

WILD FOODS SURVEY

Introduction: Greetings! We are a team of scientists from Montana State University interested in wild foods, those foods that come from our wild areas (e.g. hunting, fishing, and wild harvesting). Specifically, our team is interested in understanding: the 1) **role of the wild foods in supporting communities**; 2) links to land-use and environmental factors; and 3) opportunities in enhancing the local food system.

We are conducting surveys and interviews with residents of Montana who either hunt, fish, or harvest wild edible plants. To participate in this survey, you must both have hunted, fished, or harvested wild foods for ten or more years AND lived in Montana for 10 or more years. If you are over 55 years of age, and no longer hunt, fish, or harvest- you may still participate in this survey.

We are offering the first 200 participants who complete the majority of the survey a **\$15 gift card from Amazon®** as a token of our appreciation for your participation in the survey. In order to receive the \$15 gift card, participants must complete survey questions by **November 30th 2017**.

This **anonymous survey will take approximately 25 minutes - 1 hour to complete**. It consists of a series of 64 questions that are presented in seven parts including multiple choice questions and open-ended questions. There is no right or wrong answer to the questions. Please note that the completion of this survey is voluntary and that you can skip a question any time you want.

This survey will allow us to better understand the local food systems in supporting communities. Survey results will be shared with the extension, natural resource management, and research communities. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our research team.

We are grateful for your participation in this survey and for sharing your time, experience, expertise, and thoughts. To learn more about our work, please visit our website: <http://waferx.montana.edu>

This survey has been approved by the Montana State University Institutional Review Board (MSU IRB) for Human Subjects. You may contact the MSU IRB with any questions: (406) 994-4706

Sincerely,

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1. PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT:

(1) Do you agree to participate in our study participate in this survey? You are being asked to voluntarily participate. It is expected that this survey will take approximately 25 minutes to 1 hour to complete. This is an anonymous survey. If you would like to receive a \$15 Amazon gift card for completing this survey, you will be asked for your address at the end of the survey.

- Yes, I am willing to participate in this survey.
- No, I am not willing to participate in this survey.

Part 1: Background

In this part of the survey, we will ask about your background.

2. What town and county in Montana do you live in?

3. How long have you lived in this place?

4. How old are you?

5. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Other

6. How long have you harvested wild foods?

7. Do you or your household receive nutrition assistance to supplement the food that you purchase? For example, do you obtain food using SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), a food bank, or a community kitchen?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

8. In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

9. Was the following statement about your food situation often true, sometimes true, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months: '(I/we) couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.

- Often true
- Sometimes true
- Never true

Part 2: Hunting

In this part of the survey, we will ask about your practices regarding hunting.

10. Do you hunt?

Yes

No

11. Does anyone **in your household hunt** (e.g. your spouse, partner, children, siblings, grandparents or other extended family)?

Yes

No

12. If you answered yes to question 11, which members **in your household** hunt? Check all that apply.

Partner/Spouse

Grandparents

Parents

Cousins or other extended family

Siblings

Friends

If you answered yes to questions 10 and/or 11 and 12, answer questions 13-20 on hunting. Otherwise, please scroll down and skip to part 3 on the next page of this survey.

13. List all the things that you value about *hunting* (e.g. family time, provides food, vacation, solitude, etc.)

14. Who taught you (or the hunter in your household) how to hunt, or where did you learn to hunt?

15. List all the types of animals that you or someone in your household hunt.

16. Which animals do you hunt the most?

17. Approximately how often do you go hunting each year?

18. What types of land do you hunt on?

Public land

Private land

Other (please specify)

19. Approximately how often do you consume locally hunted meat (not store bought)?

Weekly

One to three times per month

Less often

20. Do you have any special practices, rituals, or stories associated with hunting? For example, do you have any culinary practices for your hunted meat such as specific ways of drying meat or family recipes? If yes, please share what these are.

Part 3: Fishing

In this part of the survey we will ask you about your practices regarding fishing.

21. Do you fish?

Yes

No

22. Does anyone **in your household** go fishing (e.g. your spouse, partner, children, siblings, grandparents or other extended family)?

Yes

No

23. If you answered yes to question 22, which members **in your household** fish? Please check all that apply.

Spouse/partner

Grandparents

Parents

Cousins or other extended family

Siblings

Friends

If you answered yes to questions 21 and/or 22 and 23, answer questions 24-31 on fishing. Otherwise, please scroll down and skip to Part 4 on the next page of this survey.

24. List all the things that you value about *fishing* (e.g. family time, provides food, vacation, solitude, etc.)

25. Who taught you or someone in your household how to fish, or where did you learn how to fish?

26. List all the type of fish that you or someone in your household harvest.

27. Which fish do you or someone in your household catch the most?

28. How often do you go fishing for subsistence (fish that is consumed rather than catch and release)?

29. Which type of water bodies do you fish at? List all that apply.

Public

Private

Other (please specify)

30. Do you have any special practices, rituals, or stories associated with fishing? For example, do you have any culinary practices for fish that you catch? If yes, please share.

31. Approximately how often do you consume locally harvested fish (not store bought fish)?

Weekly

One to three times per month

Less often

In this part of the survey we will ask you about your practices regarding wild edible plants.

32. Do you harvest wild plant foods (wild edible plants)?

Yes

No

33. Does anybody **in your household** harvest wild edible plants (e.g. your spouse, partner, children, siblings, grandparents or other extended family)?

Yes

No

34. If you answered yes to question 33, which members **in your household** harvest wild foods? Please check all that apply.

Spouse/partner

Grandparents

Parents

Cousins or other extended family

Siblings

Friends

If you answered yes to questions 32 and/or 33 and 34, answer questions 35-42 on wild plant foods. Otherwise, please scroll down and skip to part 5 on the next page of this survey.

35. List all the things that you value about harvesting wild edible plants (e.g. family time, provides, food, vacation, solitude, etc.)

36. Who taught you or someone in your household about wild edible plants, or where did you learn about wild edible plants?

37. List all the types of wild plant foods that you or someone in your household harvest?

38. Which plant foods do you or someone else in your household harvest the most?

39. Which type of land do you harvest wild plant foods on? Please check all that apply.

Public land

Private land

Other (please specify)

40. Approximately how often do you or someone else in your household consume wild plant foods that you harvest? Once a week? More than once a week? Once a month? In a certain season of the year? If

41. Please list all the types of food products you make using wild foods.

42. Do you have any special practices, rituals, or stories associated with harvesting wild foods? For example, do you have any culinary practices for wild foods that you harvest such as preservation? If yes, please share.

Part 5: Wild Food Perceptions

In this part of the survey, you will be presented several statements about wild foods (those that you get from hunting, fishing, and wild harvesting). For each statement, you are requested to share how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement.

43. "Eating wild foods contributes to the overall *nutritional quality* of my diet."

- Strongly agree Somewhat disagree
 Somewhat agree Strongly disagree
 Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

44. "Eating wild foods contributes to the overall *diversity (variety)* of my diet."

- Strongly agree Somewhat disagree
 Somewhat agree Strongly disagree
 Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

45. "Collecting and/or eating wild foods is part of my cultural identity. It connects me to my ancestors and our stories."

- Strongly agree Somewhat disagree
 Somewhat agree Strongly disagree
 Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

46. "I am concerned that the younger generations of our community are losing the traditional knowledge about wild foods."

Strongly agree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Strongly disagree

Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

47. "I am concerned that the younger generations of our community are losing the desire to collect and/or consume wild foods."

Strongly agree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Strongly disagree

Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way.

48. "Consuming wild foods lowers the cost of my diet."

Strongly agree

Somewhat disagree

Strongly disagree

Strongly disagree

Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

Part 6: Environmental Change

In this part of the survey, you will be asked about your observations and perceptions regarding your surroundings and observed changes.

49. Environmental Observations Over Time. In the past decade have you observed any changes in the following environmental variables.

	Increased	Decreased	Become More Variable	Stayed the Same	Not Sure
Temperatures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rainfall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drought	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowfall/snow patterns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowpack	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Floods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Extreme weather	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall weather patterns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The intensity of wildfires	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The frequency of wildfires	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The amount of pests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wind	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water availability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Frost free days	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

50. Please describe the changes you have observed.

51. **Seasonal Observations Over Time.** Over the past decade, have you observed any changes in the timing of seasons.

	Starting earlier	Starting later	Becoming more variable	Stayed the same	Not sure
Spring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Summer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Winter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

52. Please describe the changes you have observed.

53. **Environmental Observations for Wild Game:** In the past decade, have you observed any changes in the following. Check all those that you have observed differences in.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overall <u>availability (abundance)</u> of fish | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>animals</u> that wild game feed on |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Distribution</u> of fish (where fish are located) | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>amount of water</u> available for wild game |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Types</u> of wild game | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>timing</u> of the seasonal wildlife behavior |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>plants</u> that wild game feed on | |

54. If you checked any of the options from the question above, please describe the changes you have observed for each variable.

55. **Environmental Observations for Fish:** In the past decade, have you observed any changes in the following. Check all those that you have observed differences in.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overall <u>availability (abundance)</u> of fish | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>plants</u> that fish feed on |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Distribution</u> of fish (where fish are located) | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>animals</u> that fish feed on |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>fish species composition</u> in the lakes and rivers | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>timing</u> of the seasonal calendar for fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Water quality</u> of lakes and rivers | |

56. If you checked any of the options in question 52, please describe the changes you have observed for each variable

57. Environmental Observations for Wild Plant Foods: In the past decade, have you observed any changes in the following. Check all those that you have observed differences in.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overall <u>availability (abundance)</u> of wild plant foods | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>harvest duration</u> of wild edible plants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Distribution</u> of wild plant foods (where wild plant foods are located) | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>quality</u> of wild edible plants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>timing</u> of the seasonal calendar for harvesting | <input type="checkbox"/> The <u>elevation</u> that wild plant foods are available |

58. If you checked any of the options in question 53, please describe the changes you have observed for each variable.

Environmental Perceptions: *You are requested to share how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements.*

59. "I am concerned about land-use changes in and around our community"

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat agree | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Neutral | |

O- Please explain why you feel this way

60. "I am concerned that in the future there may be decreasing availability of wild foods"

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat agree | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Neutral | |

O- Please explain why you feel this way

61. "I am concerned with the water quality in our community"

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat agree | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Neutral | |

O- Please explain why you feel this way

62. "Changes in weather patterns are impacting the wellbeing of our community"

Strongly agree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Strongly disagree

Neutral

O- Please explain why you feel this way

Part 7: Protecting Community Resources

63. What are your suggestions for protecting your community's food, water, land, and cultural resources?

64. If you would like to receive a \$15 Amazon gift card for completing this survey, please share your mailing address and / or your email address

Thank you for your time. We are surveying several communities and will make the results available to you, if you are interested. If you would like to see the results, provide your e-mail address or home address where we can send them to. Please follow up with any questions you may have.