



**To: Interested Parties**

**From: Anand Gupta, Change Research**

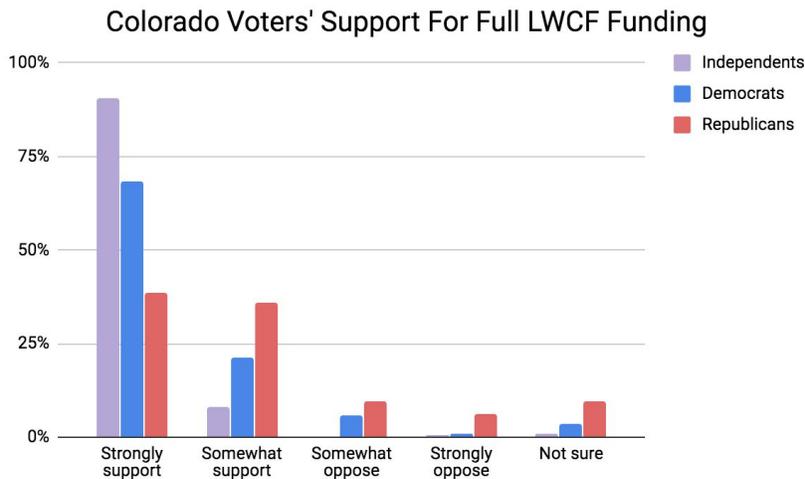
**Date: December 10, 2018**

**Re: Colorado voters want Gardner to ensure full LWCF funding**

A recent poll from Change Research of 540 likely voters in Colorado from December 2 - 4 shows that 87% support Congress renewing and providing full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

The poll also found that even though Senator Cory Gardner supports full reauthorization of the LWCF, voters are ready to hold him accountable in 2020 if he is not able to sway his Senate Republican colleagues to support reauthorization without full funding.

For example, when provided with a statement that Senator Gardner promised to get full, mandatory LWCF funding but has so far been unable to get the job done, Coloradan voters, by a ratio of 3:1, are more likely to oppose supporting his candidacy because of it.



A majority of the electorate rate the expiration of the LWCF as either their most important issue or one of their most important issues with only 7% responding that full reauthorization is not very important to them.



The poll also found that 50% have unfavorable feelings towards Senator Gardner compared with 38% who are favorable and if the election were held today, he would lose to 'the Democratic candidate' 47% to 41%.

Given their size in the state, independent voters who do not identify with one of the two major political parties are particularly important. Senator Gardner's net unfavorables are 14 points higher than his favorables among this group and he loses them by 13 points in a head-to-head with a generic Democrat.

Independents view full LWCF reauthorization as being more important than the electorate overall. They also answer by a 5:1 ratio that they are more like to oppose Senator Gardner's candidacy if he is unable to secure full funding.

The LWCF is the largest program providing funds for the protection of public lands, parks, and recreational areas across the country. Congress let the program expire on September 30 and has yet to hold a full floor vote.

The program constitutes a relatively rare substantive issue in the state where voters across the political spectrum are voicing a unified opinion. Coloradans want elected officials who are able to make the commitment of fully reauthorizing the LWCF a reality.

**Methodology:**

Change Research applied proprietary Bias Correct approach to solicitations in order to yield a mostly representative sample. Incomplete responses, respondents outside of Colorado, and voters who did not match a voter file audience for registered voters were filtered out, leaving a sample size of 540. The sampling margin of error is 4.2%. The demographics of the sample are similar to Colorado as a whole in terms of political leanings, age, gender, and ethnicity for presidential-year electorates. Post-stratification weighting was performed on age, gender, ethnicity, and 2016 presidential vote.