

**Understanding and Connecting Americans and Nature. Dr. Stephen R. Kellert, Yale University, and D.J. Case and Associates**

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is sponsoring this survey under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956. The survey will provide information necessary to understand the connection between Americans and nature in an increasingly diverse, technologically oriented, and rapidly changing society. Results will help improve the design and delivery of new or existing programs aimed at engaging the public in nature-related activities. Your response is voluntary. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number. We estimate that it will take you 20 minutes to complete the survey. These times include the time necessary to gather information, read instructions, and complete the survey. You may send comments on any aspect of this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, (Mail Stop BPHC), Falls Church, VA 22041.

**Thank you for agreeing to participate in this important study of Americans' interests in nature and the outdoors.**

**1. In general, would you say your pastimes, hobbies, and recreational interests are...?**

- More indoors-oriented
- More outdoors-oriented
- About the same indoors- and outdoors-oriented

**2. In general, do you tend to think of yourself as...?**

- A "city-person" at heart
- A "country-person" at heart
- Both a "city- and country-person" at heart

**3. For each of the following, please indicate if it's something that you would consider to be "nature" (check all that apply).**

- Wild animals
- Indoor plants
- Outdoor gardens
- Zoos
- Pets and domestic animals

- National Park
- State Park
- My time walking to the car, bus, or train
- Ski resort
- Oceans
- Paintings of landscapes
- Photographs of animals
- Insects
- Neighborhood or local park
- Home aquarium or home terrarium
- Maintained lawns
- My time sightseeing while commuting/driving
- Ponds and lakes
- Family vacation destination like a major theme park
- Yard plants
- Moon, sun, and stars
- Beach

**From this point on, please consider "nature" to include wild animals, plants, landscapes, and other features and products of the natural environment.**

**4. How would you describe your interests in nature compared to your other interests? Would you say things of nature are...?**

- Your MOST enjoyable interests
- Among your MORE ENJOYABLE interests
- Neither more nor less enjoyable than your other interests
- Among your LESS ENJOYABLE interests
- Your LEAST enjoyable interests

**5. On average, how satisfied are you with the amount of time you're able to get outdoors to experience nature?**

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

**6. In a typical week, when weather allows, about how many hours do you spend outside in nature? (Do not include organized sports.)**

Less than 2 hours

3-5 hours

6-10 hours

11-20 hours

21-30 hours

More than 30 hours

Don't know



**7. How often would you say you read something about nature?**

Daily

Weekly

Monthly

Less than monthly

Never

**8. Would you say your interests in nature are more than, less than, or the same as your parents (or those who raised you)?**

More

Less

The same

Don't know

**9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. I have more time now for nature interests than in the past	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I have more financial resources now to pursue my nature interests than in the past	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I'm making time to share my interest in nature and the outdoors with children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I find myself more content when I make time for nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. People I care about are making more time for nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. There are plenty of places to enjoy nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**10. How important is each of the following in hindering your interests in nature today?**

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not at all important
a. Not enough time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Health reasons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Other things are more important in my life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Few friends to be with outdoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Aging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Greater interest in computers, smart phones, and electronic media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. The outdoors is unsafe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Not enough places nearby to enjoy the outdoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Financial reasons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**11. As time goes on do you find your interests in nature growing, declining, or remaining unchanged?**

- Growing
- Declining
- Remaining unchanged

**12. For each of the following brief statements about nature, please indicate if you think each statement is true, false, or you don't know. (Please answer based on your current knowledge.)**

	True	False	Don't know
a. Spiders have 10 legs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Raptors are small rodents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. All adult birds have feathers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The manatee is an insect	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. An octopus is a kind of fish	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Snakes have a thin covering of slime in order to move more easily	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Most insects have backbones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Only land plants produce oxygen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Most of the earth is covered by water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Oceans play little role in climate and weather	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Nothing lives in soil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**13. How familiar would you say you are about news, events, and issues that affect nature and the outdoors at...**

	Extremely familiar	Very familiar	Moderately familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
a. Your local level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Your state level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- c. The U.S. national level
- d. The international level

**14. How would you rate your interest in each of the following activities?**

- |  | A lot                 | Some                  | None at all           |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Camping                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b. Swimming                                    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c. Hiking                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| d. Jogging or running                          | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. Bicycling                                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| f. Boating                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| g. Fishing                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| h. Hunting                                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| i. Exploring the outdoors                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| j. Feeding or watching birds or other wildlife | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| k. Watching nature-TV programs                 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**15. How would you rate your interest in each of the following activities?**

- |   | A lot                 | Some                  | None at all           |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Reading or looking at pictures about nature  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b. Surfing the web for nature information or pictures                                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c. Gardening outdoors   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| d. Growing indoor plants  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. Yard work  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| f. Visiting a zoo, aquarium, nature center, natural history museum, or botanical garden | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| g. Creating nature art or photos  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| h. Belonging to nature organizations  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| i. Organized sports like basketball, soccer, or baseball                                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| j. Taking a walk outdoors   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| k. Collecting or gathering nature objects like rocks, leaves, or mushrooms              | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**16. What is your favorite outdoor- or nature-oriented activity?**

**17. What is your second-favorite outdoor- or nature-oriented activity?**

### 18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. Certain smells and sounds of nature bring to mind some of my happiest memories	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. My love of nature is one of my strongest feelings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. There are many more important issues in my life than my concerns for nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I think love is a feeling that people should feel for people, not for other animals and nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I don't think people should love their pets as much as they love other people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. I think most insects are ugly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I enjoy nature more than anything else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I'm most attracted to animals that are beautiful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Seeing something especially attractive in nature arouses my curiosity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. My decision to visit a park or outdoor area depends on seeing something beautiful there	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 20. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. Being alone in the outdoors is uncomfortable to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. There are animals I really dislike	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I don't like being in nature by myself	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I prefer to stay on paved paths when I'm in the outdoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I think the world would be a better place without dangerous animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Times have become so dangerous that parents can't allow their children to be outdoors on their own	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 21. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. People are certain to master nature through technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I've enjoyed learning skills that help me face nature's challenges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods remind me that nature can never be	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

completely mastered

d. People need to control nature to meet human needs even if it sometimes harms nature and wildlife

e. To me, an animal trained to help humans is better than one owned just for companionship

**22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

Strongly agree      Somewhat agree      Neither agree nor disagree      Somewhat disagree      Strongly disagree

a. We must develop our energy resources regardless of the effects on nature

b. We need to build on land for people even if it results in fewer places for wildlife to live

c. I most value animals like cows and sheep that serve some practical purpose

d. Natural resources must be developed even if it results in the loss of some wilderness

e. Our oceans will always provide plenty of fish to meet our needs

f. Nature will always provide enough water to meet our needs

**23. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

Strongly agree      Somewhat agree      Neither agree nor disagree      Somewhat disagree      Strongly disagree

a. An understanding of how nature works is as important to a child's education as reading, writing, and math

b. The intelligence of future generations will suffer if our society becomes more isolated from nature

c. Learning more about nature and how it works is one of my greatest interests

d. I find most insects boring

**24. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

Strongly agree      Somewhat agree      Neither agree nor disagree      Somewhat disagree      Strongly disagree

a. Being in nature helps give meaning and purpose to my life

b. Being in nature gives me a sense of peace

c. There have been moments in my life when nature has helped me feel spiritually connected to something greater than myself

d. I care as much about the suffering of animals as the suffering of people

e. Plants and animals have as much right to exist as people

f. My spiritual or religious feelings have

little to do with nature

**25. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. I enjoy having things in my home that remind me of nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. People no longer have much to learn from how things work in nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I am sometimes inspired and feel more creative when I see things in nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Reading stories about nature is one of my greatest pleasures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Being able to do things outdoors appeals to me more than doing things indoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Music I enjoy often reminds me of the outdoors and nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**26. Which one of the following persons most influenced how you think or feel about nature?**

- Parent
- Brother/sister
- Grandparent
- Other relative
- Friend
- Teacher
- Camp counselor/Youth group leader
- Scout leader
- Fish/wildlife/outdoor professional
- Other

**27. Briefly, what do you think is the single most important thing that nature gives us?**

**28. Briefly, what experience would you say most influenced how you think or feel about nature?**



**29. In general, would you say your physical health is...?**

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor

**30. In general, would you say your emotional outlook on life is...?**

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor

**31. To what extent does your health limit your ability to be involved in each of the following?**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a. Moderately demanding activities such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Significantly demanding activities such as working outside, climbing a hill, climbing several flights of stairs, or going on a trip	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Getting outdoors as much as you'd like	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Accomplishing as much as you would like on a daily basis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**32. In your opinion, how important is getting outdoors and into nature for helping your physical health?**

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

**33. In your opinion, how important is getting outdoors and into nature for helping your emotional outlook on life?**

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important

- Slightly important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

**34. Overall, how would you rate your quality of life?**

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor

**35. How satisfied are you with the each of the following where you live?**

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
a. Health services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Schools and educational system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Access to public transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Entertainment and arts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Places for outdoor and nature recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Air quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Parks and open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Safety from crime	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**36. In your opinion, do we need to increase the number of programs available for Americans to enjoy nature, the outdoors, and wildlife?**

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

**37. In your opinion, are programs for Americans to enjoy nature and wildlife underfunded, adequately funded, or over-funded?**

- Under-funded
- Adequately funded
- Over-funded

No opinion

**38. Which funding sources do you think should help pay the cost of activities related to nature and wildlife?**

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. Hunting and fishing license fees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Small extra charge on bird-feeding/-watching supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. A charge on oil and gas development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Dedicated portion of general tax revenues from state and federal sources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Fines collected for environmental polluting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Small extra charge in state sales tax on most merchandise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Partnering with private sector organizations to fund programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. National Income Tax Check-off	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Fee on international travel to and from the U.S.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Other source of funding (please specify)?**

**Thank you...just a few more questions. You are free to leave blank any question you'd rather not answer.**

**39. What is your sex?**

Male

Female

**40. Which best describes the area where you grew up?**

Urban

Suburban

Rural

**41. Which best describes where you live now?**

Urban

Suburban

Rural

**42. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?**

- No
- Yes

**43. What is your race? (check all that apply).**

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

**44. What is your age?**

- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 to 84
- 85 or older

**45. What is the last grade in school you completed, or degree you received?**

- 8th grade or less
- High school incomplete (grades 9, 10, 11)
- High school complete (grade 12 or equivalent)
- Some college, no degree
- Associate degree
- College graduate/Bachelor's degree
- Post-graduate degree such as Master's, PhD, MD, JD


**46. Which of the following income categories best describes your total ANNUAL household income averaged over the past 5 years?**

- Less than \$15,000
- \$15,000 to \$24,999

- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$124,999
- \$125,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 to \$249,999
- \$250,000 or more

**47. Please enter your 5-digit zip code:**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, PATIENCE, AND PARTICIPATION**

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