

Survey of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Employees

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) is a national nonprofit alliance of state and federal resource professionals working to promote environmental ethics and government accountability. PEER is surveying all Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) employees on issues concerning the state of environmental affairs at the agency. These questions were developed by your colleagues. Please take a few moments to fill out this survey and mail it back. As with all contact with PEER, survey responses will be strictly confidential. PEER will tabulate and publish the survey results and make them available to you.

[Read Essay Results](#)

RESOURCES

1. The DNR has sufficient resources to adequately perform its environmental mission.
4% strongly agree 23% agree 8% no opinion 46% disagree 19% strongly disagree

2. DNR efficiently uses the resources available to it.
9% strongly agree 43% agree 11% no opinion 28% disagree 10% strongly disagree

3. Wisconsin's environment is better protected now by DNR than it was five years ago.
8% strongly agree 26% agree 17% no opinion 33% disagree 15% strongly disagree

DECISION-MAKING

4. DNR administration does not allow the needs of individuals and businesses seeking permits to take precedence over serving the general public and the resource.
6% strongly agree 31% agree 27% no opinion 27% disagree 9% strongly disagree

5. In my experience, scientific evaluations are influenced by political considerations at DNR.
13% strongly agree 35% agree 22% no opinion 23% disagree 7% strongly disagree

6. The regulated community has undue influence on DNR decision-making.
10% strongly agree 32% agree 27% no opinion 26% disagree 5% strongly disagree

STRUCTURE

7. The DNR Secretary should continue to be appointed by the Governor.
1% strongly agree 3% agree 4% no opinion 21% disagree 70% strongly disagree

8. The DNR Secretary should be appointed by the Natural Resources Board.
51% strongly agree 33% agree 8% no opinion 6% disagree 3% strongly disagree

9. The Public Intervener's Office should be re-established.
41% strongly agree 28% agree 24% no opinion 4% disagree 3% strongly disagree

ENFORCEMENT

10. DNR administration is committed to enforcement of environmental laws.

15% strongly agree 54% agree 16% no opinion 12% disagree 3% strongly disagree

11. I think that DNR law enforcement tends to focus disproportionately on small violators, rather than large violators.

6% strongly agree 15% agree 34% no opinion 34% disagree 11% strongly disagree

12. I have been directed by a superior to overlook environmental violations.

3% strongly agree 6% agree 22% no opinion 28% disagree 42% strongly disagree

LEADERSHIP

13. I trust DNR's top administrators to stand up against political pressure in protecting the environment.

8% strongly agree 26% agree 12% no opinion 34% disagree 20% strongly disagree

14. George Meyer has done a good job as DNR Secretary.

12% strongly agree 38% agree 18% no opinion 23% disagree 9% strongly disagree

15. At DNR, administrators are selected on who they know rather than what they know.

15% strongly agree 30% agree 32% no opinion 19% disagree 4% strongly disagree

MORALE

16. Employee morale at DNR is good.

1% strongly agree 17% agree 7% no opinion 43% disagree 32% strongly disagree

17. I know of a situation in which a DNR superior has retaliated against a staffer for doing his or her job "too well" on a controversial project.

6% strongly agree 12% agree 35% no opinion 27% disagree 20% strongly disagree

18. I fear job-related retaliation for openly advocating enforcement of environmental regulations.

4% strongly agree 11% agree 25% no opinion 34% disagree 25% strongly disagree