

STATE WILDLIFE AREA FEES



Durango Bird Club
Presented by Gary Skiba
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About me...

- ▣ CDOW for 25 years
- ▣ Managed Wellington State Wildlife Area, 1987-1988
- ▣ Now with San Juan Citizens Alliance
- ▣ Durango Bird Club member



Federal Restrictions

- ▣ Bird Club recognizes federal funding issues
- ▣ Also recognize CPW efforts to find a solution
- ▣ Opportunity for CPW to embrace non-consumptive wildlife recreation



About Durango Bird Club

- ▣ Founded in 1966
- ▣ 30 Members
- ▣ Survey on fees



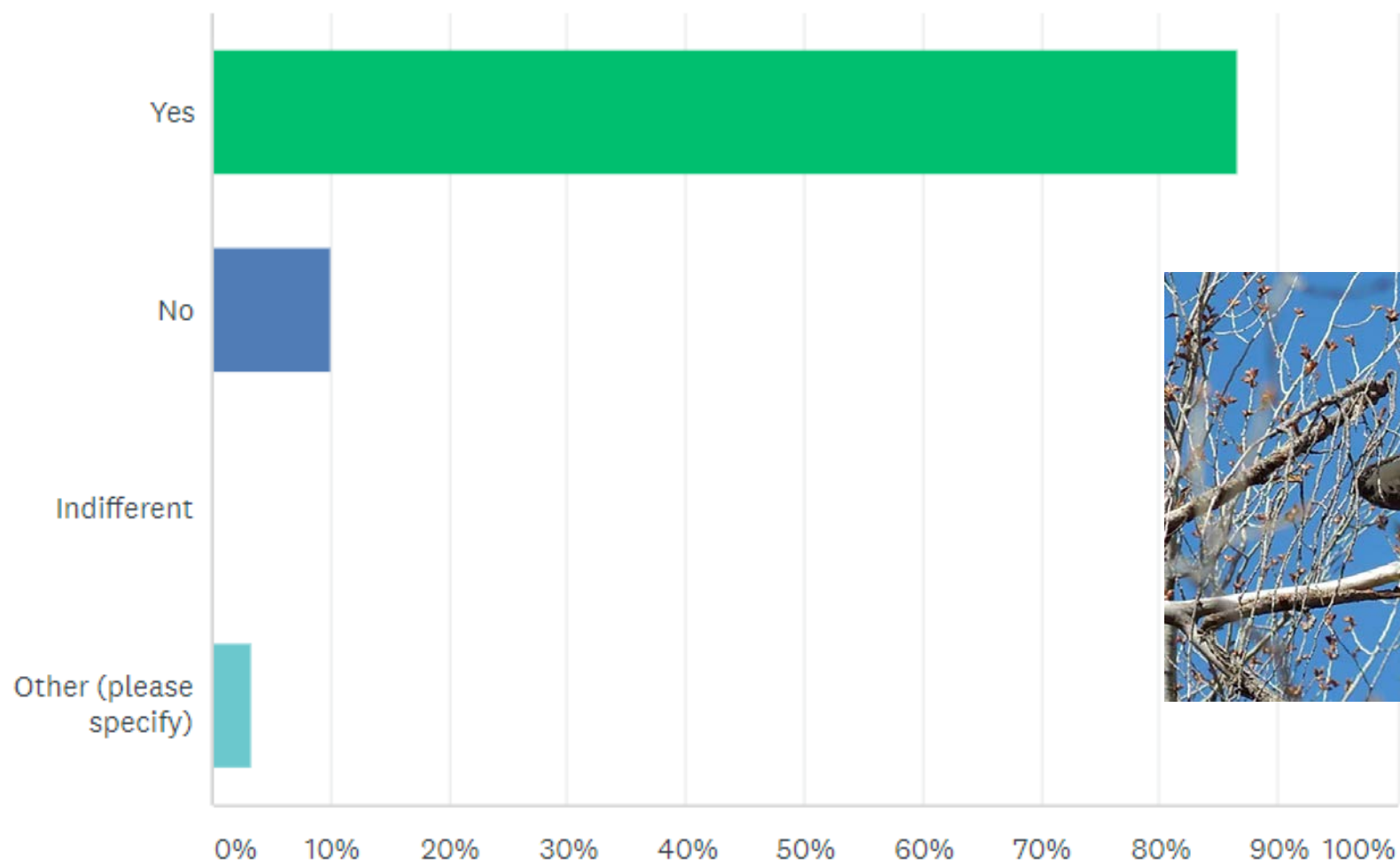
Four Questions

- ▣ In general, do you support the concept of a fee to use State Wildlife Areas (SWAs) for non-consumptive use, including birding?
- ▣ Do you support purchase of a hunting or fishing license to access SWAs?
- ▣ Would you prefer to purchase a “non-consumptive” use permit rather than a hunting or fishing license to access SWAs?
- ▣ What is the highest range you feel is a reasonable price for a non-consumptive use permit?



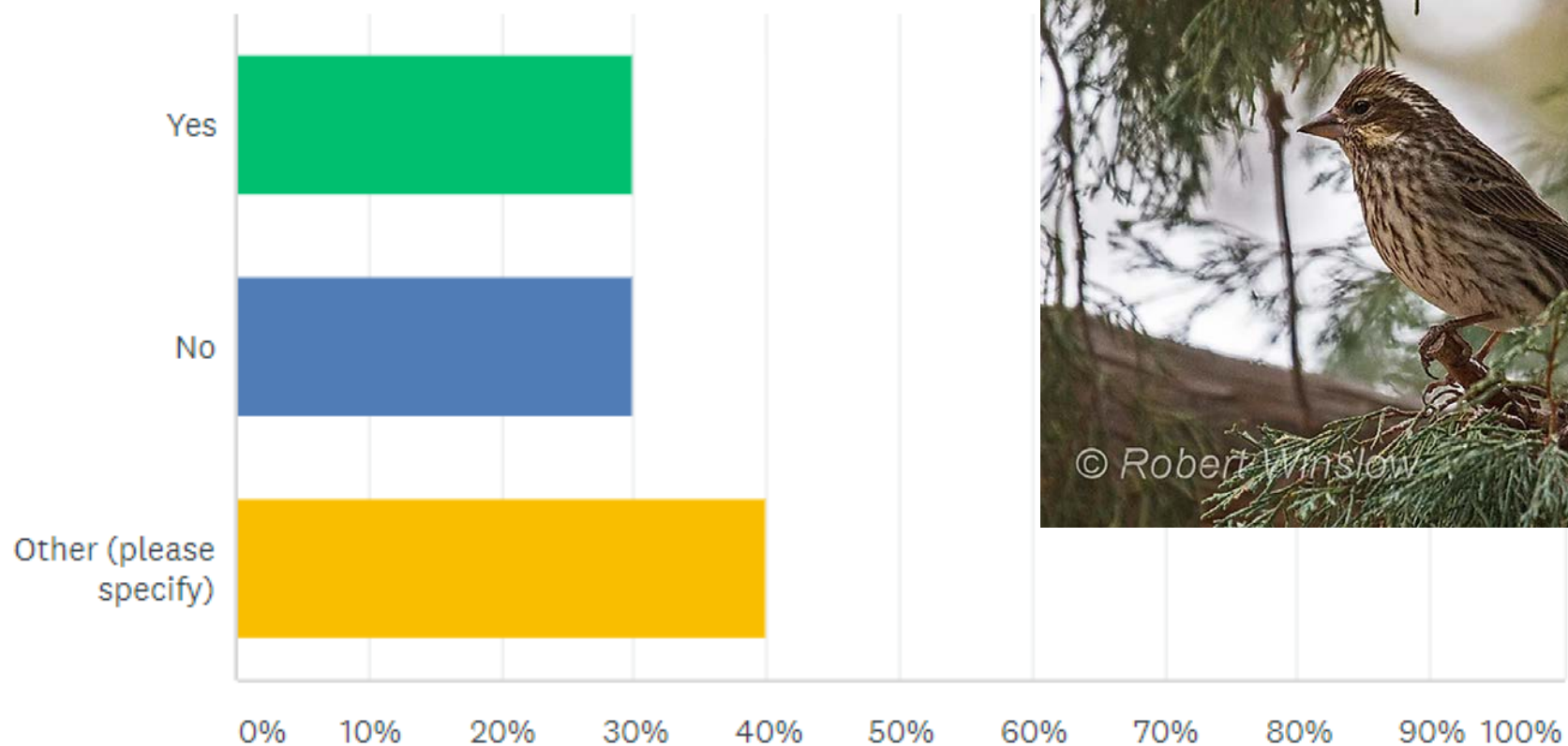
In general, do you support the concept of a fee to use State Wildlife Areas (SWAs) for non-consumptive use, including birding?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0



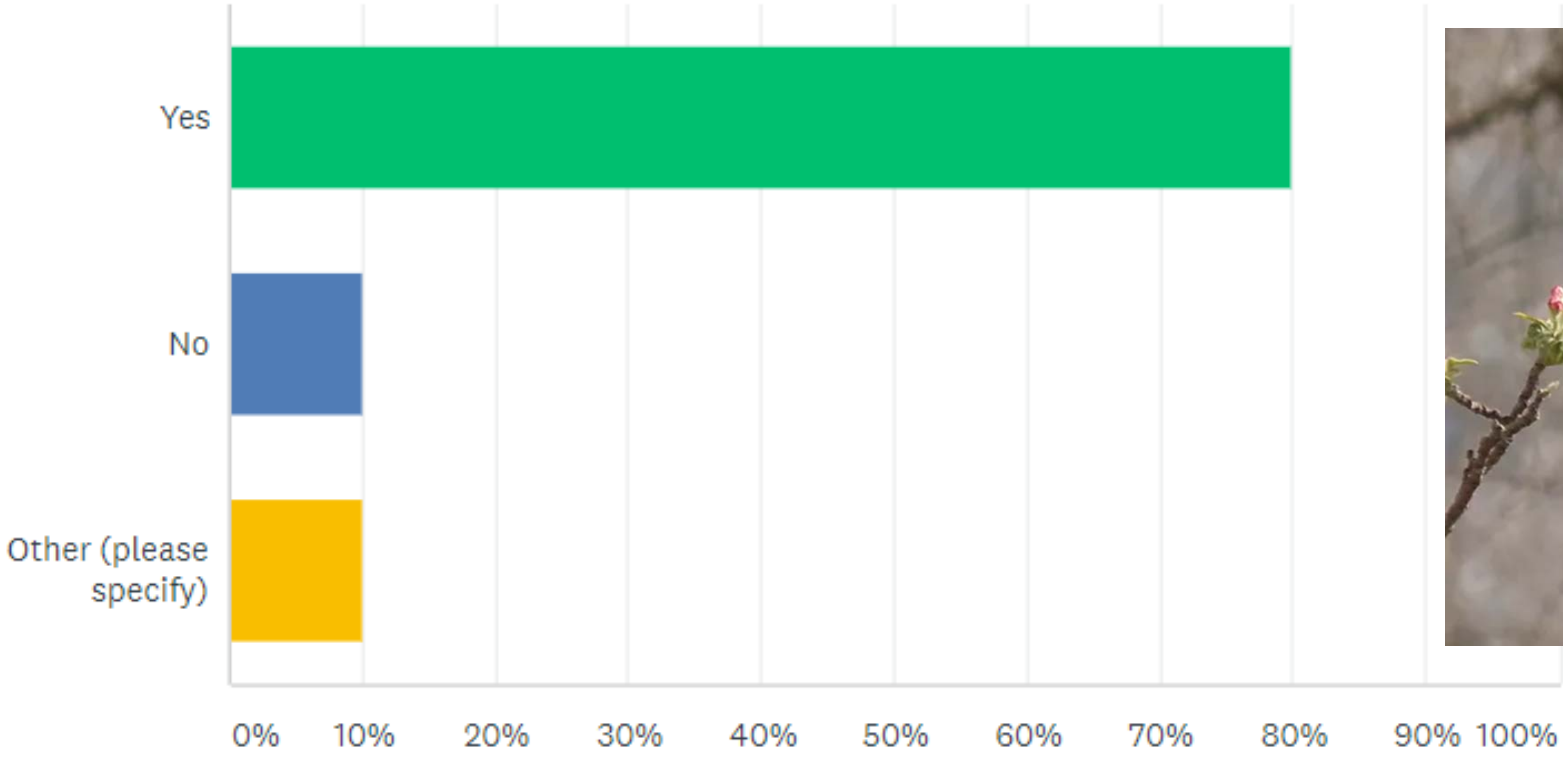
Do you support purchase of a hunting or fishing license to access SWAs?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0



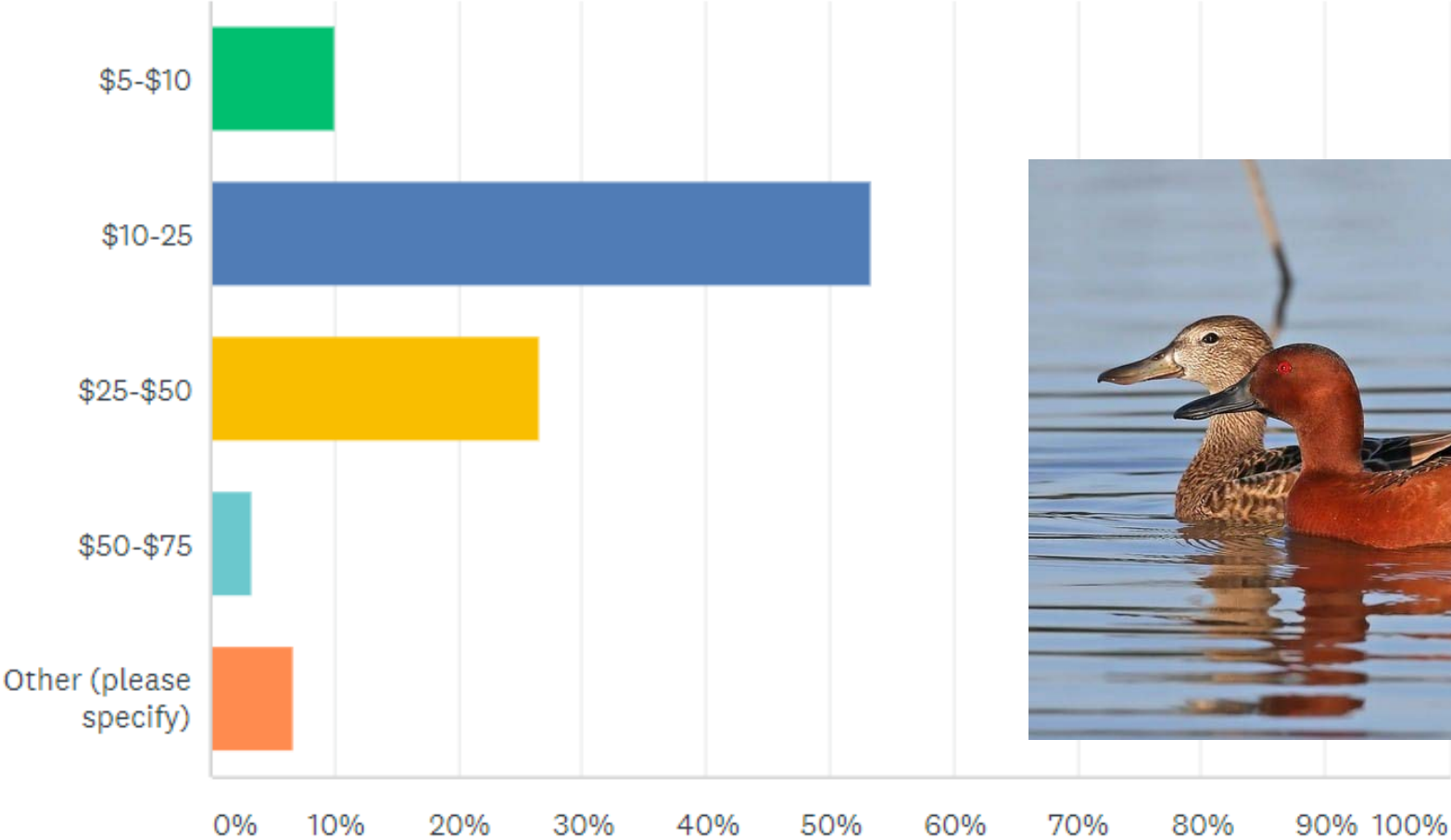
Would you prefer to purchase a “non-consumptive” use permit rather than a hunting or fishing license to access SWAs?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0



What is the highest range you feel is a reasonable price for a non-consumptive use permit?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0



Specific Comments

- I am a birder and would like to support SWA with fees in some way. I am a senior (75 yrs.) and would appreciate any discounts.
- Wish there were other categories like birding or hiking
- I do always get a fishing license, but my partner does not.
- I am fine with it if it can be noted that I will use it for birding or paddle boarding or hiking
- Would like to see "other" as a reason for purchase.

Specific Responses

- ▣ Since I do not hunt or fish I would prefer a different type of license that would allow CPW to see types of use other than hunting/fishing so that policies/schedules could be changed to accommodate those non-consumptive uses if their number (and income generated) are larger than the hunting/fishing numbers.
- ▣ want to support financially but would prefer a "non-consumptive" use permit
- ▣ Google "average cost of a concert ticket", or similar. I suspect many birders are reacting to any fee at all in 2020, after many years of paying \$0. "What's reasonable?" Hard to say, but if we knew the money was going directly to support conservation of natural habitat, wouldn't \$200/year be reasonable?

Summary

- ▣ Happy to pay to support SWAs
- ▣ Recognize federal restrictions
- ▣ Clear desire for a non-consumptive “license”



Solutions...?

- ▣ Again, view as an opportunity
- ▣ One suggestion: non-consumptive box on license when purchased
- ▣ Change federal law



Thank you!

