

# WAC 220-413-070 and WAC 220-414-060

## Hunting Equipment



Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

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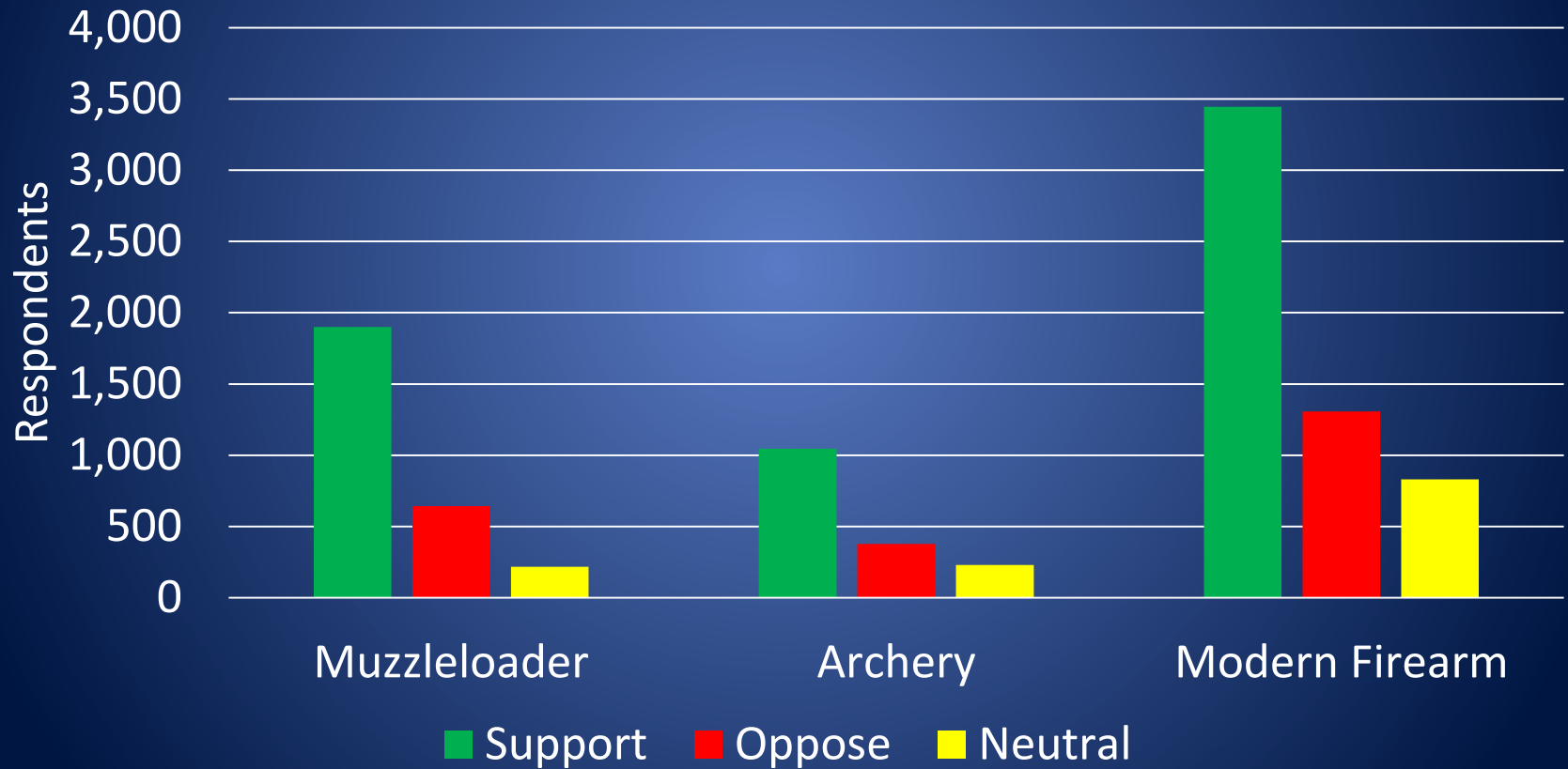
# Muzzleloading Firearms

## WAC 220-414-060

- Fish and Wildlife Commission requested the department investigate the hunting public's opinion on changing the muzzleloader equipment rules to allow the use of primers designed to be used in modern cartridges.
- The department sent an email survey to 123,169 deer and elk hunters across the state from all user groups in October.
- Received 14,677 responses: majority of the responses were supportive.
- Department Biologists were also surveyed.

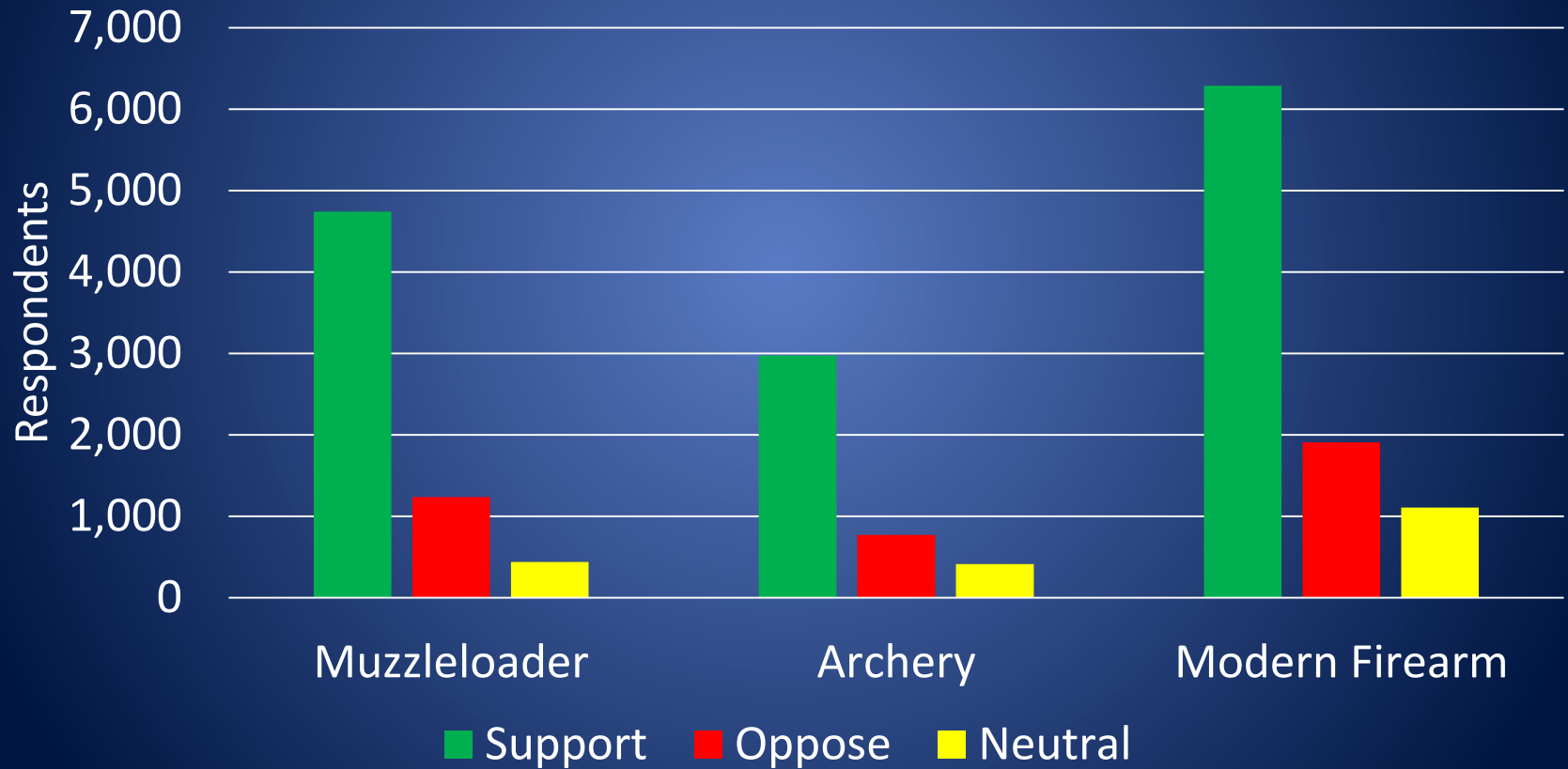
# Survey Results: 209 Primers Deer Hunters

Only Used One Weapon in Last 5 Years



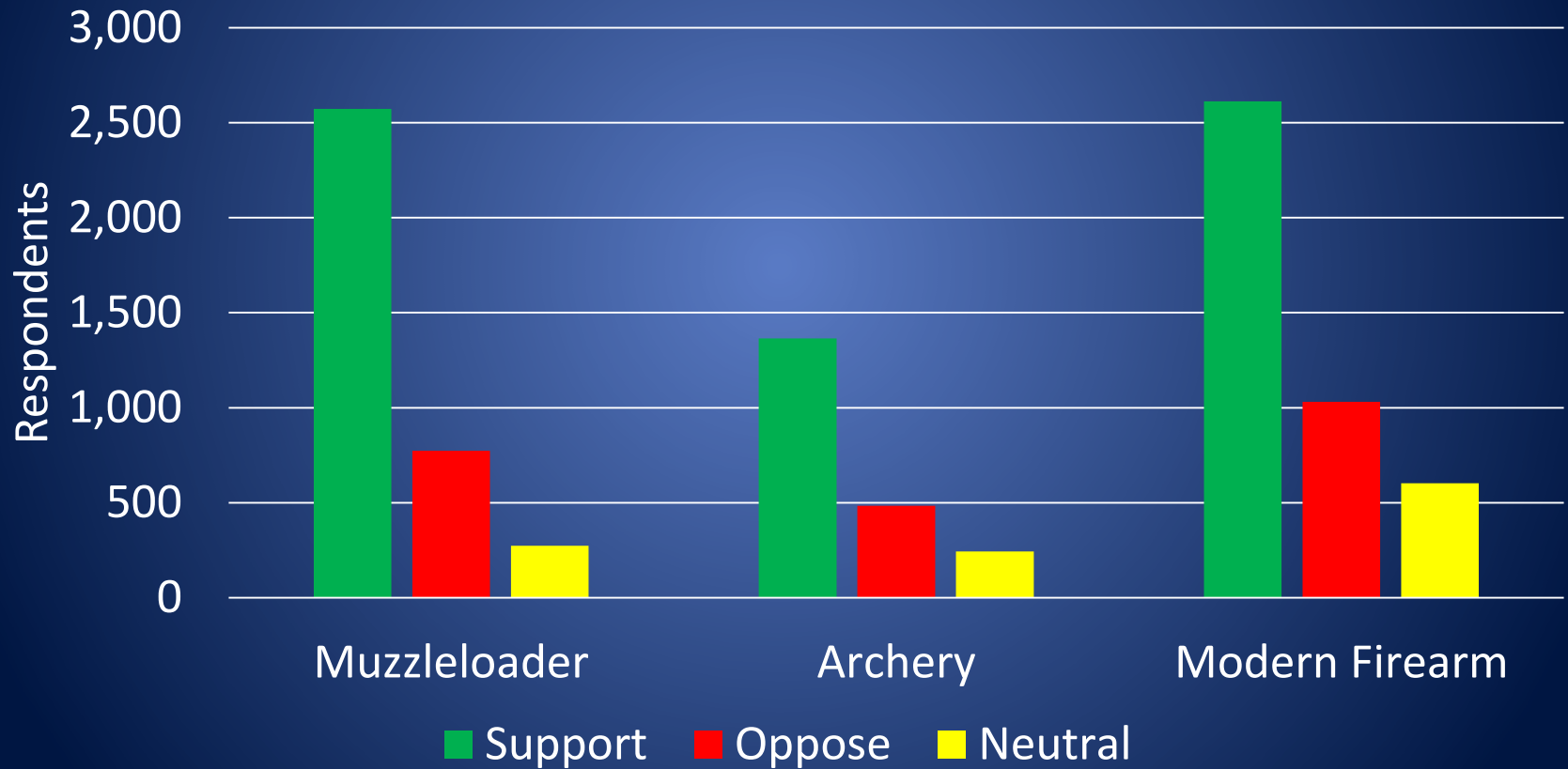
# Survey Results: 209 Primers Deer Hunters

Used This Weapon at Least Once in Last 5 Years



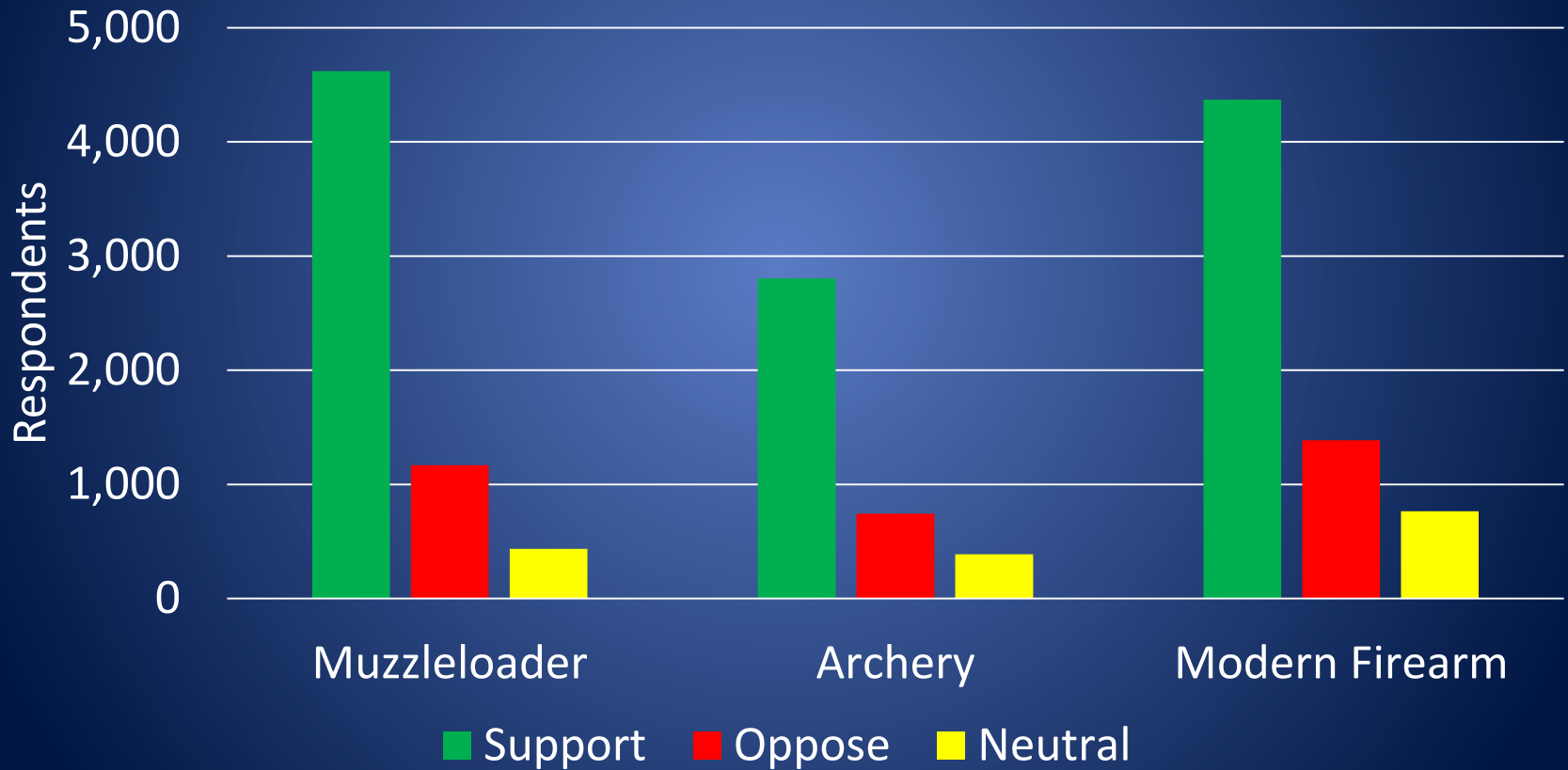
# Survey Results: 209 Primers Elk Hunters

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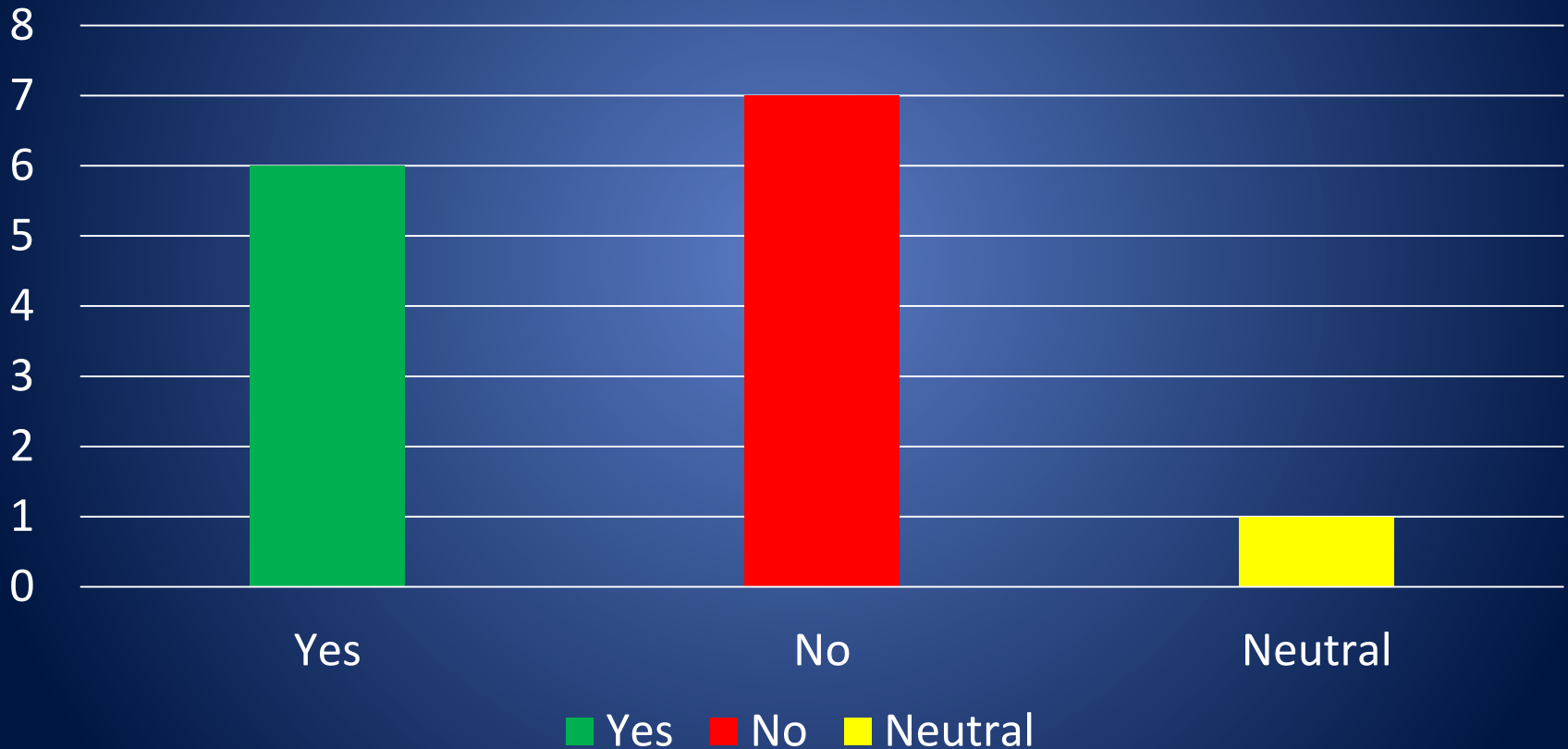
# Survey Results: 209 Primers Elk Hunters

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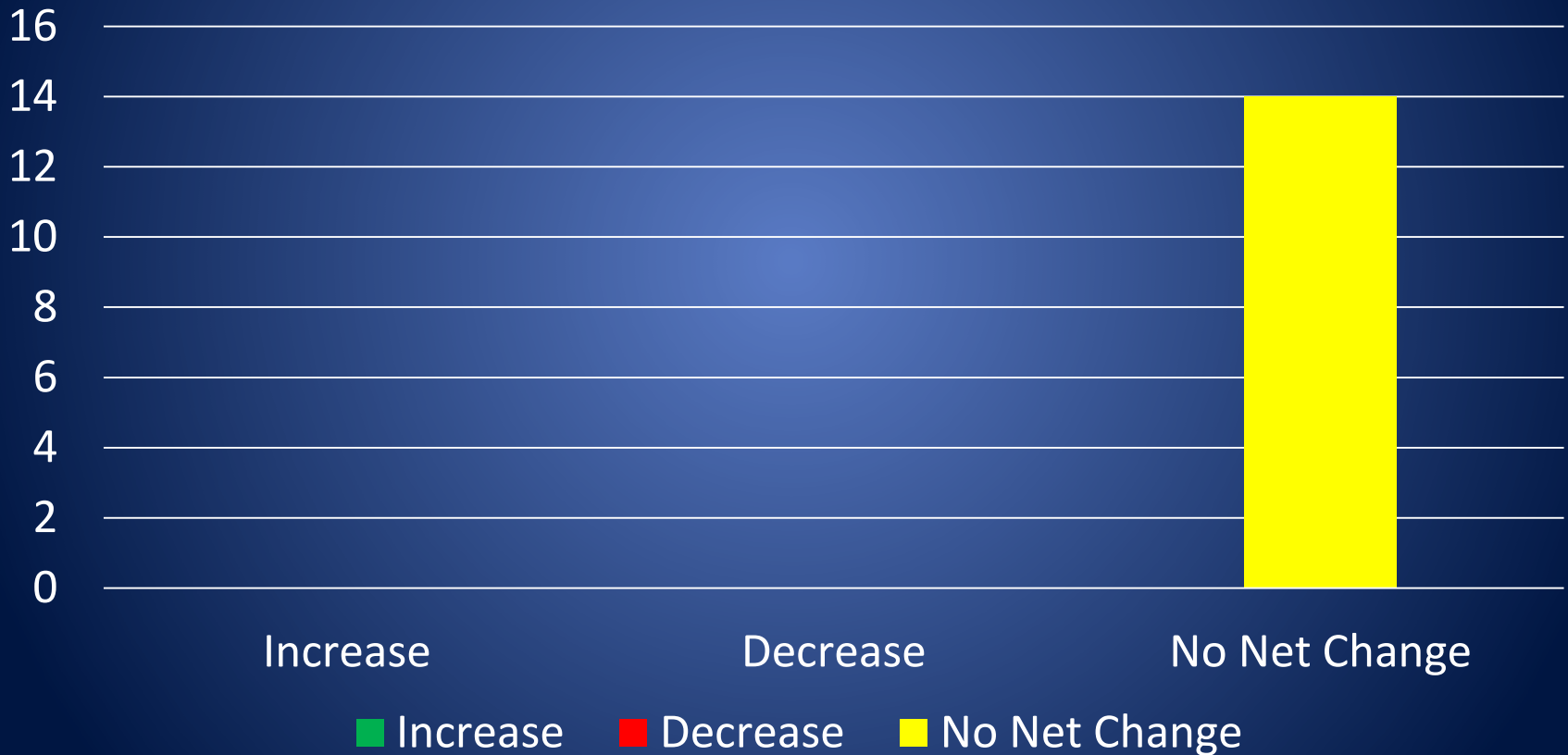
# Do you support allowing the use of primers designed to be used in modern cartridges (209 primers) and striking the “exposed to the weather” requirement for muzzleloaders?

WDFW Biologist Survey



**If adopted by the commission, do you think this change will result in an increase in total hunters, or will the result primarily be a shift in hunters among user groups, but no net change in total hunters?**

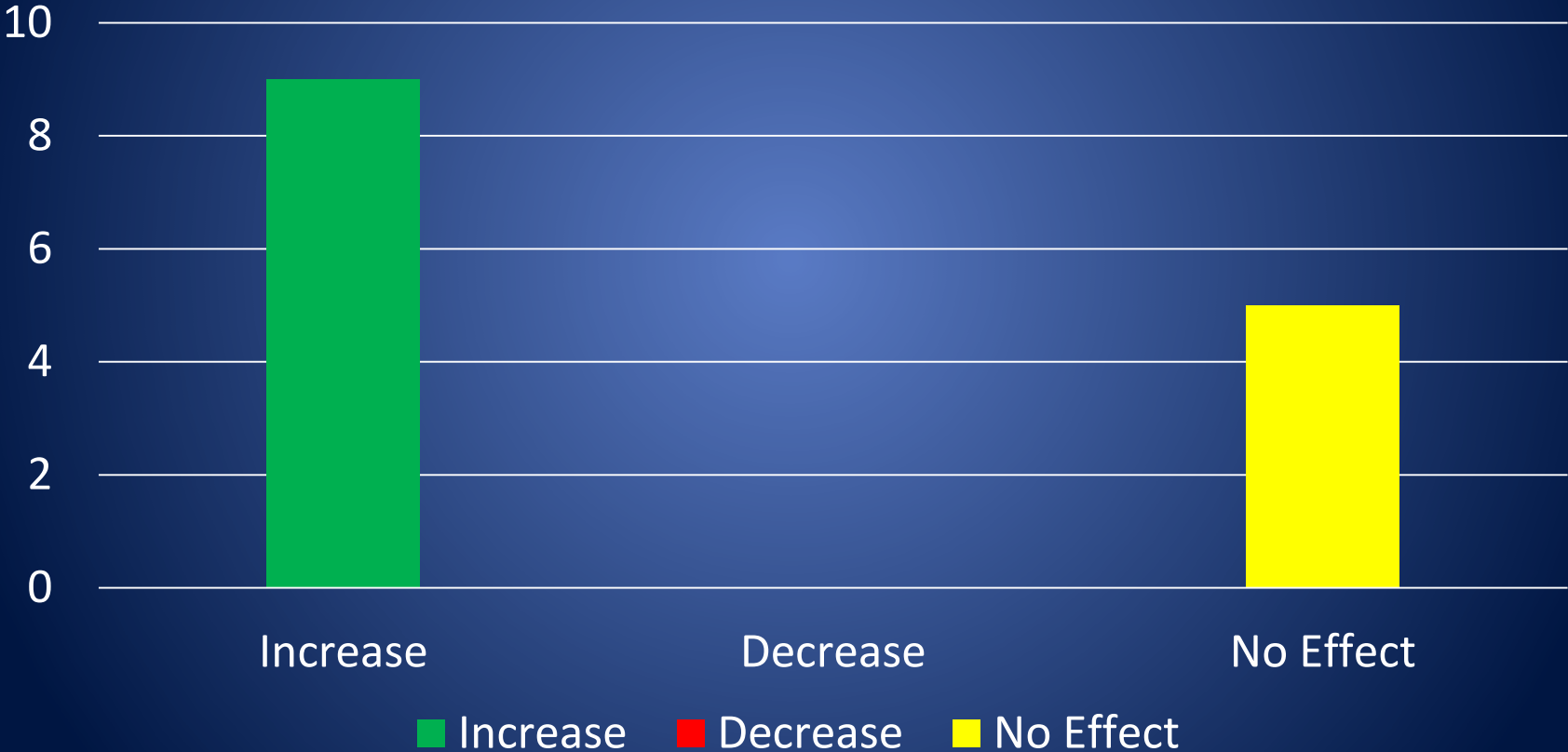
WDFW Biologist Survey



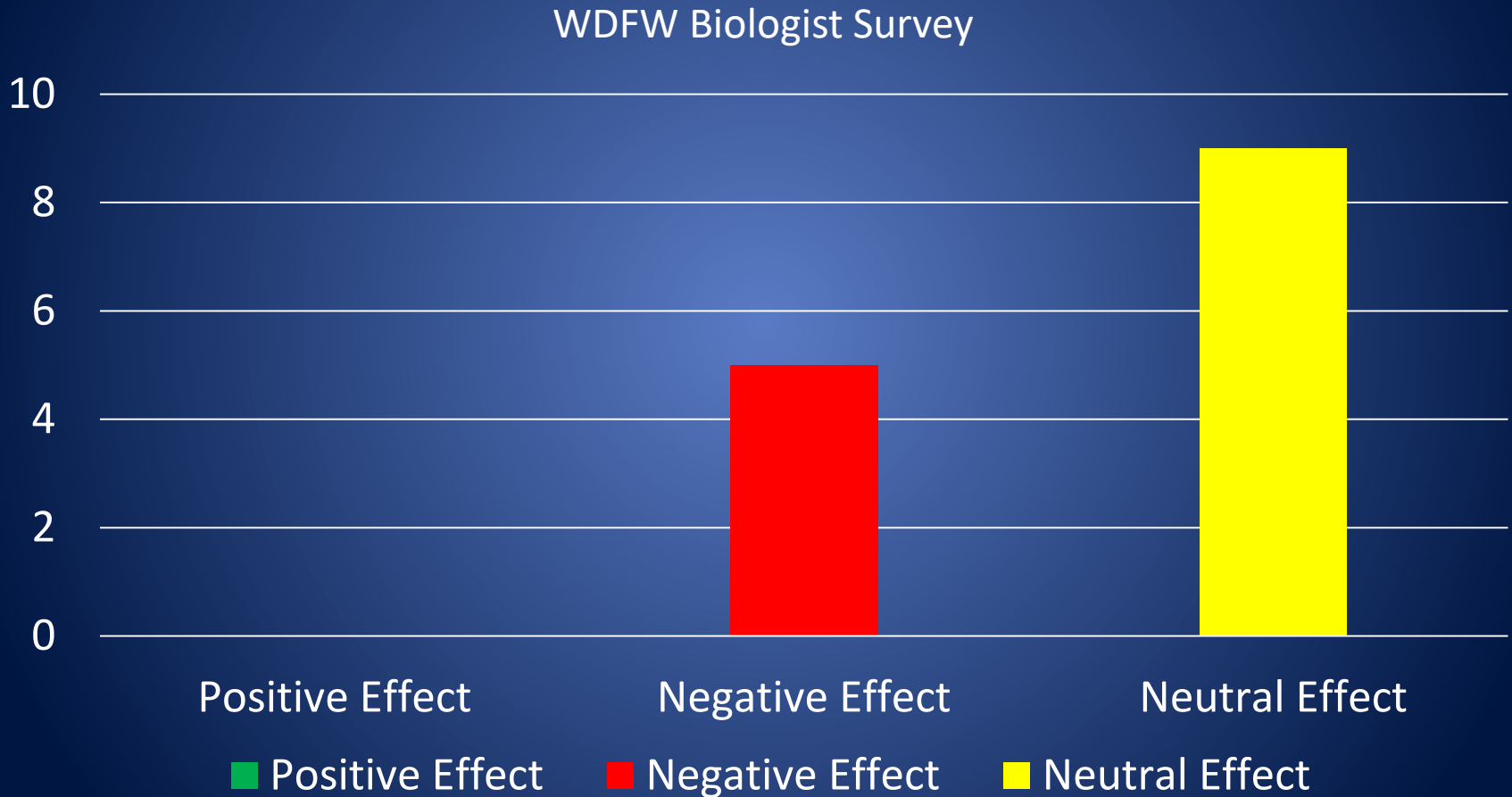


# If adopted by the commission, will this change increase, decrease, or have no effect on deer and elk harvest?

WDFW Biologist Survey

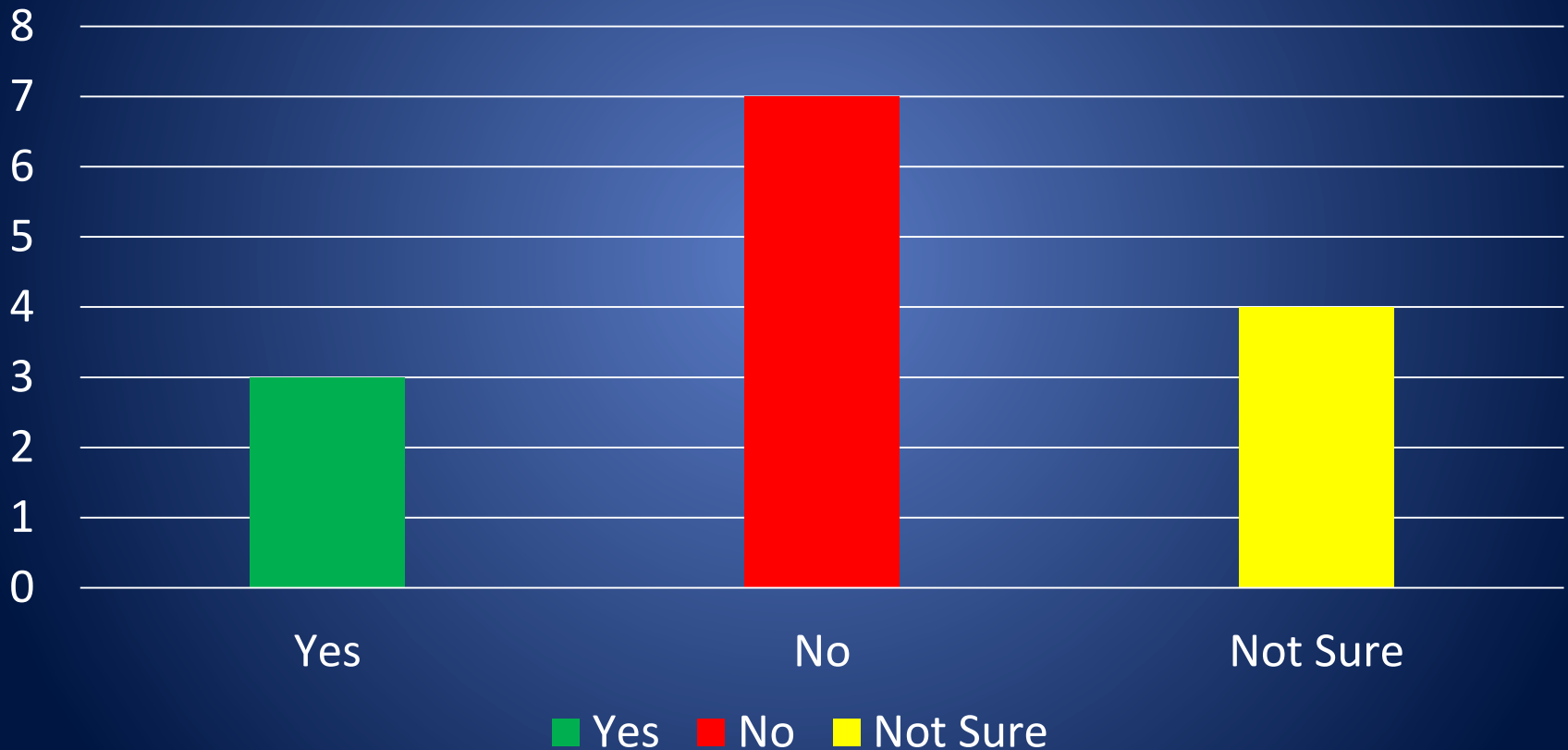


# If adopted by the commission, will this change have a positive, negative, or neutral effect on deer and elk populations?



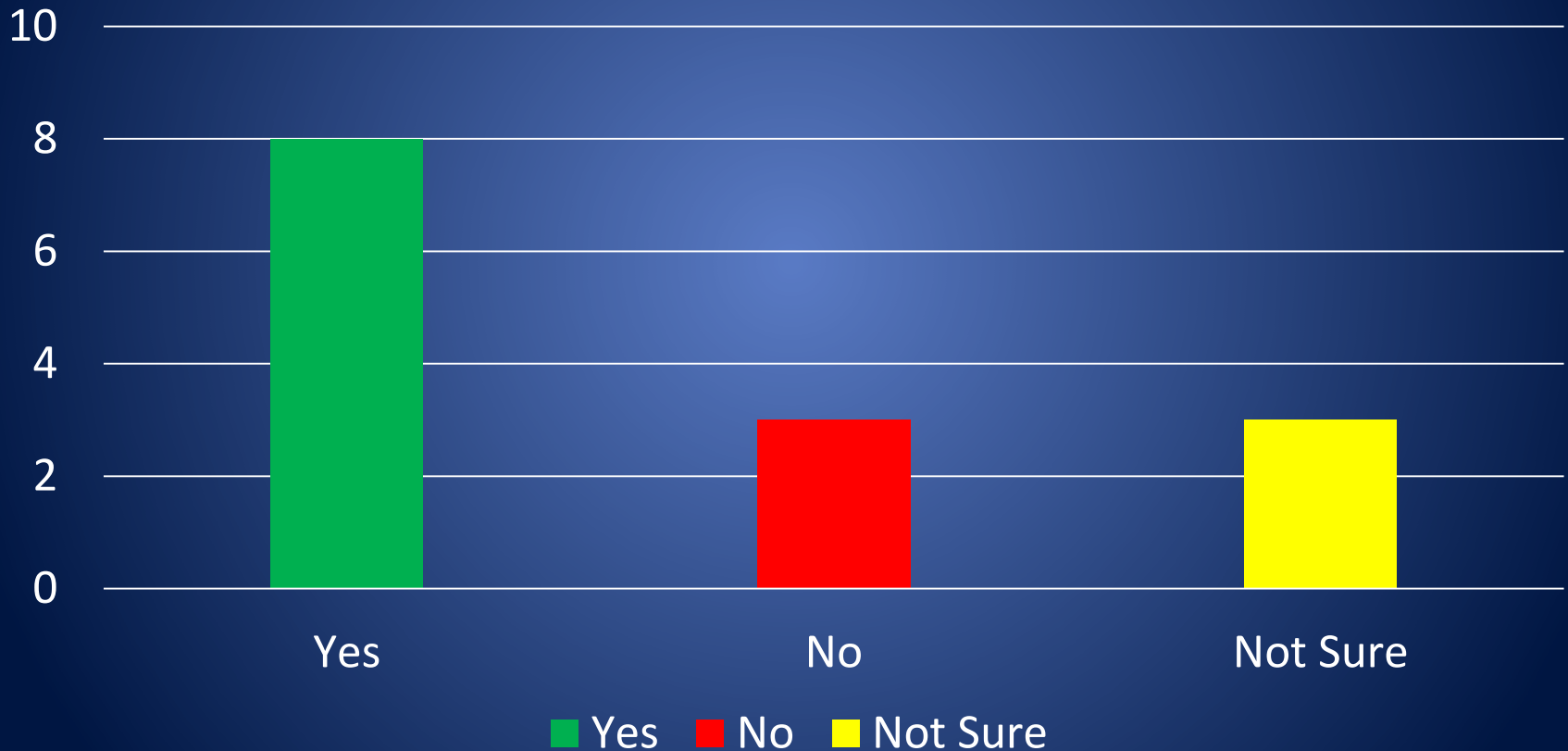
# Do you think this rule change will lead to a change in the timing of the muzzleloader season?

WDFW Biologist Survey



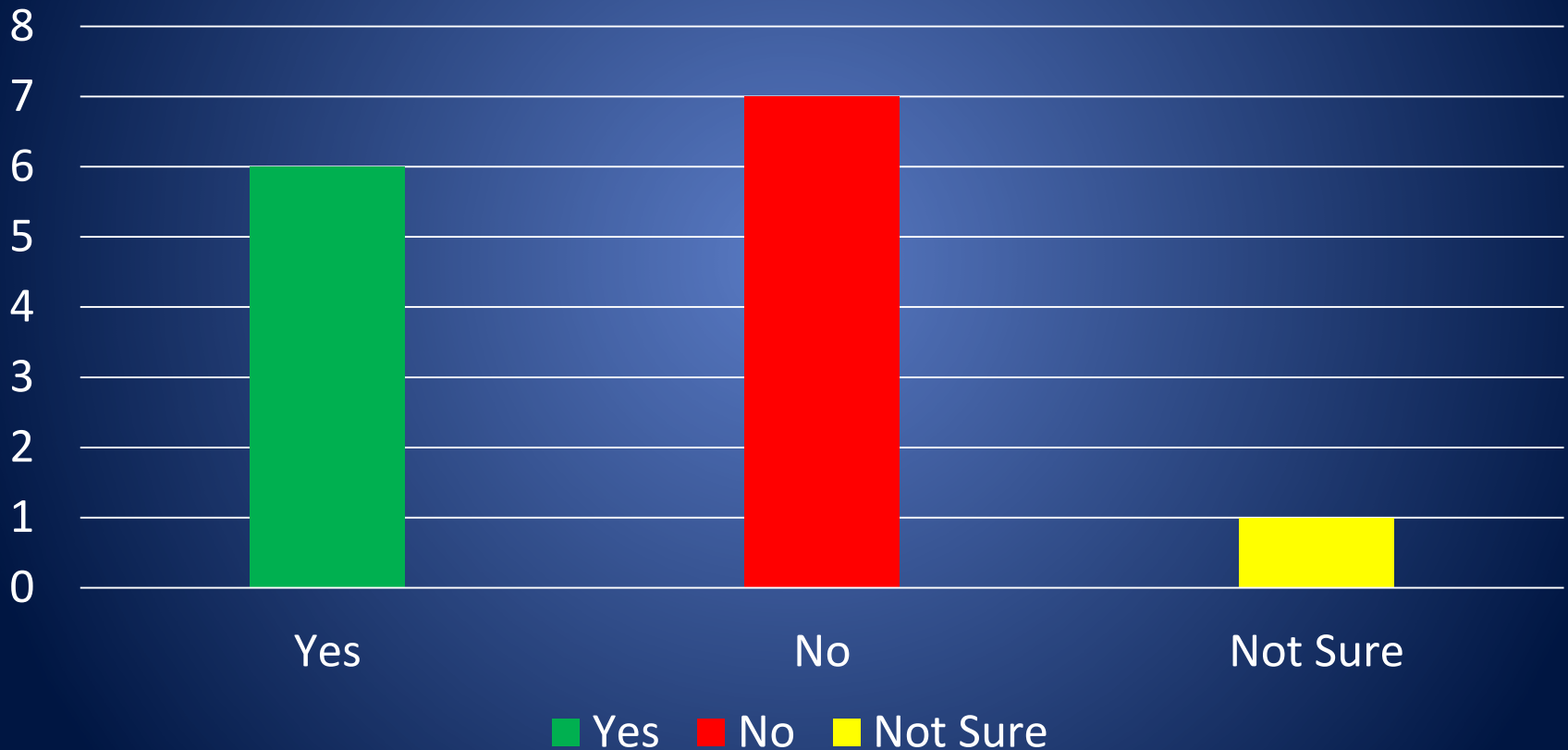
# Do you think this rule change will lead to a reduction in the number of days open during the muzzleloader season?

WDFW Biologist Survey



# In the long term, do you think the proposed changes to the muzzleloader equipment rules will be beneficial to the majority of deer and elk hunters?

WDFW Biologist Survey



# Proposal

- Based on the survey results from the email survey and comments provided in response to the proposed rules, the department is proposing to allow the use of primers designed for centerfire cartridges during muzzleloader season.
- Department Biologists opinions were mixed. Some felt the change would ultimately require recommendations to shorten muzzleloader seasons.

# Hunting with the Aid of Aircraft WAC 220-413-070

- Recent discussions between Enforcement Program and Wildlife Program regarding the use of unmanned aircraft while hunting sparked this proposal.
- The current rule speaks to restrictions related to aircraft, but it was deemed necessary to specifically call out unmanned aircraft in the rule.
- The proposed amendment specifies unmanned aircraft.

# Questions?

