

Appendix 1

Nez Perce County Republican Central Committee Vetting and Rating Program

January 14, 2023

The NPCRCC has developed a process of informing local voters about candidates running for both partisan and **Appendix 1** Nez Perce County Republican Central Committee Vetting and Rating Program

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The NPCRCC has developed a process of informing local voters about candidates running for both partisan and non-partisan offices. We have found that some candidates who subscribe to be Republicans do not necessarily hold strong Republican values. Furthermore, Precinct Committeemen are frequently asked for information about candidates and issues. The Precinct Committeemen's job is to know their constituents and to keep them informed about candidates and ballot measures.

For this reason, the NPCRCC has implemented a vetting and rating program whereby candidates are rated by the Precinct Committeemen. Candidates Rating Criteria

We will be searching for and rating men and women of good character, virtue and integrity, and who will uphold the Idaho Republican Platform and traditional values.

The NPCRCC encourages candidates to participate in this process and other opportunities to present themselves to the voters such as forums, town halls, social media, speaking before the NPCRCC and "Meet and Greet".

-----CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions:

- **Full Name:** Mark Fitzpatrick
- **Address:** 3931 N. Triple Ridge Place, Eagle ID 83616
- **Age:** 48 **Phone number:** 208-999-0453
- **Are you a registered Republican?** X Yes No
- **If yes, how long?** My entire eligible life.

Note: Begin each answer with strongly agree, somewhat agree, or disagree-----

PLATFORM QUESTIONS

1. Article I of the Republican platform "Responsibility In Government"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Fiscal responsibility:**

Strongly Agree. I am a fiscal conservative. We should have a minimally sized government to carry out its necessary functions. Let the private sector work for the people (who would be paying less taxes) in a more efficient way than the government. - Regarding Article 1, Section 1, I do believe, in a more perfect world, it is plausible to create income from natural resources that would replace most or even all of the normal taxes Idahoans pay. I believe we have been led to believe that it is not possible to have a government without income / property / sales taxes. However, under circumstances where a state's natural resources are very prevalent and valuable, it may be the case that other forms of taxation could be eliminated. I intend to study possibilities related to this notion, determining maximum financial benefit for Idahoans as it pertains to responsibly mining our land and using other resources for income.

- **Taxation:**

Strongly Agree. Much of current taxation is taking away from the power of The People, indebting them to a government that recklessly spends their money and redistributes their wealth. This isn't merely a bad strategy, it is morally wrong. I am a strong proponent of eliminating as much tax as possible.

- **Reform of Congress:**

Strongly Agree. I am very much for extreme transparency as a means to keep the government in check. I will lead the way with a truly remarkable populist style of governing.

- **Sound Currency:**

Strongly agree. I'd like to see the Federal Reserve eliminated. The People should be able to use their own money, outside of government or corporate control.

- **State Legislature:**

Strongly Agree. It is critically important that a state does not forfeit its power and rights to the federal government.

- **Honest Elections and the Electoral College:**

Strongly Agree. The electoral college makes election fraud more challenging. It also allows for a more fair representation of the People, especially those in rural, less populated areas.

2. Article II of the Republican platform "Citizen Involvement in Government"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Citizen Involvement:**

Strongly Agree. Idaho and our nation desperately need more citizen involvement in our governments. We have been given an excellent form of government, but have not been good stewards of that government, staying minimally involved or even being apathetic citizens. As a

populist governor I have several ideas I will put in place to increase citizen involvement. I will hold town hall style meetings, inviting the public, where I will answer questions directly from the people. I will hold meetings with community leaders, pastors, social media influencers, etc to help get the word out to the people, encouraging involvement. I will communicate often with the citizens via social media using various formats.

- **Public Discourse:**
Strongly Agree. Treating others with respect, whether we agree or not, is an imperative foundation to any real and meaningful discussion.
- **Primary Elections:**
Strongly Agree. It is frustrating when Leftists switch to “Republican” to vote for the most liberal of the options. This tactic can wrongly change our Republican representation.

3. Article III of the Republican platform “Education”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Teaching our Nation’s Founding Documents:**
Strongly Agree. Yes, of course we should teach our children about our foundational documents and the Biblical principles they based on.
- **Religious Freedom in Public Schools:**
Strongly Agree. Yes, children and teachers should be free to pray and discuss religious principles and beliefs in school.
- **Parents Right to Home School:**
Strongly Agree. My wife and I have six children and we opt to homeschool. They are also a part of a homeschool coop group. Taking full responsibility for our children’s education allows us to protect them from deceptions, worldly temptations, socialist / marxist teachings, and other evils often found in the public school system.
- **Student Voucher system to allow parents to pick a private or religious school of their choice:**
Strongly Agree. I will agree with mostly any law that would strengthen the parents’ rights as it pertains to raising and educating their children.

4. Article IV of the Republican platform “Agriculture”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Free and Fair trade practices:**
Strongly agree. I agree with the basic idea of free trade in local and foreign markets, especially in agriculture.
- **Water rights for Farming:**
Strongly agree. We must rigorously defend Idaho’s rights to water and use extreme caution

when making any deals to share water with other states. If it is Idaho water, Idahoans first!

5. Article V of the Republican platform “Water”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Federal and State regulation of water rights:**
Strongly Agree. Same as previously mentioned. We must protect Idahoans' rights to Idaho's water. Idaho first.
- **Recreational use of scenic waters:**
Strongly Agree. One of the great things about Idaho is the ability to enjoy natural resources, including waterways and lakes. We must keep our water pure, but also allow for Idahoans and visitors to enjoy these wonderful blessings.
- **Federal regulations of fish and Dams:**
Strongly Agree. Generally speaking, I'd like to keep the Fed out of our business. I'd like Idaho to take total control of our land and water and keep it that way.

6. Article VI of the Republican platform “Natural Resources and Environment”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **The individual's responsibility of Stewardship:**
Strongly Agree. Our schools should teach plenty on this topic and we should help our children grow up knowing how to be good stewards of our environment. This is the type of situation where I would push for more education and not necessarily regulation or law enforcement.
- **Reestablishing the Primacy of State government for environmental policy:**
Strongly Agree. Again, if at all possible, we want to keep the federal government away from our state's rights to land and water and other natural resources.
- **Utilization of Idaho's natural resources:**
Strongly Agree. Idaho should be able to use its natural resources to build wealth and decrease taxes. Furthermore, Idahoans' use of natural resources for their enjoyment should be protected! We must protect our natural resources from any deals that are intended to benefit the elite and take away from the benefits of Idahoans.
- **Legislation to limit a Presidents Authority of enacting orders over Parks:**
Strongly Agree that we should limit federal authority including Presidential authority over our parks.

7. Article VII of the Republican platform “Energy”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Belief that we should become energy Independent as a nation:**
Strongly agree. USA should work to be totally independent, especially in energy. Dependency is a weakness and should be avoided if at all possible.
- **Support for sources of energy such as Oil, Natural Gas, Hydroelectric, Nuclear, and new technologies if they have proven themselves as sustainable.**
Strongly agree. Diversifying into proven energy sources is smart and will pay off over the long term.
- **Keep Idaho's electrical rates the lowest in all 50 states:**
Strongly agree. A big part of this goal is transparency and exposing corruption and waste.

8. Article VIII of the Republican platform "Idaho National Laboratories"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **The importance of "Idaho National Laboratories" as employer, and for nuclear research:**
Strongly agree. The Lab in Idaho Falls employs over 6000 people and is critically important to the local economy.

9. Article IX of the Republican platform "Private Property Rights"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **No person shall be... Deprived of Life, Liberty, or property without due process of Law:**
Strongly Agree. I am a strong supporter of property rights and minimal government interference.

10. Article X of the Republican platform "State and Federal Lands"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Limit or reduce the amount of Federal Land in Idaho:**
Strongly Agree. This is another article limiting government control or influence over land in Idaho. We should strive to own and rule over the land inside our borders without any interference from outside governments.

11. Article XI of the Republican platform "Wildlife Management"

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Manage Fish and Game to provide opportunities for Idahoans and the Tourist industry:**

Strongly Agree. Fishing and hunting are a great source of income for Idaho businesses and a wonderful pastime for Idahoans. We should work to maximize those benefits while caring for the land and wildlife.

- **Oppose Federal designations that restrict opportunities:**

Strongly Agree. The federal government should stay away from wildlife management inside Idaho.

- **Oppose the reintroduction of Wolves and Grizzlies:**

Strongly Agree. There does not appear to be any need for it.

12. Article XII of the Republican platform “Economy”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Fiscal responsibility in the form of balanced state and federal budgets:**

Strongly Agree. Indebtedness weakens the position of The People. Budgets should be reduced as low as possible, allowing for the private sector to satisfy the needs of the citizens, whenever possible. I am in strong favor of requiring balanced budgets. Let’s stop all borrowing.

- **Support for Commerce and industry including small business:**

Strongly Agree. This is a traditional Republican tenet; the support of small business growth and development. I believe Idahoans should be led to support local, family-owned businesses, when at all possible.

- **Tax code that is simple and fair:**

Strongly Agree. Asking small business owners to be tax collectors on behalf of the government is demanding an arduous task from them. It should be as easy as possible, using available technology, and with the ultimate goal of completely eliminating the task in the future.

- **Fair labor practices where employees are hired and promoted based on individual merit:**

Strongly Agree. A meritocracy governing for the People who have a true merit based society and work force is best. We must stay away from anything resembling DEI or affirmative action.

13. Article XIII of the Republican platform “Health and Welfare”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **We support a “Conscience Clause” Idahoans have the right to object to participate in practices that conflict with their moral or religious beliefs:**

Strongly Agree. Idahoans should not be forced or pressured to participate in any medical or health practices that violate their moral compass.

- **Parents have supreme authority in all medical decisions for their children:**

Strongly Agree. The state is not the decision maker for children. Parents are.

14. Article XIV of the Republican platform “American Family”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Traditional American family values are the foundation of our nation:**
Strongly Agree. Traditional family values are a must for having a healthy nation. I even started a non-profit specifically for defending and celebrating traditional family values.
- **We oppose the expansion of the definition of “Traditional Marriage”:**
Strongly Agree. Marriage, as designed by our Creator, is between one man and one woman. I will never stray from this fundamental belief.
- **We affirm that Abortion is murder from the moment of fertilization:**
Strongly Agree. It is murder to purposely end human life. Human life begins at fertilization.

15. Article XV of the Republican platform “Older Americans”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Preserve and promote older persons ability to support themselves, and oppose policies that penalize older Americans who continue to work:**
Strongly Agree. Article 15 honors seniors’ contributions with respect and dignity, while promoting fiscal responsibility and encouraging self-reliance, family care, and community support over government dependency.

16. Article XVI of the Republican platform “Law and Order with Justice”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **We believe a person is innocent until proven guilty, that just punishment should be swift for the guilty:**
Strongly Agree. Justice and judgement must be fair and if any error is to be had, it must be on the side of caution, not wrongly convicting someone of a crime they did not commit.
- **The right to keep and bear arms, including right to carry:**
Strongly Agree. I have carried a firearm on my person for 27 years, ever since becoming a police officer at age 21. I am a strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment. A heavily armed society is a polite society.
- **The death penalty is appropriate for the most heinous crimes:**
Strongly Agree. This is a Biblical concept. I agree.

17. Article XVII of the Republican platform “National Defense”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **We support a National Missile Defense System, and Mountain Home Air Force Base:**
Strongly Agree. We should, undoubtedly, have a strong missile defence system and avoid any treaty or “alliance” that would limit our presence as the strongest military in the world. I fully support the Mountain Home Air Force Base.
- **We support the construction of a border wall:**
Strongly Agree. A strong border is paramount to having a safe, strong, and secure country.
- **We believe that our troops should not be used as the world’s Policemen:**
Strongly Agree. We should only get involved in international military activity that has a significant effect on Americans’ safety and rights.

18. Article XVIII of the Republican platform “Election of Judges”

Tell us if you **Strongly agree**, **Somewhat agree** or **disagree** with the platform and why on the following sections:

- **Judges are selected in an open and fair manner by the People in a partisan election process:**
Strongly Agree. In intend to help rally the People to get more involved in vetting all elected officials, representatives, and judges.

----The answers to these questions will be the basis of the ratings you will receive and the issues we would like addressed by you in other settings.

In previous elections there have been cases where two well-rated candidates running against a third poorly-rated candidate will “split the vote” leaving the poorly-rated candidate with the win. In such a case where two candidates may split the vote, the NPCRCC Election Committee will encourage the candidate with the second highest rating to drop out and run again at a later time.

Those who fail to respond to this questionnaire will likely receive lower ratings by the Committee.

Please respond by the date requested of you, typically soon after the candidate filing deadline.

Signature:  _____

Date Completed: 03/10/2026

