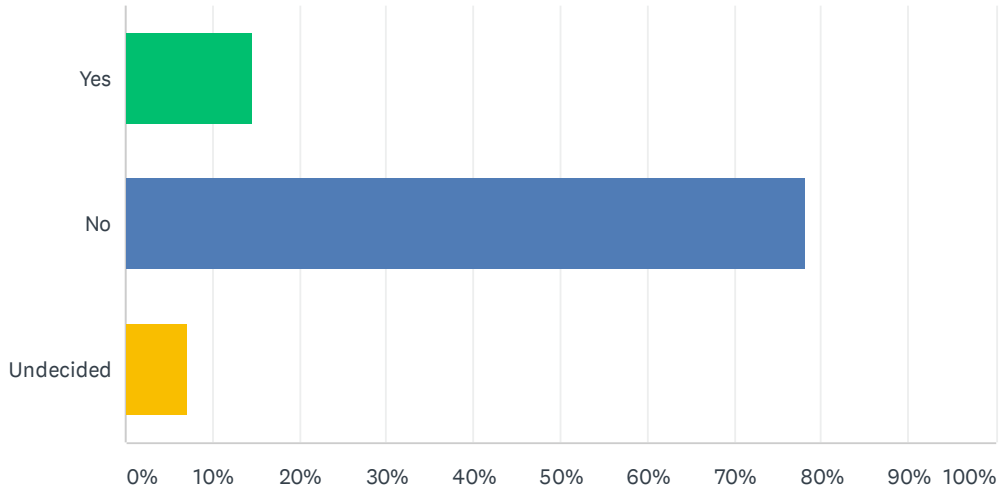


Q1 Do you support the sale of any national forest lands in Rabun County?

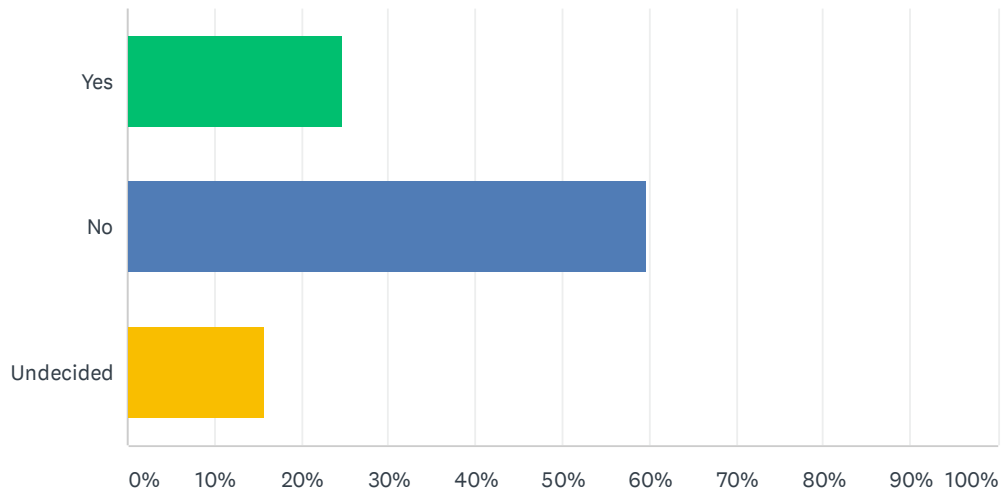
Answered: 294 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	14.63%	43
No	78.23%	230
Undecided	7.14%	21
TOTAL		294

Q2 Do you support Rabun County purchasing approx. 800 acres of public national forest land in the Boggs Mountain area?

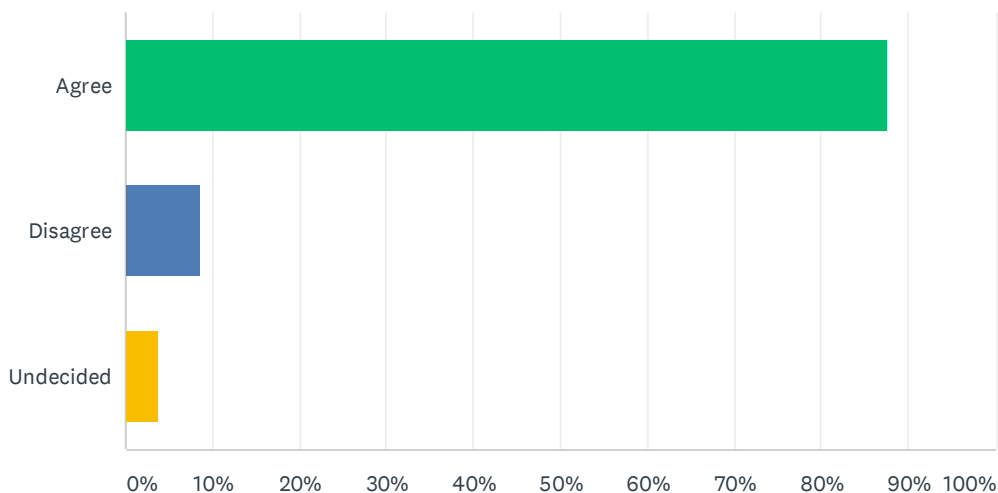
Answered: 292 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	24.66%	72
No	59.59%	174
Undecided	15.75%	46
TOTAL		292

Q3 If the Rabun County Commissioners want to purchase any national forest land, they must produce a specific, citizen-approved plan that shows how the land would be used before submitting a resolution to the Forest Service. Do you agree with this statement?

Answered: 293 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	87.71%	257
Disagree	8.53%	25
Undecided	3.75%	11
TOTAL		293

Q4 Would you like to elaborate on any of your answers or add any additional thoughts?

Answered: 102 Skipped: 192

Public Opinion: Proposed National Forest Land Sales in Rabun County GA

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Leave it National Forest land.	2/13/2020 1:54 AM
2	We elected the commission to represent us and we trust them to make wise decisions. When they fail we elect new ones	2/12/2020 10:09 PM
3	As a home owner with approx 28 acres of undeveloped mountain land, the selling of any forestry land is a bad idea. Shame on Collins & Perdue for sponsoring this. I hope the residents of Rabun Co remember this during the next election for Collins, Perdue, and the Commissioners.	2/12/2020 9:02 PM
4	Any time we can add property to county control is a huge advantage for Rabun county	2/12/2020 8:52 PM
5	We must prepare for the future as we provide for the present. I see the purchase as a positive step in making preparation for the future.	2/12/2020 8:52 PM
6	If the county deems it necessary to acquire this land for the future of our county and our children, then they should do so without harassment.	2/12/2020 8:29 PM
7	Forest Service land was set aside for permanent protection. There are about 4 signs of land for sale on the drive up to Clayton, why do they feel the need to poach protected lands?	2/11/2020 9:01 PM
8	A conservancy plan for outdoor use as a trail area and green space.	2/11/2020 6:44 AM
9	It is an excellent idea. Revenue from sale will be used to acquire spectacular properties for public. County needs additional space and much of target property is impacted from past exchanges. This property is on USFS exchange list. Concept slashes red tape and time needed for exchange. This idea was vetted through all conservation organizations in ga and approved. You mislead the public.?	2/10/2020 6:49 AM
10	When National PUBLIC land is sold, its ability to be enjoyed by any and all American citizens is forever lost. National forest land should remain in the hands of "We, the people"; if not for the living, surely for future generations of Americans.	2/10/2020 4:28 AM
11	The land should have a purpose other than logging/logging rehabilitations. Protecting a watershed, providing species habitat or sustainable recreational use. I visit the Rabun County National Forest several times a year.	2/9/2020 11:36 PM
12	From the meeting it was stated that Rabun County does not want to purchase the Boggs mountain property.	2/9/2020 12:30 PM
13	Would rather the County buy the land near Boggs Mt as opposed to private investors or industry but have to admit I don't know the county's intentions.	2/9/2020 9:27 AM
14	Not much difference than the land swaps between FS and County in the past. Still plenty of acreage as FS in all areas of the county. Would you rather them log that land or something else?? Rabun is one of the few counties in the State where majority of land is State Park, FS, WMA, or federal which has always hampered tax base and affordable housing.	2/8/2020 10:24 PM
15	Be careful with anything requiring citizen approved plan	2/8/2020 8:00 PM
16	Once land is developed, it can't go back to wilderness or a pristine in any reasonable time frame. These are public lands, our lands-- forever. I don't want them being sold for profit or for development. I am sorry that so much of our land heritage has been irretrievably lost to sell-offs for private gain and public revenue.	2/8/2020 4:10 PM
17	I would lean towards not selling any national forest land unless there is a compelling case for need. Without more information, 800 acres sounds like way too much.	2/8/2020 3:13 PM
18	I live in the Boggs Mountain Rd area. At night, the beautiful view that I used to have of the stars and mountain is permanently marred by the Rabun County Elementary School that was built on top of the mountain and is lit up like a US Air Force Base with the lights ruining the night sky and the stripped mountain looking like a landing strip - pathetic. Who even thought that would be a good idea? Now to hear that additional destructive plans are in place - take those plans down to Atlanta as that is where we moved from to get away from that mentality and to escape to the untouched beauty of the Rabun County mountains.	2/8/2020 12:54 PM
19	Hate to see any land sold but would like to understand more	2/8/2020 12:53 PM

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20	Should the Commission go through with the Boggs land purchase, then the land that is not specifically used should be out in conservation, not sold or leased. Any land management of the land should be done following Forest Service Best Management Practices.	2/8/2020 9:41 AM
21	I live in an adjacent county and value the national forest land being preserved and conserved.	2/8/2020 9:30 AM
22	No sale of national lands. We need to preserve our national lands for ourselves, future generations and the carbon dioxide the trees capture for the health of our planet	2/8/2020 1:38 AM
23	I do not have enough information. Is item 3 a statement of fact, or of someone's desire? I would like it to be a fact, but as it's worded I am not sure what I am agreeing about. As for questions 1 and 2, I cannot answer those without knowing what the Rabun County Commission would do with the land. The USFS does permit tree cutting, and indeed often promotes it. The county commission could decide to create a public wildlife refuge that is perpetually protected from logging. Such things do happen, for example the Forever Wild Land Trust in Alabama, which is a public and private/non-profit collaboration, happening in good old redneck Alabama, of all places. https://www.alabamaforeverwild.com/ This program offers much greater protection than the USFS. Without some supporting evidence, I cannot presume the Rabun County Commission would have some nefarious intent regarding any land it was to purchase.	2/7/2020 10:59 PM
24	One of the reasons I'm up in Rabun County a lot is because it's amazing. It has natural gifts that metro Atlanta or my hometown of Athens could only dream of. It's a special place, and it has meant a lot to me since the time I was a child. Please don't take away what makes it special...even a little bit. Because once it's gone, it's probably never coming back.	2/7/2020 10:24 PM
25	Rabun County is in debt, exactly how are they going to pay for this purchase cost, plus they plan to expand the county dump, then are they planning on raising our county taxes yet higher? Why would anyone want to take USFS lands and turn that into a landfill. It's bad enough that the USFS plans on clear cutting the surrounding land (of the 800 acres) and then clear cutting all US timber land south of here and "returning it to it's natural prairie" this is bull....Rabun County depends on tourism and our beauty, we had better not forget that.	2/7/2020 7:17 PM
26	NA	2/7/2020 4:15 PM
27	I'd like to know the reason the Commissioners want to purchase this land? Another 'in the know' political move? To which political party do the promoters of this move belong?	2/7/2020 4:11 PM
28	Keep our county as it is!	2/7/2020 3:48 PM
29	We should plant gooseberries up there, which cause white pines to eventually die.	2/7/2020 3:26 PM
30	There are times when land swaps are appropriate, these should be subject to public approval in a rigorous process with full transparency.	2/7/2020 2:29 PM
31	I think the forest should be left alone. They have done well for thousands of years without our interference.	2/7/2020 12:41 PM
32	I share the concerns others have expressed about the entire planned use of any property the county acquires and would like to see a detailed, specific proposal about this before moving forward.	2/7/2020 12:28 PM
33	No local tax payer money should be spent on the purchase of any land that is already owned by the taxpayer via federal government. Should the land be granted to the county, the commissioners must present a comprehensive plan both short and long term cost and uses before getting the land should it be granted not bought.	2/7/2020 11:26 AM
34	If the Commissioners buy forest Land then it is still in government hands that are accountable to the public.	2/7/2020 11:20 AM
35	The land should not be sold until you know what the County plans to do with it and it has the citizens support.	2/7/2020 11:02 AM
36	Please don't do this.	2/7/2020 9:05 AM
37	Will someone who purchases a parcel be able to sell it to say a fracking company?? Very dangerous to our water!	2/7/2020 8:53 AM
38	What would land be used for? Will the Forest Service buy more land in Rabun County if the sale is approved	2/7/2020 12:12 AM

Public Opinion: Proposed National Forest Land Sales in Rabun County GA

39	Rabun County needs a vision for progress, industry, tourism and preservation. Where are these things? I have yet to see them in forward-thinking action. You are asking questions without providing any clarity and clarification on what the plans are for this 800 acres. Here's an idea. Why doesn't the County consider purchasing the land and then reselling at least part of it to people at reasonable prices? 2-5 Acre parcels or more. Nothing too small. And include contingencies such as: purchasers must build stick-built homes on the land. Why this idea? Well, you might get locals on board with it if they know they have a real opportunity here. And, the County will then permanently increase its tax revenue by virtue of selling parcels and people building on them. Things to think about. Give people ideas! Give them some real vision here. People cannot discuss this without knowing goals, objectives and the ultimate vision!	2/7/2020 12:04 AM
40	What is the vision for this 800 acres? How will this potential sale support public interest?	2/6/2020 11:40 PM
41	What is the plan for the land	2/6/2020 9:20 PM
42	County may benefit from additional land near schools for waste. That should be considered. PLEASE do not buy land to make money from timber sales. This is precious land	2/6/2020 8:37 PM
43	If the property is being purchased to protect the school system lands, I approve.	2/6/2020 8:13 PM
44	Rabun county's forests are a national treasure. Selling them would be criminally detrimental to future generations	2/6/2020 8:07 PM
45	Public lands are just that - public. They should remain so for the enjoyment and preservation of the scenic beauty that is intrinsically Rabun. There are plenty of other areas that are available and not on public lands. Selling it/buying public lands is inherently against conservation and stewardship of natural resources.	2/6/2020 7:36 PM
46	Keep our county undisturbed!	2/6/2020 3:55 PM
47	Need guarentee from the Rabun Comissioners they will preserve the 800 acres.	2/6/2020 12:10 PM
48	The money from the sale MUST stay in Rabun County.	2/6/2020 9:47 AM
49	I do not support the sale of any National Forest land other than the 800 acres in Boggs Mountain area.	2/6/2020 8:56 AM
50	What makes Rabun County special is the abundance of national forest land for ALL to enjoy. A huge tourist draw!! We must not sell an acre of this land!!!	2/6/2020 8:02 AM
51	Preserving as much of our natural forest land in its natural state, is critical to not just our generation, but our children's and grand children's and beyond.	2/6/2020 7:22 AM
52	I don't think the Forest Service should sell any land. If they do, I probably would support Rabun County purchasing some, depending on the intended use.	2/5/2020 11:34 PM
53	Only for school land and it should be given freely, they have no right to sale or trade our land	2/5/2020 11:06 PM
54	The tracts in question are isolated and need to be on the tax digest, the preservationist groups are using scare tactics to get the uninformed up I'm arms about nothing.	2/5/2020 10:32 PM
55	I am very concerned about this issue. I do not trust the entities looking to sell off national forest land--I don't believe they have the forest's best interest, or the citizens', a heart.	2/5/2020 10:22 PM
56	no	2/5/2020 9:49 PM
57	Under the 10th amendment to the US Constitution, by what legal authority does the feds have to own forest land in our state? Please provide all legal documents proving the above.	2/5/2020 8:38 PM
58	It is a blessing to have National Forest Land to enjoy. It is wonderful to hike, walk or simply look at the land. The preservation of the National Forests should continue.	2/5/2020 6:59 PM
59	A sale like this with the long term consequences it will have should be given months and public forums and meetings. Thank you for this survey to allow Rabun County residents the opportunity to weigh in easily. I've missed the meetings because we were out of town. This survey allows for voices like mine to be heard. Thank you	2/5/2020 6:50 PM
60	National Forest service land has been "traded" for many years before it was acceptable to buy/sell, as I understand it. This would simplify the process and create potential economic growth for both the county and the forest service. I am not for selling all of our national forest, of course. We want our area to stay beautiful and the nature of it is such because of our forest	2/5/2020 6:46 PM

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service land, but we should also utilize our land to the best of our ability as well, and this could do help do that.

61	The sale of ANY of this land is awful! One of the things that has always made Rabun County special is the fact that we have so much Forest Service land protecting the beauty not to mention thousands of plant species and animal life. Please oppose the sell of any Forest Service Land and protect this beautiful County that we all love.	2/5/2020 6:32 PM
62	I have never seen forest land ever fixed/put back after logging,mining,roads etc why should we expect any different	2/5/2020 6:28 PM
63	The most important reason Rabun County is special is because of the amount of protected land. We need to work to improve preservation and management practices. Selling land sets a dangerous precedent.	2/5/2020 6:26 PM
64	The US Forest Service is only trying to provide adequate, SCIENCE based management options for this projects, so it is in their best interests to provide to American Citizens.	2/5/2020 6:15 PM
65	Rabun County is a beautiful place and I would hate to see that beauty destroyed.	2/5/2020 6:07 PM
66	Any land bought would be developed and ruined. The natural beauty of the county is why my ansectors moved here. Why does everyone want to change it? We do not need a bunch of houses, more traffic, the need for more services and higher property taxes.	2/5/2020 6:03 PM
67	If we don't have National Forest in this county what do we have? Not a darn thing that's what.How much more land does the county need and why National Forest when there is a significant amount of private land for sale near town. They just purchased a large track in Tiger did they not?	2/5/2020 5:36 PM
68	having spent my whole life in Rabun county, at almost 50 I have definitely seen changes, but one fact that was so comforting was that we always had the forestry land that was set aside, be it thousands of acres or a hundred , I happen to grow up next to one tract that is for sale here on warwoman , we hunted, hiked , rode bikes, it has always been there , both sides of it were hunted, they say it's unmanageable , I can tell you from personal experience , the amount of deer that has been killed on that 124 acre tract is amazing, turkey, some bear and coons are always there, it's a buffer zone not only for wild life, but also the human foot print which is no doubt getting bigger every where, I understand that there is hard decisions to be made by the commissioners of this county, not every body will be happy, but this is something that so many native , local people care about....our ancestors sold it because many had to, no income , back breaking work, now to know that's the same land is up forsale is a slap in the face to those dead ancestors and also to those who still live next to these tracts. Local people will not , and can not afford to bid on these tracts... We all live better, eat better , drive nicer vehicles than 30 years ago, and not on tract has been sold.. We will continue to make progress , but I ask you to consider at what price? Respectfully Shane Ramey. 7th generation of Rabun county	2/5/2020 5:17 PM
69	Even if I am not a resident of Rabun Co, as a US citizen, those lands are mine. And they are not for sale.	2/5/2020 4:45 PM
70	the forest land should remain as is. end of discussion.	2/5/2020 4:37 PM
71	I live about 45 minutes from Rabun County, used to work part time there, and recreate and patronize local merchants there at least once a month. I value the natural beauty of the land very highly and would be sad to see the forest land, especially near streams and in the mountains developed.	2/5/2020 4:32 PM
72	Once we dispose of any national forest acreage it is gone forever	2/5/2020 4:19 PM
73	What will the Forestry Service do to preserve the land if not sold?	2/5/2020 4:14 PM
74	I support purchasing or selling land for schools or other documented civic needs	2/5/2020 4:13 PM
75	I think that the selling of some of Rabun counties large acreage of national forests could be good. I am afraid though that it could be used for more area for waste management. Plus I think that if the county government has the option to purchase why shouldn't private citizens have the option. We have very little land available in rabun county for private sales.	2/5/2020 4:11 PM
76	The USFS needs to generate funds to purchase lands of more ecological importance such as the Etowah watershed tract.	2/5/2020 4:05 PM
77	This land belongs to the people of this State. Once gone, it's gone forever and we will have no	2/5/2020 4:00 PM

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say in its use, we cannot use it. It won't remain untouched and native.

78	These lands already belong to the citizens of the US. Why would Rabun taxpayers be on the hook for approx \$8 million to purchase land we already own?	2/5/2020 3:58 PM
79	It's public land and then we won't get to use it anymore... will the land be replaced... not a good plan	2/5/2020 3:22 PM
80	The sale of 800 acres on Boggs Mountain should be conditioned on Rabun County Commission putting conservation easements on those portions of the property not used for the schools or necessary expansion of the landfill.	2/5/2020 3:10 PM
81	My question is what Will be done with the 800 acres on Boggs Mountain. Specifically	2/5/2020 3:06 PM
82	The land is our beauty. If we start chopping away at it. What will Rabun county become ?????	2/5/2020 3:06 PM
83	The decision impacts the county and the decision should be made by the citizens, not a select few. A clear community need should be demonstrated.	2/5/2020 3:00 PM
84	National Forest and state parks should never be sold	2/5/2020 2:54 PM
85	We need to keep the forest like they are	2/5/2020 2:40 PM
86	Rabun County's best resource is its stunning natural beauty & unspoiled land. Tourism, Outdoor adventures, Organic farming, Restaurants, Wineries, Breweries, high end hotels, Spas, etc is what will create well paying jobs & bring in high end revenue to the area. Spoiling the natural beauty of this blessed area is not only a travesty, but will severely limit the likely hood of a prosperous economic future for its citizens.	2/5/2020 2:38 PM
87	The county is 80% Forest Service and Georgia Power. It benefits the community to reclaim some of that land for economic development/growth.	2/5/2020 2:36 PM
88	Public land was set aside for public use. period. this needs to be protected for the use of future generations to come and not for short-sighted gains.	2/5/2020 2:32 PM
89	These parcels were designated back in the forest plan in 2004. Since access to these tracts isn't great and the money will go toward buying tracts that have continuity I fully support the sales.	2/5/2020 2:32 PM
90	I am opposed to public lands being transferred to private ownership after being bought by the county.	2/5/2020 2:30 PM
91	I believe this will set a precedence for future sales of "Our National Forest Land." This land is meant for conservation and future generations to take care of.	2/5/2020 2:29 PM
92	Please consider the long term consequences of a short term financial gain.	2/5/2020 2:25 PM
93	This is the 'slippery slope' conundrum. I'm unable to trust any level of gov't. to do ANYTHING except advance it's own interests for greed. (See western federal lands misuse)	2/5/2020 2:21 PM
94	I would support the Rabun County plan only if the land is to be preserved for public use.	2/5/2020 2:21 PM
95	If Rabun County is purchasing the land to protect it and use for recreation, ie. mountain bike / multi-use trails, then I think it could be ok.	2/5/2020 2:14 PM
96	KEEP our national forest! We enjoy nature's beauty.	2/5/2020 2:04 PM
97	I hope they are going to buy this land for the future of Rabun County. We may never get this opportunity again.	2/5/2020 2:00 PM
98	These are national public lands and it is the right of the citizens who own them collectively to be informed and to hold the final decision what is done with them.	2/5/2020 1:55 PM
99	Save our forest, the animals living there and the plant medicine growing on this beautiful land.	2/5/2020 1:53 PM
100	I understand that we need a bigger land field, but I don't want our forest service land used to dump trash. And do we really need any more ball fields? Can any of this land be protected? We are a temperate rain forest so if all this land is eventually clear cut how will that impact us, and our eco systems? Not to mention we still owe 8.1 million on the business park so does Rabun County really have the money to buy this land?	2/5/2020 1:52 PM
101	In my opinion, the sell of ANY public land in Rabun County sets a precedent and one that could	2/5/2020 1:21 PM

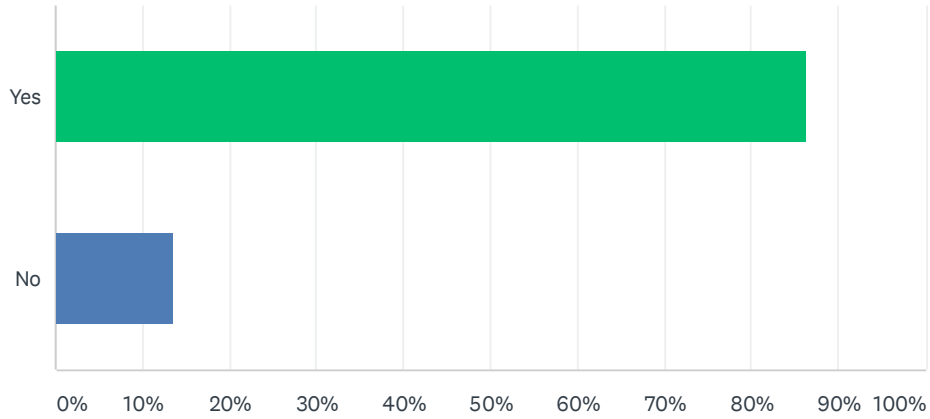
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lead to mass sell off of public lands in the coming years. The public lands in Rabun County represent the key asset that makes our community special. It is WHY people come here to enjoy the outdoors and spend their tourism dollars doing so. In the early 1900s, my great-great uncle Roscoe Nicholson, the first forest ranger in the area, was tasked with surveying and helping define what our national forests in Rabun County continue to represent today. He did this to protect the beauty of our county for generations to come. And until now, the majority of those lands has continued to be preserved.

102	If land is sold more land should be purchased. Not office buildings 1000 acres of Rabun land would purchase 3000 acres of the closed ogeechee wma.	2/5/2020 1:17 PM
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Q5 Are you a resident of Rabun County, or do you own or rent property in Rabun County?

Answered: 294 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	86.39%	254
No	13.61%	40
TOTAL		294