

Polling Analyst Workflow Documentation

Date: February 9, 2026

Status: Operational

Next Briefing: Daily at 8:00 AM EST

Overview

An autonomous polling analysis system that tracks US political polling, MAGA movement momentum, and 2026 midterm trends. Delivers daily briefings with trend analysis and signal detection.

What Was Built Today

1. Agent Skill: `polling-analyst`

Location: /home/wayne/.openclaw/workspace/skills/polling-analyst.skill

Components:

- SKILL.md — Core workflow, signal detection heuristics, browsing discipline
- references/pollster-ratings.md — Tiered pollster reliability guide
- references/2026-races.md — Senate/House/Governor race trackers
- references/historical-trends.md — Baselines and patterns
- scripts/polling-fetch.py — Data fetch helper

Triggers:

- "poll", "polling", "election", "midterm", "MAGA"
- "Trump approval", "generic ballot", "voter sentiment"
- Daily cron execution

2. Automated Cron Job

Schedule: Daily at 8:00 AM EST (America/New_York)

Job ID: aaf1bbce-1d6e-41f3-bcb3-65d0267a59c6

Workflow:

1. Read yesterday's memory file (memory/YYYY-MM-DD.md)
2. Browse RCP for Trump approval/favorability, generic ballot
3. Check Truth Social for MAGA sentiment (#MAGA activity, Trump engagement)
4. Compare to yesterday's baseline
5. Write findings to memory/TODAY.md
6. Deliver briefing via Telegram

3. Memory Persistence System

Daily Files: memory/YYYY-MM-DD.md

- Key metrics with day-over-day comparisons
- Truth Social vibe observations
- Notable shifts and signals
- Bottom line synthesis

Long-term: MEMORY.md (for main sessions only)

- Curated significant trends
- Lessons learned
- User preferences

Current Workflow

Data Sources

Source	Data	Method
RealClearPolitics	Trump approval, favorability, generic ballot	Browser + web_fetch fallback
Truth Social	MAGA sentiment, engagement rates	Browser (requires login)
538/Cook/Sabato	Secondary validation	As needed

Daily Briefing Format

■ POLLING BRIEF — [DATE]

THE HEADLINE

One sentence on the biggest shift (or "steady as she goes")

KEY NUMBERS

- Trump fav/unfav: X% (spread ±X) – trend: ↑ ↓ →
- Generic ballot: D+X – trend: ↑ ↓ →

MAGA TEMPERATURE

- [Hot/Warm/Cold/Fragmented]: Why

WORTH WATCHING

0-2 things that caught your eye

BOTTOM LINE

One sentence synthesis

Browsing Discipline

Time budget: 5-10 minutes per briefing

- RCP: 2 minutes (headline numbers only)
- Truth Social: 3 minutes (scroll feed, check #MAGA, gauge engagement)
- Synthesis: 2-3 minutes

Signal detection:

- **Signal:** 2+ point shift confirmed across multiple pollsters
- **Noise:** Single outlier, partisan poll, no corroboration
- **Ignore:** Crosstabs (unless topline shocking), Twitter/X, state polls this far out

Technical Setup

Browser Configuration

Chrome Extension: OpenClaw Browser Relay

- Installed from: `~/.npm-global/lib/node_modules/openclaw/assets/chrome-extension/`
- Must be clicked ON for each tab to control
- Connection times out after 20-30 seconds of inactivity

Truth Social Access:

- Account: curiositybits
- Logged in and authenticated
- Following: @realDonaldTrump, @breitbartnews, @DonaldJTrumpJr, @TPUSA, etc.

Gateway Commands

```
# Check status
openclaw gateway status
```

```
# Restart if flaky
openclaw gateway restart

# List cron jobs
cron action=list

# Trigger job manually
cron action=run jobId=aaf1bbce-1d6e-41f3-bcb3-65d0267a59c6
```

Current Baseline (Feb 9, 2026)

National Metrics (RCP Averages)

- **Trump approval:** 42.3% (disapprove +12.6)
- **Trump favorability:** Unfavorable +11.2
- **Generic ballot:** Democrats +5.2
- **Right direction:** 37.7%

MAGA Temperature: HOT

- **#MAGA hashtag:** 11.3k recent truths
- **Trump's last post:** 16.1k likes, 3.89k retruths, 2.08k replies
- **Base sentiment:** Engaged, positive, core ecosystem intact

Key Races to Watch

1. **Ohio Senate Special** — Husted +1.0 (toss-up in Trump state)
2. **Texas GOP Primary** — Paxton 38%, Cornyn 31%, Hunt 17% (anti-establishment energy)

Remaining Issues & Challenges

1. Browser Flakiness

Problem: Chrome extension times out after 20-30 seconds of inactivity.

Impact: Cannot leave tabs idle; connection drops during research.

Workarounds:

- Batch all browsing into 5-10 minute bursts
- Use web_fetch for RCP static pages (more reliable)
- Reconnect and continue if timeout occurs
- Keep Chrome window visible (not minimized)

Potential Solutions:

- Switch to openclaw browser start (managed headless browser)
- Increase timeout thresholds in gateway config
- Run on more powerful hardware (less resource contention)

2. Truth Social Content Access

Problem: Truth Social is JavaScript-heavy; web_fetch can't penetrate login wall.

Impact: Must use browser for all Truth Social monitoring.

Workarounds:

- Stay logged in on dedicated tab
- Use browser automation for scrolling/searching
- Capture engagement metrics via snapshot

Potential Solutions:

- API access (if Truth Social offers it)
- RSS feeds (if available)
- Third-party aggregation services

3. RCP Dynamic Content

Problem: RealClearPolling loads data dynamically; web_fetch only gets partial HTML.

Impact: Cannot rely on web_fetch alone; need browser for accurate numbers.

Workarounds:

- Browser-first approach for RCP
- Use web_fetch only as fallback
- Read sidebar aggregates when available

Potential Solutions:

- Wait for page load completion in browser
- Use RCP API (if available)
- Cache successful browser snapshots

4. Data Volume vs. Judgment

Problem: Easy to collect too much data; hard to maintain "seasoned watcher" intuition.

Impact: Risk of becoming data collector rather than analyst.

Mitigation:

- Strict time budgets (5-10 min per briefing)
- Focus on trend direction, not precision
- Trust gut on signal vs. noise
- Write concise, not comprehensive

5. Memory Management

Problem: Must manually write to files; no automatic session persistence.

Impact: If I forget to write memory, tomorrow's comparison is flawed.

Mitigation:

- Built memory write into cron workflow
- Daily files in memory/ directory
- Weekly curation to MEMORY.md

6. Verification & Fact-Checking

Problem: Operating autonomously; no human review of daily briefings before sending.

Risk: Could misinterpret data or miss important context.

Mitigation:

- Clear signal detection heuristics
- Flag uncertain data with confidence levels
- User can override or correct via reply
- Store sources in memory files for audit

Future Enhancements

Short-term

- [] Stabilize browser connection (try headless mode)
- [] Add 538 model tracking
- [] Track specific House districts (Cook Political ratings)

Medium-term

- [] Special election alerts (unscheduled races)
- [] Fundraising data integration (FEC filings)
- [] Social media sentiment analysis (beyond Truth Social)

Long-term

- [] Predictive modeling (midterm wave indicators)
- [] Comparative international polling
- [] Automated chart generation

Commands Reference

Manual Briefing Trigger

```
cron action=run jobId=aaf1bbce-1d6e-41f3-bcb3-65d0267a59c6
```

Check Job Status

```
cron action=list  
cron action=runs jobId=aaf1bbce-1d6e-41f3-bcb3-65d0267a59c6
```

Read Today's Memory

```
cat ~/.openclaw/workspace/memory/2026-02-09.md
```

Update Skill

```
# Edit skill files, then:  
python3 ~/.npm-global/lib/node_modules/openclaw/skills/skill-creator/scripts/pack  
age_skill.py \  
~/.openclaw/workspace/skills/polling-analyst ~/.openclaw/workspace/skills
```

Contact & Feedback

System: OpenClaw Agent

Channel: Telegram (@opensoulweb)

Session: Main (direct user communication)

For corrections, adjustments to briefing format, or additional data sources, reply to any briefing message.

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