

Preliminary results of a survey of Michigan perspectives on wolves and wolf management



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Your Perspectives on Wolves and Wolf Management in Michigan

2021



Department of Fisheries & Wildlife

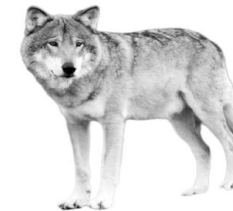
MICHIGAN STATE
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GENERAL PUBLIC MAIL SURVEY

- Individuals contacted via letter 4x
- 2x received letter with information to access survey online
- 2x received letter with information to access survey online *and a paper copy of the survey to mail back*

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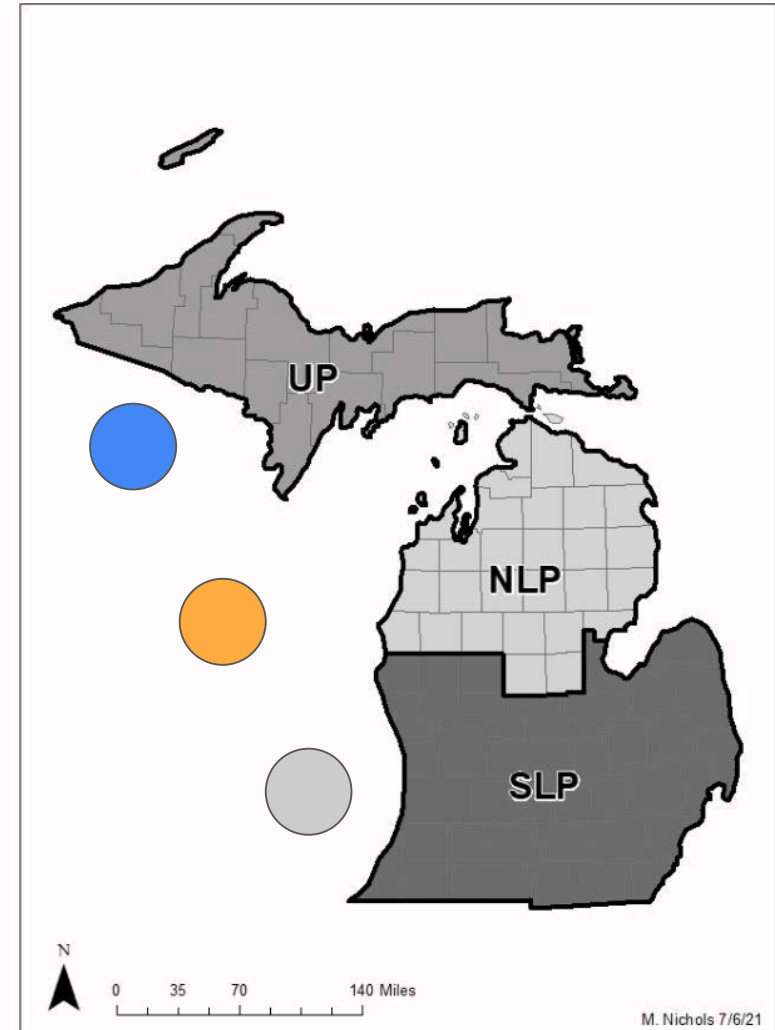


HUNTER/TRAPPER WEB SURVEY

- Individuals contacted via email 5x
- Received email with link to complete the survey online
- If individuals completed the survey online, they were not re-contacted

Characteristics of sampling strata

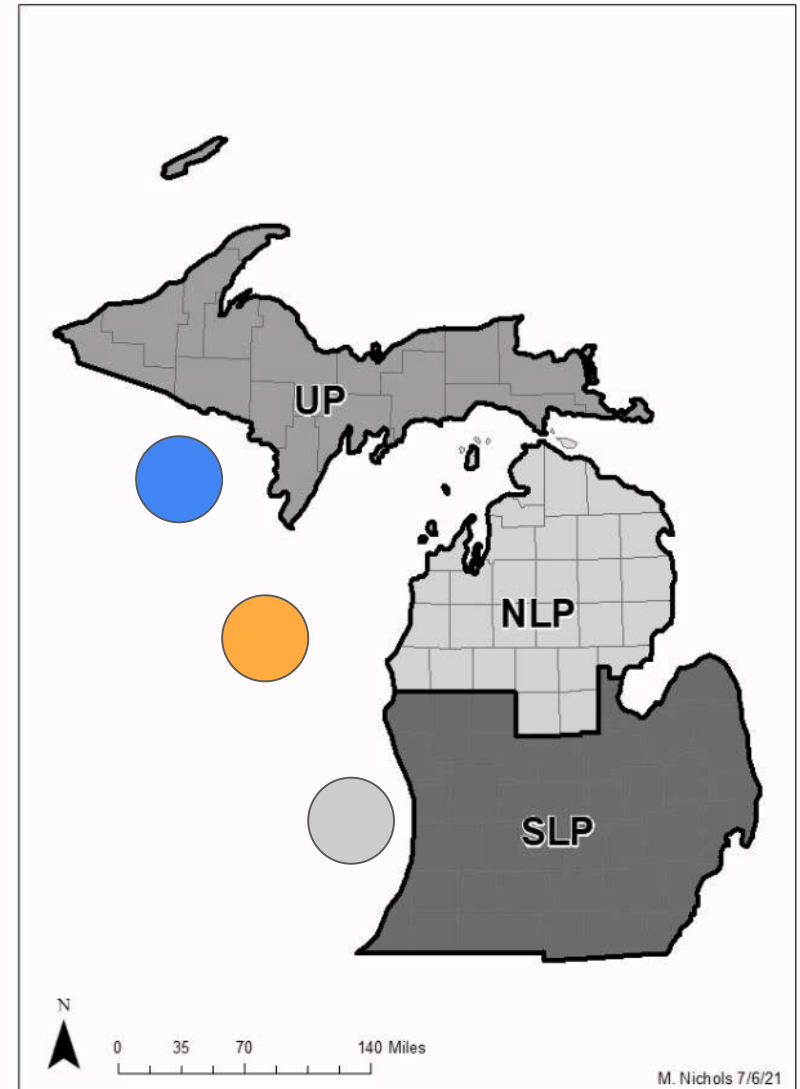
Population	Percent of Michigan's population	Percent of study sample respondents
UP	3.0%	43.2%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marquette County 		3.9%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Marquette County 		39.5%
NLP	7.9%	30.7%
SLP	89.0%	26.1%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detroit metro (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb) 		3.4%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Detroit southern lower 		22.6%
State	100.0%	100.0%



Response rates to mail / web questionnaire

Population	Percent of sample	Response rate
UP	33.3% (n = 5,000)	27.05%
NLP	33.3% (n = 5,000)	19.56%
SLP	33.3% (n = 5,000)	14.72%
General public overall	100% (n = 15,000)	20.26%
Web survey of hunters & trappers		
Trappers	n = 24,481	31.44%
Hunters	n = 24,765	20.01%

- Response rates adjusted for undeliverable addresses, deceased individuals, and refusals;
- “Duplicate responses” eliminated

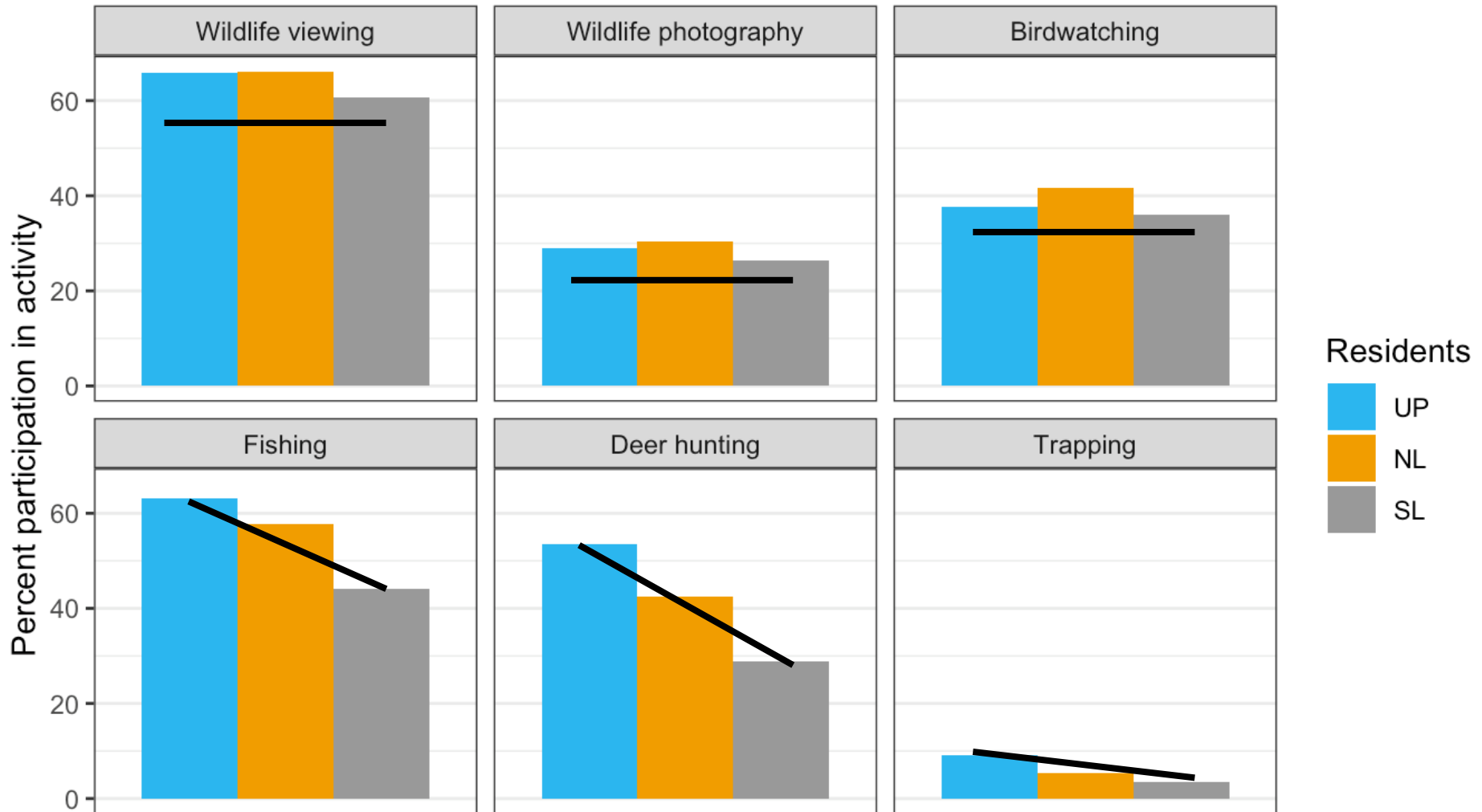


Demographics of respondents

	Mean age*	% male	% white	% who receive income from farming	% of farmers who raise livestock
General population	60	64.5%	87%	7.69%	36.63%
- UP	60	67.2%	88%	7.19%	41.18%
- NL	61	59.9%	88%	8.09%	37.97%
- SL	59	65.4%	84%	8.08%	28.00%
Hunters	52	91.2%	91%	10.08%	45.73%
Trappers	50	93.4%	92%	16.18%	56.79%

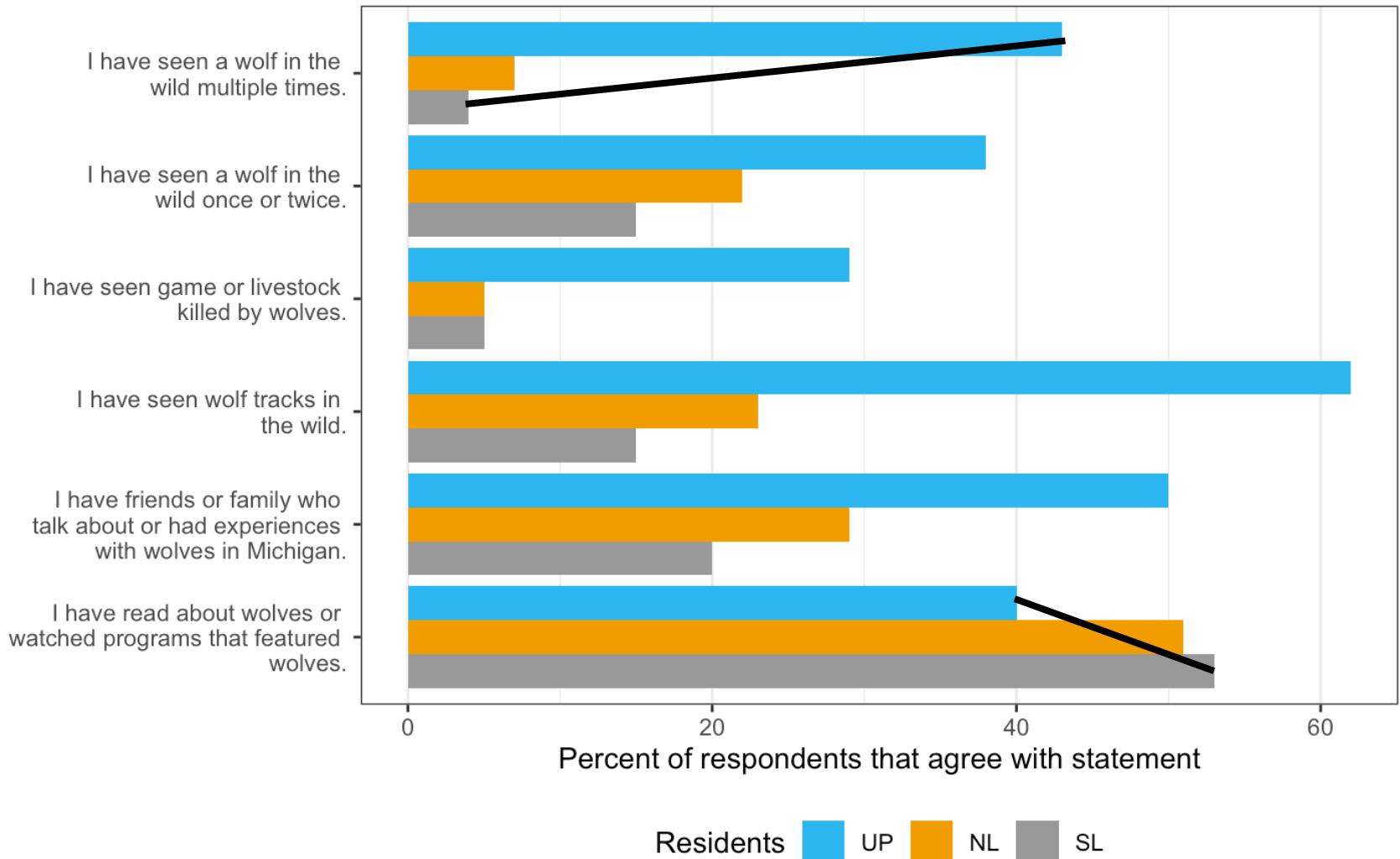
*Outliers removed due to inaccuracies in self report

Which of the following types of outdoor recreation activities do you typically do in Michigan? (general population)



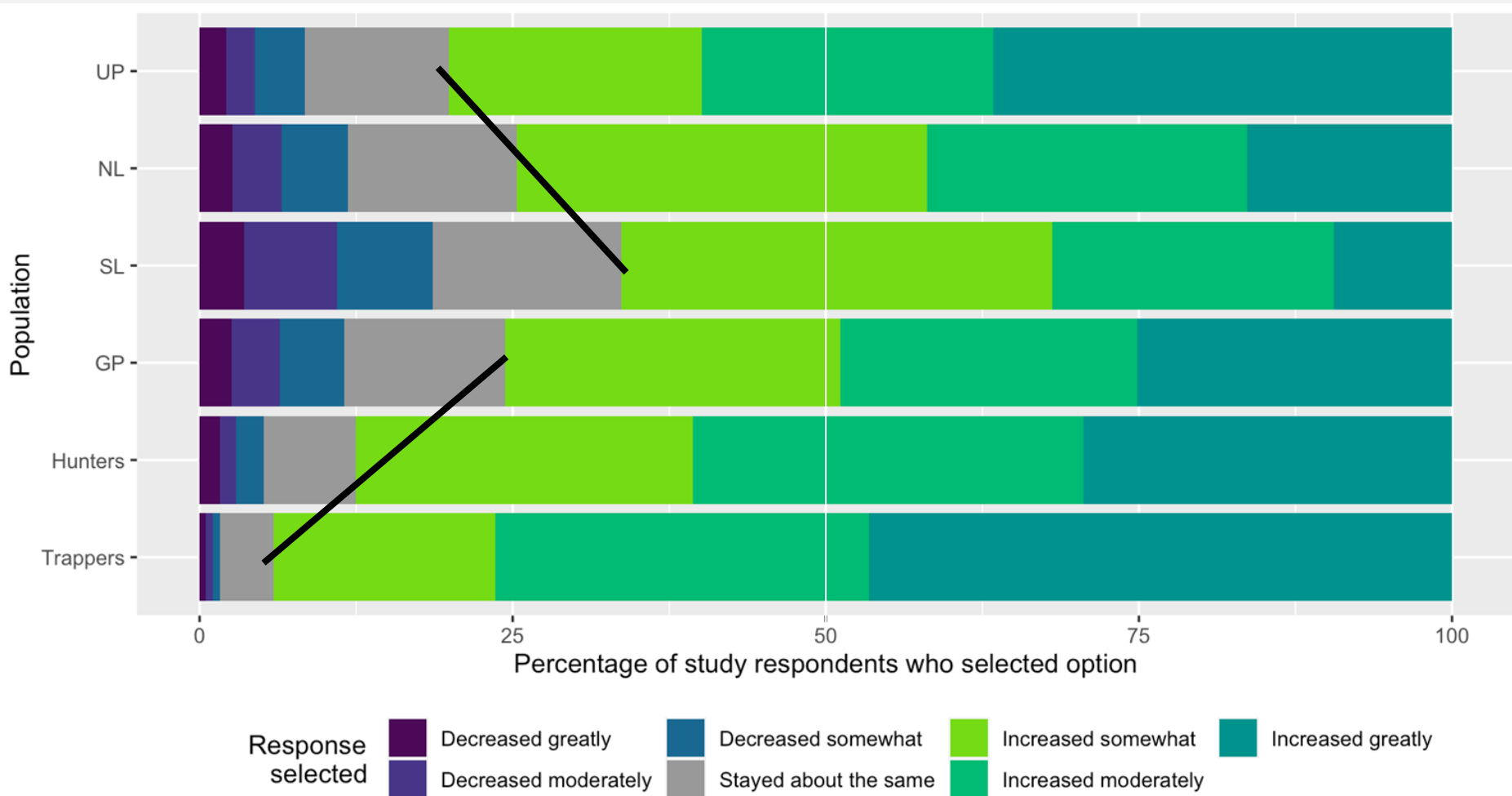
Which of the following best describes your personal experiences with wolves in Michigan?

These data are preliminary and not to be portrayed as representative of the Michigan population



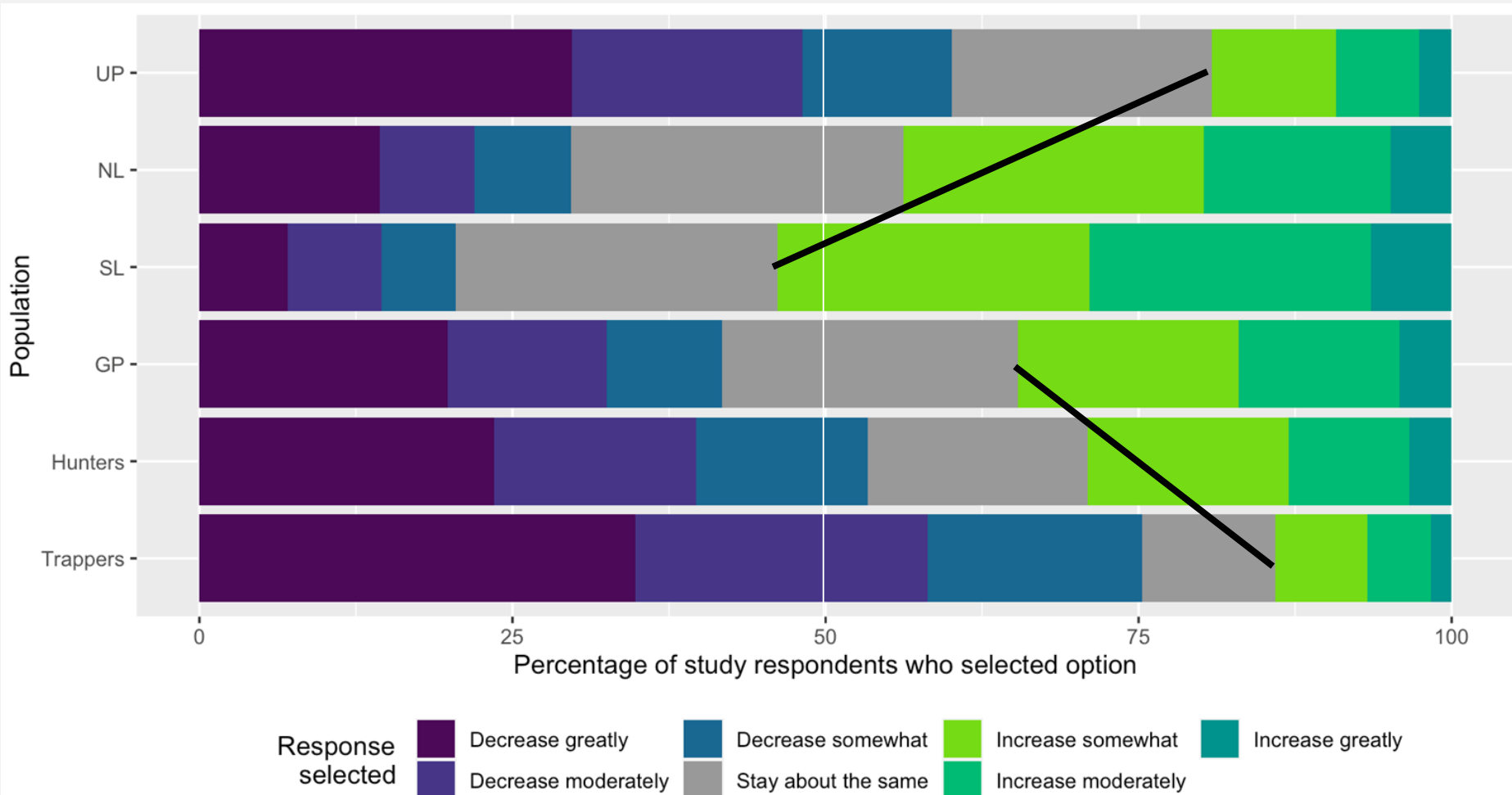
...how do you think the wolf population has changed in Michigan during the past five years?

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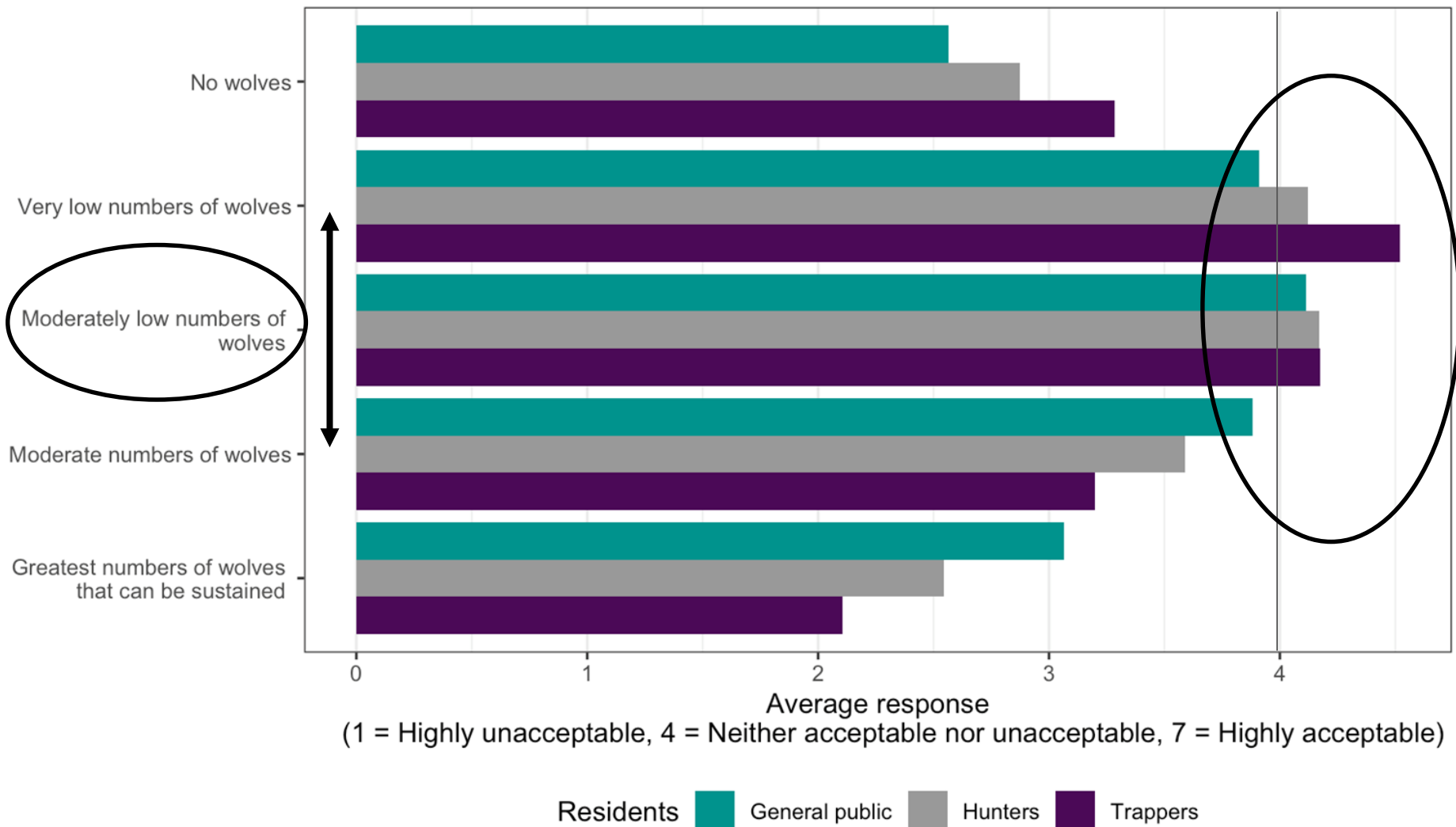
...how would you like the wolf population to change in Michigan during the next five years?

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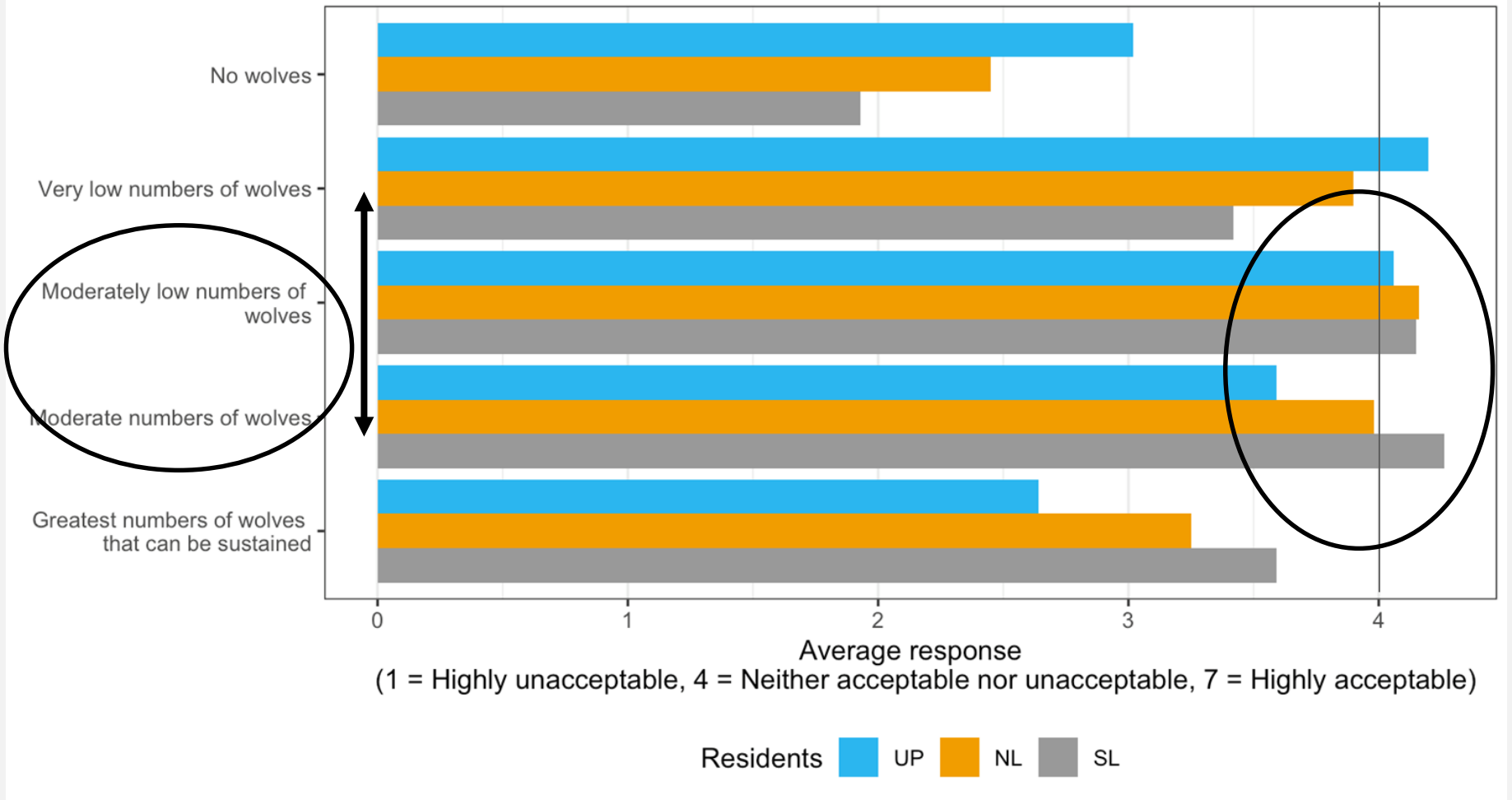
How acceptable are each of the following wolf population scenarios to you?

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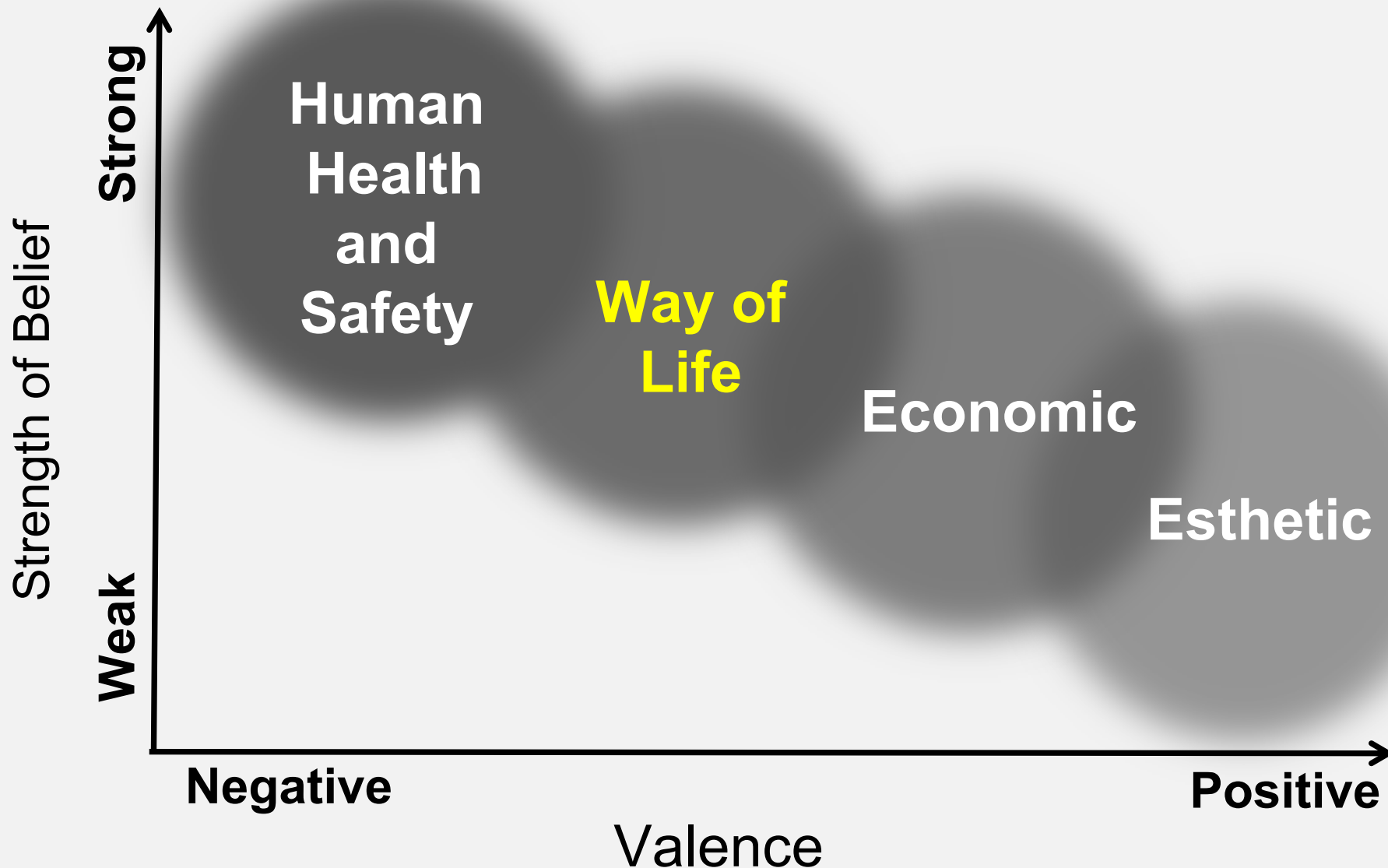


How acceptable are each of the following wolf population scenarios to you? (general public)

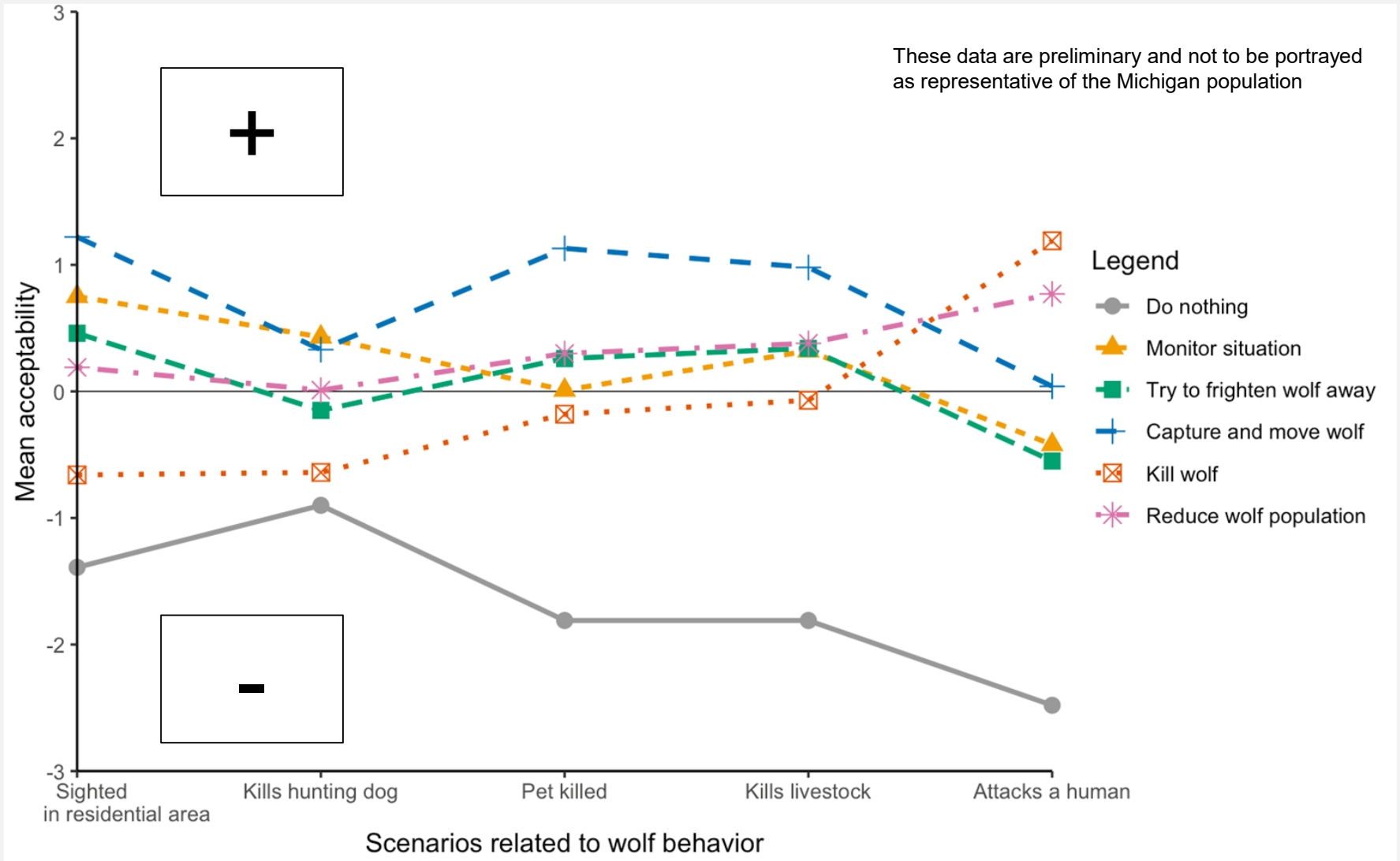
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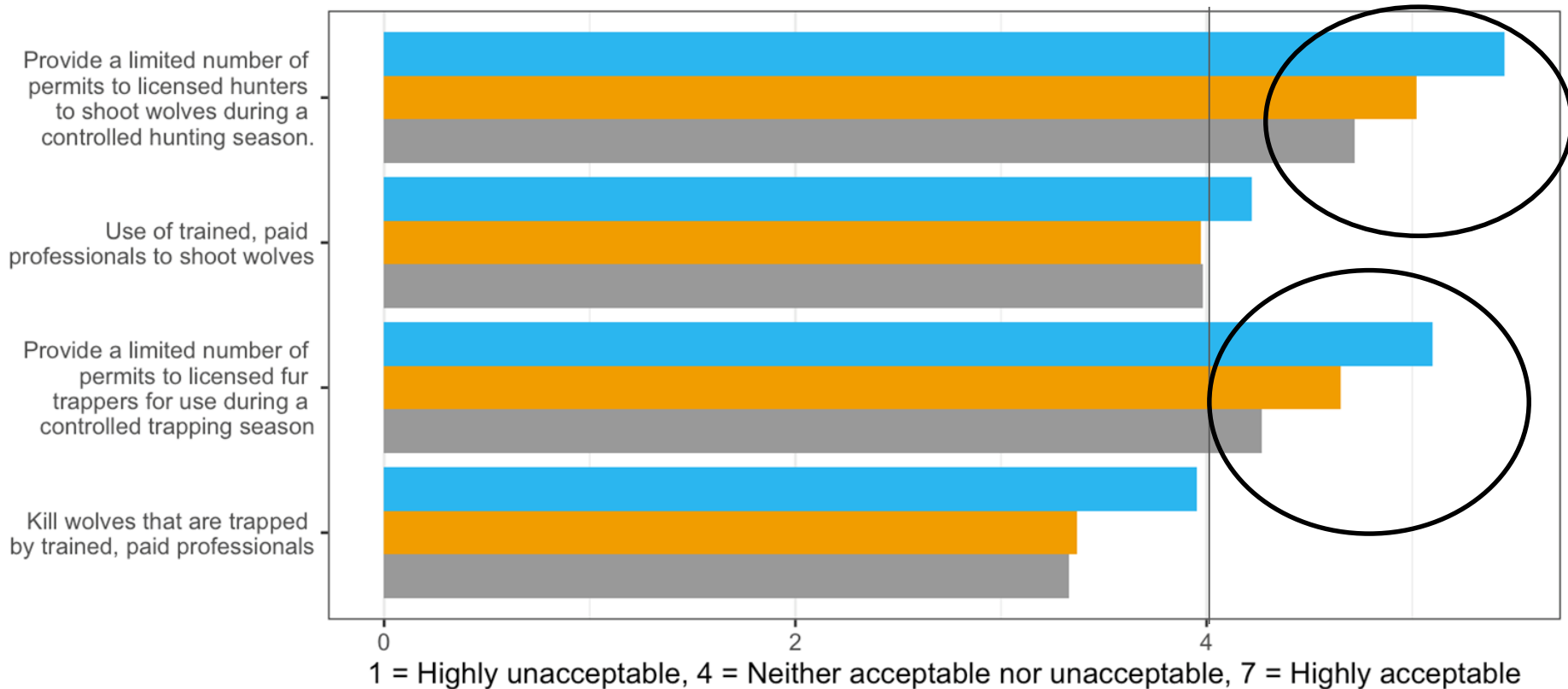
Response by People to Perceived Risks from Human-Wildlife Interactions



General public acceptability for wolf management given various scenarios related to wolf behavior



If a wolf or wolves had to be removed from an area for some reason, how acceptable are the following possible methods to you personally?

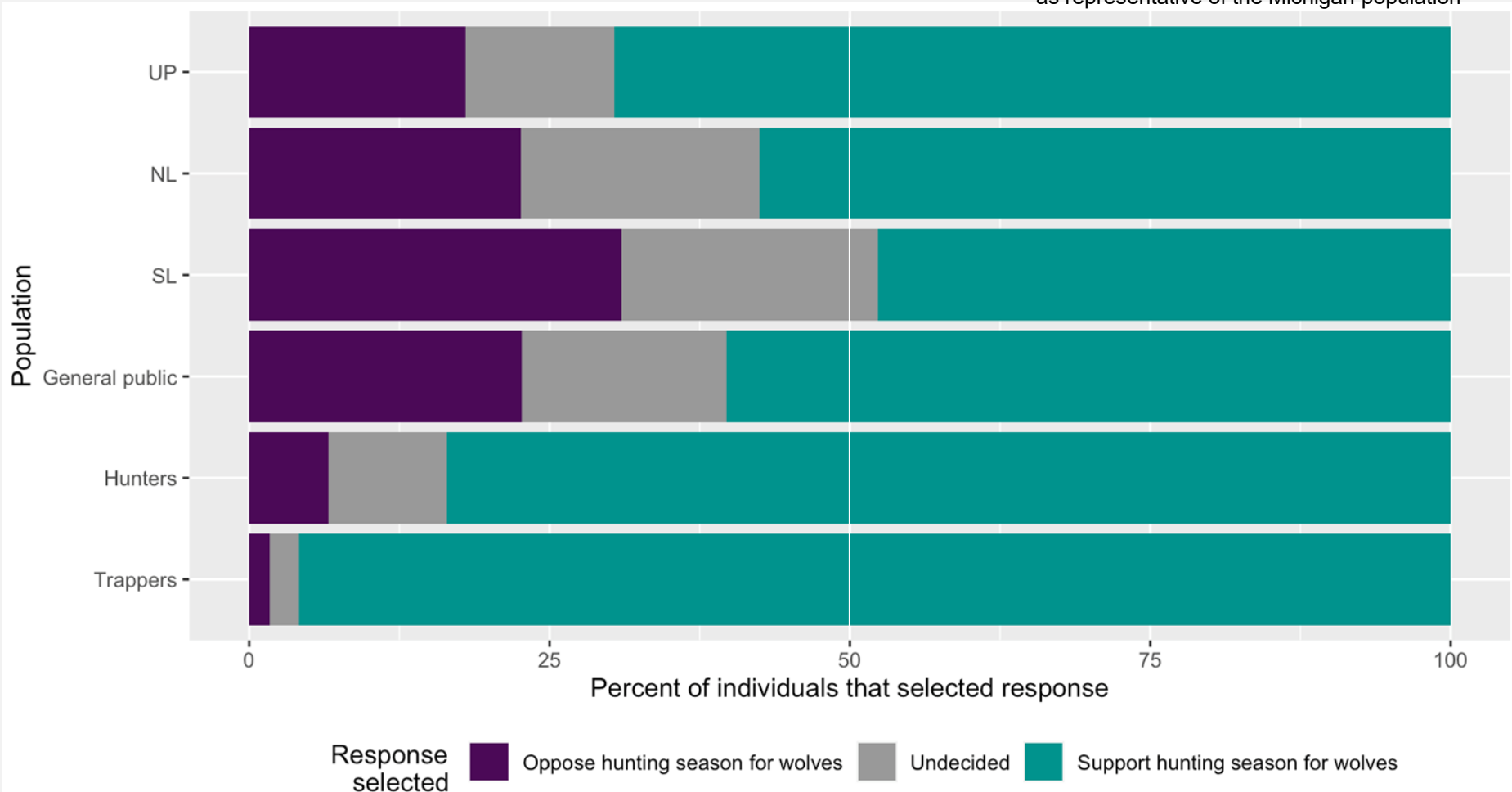


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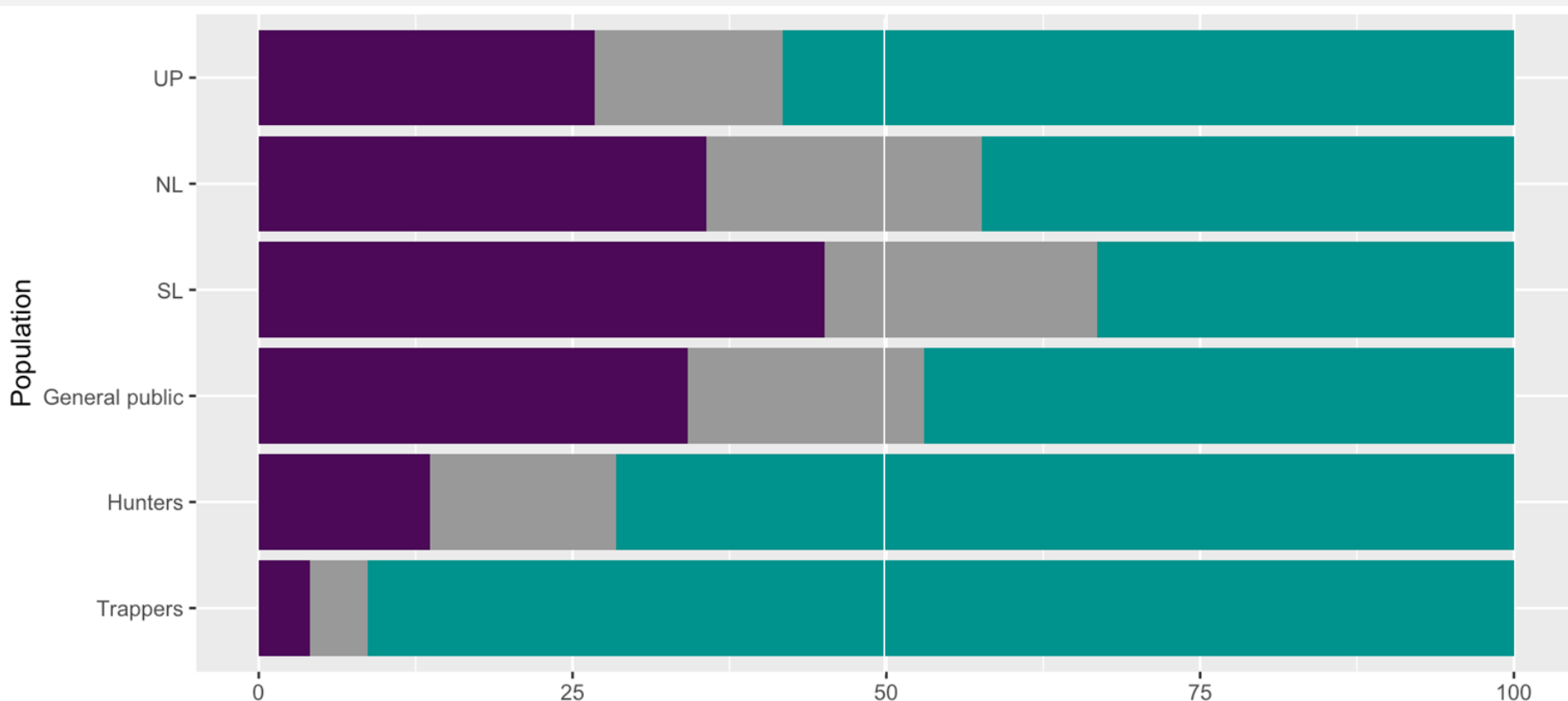
Residents UP NL SL

If biologists and the DNR believe the wolf population could safely sustain a hunting season, which of the following best describes your opinion about a legal, recreational wolf hunting season in Michigan?

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If biologists and the DNR believe the wolf population could safely sustain a trapping season, which of the following best describes your opinion about a legal, recreational wolf trapping season in Michigan?



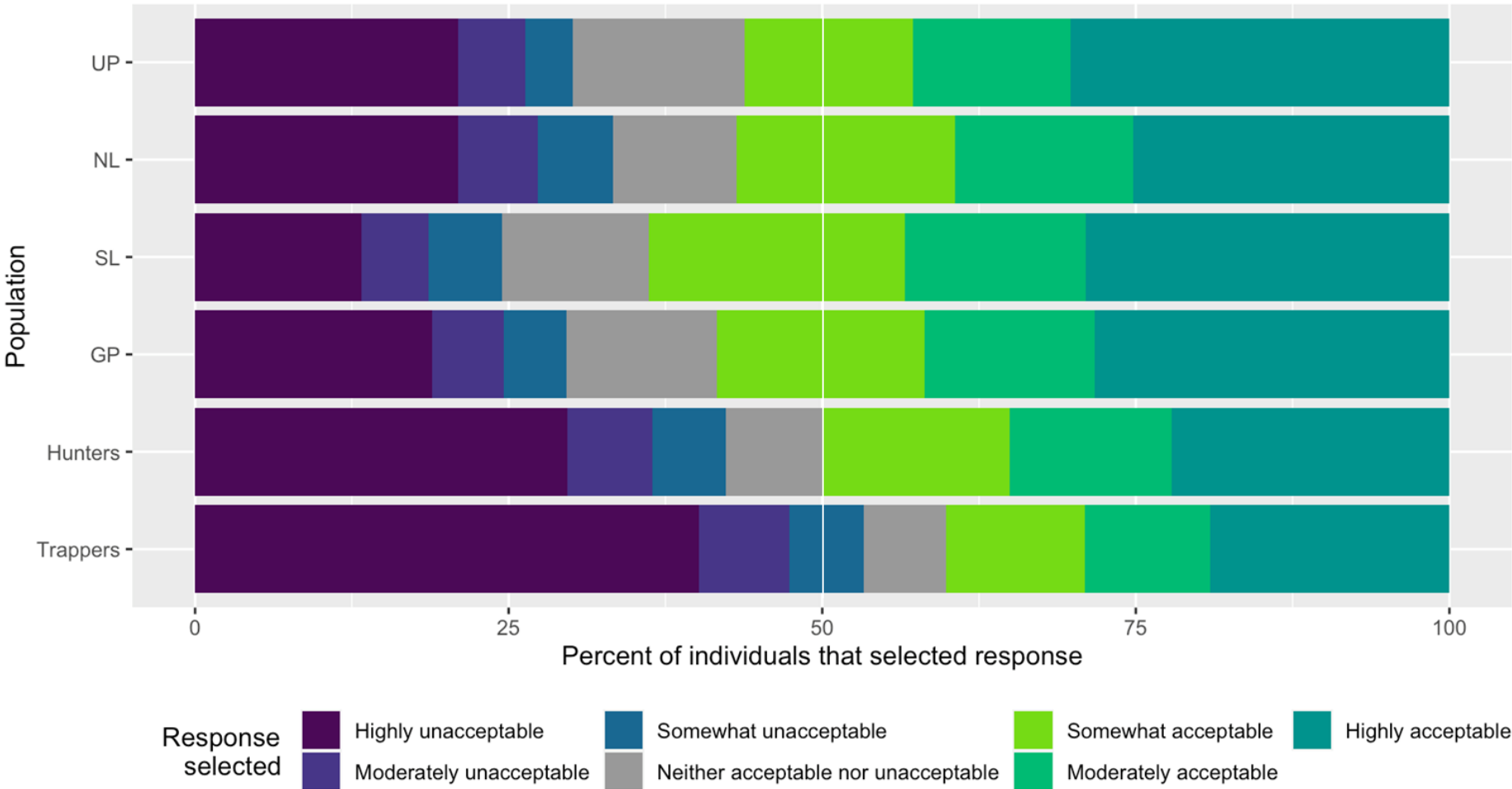
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Percent of individuals that selected response

Response selected: Oppose trapping season for wolves (purple), Undecided (gray), Support trapping season for wolves (teal)

How acceptable would it be to you for wolves to establish a population in the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan?

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Where we go from here...

1. Address non-response bias;
2. Weight data for more generalized inferences;
3. Model to determine factors affecting acceptance of wolves and wolf management approaches;
4. Your questions...

Thank You



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