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Results of a public survey about grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*) and their management in Yukon, Canada

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**Yukon**

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All errors, omissions, and interpretations, however, are those of the authors.

Executive Summary

In April 2017, a public survey questionnaire was made available for residents of Yukon and transboundary communities (e.g., Atlin and Aklavik) in order to solicit information on their opinions about grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*) and their management. The survey questionnaire was designed to provide information to the Yukon Grizzly Bear Conservation and Management Plan Working Group in support of their development of the first-ever conservation plan for grizzly bears in Yukon. The survey questionnaire focused on understanding respondents' beliefs and perceptions about grizzly bears as well as their level of support for a range of possible management actions related to grizzly bears.

Close to 1,400 people from Yukon and transboundary communities completed the survey and the data were analysed to compare the responses between different groups of respondents (e.g., Whitehorse residents vs. those from other communities, big game hunters vs. non big game hunters, and others). We made 13 such comparisons using the survey data. These analyses allow us to examine how different groups feel about the questions posed. It also allows us to determine which questions provoke strongly divided responses among groups of respondents, and which have a high level of agreement.

Several key conclusions can be drawn from the survey results: Most notably, there was widespread agreement among respondents that grizzly bears are important to Yukon people and ecosystems, and that they value bears and the opportunity to see grizzly bears in the wild. This sentiment was reflected by all respondent groups in their overall support for management actions that positively affected grizzly bear conservation, such as reducing human-bear conflicts, and securing important habitats and food sources for bears. While some important differences were observed between groups of respondents (particularly bear hunters vs. non-bear hunters), overall there was a lot of agreement among groups in response to questions posed in the survey. As such, the survey provides important initial information from which to base a vision and subsequent decisions regarding grizzly bear conservation in Yukon.

The aim of this report is to outline how the survey was designed and delivered, note caveats with the data, describe the analytical framework used, present the results, and illustrate how the results may be used to inform the conservation planning process.

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Introduction

Context

In response to public debate over a proposed regulatory amendment to prohibit roadside hunting of grizzly bears, the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Government of Yukon were charged with developing the first territory-wide conservation plan for grizzly bears in Yukon.

The overall intent of the plan is to provide the vision and principles from which we base decisions about grizzly bear conservation in Yukon, and suggest recommended actions to move us toward achieving this vision. In essence, it will be a road map toward reaching the stated vision, with indicators to track progress along the way. The plan will serve as a foundational piece from which to assess future proposed amendments to Yukon's grizzly bear management through the Yukon *Wildlife Act* regulation change process.

The Yukon Grizzly Bear Conservation and Management Plan Working Group (hereafter, the Working Group) was established to develop the plan. A key objective of the Working Group was to engage Yukoners in the development of the plan. A public survey was conducted, in part, to achieve this objective.

Additionally, the conservation plan will also serve as the basis for Yukon's contribution toward the development of a national species at risk management plan for grizzly bears across Canada. Grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*) have declined across much of their global distributional range in response to human settlement and development. Accordingly, grizzly bears in western Canada are classified as a species at risk, and are awaiting legal listing on the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) as a species of Special Concern. Once listed in SARA, the federal government will have three years to develop a national management plan for grizzly bears that sets management objectives and outlines how threats will be mitigated to ensure that the

species does not become threatened or endangered.

What was the aim of the survey?

Yukoners' beliefs and perceptions about grizzly bears, as well as the support or opposition they have for a variety of possible management actions, was integral to the development of a grizzly bear conservation plan. The public survey aimed to provide all Yukoners with an opportunity to share their thoughts on these topics. Information gained from the public survey was meant to help the Working Group determine the direction that is desired by Yukoners for grizzly bear conservation. For example, we asked Yukoners about their vision for grizzly bear conservation for the next 25 years, and what steps to take to get there.

It is important to note that the Working Group also specifically engaged and listened to First Nations, Inuvialuit, and Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs), as well as others charged with aspects of grizzly bear conservation, through other forums. This public survey was developed and implemented prior to the drafting of the conservation plan, and intended to provide additional information on Yukoners' thoughts about grizzly bear conservation.

What was the aim of this report?

The aim of this report is to briefly outline how the survey was designed and delivered, note caveats with the data, describe the analytical framework used, present the results, and illustrate how the results may be used to inform the conservation planning process. While we do point to some observations and conclusions from the results, we explicitly do not attempt to interpret these results. Further statistical analyses may provide a foundation for more detailed interpretation of the data.

The intended audience of this report is the Working Group, as well as First Nations, Inuvialuit, RRCs, territorial and federal government agencies with a mandate in grizzly bear management, survey respondents, and all others with an interest in grizzly bear conservation in Yukon.

Methods

How was the survey designed?

We designed the survey to accomplish several primary goals: a) to understand respondents' beliefs and perceptions, b) to gauge their support or opposition for select, potential management actions, and c) to provide a forum for them to articulate their vision for grizzly bear conservation, and identify means to achieve it. We also asked respondents about what activities they participate in that may have the potential for a human-bear interaction, and their training and preparation for dealing with potential interactions.

We based the questions in the public survey on those in similar public surveys carried out elsewhere to improve wildlife conservation and management (e.g., Majić et al. 2011; Frank et al. 2015; Sponarski et al. 2015). The questions were vetted within the Working Group and through the Department of Environment and the Yukon Bureau of Statistics, resulting in modification of the original questions.

It is important to note that the survey questions asked related to potential management actions do not necessarily reflect management options under consideration by the Working Group; rather, they represent the range of management actions being contemplated across the distributional range of grizzly bears. These options are merely used to understand and gauge how Yukoners' perspectives and thoughts on these approaches differ.

Most of the questions utilized a 5-point Likert scale. For questions that probed respondents for their beliefs (questions 10–21) or perceptions (questions 23–32) the scale was from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). For questions that asked respondents about their support for potential conservation and management actions (questions 34–57), the scale was from 1 (strongly oppose) to 5 (strongly support). Likert scales are commonly used in similar public surveys on attitudes and opinions about wildlife (e.g., Majić et al. 2011; Glikman et al. 2012; Piédallu et al. 2016). They allow researchers to quantitatively

(statistically) assess the results. Respondents were provided an opportunity to add comments at the end of each section (e.g., beliefs, perceptions, etc.).

We specifically asked open-ended, qualitative questions regarding respondents' vision for grizzly bear conservation and management 25 years from now, and what actions are needed to realize this vision. Compared to quantitative (Likert scale) questions qualitative (open-ended) questions are not as straight-forward to analyze; however, open-ended questions provide richer responses than Likert-type questions. The open-ended questions were reviewed by the Working Group prior to developing the conservation plan, and may be more formally analyzed at a later date to help with implementation of the conservation plan.

The full survey questionnaire may be found as an Appendix to this report.

How was the survey delivered?

The survey was primarily delivered online. The online posting of the survey and collection and management of the response data was done by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics. Online delivery afforded an opportunity for residents of all Yukon communities to participate in the survey. We also provided copies of the survey questionnaire to Yukon communities and some high schools, via email. The Yukon Bureau of Statistics entered the data from the printed surveys, and collated all of the data for analysis.

We promoted the survey through direct communications with various Indigenous governments, Renewable Resources Councils, and interest groups. A media release was prepared and the survey was discussed on local radio and in local newspapers, as well as social media (e.g., Department of Environment Twitter and Facebook pages). Working Group members visited several Yukon high schools in an effort to engage youth.

The survey was posted online on 27 April 2017, and closed on 27 May 2017.

Caveats of the survey design

The survey was open to anyone with an interest in responding. We did not restrict access to the

survey to a random sample of Yukoners. As such, open surveys like ours are inherently biased because individuals with a vested interest are more likely to respond, whereas those with less interest may not. As a result, the data do not necessarily represent the collective views of all Yukoners. Because of this caveat we cannot use, for example, the survey to draw conclusions about how many Yukoners support a particular management option. This is a key consideration.

Another major caveat of our survey design is that we were not able to deeply probe respondents on most questions or options. We balanced the need to get a general sense on many topics or issues, rather than focus on just a few. To better understand respondents' thinking on most questions we would need to ask several follow-up questions. For example, we asked if respondents supported monitoring of grizzly bears in Yukon (question 57); yet, we could have asked several follow-up questions to see if support included radio-collaring, or just non-invasive methods, or if monitoring was particularly expensive. Clearly, there is room for more targeted surveys to delve deeper into specific topics.

These caveats do not suggest that the survey is fundamentally flawed in any respect; rather, they were carefully considered during the survey design. Yet, they are limitations that better define what the survey can and cannot tell us, which the reader needs to keep in mind when considering the results.

How were the survey data analyzed?

Given the caveats above, our survey was designed to examine similarities and differences in survey responses among groups of respondents. For instance, we compared answers by respondents from Whitehorse to those from other Yukon and transboundary communities. The responses to the Likert scale questions were compared between groups to look for similarities and differences. These analyses allow us to examine how different groups of Yukoners feel about the questions posed. It also allows us to determine which questions provoke strongly divided responses among groups, and which

have a high level of consensus. This points to the issues that are more contentious and/or require further research. Similar studies on large carnivores have also compared differences among respondent groups (e.g., Sponarski et al. 2015).

Altogether we made 13 comparisons of respondent groups. We compared the responses of the following groups of respondents because we believed that either a) they had the potential to elicit the strongest differences among respondent groups, or b) the public would be most interested in how similar or different the views would be between these respondent groups. Survey respondents were placed into the respondent groups below based on their responses to various questions in the survey.

Question 1: Whitehorse compared to Communities

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between survey respondents who self-identified as being from Whitehorse (urban centre) and other communities in or adjacent to Yukon (rural communities)?

Question 2: Kluane Communities compared to Other Communities

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between survey respondents self-identified from communities bordering Kluane National Park and those in other communities in or adjacent to Yukon?
- We defined "Kluane communities" as those bordering Kluane National Park (i.e., Haines Junction, Destruction Bay, Burwash Landing, and Silver City).

Question 3: Males compared to Females

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between male and female survey respondents?

Question 4: Age Group Comparison

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between age-classes of survey respondents?

Question 5: Value Bear Hunt compared to Do Not Value Bear Hunt

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents that valued the opportunity to hunt a grizzly bear in the Yukon and those that did not?
- Based on respondents' answers to Question 16: Those that responded "agree" or "strongly agree" were considered as grizzly bear hunters; those that responded "disagree" or "strongly disagree" were not considered bear hunters. Those that responded "neutral" (n = 195) were not included in the analyses.

Question 6: Intend to Bear Hunt compared to Do Not Intend to Bear Hunt

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents that intended to hunt a grizzly bear in the Yukon and those that did not?
- Grouping of respondents was based on respondents' answers to Questions 2, 3, and 4. Those that responded "unknown" (n = 115) for any of these questions were not included in the analysis.

Question 7: Big Game Hunters compared to Not Big Game Hunters

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents that regularly participated in big game hunting and those that did not?
- Grouping was based on respondents' answers to Question 1.

Question 8: More Bears compared to Not More Bears

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents that perceived there being more bears near their communities and those that do not?
- Based on respondents' answers to Question 24: Those that responded "agree" or "strongly agree" were put in a "more bears group" ("Yes"); those that responded

"disagree" or "strongly disagree" were placed in a "not more bears" group ("No"). Those that responded "neutral" (n = 322) or "don't know" (n = 418) were not included in the analyses.

Question 9: Fewer Bears compared to Not Fewer Bears

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents that perceived there being fewer bears in Yukon and those that do not?
- Based on respondents' answers to Question 23: Those that responded "agree" or "strongly agree" were put in a "fewer bears" group; those that responded "disagree" or "strongly disagree" were placed in a "not fewer bears" group. Those that responded "neutral" (n = 280) or "don't know" (n = 542) were not included in the analyses.

Question 10: More Fearful of Bears compared to Not More Fearful of Bears

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents who had become more fearful of travelling on the land because of grizzly bears, and those who had not?
- Based on respondents' answers to Question 30: Those that responded "agree" or "strongly agree" were put in a "more fearful of bears" group; those that responded "disagree" or "strongly disagree" were placed in a "not more fearful of bears" group. Those that responded "neutral" (n = 158) or were "don't know" (n = 115) were not included in the analyses.

Question 11: Previous Bear Encounters

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents who had negative bear encounters, passive bear encounters, or no bear encounters?
- Based on respondents' answer to Question 8. Does not include "don't know" (n = 40) responses.

Question 12: Living in Wilderness compared to Not Living in Wilderness

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents who live and recreate in the wilderness, and those who do not?
- Based on respondents answer to Question 65.

Question 13: Working in Wilderness compared to Not Working in Wilderness

- Do the beliefs, perceptions, and support or opposition for management actions differ between those survey respondents who work in the wilderness and those who do not?
- Based on respondents answer to Question 1.

In the above comparisons respondents who self-identified as being from outside of Yukon or transboundary communities (e.g., Aklavik, Atlin, Fort McPherson) or did not respond were not included in the analyses.

smaller than the total number of respondents because we did not include “don’t know” or “neutral” responses in most comparisons.

What did the respondents say?

The mean, median, and frequency distribution of responses to the Likert-type questions are presented in Table 3. Histograms of these raw survey data are provided in Figures 1–46.

Median responses by group of survey respondents are provided for all Likert-type questions in Figures 48–93, with an introductory infographic to help readers interpret the graphs found in Figure 47. While questions were scored (and presented in the figures) on a 5-point scale, it is perhaps simpler to think of the medians in terms of binary responses of “agree” (“strongly agree” plus “agree” responses) and “disagree” (“strongly disagree” plus “disagree” responses). Medians indicating a neutral response can be interpreted as respondents in that group neither agreeing or disagreeing with the question. Alternatively, a “neutral” response could indicate that the responses were largely split between those that agree and disagree. Regardless, neutral responses indicate that there was no clear signal in the data.

Summaries of the survey responses by respondent group are provided below.

Results

How many people responded to the survey?

Overall, we received 1410 responses to the survey. The vast majority of responses were filled in online (96%), however 64 were received as hard copies.

Most respondents (89%) indicated they were from Whitehorse (Table 1). Fewer than 1% of respondents indicated they were not from Yukon or a transboundary community (e.g., Aklavik or Atlin). The number of respondents in each group (i.e., sample size) used for the analyses are provided in Table 2. Sample sizes are often

Table 1. Responses by location.

Location	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Whitehorse	864	61%
Communities	367	26%
Outside of Yukon	11	1%
Unknown	168	12%
Totals	1410	100%

Table 2. Number and percentage of respondents for each analytical group used in the analyses.

Question	Group 1	Sample Size	Group 2	Sample Size	Group 3	Sample Size
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1	Whitehorse	864 (70%)	Communities	367 (30%)	—	—
2	Kluane communities	92 (8%)	Not Kluane communities	1139 (92%)	—	—
3	Males	566 (47%)	Females	643 (53%)	—	—
4	Young (Under 35)	294 (24%)	Mid-Age (35-54)	547 (44%)	Senior (55+)	404 (32%)
5	Value bear hunting	353 (31%)	Do not value bear hunting	790 (69%)	—	—
6	Intend to hunt bear	226 (18%)	Do not intend to hunt bear	1058 (82%)	—	—
7	Big game hunters	520 (37%)	Not big game hunters	879 (63%)	—	—
8	More bears in my community	235 (35%)	Not more bears in my community	435 (65%)	—	—
9	Fewer bears in Yukon	259 (45%)	Not fewer bears in Yukon	318 (55%)	—	—
10	More fearful of bears	153 (14%)	Not more fearful of bears	973 (86%)	—	—
11	Negative bear encounters	283 (21%)	Passive bear encounters	604 (44%)	No bear encounters	472 (35%)
12	Live in wild / rural area	645 (46%)	Do not live in wild/rural area	754 (54%)	—	—
13	Work in wilderness	470 (34%)	Do not work in wilderness	929 (66%)	—	—

Table 3. Response statistics (sample size [n], median, mean [\pm standard deviation], and frequency distribution [percent that agree, disagree, or were neutral]) to questions posed in the online survey. The questions below were based on a 5-point Likert scale; however, for display purposes we lumped “strongly agree” responses with “agree” responses, and “strongly disagree” responses with those for “disagree”.

Survey Question	Response Statistics					
	<i>n</i>	Median	Mean \pm SD	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Part 3: Beliefs about Grizzly Bears						
Q10. It is important to me that grizzly bears live in Yukon.	1363	Strongly Agree	4.8 \pm 0.7	96%	2%	2%
Q11. Grizzly bears should exist in their own right regardless of their value to humans.	1343	Strongly Agree	4.6 \pm 0.8	92%	5%	3%
Q12. Grizzly bear populations should persist for future generations of people.	1360	Strongly Agree	4.7 \pm 0.7	95%	3%	2%
Q13. Grizzly bears contribute to the functioning of the natural ecosystem (for example, distributing seeds from berries and other plants).	1339	Strongly Agree	4.7 \pm 0.6	95%	4%	1%
Q14. Grizzly bear conservation and management should be a higher priority than that for other species of large carnivores (for example, wolves, coyotes, black bears, cougar, etc.).	1280	Neutral	3.0 \pm 1.1	30%	40%	30%
Q15. Grizzly bears contribute to the Yukon economy (for example, through tourism directed at wildlife viewing and big game hunting).	1311	Agree	4.0 \pm 1.0	78%	14%	8%
Q16. I value the opportunity to hunt grizzly bears in Yukon.	1338	Disagree	2.4 \pm 1.5	26%	15%	59%
Q17. I value the opportunity to see grizzly bears in the wild in Yukon.	1350	Strongly Agree	4.6 \pm 0.7	93%	5%	2%
Q18. The wilderness would be better without grizzly bears.	1355	Strongly Disagree	1.2 \pm 0.6	1%	3%	96%
Q19. There are some circumstances where grizzly bear populations should be reduced.	1232	Disagree	2.5 \pm 1.3	28%	17%	55%
Q20. There are some circumstances where grizzly bear populations should be reduced.	1179	Disagree	2.3 \pm 1.1	15%	25%	60%

Q21. People with agricultural attractants (e.g. livestock, poultry, crops and berries) on their property need to manage these attractants to reduce incidents of human-bear conflicts. 1336 Strongly Agree 4.5 ± 0.8 90% 6% 4%

Part 4: Perceptions about Grizzly Bears in Yukon

	<i>n</i>	Median	Mean ± SD	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
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Q23. There seem to be fewer grizzly bears in Yukon over the past 10 years. 857 Neutral 2.9 ± 1.1 30% 33% 37%

Q24. There seem to be more grizzly bears around my community in the past 10 years. 992 Neutral 2.8 ± 1.0 24% 32% 44%

Q25. Conflicts with grizzly bears seem to have increased in my community over the past 10 years. 1032 Neutral 2.7 ± 1.0 24% 49% 27%

Q26. "Bear awareness" seems to be getting better in my community over the past 10 years. 1125 Agree 3.5 ± 0.9 63% 21% 16%

Q27. People in my community seem to be taking better care of keeping their garbage and other attractants (e.g. pet food, barbeques, chickens etc.) out of reach of bears over the past 10 years. 1086 Neutral 3.1 ± 1.0 45% 25% 30%

Q28. Interest in hunting grizzly bears by Yukon residents seems to have increased in the past 10 years. 699 Neutral 3.1 ± 0.9 33% 40% 27%

Q29. There will be greater interest in hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon by non-residents (people from outside Yukon) in the next 10 years. 891 Agree 3.8 ± 1.0 71% 19% 10%

Q30. In the last 10 years, I have become more fearful of traveling in remote areas in Yukon because I believe there is an increased chance of encountering a grizzly bear. 1284 Disagree 2.0 ± 1.1 12% 12% 76%

Q31. Grizzly bears seem to be more frequently seen on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years. 1004 Neutral 2.8 ± 1.0 26% 31% 42%

Q32. People seem to have become more interested in watching grizzly bears on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years. 1060 Agree 3.7 ± 1.0 66% 22% 12%

Part 5: Opinions about Management Options for Grizzly Bears in Yukon	<i>n</i>	Median	Mean ± SD	Support	Neutral	Oppose
Q34. Do you oppose or support hunting of grizzly bears by Yukon residents?	1292	Neutral	2.9 ± 1.5	36%	18%	46%
Q35. Do you oppose or support non-resident hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon?	1293	Disagree	2.2 ± 1.4	22%	12%	67%
Q36. Would you oppose or support increased grizzly bear harvest fees for non-resident hunters? (Current non-resident grizzly bear harvest fees are \$500 for males and \$750 for females.)	1232	Strongly Agree	4.1 ± 1.2	77%	10%	13%
Q37. Would you oppose or support regulations to restrict roadside bear hunting in Yukon?	1285	Strongly Agree	4.0 ± 1.5	75%	5%	20%
Q38. Do you oppose or support including grizzly bear habitat and other needs in land use plans and land development policies in Yukon?	1263	Strongly Agree	4.3 ± 1.0	83%	9%	8%
Q39. Would you oppose or support making sure proposed developments (for example, residential subdivisions, agricultural developments and industrial properties) minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?	1284	Strongly Agree	4.4 ± 1.0	86%	5%	9%
Q40. Would you oppose or support prohibiting tents (but allowing hard-sided recreational campers) in campgrounds with a high potential for human - grizzly bear conflicts?	1242	Neutral	2.8 ± 1.3	34%	23%	43%
Q41. Would you oppose or support permanent closures of campgrounds that are located in high-quality bear habitat or movement corridors?	1254	Agree	3.4 ± 1.3	55%	15%	30%
Q42. Do you oppose or support a minimum group size for people recreating (i.e., hiking, mountain biking, wade fishing) in areas with a high potential for encountering grizzly bears?	1252	Neutral	2.7 ± 1.3	32%	20%	48%

Q43. Do you oppose or support the aversive conditioning of grizzly bears using noisemakers, non-lethal projectiles, or specially trained dogs?	1186	Agree	3.8 ± 1.1	70%	18%	12%
Q44. Do you oppose or support restoring or improving salmon runs to improve natural food sources for grizzly bears?	1262	Strongly Agree	4.5 ± 0.7	93%	6%	1%
Q45. Would you oppose or support new initiatives for organized grizzly bear viewing in Yukon (for example, bear viewing platforms)?	1239	Agree	3.5 ± 1.2	56%	21%	23%
Q46. Would you oppose or support increased prosecution and larger fines for property owners who leave attractants out, which may result in human - grizzly bear conflicts?	1252	Agree	4.2 ± 1.0	80%	11%	9%
Q47. Would you oppose or support regulations for making electric fences mandatory to protect agricultural livestock and minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?	1251	Agree	3.8 ± 1.2	68%	17%	15%
Q48. Do you oppose or support municipalities purchasing bear-proof garbage containers for residents in areas that have conflicts with grizzly bears as a result of garbage?	1291	Strongly Agree	4.4 ± 0.8	91%	5%	4%
Q49. Would you oppose or support seasonal closures of campgrounds where there are high potential for human - grizzly bear conflicts?	1264	Agree	3.7 ± 1.1	68%	14%	18%
Q50. Would you oppose or support the relocation of grizzly bears within their home range (i.e., less than 25 km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?	1186	Agree	3.4 ± 1.3	57%	15%	28%
Q51. Would you oppose or support the translocation of grizzly bears outside of their home range (i.e. more than 25 km away, often 100 or more km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?	1147	Agree	3.6 ± 1.2	64%	16%	20%

Q52. Do you oppose or support conservation officers lethally removing grizzly bears that have been involved in conflicts with people?	1206	Neutral	3.2 ± 1.3	48%	20%	32%
Q53. Would you oppose or support diversionary feeding (that is, providing bears with supplemental food during times when natural foods are scarce) as a management action to attract bears away from areas where they come into conflict with people?	1089	Neutral	2.8 ± 1.3	35%	19%	46%
Q54. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to manage human-grizzly bear conflicts?	1242	Disagree	1.9 ± 1.1	11%	11%	78%
Q55. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to aid in recovering depleted moose or caribou populations?	1215	Disagree	2.5 ± 1.3	27%	16%	57%
Q56. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to provide greater moose or caribou harvest opportunities?	1247	Disagree	2.1 ± 1.2	16%	14%	70%
Q57. Do you oppose or support monitoring of grizzly bear populations?	1283	Agree	4.3 ± 0.8	89%	8%	3%

Beliefs about grizzly bears

Regardless of which group respondents belong to, median values indicated there was strong agreement that grizzly bears were of high value to Yukon people and ecosystems (see questions 10–13, 15, 17, 18).

Responses became more varied with respect to hunting (question 16) or reduction of grizzly bears (question 19). Most groups disagreed with grizzly bear hunting or reduction, except those that valued or participated in grizzly bear or big game hunting, or those that thought there were more grizzly bears in Yukon, had negative encounters with grizzly bears, or were increasingly fearful of grizzly bears. There was no clear signal across groups of respondents on whether grizzly bear conservation should be a higher priority than that of other large carnivores (question 14).

No groups of respondents agreed that grizzly bears caused significant damage to livestock (question 20); but all groups felt that those with agricultural attractants had to manage these to reduce conflicts with grizzly bears (question 21).

Perceptions about grizzly bears

Many respondents did not have a clear idea on whether there were fewer or more grizzly bears in the territory or in their communities, as seen by the high percentage of respondents that answered “neutral” or “don’t know” (52–59%) to these questions, and that most groups of respondents neither agreed nor disagreed on trends in grizzly bear abundance (questions 23 and 24).

With the exception of respondents who were more fearful of grizzly bears or thought there were more grizzly bears in their community, most respondents indicated that they thought there

was not an increase in conflicts with grizzly bears in their community, and that grizzly bear awareness was getting better in their community (questions 25 and 26). However, for most respondent groups there was no clear signal on whether people were taking better care in managing attractants, with exceptions being people in the communities outside Whitehorse, seniors, and people living in rural or wilderness areas, who thought people were better at managing attractants (question 27).

There was no clear signal on whether any respondent group felt that interest in hunting grizzly bears was increasing (question 28). Yet, all respondent groups agreed that there will be greater interest in hunting grizzly bears in Yukon by non-residents (question 29).

With the exception of two respondent groups (those that believe there are more grizzly bears, and those that are more fearful of grizzly bears) all of the respondent groups were neutral on whether there were more grizzly bears seen on Yukon roadsides in recent years (question 31). All respondent groups, except those that intend to hunt grizzly bears, agreed that people have become more interested in viewing grizzly bears on Yukon roadsides in the same time frame (question 32).

Support for potential management actions

Perhaps more so than any other set of questions regarding potential management actions, there were significant differences in how different respondent groups viewed grizzly bear hunting (questions 34–37). Those that valued or had interests in hunting grizzly bears or other big game, those who lived in Kluane area communities, those that thought there were more grizzly bears, and those who had negative encounters with grizzly bears were more likely to support grizzly bear hunting by Yukon residents. Other respondent groups either were neutral or disagreed. All groups of respondents agreed with restricting roadside hunting of grizzly bears, except those that valued or intended to hunt grizzly bears. Most respondent groups opposed grizzly bear hunting by non-residents, except those that valued or intended to hunt grizzly bears, and few groups were neutral (e.g., big

game hunters, or those with negative encounters). However, all respondent groups supported the idea of increasing harvest fees for non-resident grizzly bear hunters.

With the exception of those more fearful of grizzly bear encounters in recent years, all respondent groups opposed reducing grizzly bears to manage human-bear conflicts (question 54). Most respondent groups opposed reducing grizzly bear populations to aid the recovery of depressed moose or caribou populations (question 55), exceptions being those that valued or intended to hunt grizzly bears, or those more fearful of grizzly bear encounters, or thought there were more grizzly bears in Yukon in recent years. No respondent groups supported reducing grizzly bear populations to provide greater moose or caribou harvest opportunities (question 56).

Regarding means to manage human-bear conflicts, all respondent groups supported non-lethal aversive conditioning of grizzly bears (question 43). While all respondent groups supported long-distance (25–100 km) translocations of grizzly bears that had been in conflicts with people (question 51), not all respondent groups supported shorter distance (less than 25 km) relocations for these grizzly bears (question 50). Most respondent groups either supported or were neutral to lethally removing grizzly bears involved in conflicts with people (question 52); those that thought there were fewer grizzly bears in Yukon opposed lethal removal. There was no clear support for the use of diversionary feeding to manage human-grizzly bear conflicts (question 53).

No groups of respondents were opposed to new initiatives for organized grizzly bear viewing in Yukon, including grizzly bear viewing platforms (question 45).

With the exception of respondents that valued or intended to hunt grizzly bears, all other groups of respondents supported or were neutral to seasonally or permanently closing campgrounds with a high potential for grizzly bear conflicts (questions 41 and 49). No respondent groups supported prohibiting tent camping in campgrounds with high potential for grizzly bear conflicts (question 40).

There was widespread support for restoring or improving salmon runs to ensure natural food sources for grizzly bears (question 44).

All groups of respondents supported land use plans and policies taking into account the habitat needs of grizzly bears, and making sure that proposed developments minimize the potential for creating human-grizzly bear conflicts (questions 38 and 39).

Managing attractants had widespread support by all respondent groups (questions 46–48). Specifically, no user groups opposed making electrical fences mandatory to protect livestock and reduce the potential for conflict with grizzly bears, all supported municipalities purchasing bear-proof garbage containers in high conflict residential areas, and all groups supported increased prosecution and fines for property owners that left attractants out.

All respondent groups supported monitoring grizzly bear populations (question 57).

Discussion

What does the survey tell us?

Several key conclusions can be drawn from the survey results at this time. Most notably, there was widespread agreement among respondents that grizzly bears are important to Yukon society and ecosystems, and that respondents valued grizzly bears and the opportunity to see them in the wild—regardless of which respondent group they belonged to. This sentiment was reflected by all respondent groups in their overall support for management actions that: a) reduce attractants that may cause human-bear conflicts, b) consider the habitat needs of grizzly bears in land use plans and environmental assessments, c) secure important food sources for grizzly bears, and d) improve monitoring of grizzly bears. Congruently, these groups of respondents also oppose reducing grizzly bear populations as a means to decrease human-bear conflicts, or increase moose or caribou harvest opportunities.

Second, there were very few differences between respondents from Whitehorse, Kluane

area communities, and from other communities in Yukon. Some key differences based on median response scores were that unlike other respondents, respondents from Kluane area communities perceived that there were more bears in their communities in recent years, felt that their communities were getting better at managing attractants, supported hunting of grizzly bears by Yukon residents, and supported lethal removal of grizzly bears that had been conflict with humans.

Third, gender and age of respondents had almost no influence on differences in respondents' support for management actions. Observed differences, however, indicated that women were less supportive than men of hunting or lethal removal of bears in human-bear conflicts, and were more supportive of personal restrictions on their activities in high bear activity areas. Respondents in the senior age-class were more apt to perceive that there were not more grizzly bears in their communities in recent years, agree that people in their communities are better at managing attractants, and oppose grizzly bear hunting. But these differences between gender and age-classes were slight.

While survey respondents thought similarly on many questions in the survey, some key differences were observed with regard to their interests in big game hunting. Support for grizzly bear hunting by residents was somewhat split; however, most survey respondents were opposed to grizzly bear hunting by non-residents, and supported restrictions to roadside bear hunting, in Yukon. Respondents that were grizzly bear or big game hunters were more supportive of grizzly bear hunting, roadside hunting of grizzly bears, and lethally removing grizzly bears in some circumstances, and less supportive of grizzly bear viewing initiatives or restrictions to personal activities in high bear activity areas. It bears repeating, however, that bear hunters equally valued and supported other management actions aimed at conserving bear populations when compared to other respondents.

Fifth, we observed essentially no differences in agreement or support for survey questions between respondents who lived or worked in rural or wilderness areas, and those that did not.

Few differences were seen among respondents more fearful of bears or those that had negative bear encounters. However, respondents who were more fearful or who had negative encounters with grizzly bears agreed that there were more bears in Yukon in recent years and that human-bear conflicts were increasing, they were more supportive of lethally removing bears that had been in conflict with people, and less supportive of organized bear viewing. Those with negative encounters were supportive of grizzly bear hunting by Yukoners, while those without negative encounters were not. Respondents more fearful of bears agreed that bear populations should be reduced in some circumstances, while those not more fearful of bears disagreed.

Finally, it was clear that many survey respondents did not have a good perception of whether there were more or fewer bears in the territory, in their communities, or seen on roadsides, in recent years, as most answered “don’t know” or “neutral”. Generally, however, those that perceived there were more bears were more in agreement that human-grizzly bear conflicts were increasing, and more supportive of grizzly bear hunting and reducing bear populations. Monitoring bear populations was widely supported.

In summary, while several important differences were observed between groups of respondents, overall there was quite a bit of agreement among groups in response to survey questions, or support for proposed management actions. As such, the survey provides important initial information from which to base a vision and subsequent decisions regarding grizzly bear conservation in Yukon.

How will these results be used in the conservation planning process?

The Working Group has used several methods to collect information on Yukoner’s thoughts about grizzly bear conservation. As such, the Working Group will consider the results from this survey in conjunction with information gained using other methods, particularly information obtained during meetings and workshops held as part of the

engagement process with First Nations, Inuvialuit, RRCs, and interested associations.

Moreover, noting the limitations of the survey design, the results of the survey alone do not necessarily lend themselves to making strong recommendations on the management regime for grizzly bears in Yukon. Further work is needed to more deeply understand the sentiment and potential issues around various potential management options raised in the survey, in order to confirm public willingness to support these management actions.

Having said that, the survey serves as an excellent source of information on where there seems to be strong agreement by respondent groups, and where there is not. Knowing these differences will allow the Working Group to make recommendations in the conservation plan that seem to have broad agreement or support by Yukoners with different beliefs, perceptions, or interests, and to recommend further consideration where agreement or support varies. Information on support or opposition to potential management actions will inform the Working Group about respondents’ general willingness to accept various management actions—in essence signaling where there may or may not be a social licence for grizzly bear conservation. Most importantly, in conjunction with traditional knowledge, as well as conservation biology and wildlife management principles, this survey will provide a strong basis for developing overall direction and goals for grizzly bear conservation in Yukon.

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APPENDIX 1 Raw survey data

Q10. It is important to me that grizzly bears live in Yukon.

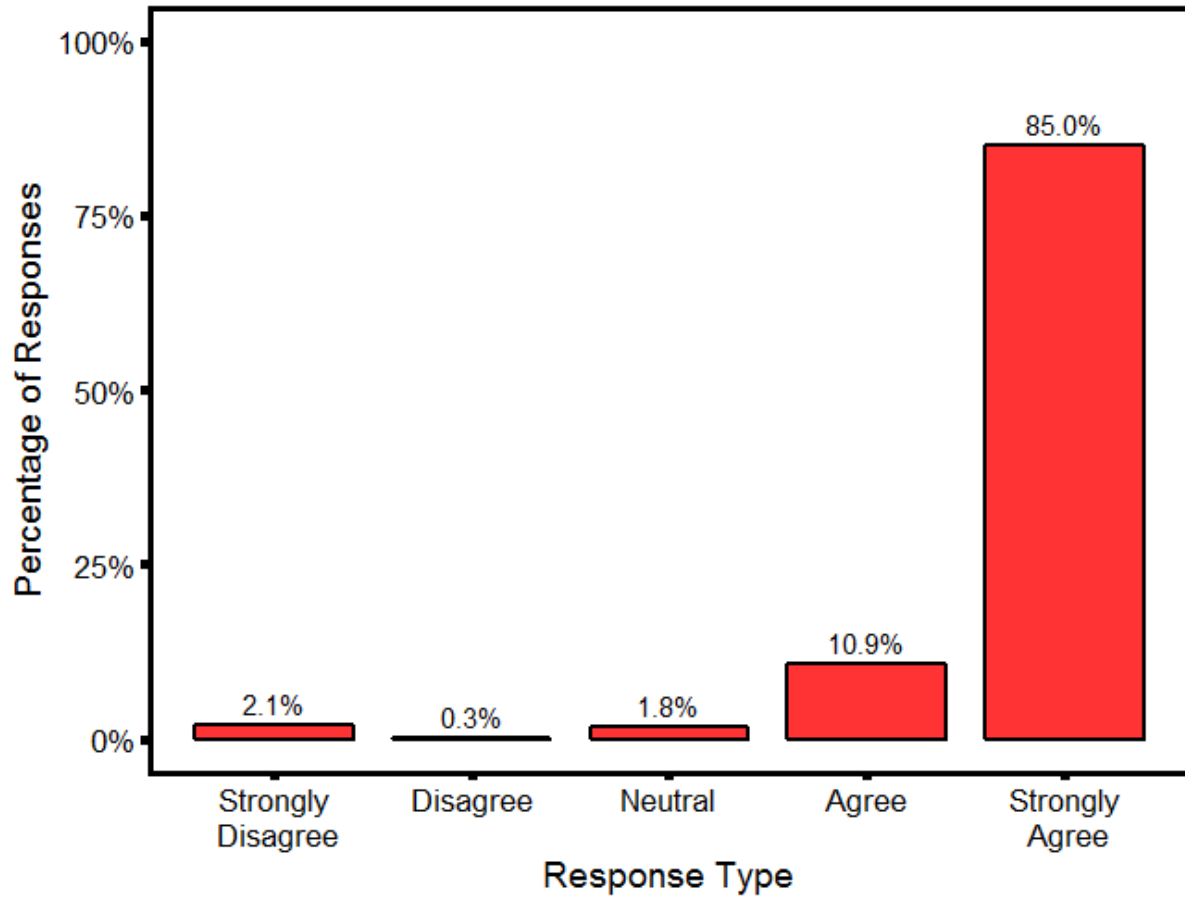


Figure 1. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#10) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1363).

Q11. Grizzly bears should exist in their own right regardless of their value to humans.

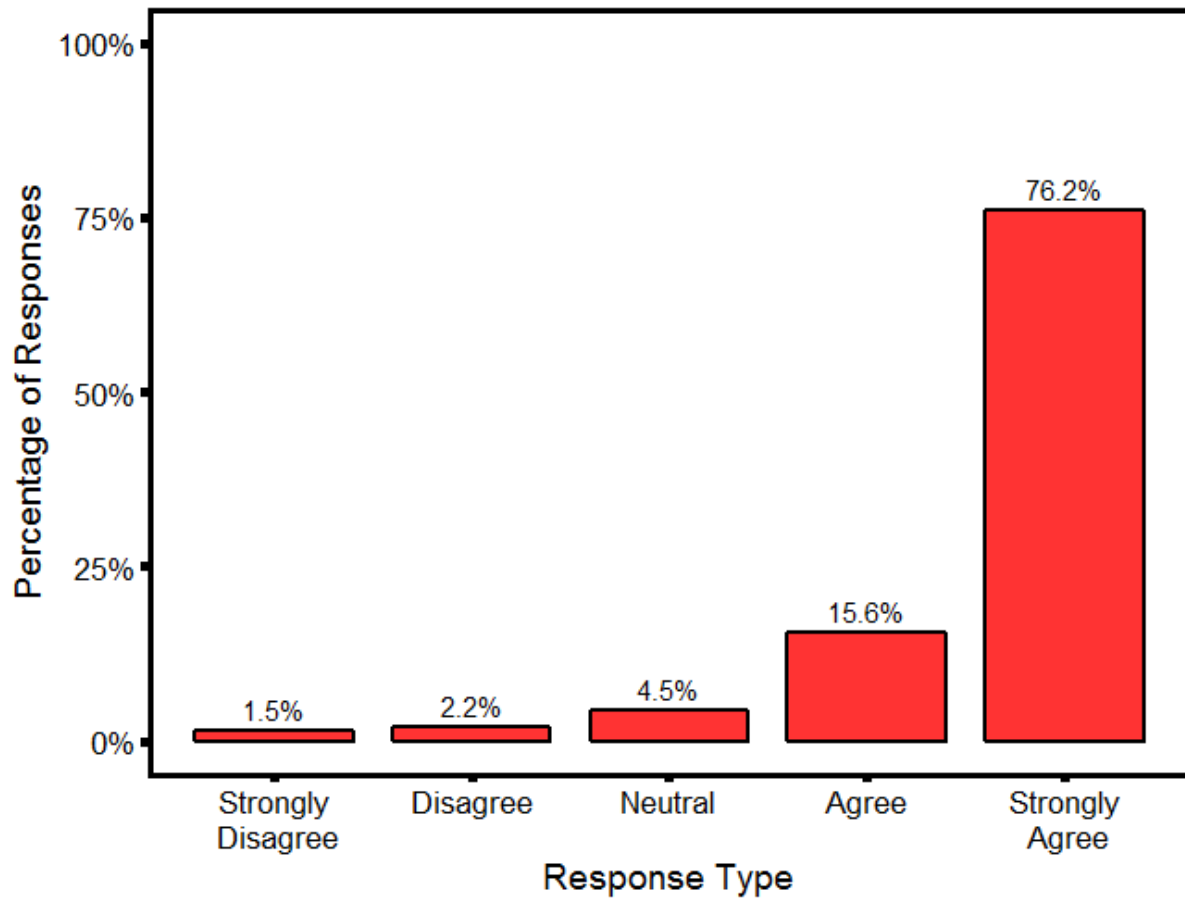


Figure 2. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#11) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1343).

Q12. Grizzly bear populations should persist for future generations of people.

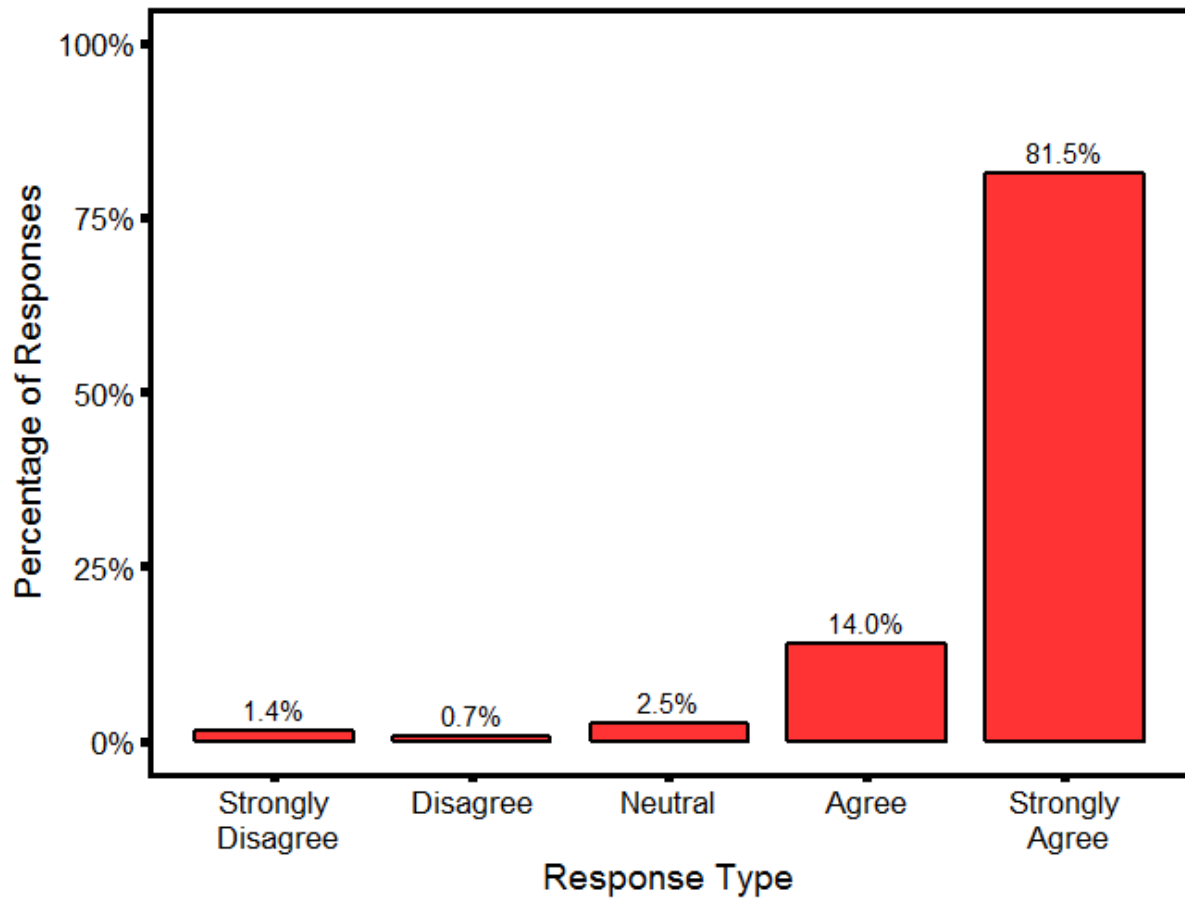


Figure 3. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#12) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1360).

Q13. Grizzly bears contribute to the functioning of the natural ecosystem (for example, distributing seeds from berries and other plants).

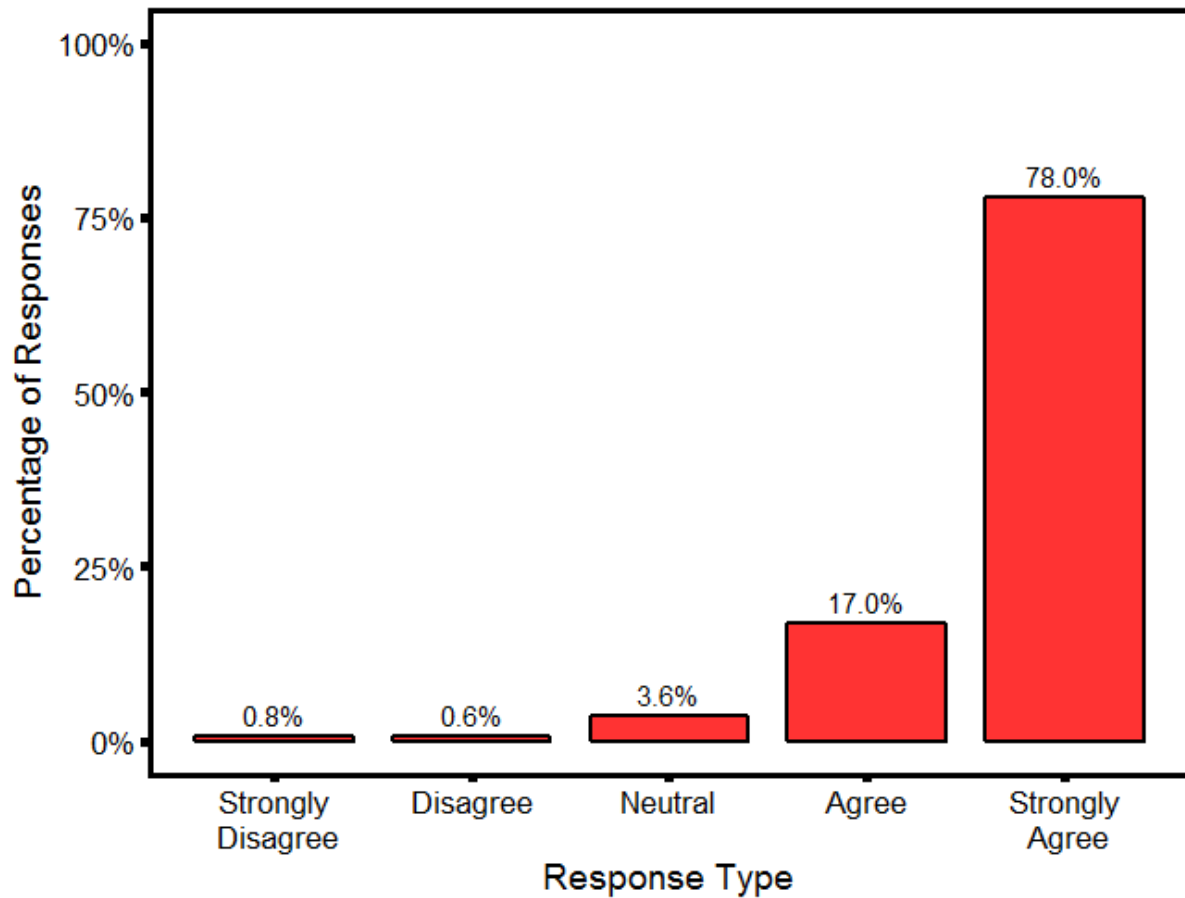


Figure 4. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#13) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1339).

Q14. Grizzly bear conservation and management should be a higher priority than that for other species of large carnivores (for example, wolves, coyotes, black bears, etc.).

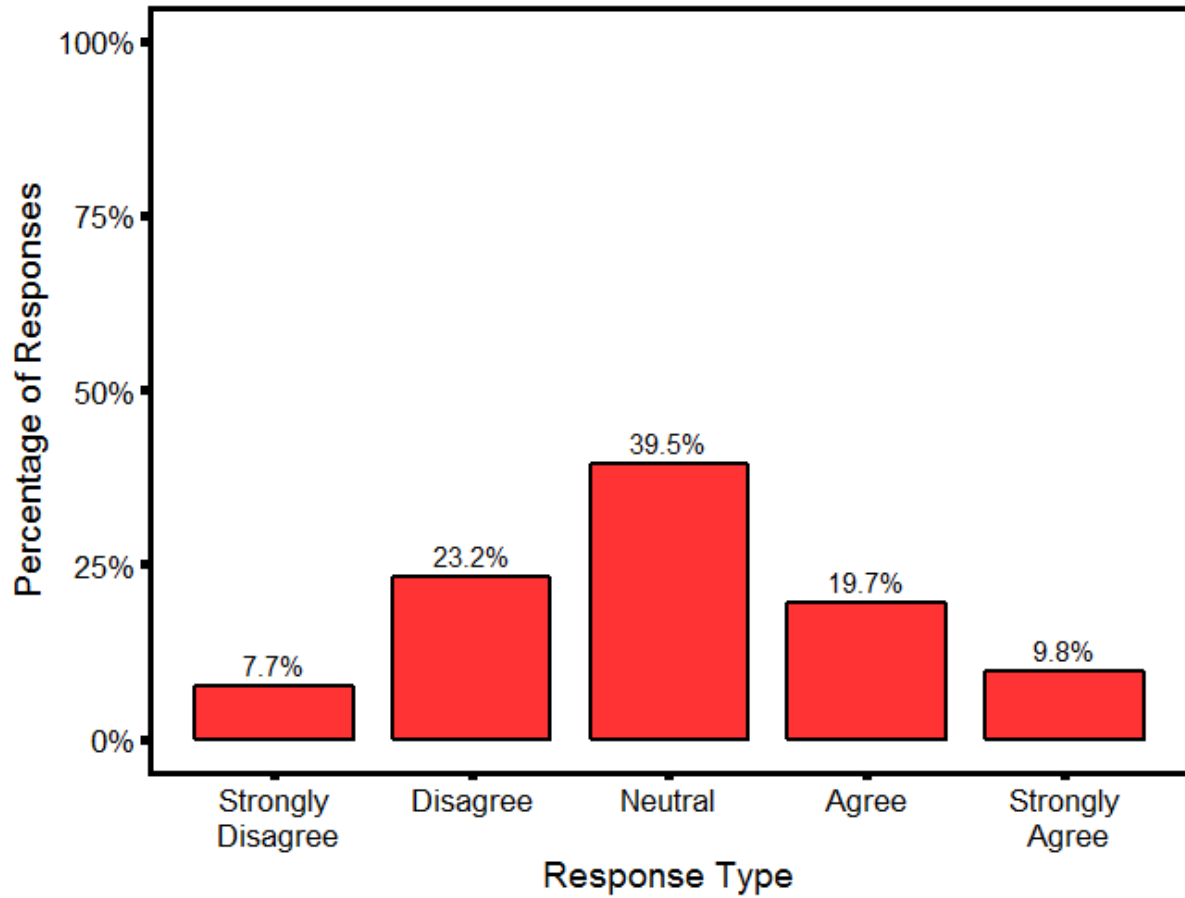


Figure 5. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#14) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1280).

Q15. Grizzly bears contribute to the Yukon economy (for example, through tourism directed at wildlife viewing and big game hunting).

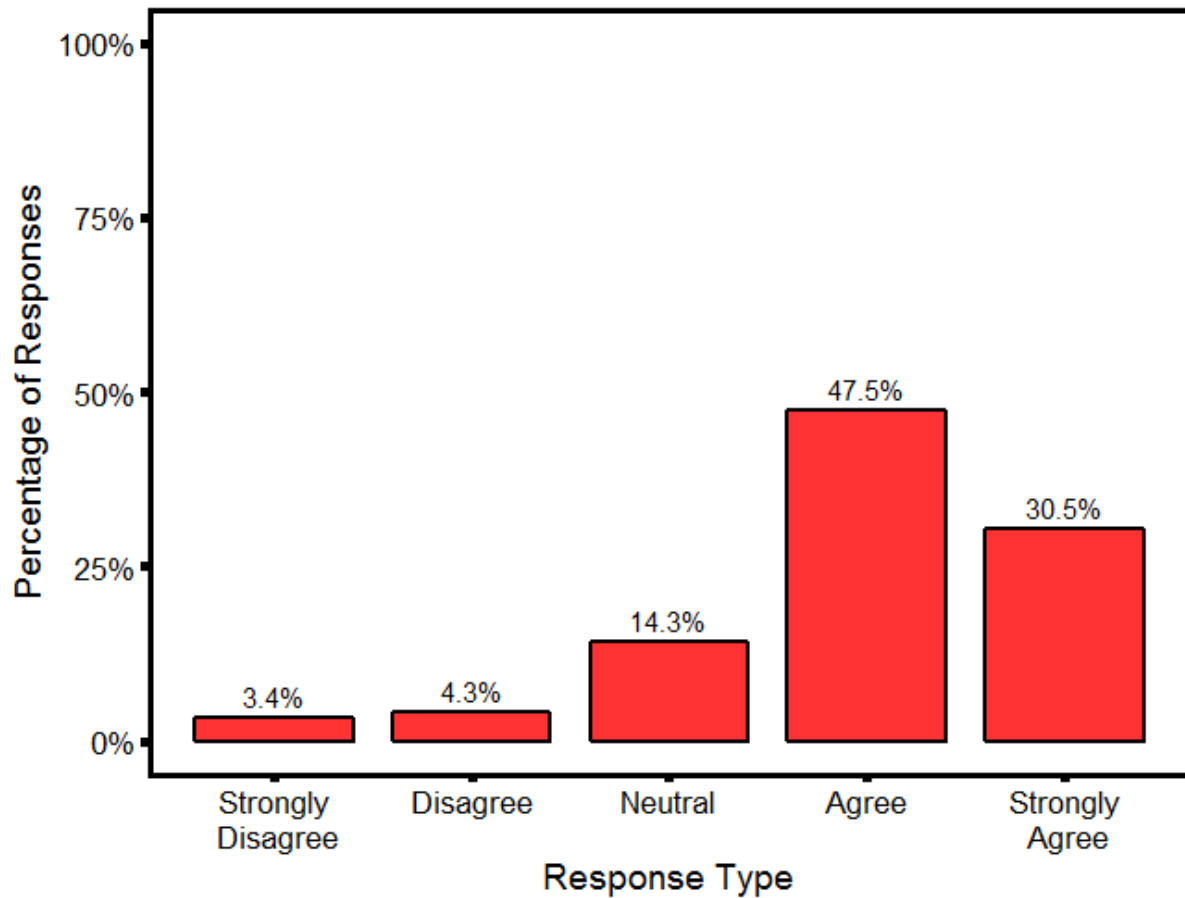


Figure 6. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#15) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1311).

Q16. I value the opportunity to hunt grizzly bears in Yukon.

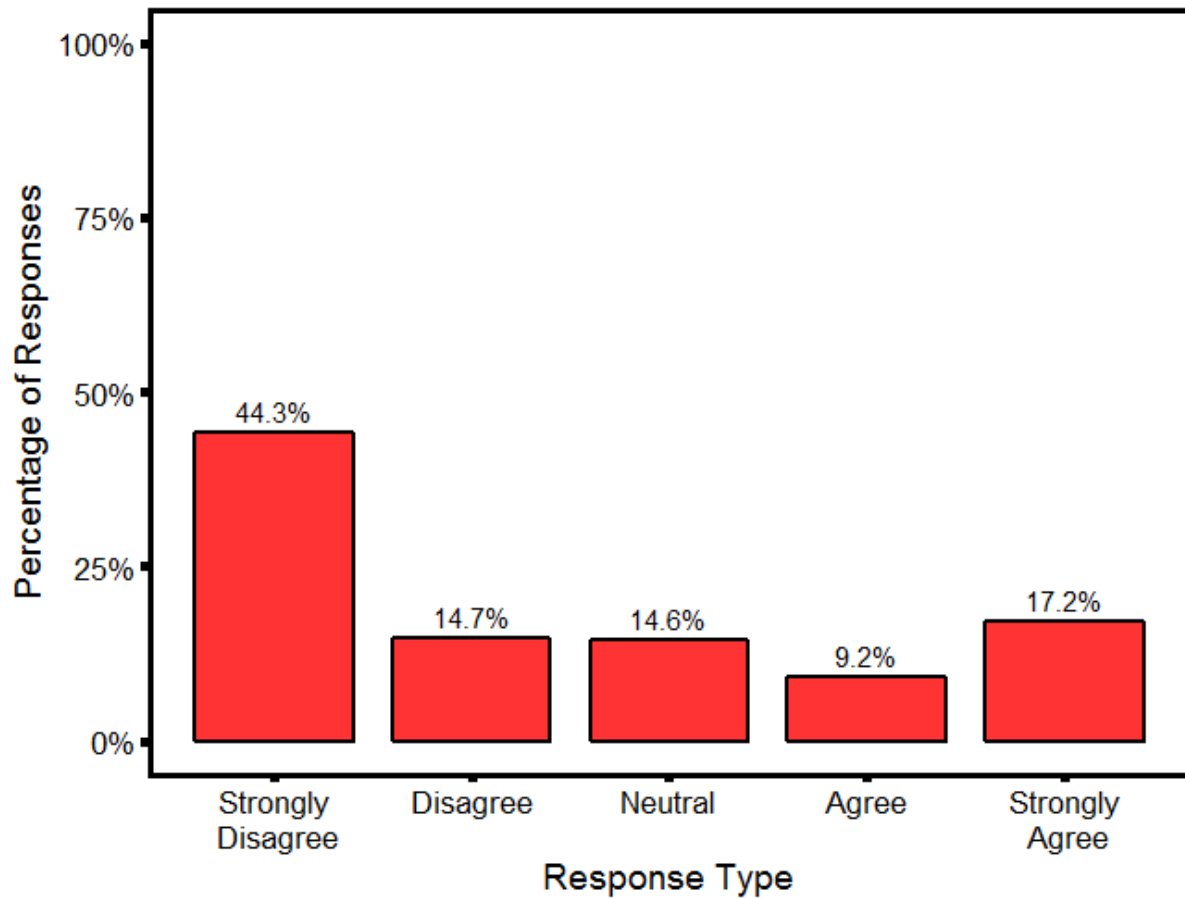


Figure 7. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#16) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1338).

Q17. I value the opportunity to see grizzly bears in the wild in Yukon.

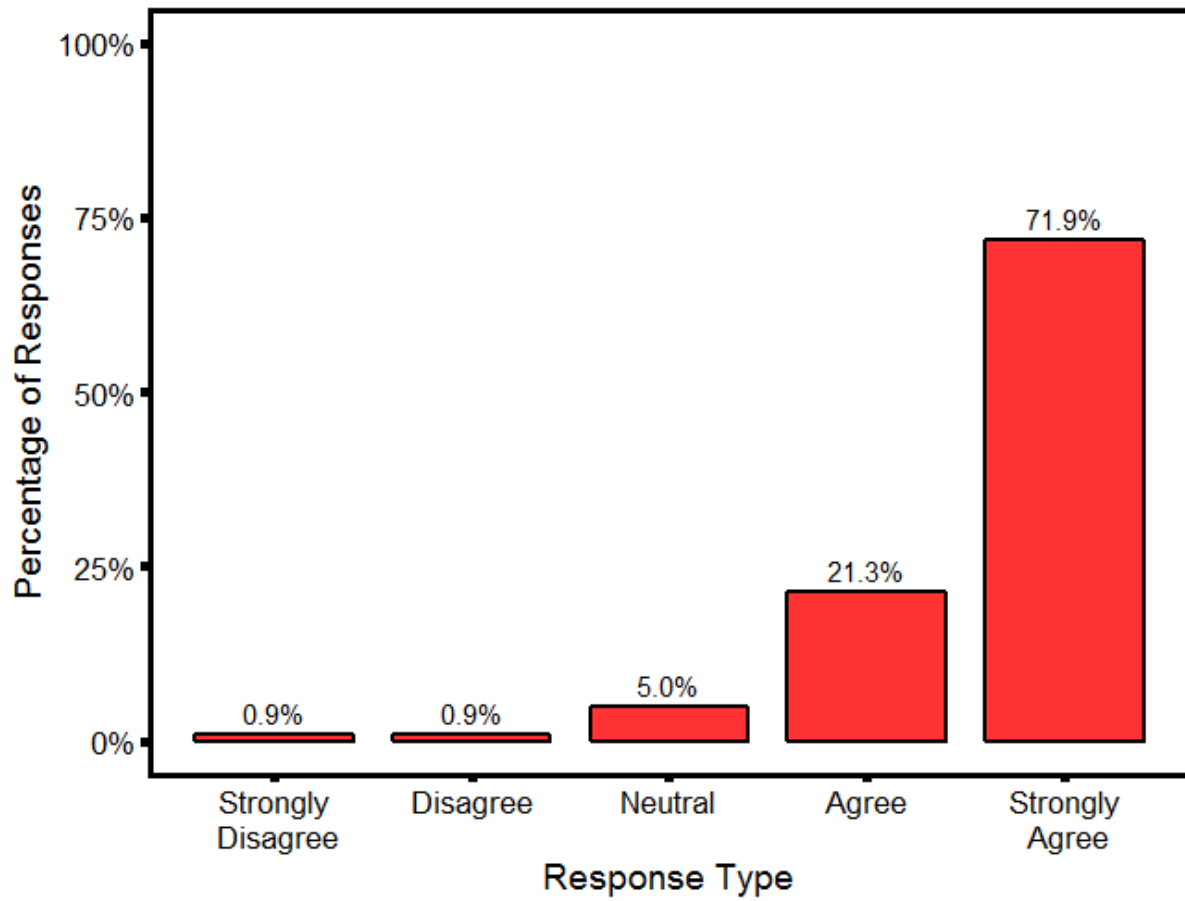


Figure 8. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#17) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1350).

Q18. The wilderness would be better without grizzly bears.

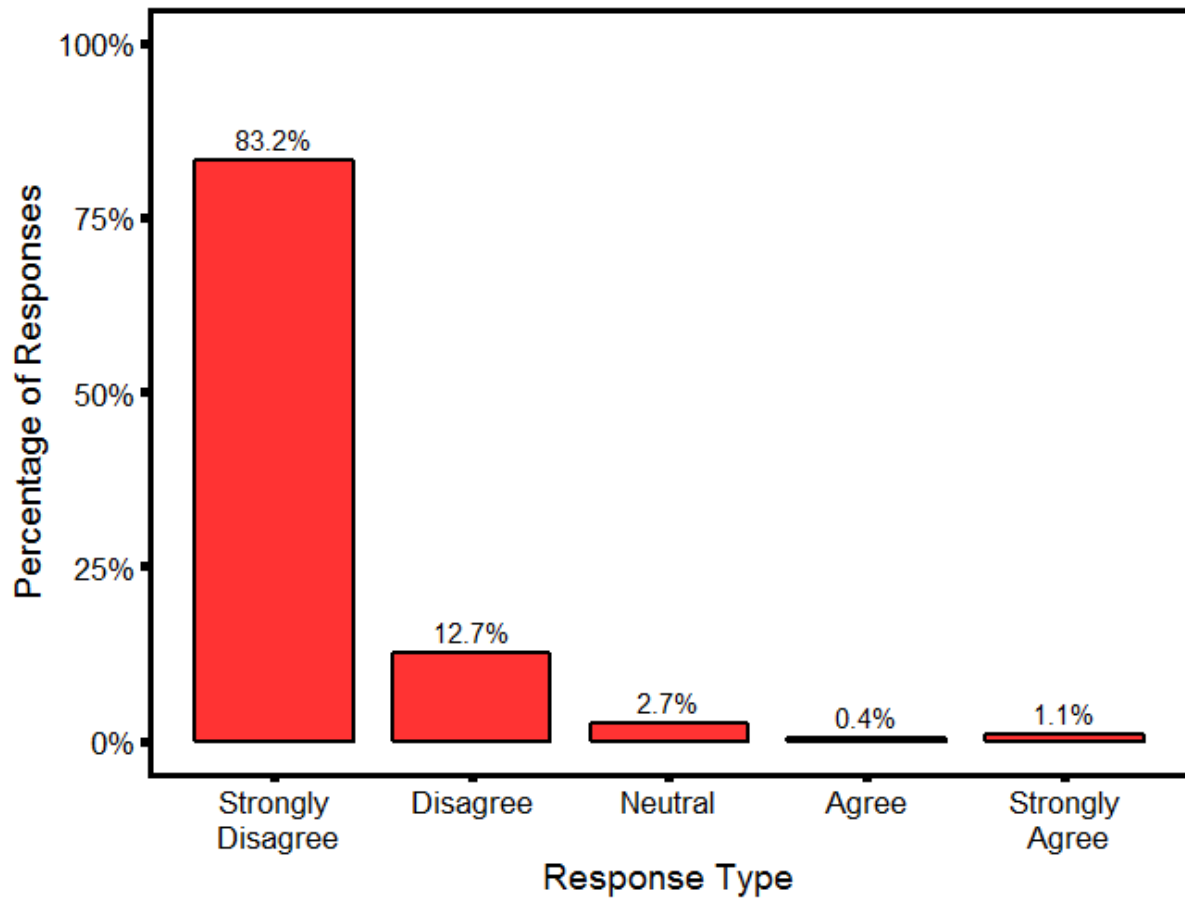


Figure 9. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#18) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1355).

Q19. There are some circumstances where grizzly bear populations should be reduced.

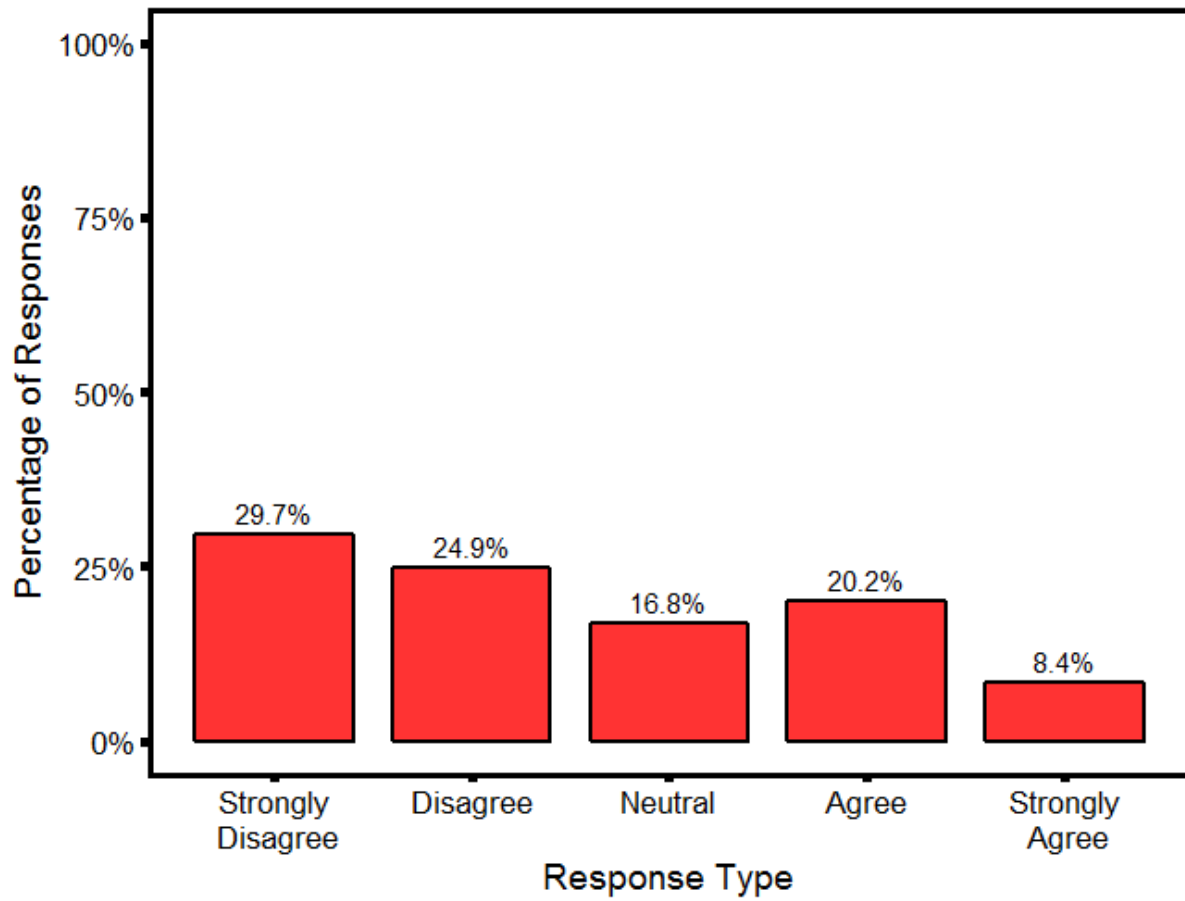


Figure 10. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#19) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1232).

Q20. Grizzly bears cause significant damage to agricultural interests (for example, livestock, chicken coops, beehives, etc.).

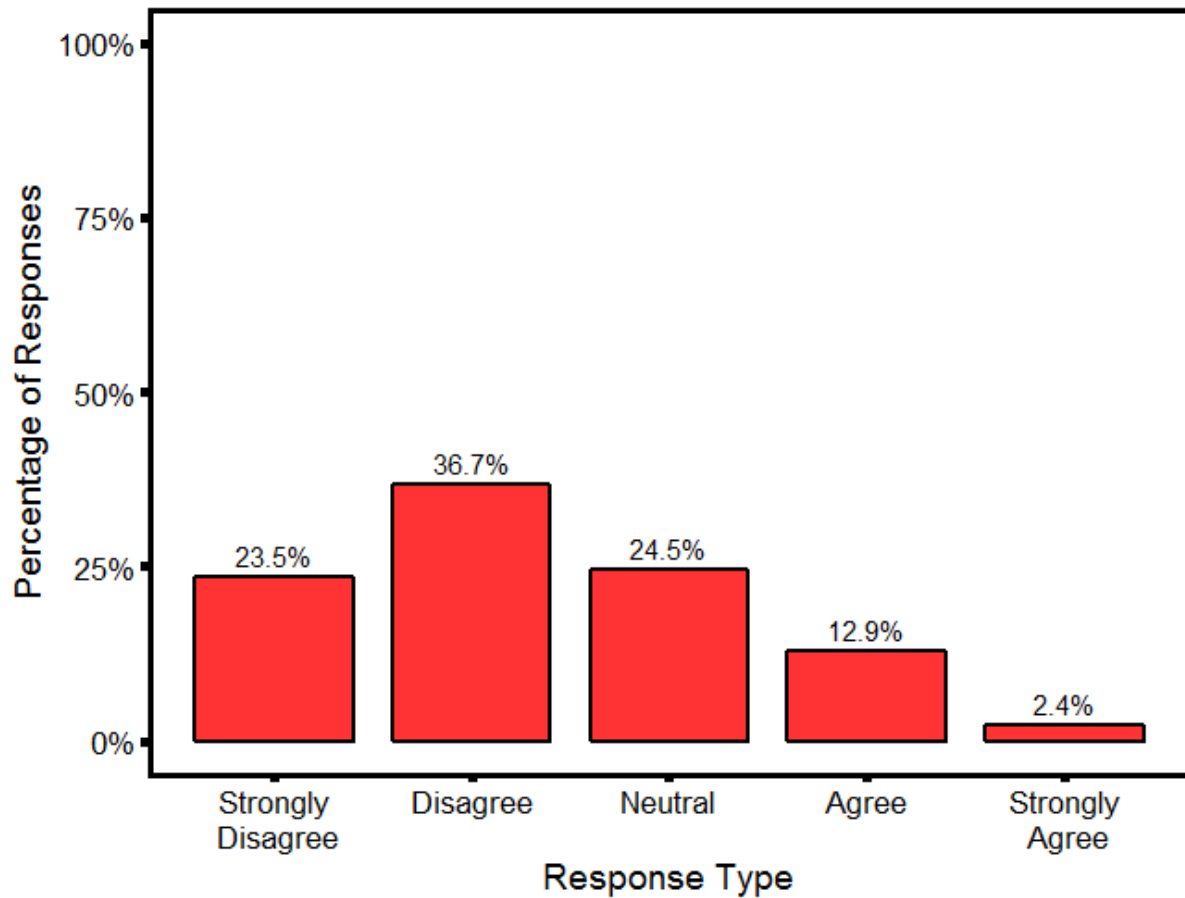


Figure 11. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#20) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1179).

Q21. People with agricultural attractants (e.g. livestock, poultry, crops and berries) on their property need to manage these attractants to reduce incidents of human-bear conflicts.

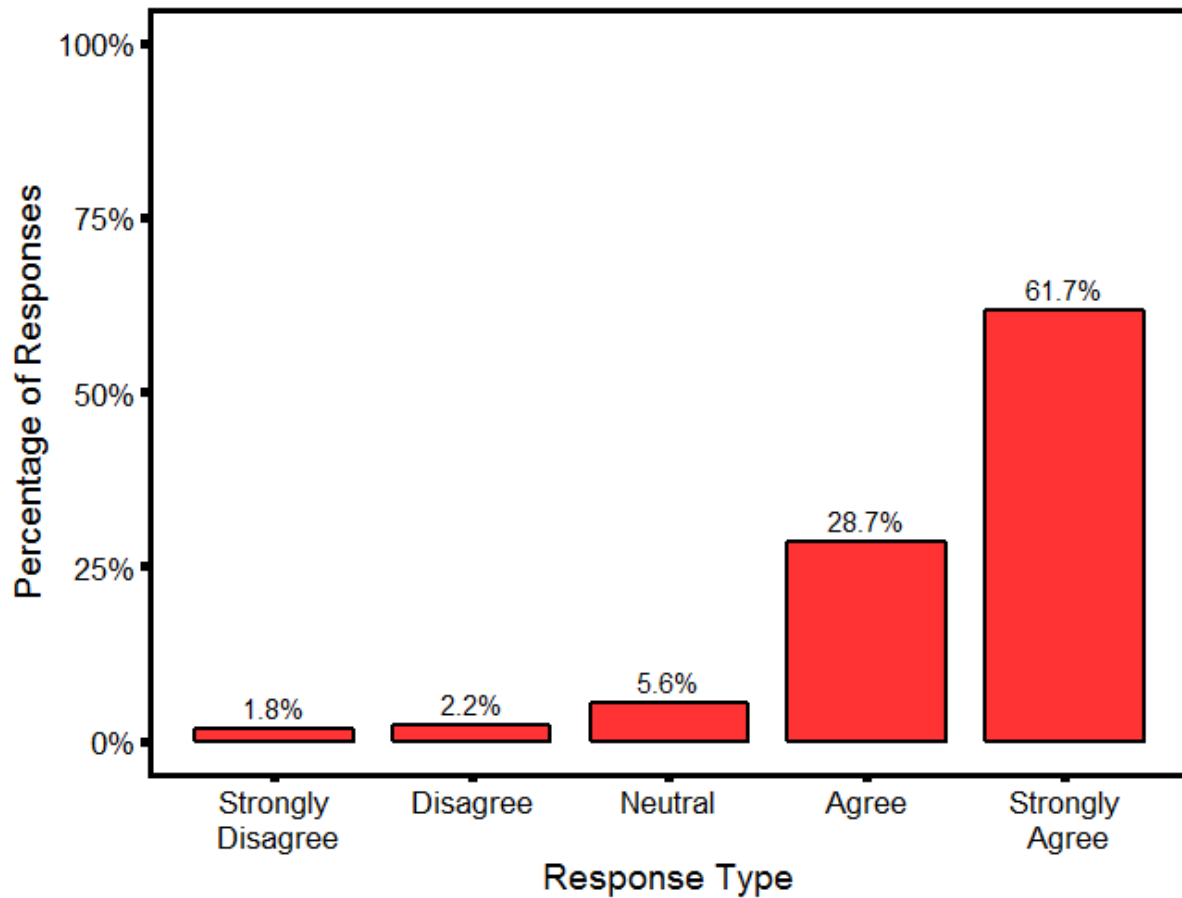


Figure 12. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#21) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1336).

Q23. There seem to be fewer grizzly bears in Yukon over the past 10 years.

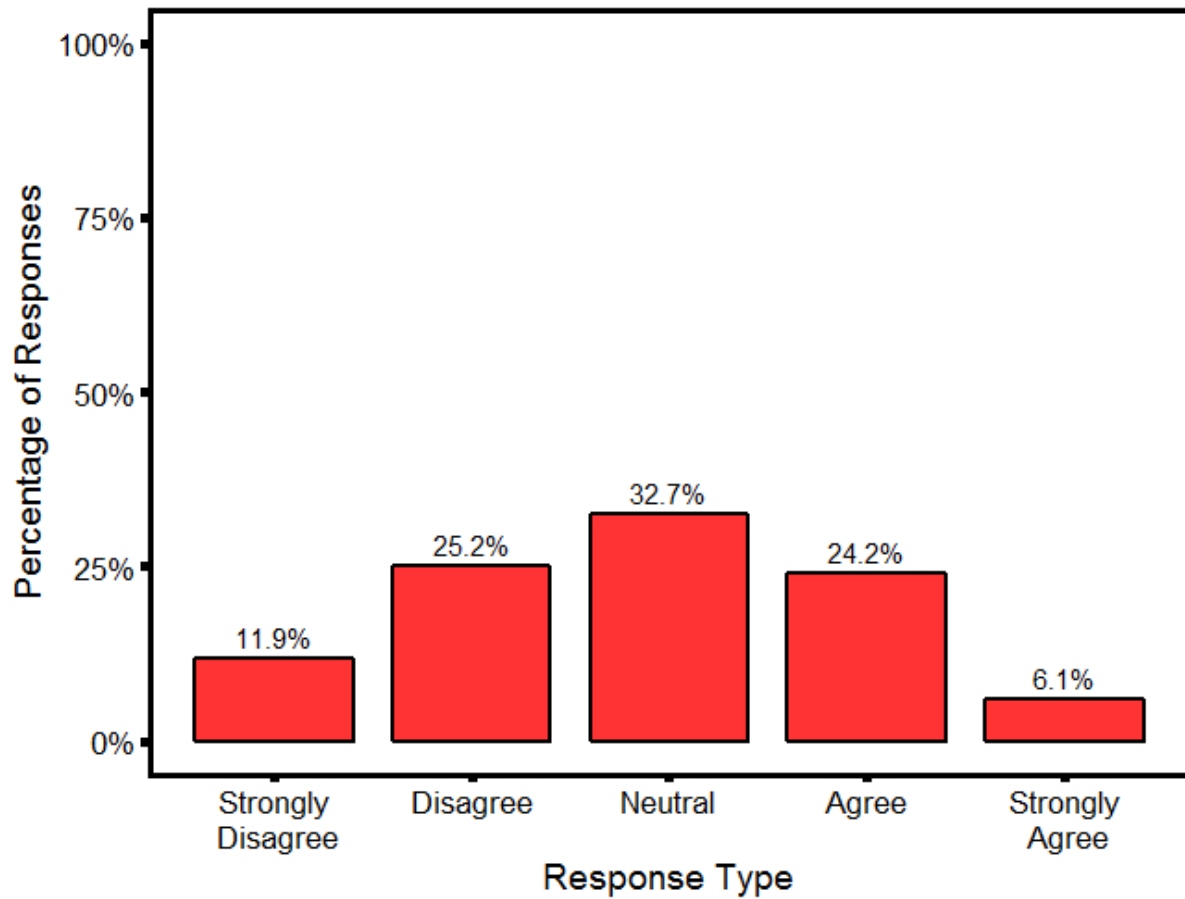


Figure 13. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#23) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 857).

Q24. There seem to be more grizzly bears around my community in the past 10 years.

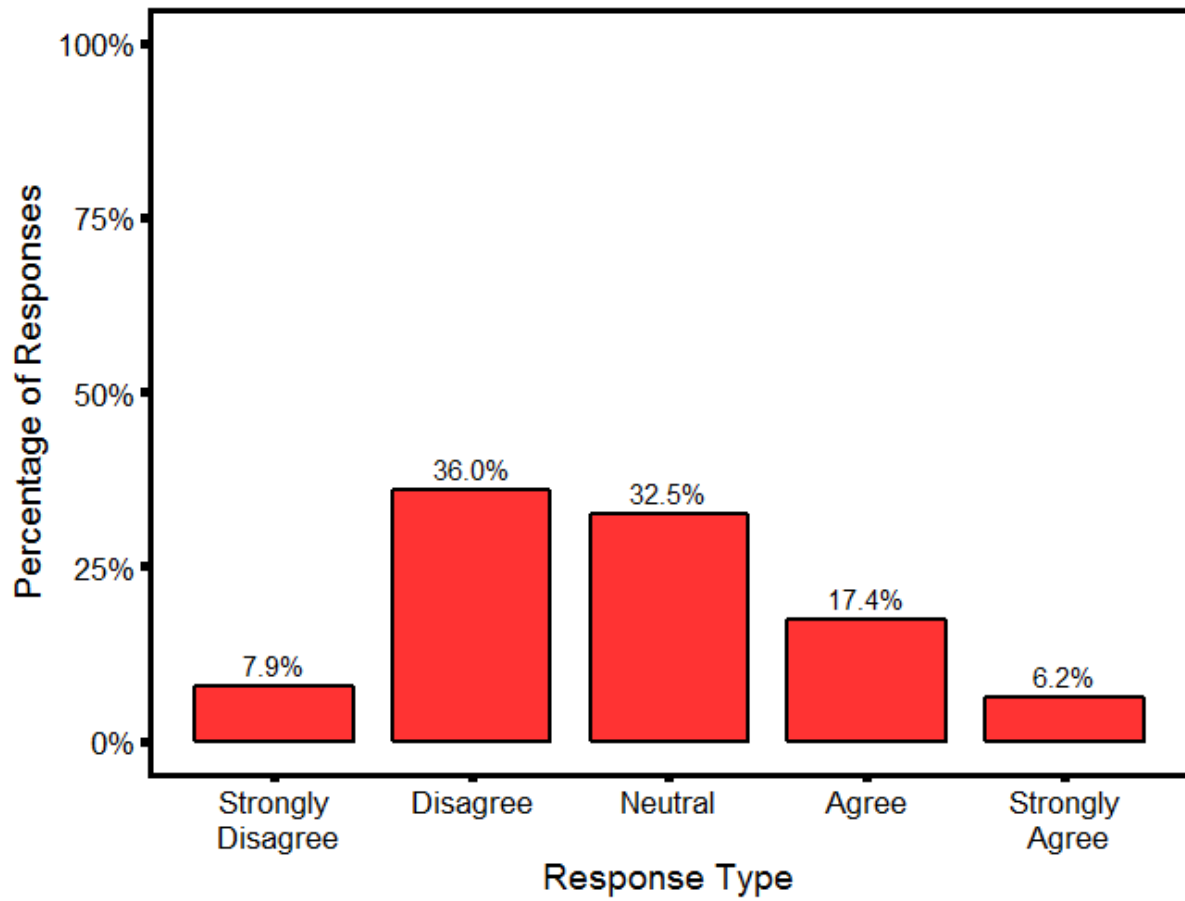


Figure 14. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#24) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 992).

Q25. Conflicts with grizzly bears seem to have increased in my community over the past 10 years.

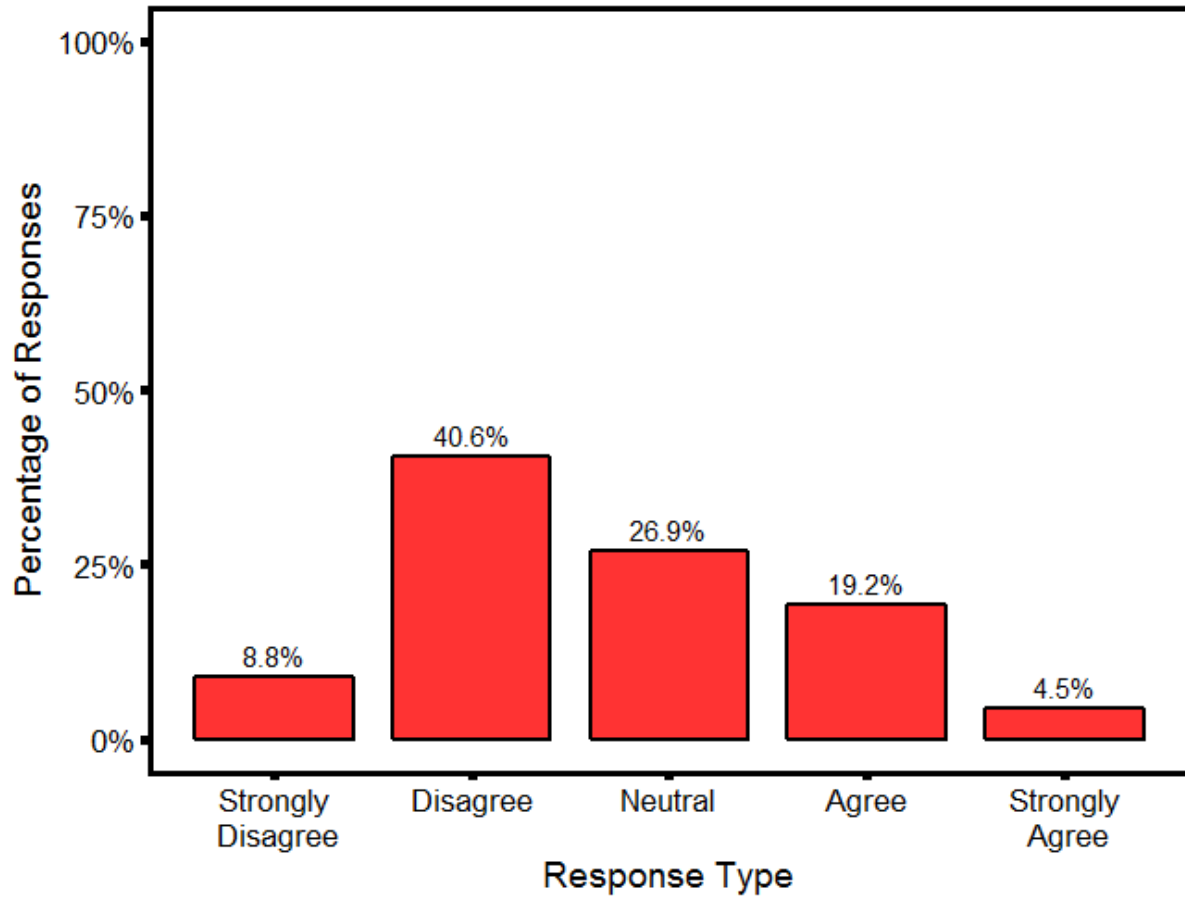


Figure 15. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#25) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1032).

Q26. “Bear awareness” seems to be getting better in my community over the past 10 years.

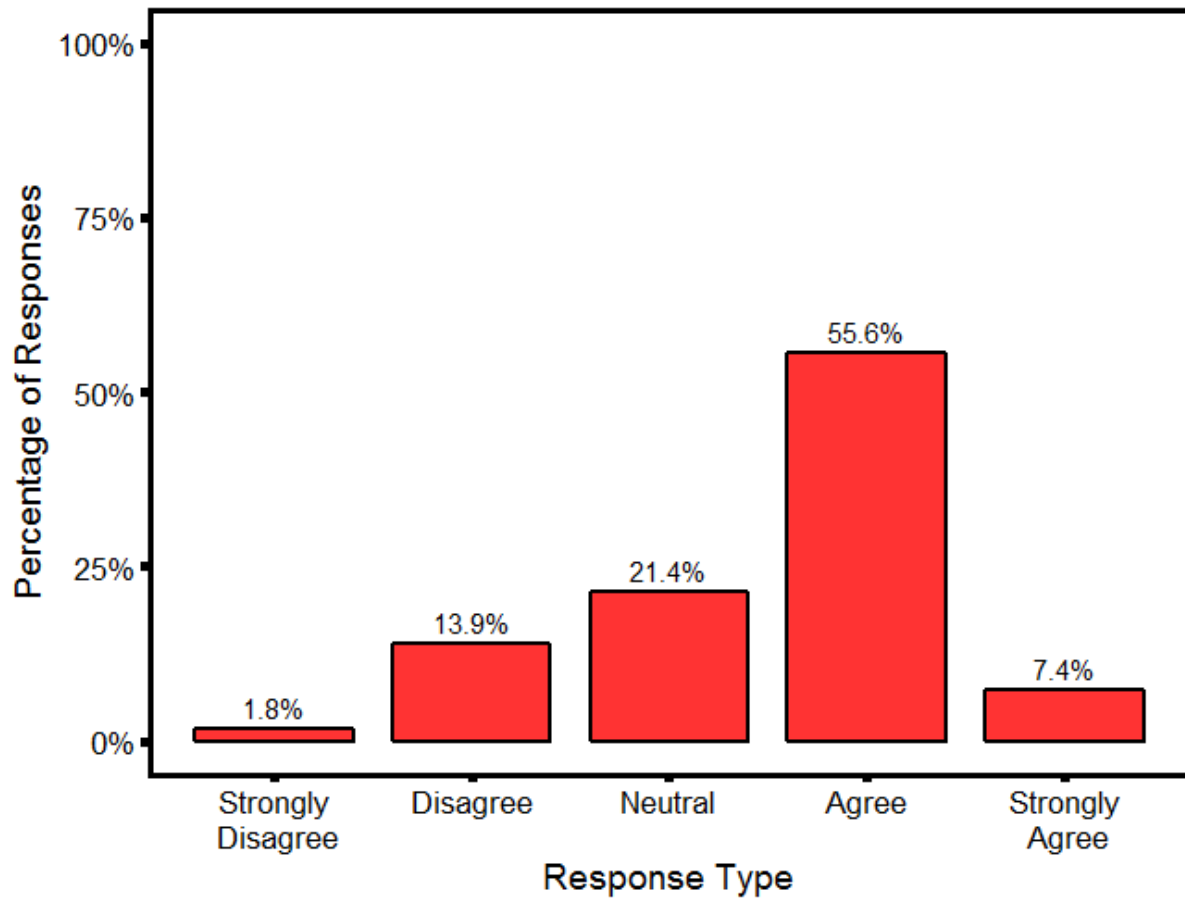


Figure 16. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#26) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1125).

Q27. People in my community seem to be taking better care of keeping their garbage and other attractants (e.g. pet food, barbeques, chickens etc.) out of reach of bears over the past 10 years.

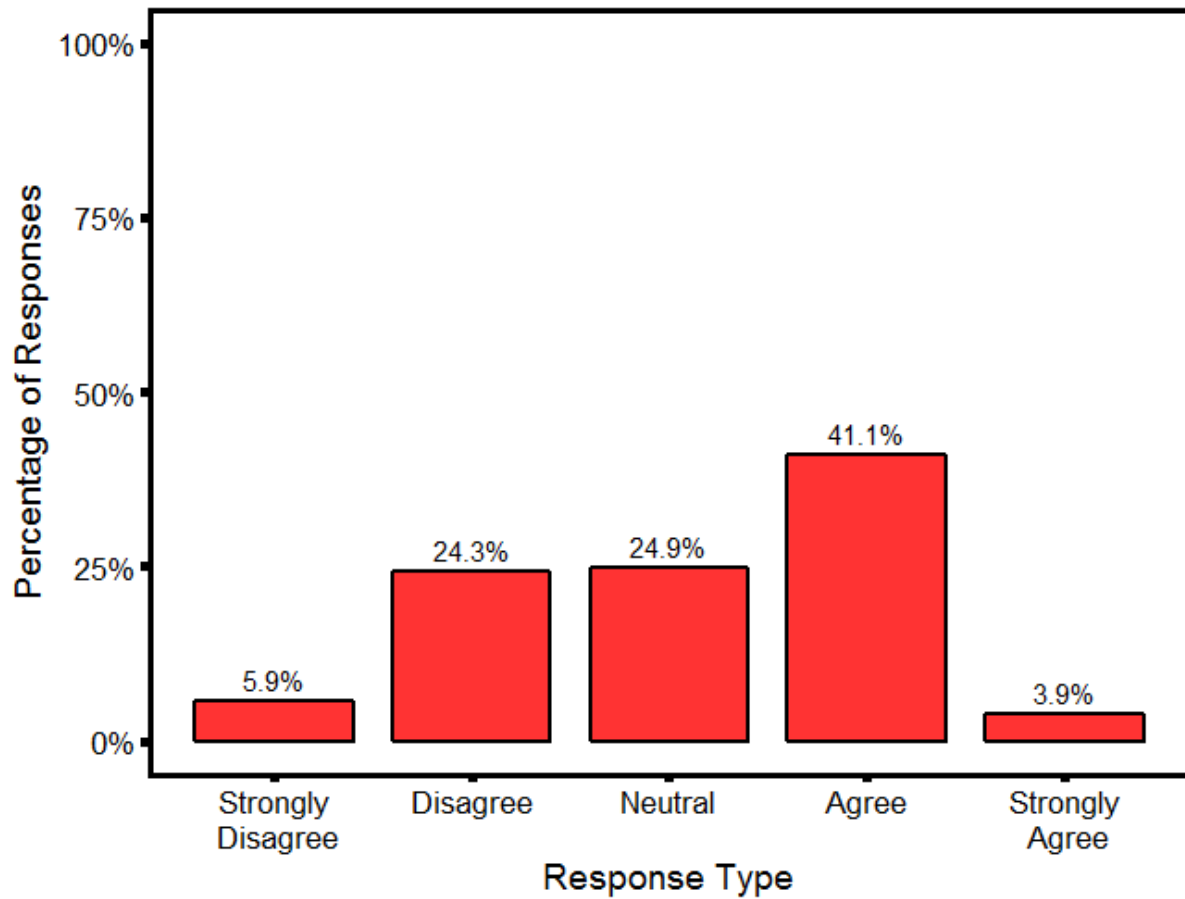


Figure 17. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#27) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1086).

Q28. Interest in hunting grizzly bears by Yukon residents seems to have increased in the past 10 years.

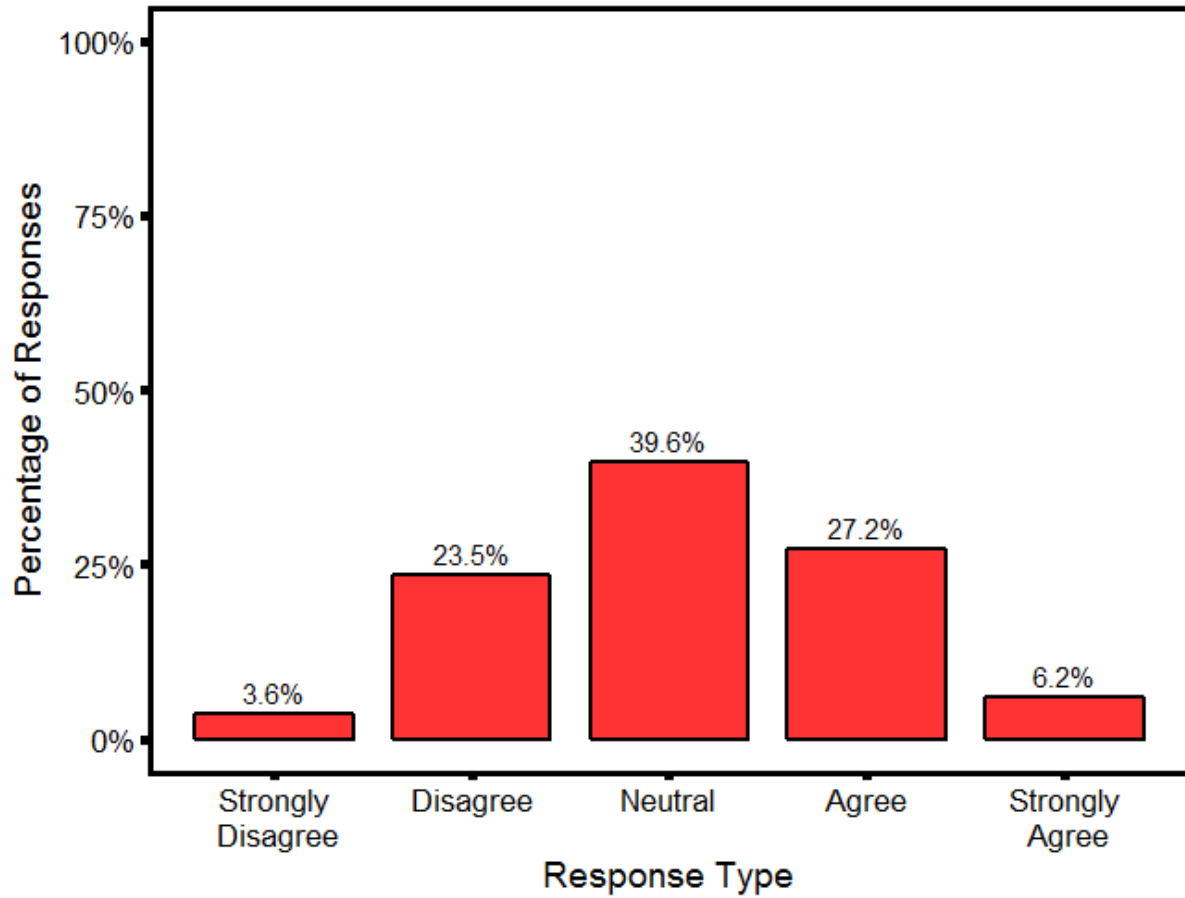


Figure 18. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#28) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 699).

Q29. There will be a greater interest in hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon by non-residents (people from outside Yukon) in the next 10 years.

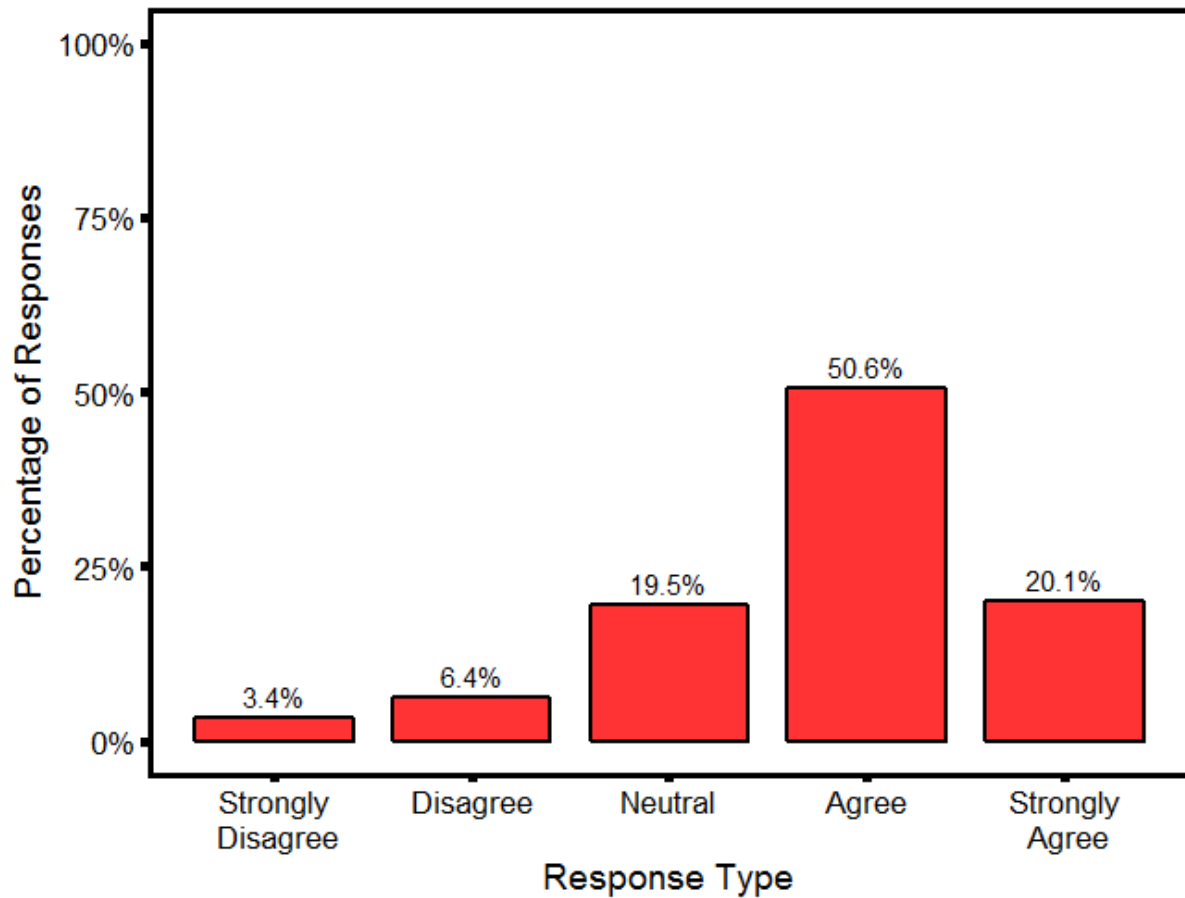


Figure 19. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#29) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 891).

Q30. In the last 10 years, I have become more fearful of traveling in remote areas in Yukon because I believe there is an increased chance of encountering a grizzly bear.

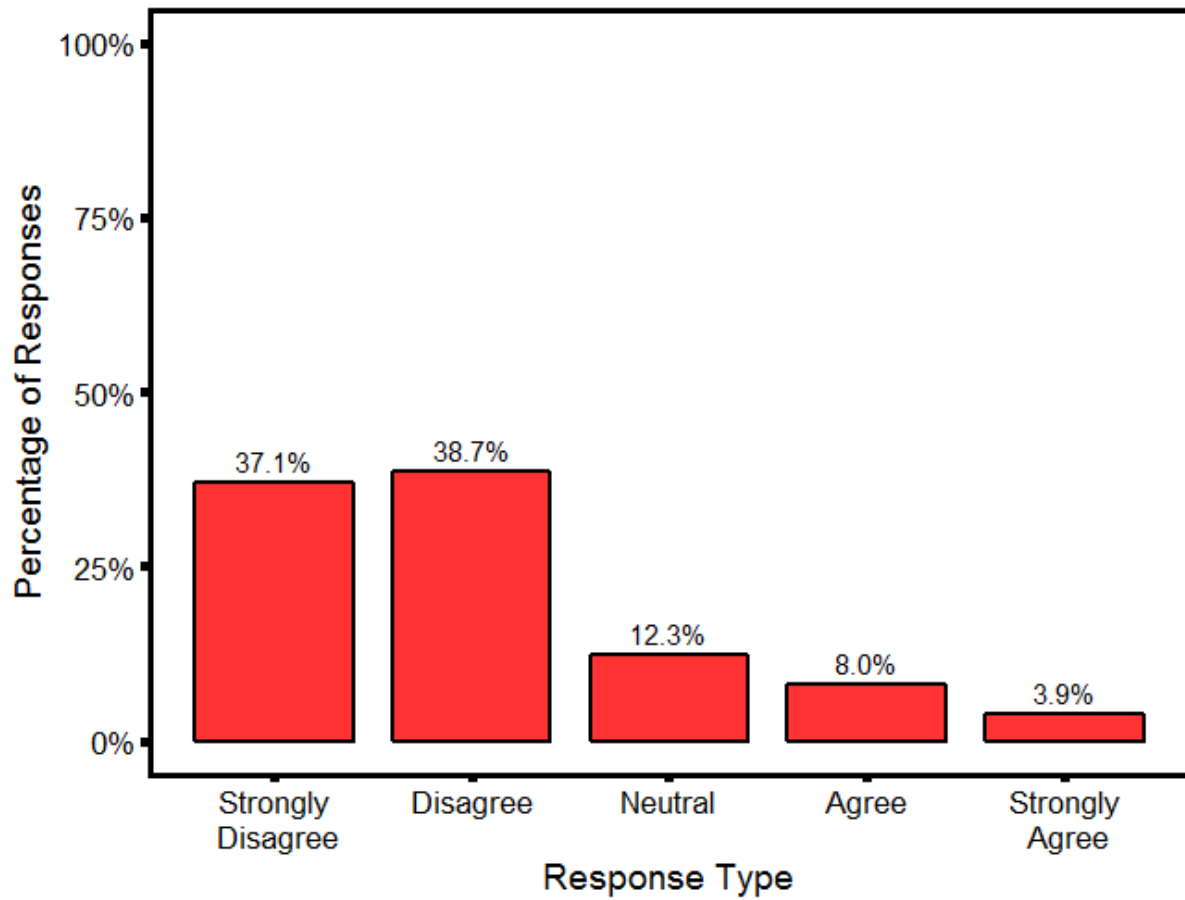


Figure 20. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#30) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1284).

Q31. Grizzly bears seem to be more frequently seen on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

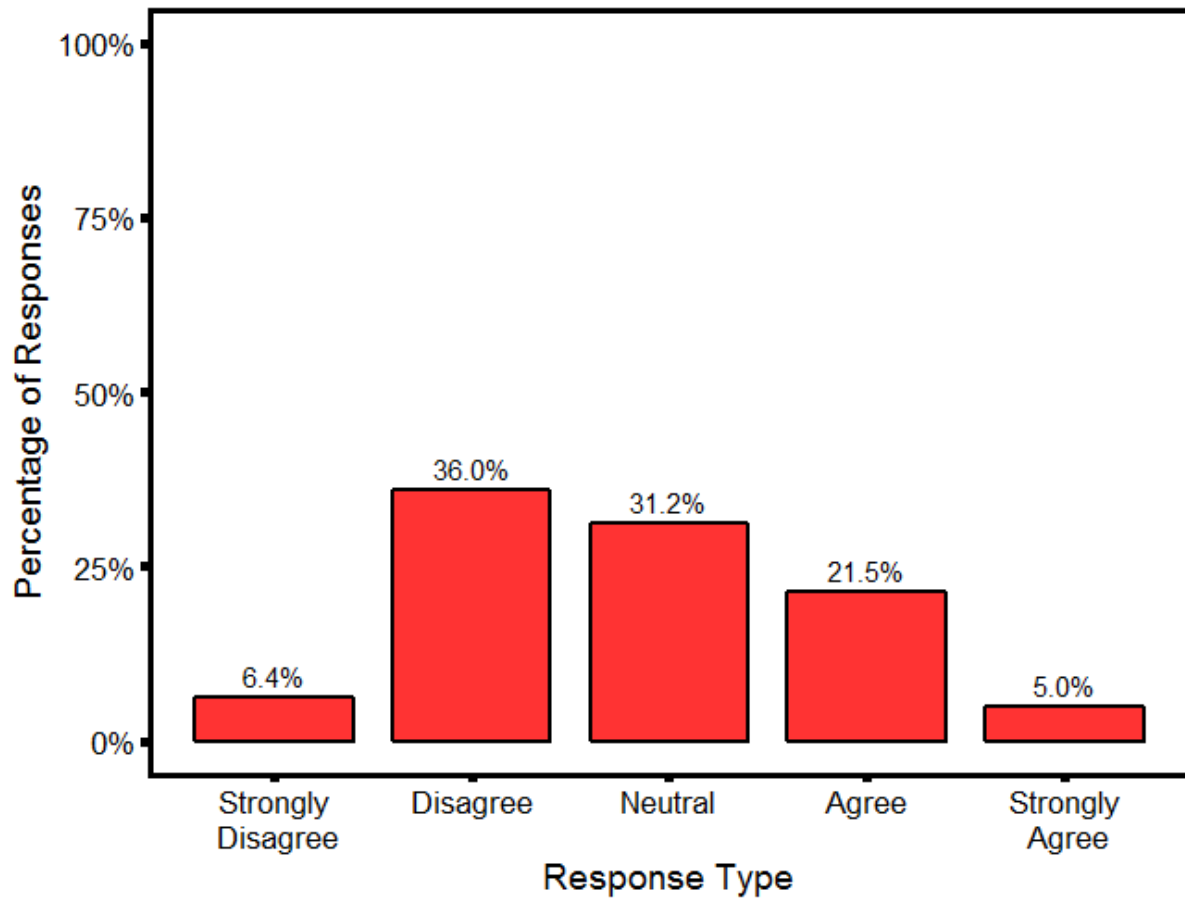


Figure 21. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#31) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1004).

Q32. People seem to have become more interested in watching grizzly bears on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

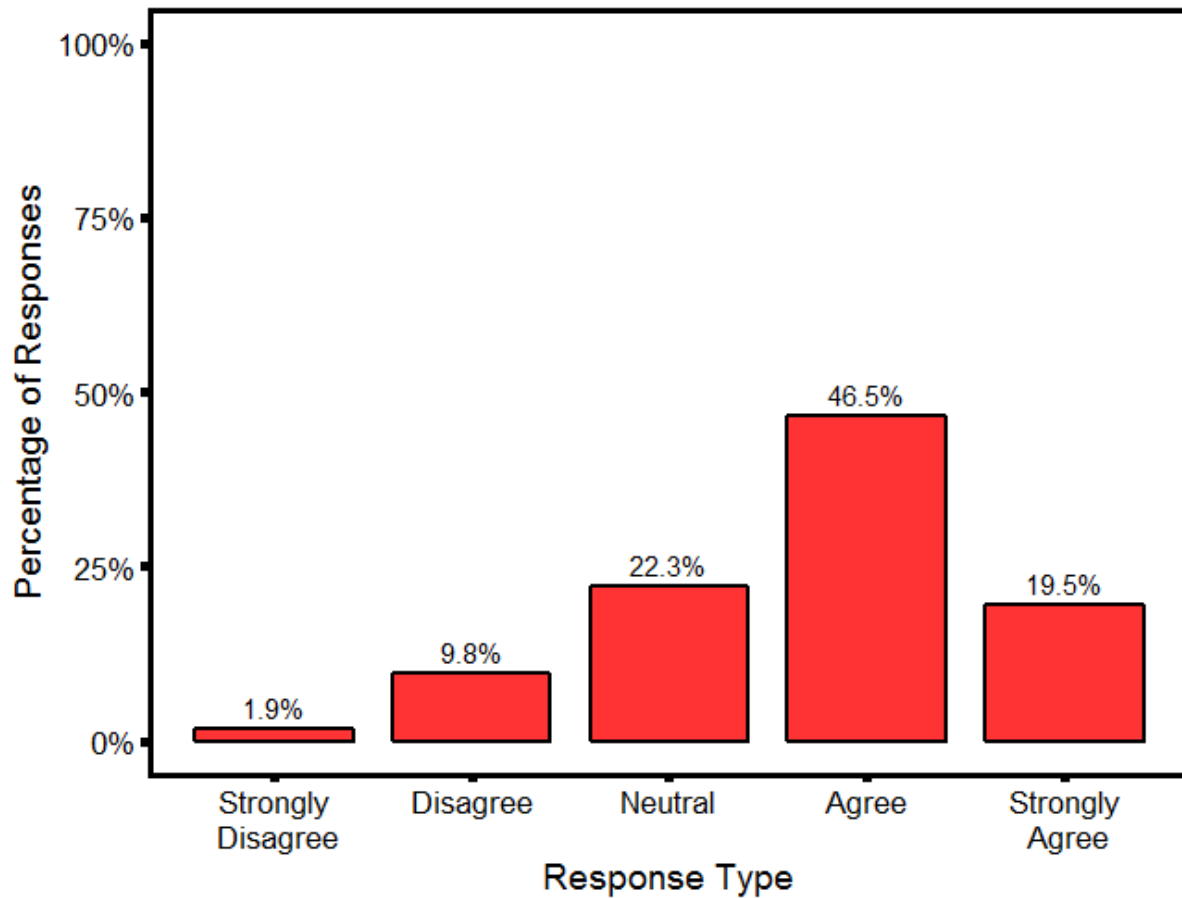


Figure 22. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#32) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1060).

Q34. Do you oppose or support hunting of grizzly bears by Yukon residents?

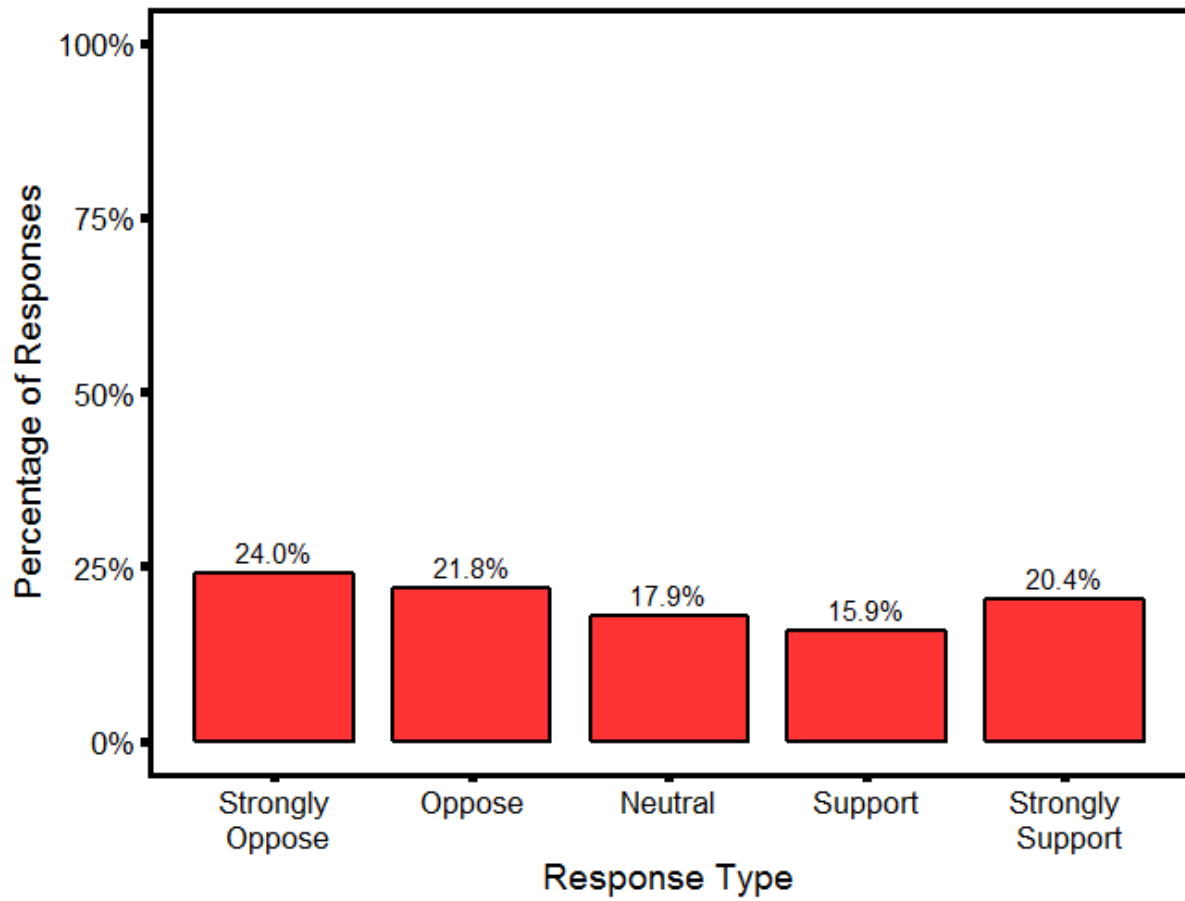


Figure 23. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#34) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1292).

Q35. Do you oppose or support non-resident hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon?

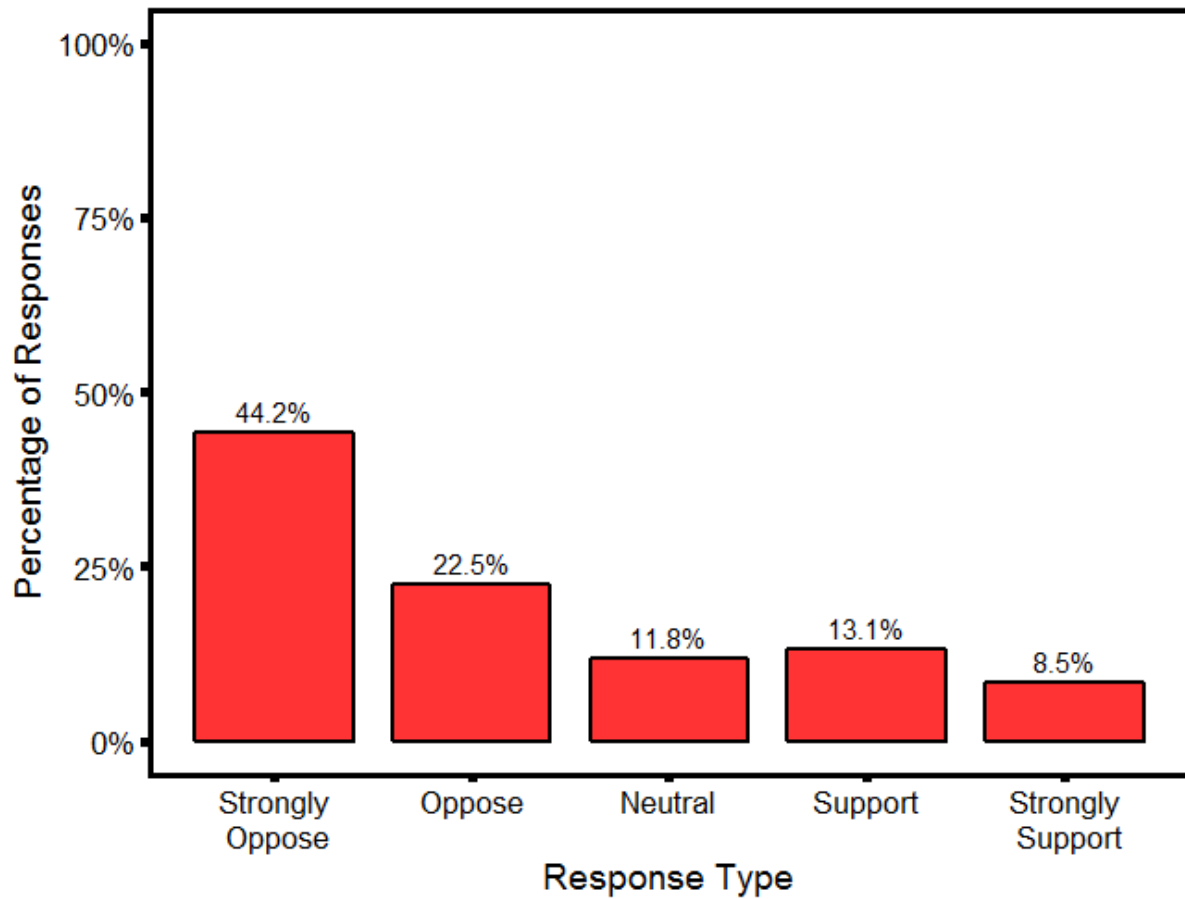


Figure 24. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#35) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1293).

Q36. Would you oppose or support increased grizzly bear harvest fees for non-resident hunters? (Current non-resident grizzly bear harvest fees are \$500 for males and \$750 for females.)

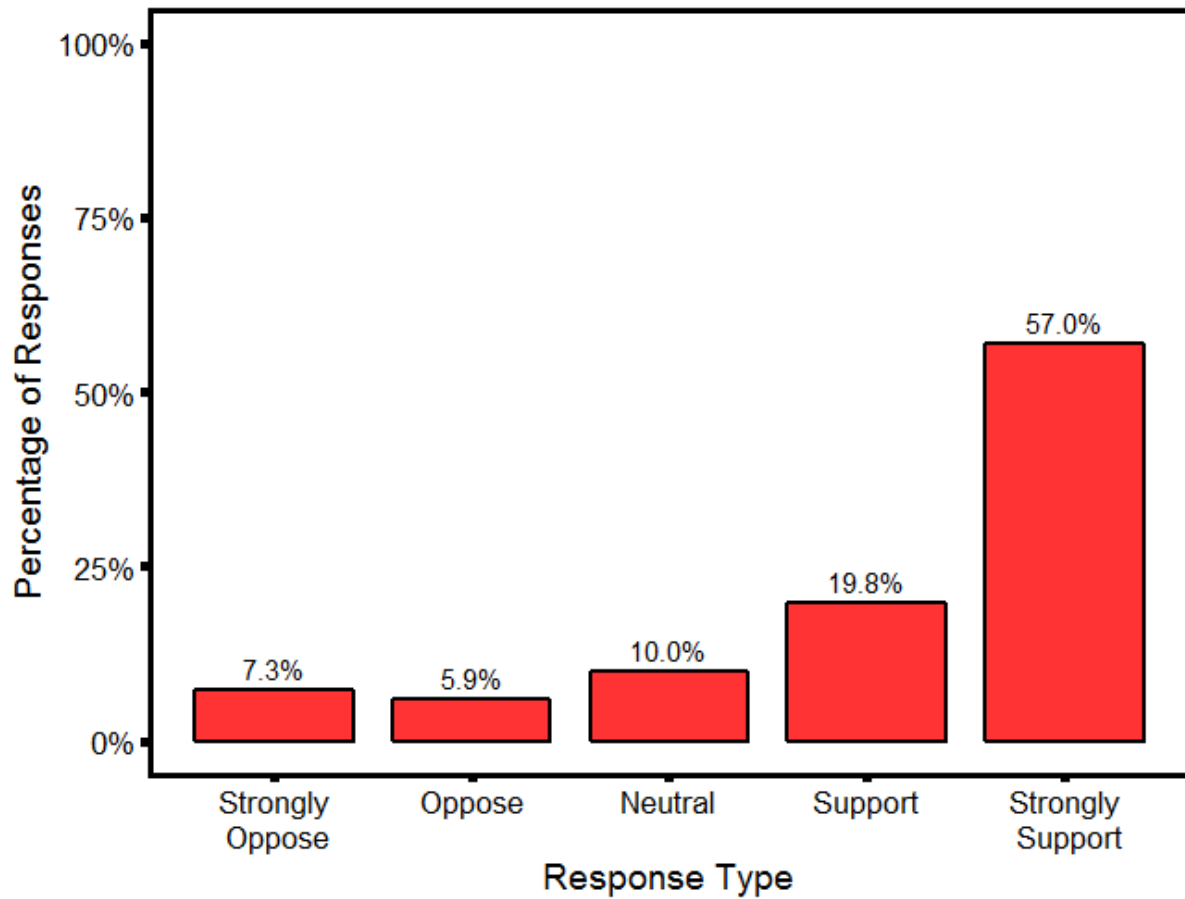


Figure 25. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#36) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1232).

Q37. Would you oppose or support regulations to restrict roadside bear hunting in Yukon?

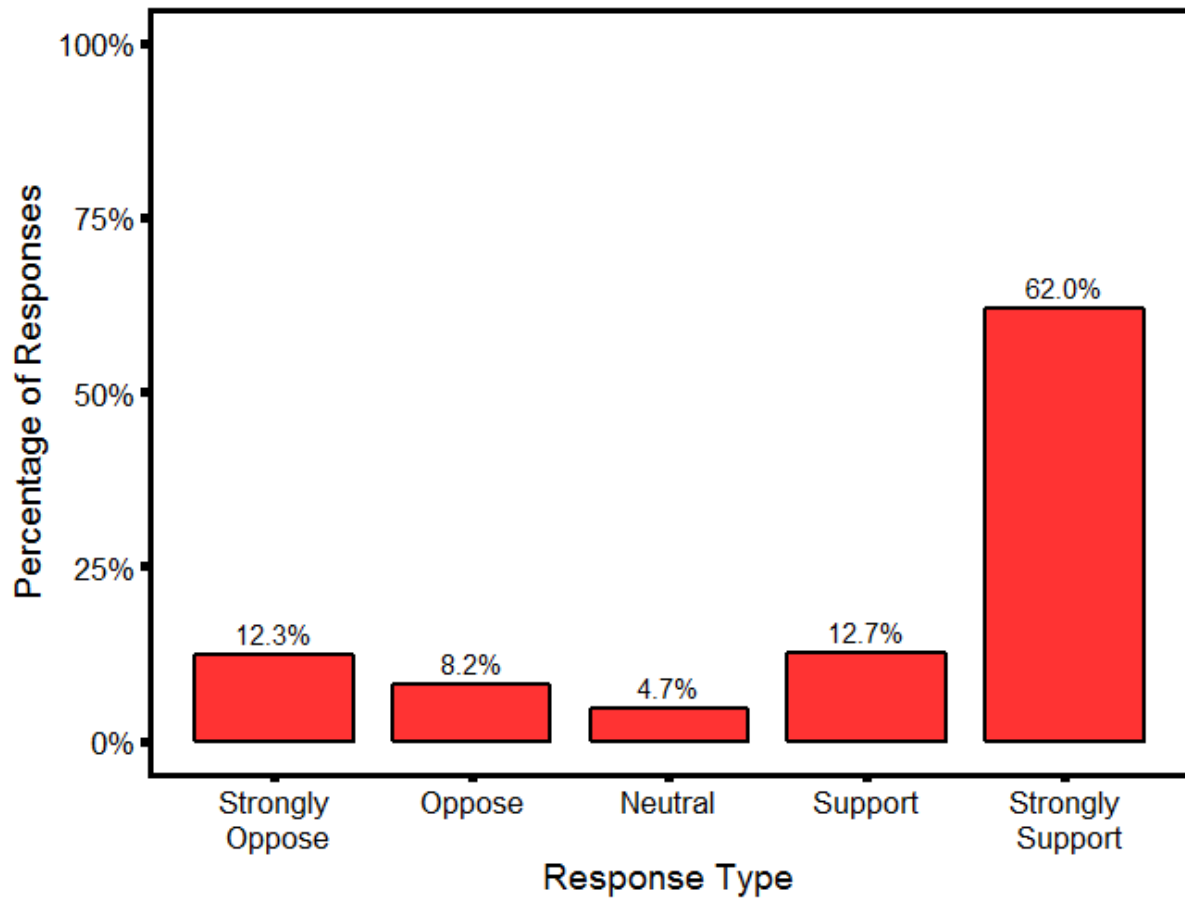


Figure 26. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#37) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1285).

Q38. Do you oppose or support including grizzly bear habitat and other needs in land use plans and land development policies in Yukon?

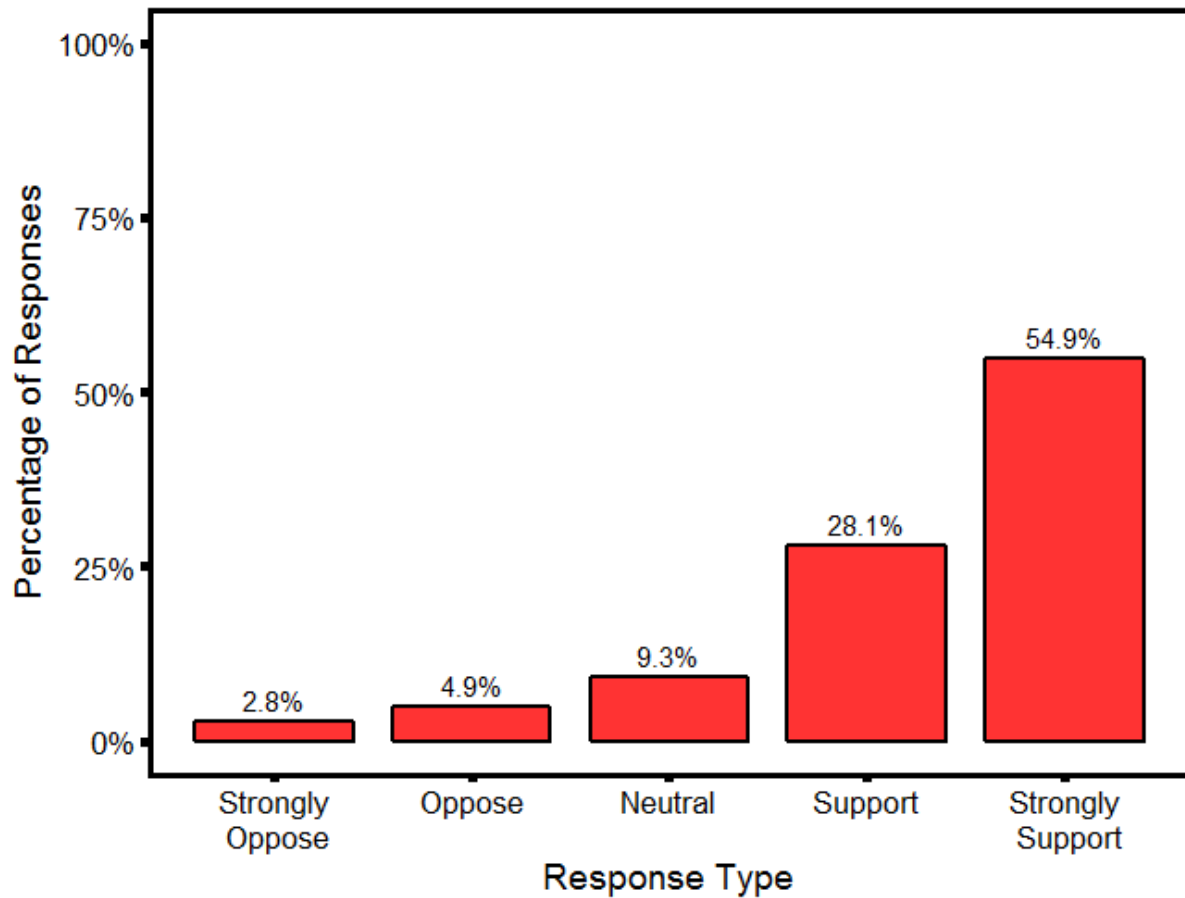


Figure 27. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#38) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1263).

Q39. Would you oppose or support making sure proposed developments (for example, residential subdivisions, agricultural developments and industrial properties) minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

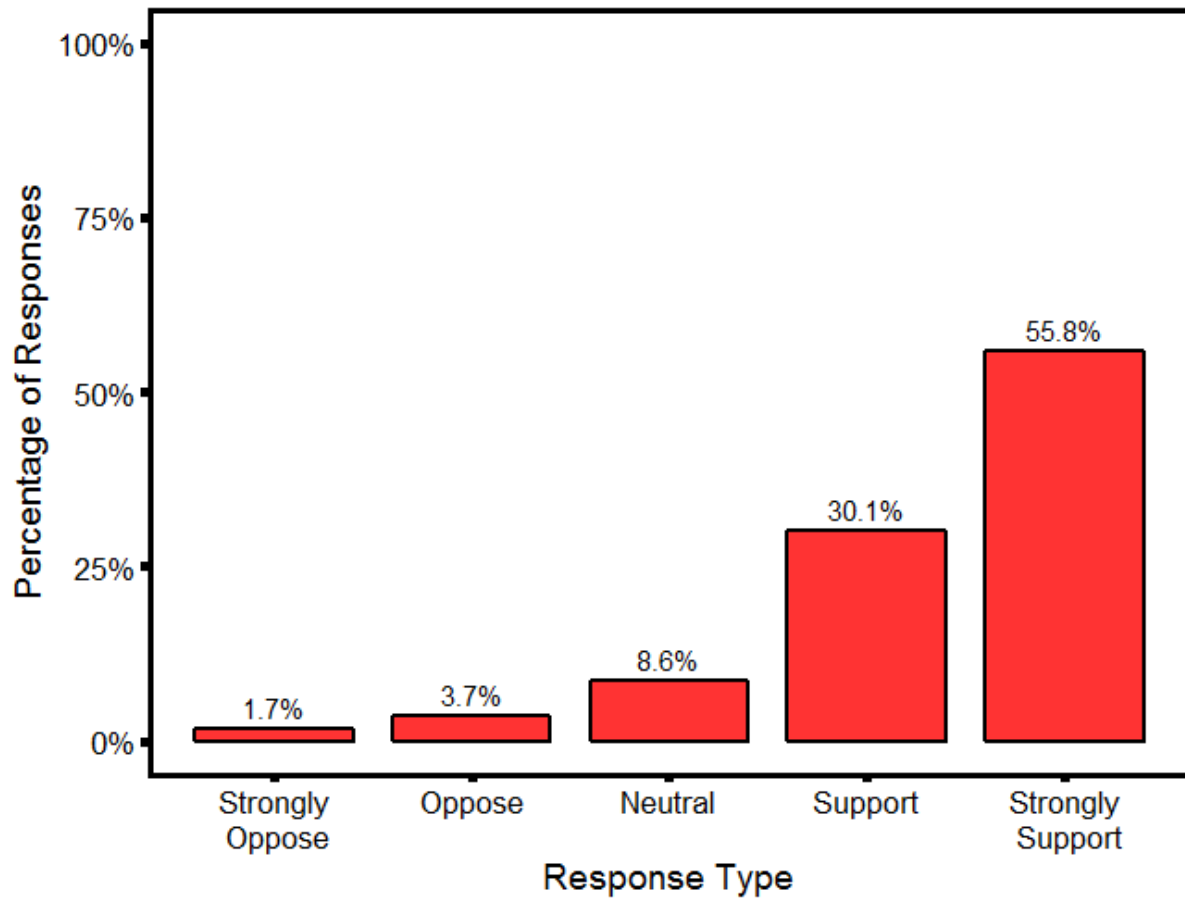


Figure 28. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#39) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1284).

Q40. Would you oppose or support prohibiting tents (but allowing hard-sided recreational campers) in campgrounds with a high potential for human-grizzly bear conflicts?

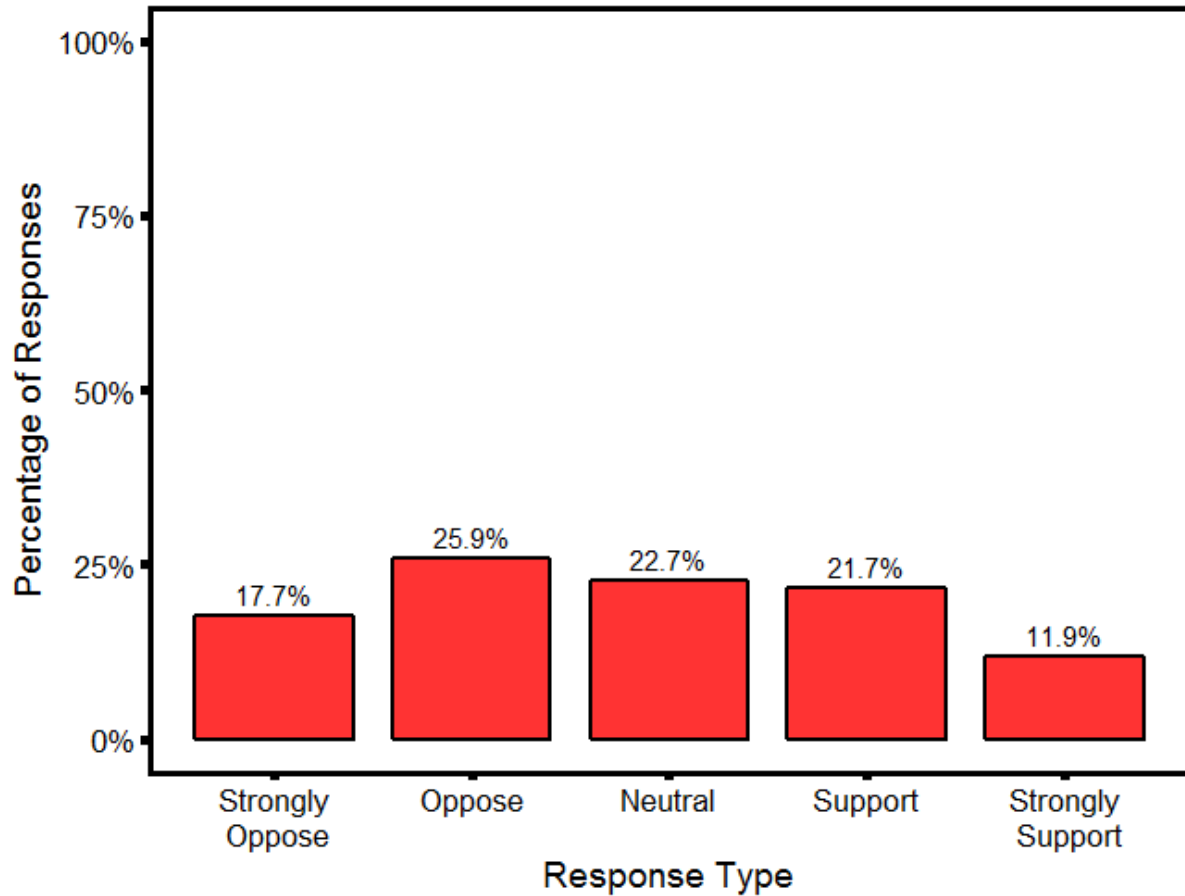


Figure 29. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#40) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1242).

Q41. Would you oppose or support permanent closures of campgrounds that are located in high-quality bear habitat or movement corridors?

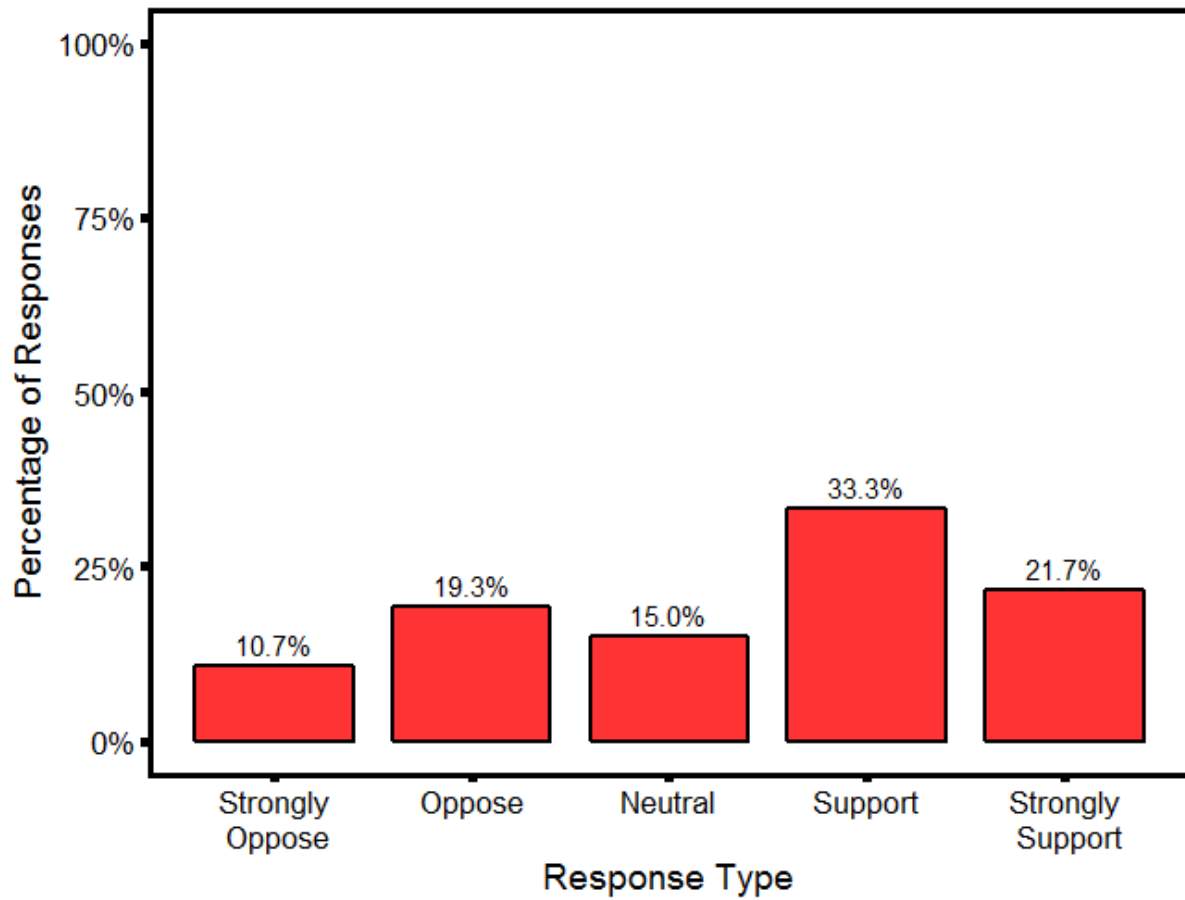


Figure 30. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#41) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1254).

Q42. Do you oppose or support a minimum group size for people recreating (i.e., hiking, mountain biking, wade fishing) in areas with a high potential for encountering grizzly bears?

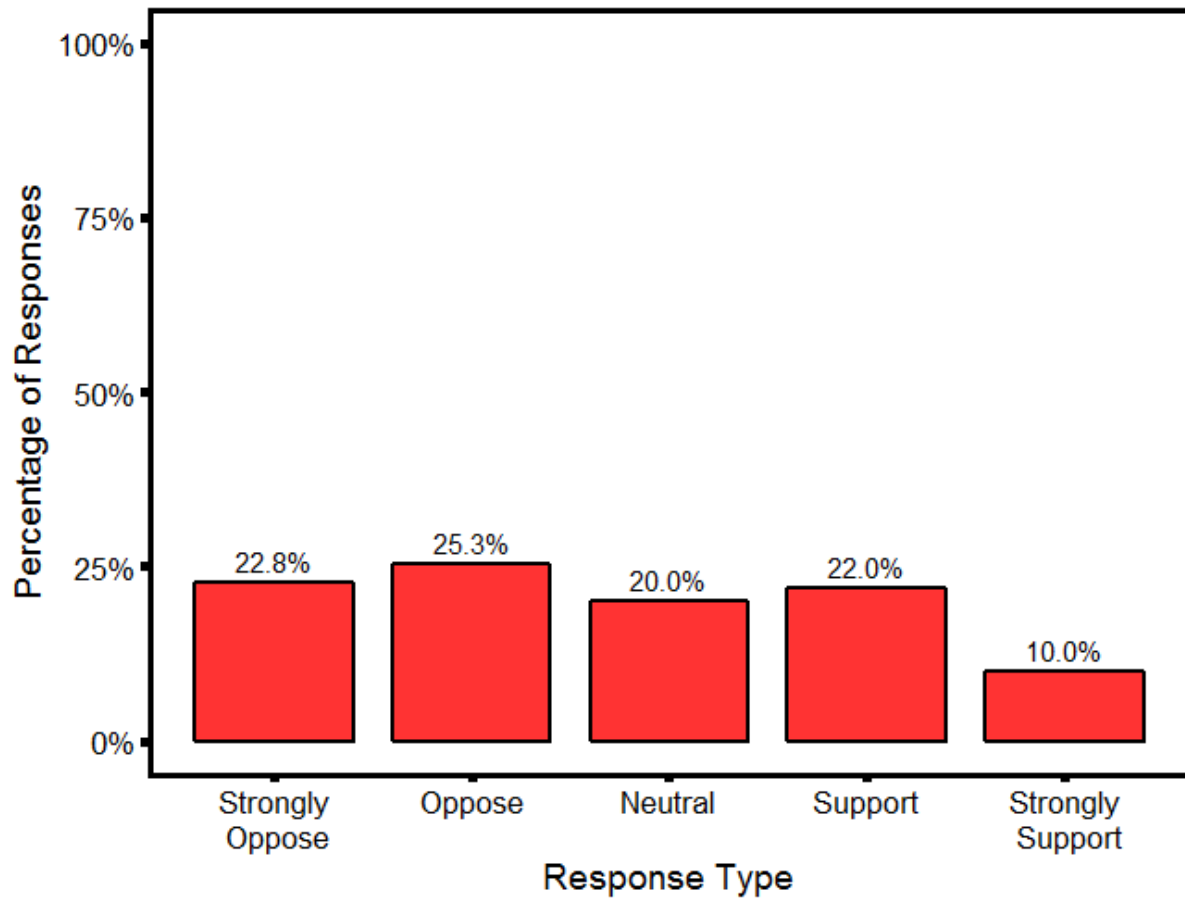


Figure 31. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#42) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1252).

Q43. Do you oppose or support the aversive conditioning of grizzly bears using noisemakers, non-lethal projectiles, or specially trained dogs?

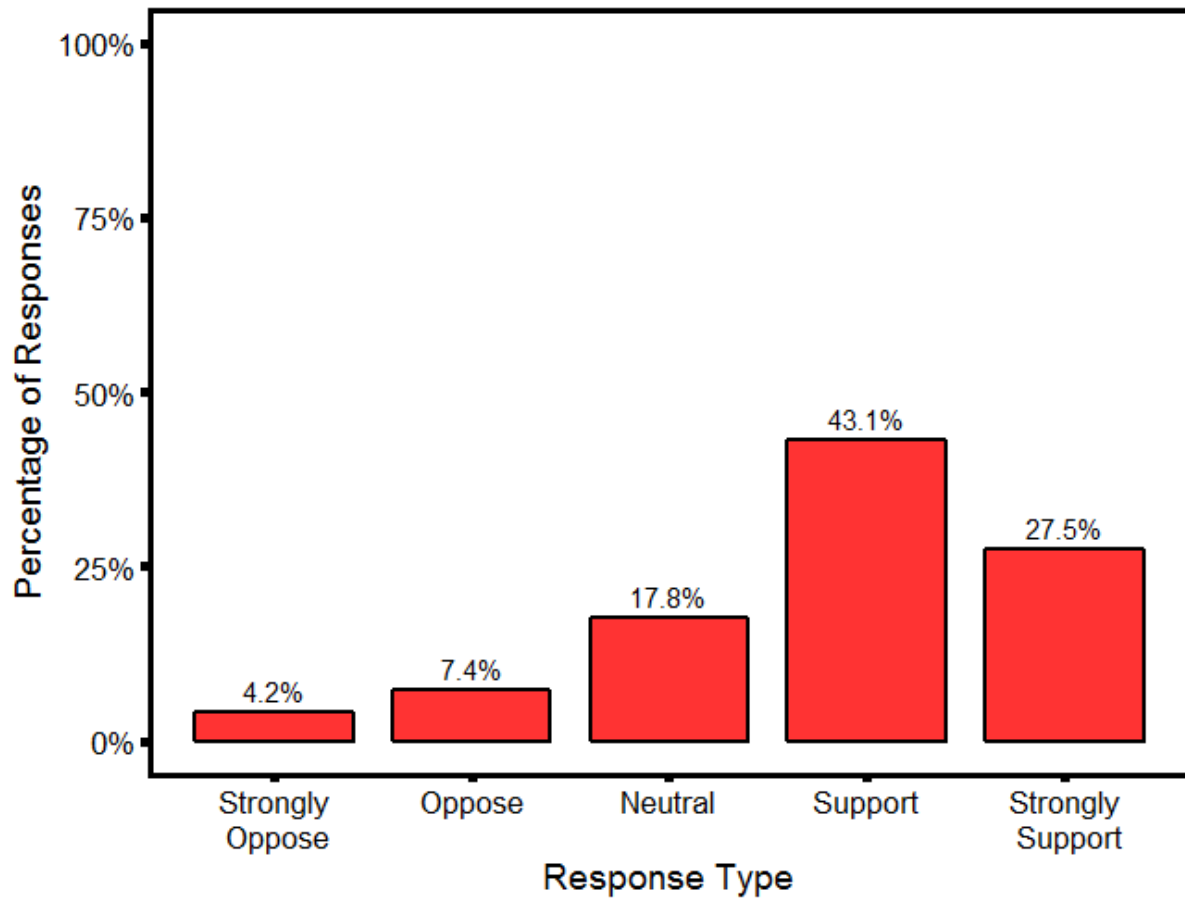


Figure 32. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#43) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1186).

Q44. Do you oppose or support restoring or improving salmon runs to improve natural food sources for grizzly bears?

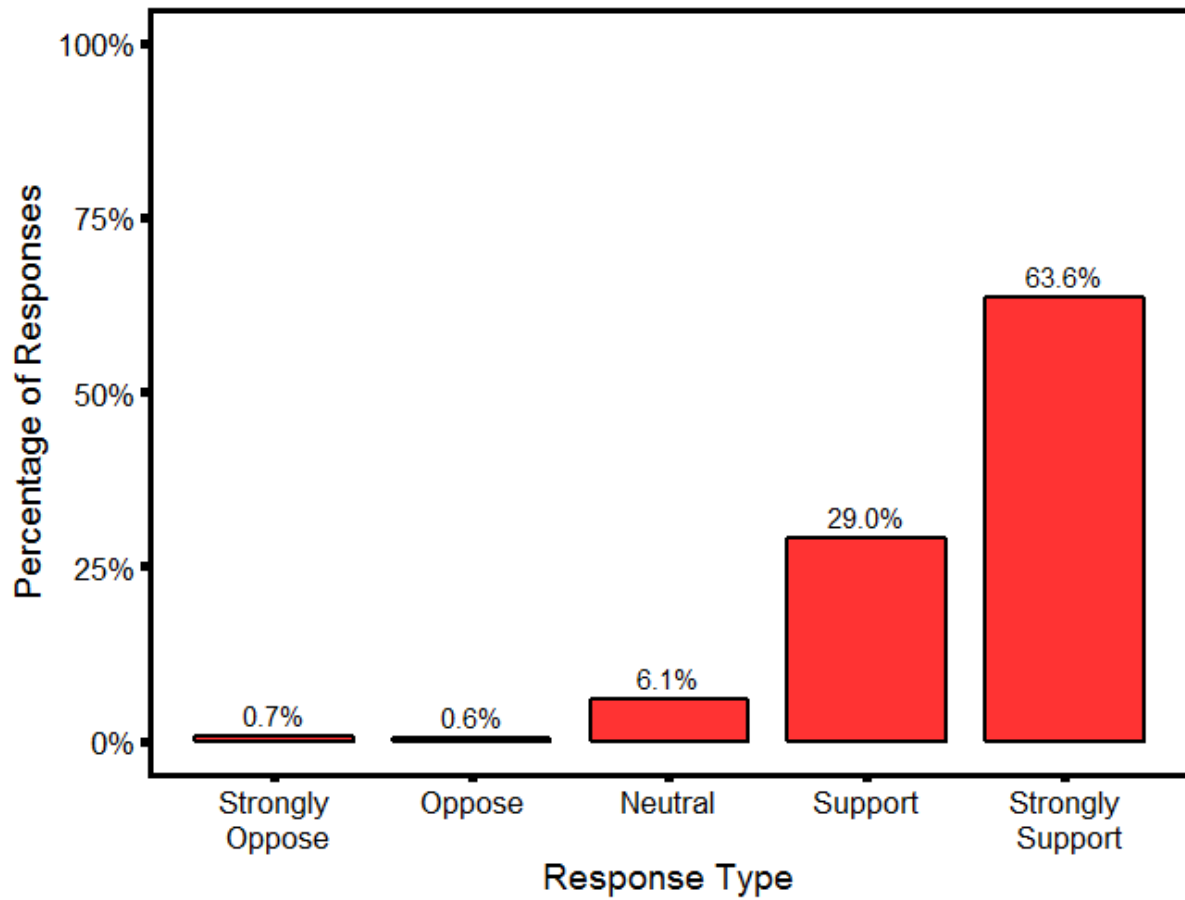


Figure 33. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#44) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1262).

Q45. Would you oppose or support new initiatives for organized grizzly bear viewing in Yukon (e.g. bear viewing platforms)?

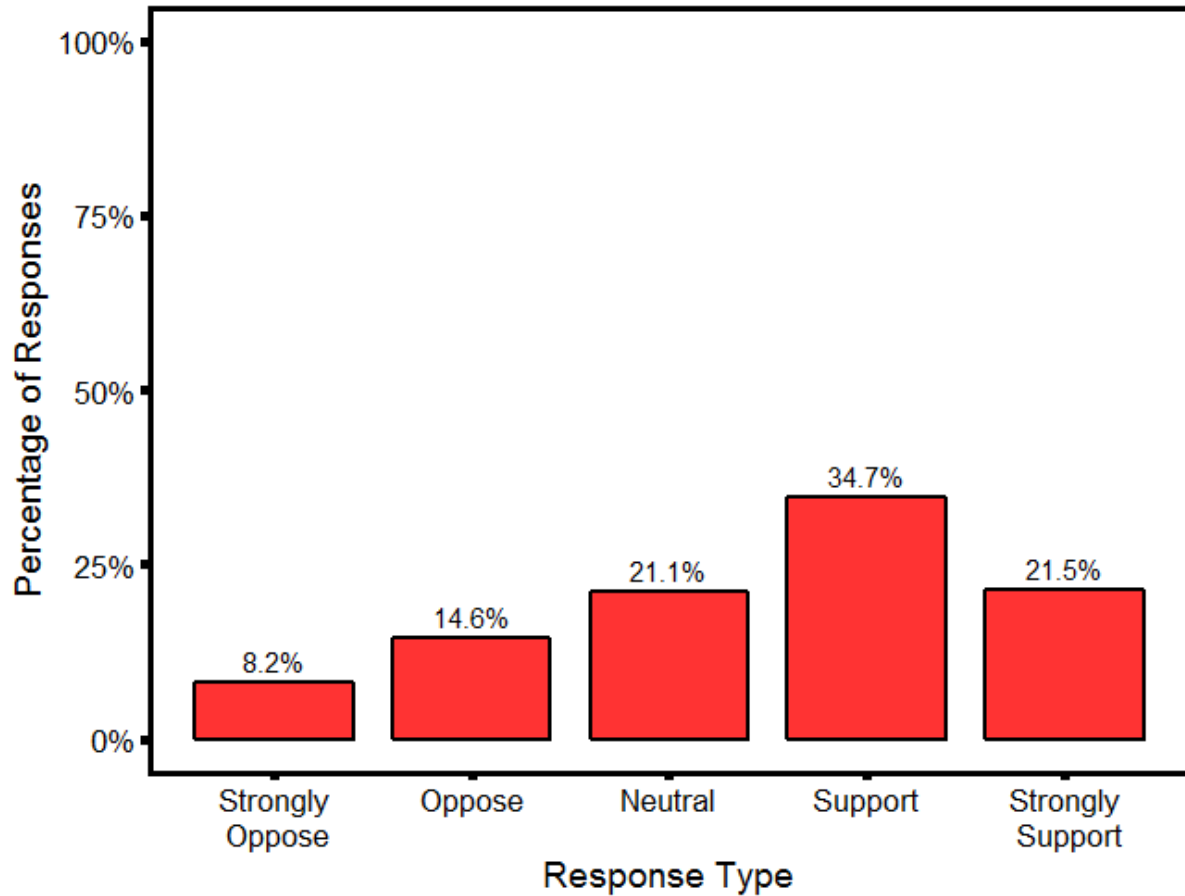


Figure 34. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#45) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1239).

Q46. Would you oppose or support increased prosecution and larger fines for property owners who leave attractants out, which may result in human-grizzly bear conflicts?

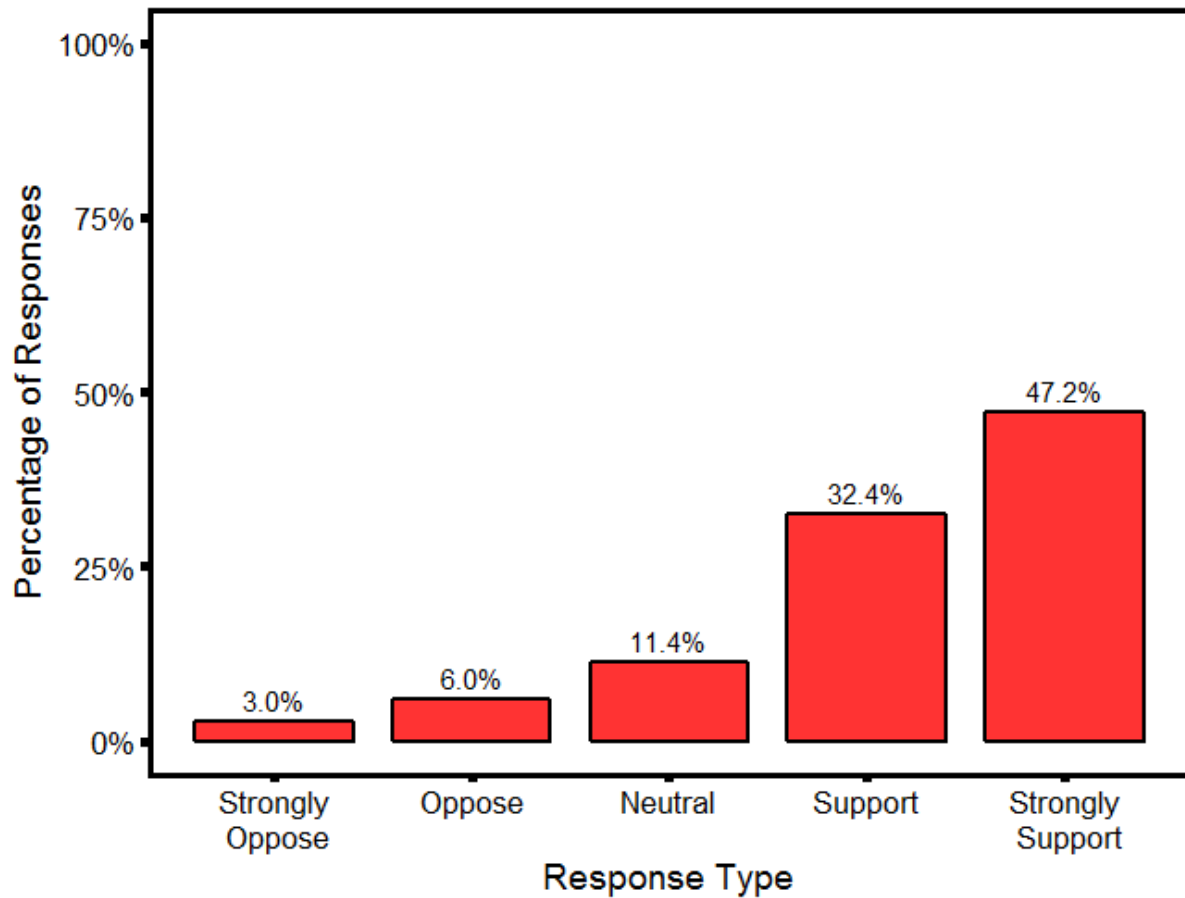


Figure 35. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#46) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1252).

Q47. Would you oppose or support regulations for making electric fences mandatory to protect agricultural livestock and minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

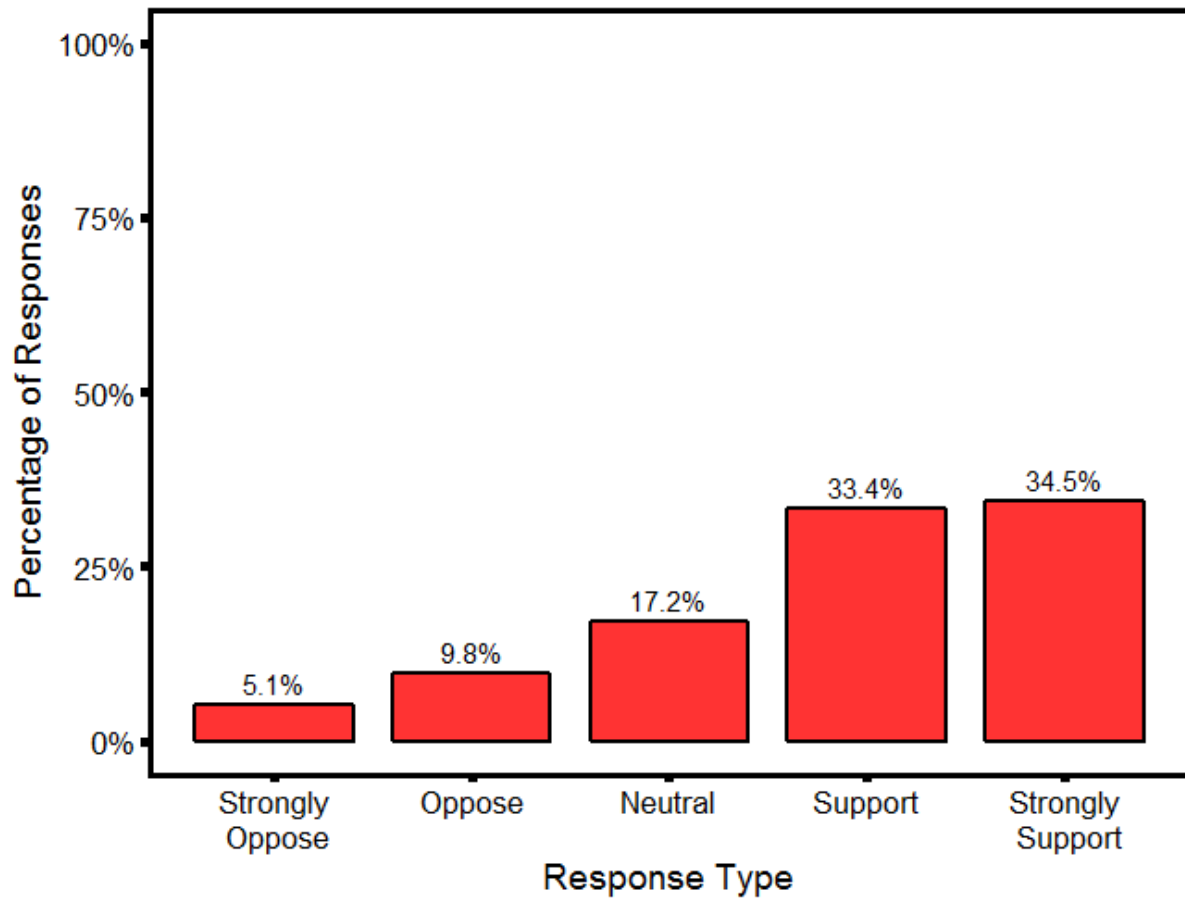


Figure 36. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#47) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1251).

Q48. Do you oppose or support municipalities purchasing bear-proof garbage containers for residents in areas that have conflicts with grizzly bears as a result of garbage?

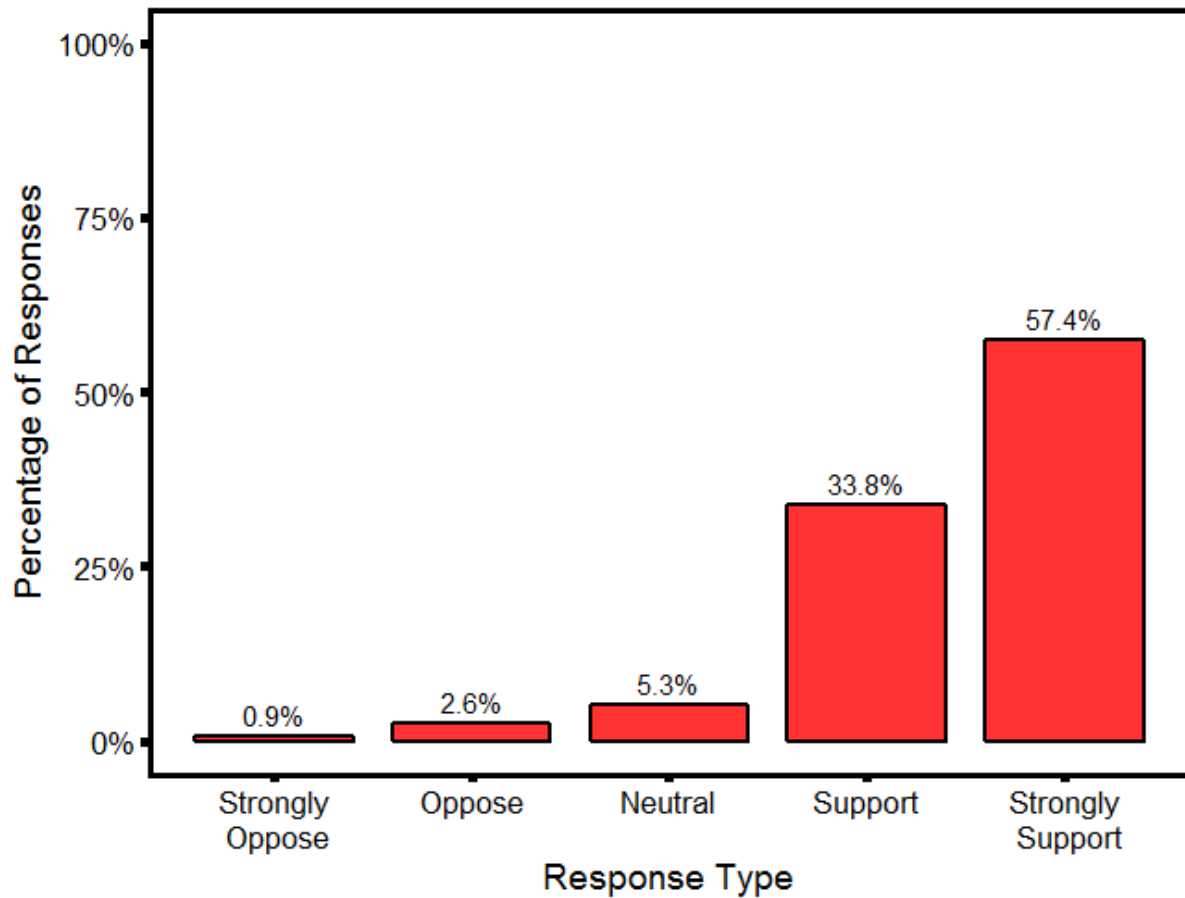


Figure 37. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#48) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1291).

Q49. Would you oppose or support seasonal closures of campgrounds where there is high potential for human-grizzly bear conflicts?

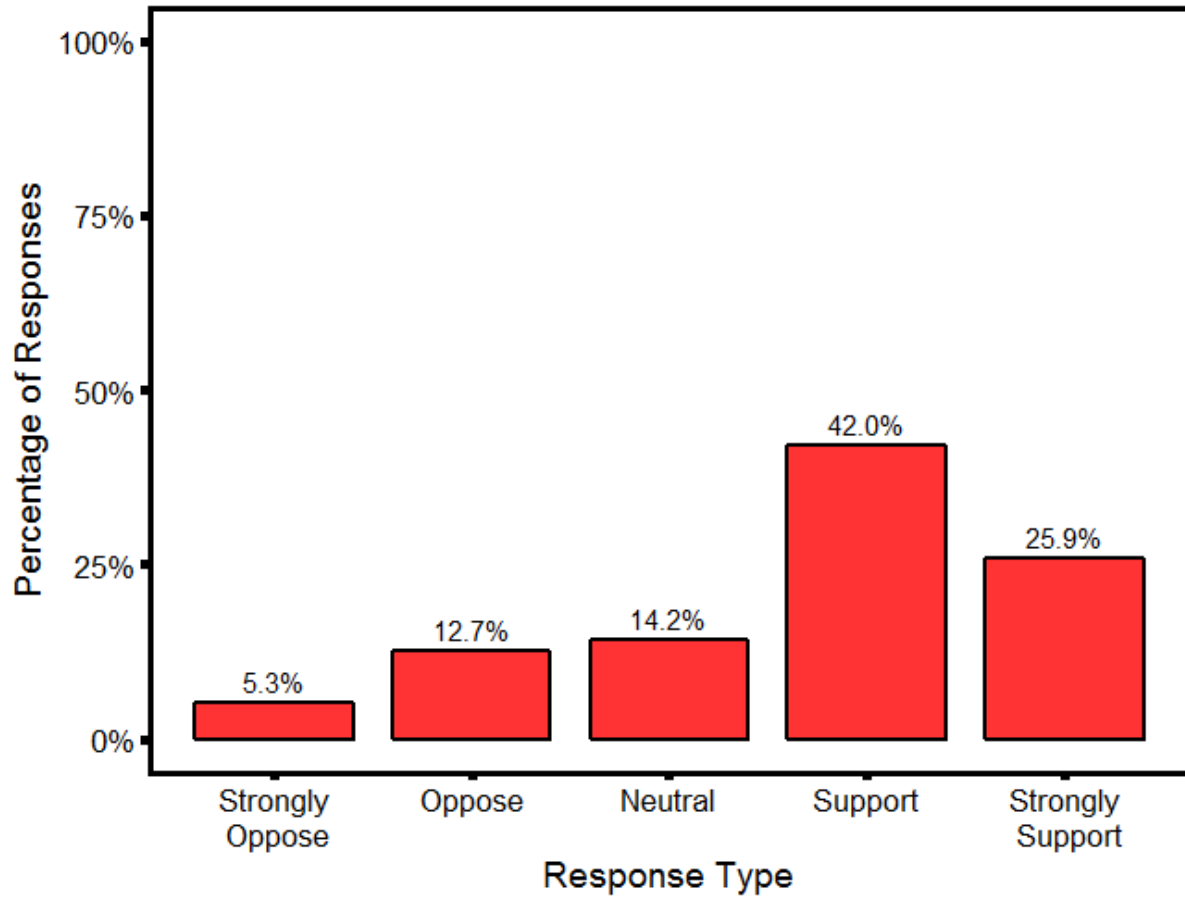


Figure 38. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#49) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1264).

Q50. Would you oppose or support the relocation of grizzly bears within their home range (ie. less than 25 km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?

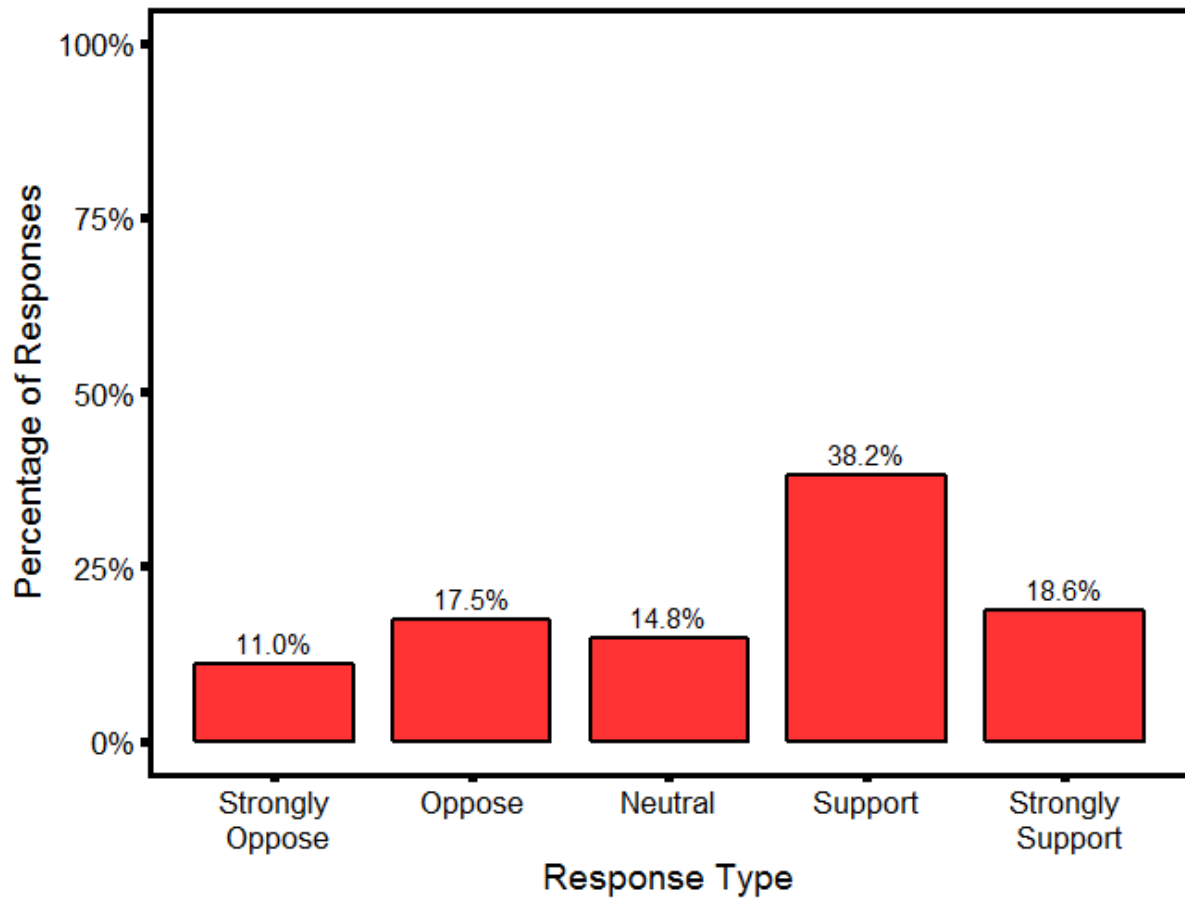


Figure 39. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#50) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1186).

Q51. Would you oppose or support the translocation of grizzly bears outside their home range (i.e. more than 25 km away, often 100 or more km away) that have been involved in conflict with people?

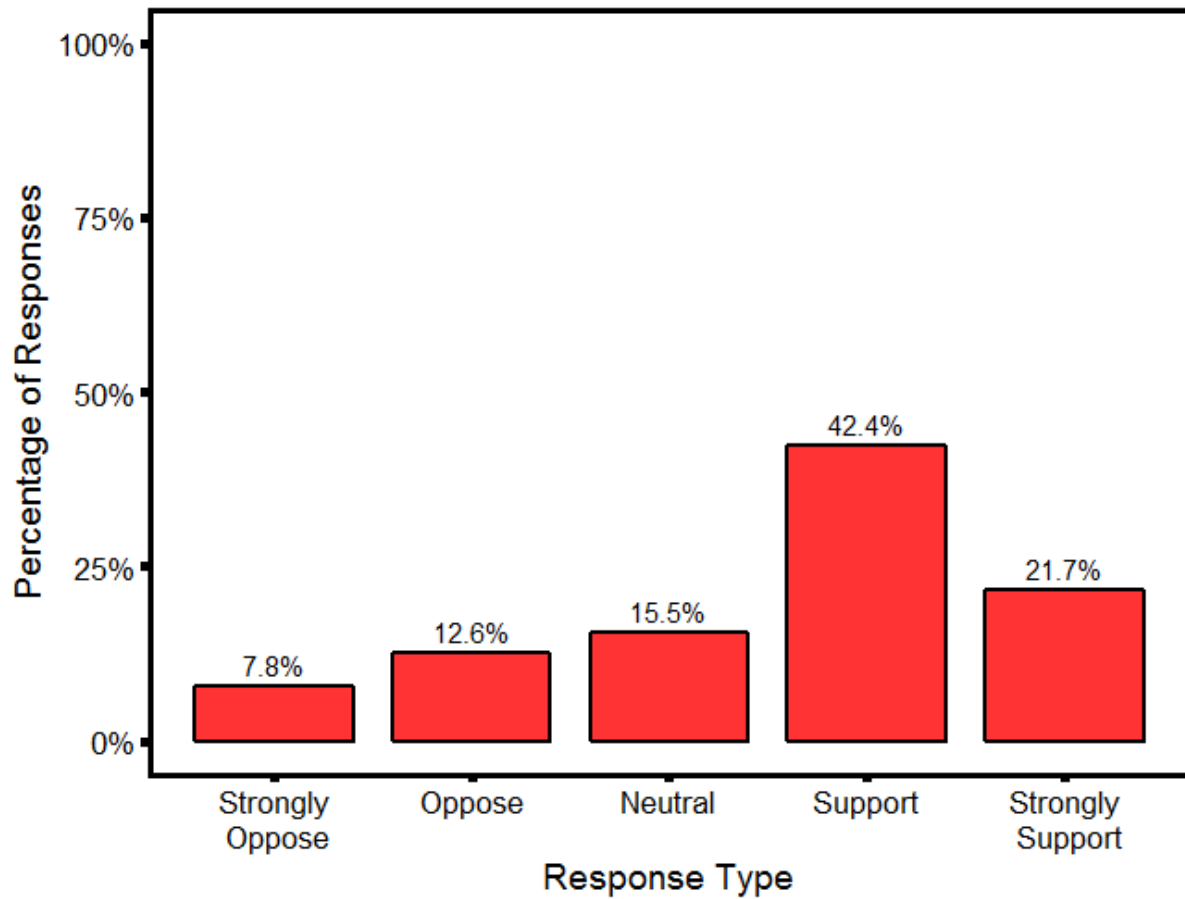


Figure 40. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#51) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1147).

Q52. Do you oppose or support conservation officers lethally removing grizzly bears that have been involved in conflicts with people?

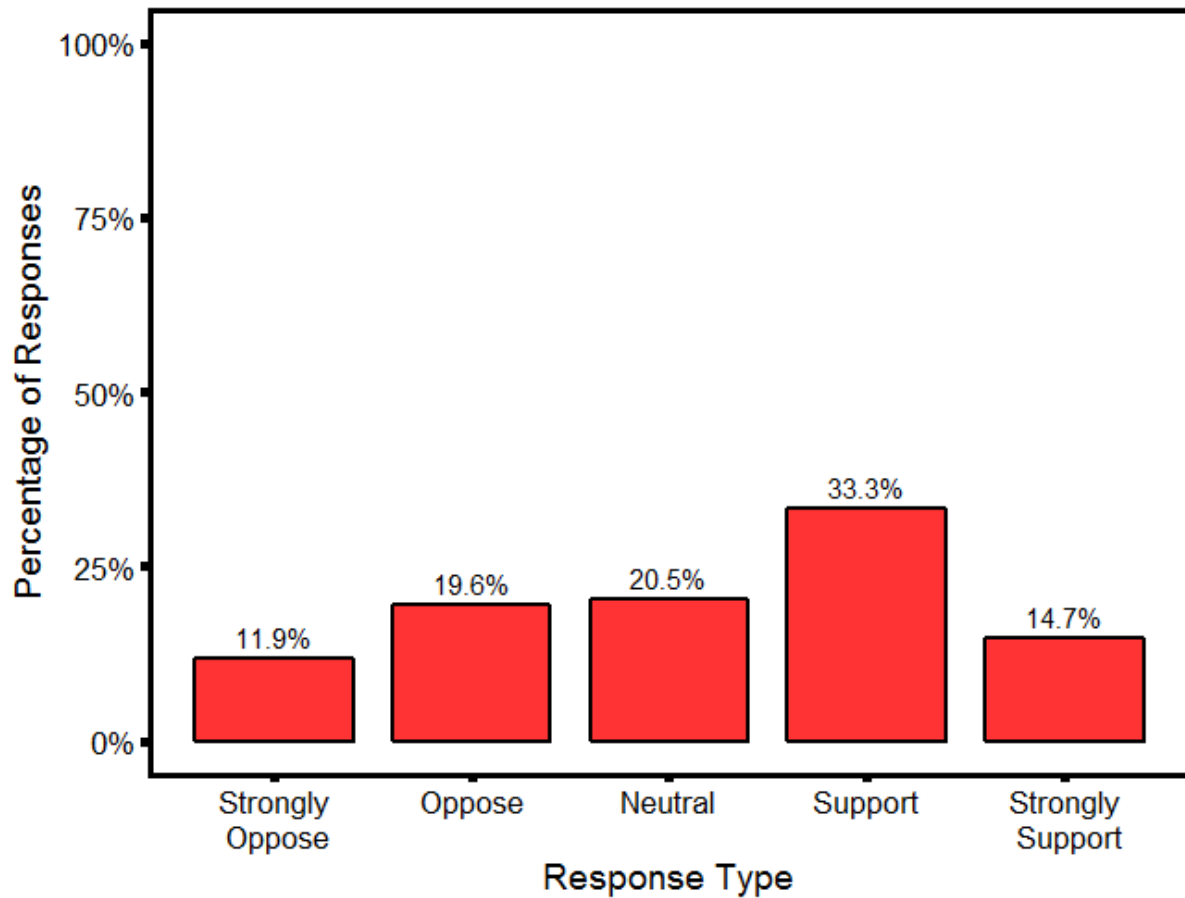


Figure 41. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#52) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1206).

Q53. Would you oppose or support diversionary feeding (that is, providing bears with supplemental food during times when natural foods are scarce) as a management action to attract bears away from areas where they come into conflict with people?

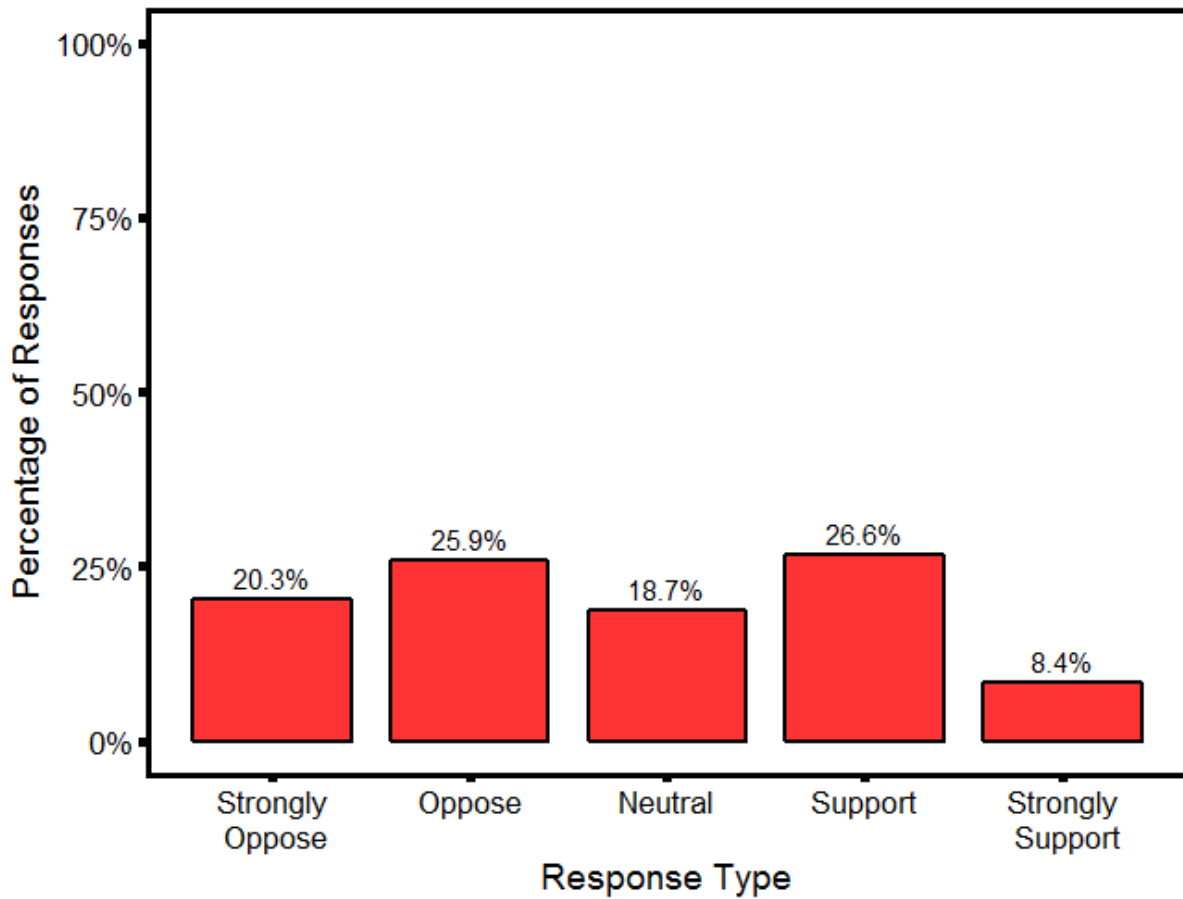


Figure 42. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#53) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1089).

Q54. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to manage human-grizzly bear conflicts?

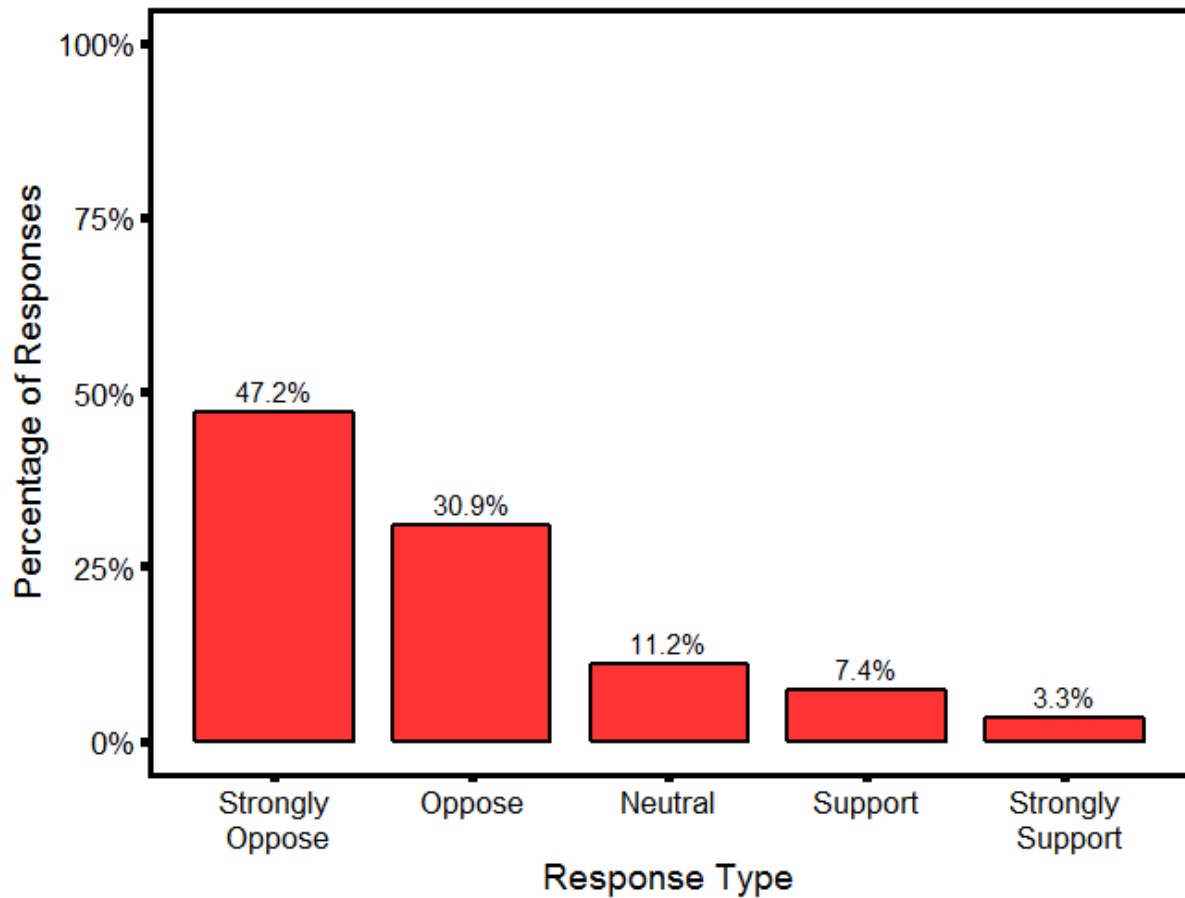


Figure 43. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#54) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1242).

Q55. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to aid in recovering depleted moose or caribou populations?

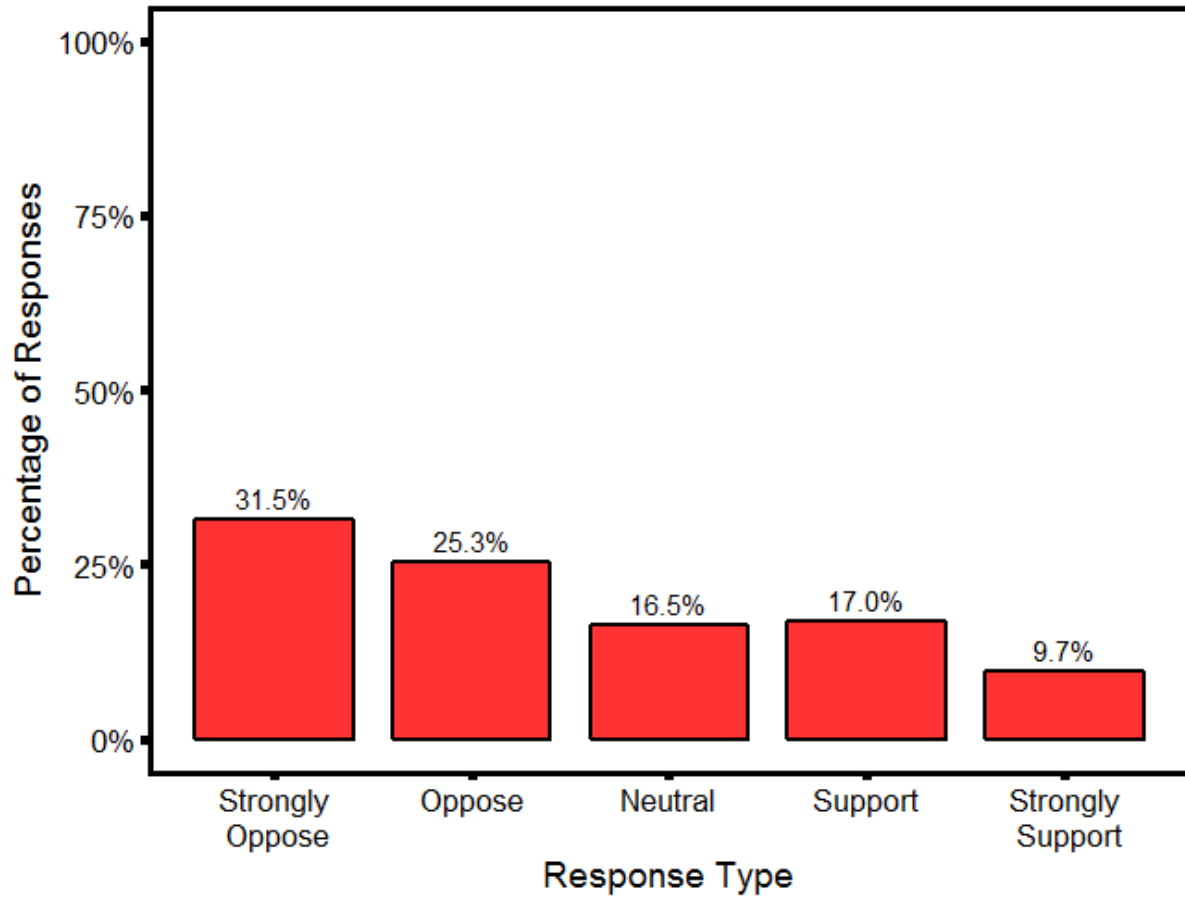


Figure 44. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#55) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1215).

Q56. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to provide greater moose or caribou harvest opportunities?

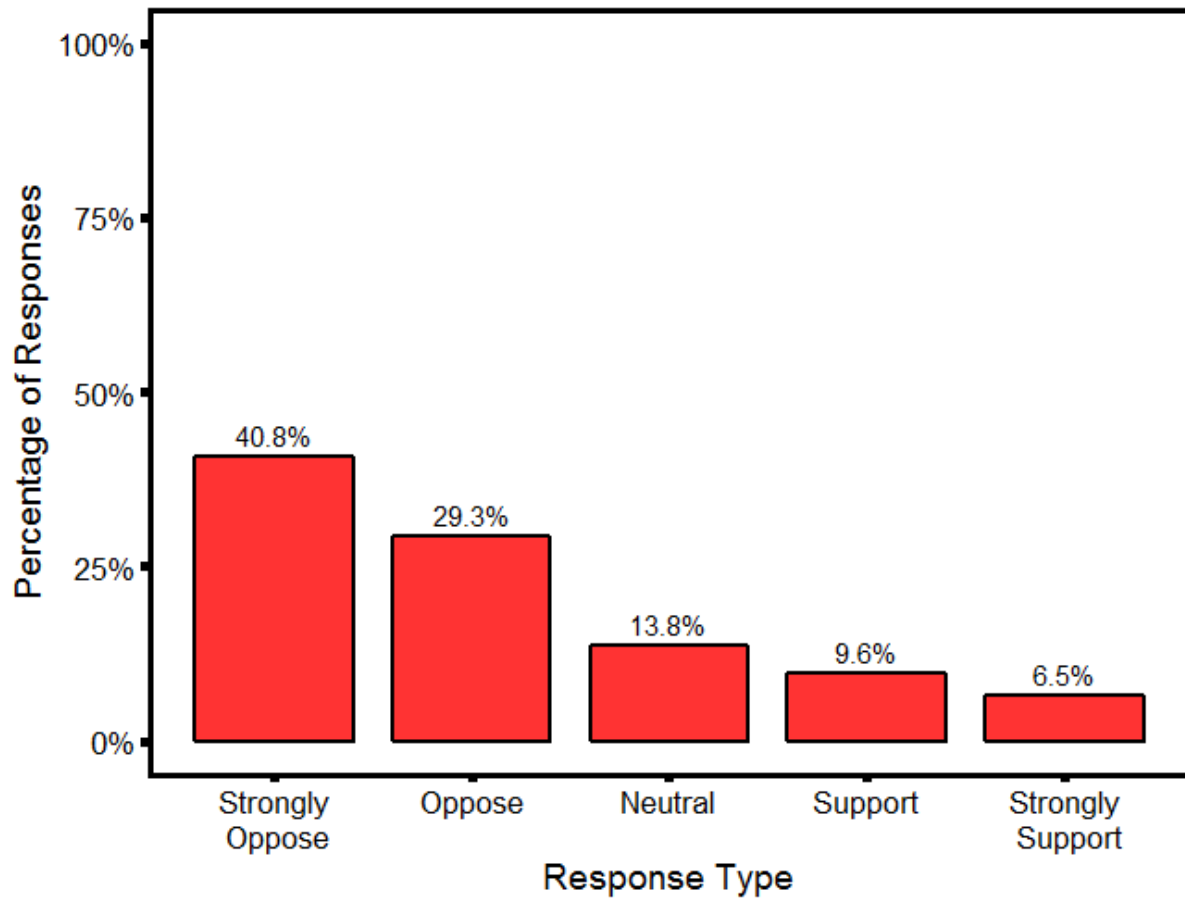


Figure 45. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#56) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1247).

Q57. Do you oppose or support monitoring of grizzly bear populations?

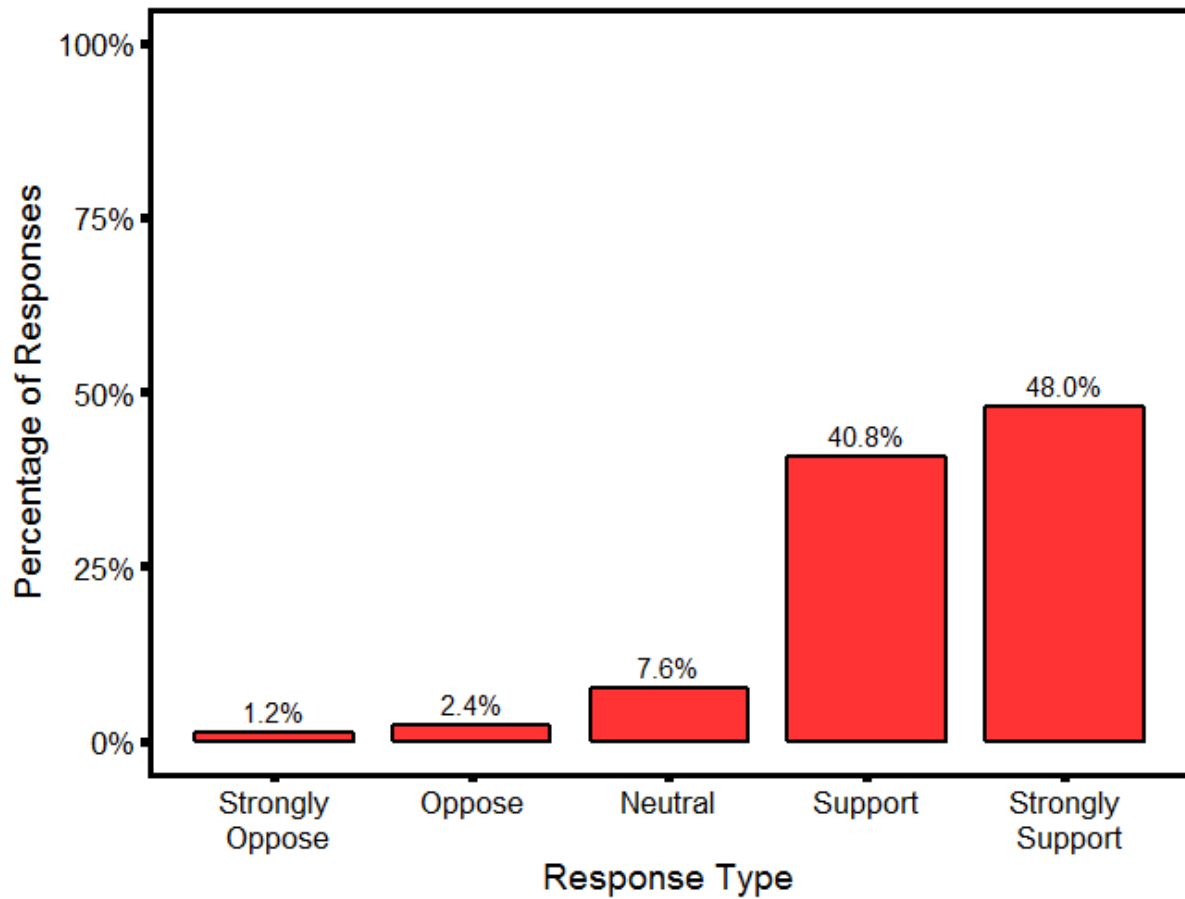


Figure 46. Histogram showing the distribution of responses to a public survey question (#57) on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon (sample size = 1283).

APPENDIX 2 Respondent Group Comparisons

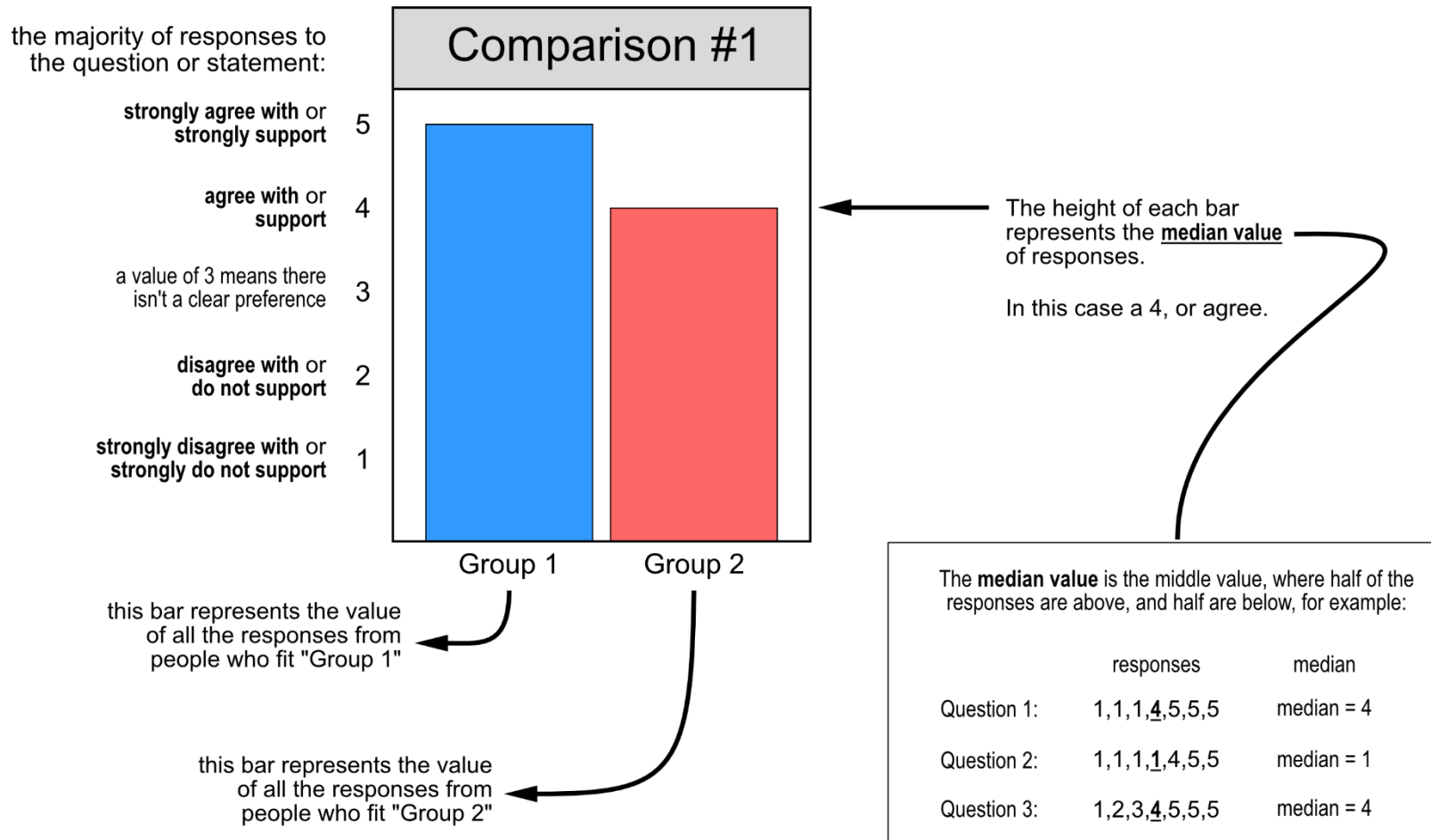


Figure 47. An infographic to aid the reader in interpreting the group comparisons found in Figures 48–93.

Beliefs About Grizzly Bears

Q10. It is important to me that grizzly bears live in Yukon.

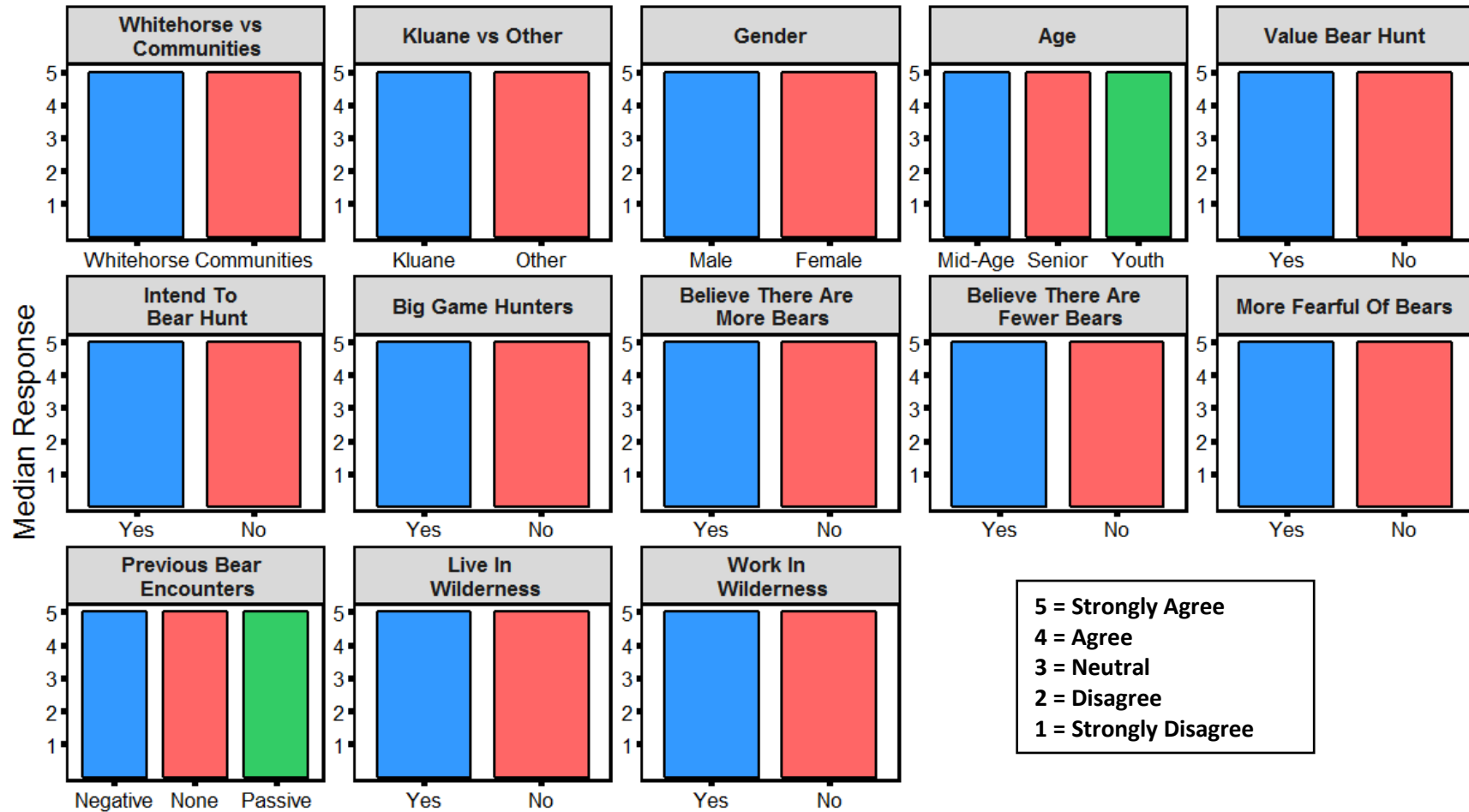


Figure 48. Median responses to Question 10 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q11. Grizzly bears should exist in their own right regardless of their value to humans.

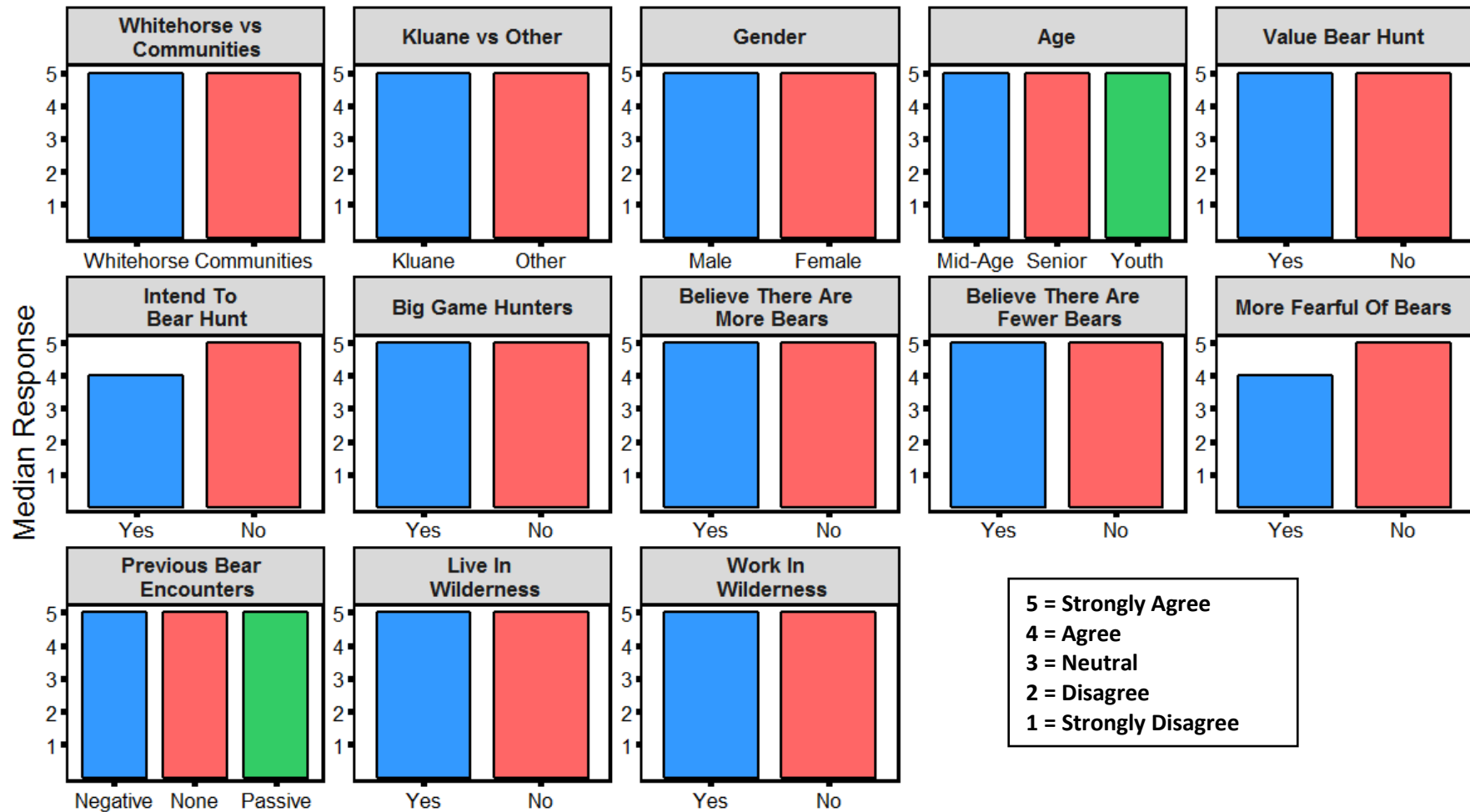


Figure 49. Median responses to Question 11 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q12. Grizzly bear populations should persist for future generations of people.

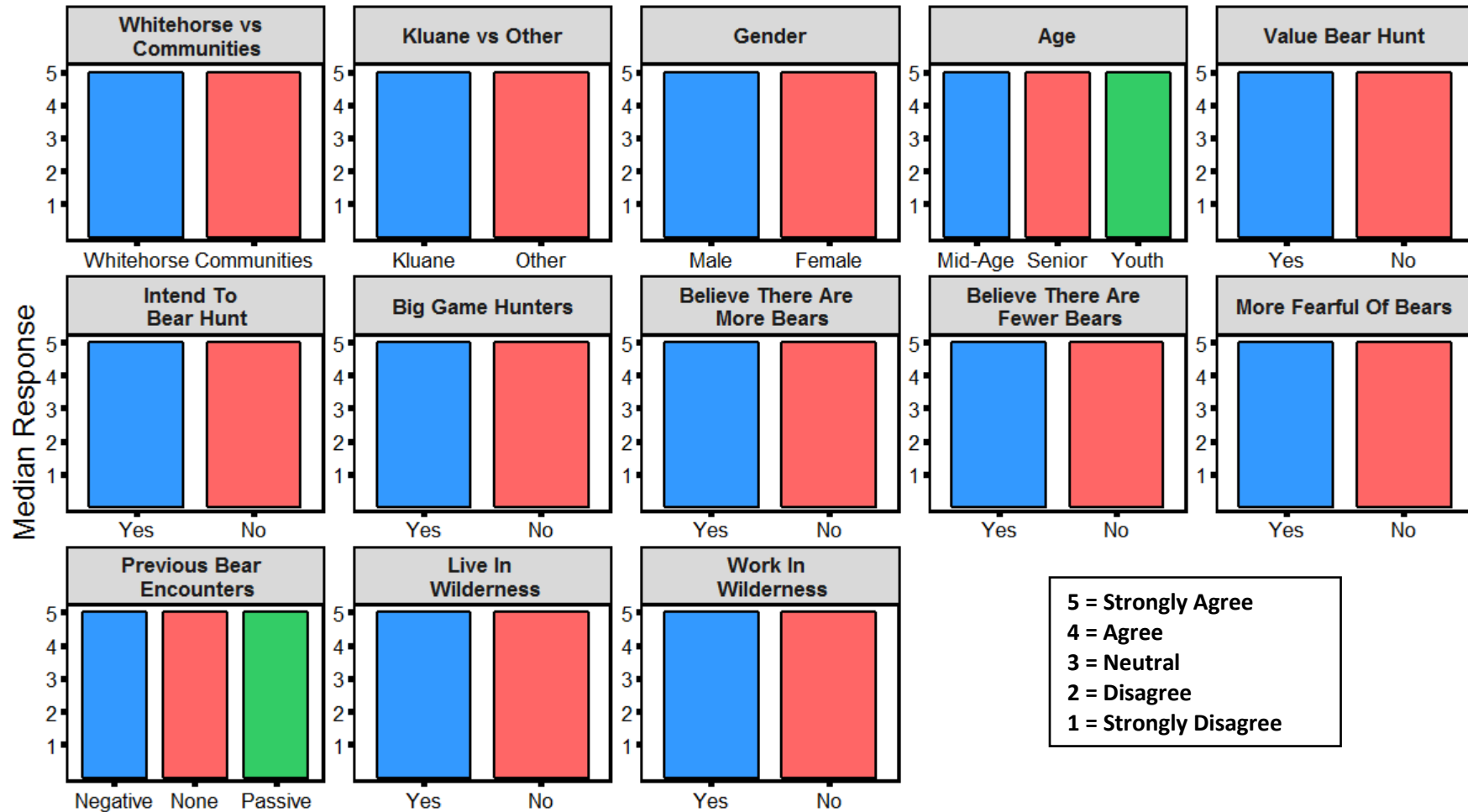


Figure 50. Median responses to Question 12 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q13. Grizzly bears contribute to the functioning of the natural ecosystem (for example, distributing seeds from berries and other plants).

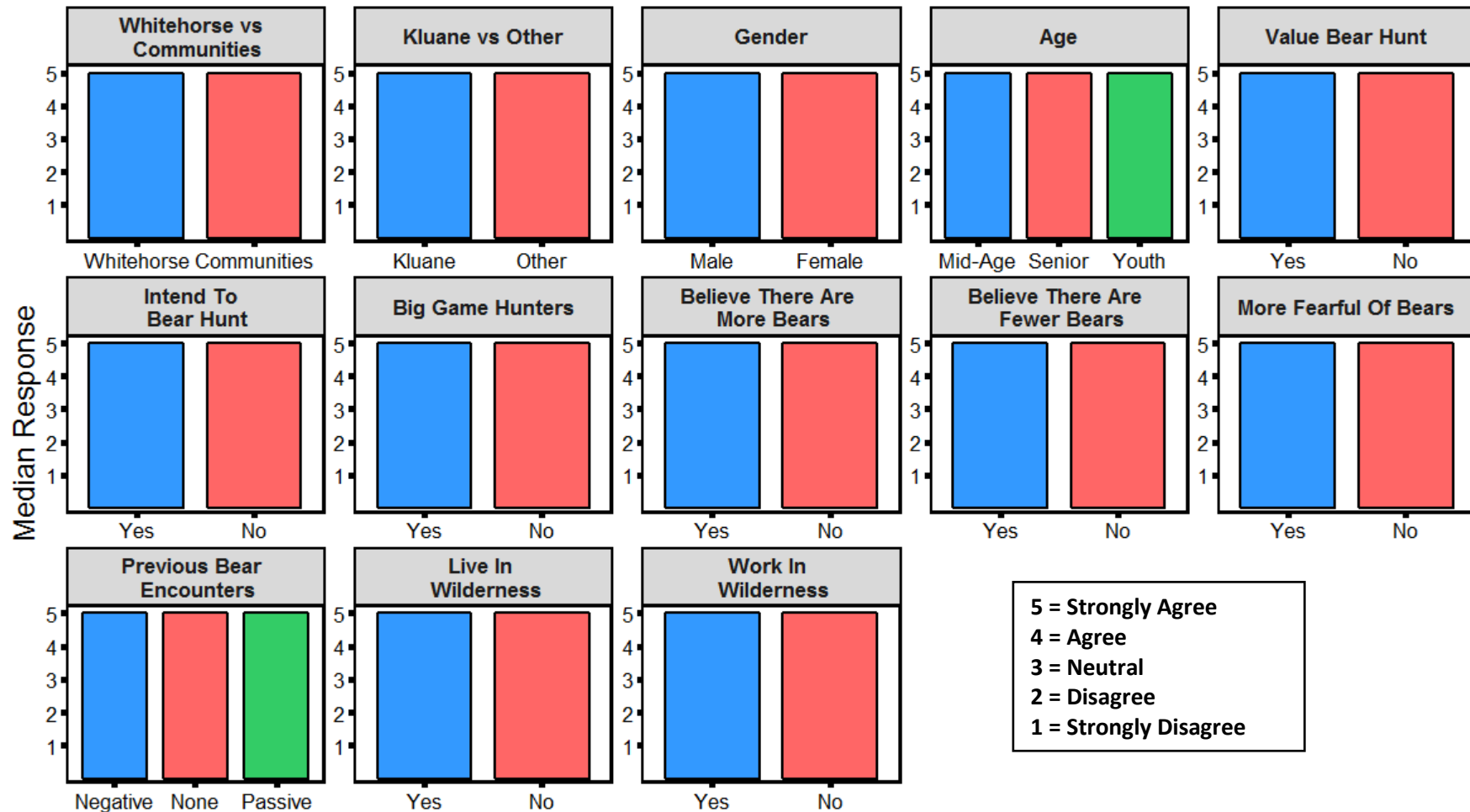


Figure 51. Median responses to Question 13 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q14. Grizzly bear conservation and management should be a higher priority than that for other species of large carnivores (for example, wolves, coyotes, black bears, etc.).

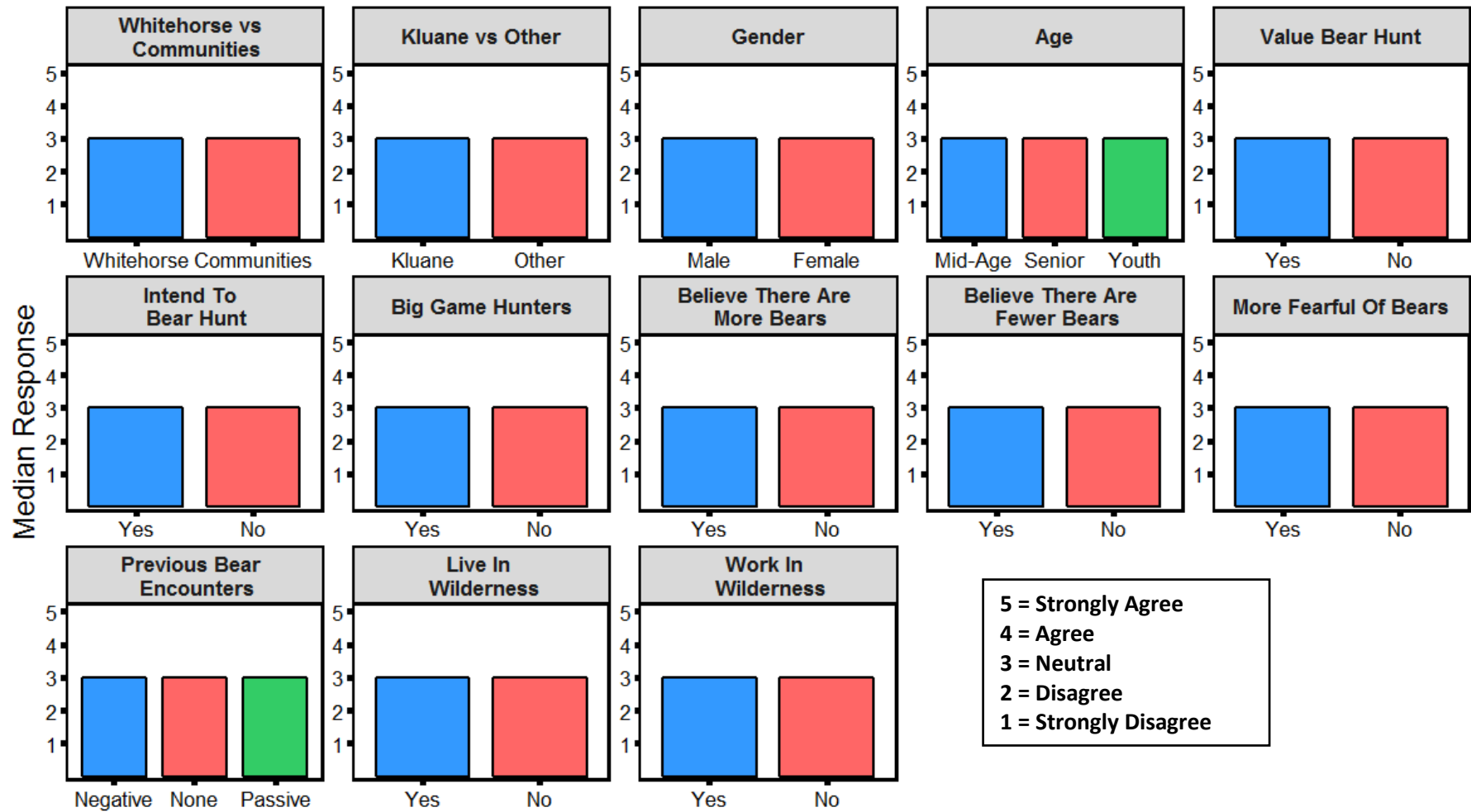


Figure 52. Median responses to Question 14 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q15. Grizzly bears contribute to the Yukon economy (for example, through tourism directed at wildlife viewing and big game hunting).

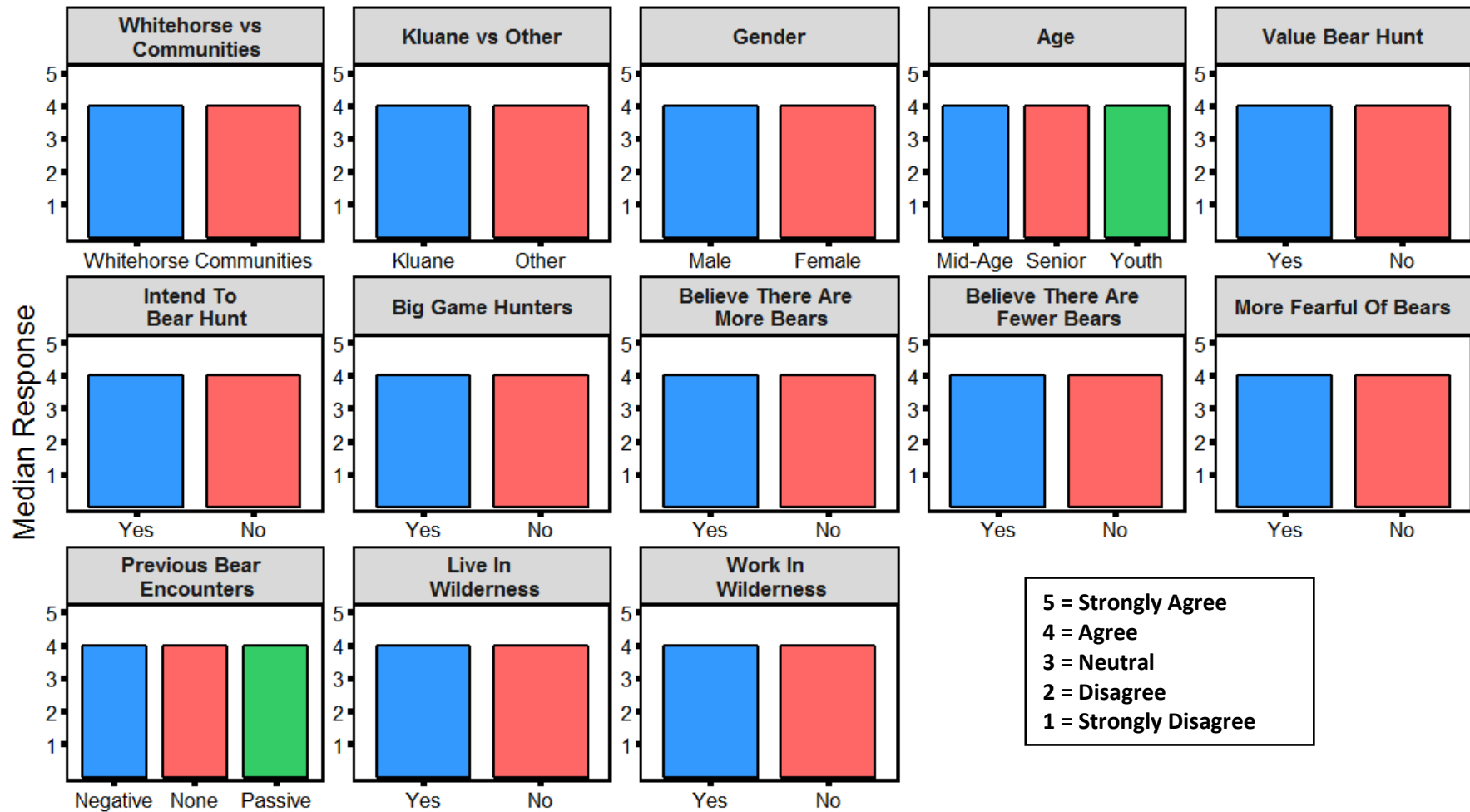


Figure 53. Median responses to Question 15 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q16. I value the opportunity to hunt grizzly bears in Yukon.

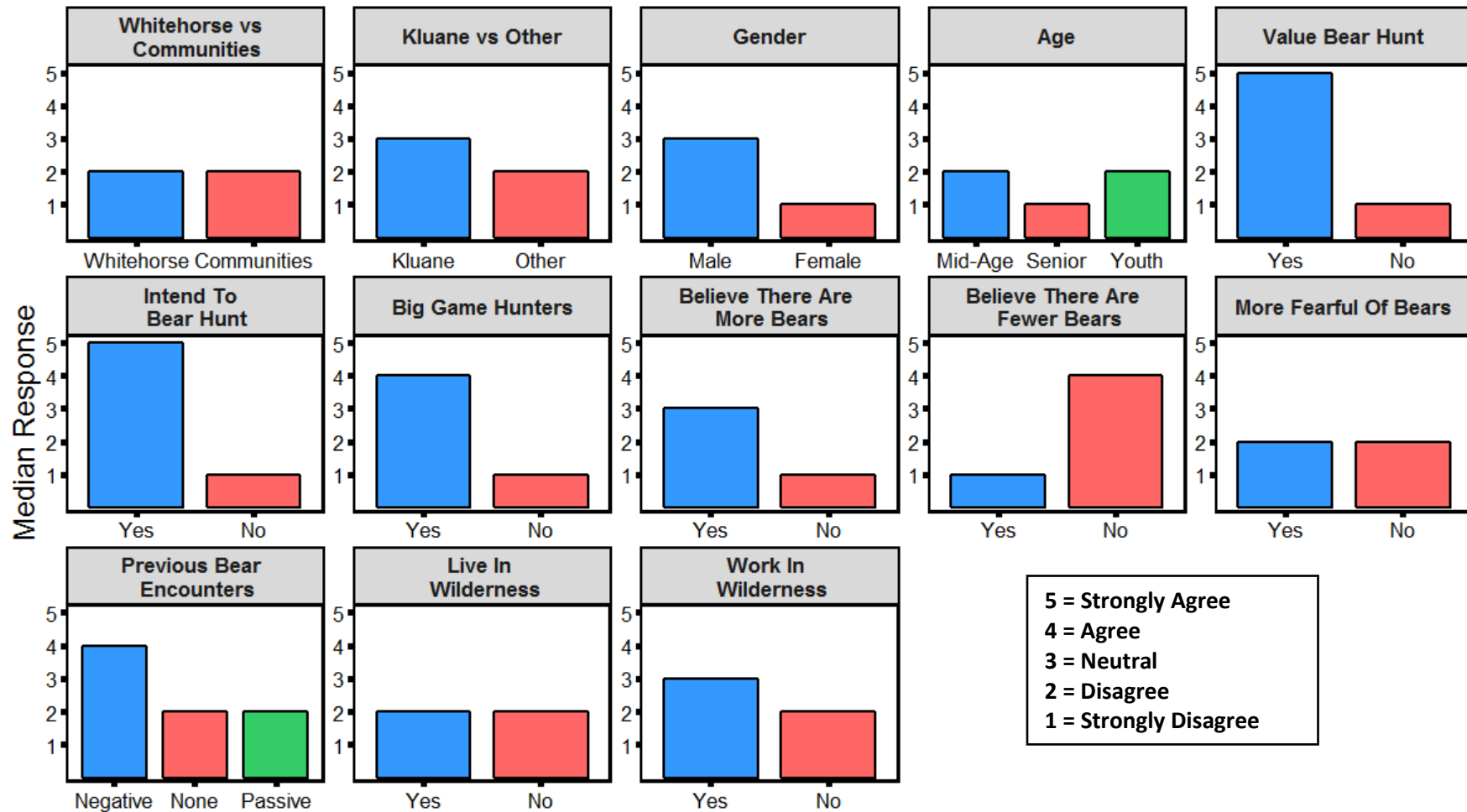


Figure 54. Median responses to Question 16 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q17. I value the opportunity to see grizzly bears in the wild in Yukon.

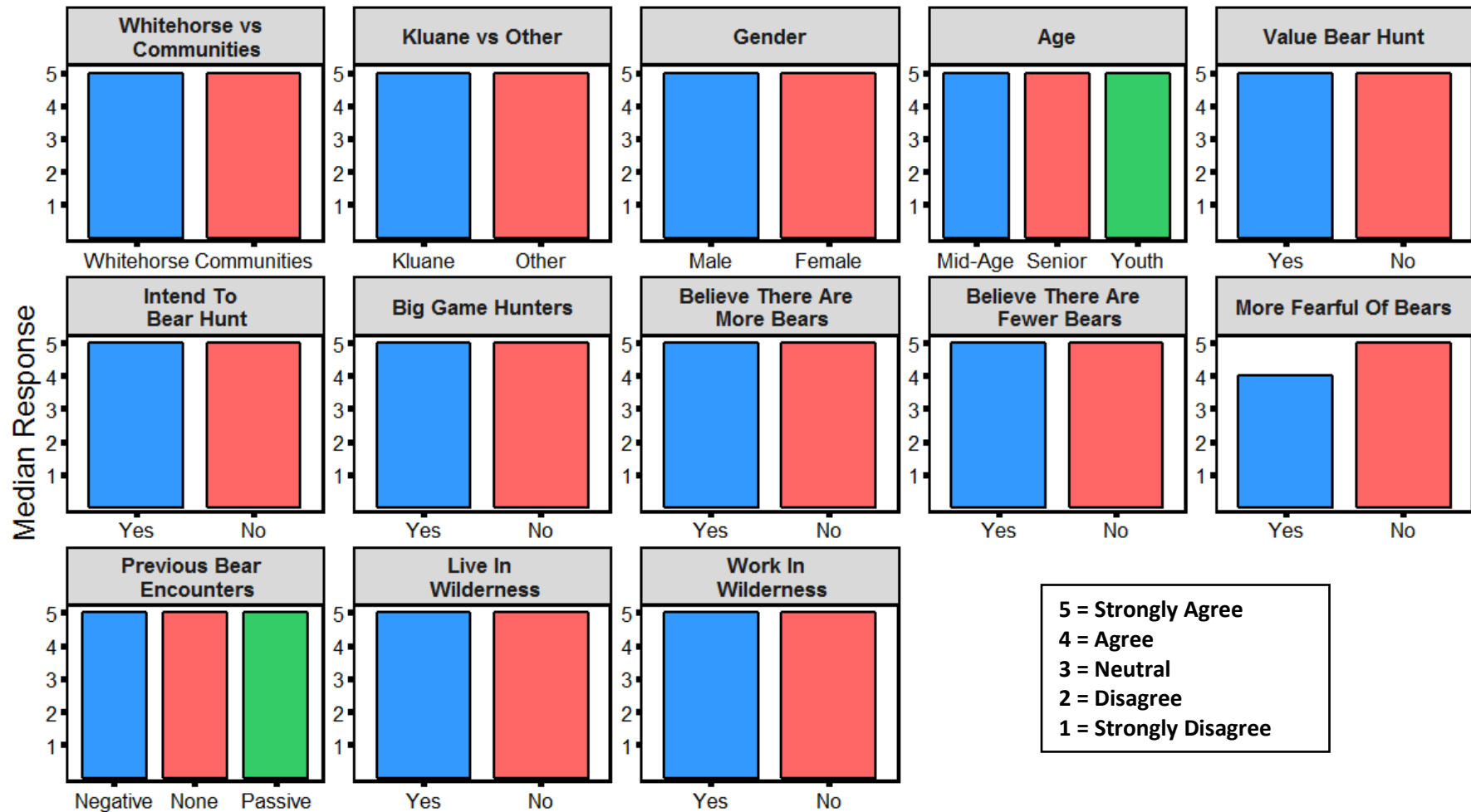


Figure 55. Median responses to Question 17 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q18. The wilderness would be better without grizzly bears.

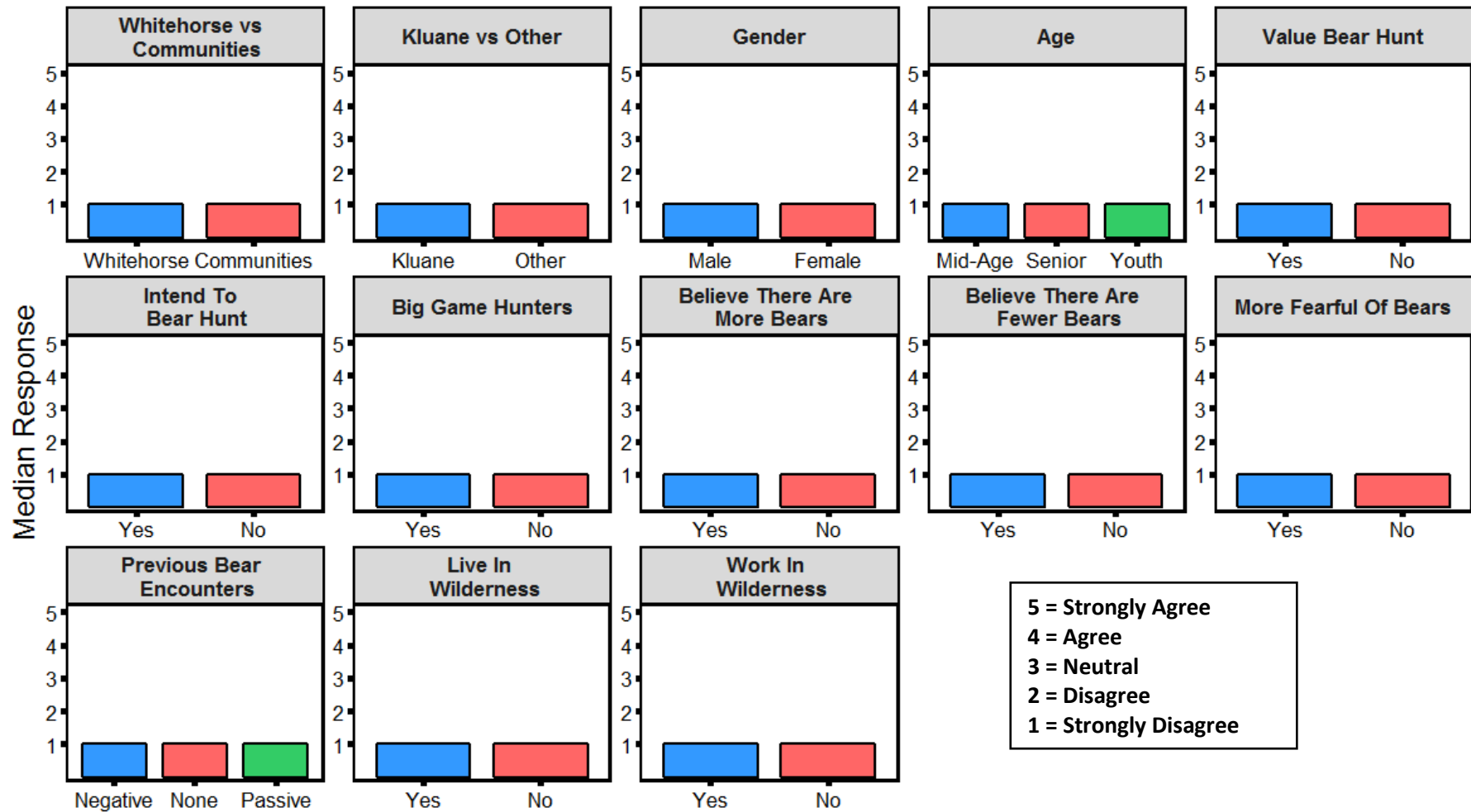


Figure 56. Median responses to Question 18 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q19. There are some circumstances where grizzly bear populations should be reduced.

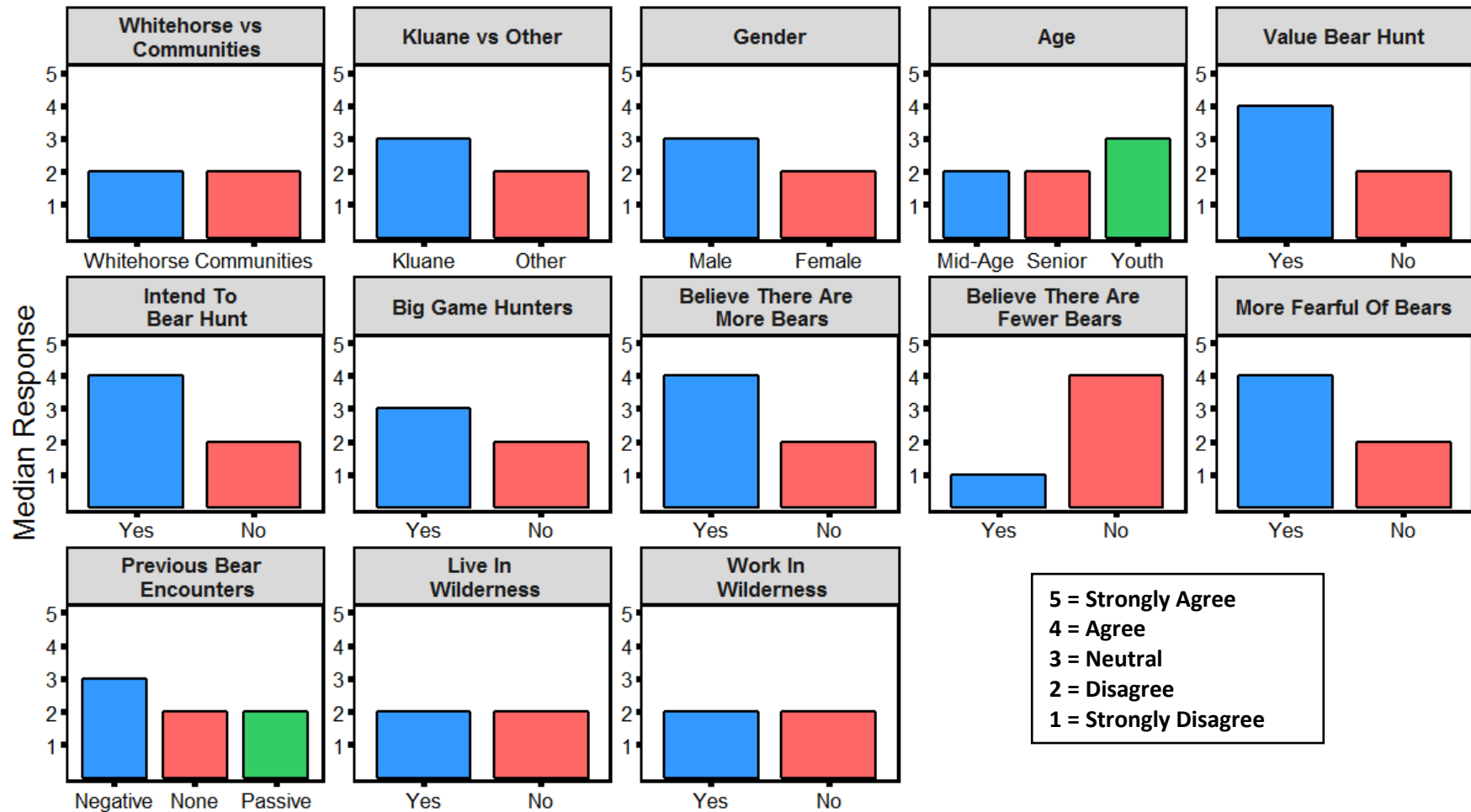


Figure 57. Median responses to Question 19 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q20. Grizzly bears cause significant damage to agricultural interests (for example, livestock, chicken coops, beehives, etc.).

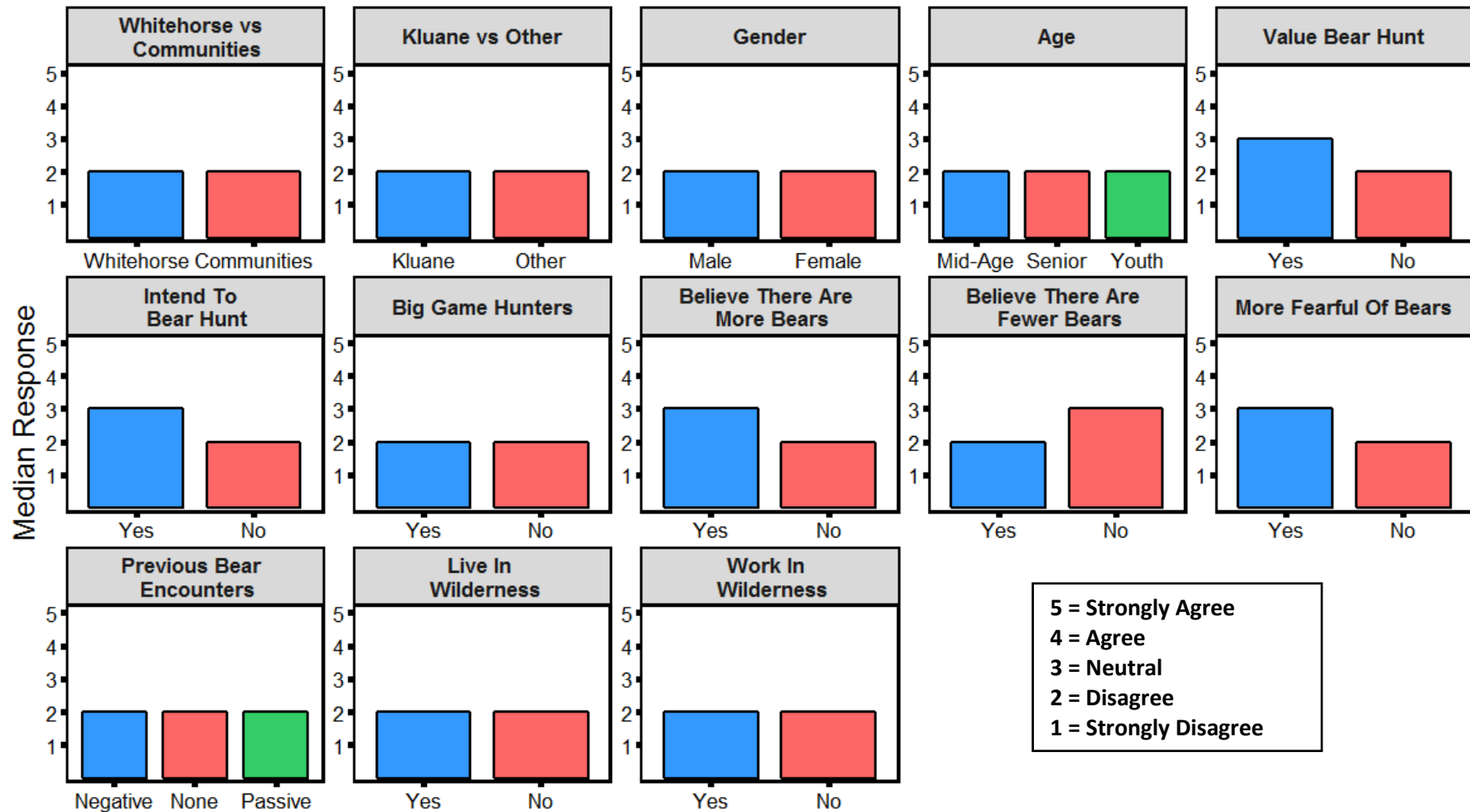


Figure 58. Median responses to Question 20 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q21. People with agricultural attractants (e.g. livestock, poultry, crops and berries) on their property need to manage these attractants to reduce incidents of human-bear conflicts.

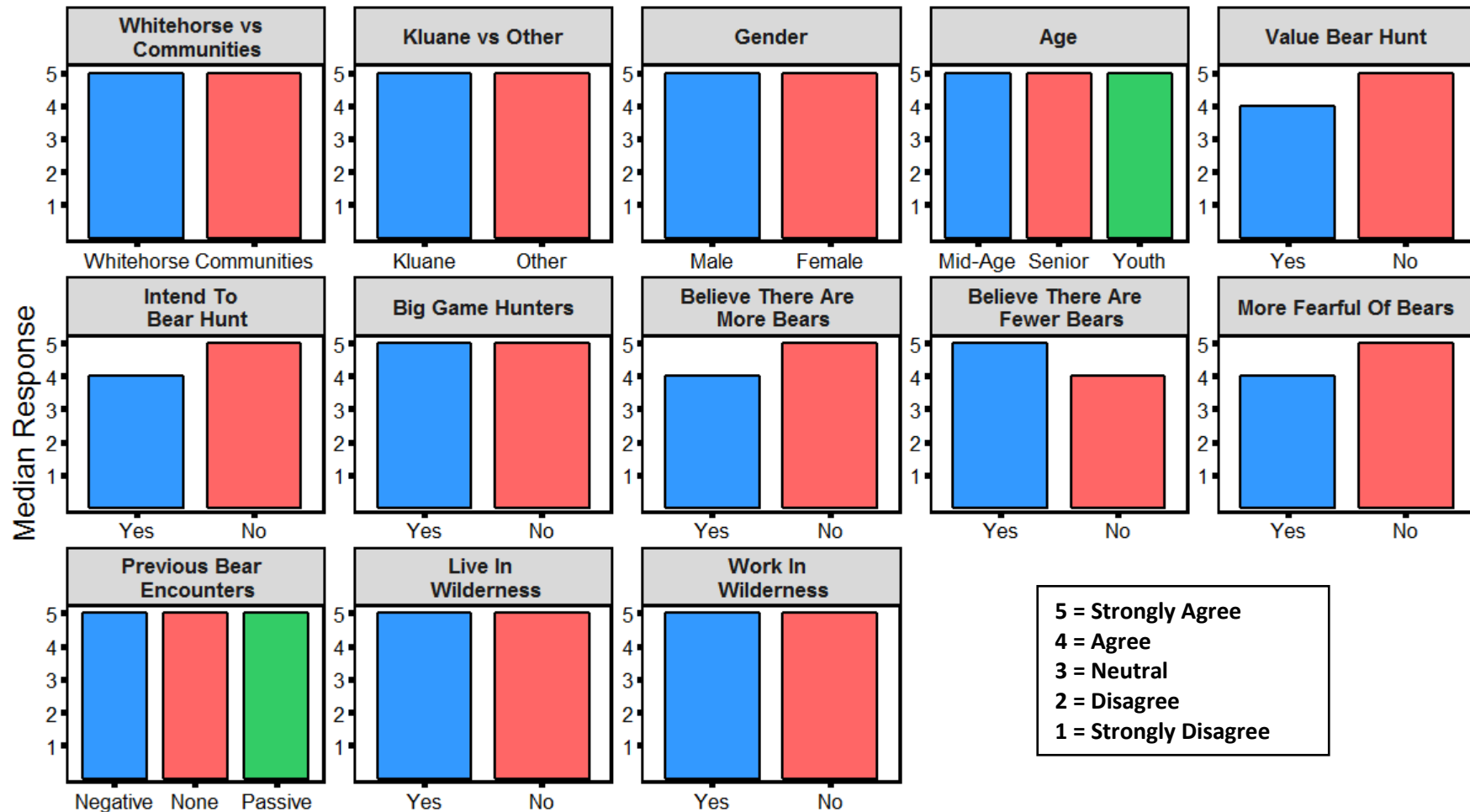


Figure 59. Median responses to Question 21 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Figures—Perceptions About Grizzly Bears

Q23. There seem to be fewer grizzly bears in Yukon over the past 10 years.

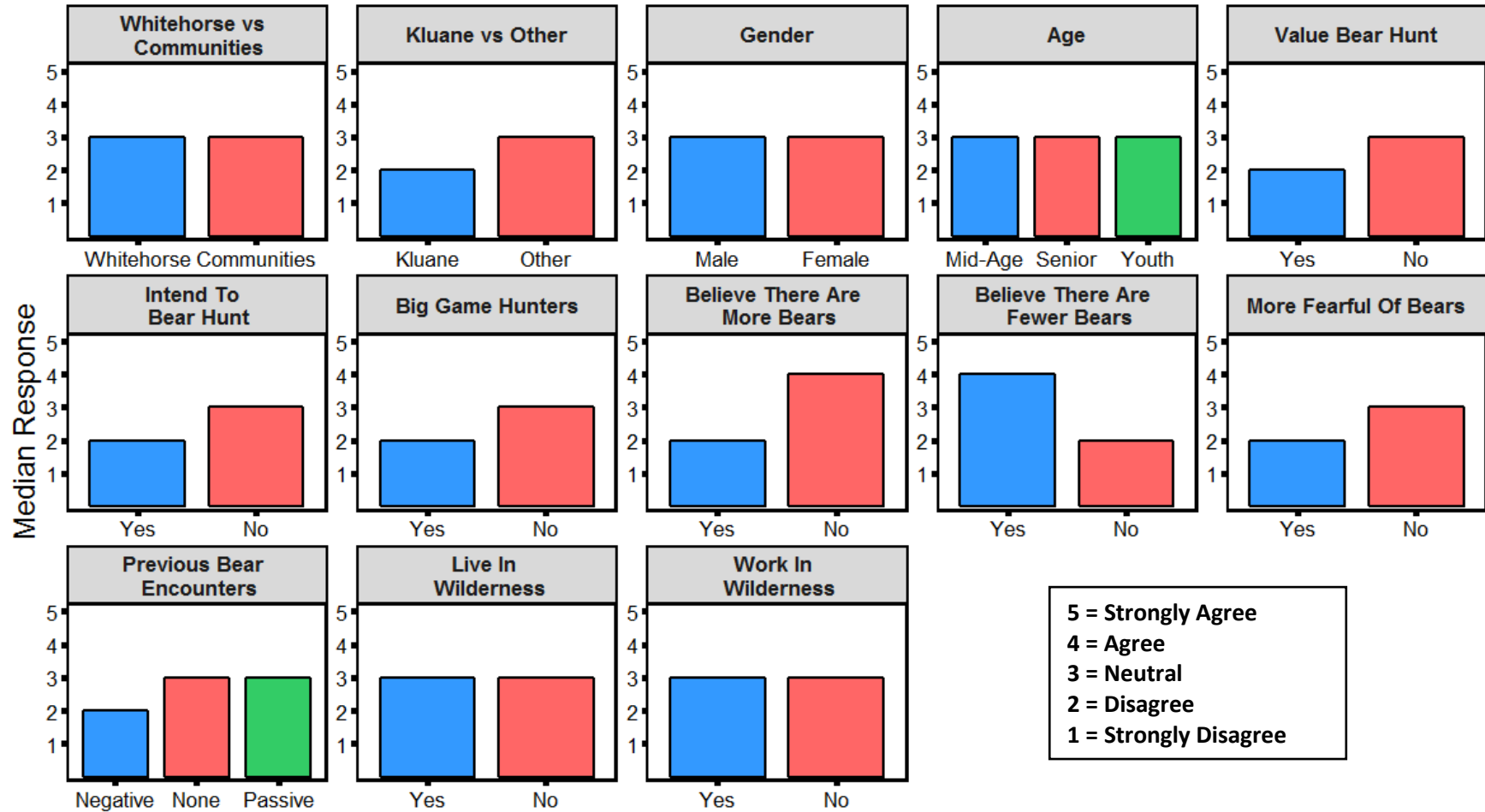


Figure 60. Median responses to Question 23 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q24. There seem to be more grizzly bears around my community in the past 10 years.

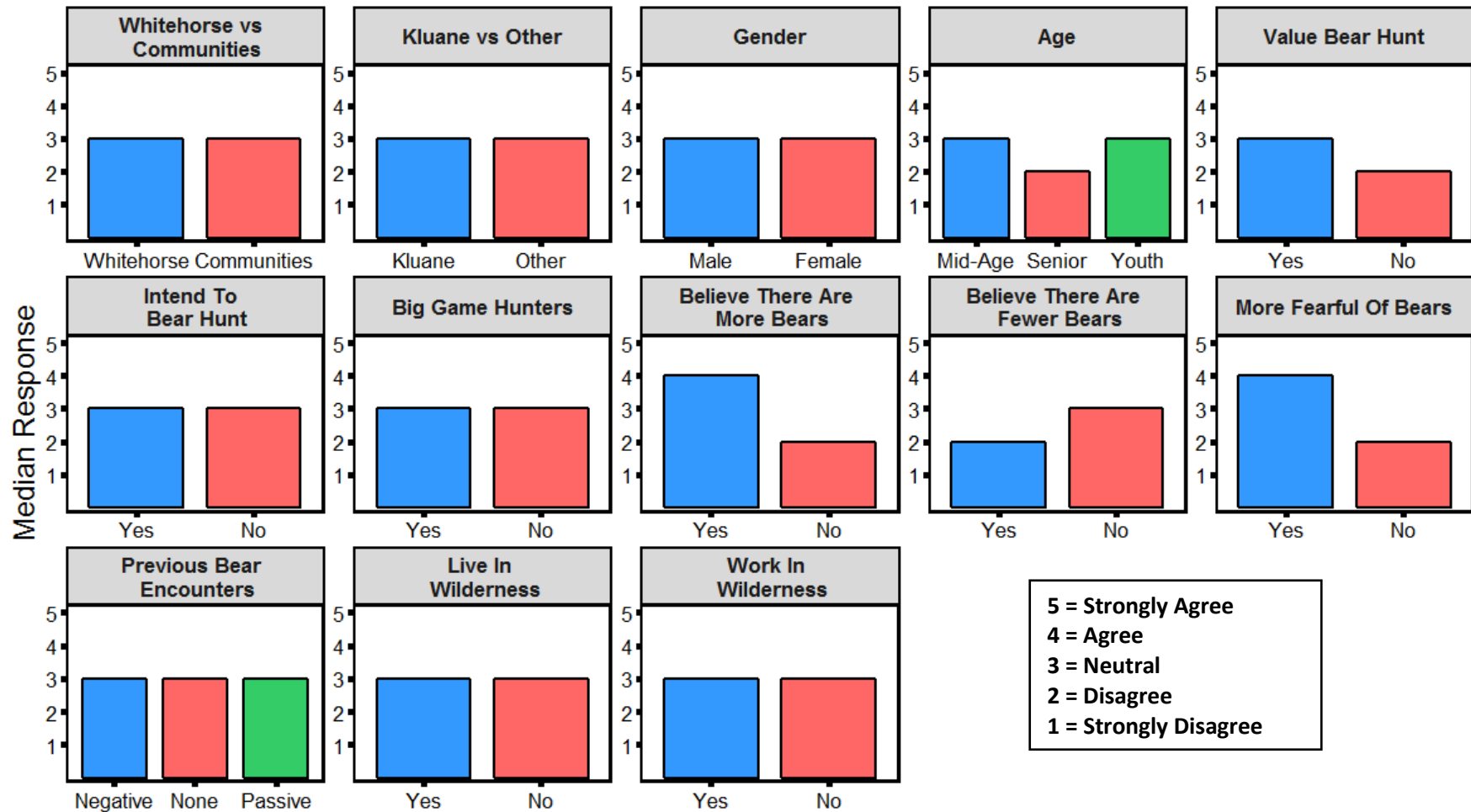


Figure 61. Median responses to Question 24 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q25. Conflicts with grizzly bears seem to have increased in my community over the past 10 years.

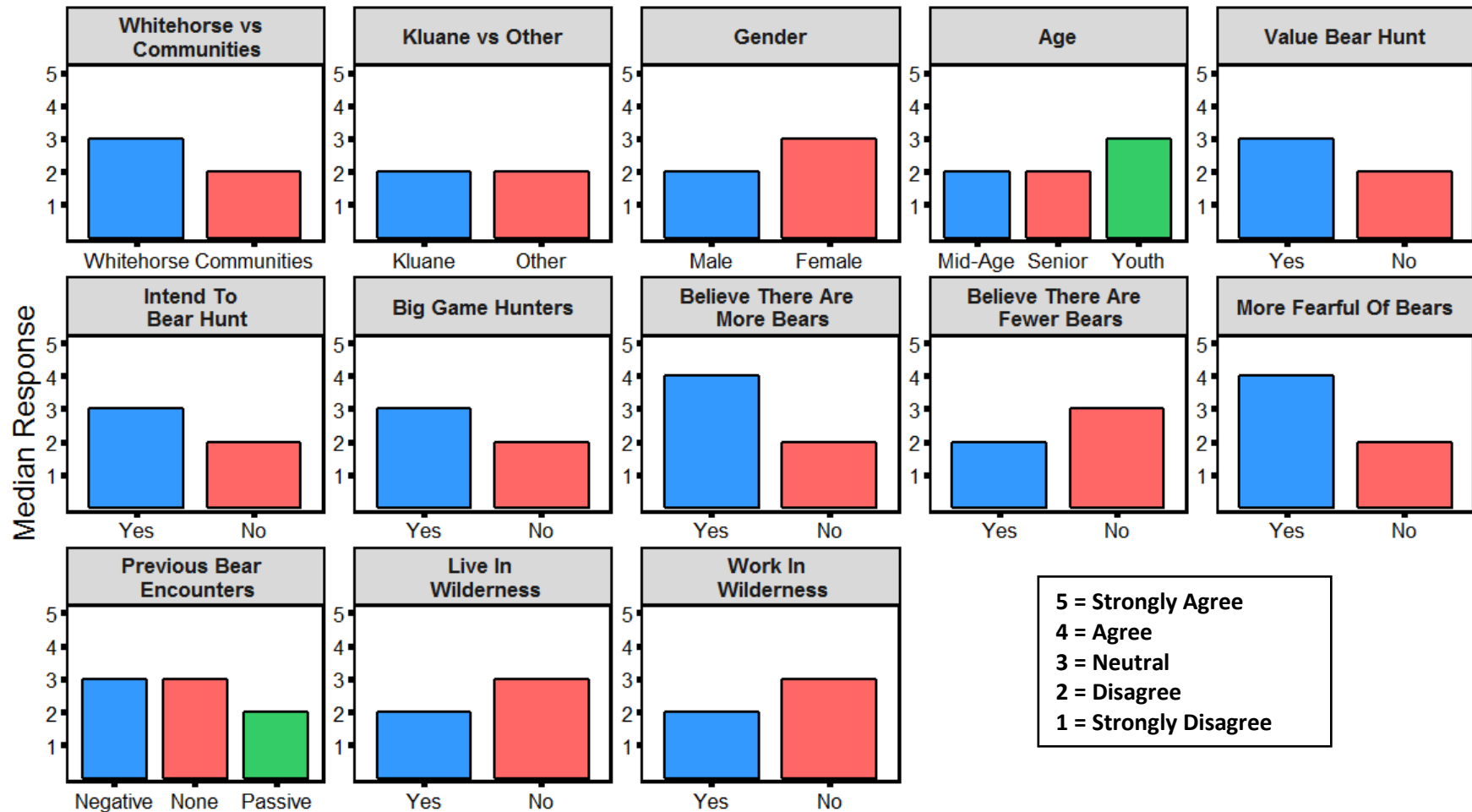


Figure 62. Median responses to Question 25 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q26. "Bear awareness" seems to be getting better in my community over the past 10 years.

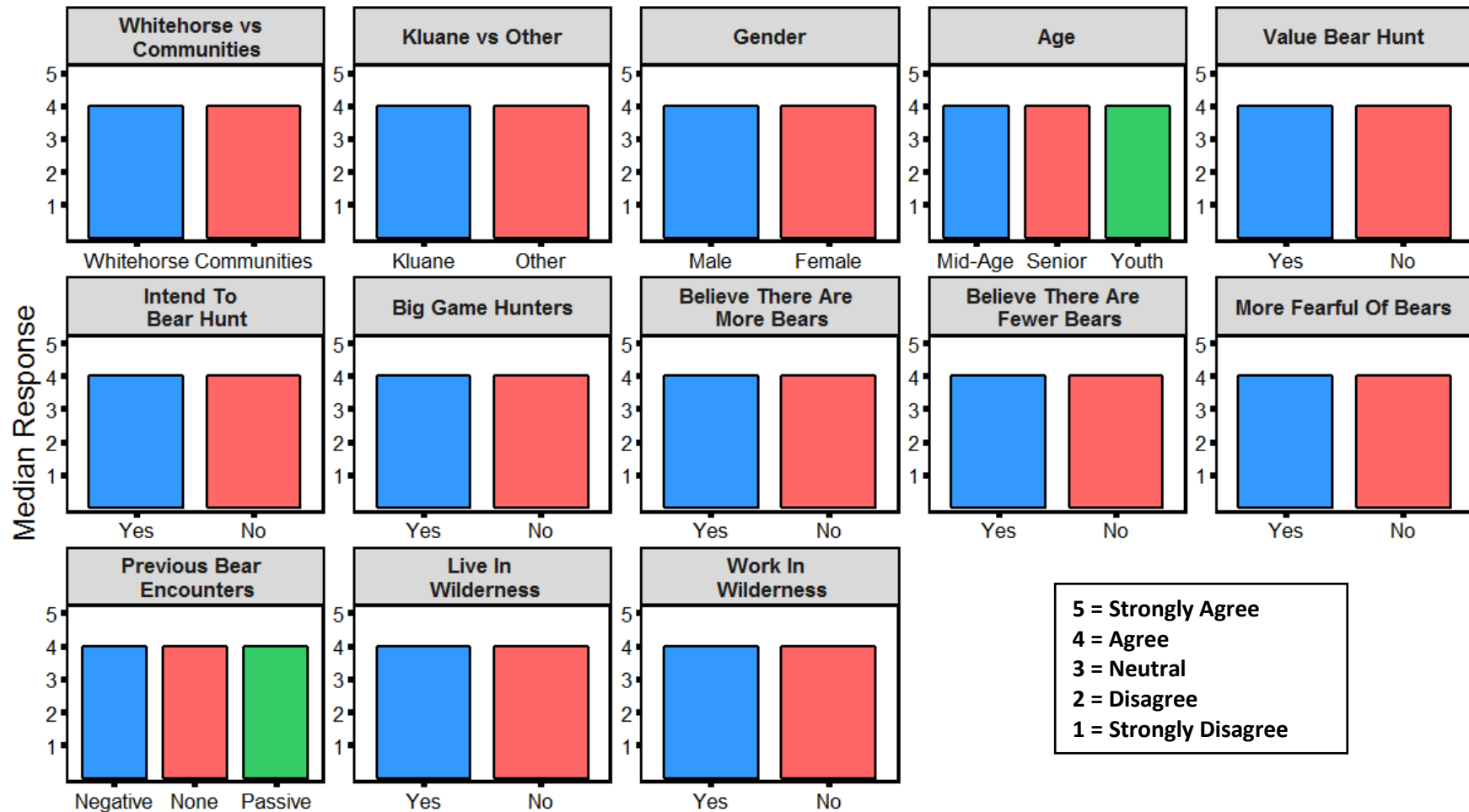


Figure 63. Median responses to Question 26 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q27. People in my community seem to be taking better care of keeping their garbage and other attractants (e.g. pet food, barbeques, chickens etc.) out of reach of bears over the past 10 years.

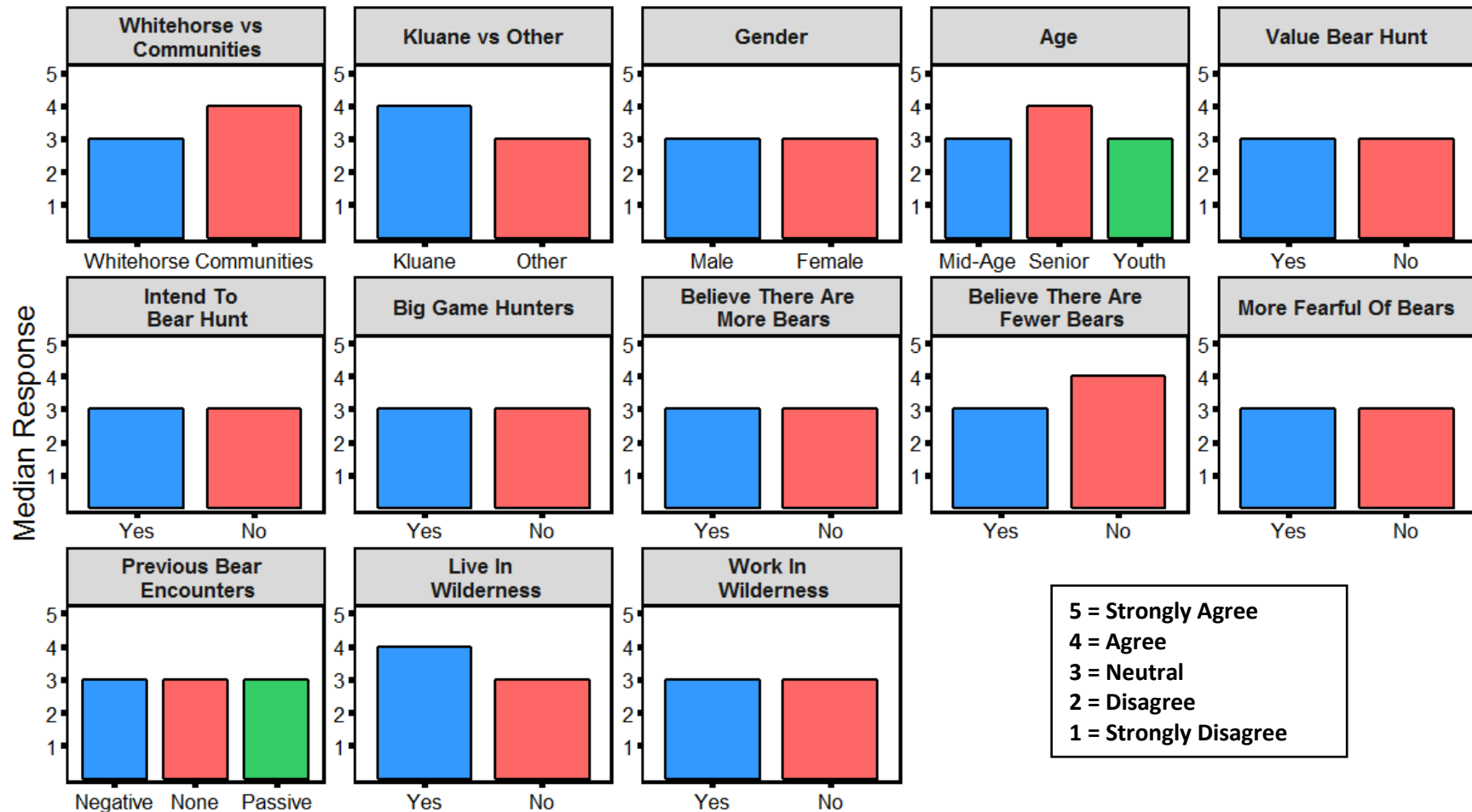


Figure 64. Median responses to Question 27 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q28. Interest in hunting grizzly bears by Yukon residents seems to have increased in the past 10 years.

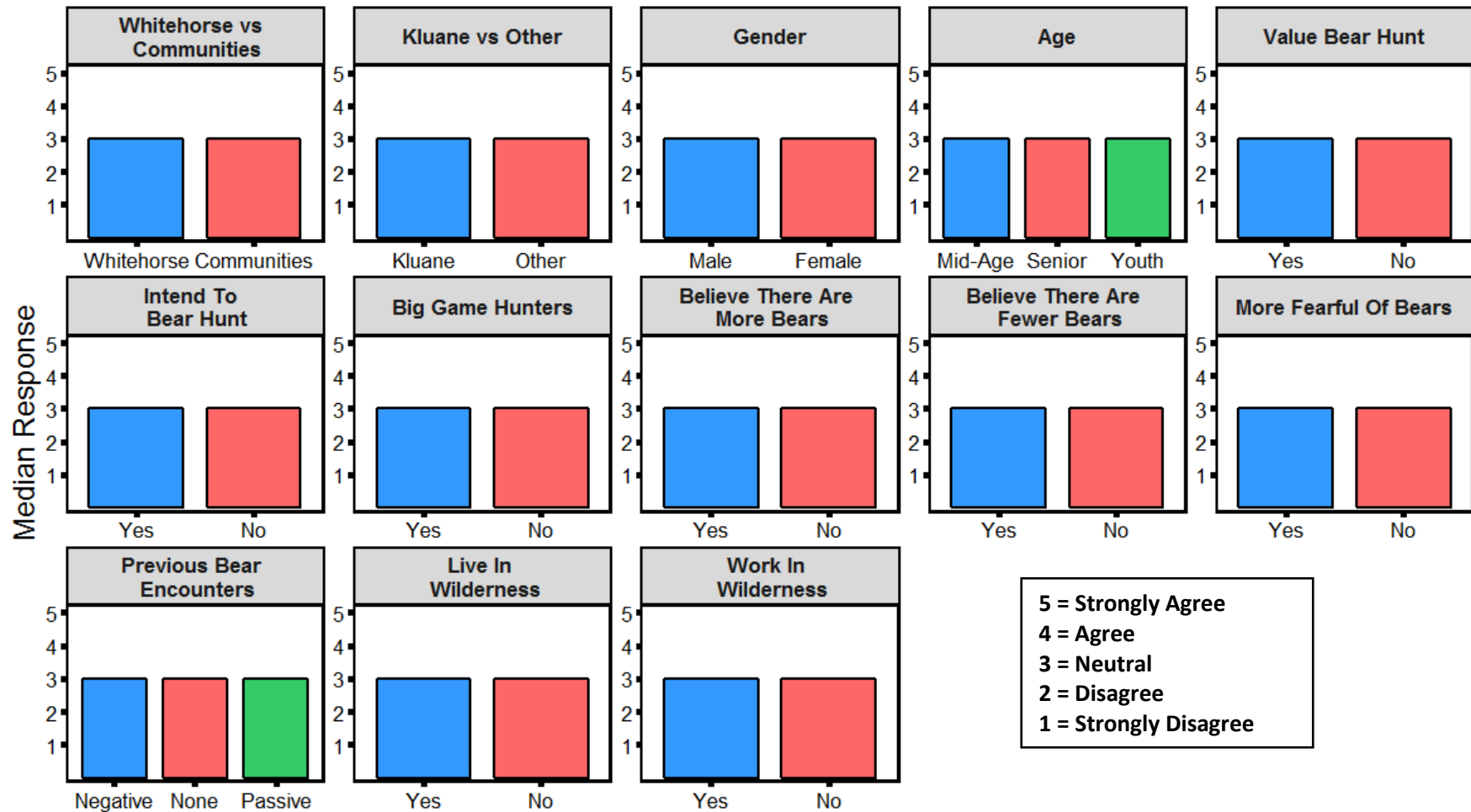


Figure 65. Median responses to Question 28 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q29. There will be a greater interest in hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon by non-residents (people from outside Yukon) in the next 10 years.

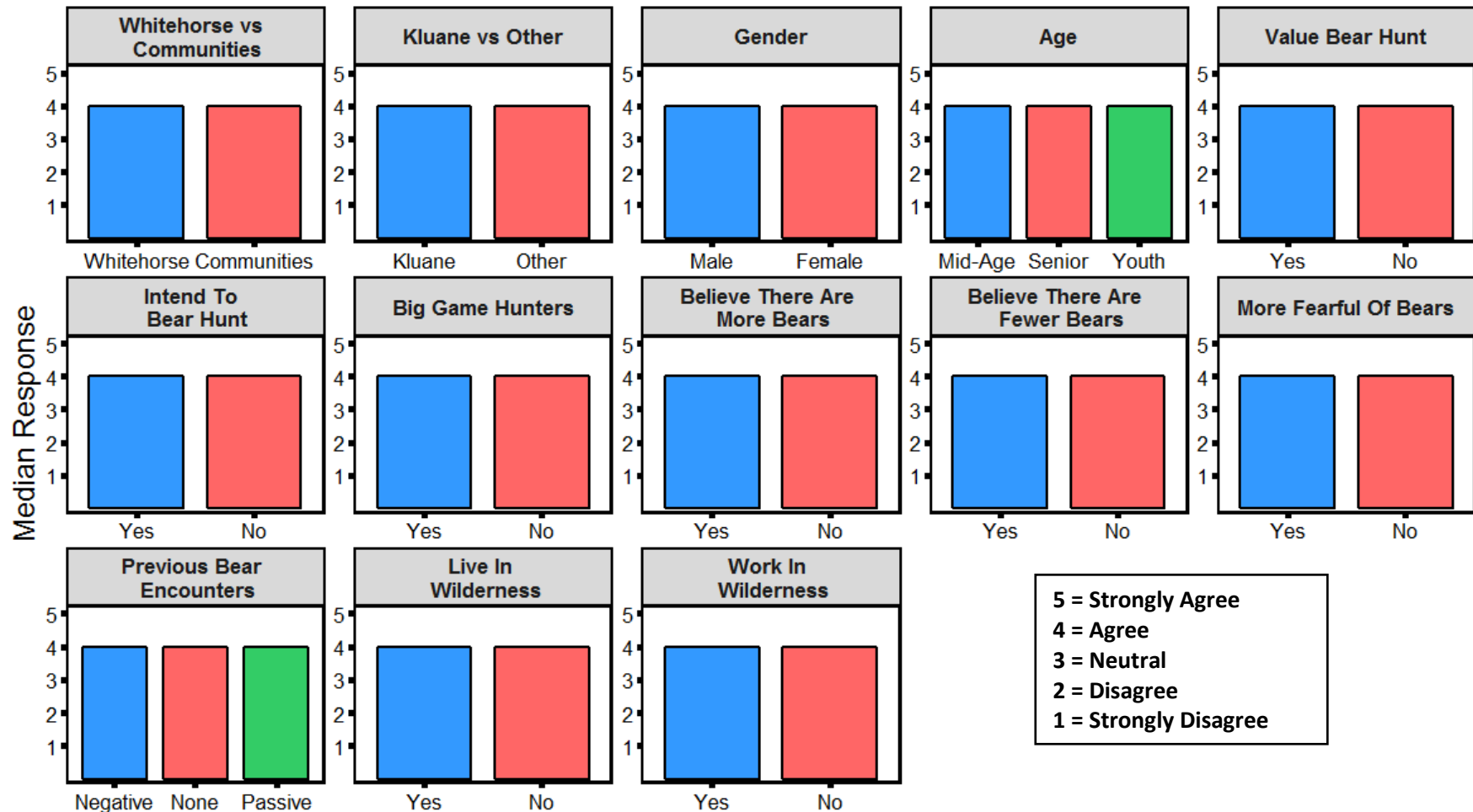


Figure 66. Median responses to Question 29 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q30. In the last 10 years, I have become more fearful of traveling in remote areas in Yukon because I believe there is an increased chance of encountering a grizzly bear.

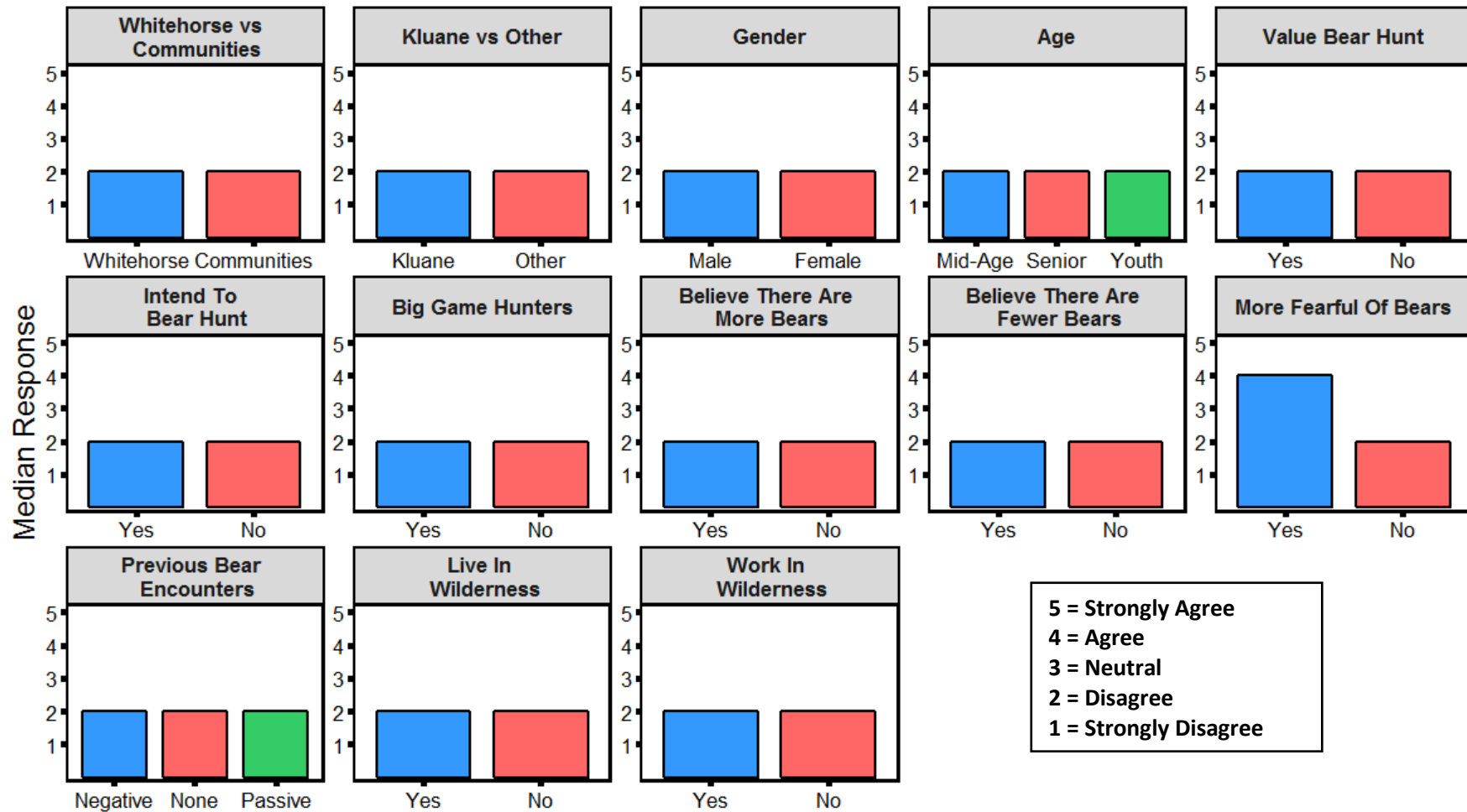


Figure 67. Median responses to Question 30 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q31. Grizzly bears seem to be more frequently seen on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

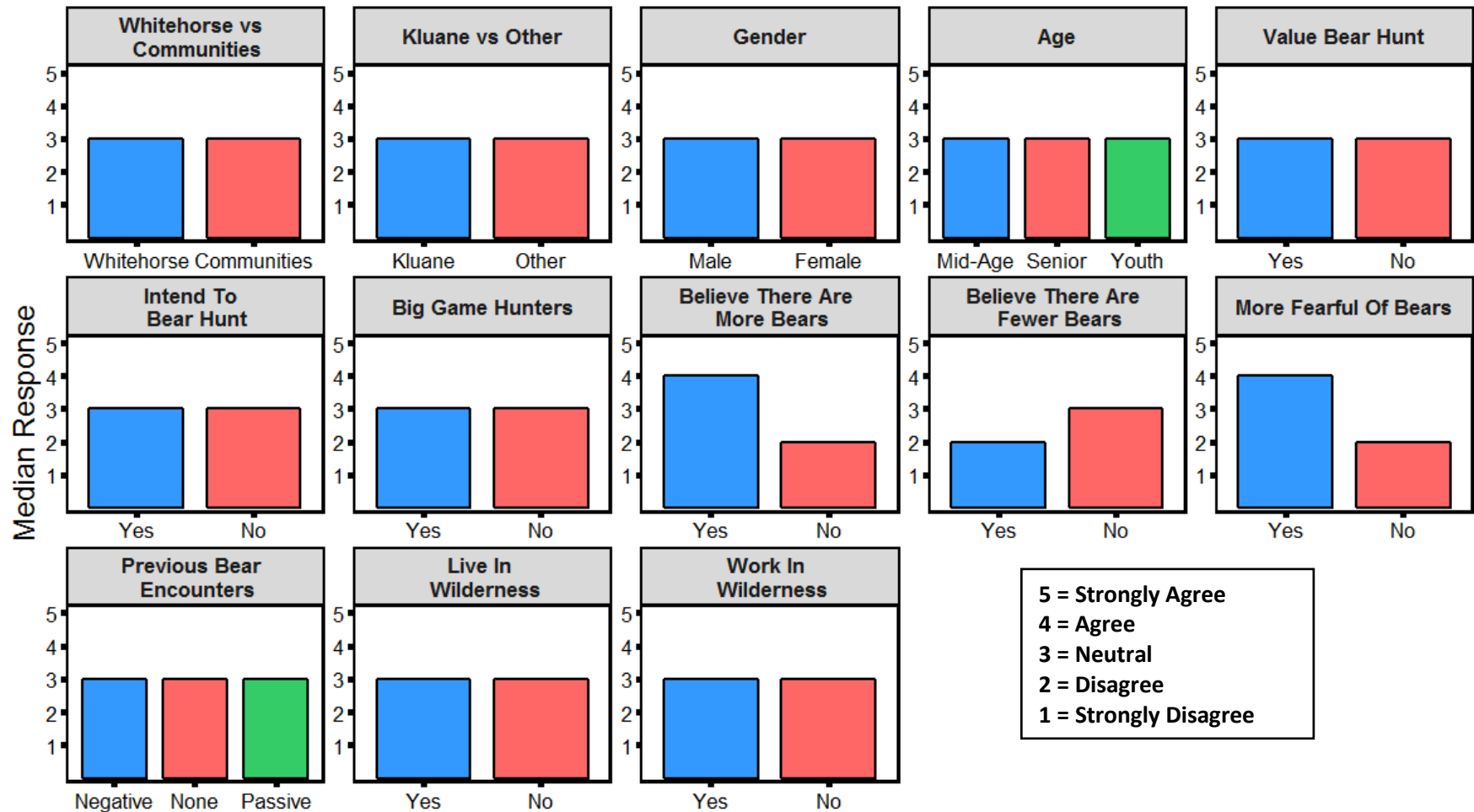


Figure 68. Median responses to Question 31 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q32. People seem to have become more interested in watching grizzly bears on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

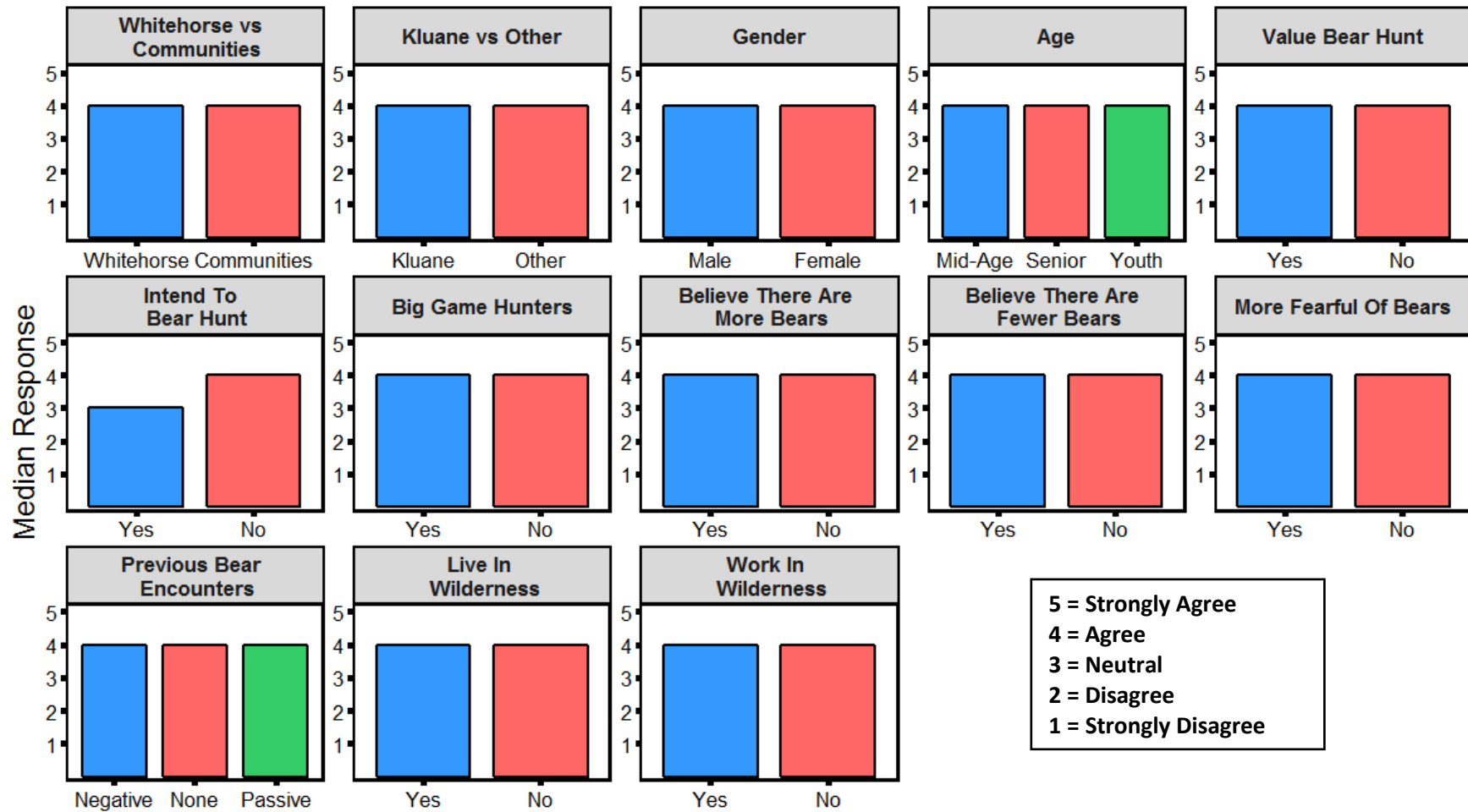


Figure 69. Median responses to Question 32 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Figures—Support for Potential Management Actions

Q34. Do you oppose or support hunting of grizzly bears by Yukon residents?

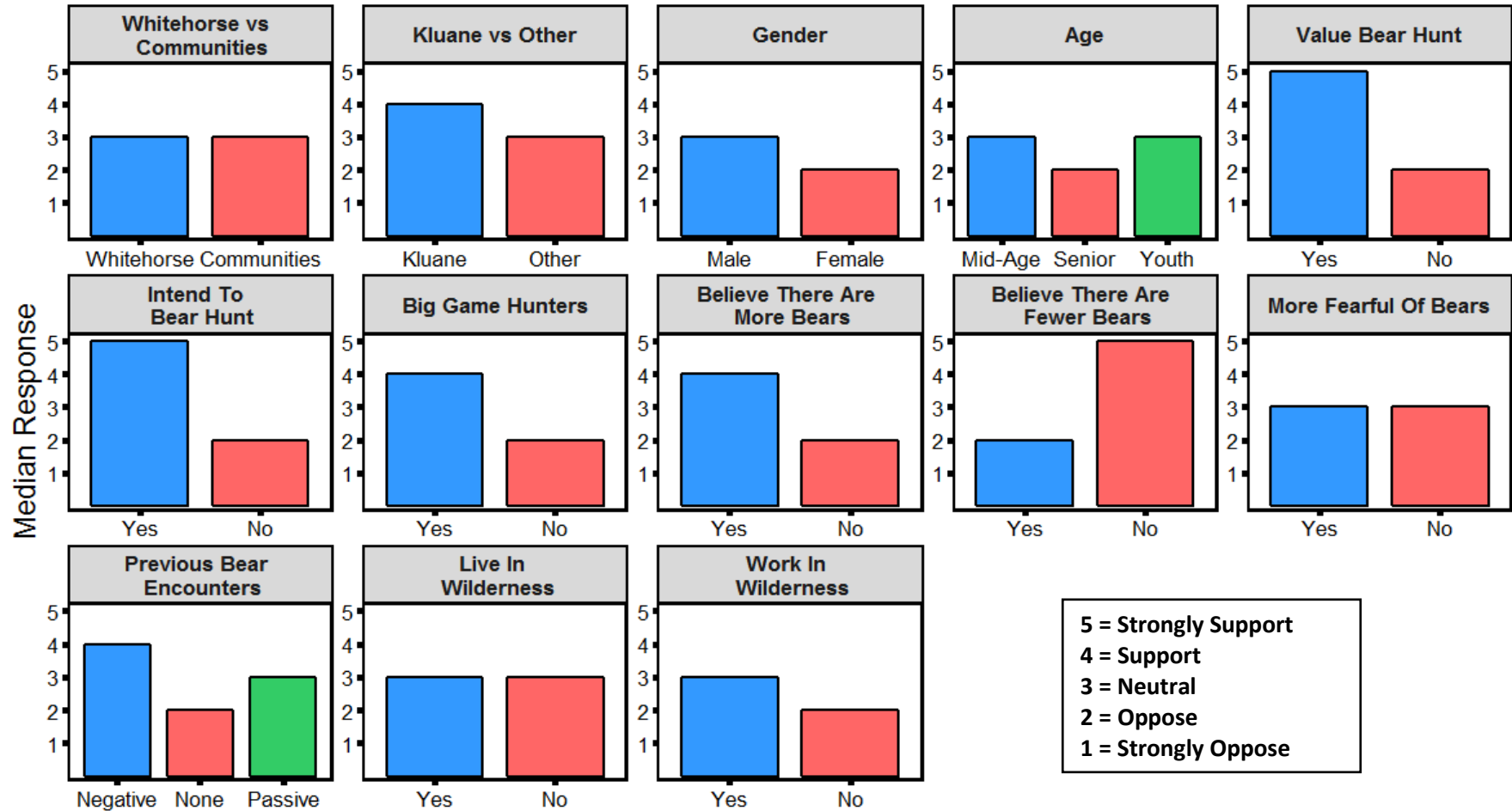


Figure 70. Median responses to Question 34 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q35. Do you oppose or support non-resident hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon?

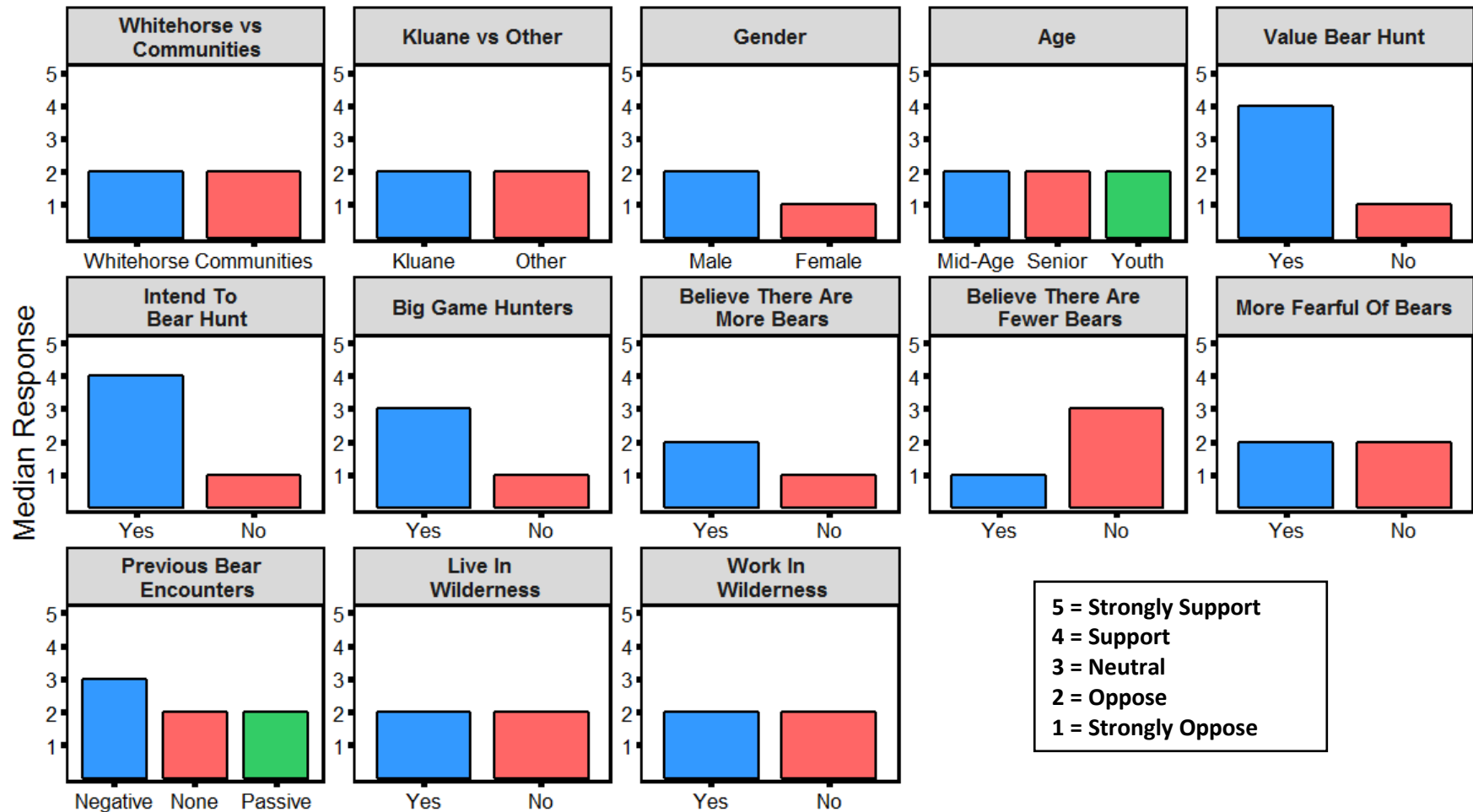


Figure 71. Median responses to Question 35 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q36. Would you oppose or support increased grizzly bear harvest fees for non-resident hunters? (Current non-resident grizzly bear harvest fees are \$500 for males and \$750 for females.)

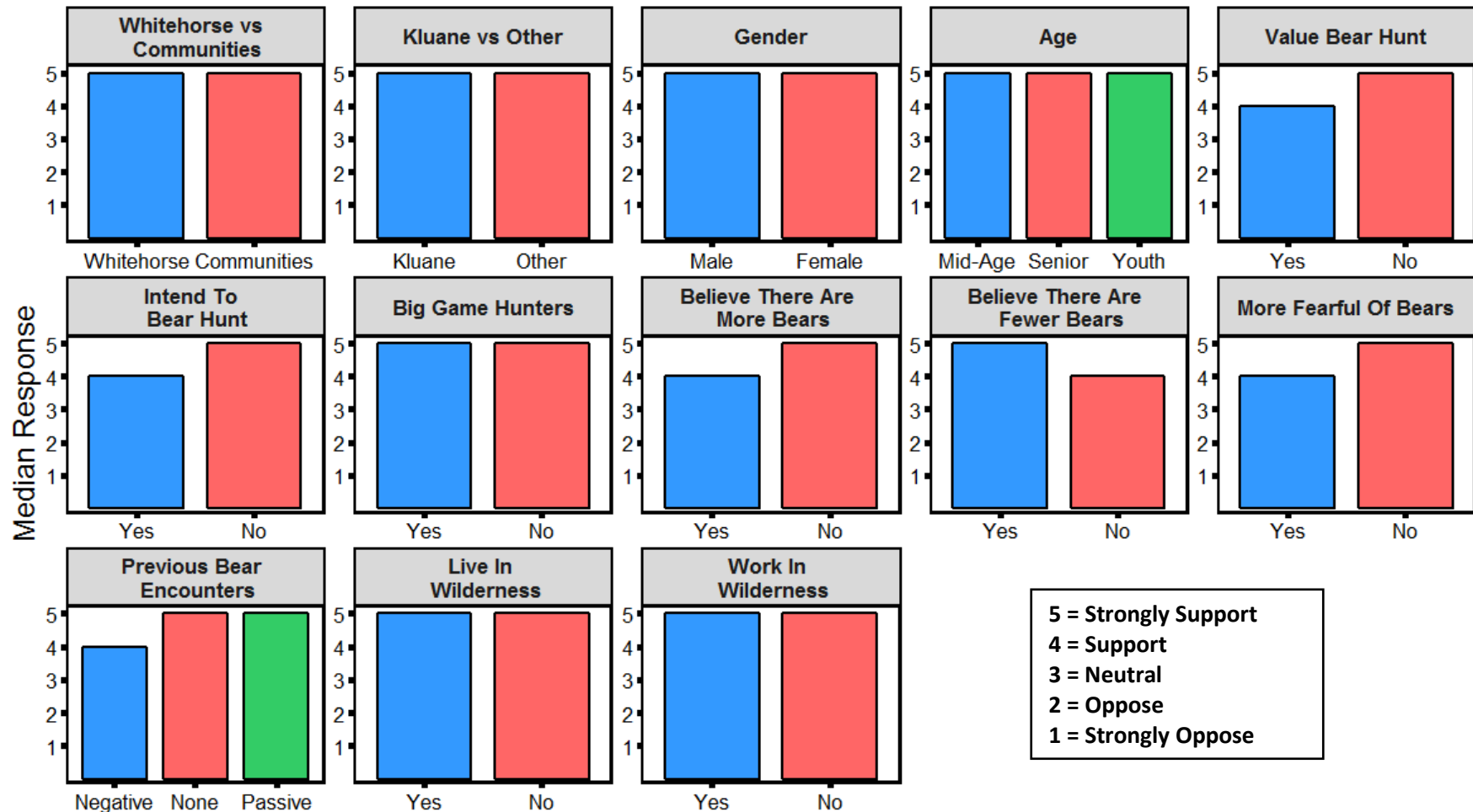


Figure 72. Median responses to Question 36 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q37. Would you oppose or support regulations to restrict roadside bear hunting in Yukon?

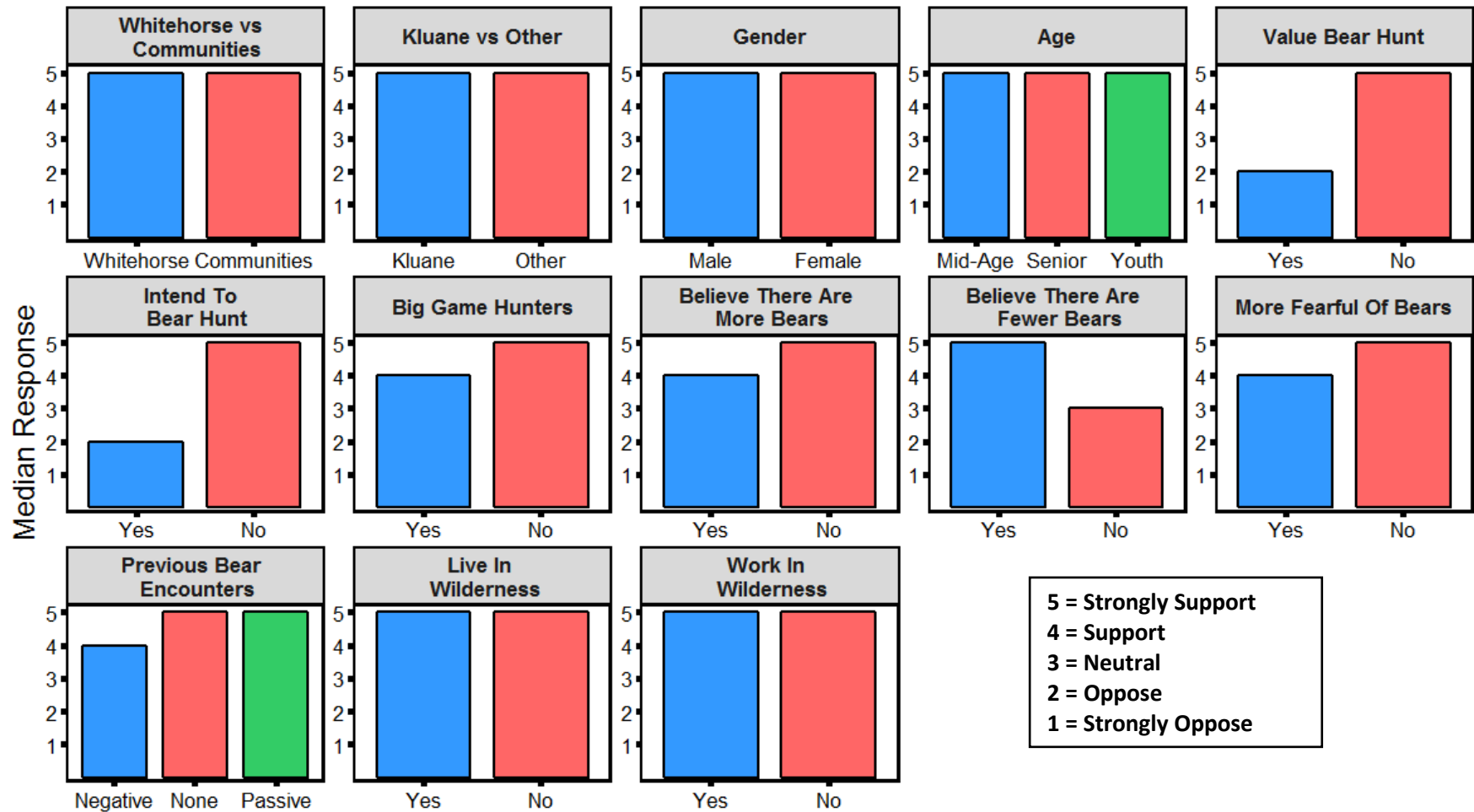


Figure 73. Median responses to Question 37 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q38. Do you oppose or support including grizzly bear habitat and other needs in land use plans and land development policies in Yukon?

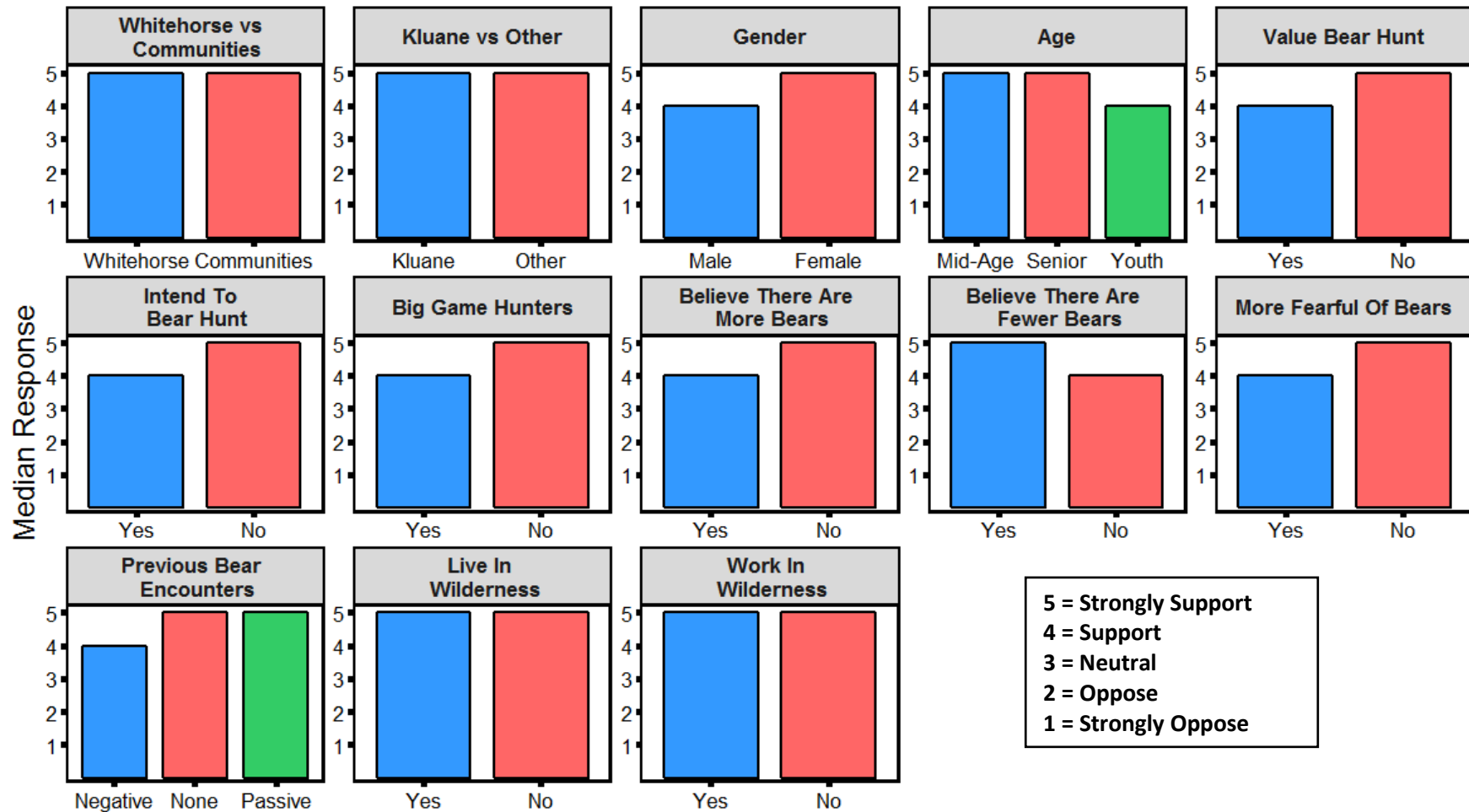


Figure 74. Median responses to Question 38 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q39. Would you oppose or support making sure proposed developments (for example, residential subdivisions, agricultural developments and industrial properties) minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

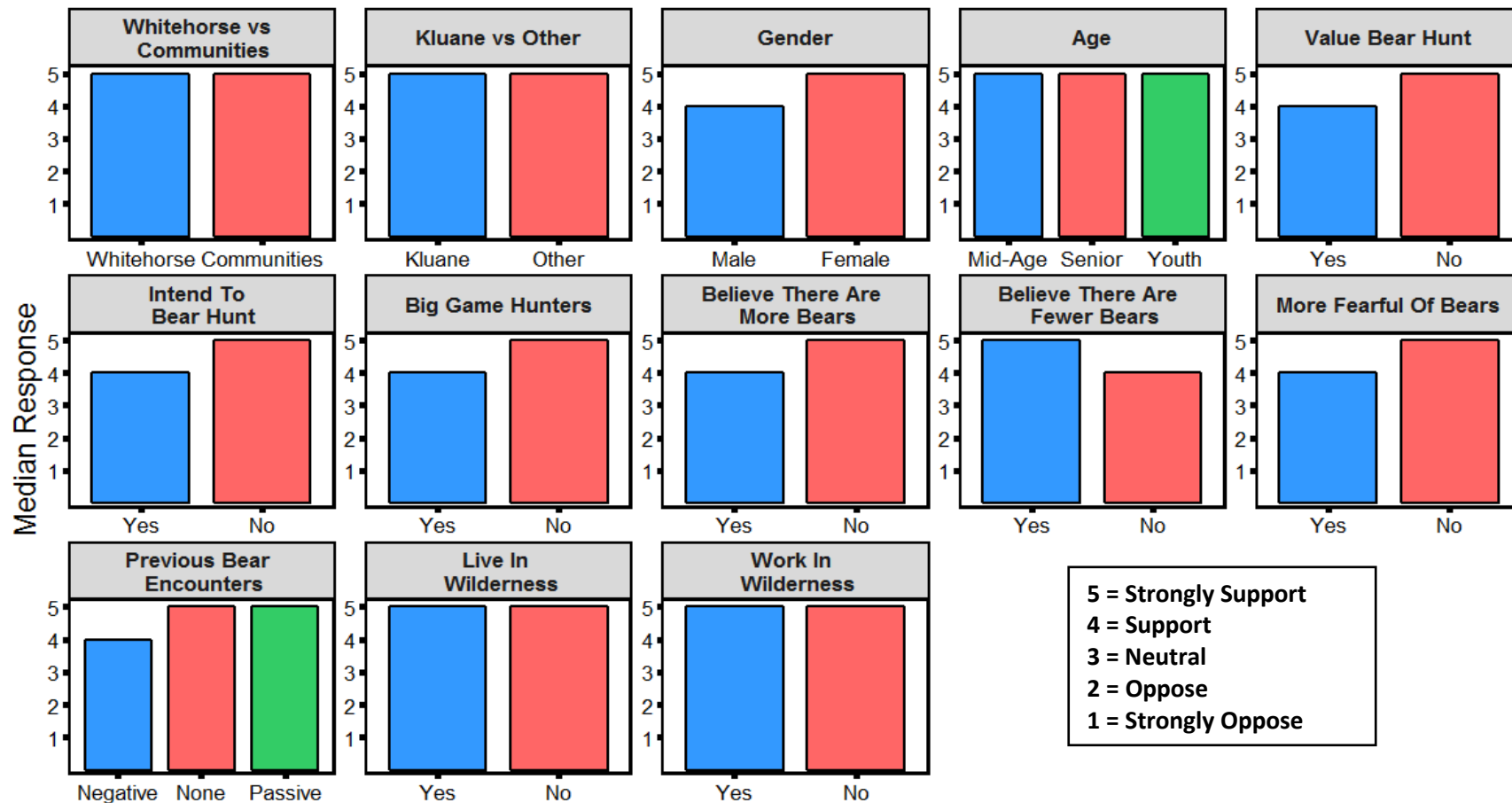


Figure 75. Median responses to Question 39 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q40. Would you oppose or support prohibiting tents (but allowing hard-sided recreational campers) in campgrounds with a high potential for human-grizzly bear conflicts?

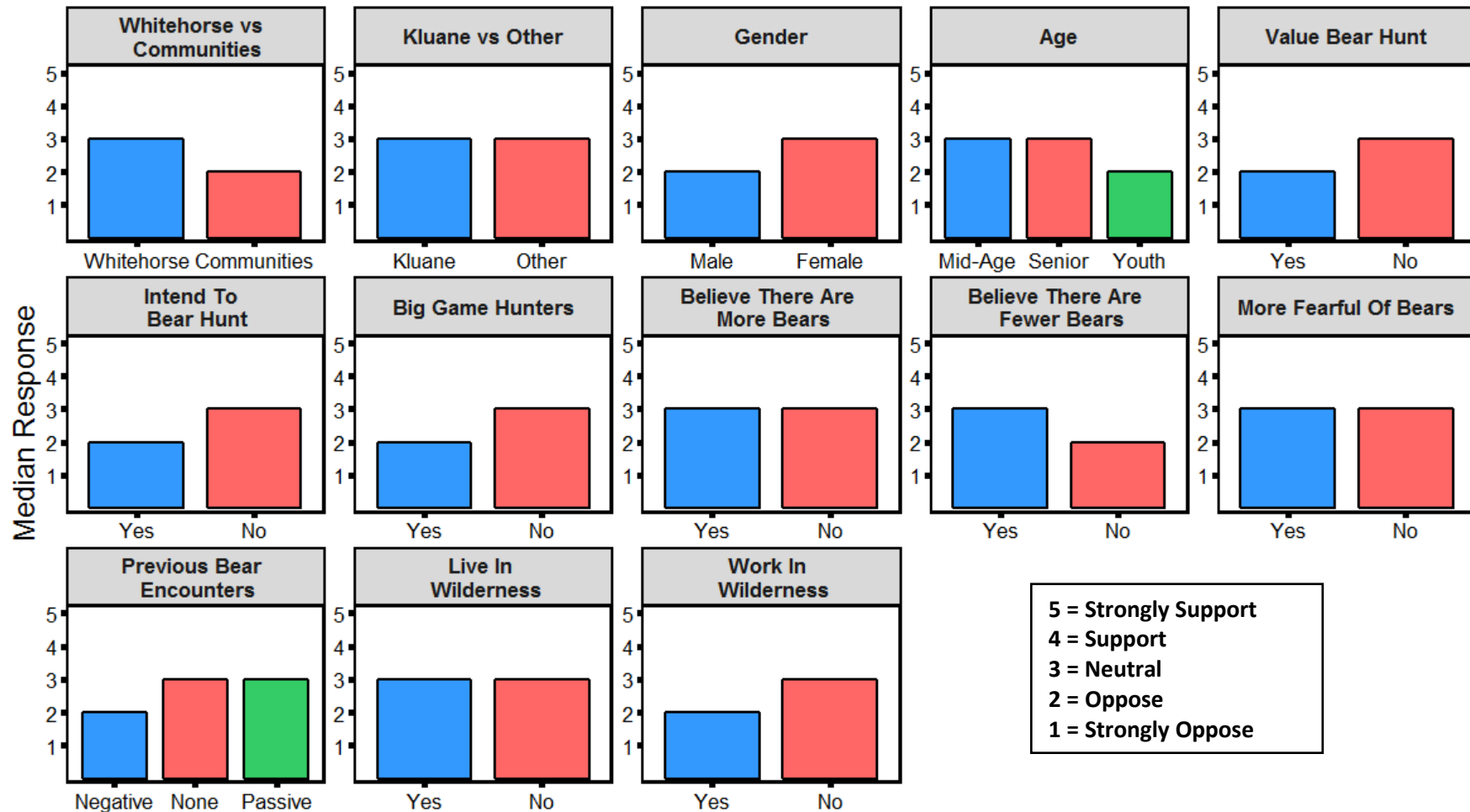


Figure 76. Median responses to Question 40 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q41. Would you oppose or support permanent closures of campgrounds that are located in high-quality bear habitat or movement corridors?

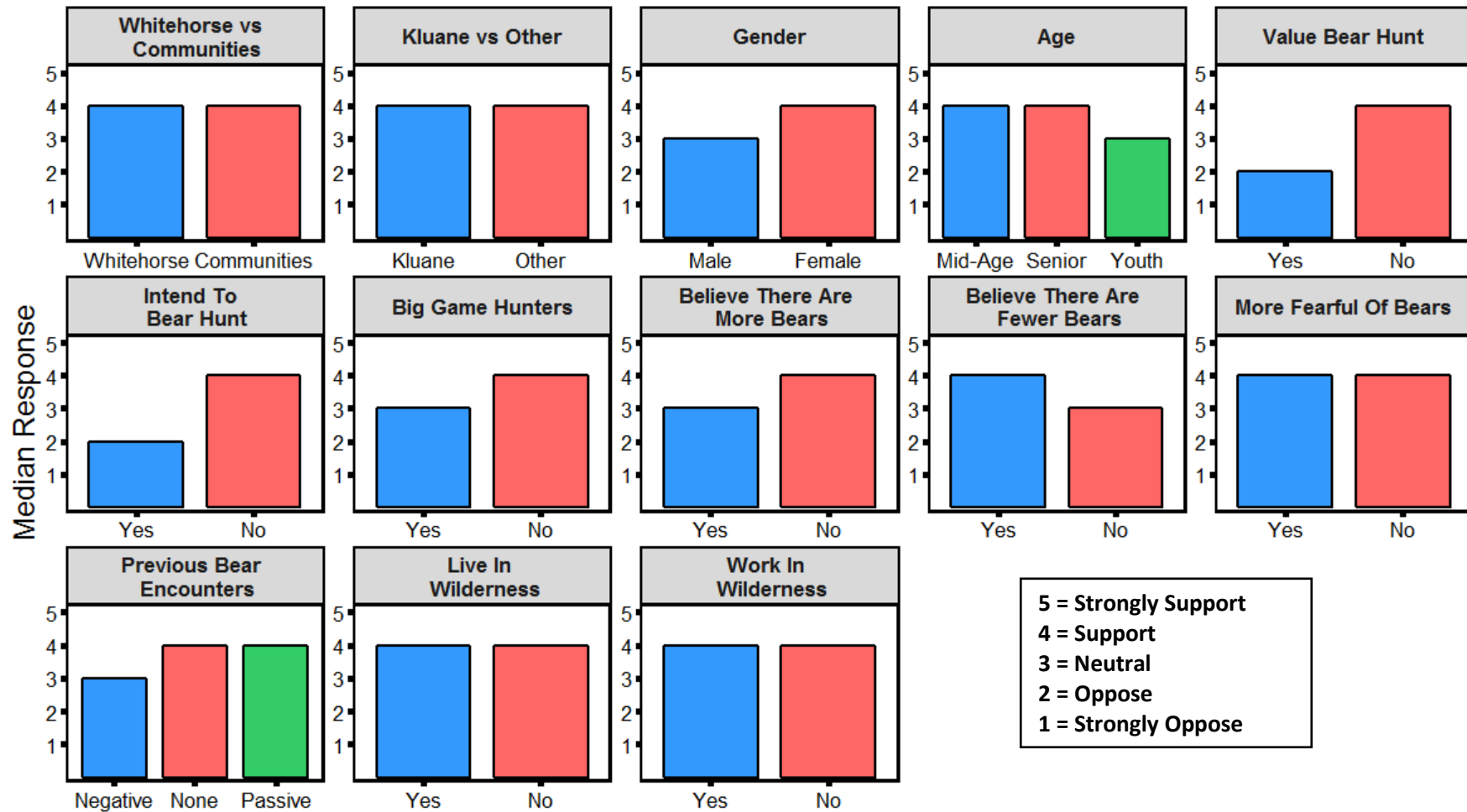


Figure 77. Median responses to Question 41 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q42. Do you oppose or support a minimum group size for people recreating (i.e., hiking, mountain biking, wade fishing) in areas with a high potential for encountering grizzly bears?

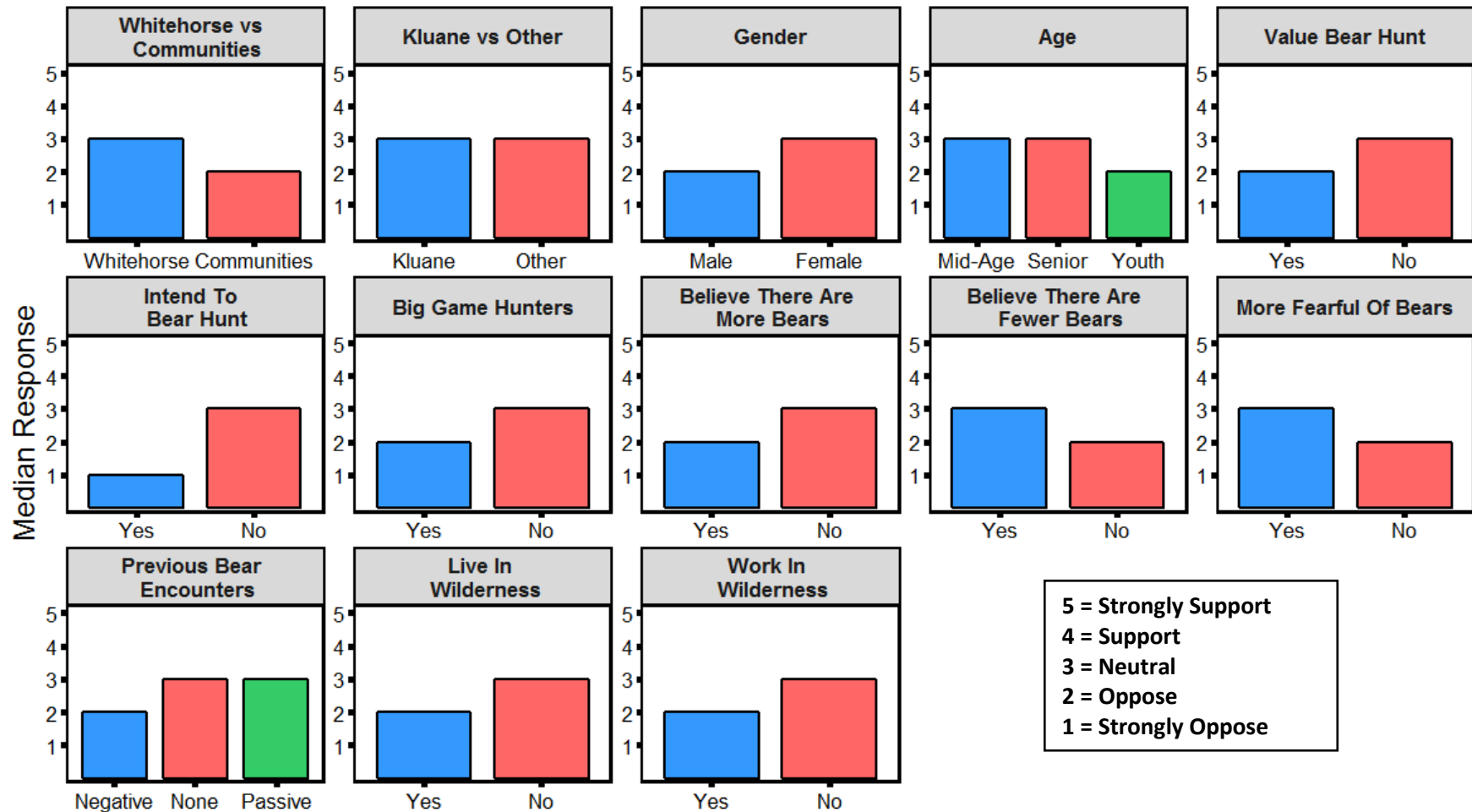


Figure 78. Median responses to Question 42 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q43. Do you oppose or support the aversive conditioning of grizzly bears using noisemakers, non-lethal projectiles, or specially trained dogs?

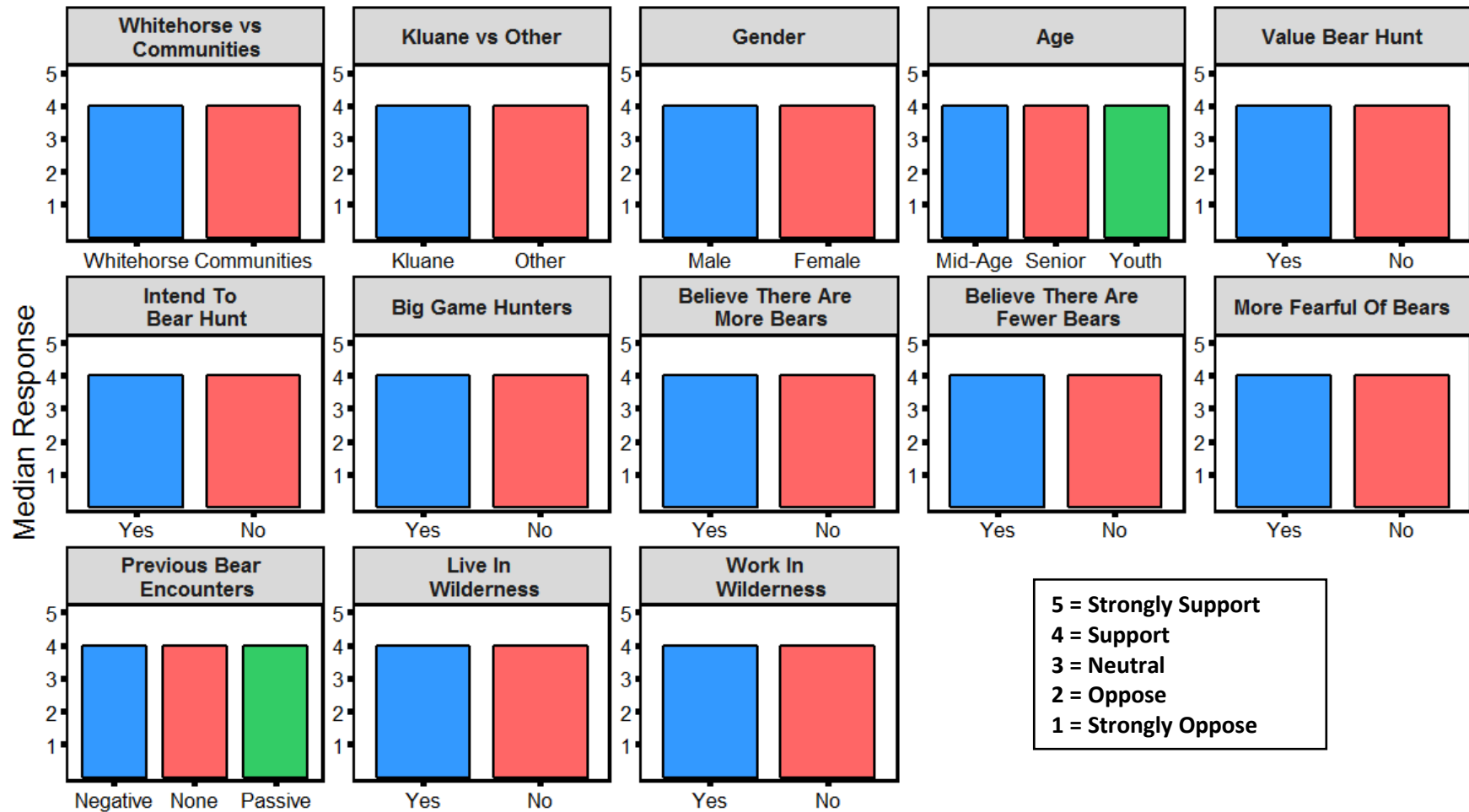


Figure 79. Median responses to Question 43 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q44. Do you oppose or support restoring or improving salmon runs to improve natural food sources for grizzly bears?

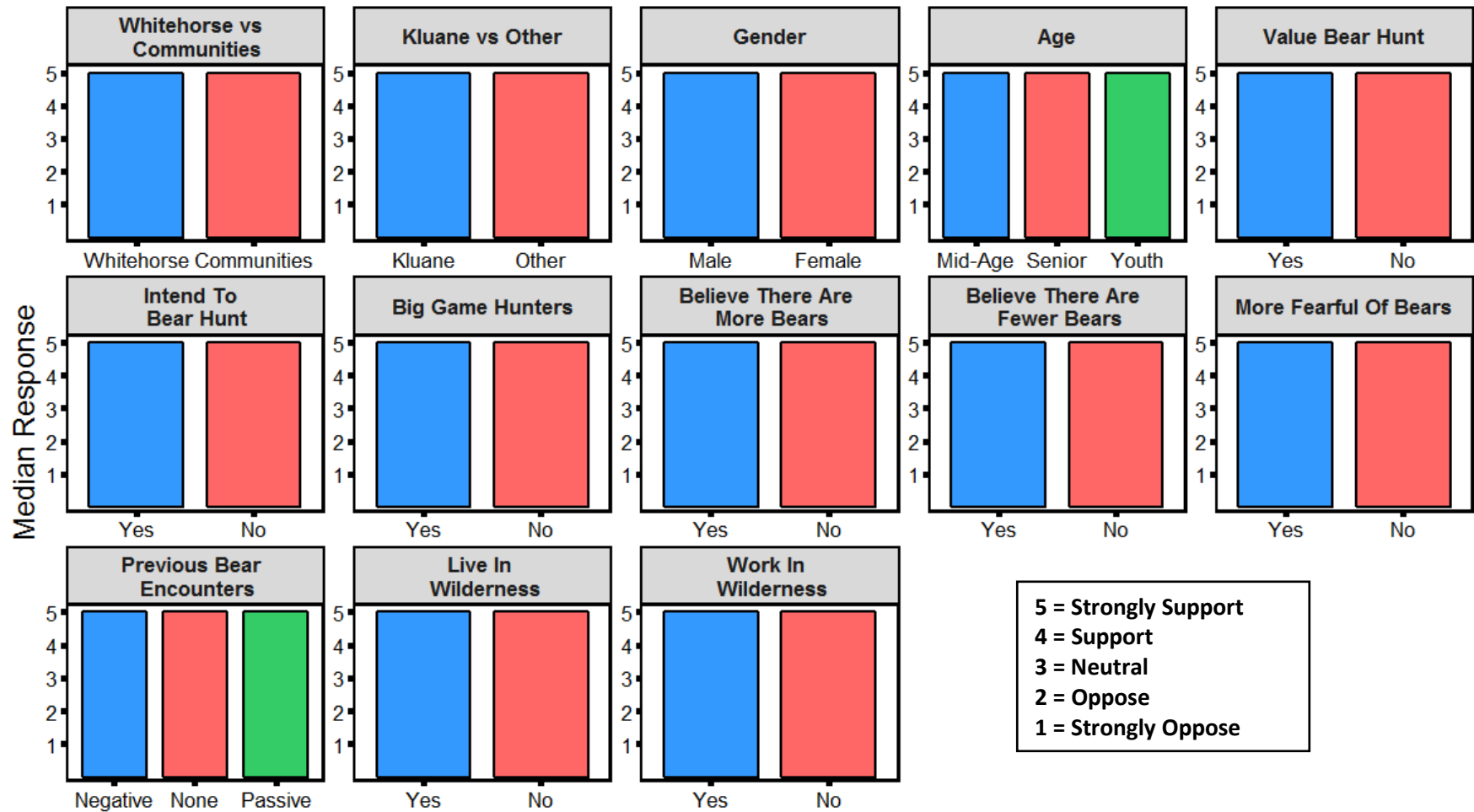


Figure 80. Median responses to Question 44 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q45. Would you oppose or support new initiatives for organized grizzly bear viewing in Yukon (e.g. bear viewing platforms)?

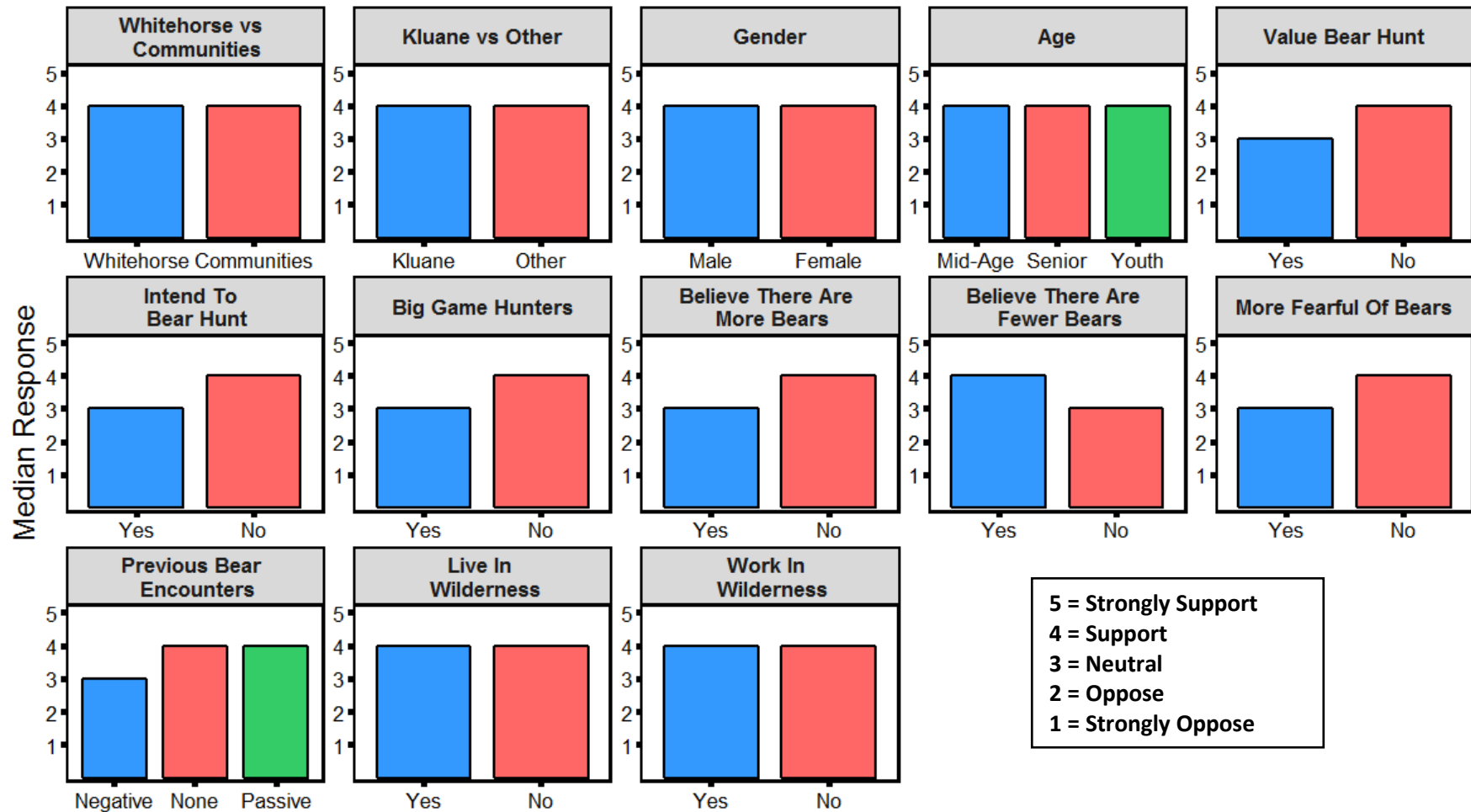


Figure 81. Median responses to Question 45 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q46. Would you oppose or support increased prosecution and larger fines for property owners who leave attractants out, which may result in human-grizzly bear conflicts?

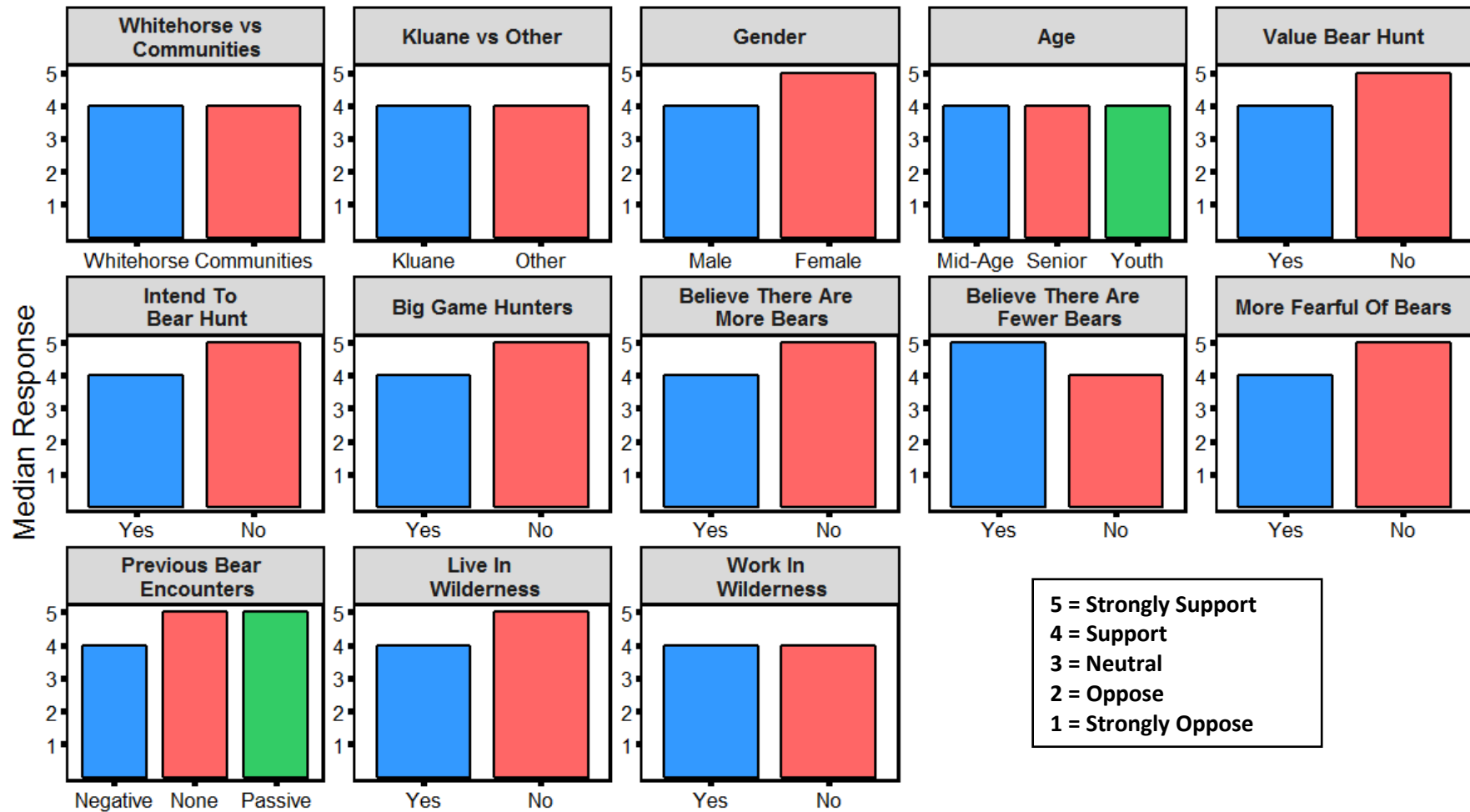


Figure 82. Median responses to Question 46 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q47. Would you oppose or support regulations for making electric fences mandatory to protect agricultural livestock and minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

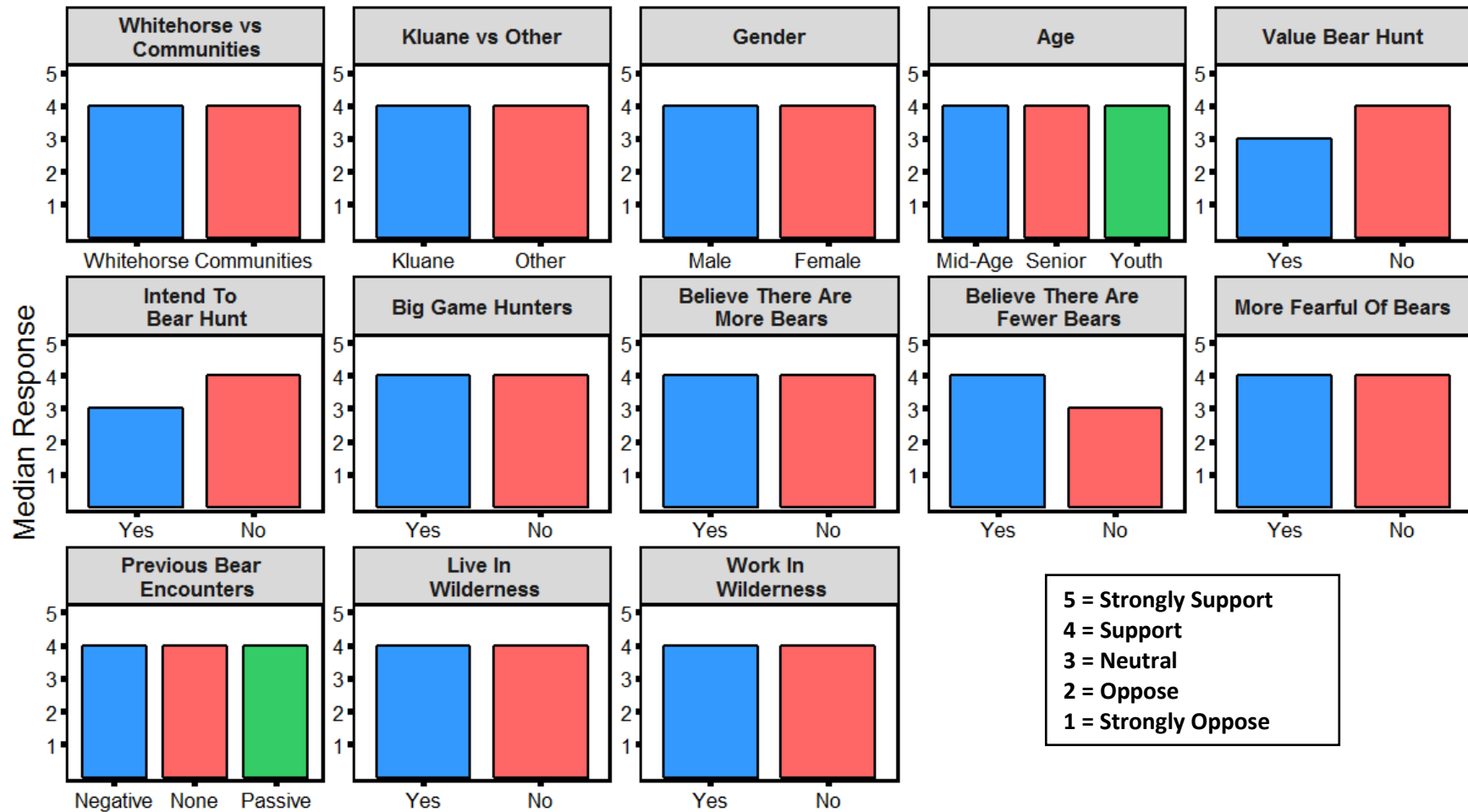


Figure 83. Median responses to Question 47 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q48. Do you oppose or support municipalities purchasing bear-proof garbage containers for residents in areas that have conflicts with grizzly bears as a result of garbage?

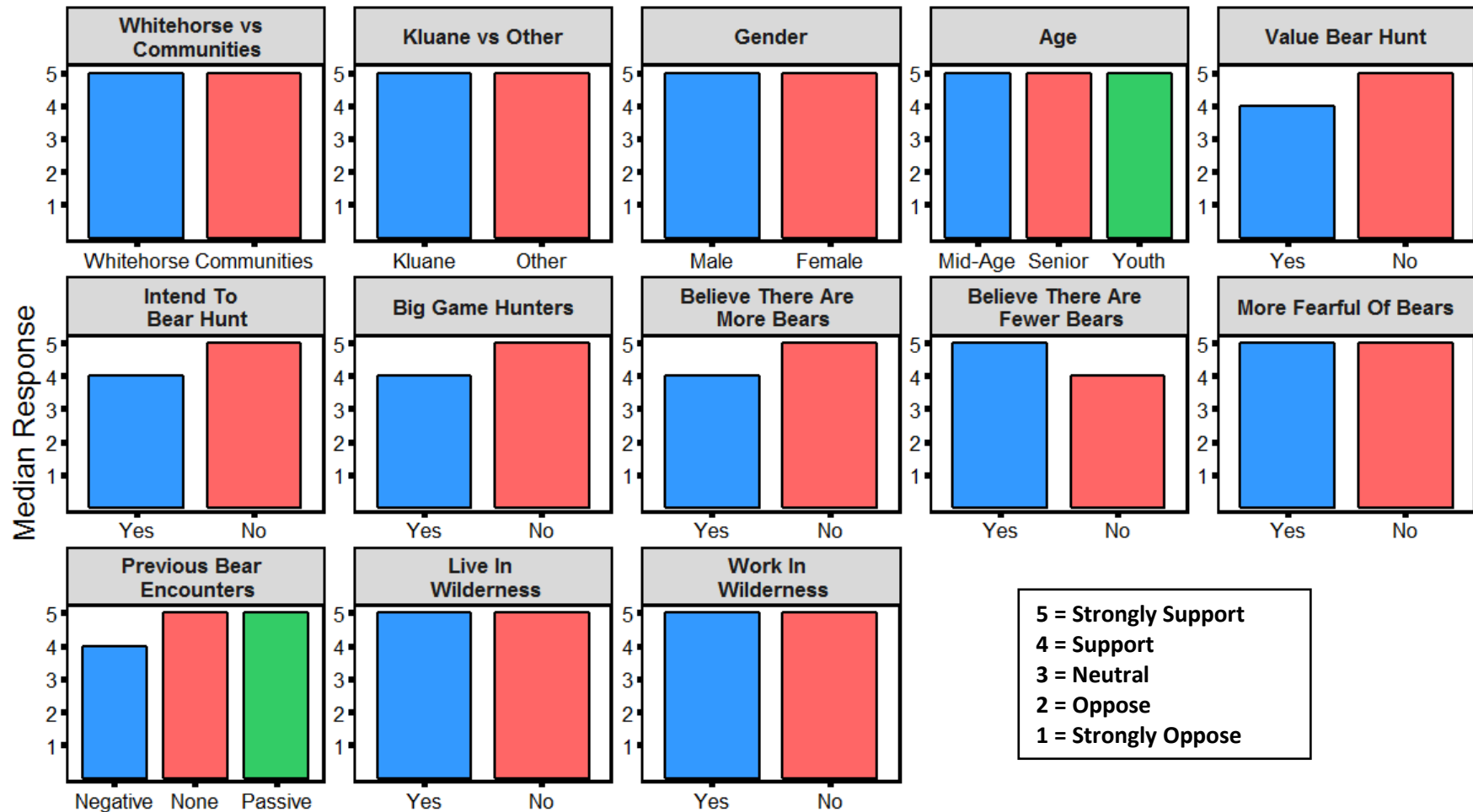


Figure 84. Median responses to Question 48 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q49. Would you oppose or support seasonal closures of campgrounds where there is high potential for human-grizzly bear conflicts?

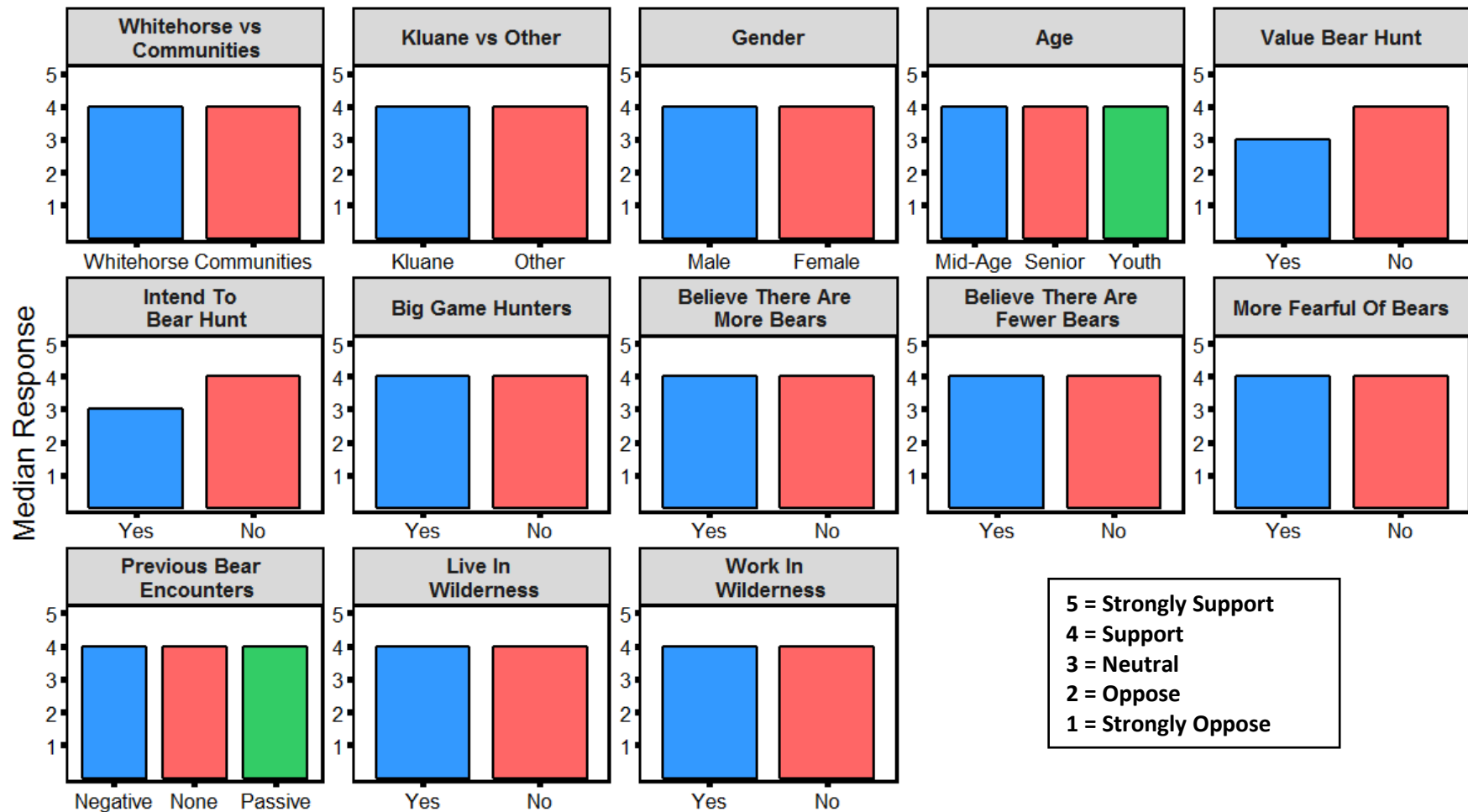


Figure 85. Median responses to Question 49 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q50. Would you oppose or support the relocation of grizzly bears within their home range (ie. less than 25 km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?

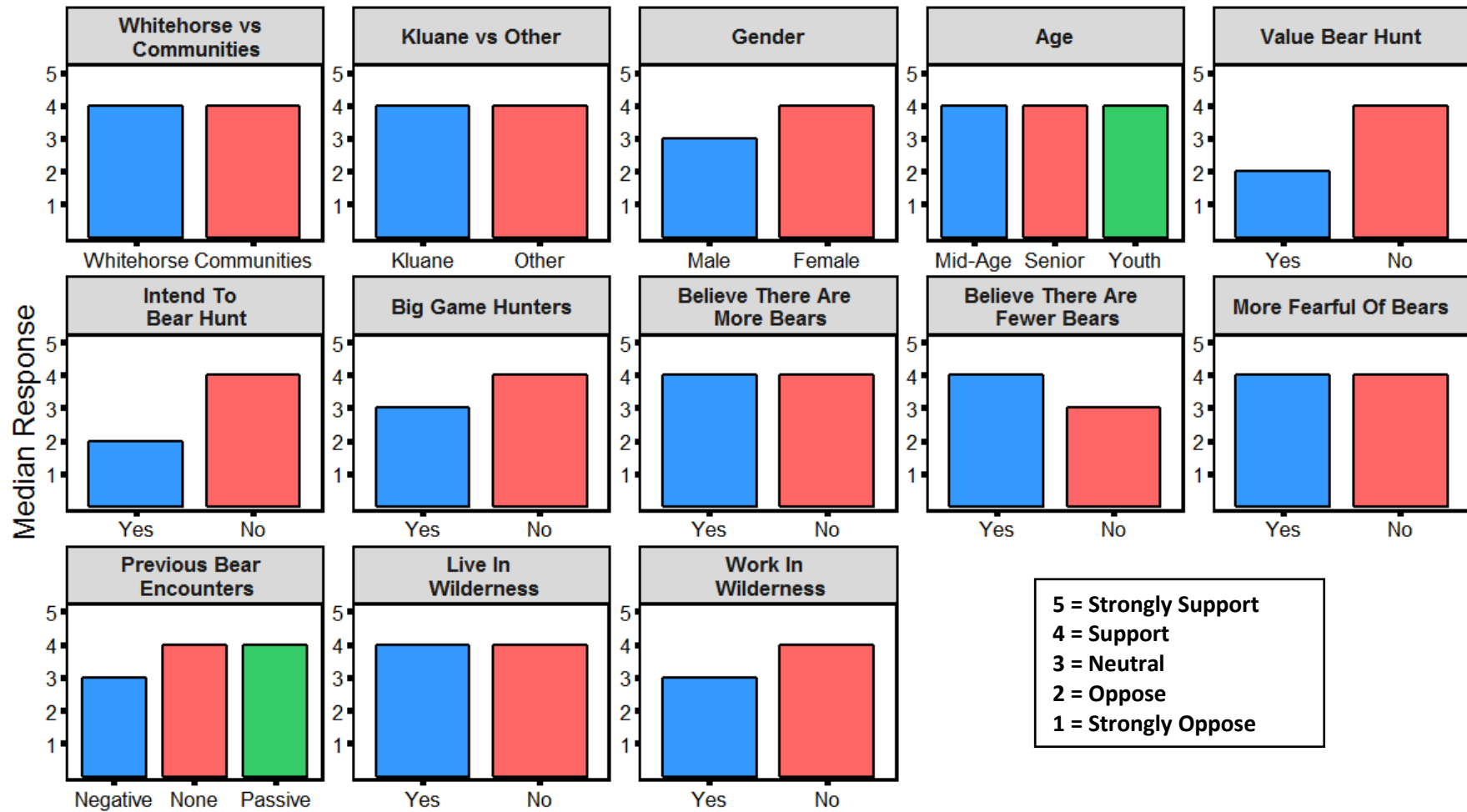


Figure 86. Median responses to Question 50 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q51. Would you oppose or support the translocation of grizzly bears outside their home range (i.e. more than 25 km away, often 100 or more km away) that have been involved in conflict with people?

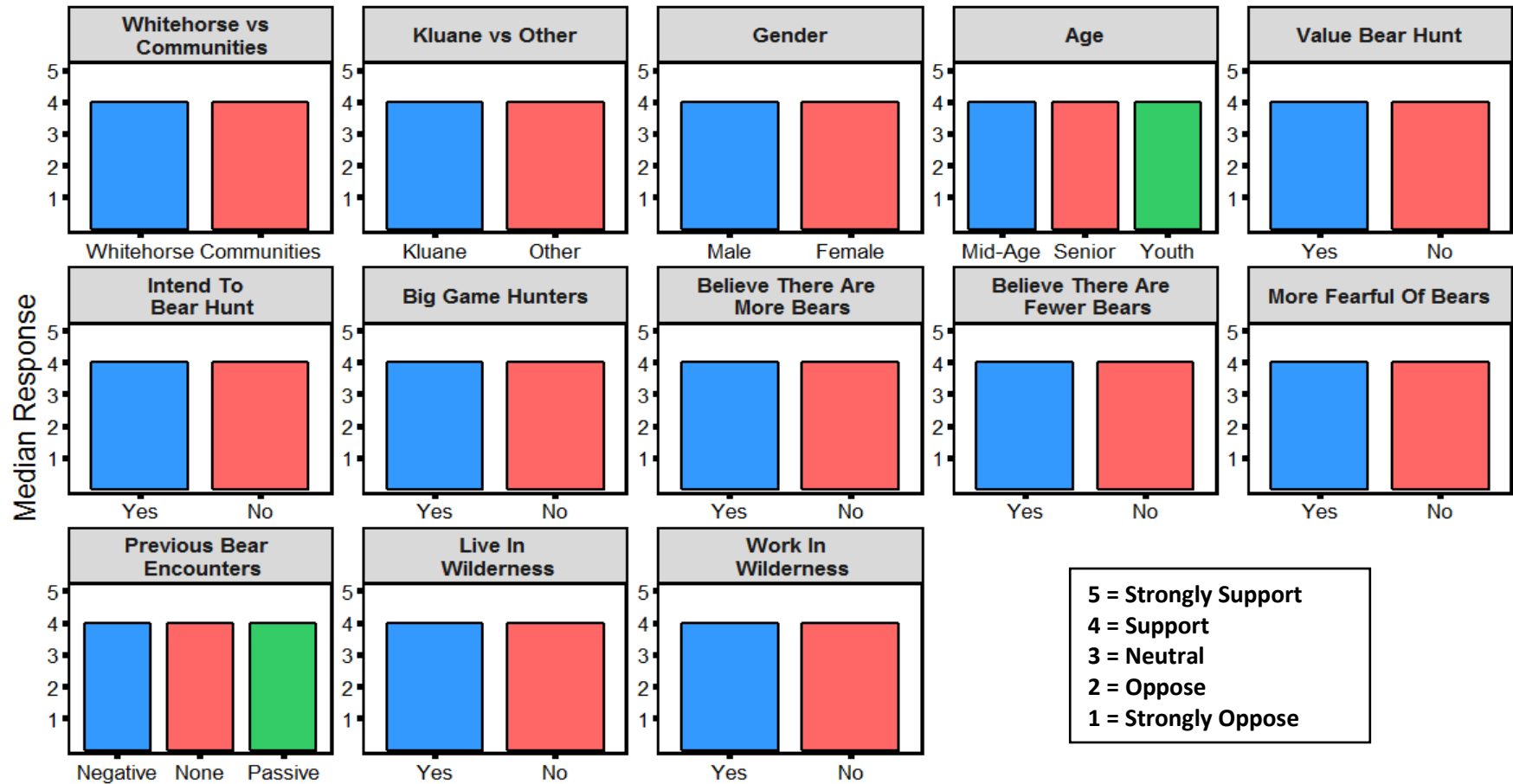


Figure 87. Median responses to Question 51 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q52. Do you oppose or support conservation officers lethally removing grizzly bears that have been involved in conflicts with people?

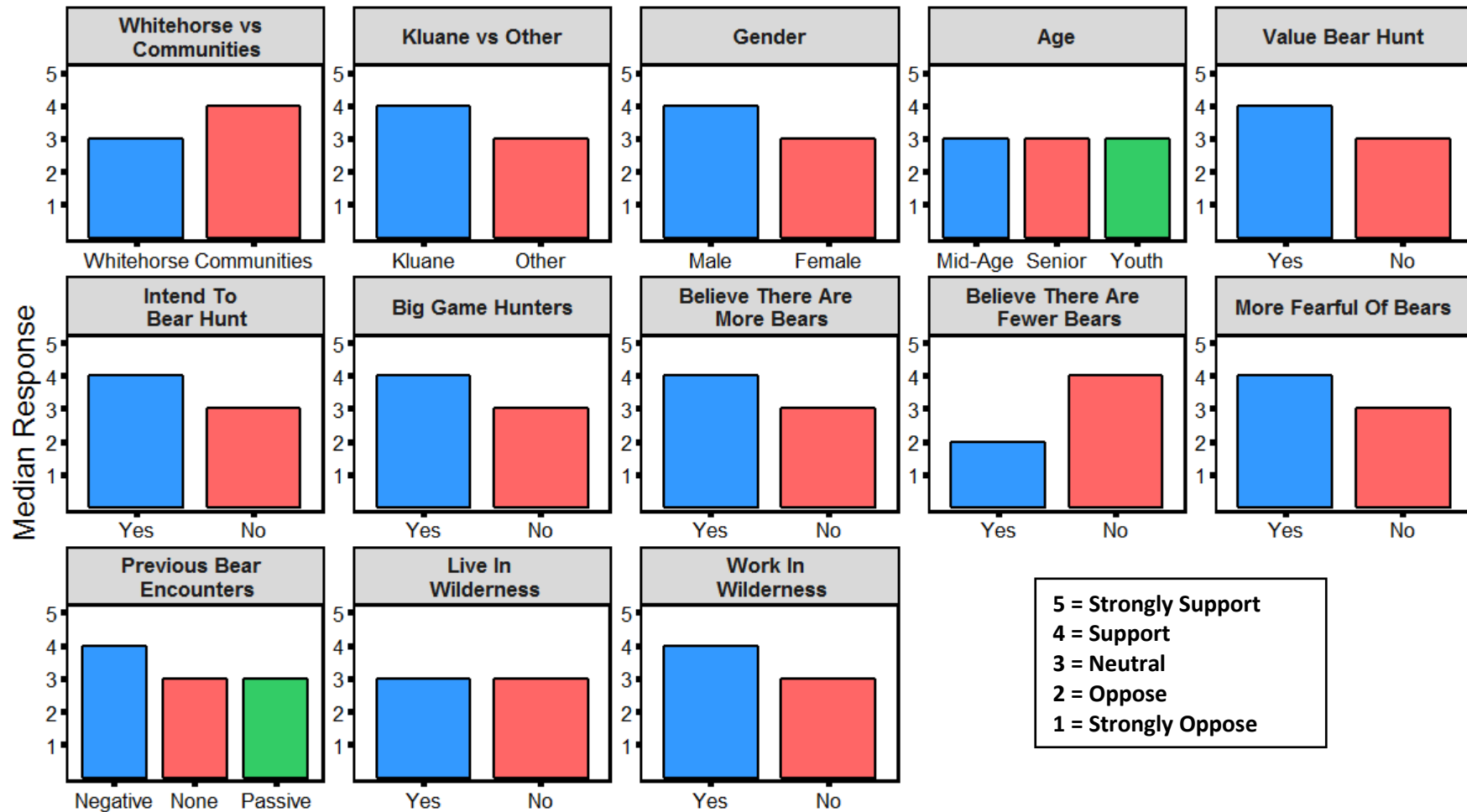


Figure 88. Median responses to Question 52 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q53. Would you oppose or support diversionary feeding (that is, providing bears with supplemental food during times when natural foods are scarce) as a management action to attract bears away from areas where they come into conflict with people?

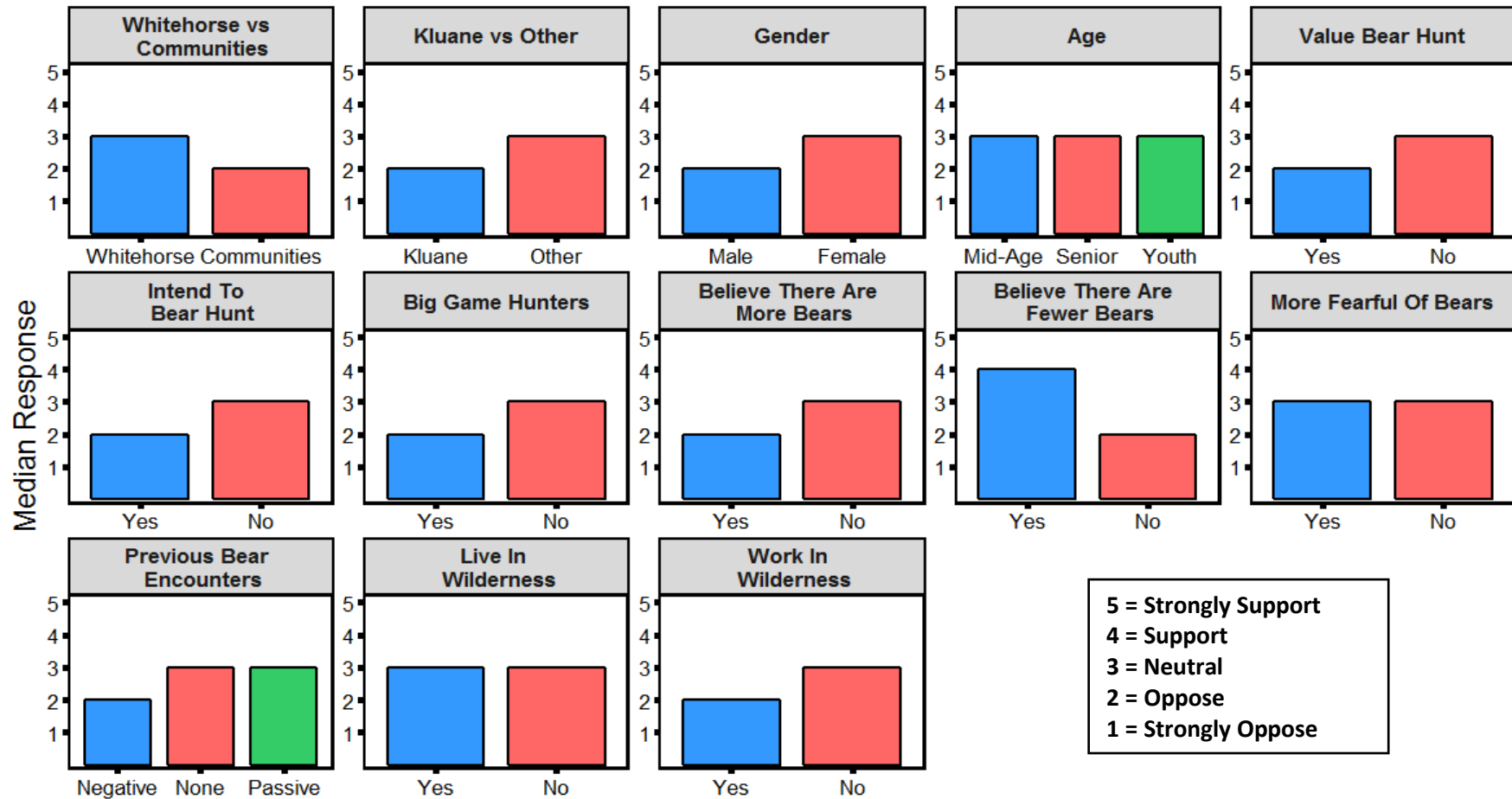


Figure 89. Median responses to Question 53 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q54. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to manage human-grizzly bear conflicts?

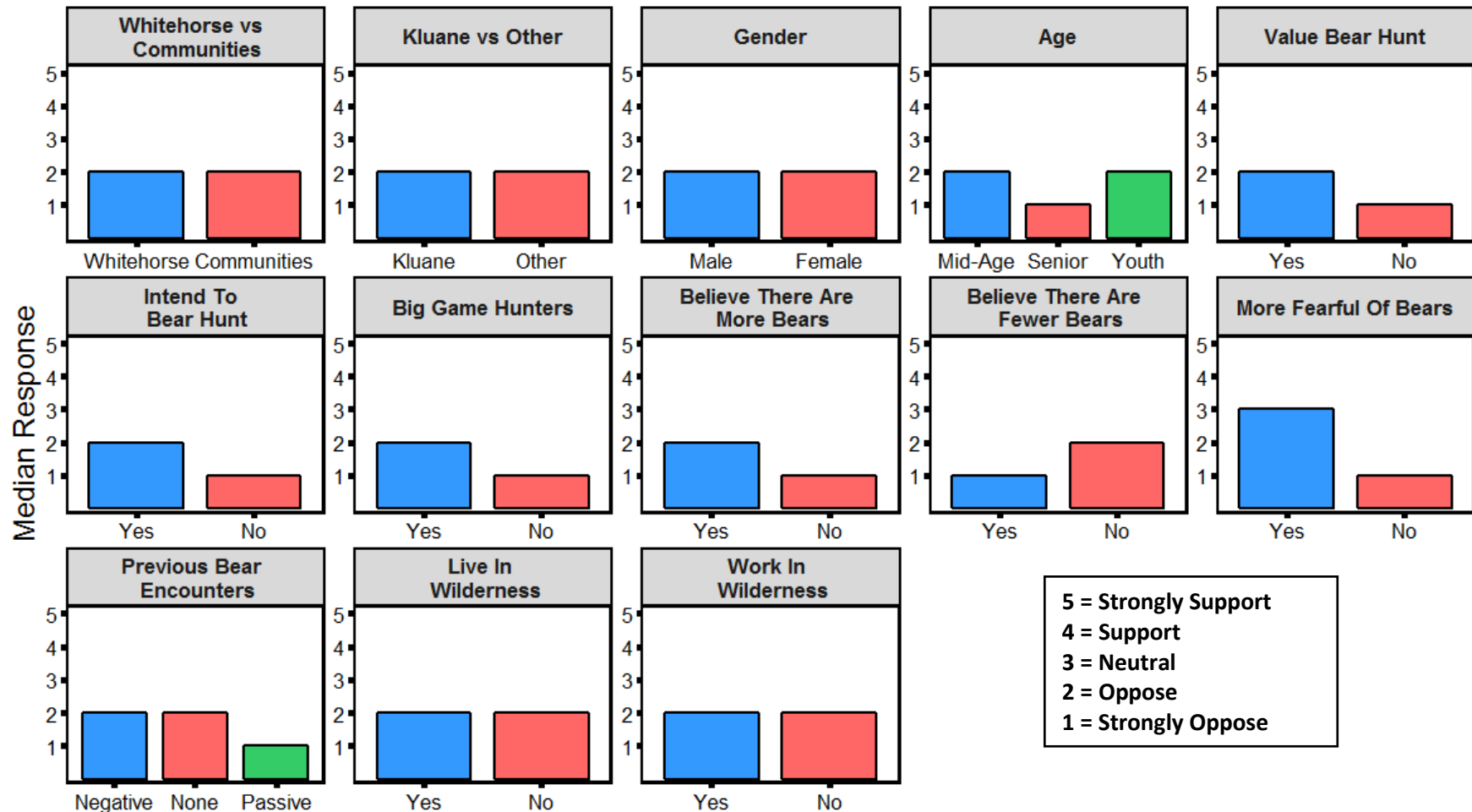


Figure 90. Median responses to Question 54 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q55. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to aid in recovering depleted moose or caribou populations?

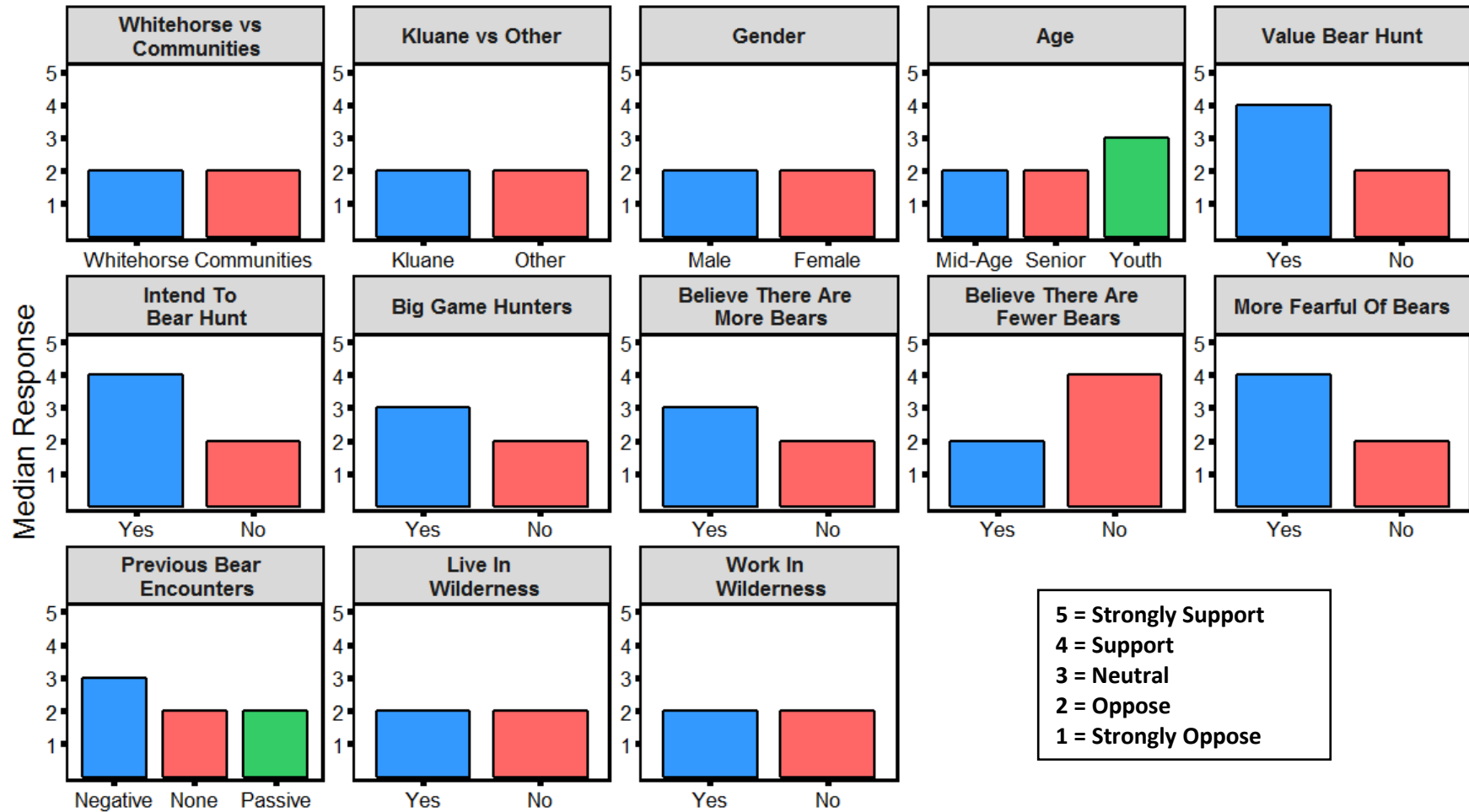


Figure 91. Median responses to Question 55 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q56. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to provide greater moose or caribou harvest opportunities?

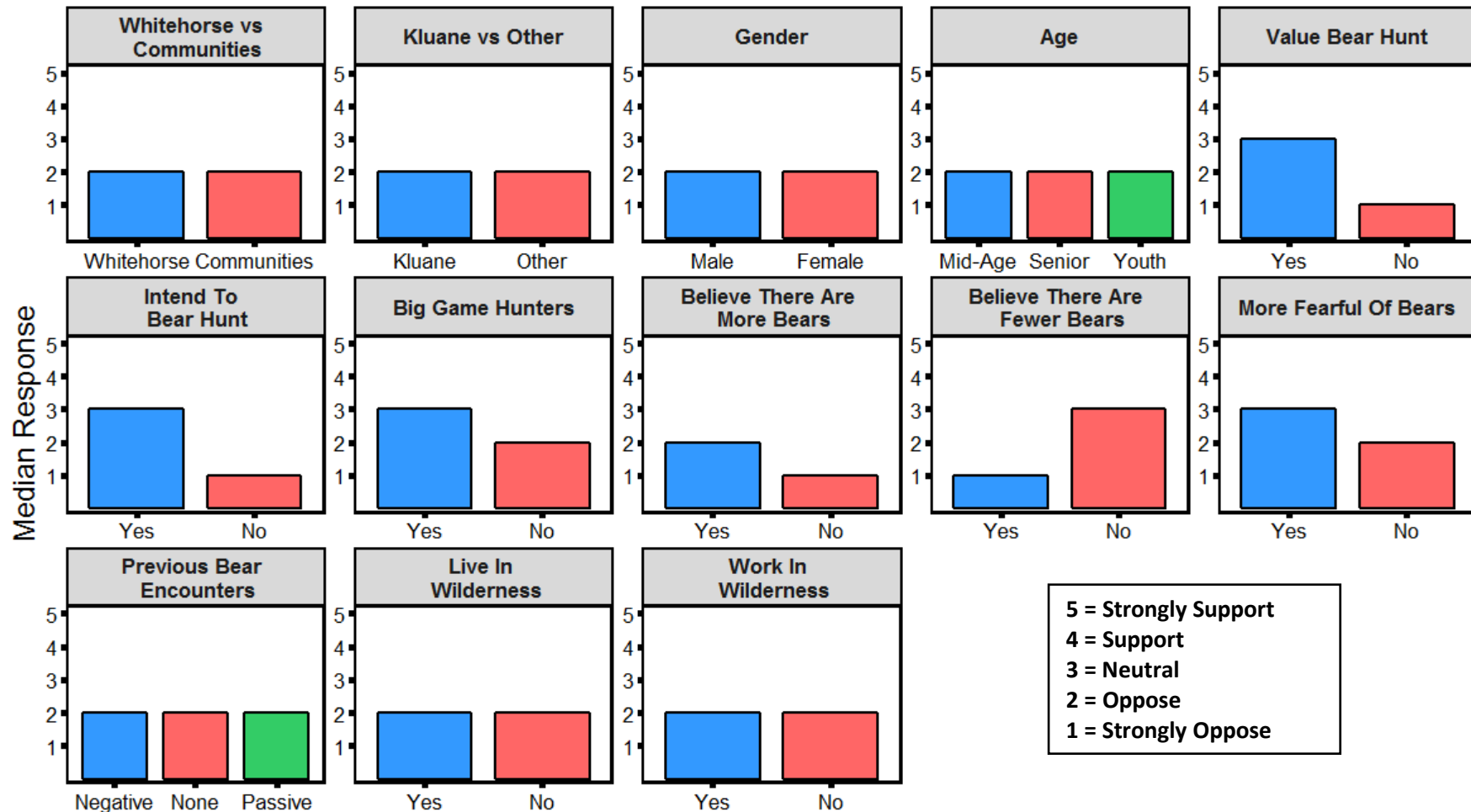


Figure 92. Median responses to Question 56 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

Q57. Do you oppose or support monitoring of grizzly bear populations?

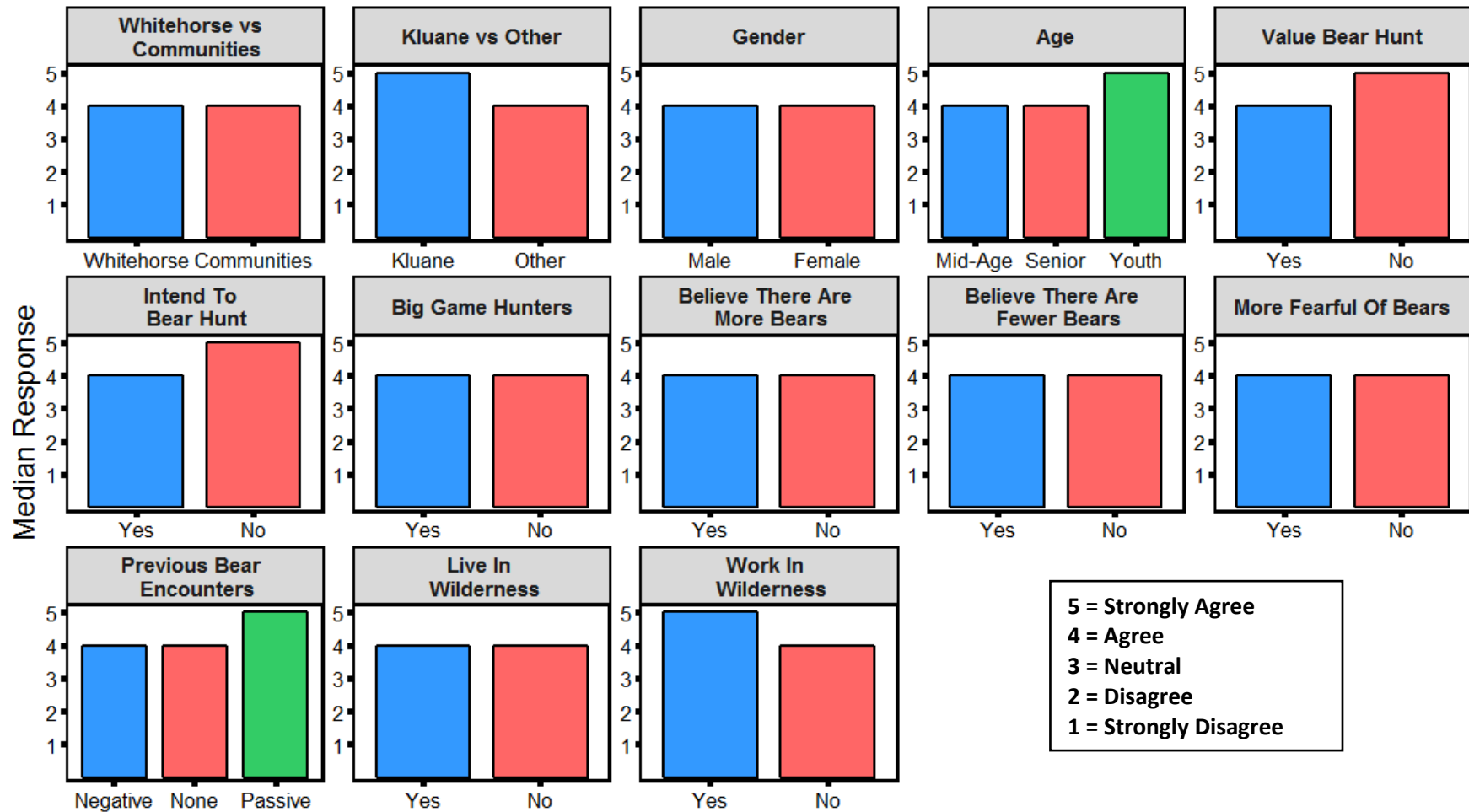


Figure 93. Median responses to Question 57 of a public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon, comparing different survey groups based on location and demographics as well as values, beliefs, perceptions, and experiences with grizzly bears. See Figure 47 for a guide to interpreting these graphs.

APPENDIX 3 The 2017 public survey questionnaire

[see next page]



Public Survey on Grizzly Bear Conservation and Management Plan in Yukon

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Department of Environment are working together to produce a draft Grizzly Bear Conservation and Management Plan for Yukon.

The plan will provide direction for addressing the range of values and issues related to grizzly bear conservation and management across Yukon. All available local, traditional, and scientific knowledge will be used to develop the plan.

We are asking all Yukoners and those in transboundary communities (Atlin, Aklavik, Fort McPherson etc.) who have an interest in grizzly bear conservation and management to complete this survey. We want to hear about your experiences, beliefs, perceptions, and opinions about grizzly bear conservation and management. The information collected will help develop the plan.

The survey should take less than 20 minutes and can be submitted online or printed and returned by mail. Printed copies will be made available at the district conservation offices. **Please provide your completed survey by May 27, 2017.**

The Yukon Bureau of Statistics is hosting this survey on behalf of the Department of Environment and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board. The information from your responses will be shared with the department and the board for analysis and reporting purposes. Your responses are anonymous, and individual respondents will not be identified in any reports or associated materials. Information collected through this survey is protected in accordance with the Statistics Act and the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have questions about confidentiality, please contact the Yukon Bureau of Statistics at 867-667-8029.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this survey please call the Department of Environment at 867-456-3645 or 1-800-661-0408 extension 3645 or the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board at 867-667-5835. A report summarizing the results of the survey will be available on the Department of Environment and Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board websites later this year. There will be more opportunities to provide your feedback once the draft plan has been developed.

Part 1: Personal Information and Experiences with Grizzly Bears

This section is intended to help us learn a bit about you and your personal experiences with grizzly bears in Yukon.

1. What activities do you regularly (at least once a year) participate in that increase your chance of encountering a grizzly bear in Yukon? Check all that apply.

- Big game hunting
- Small game hunting
- Fishing
- Foraging activities (berry picking, mushroom gathering, etc.)
- Land-based outdoor recreation (hiking, mountain biking, off-road/atv riding, skiing, etc.)
- Water-based outdoor recreation (canoeing, kayaking, boating, etc.)
- Camping at official campgrounds (government or private)
- Camping in the bush (for example, back country camping)
- Living in a rural area
- Working in remote areas
- Other:

2. Have you ever purchased a grizzly bear seal/tag? Check all that apply.

- No
- Yes, with the intention to hunt a grizzly bear
- Yes, for use in defence of life or property

3. Have you ever harvested a grizzly bear? Check all that apply.

- No
- Yes, with the intention to hunt a grizzly bear
- Yes, in defence of life or property

4. Do you intend to hunt a grizzly bear in the future?

- No
- Yes
- I don't know

5. Have you ever taken a photo of a live grizzly bear?

- No, I am not interested in photographing bears
- No, but I would look forward to the opportunity to photograph bears
- Yes, but I wasn't out actively seeking to photograph bears
- Yes, I intentionally and regularly set out to photograph bears

6. What training have you received that help to prepare you for traveling in grizzly bear country? Check all that apply.

- I have taken a Bear Aware or other bear safety course
- I have received instruction on bear safety in the bush from experienced friends, family, or elders
- I have received instruction on how to use bear spray
- I have received instruction on how to carry a firearm and I am practiced in using a firearm
- I have prepared myself through other means on my own (for example, reading books or websites, etc.)
- I have not received any training but would be interested in bear safety courses and information
- Other (please specify):

7. How do you typically prepare yourself for traveling in grizzly bear country? Check all that apply.

- I carry bear spray
- I make noise when walking/biking/ in the bush
- I set up portable electric fencing in camp
- I carry a firearm
- I store attactants in a bear-proof container
- I am knowledgeable in leave-no-trace camp setup and breakdown procedures in bear country
- I bring a dog with me
- I travel with other people
- Other (please specify):

8. Have you ever had a close encounter with a grizzly bear? Check all that apply.

- No
- Yes, with a grizzly bear(s) that was acting aggressively and threatening
- Yes, with a grizzly bear(s) that was habituated around homes or buildings
- Yes, with a grizzly bear(s) that was habituated to people in the wilderness or at a camp
- Yes, but the grizzly bear(s) were not assertive or aggressive
- Yes, and there was a loss of property involved
- Yes, and there was personal injury involved

Part 2: Optional - General Comments

9. **This page is OPTIONAL** - You may skip it and proceed to more direct questions. This space is for you to provide general comments or stories about grizzly bears or grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon.

Part 3: Beliefs about Grizzly Bears

This section helps us better understand Yukoners' beliefs about grizzly bears. Please let us know if you agree or disagree with the following statements. There are no right or wrong answers.

In this survey, human-grizzly bear conflict is any interaction between a grizzly bear and a human or is likely to cause harm to human health and safety, or cause damage to property. Property includes buildings, equipment and camps, livestock and pets, but does not include crops, fields, or fences. In this survey, reducing a population means managing for fewer animals in the population.

10. It is important to me that grizzly bears live in Yukon.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

11. Grizzly bears should exist in their own right regardless of their value to humans.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

12. Grizzly bear populations should persist for future generations of people.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

13. Grizzly bears contribute to the functioning of the natural ecosystem (for example, distributing seeds from berries and other plants).

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

14. Grizzly bear conservation and management should be a higher priority than that for other species of large carnivores (for example, wolves, coyotes, black bears, cougar, etc.).

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

15. Grizzly bears contribute to the Yukon economy (for example, through tourism directed at wildlife viewing and big game hunting).

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

16. I value the opportunity to hunt grizzly bears in Yukon.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

17. I value the opportunity to see grizzly bears in the wild in Yukon.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

18. The wilderness would be better without grizzly bears.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

19. There are some circumstances where grizzly bear populations should be reduced.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

20. Grizzly bears cause significant damage to agricultural interests (for example, livestock, chicken coops, beehives, etc.).

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

21. People with agricultural attractants (e.g. livestock, poultry, crops and berries) on their property need to manage these attractants to reduce incidents of human-bear conflicts.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

22. Please feel free to add any comments related to your answers to questions in this section.

Part 4: Perceptions about Grizzly Bears in Yukon

This section is aimed at collecting local knowledge on trends in grizzly bears and their management in Yukon. There are no right or wrong answers.

23. There seem to be fewer grizzly bears in Yukon over the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

24. There seem to be more grizzly bears around my community in the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

25. Conflicts with grizzly bears seem to have increased in my community over the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

26. "Bear awareness" seems to be getting better in my community over the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

27. People in my community seem to be taking better care of keeping their garbage and other attractants (e.g. pet food, barbeques, chickens etc.) out of reach of bears over the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

28. Interest in hunting grizzly bears by Yukon residents seems to have increased in the past 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

29. There will be greater interest in hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon by non-residents (people from outside Yukon) in the next 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

30. In the last 10 years, I have become more fearful of traveling in remote areas in Yukon because I believe there is an increased chance of encountering a grizzly bear.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

31. Grizzly bears seem to be more frequently seen on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

32. People seem to have become more interested in watching grizzly bears on Yukon roadsides in the last 10 years.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

33. Please feel free to add any comments related to your answers to questions in this section.

Part 5: Opinions about Management Options for Grizzly Bears in Yukon

These questions are aimed at hearing your opinion on various potential management options for grizzly bears in Yukon.

How much would you support or oppose the following possible grizzly bear conservation and management actions?

These possible actions are not necessarily being considered for Yukon but reflect a range of management options or best management practices applied elsewhere. They are listed here to help us understand what Yukoners may or may not support.

In this survey, human-grizzly bear conflict is any interaction between a grizzly bear and a human or is likely to cause harm to human health and safety, or cause damage to property. Property includes buildings, equipment and camps, livestock and pets, but does not include crops, fields, or fences. In this survey, reducing a population means managing for fewer animals in the population.

34. Do you oppose or support hunting of grizzly bears by Yukon residents?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

35. Do you oppose or support non-resident hunting of grizzly bears in Yukon?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

36. Would you oppose or support increased grizzly bear harvest fees for non-resident hunters? (Current non-resident grizzly bear harvest fees are \$500 for males and \$750 for females.)

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

37. Would you oppose or support regulations to restrict roadside bear hunting in Yukon?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

38. Do you oppose or support including grizzly bear habitat and other needs in land use plans and land development policies in Yukon?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

39. Would you oppose or support making sure proposed developments (for example, residential subdivisions, agricultural developments and industrial properties) minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

40. Would you oppose or support prohibiting tents (but allowing hard-sided recreational campers) in campgrounds with a high potential for human - grizzly bear conflicts?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

41. Would you oppose or support permanent closures of campgrounds that are located in high-quality bear habitat or movement corridors?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

42. Do you oppose or support a minimum group size for people recreating (i.e., hiking, mountain biking, wade fishing) in areas with a high potential for encountering grizzly bears?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

43. Do you oppose or support the aversive conditioning of grizzly bears using noisemakers, non-lethal projectiles, or specially trained dogs?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

44. Do you oppose or support restoring or improving salmon runs to improve natural food sources for grizzly bears?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

45. Would you oppose or support new initiatives for organized grizzly bear viewing in Yukon (for example, bear viewing platforms)?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

46. Would you oppose or support increased prosecution and larger fines for property owners who leave attractants out, which may result in human - grizzly bear conflicts?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

47. Would you oppose or support regulations for making electric fences mandatory to protect agricultural livestock and minimize the potential for creating conflicts with grizzly bears?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

48. Do you oppose or support municipalities purchasing bear-proof garbage containers for residents in areas that have conflicts with grizzly bears as a result of garbage?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

49. Would you oppose or support seasonal closures of campgrounds where there are high potential for human - grizzly bear conflicts?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

50. Would you oppose or support the relocation of grizzly bears within their home range (i.e., less than 25 km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

51. Would you oppose or support the translocation of grizzly bears outside of their home range (i.e. more than 25 km away, often 100 or more km away) that have been involved in conflicts with people?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

52. Do you oppose or support conservation officers lethally removing grizzly bears that have been involved in conflicts with people?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

53. Would you oppose or support diversionary feeding (that is, providing bears with supplemental food during times when natural foods are scarce) as a management action to attract bears away from areas where they come into conflict with people?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

54. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to manage human-grizzly bear conflicts?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

55. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to aid in recovering depleted moose or caribou populations?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

56. Would you oppose or support reducing grizzly bear population sizes to provide greater moose or caribou harvest opportunities?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

57. Do you oppose or support monitoring of grizzly bear populations?

Strongly Oppose Oppose Neutral Support Strongly support Don't Know

58. Please feel free to add any comments related to your answers to questions in this section.

Part 6: The Future of Grizzly Bear Conservation and Management in Yukon

This final section provides you the opportunity to comment on the future of grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon.

59. What would you like to see for grizzly bears and grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon 25 years from now?

60. Following from the question above, what needs to be done to bring about the future you want to see for grizzly bears in Yukon?

61. OPTIONAL - If you choose, feel free to describe the most significant event or personal experience which has helped you to define your position on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon.

Part 7: Personal Information

62. What is your age?

- Under 18 years old
- 18 to 24 years old
- 25 to 34 years old
- 35 to 44 years old
- 45 to 54 years old
- 55 to 64 years old
- 65 or over
- Prefer not to say

63. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other:

64. Which community do you live in?

- Beaver Creek Tagish
- Burwash Teslin
- Carmacks Watson Lake
- Carcross Whitehorse
- Dawson City Atlin
- Destruction Bay Lower Post
- Faro Dease Lake
- Haines Junction Fort McPherson
- Marsh Lake Fort Liard
- Mayo Aklavik
- Old Crow Inuvik
- Pelly Crossing
- Ross River
- Other:

65. Where do you live? (Please select the one most relevant to you)

- I primarily live in town (residential area)
- I primarily live in a country residential area
- I primarily live on a rural or wilderness setting
- I primarily live on an agricultural property
- Other:

66. OPTIONAL - If you choose, you can leave your name and contact information below.

Name

Contact phone/email

Thank you for taking the survey.