

2016 Wild Trout Angler Preference Survey



Maryland Brook Trout Program



Impetus for Survey



- Brook Trout focused initially, USR specifically to characterize anglers opinions of No Kill Regulation

USR Fisheries Management Triumvirate

- Conservation
- Biology
- Social



USR Fisheries Management Triumvirate

Social

- Public outreach comments show continued/strengthening support for the regulation:
 - 2006 Public Meeting = 70% in favor
 - 2009 Public Meeting = 80% in favor
 - 2012 Public Meeting = 83% in favor
- Numerous anglers reporting improved fishing success for numbers and size of brook trout caught, USR system has now become a destination fishery
- Need the statewide survey to fully characterize angling communities opinions on the USR management and regulatory strategy

Impetus for Survey



- Survey expanded to statewide and wild trout in general
- Need to know how anglers use resources, and what they desire!

2016 Wild Trout Angler Preference Survey

Survey Goals

1. How do wild trout anglers view the USR regulation?
2. How do wild trout anglers rate the quality of the USR angling?
3. Do wild trout anglers support current statewide BKT regulations?
4. Would wild trout anglers prefer more restrictive BKT regulations?
5. Should stocking where wild trout occur be discontinued?

2016 Brook Trout Angler Preference Survey

Design Elements

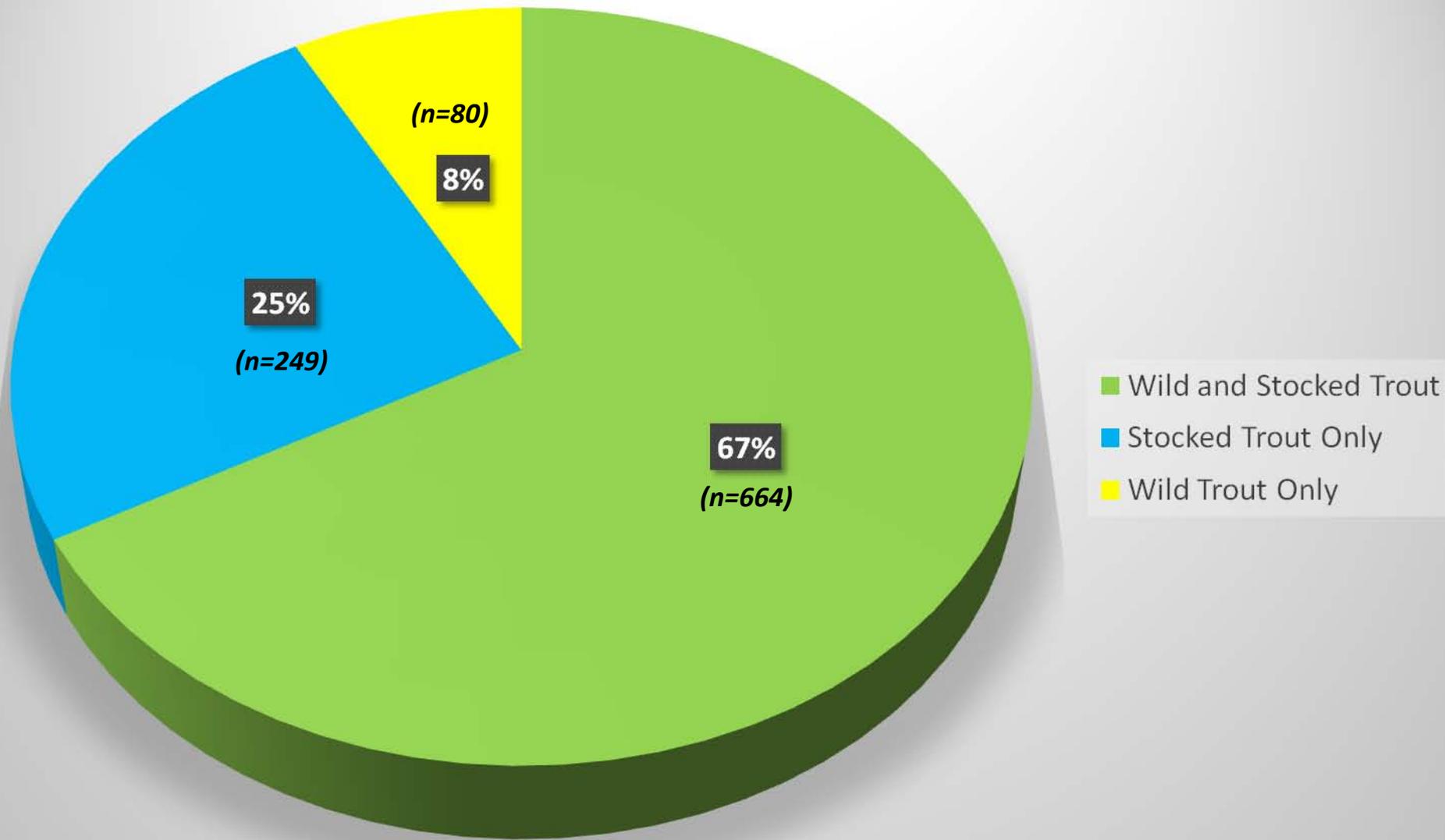
1. Scientifically defensible, standard survey methodology (third party, Scott K)
2. Random survey of 4,000 licensed anglers who purchased a trout stamp or senior license
3. Will generate the needed 383 responses to achieve a +/-5% C.I.
4. Online survey (*Survey Monkey*) and hard copy (mailing) components
5. Angler pool is statewide (no preference given to geographic areas)
6. Final report late 2016/early 2017

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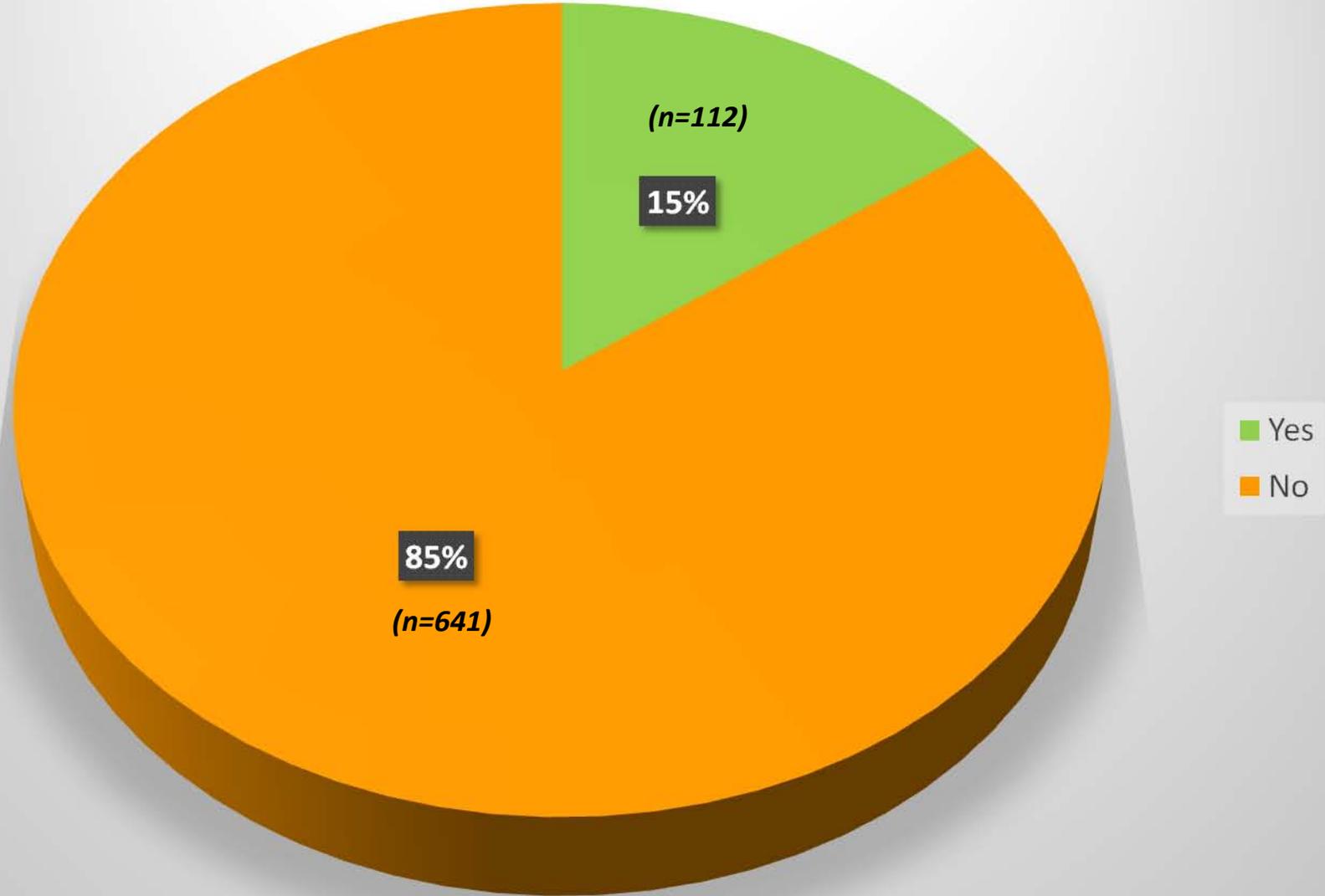
Survey Question Design

1. Initial questions developed in-house from survey goals
2. Edited by Inland Staff and Survey specialist
3. Tested with 2 Focus groups
4. Comments from focus groups incorporated, final review by Inland Staff and Survey specialist

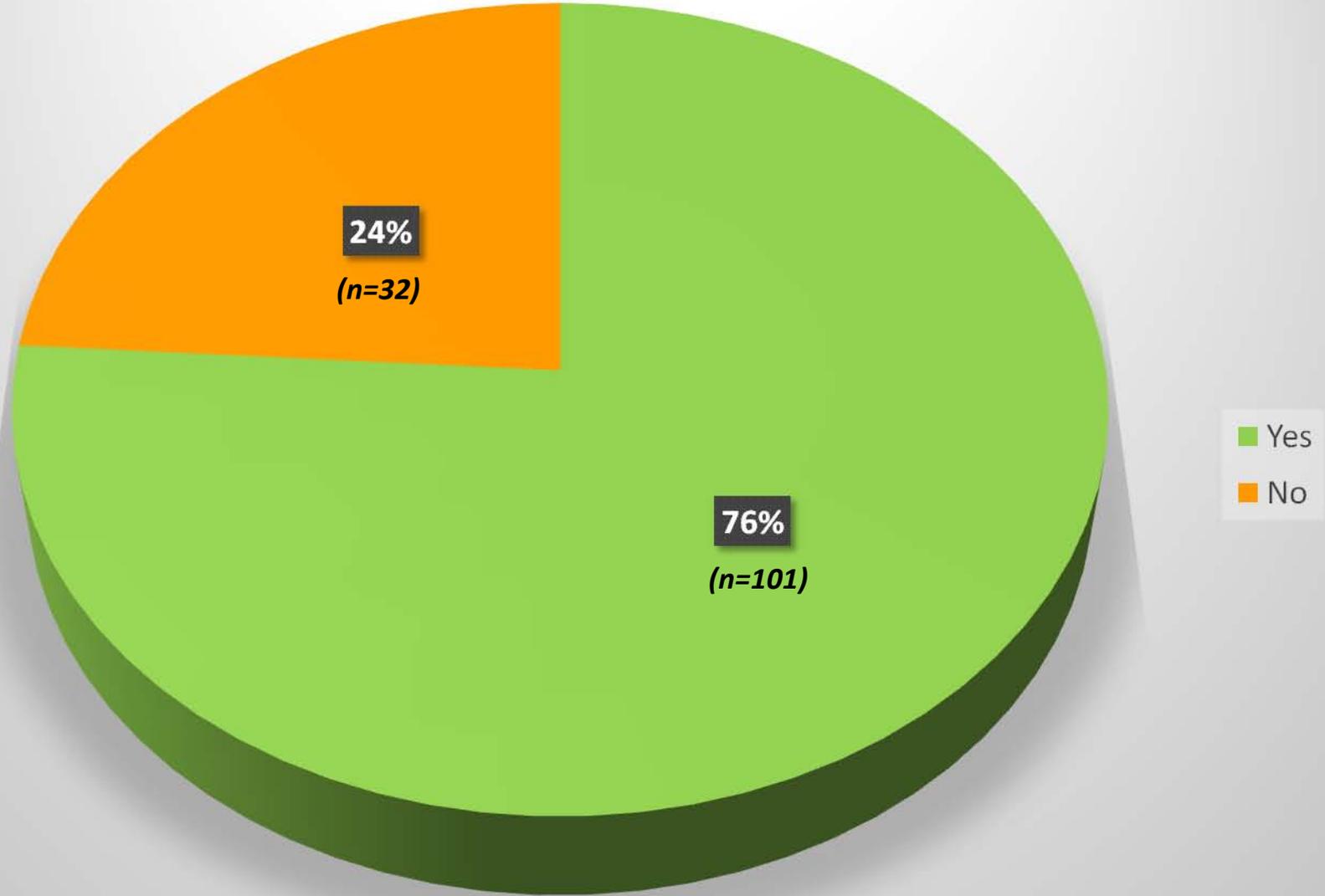
What Type of Trout Do You Target?



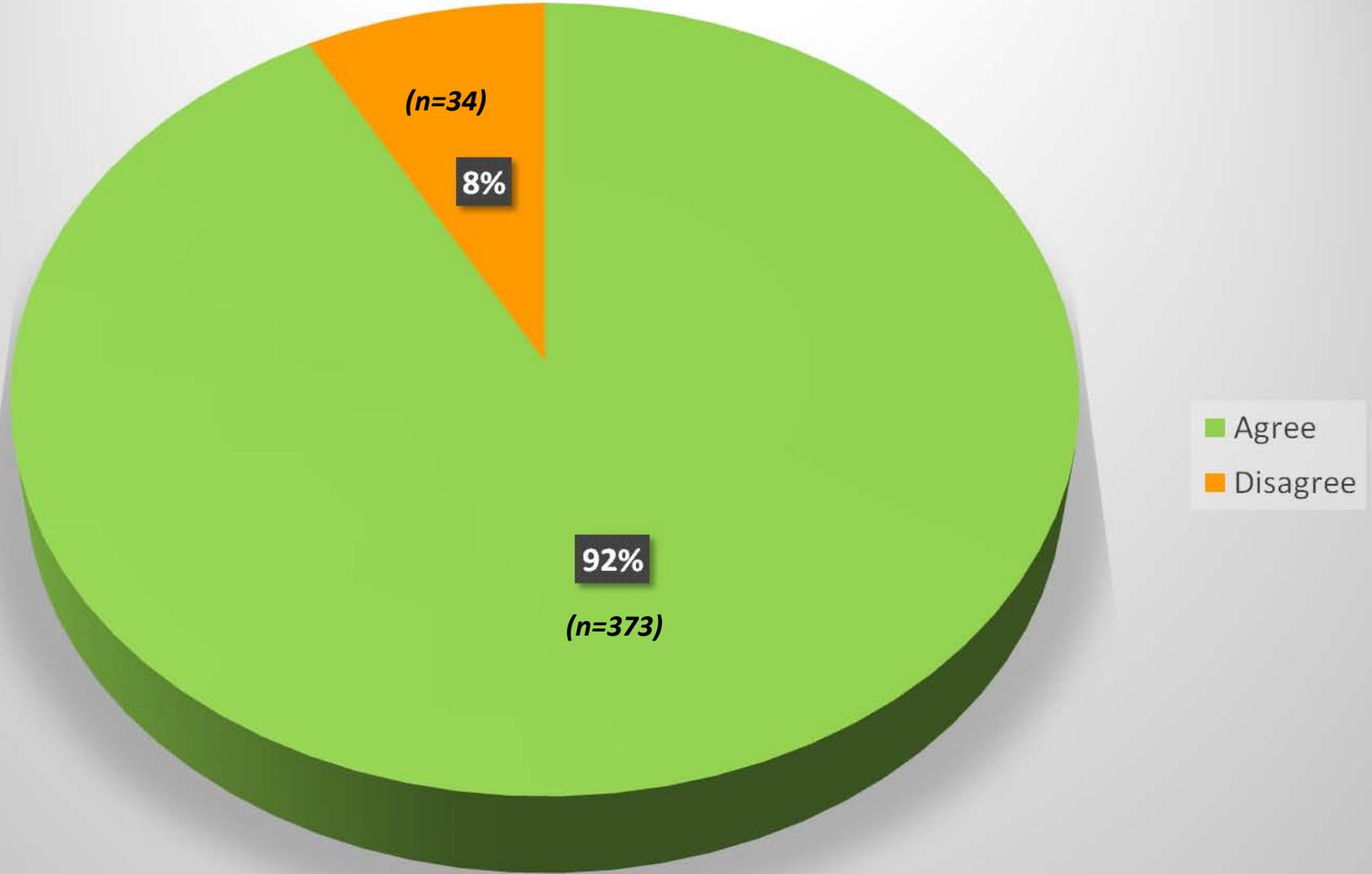
Have You Fished in the USR Since New Regulations?



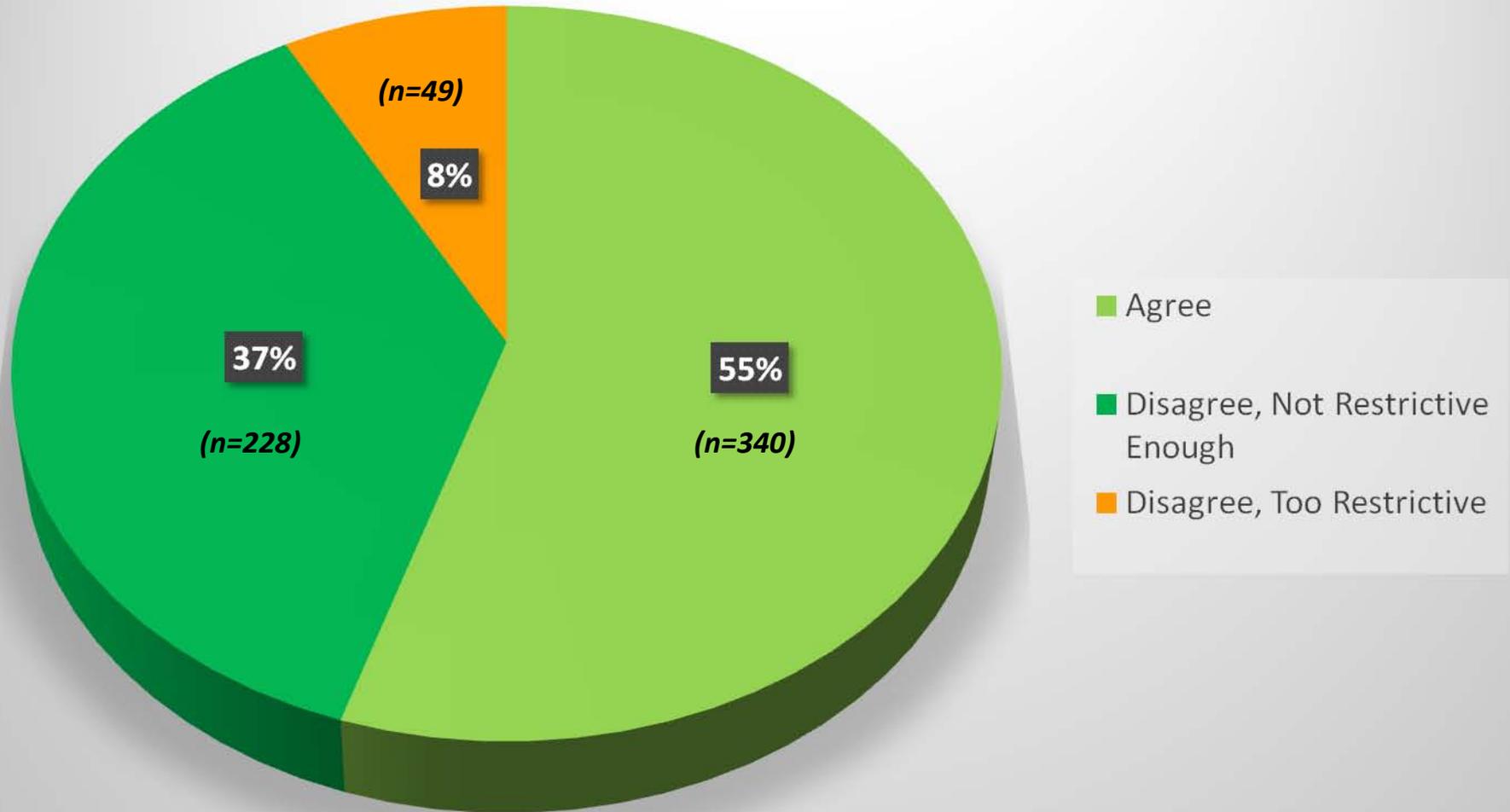
Has Fishing Improved in the USR Since 2007?



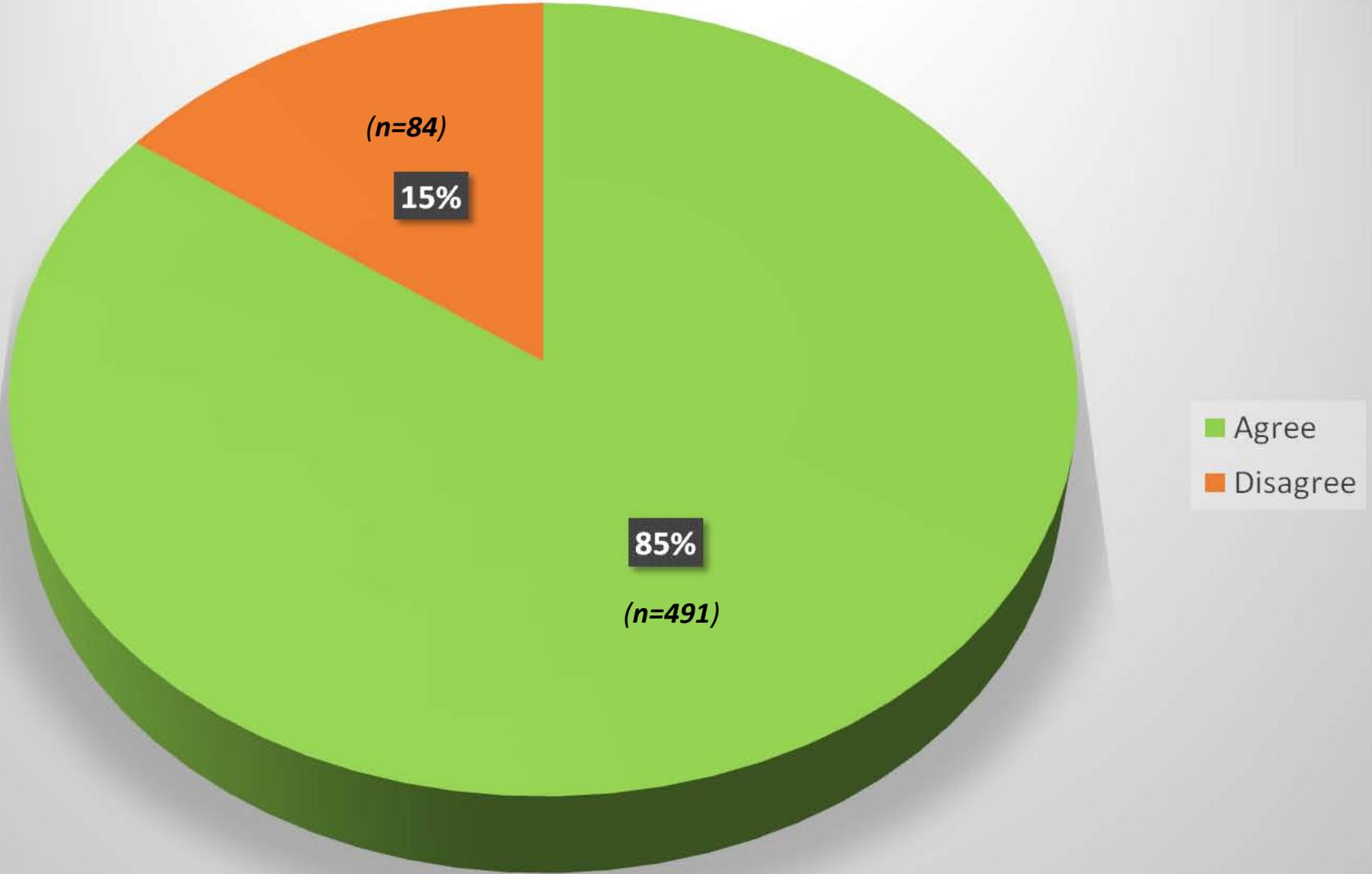
Do You Agree With the USR Regulations?



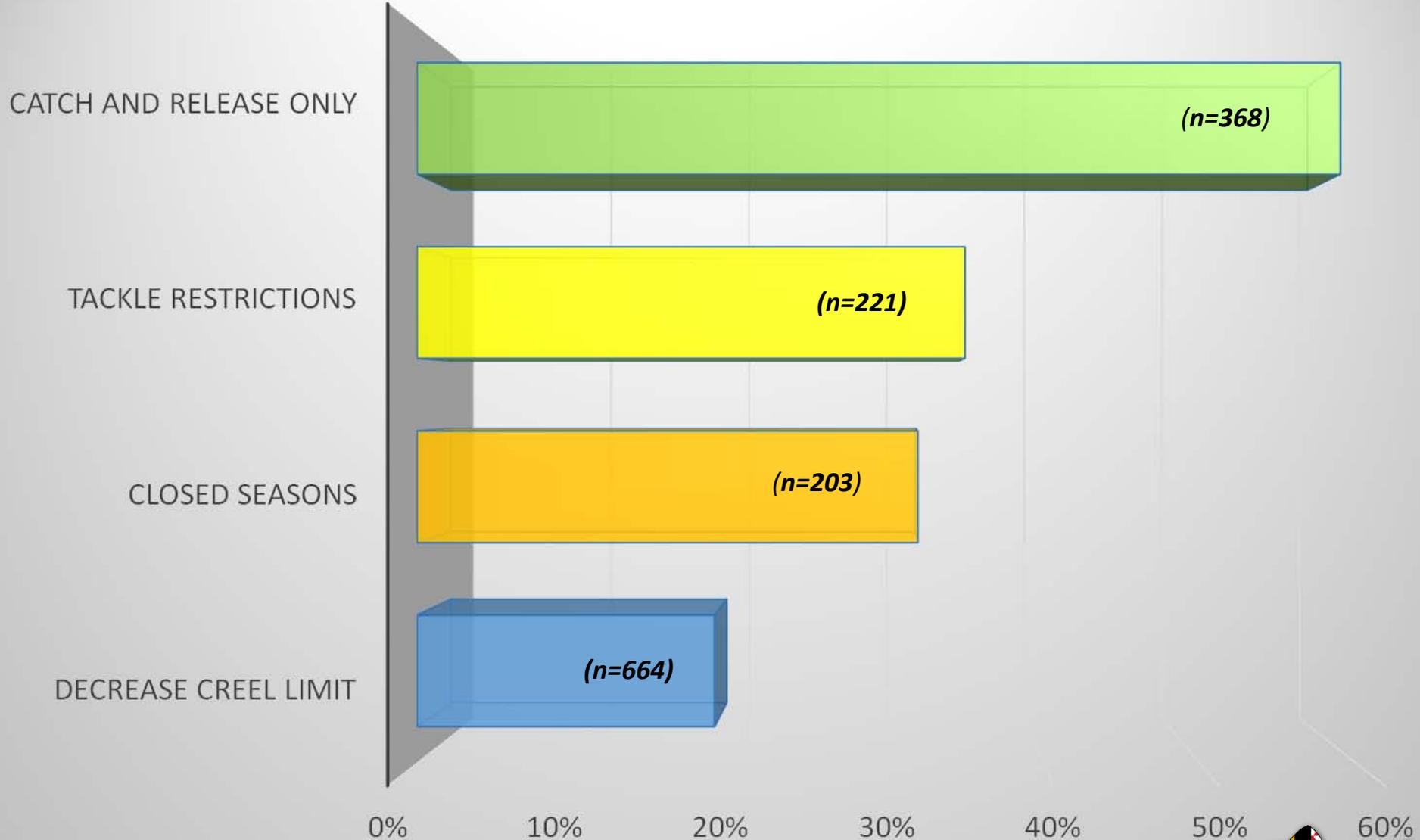
Do You Agree With the Current Statewide Regulations?



Should We Adopt Special Regs for BKT Statewide?

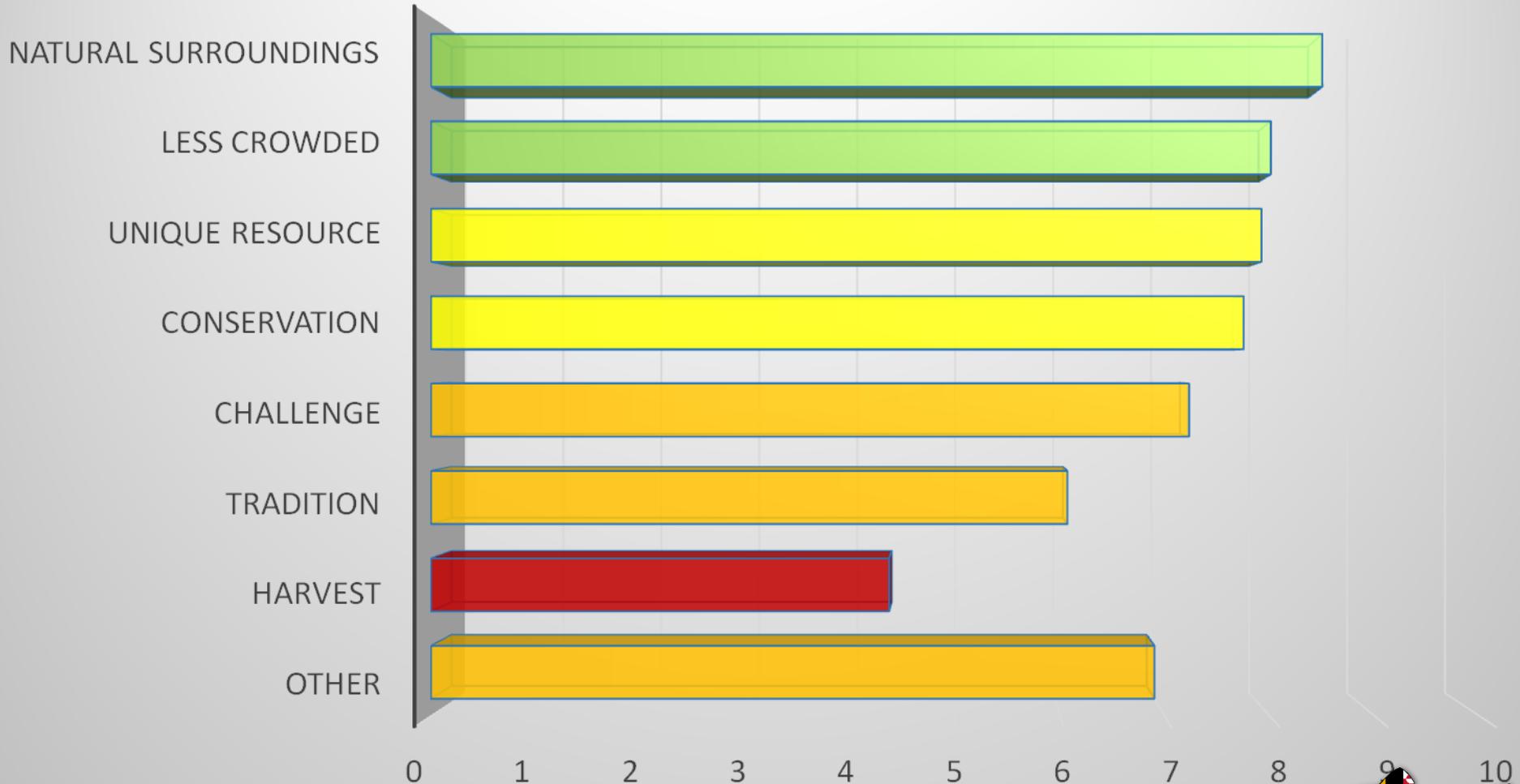


If We Do, Which Regs Would Help BKT?

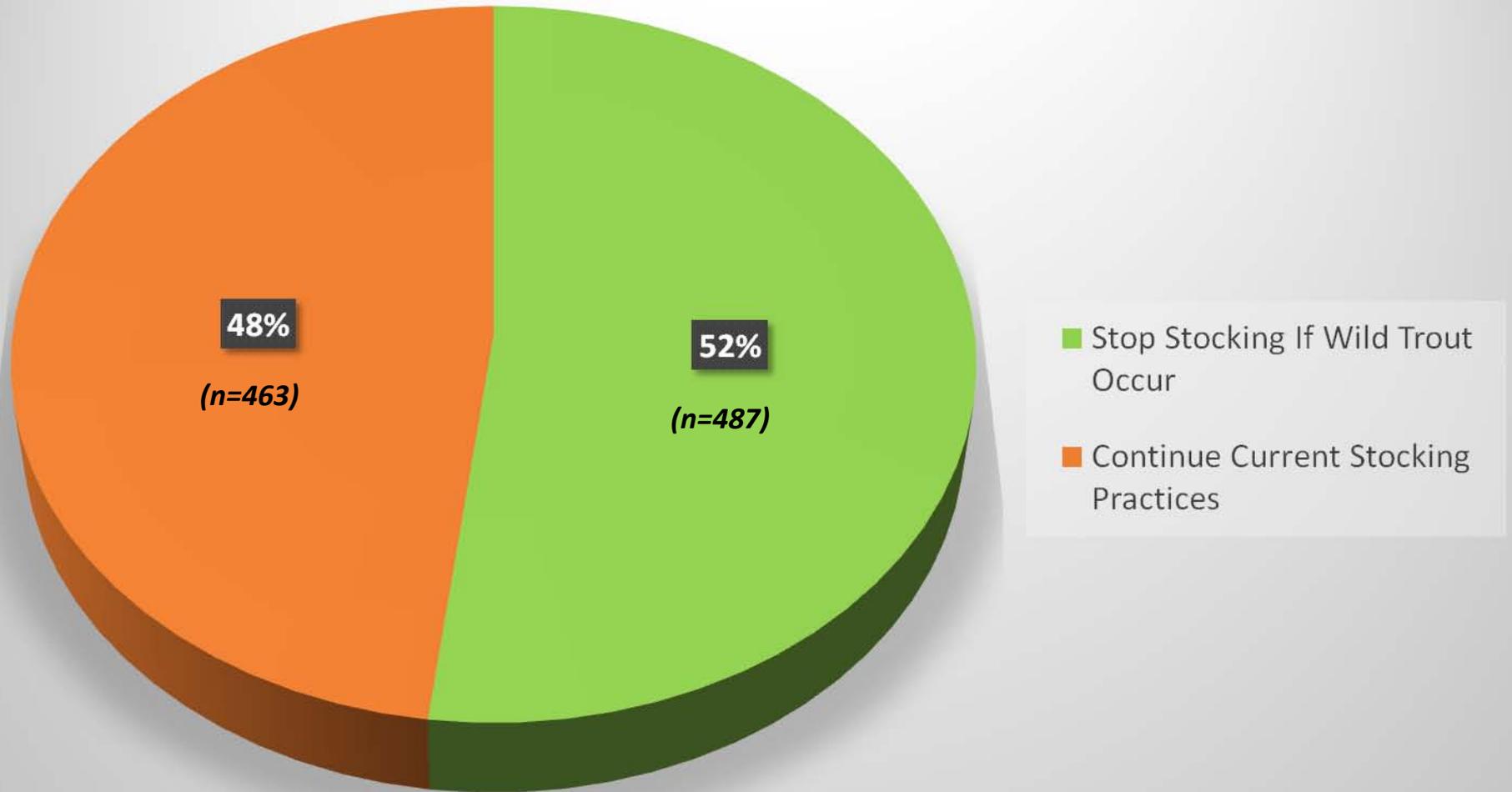


What Makes Brook Trout Angling Valuable?

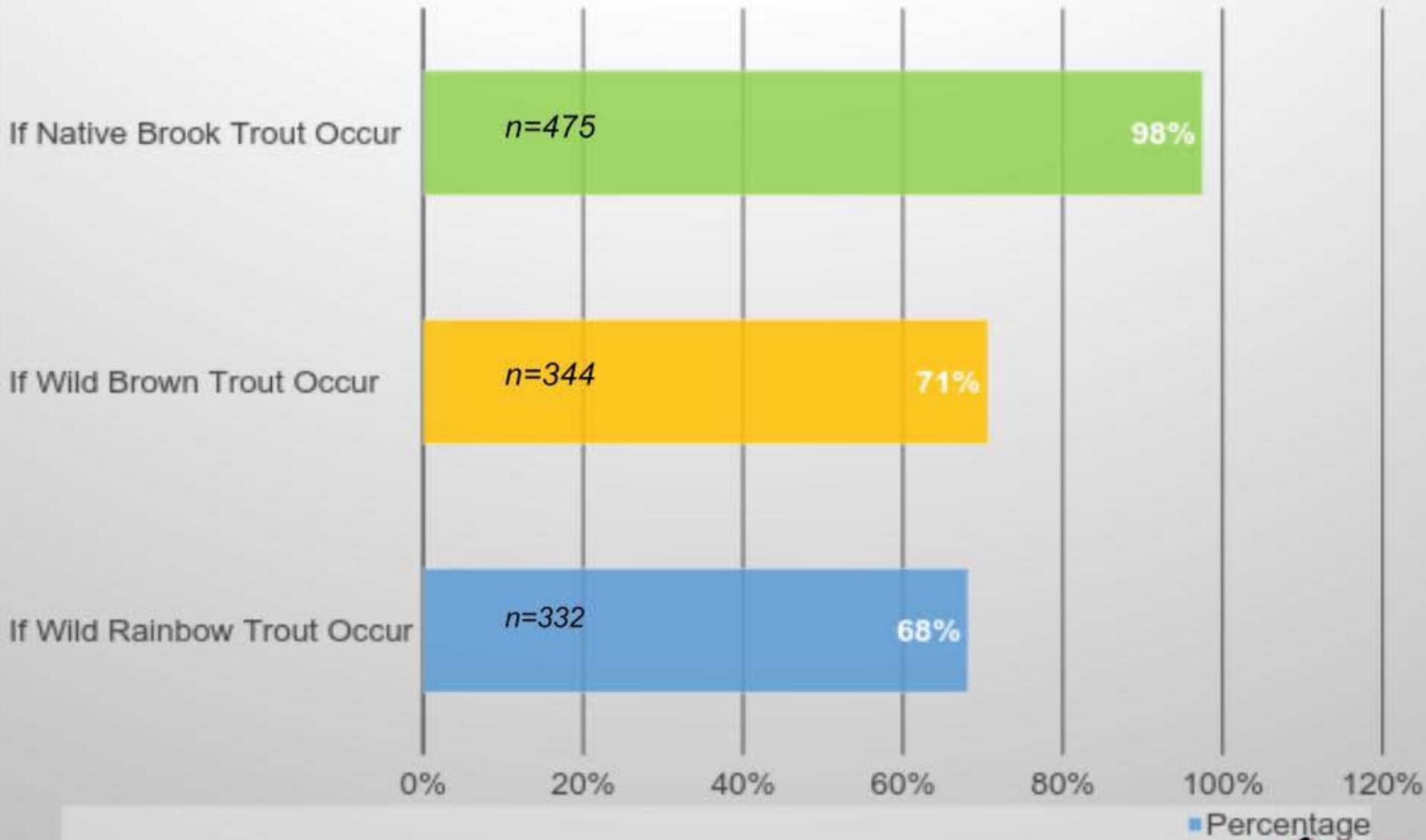
Average Score
(0 – Not Important, 10 – Most Important)



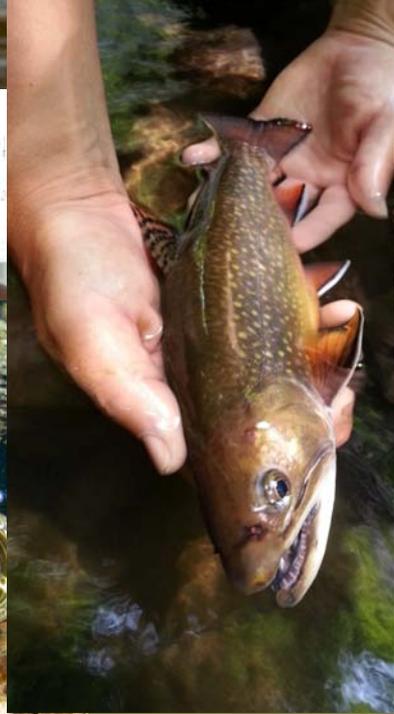
Should We Modify Stocking Practices?



Stop Stocking Hatchery Trout...



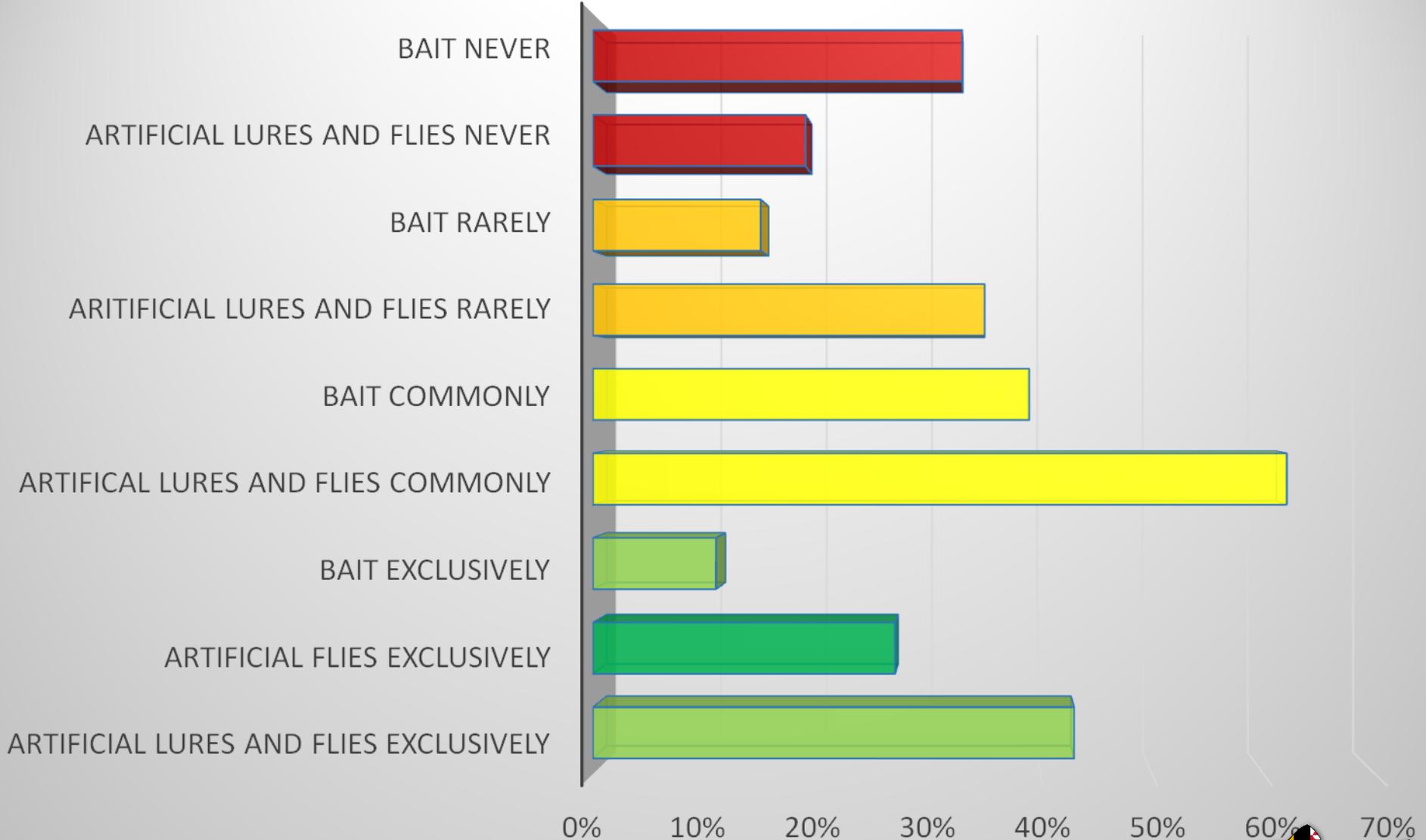
Upper Savage River Regulation Change – Progress!



Maryland Brook Trout Program



What Type of Angling Do You Do?



Which Species of Wild Trout Do You Target?

