

Ecosystem Services and Idaho's Farmers

Regulatory Concern

77% of participants report that they are concerned about overregulation.

"The environmentalists always want what is yours. You don't know what the congressional legislative bodies will do. You worry about that."

"What I am worried about in regards to climate change, is that the government will overreact and try so hard to regulate and then the regulations will cost so much that people starve to death because of the regulations or something, I mean that is a real possibility."

Climate Change is Natural

60% of participants believe climate change is due to natural cycles or natural occurrences.

"I told you earlier, I'm a God-fearing man. I think we have no control over it. I don't worry about what is gonna happen."

"We get excited about the average; but there is no such thing as an average year. It is made up of the extremes. I think as a rule we have been in a warmer cycle."

Water Competition

77% of participants reported that water competition is a concern. The competition exists between farmers, companies, environmentalists, the government, and/or other states.

"I think I mean there might come a time when it comes to fisticuffs because there is not enough water. But since the beginning of time, people have died over water and the fight is there."

"I'm worried about California getting their hands on our water. All the stuff is going to go where the money is. Money dictates who gets what it seems like."



Water Conservation

73% of participants specifically mentioned using water conservation practices.

"We are always trying to conserve water as much as we can."

"Man we are forced to conserve water constantly just to raise a crop."

GMOs are Positive

97% of respondents consider genetically engineered seeds positive for farming.

"Well, it has made the crops that we grow so much safer, so much healthier, uh in every way, shape and form. The only people that don't like GMOs are those that aren't educated."

"I would say they are good for the environment. They are good for human mankind. They are good for farming."

Attachment to the Land and Farming

87% of participants say it is important to them that their land remain an agricultural operation after they retire.

"Not only financial reasons but umm, when you do one thing your whole life you get an identity, and it kind of gets stuck in a rut. It's like anything else. If you're a football player that you're a football player. If you're a farmer you're a farmer, you know. A doctor's a doctor. Everybody has their place, and this is kind of our place."

"That's what we have written our landholding LLC up with, the idea of holding this ground for _____ Farms, you know. Even my other children, I don't want them to inherit and then sell off their share."

Perceptions of Environmental Change

