



MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Jeffrey Pollock & Joe Hickerson
RE: Montana Senate Survey Results
DATE: September 27, 2012

The results of our survey of likely voters in Montana show U.S. Senator Jon Tester holding strong with a small lead in his re-election campaign against Congressman Denny Rehberg.

POLL RESULTS

- If the election for Congress was today, 44% of likely voters say they would vote for Democrat Jon Tester, while 42% would vote for Republican Denny Rehberg. Another 7% say they would vote for Libertarian Party candidate Dan Cox.
- In a two-way contest, Tester holds a one-point advantage over Rehberg, 47% to 46%.
- Tester's personal popularity is slightly in the black (47% favorable/46% unfavorable), while Rehberg's is slightly in the red (45% favorable/46% unfavorable).
- After voters hear information about Rehberg's support for a federal land grab that would give the Department of Homeland Security complete control over millions of acres in Montana, Rehberg's support drops by 7 points (Tester 47%/Rehberg 40%).
- In fact, after informing voters that Rehberg's federal land grab would give the government in Washington unprecedented new authority to set up surveillance cameras, build fences and construct forward operating bases in national parks, cutting off access to the places where Montana sportsmen go to hunt and fish, 37% say this information raises major doubts for them about voting for Rehberg.

METHODOLOGY

- This memorandum summarizes results from a live telephone poll of 606 randomly selected likely voters in Montana conducted September 23-25, 2012.
 - The estimation error associated with a sample of 606 is 4.0% at the 95% confidence interval. This means that in 95 of 100 cases, the results of this poll are within plus or minus 4.0 points of the results that would have been obtained if all likely voters had been interviewed. Note that special care was taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the actual electorate are properly represented.
-