

2015 Forest Values and Beliefs

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Content

- **Oregonians' Views About:**

1.The Forest Industry

2.Forest Regulation

3.Clearcutting

4.Herbicide Use

Research

Telephone survey

- 1,000 Oregon residents
- Conducted January 14 – 18, 2015

Online survey

- 600 Oregon residents
- Conducted February 27 – March 3, 2015

Focus groups

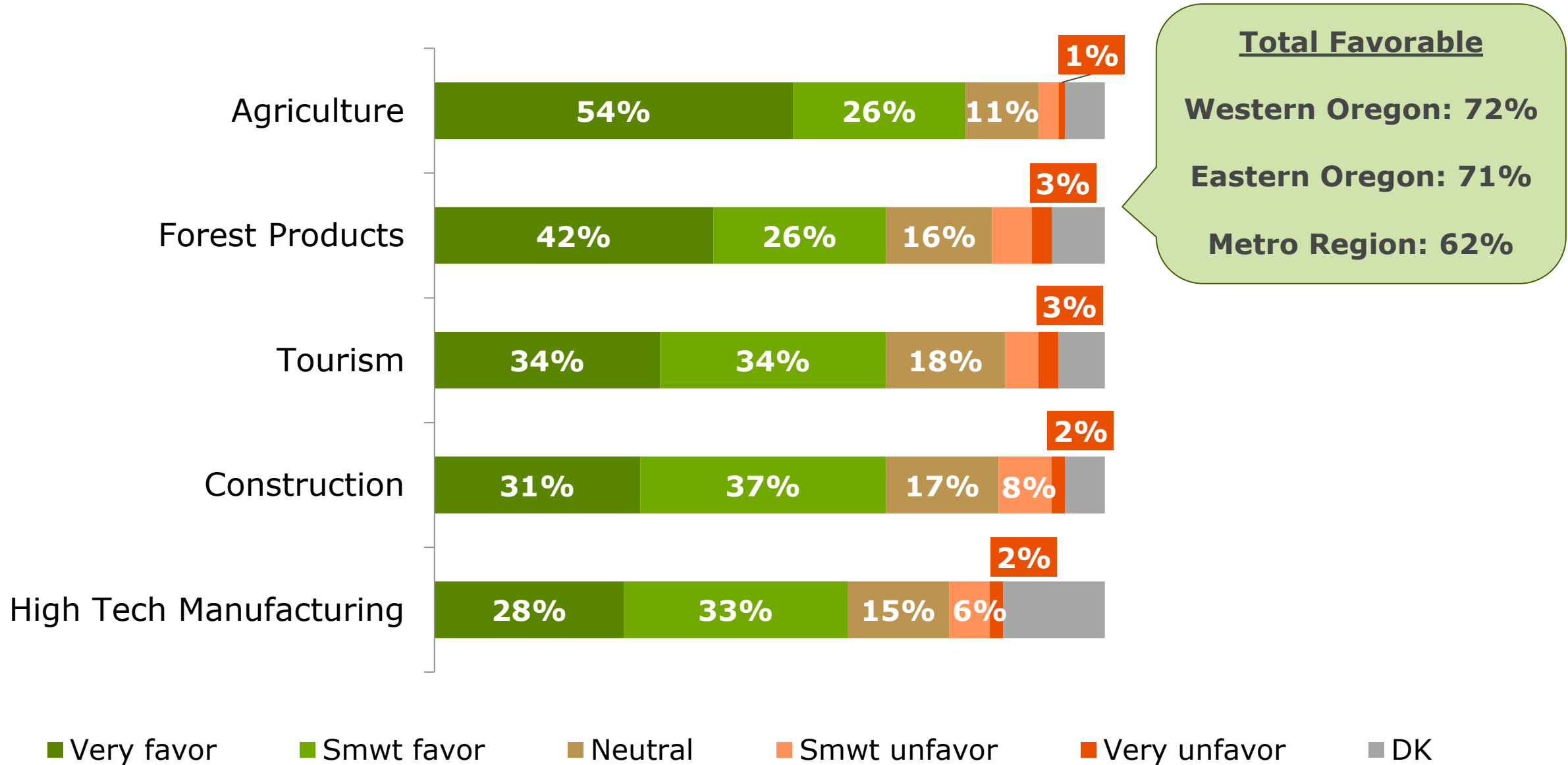
- 2 groups with women and younger Metro area residents
- Conducted February 7, 2015

The Forest Industry

Key Takeaway

- **Oregonians have a favorable impression of the forest products industry.**
 - *"The timber industry in Oregon, that's how we've historically made our money. It's still a primary revenue source for the state. I think that the amount of jobs it supplies to our county is very important, and I also think that the timber industry is very self-regulating. I think that they do a significant job of reforestation. They take care of the forest."*
 - *"There are some forestry practices by some companies that I view as unstable, but on the other hand, I recognize it's an important part of many of the economies of communities in Oregon."*

Favorability Towards Industry



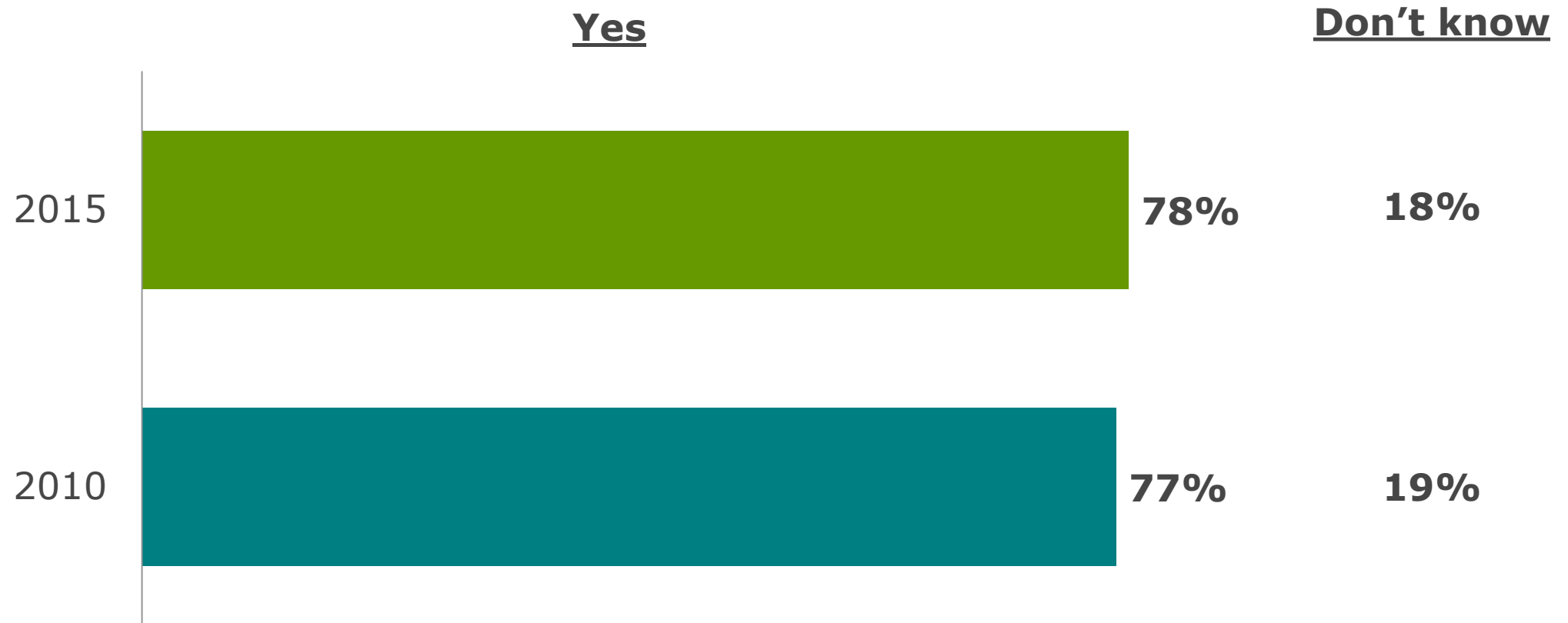
Forest Regulations

Key Takeaway

- **Large majorities of residents are aware of Oregon's forest protection laws and feel the laws are strong enough to meet their personal concerns.**

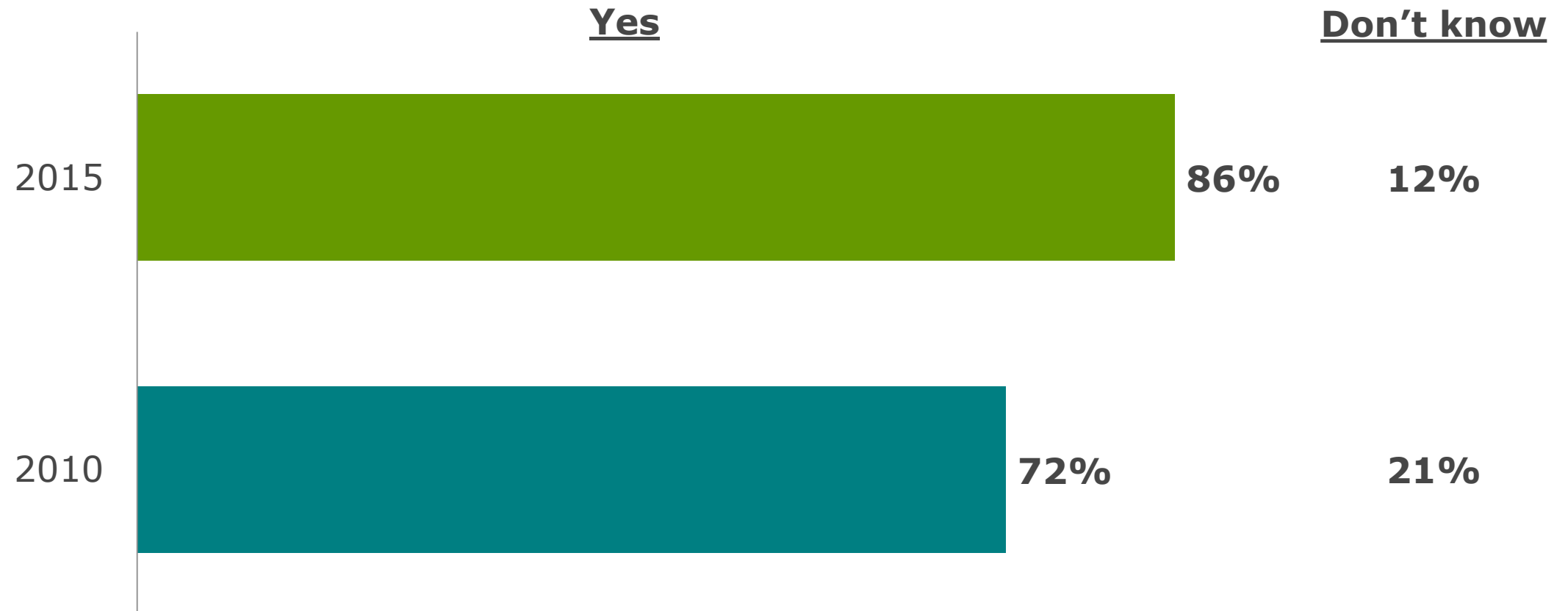
Knowledge of Forest Product Laws

Does Oregon law require forest landowners to protect forest streams and water resources?



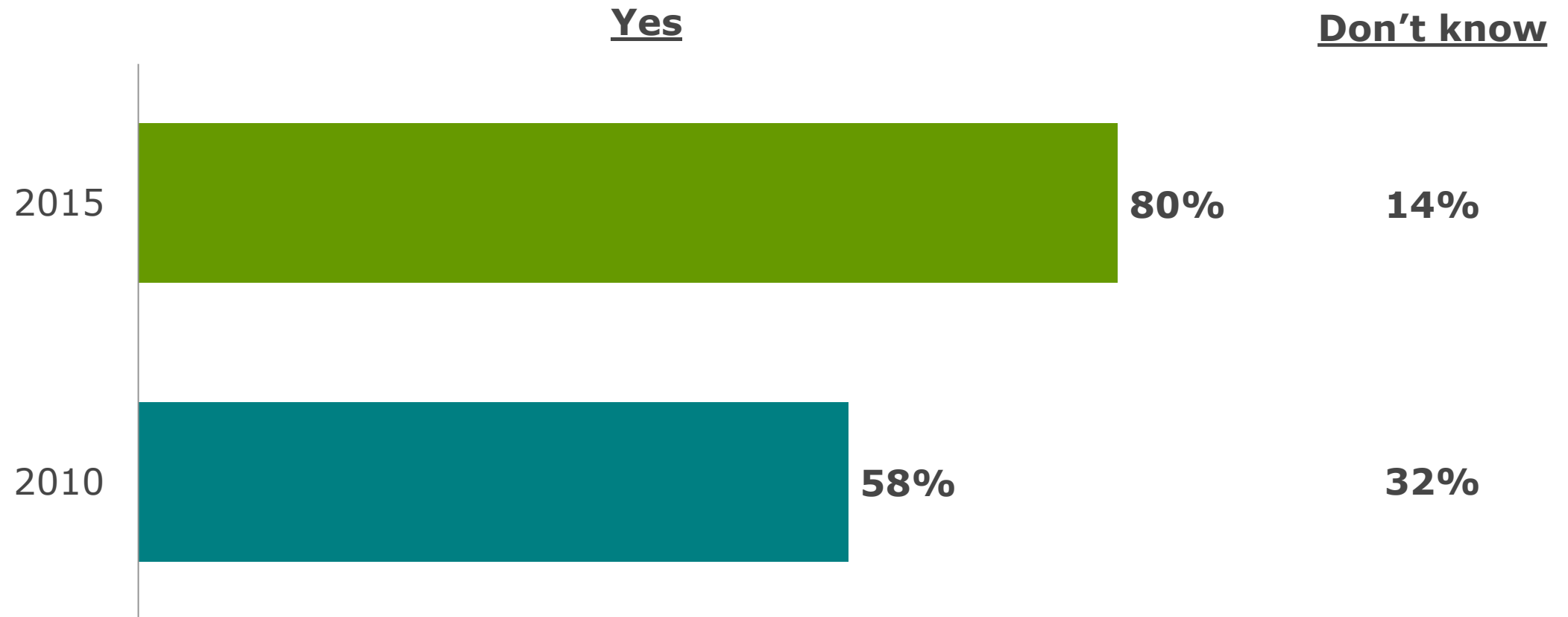
Knowledge of Forest Product Laws

Does Oregon law require protection of fish and wildlife habitat in forests managed for timber production?

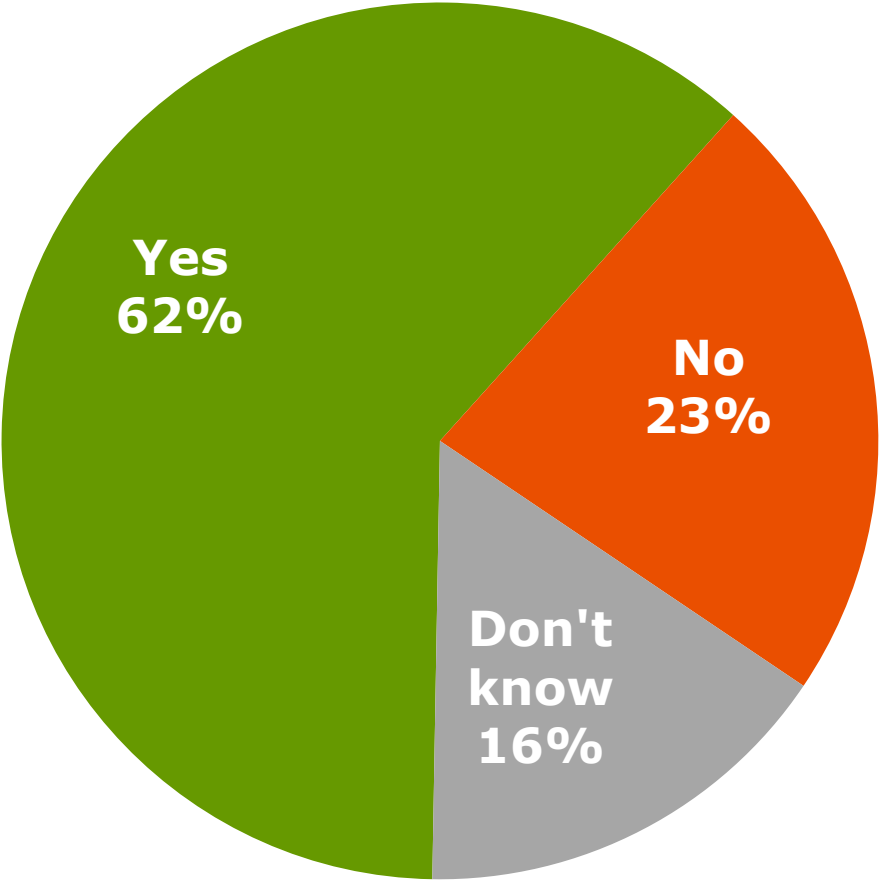


Knowledge of Forest Product Laws

Does Oregon Law require forest landowners to replant trees?



Are Current Rules and Forest Protection Laws Strong Enough to Meet Personal Concerns?

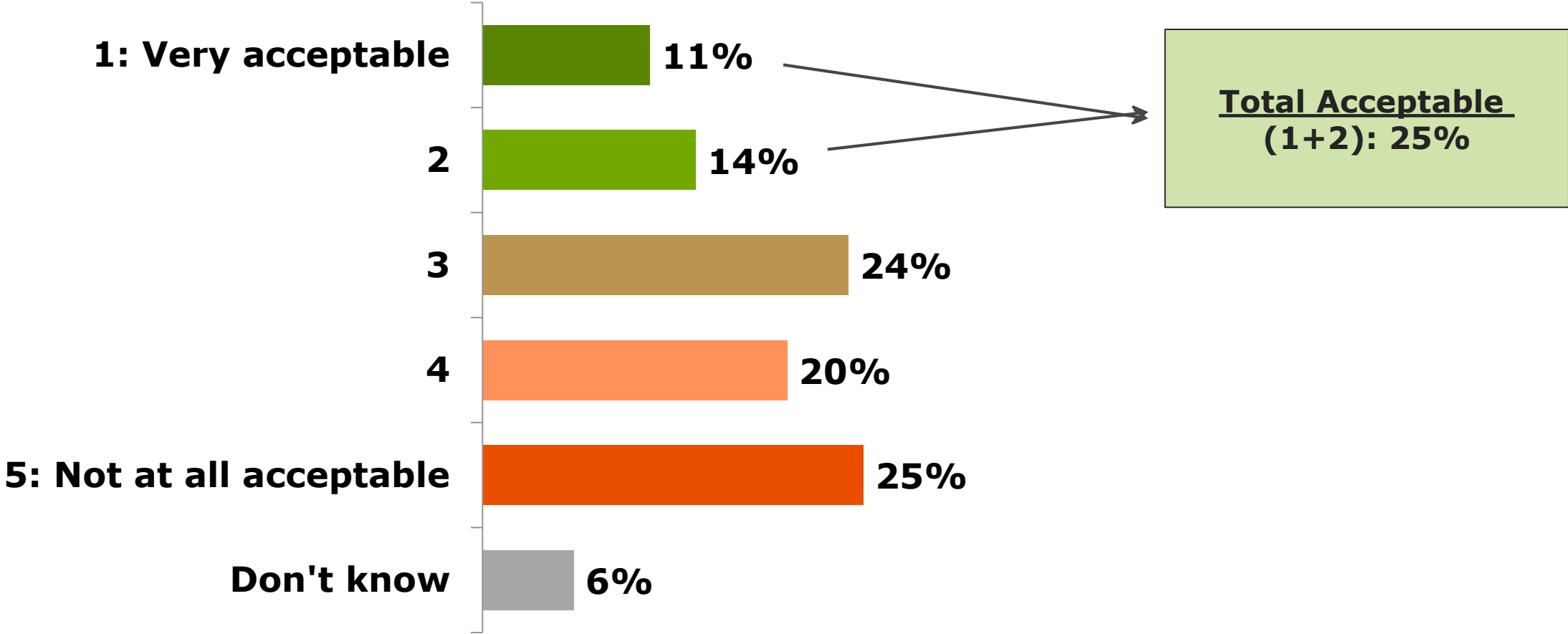


Clearcutting

Key Takeaways

- **Clearcutting elicits mainly negative words and images such as “ugly,” “sad,” “lack of animal habitat,” and “greed.”**
- **There is some indication that residents believe the state should allow some clearcutting on private forestlands.**

Acceptability of Clearcutting in Oregon's Private Forests



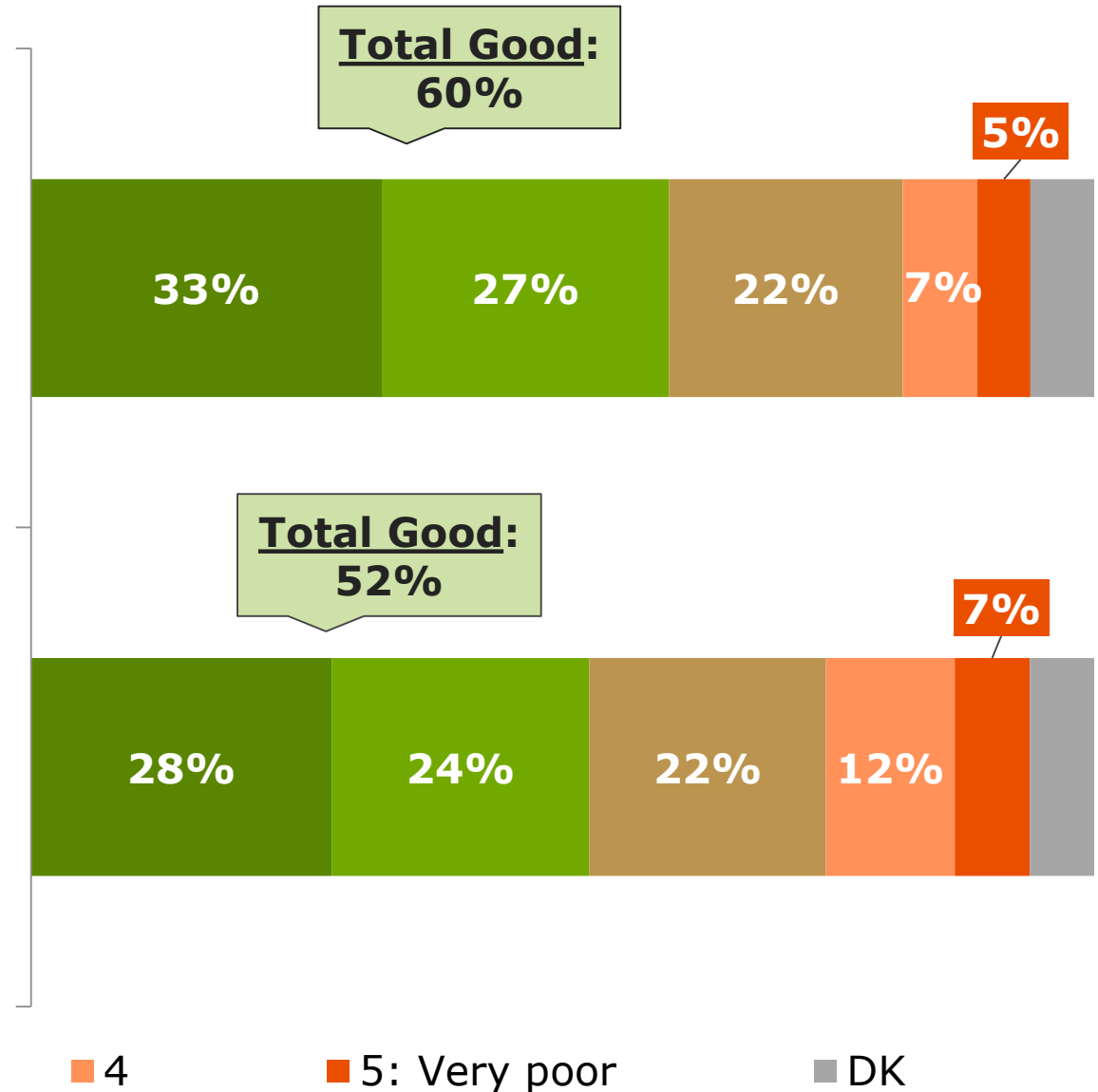
Clearcutting: A Participant's Perspective



Reasons to Allow Clearcutting

In the past, logs were dragged downhill to roads near creeks. Now cables lift suspended logs uphill to a road on a ridgeline. Less soil is disturbed, and roads, trucks and other equipment are kept away from streams.

Clearcutting--timber harvesting practice--most of the trees in a given area are harvested at the same time. Law requires landowners to leave trees in certain areas to protect rivers, streams; provide wildlife habitat. The remaining area is then reforested



Reasons to Allow Clearcutting

We can agree that clearcuts are ugly, but it's an economically efficient way to harvest wood and quickly establish the next forest.

Historically, Douglas-fir forests were established in large openings created by natural disturbances such as wildfires.

Douglas fir – the predominant native species in western Oregon – requires large openings and full sunlight to grow well. The species does not grow well if planted after a thinning.

■ 1: Very good

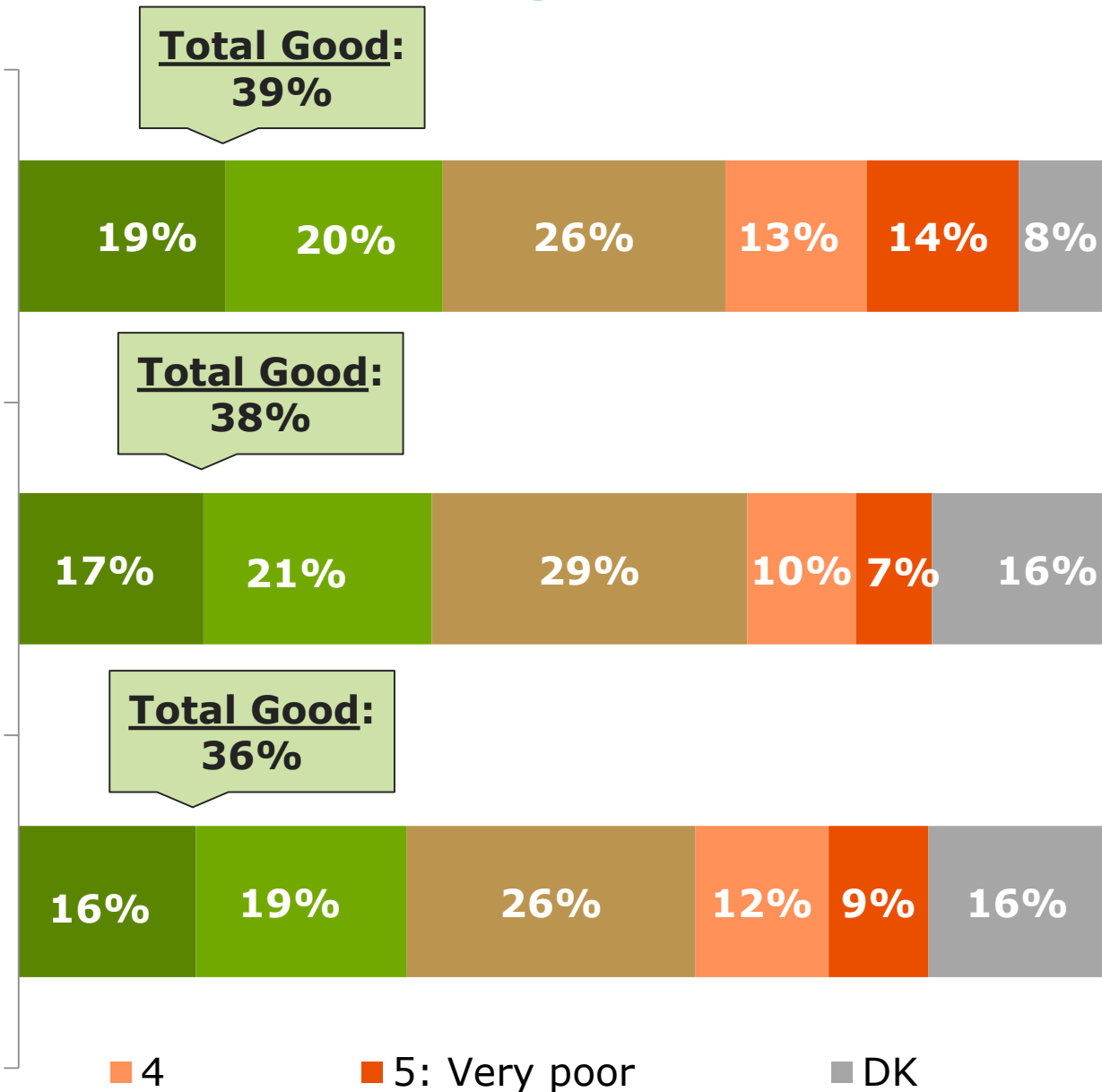
■ 2

■ 3

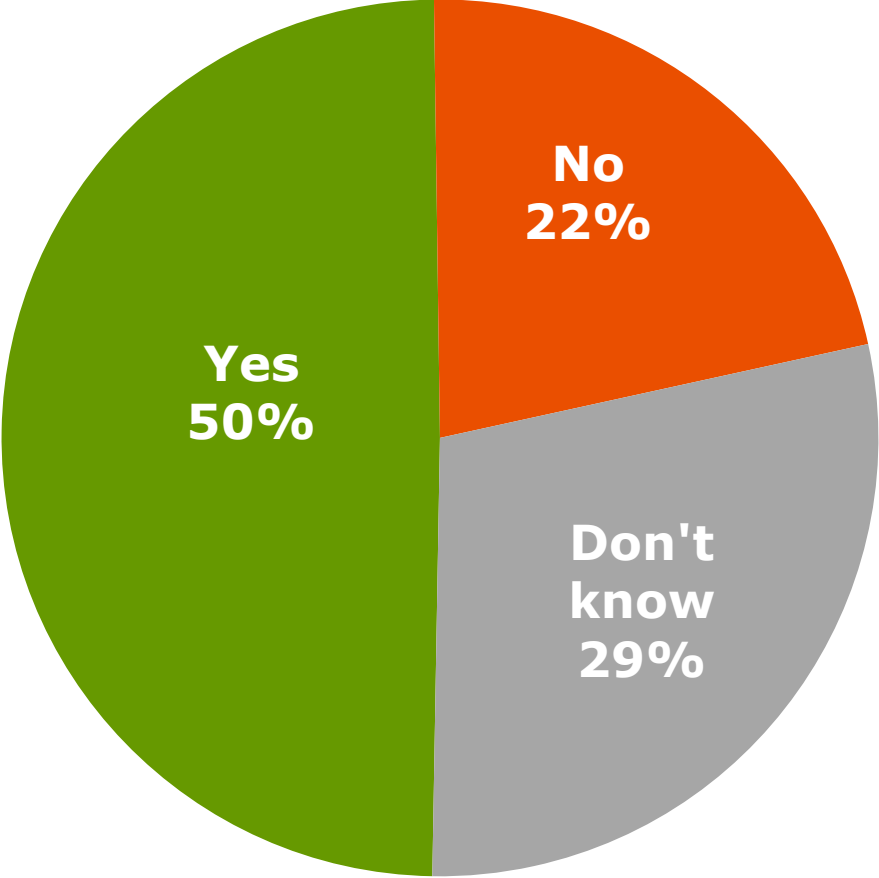
■ 4

■ 5: Very poor

■ DK



Should the State Allow Clearcutting on Private Forestland?



Herbicide Use

Key Takeaway

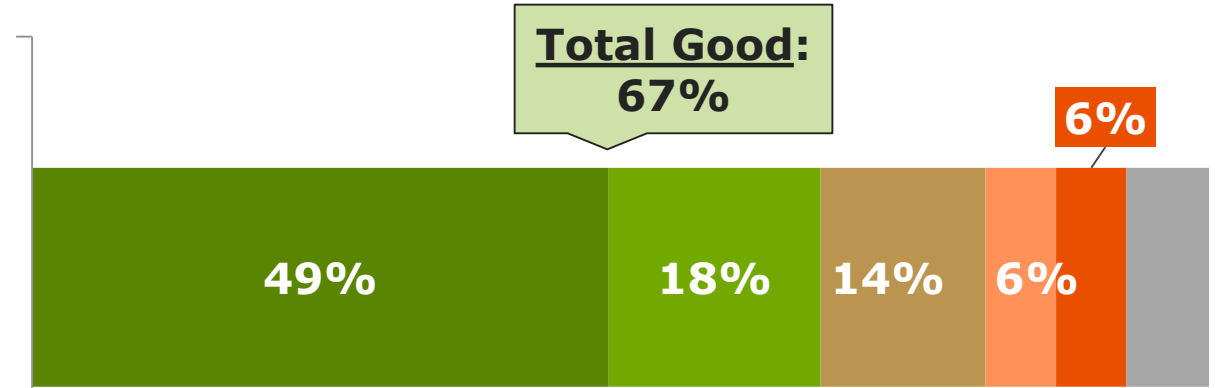
- **Chemical use is also initially thought of in negative terms.**

Herbicides Use: A Participant's Perspective

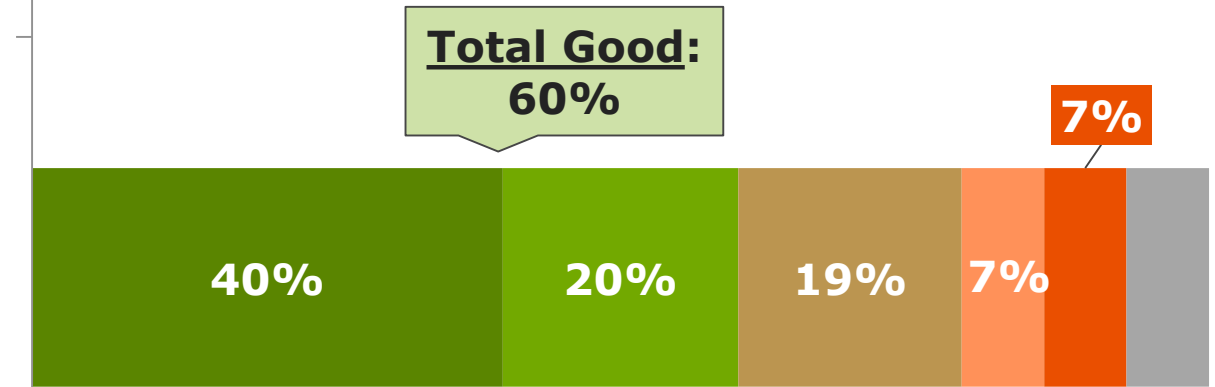


Reasons to Allow Herbicide Use

It is illegal to spray herbicides in or near streams, where they might affect vegetation or insects that are food sources for fish.



Herbicides may not be applied if the wind might carry them onto neighboring property.



1: Very good

2

3

4

5: Very poor

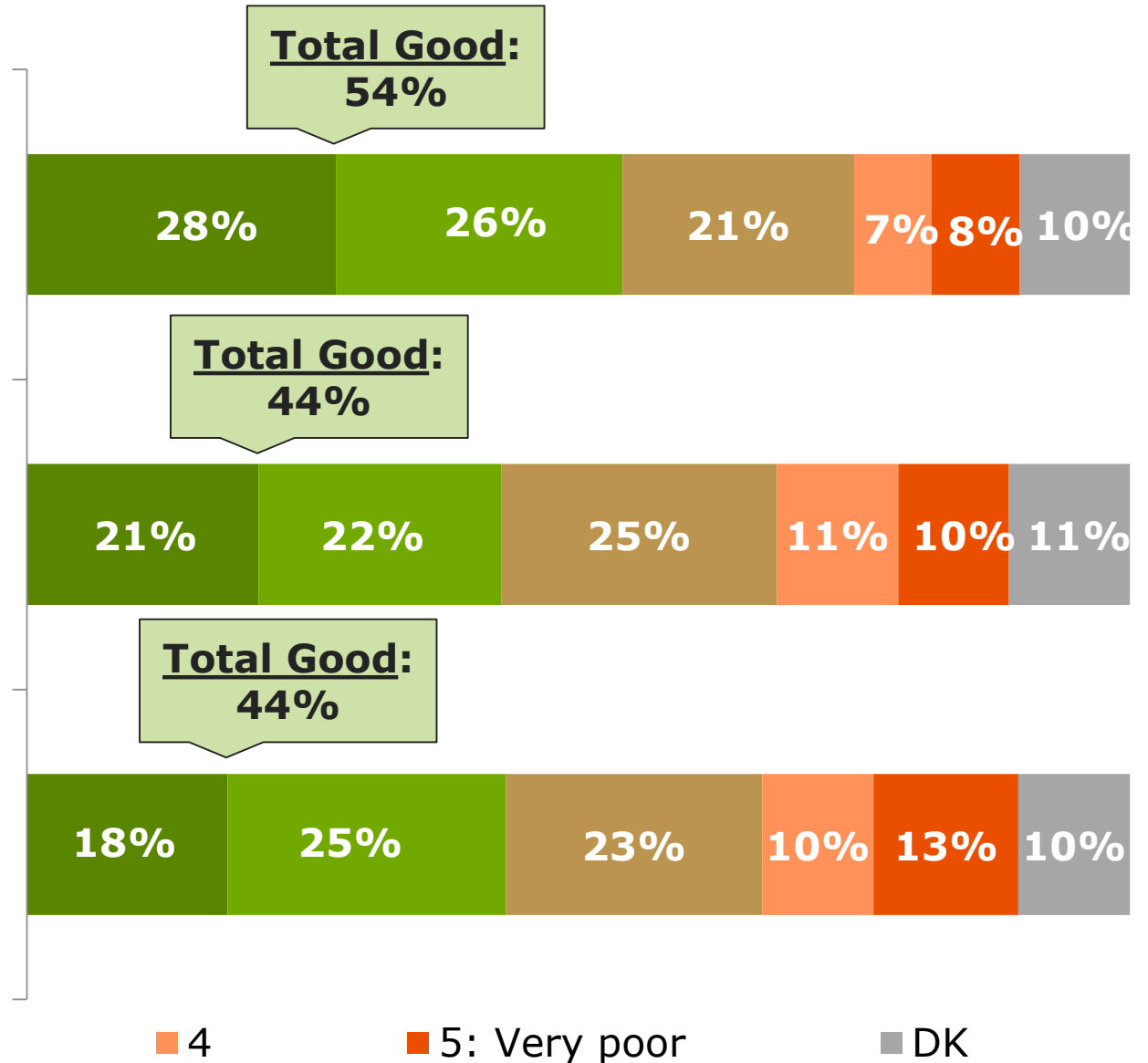
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Reasons to Allow Herbicide Use

Foresters use herbicides sparingly. In the first few years, their use gives new seedlings a chance to grow. Herbicides are not applied again for another 40 years or more.

The legal use of herbicides protects young trees and promotes healthy forest growth.

Most chemicals used in forestry are herbicides, a class of pesticides relatively low in toxicity to people, animals and fish. Herbicides are designed to control weeds and invasive species.



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