orphaned dozens of cubs, as lactating female bears were killed by hunters too. Trophy hunters' primary motivation is not for food, but rather to obtain and display bear parts, including, heads, hides, claws and capes, or for photo opportunities and bragging rights. State officials may soon propose allowing another trophy hunting season for bears.

Do you support or oppose the trophy hunting of black bears in Florida?

Support: 26%
Oppose: 67%
Not sure: 7%

Q2: In some states, hunters are permitted to use packs of radio-collared hounds to pursue and corner or tree bears, then shoot them at point blank range.

Do you support or oppose permitting the practice of using packs of hounds to kill bears?

Support: 16%
Oppose: 78%
Not sure: 6%

Q3: In some states, hunters are permitted to lure bears to wildlife feeding stations with human food baits and shoot them while they are feeding.

Do you support or oppose Florida permitting hunters to shoot bears over bait stations?

Support: 15%
Oppose: 80%
Not sure: 5%



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Q4: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission currently allows hunters to shoot deer and feral hogs at wildlife feeding stations on private property. Wildlife feeding stations not only habituate animals to a place—generally so hunters can shoot their quarry from a nearby stand—but also unnaturally increase wildlife populations far beyond the carrying capacity of the land.

Do you support or oppose the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s current wildlife-baiting policies?

Support: 28%

Oppose: 60%

Not sure: 12%

Q5: Most human and bear incidents involve bears’ access to human-food attractants - including garbage cans, bird feeders and outdoor pet food. Do you think the state agency tasked with managing these issues, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, has done a good job in instructing the public about how to prevent these types of conflicts?

Yes, the agency has done a good job instructing the public about how to prevent these conflicts: 41%

No, the agency has not done a good job instructing the public about how to prevent these conflicts: 43%

Not sure: 16%

Q6: Bears sometimes come into conflict with people. Most reported conflicts involve nuisance complaints about garbage cans, bird feeders, and simple sightings of bears near urban areas and often include situations where people have intentionally been feeding bears. Many states successfully manage bear populations and reduce conflict through non-lethal measures such as public education, trash management, ticketing people who intentionally or unintentionally feed bears or enforcing ordinances against feeding bears and game officers using rubber pellets and loud noises to frighten bears away.

Do you support or oppose Florida placing priority on policies that promote effective, non-lethal and more humane methods to reduce conflicts between bears and people?

Support: 72%

Oppose: 17%

Not sure: 11%