

Socioeconomics of Washington's Outer Coast and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary: Economic Contributions from Recreation



Photos: Kate Thompson & Danielle Schwarzmann, NOAA

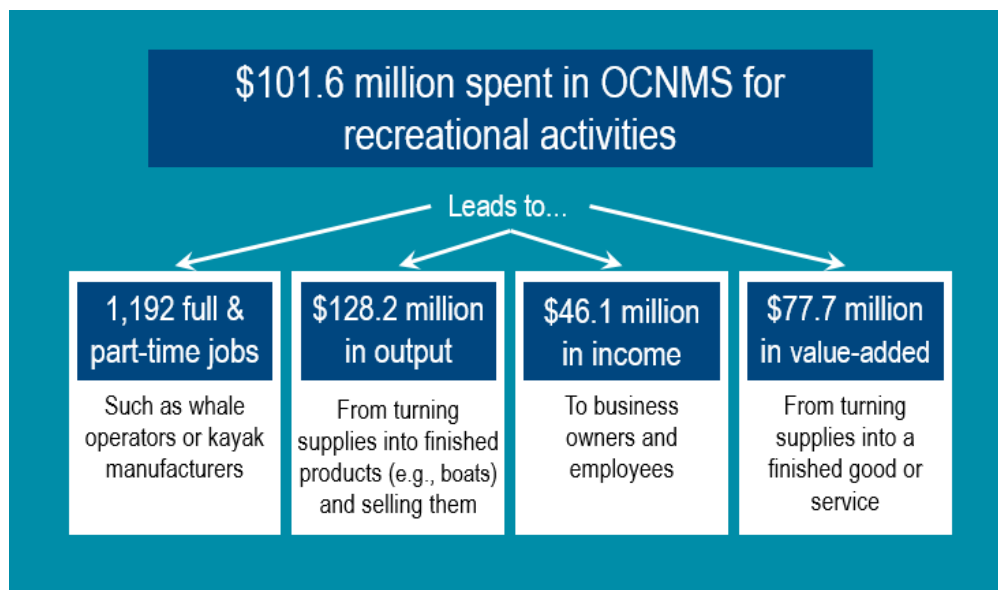
What is the economic value of recreation?

Coastal recreation generates significant economic revenues to coastal economies. When people enjoy national marine sanctuaries, their activities and spending are contributing to the creation of local jobs and economic output.

How can you measure the economic value of recreational use?

A large portion of these valuable recreational activities include non-consumptive uses, which are activities that do not involve extraction of natural or marine resources. Some examples include sightseeing, going to the beach, kayaking, camping and surfing.

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries was able to estimate the economic contribution of these types of recreational activities for the entire Outer Coast of Washington and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) using socioeconomic survey data collected by Point 97/Ecotrust and the Surfrider Foundation. The report, *Market Economic Impacts and Contributions of Recreating Visitors to the Outer Coast of Washington and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary: Volume 2, 2014*, presents the results of economic models that estimated total annual expenditures of Washington residents in the region and the associated economic impacts of recreational activity. This information allows us to explore connections between the money spent by sanctuary visitors to enjoy these special ocean places, and the benefits this brings to sanctuary communities in the form of jobs, products, income, and services.





State Study Region

How much are people spending to recreate in Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary?

Washington residents who visited to the Outer Coast of Washington spent roughly \$551.6 million, with the highest expenditures for car fuel, food, beverages and lodging. These expenditures accounted for about 80 percent of all expenditures. On a person-day basis, residents of the economic study area spent an average of \$136 and non-residents of the economic study area spent roughly \$315 on average. About 6 percent of the total expenditures in the region were accounted for when considering the legal definition of OCNMS and when adding a 2 km inland buffer to the sanctuary definition, expenditures in the sanctuary accounted for roughly 18 percent of total expenditures.

Expenditures by Region (2014 dollars)				
	Outer Coast	OCNMS Legal Definition	OCNMS 2 km Buffer	Port Angeles
Total Expenditures	\$551,559,477	\$30,849,975	\$101,584,675	\$8,703,467
Percent of Total Expenditures to the Region	100.0%	5.59%	18.42%	1.58%

How many jobs?

Recreation along the Outer Coast of Washington contributed roughly 6,500 jobs to the local economy. When looking at the sanctuary, recreational expenditures generated roughly 400 jobs, and when expanding to a 2 km inland buffer nearly 1,200 jobs were supported.

More Information:

A complete copy of the report is available at: <http://sanctuaries.woc.noaa.gov/science/socioeconomic/olympiccoast/rec-economic-report.html>

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Estimated Economic Impacts/Contributions by Sanctuary (2015 dollars)				
	Outer Coast	OCNMS Legal Definition	OCNMS 2 KM Buffer	Port Angeles
Output	\$675,244,840	\$39,737,816	\$128,214,947	\$10,755,295
Value-Added	\$410,806,279	\$24,187,389	\$77,679,936	\$6,776,408
Income	\$245,154,163	\$14,385,233	\$46,130,453	\$4,143,241
Jobs	6,531	387	1,192	106

Definition of Key Terms (Adapted from Day, 2011)

- Employment** – Employment is the total annual average jobs. This includes self-employed in addition to wage and salary employees, and all full-time, part-time and seasonal jobs, based on a count of full-time and part-time job averages over twelve months.
- Labor Income** – Labor income is equivalent to employee compensation plus proprietor (business owner) income.
- Intermediate Inputs** – Intermediate inputs are goods and service required to create a product.
- Output** – Output is the total value of an industry's production, comprised of the value of intermediate inputs and value added.
- Value Added** – Value added demonstrates an industry's value of production over the cost of the goods and services required to make its products. Value added is often referred to as Gross Regional Product.
- Non-Consumptive** – Non-consumptive are activities that do not involve taking or harming the resource being used. Examples include sightseeing or photography.

<http://sanctuaries/noaa.gov/science/socioeconomic/olympiccoast/recreation.html>