

# SPOILED PARKS

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THE THREAT TO OUR COASTAL  
NATIONAL PARKS FROM EXPANDED  
OFFSHORE DRILLING



MAY 2018

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## ABOUT US

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Since 1919, the nonpartisan **National Parks Conservation Association** has been the leading voice in safeguarding our national parks. NPCA and its 1.3 million members and supporters work together to protect and preserve our nation's most iconic and inspirational places for future generations. For more information, visit [www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org) and follow us on Twitter at @NPCA.

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## INTRODUCTION

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The Trump Administration has offered a sweeping proposal to expand offshore oil and gas drilling along nearly the entire United States coastline. This is a key piece of its broad agenda to prioritize fossil fuels over stewardship of our lands and waters.

This offshore proposal puts our coasts, communities, and climate in grave danger.

Not to mention our national parks. Iconic and inspirational, America's national parks are special places that have earned some of the strongest legal protections afforded to public lands. But the administration's proposal puts our nation's treasures at risk.

This report documents the very real threat expanded drilling poses to our National Park System. It illustrates the need to reject the administration's extreme proposal in favor of a clean energy future that preserves and protects our public lands and waters.

## AMERICA'S COASTAL NATIONAL PARKS

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Our nation's coastlines the Trump administration is looking to open to offshore drilling are home to 68 national park sites that protect some of the best of what America has to offer, with more than 84 million visits made to these sites in 2017.<sup>[1]</sup> National Parks including Everglades, Olympic, Acadia and Kenai Fjords protect uniquely American ecosystems and wildlife. Historical and cultural parks including Fort Sumter National Monument, Cabrillo National Monument, and the Statue of Liberty National Monument tell the story of who we are as a nation and where we've come from. National Seashores from Point Reyes to Cape Hatteras are destinations for millions of annual visitors—and not just people; they are havens for birds, sea turtles, whales and other wildlife.

These parks—the ecosystems and landscapes they protect, the stories they tell us, and the communities who rely on them—are too valuable to put at risk for offshore drilling.

## OFFSHORE DRILLING TODAY

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In January 2018, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke proposed a new plan for leasing America's federal offshore waters for oil and gas drilling. A radical departure from longstanding policy, Secretary Zinke's proposed plan opens every possible coast for drilling, including vast new areas in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and around Florida and Alaska's coasts, none of which have seen drilling in decades, if ever.

The plan could be devastating: offshore drilling could ruin fisheries; soil the habitats and migratory pathways of whales and dolphins; threaten coastal communities with industrialized coastlines and catastrophic spills; and exacerbate climate change. America's coastal national parks, from Maine to Florida, California to Alaska, could face serious repercussions from the Trump Administration's misguided plan.

The proposal is rightfully wildly unpopular.

New offshore drilling opportunities are scheduled in five-year increments. The latest, an Obama program extending to 2022, was the product of extensive stakeholder and public engagement, taking into account millions of comments rejecting the prospect of new drilling off our coasts. Upon issuing a new plan—wasting millions of taxpayer dollars by redoing the program in place—Secretary Zinke received millions of additional comments blasting his proposal.

There is also overwhelming, bipartisan opposition to expanding offshore drilling along America's coasts. Republican governors of Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and South Carolina have joined Democratic governors of California, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington to publicly oppose the Trump administration's efforts to expand offshore drilling and seismic testing.

Tens of thousands of local businesses and hundreds of thousands of commercial fishing families<sup>[iii]</sup> that depend on clean coasts, the majority of Americans<sup>[iii]</sup>, over 250 coastal municipalities<sup>[iv]</sup>, many Alaskan Native organizations, over 150 Members of the House<sup>[v]</sup>, 40 Senators<sup>[vi]</sup>, as well as local and state officials, and a host of faith leaders reject the Trump administration's move to expand dirty and dangerous offshore drilling and energy exploration.

## NATIONAL PARKS AND OFFSHORE DRILLING

Americans across the country have already seen the kind of damage offshore drilling could cause to national parks.

In January 1969, a blowout on an offshore oil platform spilled 200,000 gallons of crude oil into the Santa Barbara Channel in California.<sup>[vii]</sup> The blowout tore holes in the soft sandstone seafloor, leaking 4.2 million more gallons of oil over the next year.<sup>[viii]</sup> It seriously harmed Channel Islands National Park, contributing to the deaths of thousands of seabirds and marine mammals.<sup>[ix]</sup>

In March 1989, the Exxon Valdez tanker ran aground in Prince William Sound, spilling nearly 11 million gallons of oil along the Alaskan coastline, including national park sites such as Kenai Fjords, Katmai and Aniakchak.<sup>[x]</sup> Recreation and tourism declined dramatically as a result, and resource managers were forced to limit hunting and fishing access because of the damage.<sup>[xi]</sup> Despite cleanup efforts, oil remains on national park beaches today.<sup>[xii]</sup>

The 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill leaked more than 171 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, contaminating hundreds of miles of beaches, wetlands and ocean waters.<sup>[xiii]</sup> The spill cost the public more than 16 million user

days for outdoor recreation such as boating, recreational fishing, and beach-going.<sup>[xiv]</sup> Total recreational use damages due to the spill are estimated at \$693.2 million.<sup>[xv]</sup> It affected every major island in Gulf Islands National Seashore, and the park is still recovering from the effects of the spill on plants, wildlife and archeological resources.<sup>[xvi]</sup>

By providing increased access to and sales of fossil fuels, expanding offshore drilling will ultimately contribute to climate-changing carbon pollution.<sup>[xvii]</sup> Climate change's likely impacts on national parks are well documented. Forested parks like Rocky Mountain and Great Smoky Mountains are experiencing record wildfires<sup>[xviii]</sup>, made more likely by climate change. Desert parks like Joshua Tree and Grand Canyon often lack adequate water to sustain their plant and animal life.<sup>[xix]</sup> Alpine parks like Glacier and North Cascades will have no glaciers left within the next few decades.<sup>[xx]</sup> And coastal parks like Everglades and Cape Hatteras could be exposed to significant sea level rise and magnified storm surges.<sup>[xxi]</sup>

We must not place our national parks at risk for something as dangerous, unpopular, and damaging to our climate as offshore drilling, yet that's just what the Trump Administration threatens to do.



Big Cypress National Preserve

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEWLY CONSIDERED COASTAL AREAS

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National parks and monuments in coastal areas newly considered for offshore drilling in the United States contributed \$5,725,675,500 in economic output in 2017, supporting 59,517 jobs.<sup>[xxii]</sup> National parks and monuments along the coast saw a total that same year of 84,217,944 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$4,588,905,200 in tourism dollars to the local, regional and national economy.<sup>[xxiii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments along the coast is a significant force in the ocean economy of their regions. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area.<sup>[xxiv]</sup> In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of regional economies.

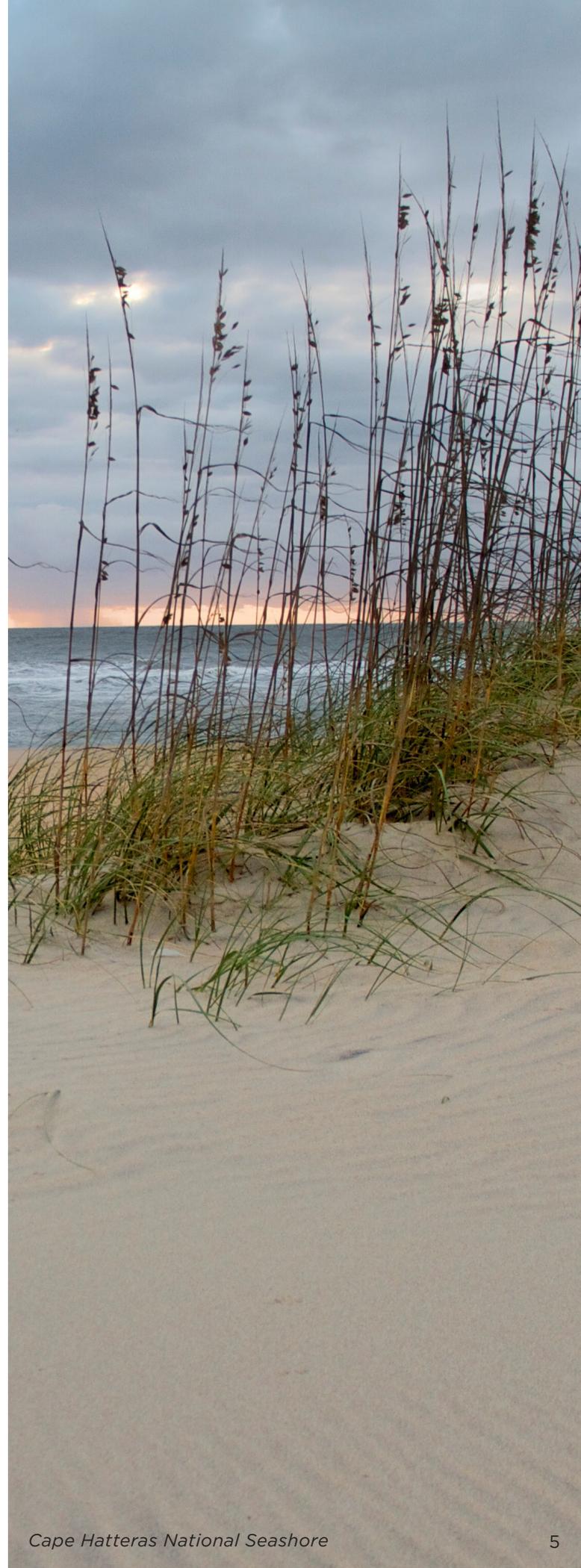
In 2015, in states whose coasts are being newly considered for offshore drilling in Interior Secretary Zinke's proposal, the ocean-related tourism and recreation sectors alone contributed over \$90.3 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).<sup>[xxv]</sup> That year those industries comprised over a hundred thousand businesses which employed more than 1,794,549 workers and generated at least \$44,056,074,017 in wages.<sup>[xxvi]</sup>

### **COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT IN 2017**

**\$5.7 BILLION** in economic output

**59,517** jobs supported

**84 MILLION** annual visits



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN ALASKA

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$868.8 MILLION**  
in economic output

**9,932** jobs supported

**2.18 MILLION**  
annual visits

*Figures based on NPS,  
2017 National Park Visitor  
Spending Effects*



● Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling

● Coastal National Park Boundary

① Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve

② Bering Land Bridge National Preserve

③ Cape Krusenstern National Monument

④ Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

⑤ Katmai National Park and Preserve

⑥ Kenai Fjords National Park

⑦ Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

⑧ Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

⑨ Sitka National Historical Park

⑩ Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve

## OVERVIEW

Home to brown bears, black bears, arctic foxes, polar bears, seals, otters, whales, goats, and hundreds of species of birds and fish,<sup>[xxvii]</sup> Alaska's coastal parks are vital to the state's diverse ecosystems. Alaska's national park sites are also home to a number of threatened and endangered species—like the humpback whale and the Steller sea lion—making them valuable locations worth protecting.<sup>[xxviii]</sup> Glacier Bay National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is home to towering glaciers, wildlife ranging from brown bears to orcas and stunning wildness, attracting visitors on cruise ships, private boats and kayaks.<sup>[xxix]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN ALASKA

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Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Kenai Fjords National Park, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, Sitka National Historical Park and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska contributed \$868,846,700 in economic output in 2017, supporting 9,932 jobs.<sup>[xxx]</sup> National parks and monuments along Alaska's coast saw a total that same year of 2,183,387 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$805,254,500 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[xxxii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in Alaska is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Alaska's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$1 billion to the GDP.<sup>[xxxiii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over sixteen hundred businesses which employed more than 22,378 workers and generated at least \$516,408,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[xxxiii]</sup>



*Kenai Fjords National Park*

# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN CALIFORNIA

-  Coast threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
-  Coastal National Park Boundary
-  1 Cabrillo National Monument
-  2 Channel Islands National Park
-  3 Fort Point National Historic Site
-  4 Golden Gate National Recreation Area
-  5 Point Reyes National Seashore
-  6 Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial
-  7 Redwood National and State Park
-  8 Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park
-  9 San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
-  10 Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$994.9 MILLION** in economic output

**9,761** jobs supported

**26.3 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*



## OVERVIEW

California's coastal park sites are home to stunning wildlife like elephant seals, mountain lions, and numerous other species of mammals, amphibians, birds, reptiles, and fish, and host historical sites significant to our nation's history.<sup>[xxxiv]</sup> In Point Reyes National Seashore alone, nearly 500 different bird species have been spotted.<sup>[xxxv]</sup> Others allow visitors to hike, stroll, bike, and immerse themselves in history. With landscapes covering woodland forests, mountain ranges, and sunny coasts, California's coastal parks would be devastated by an oil accident.

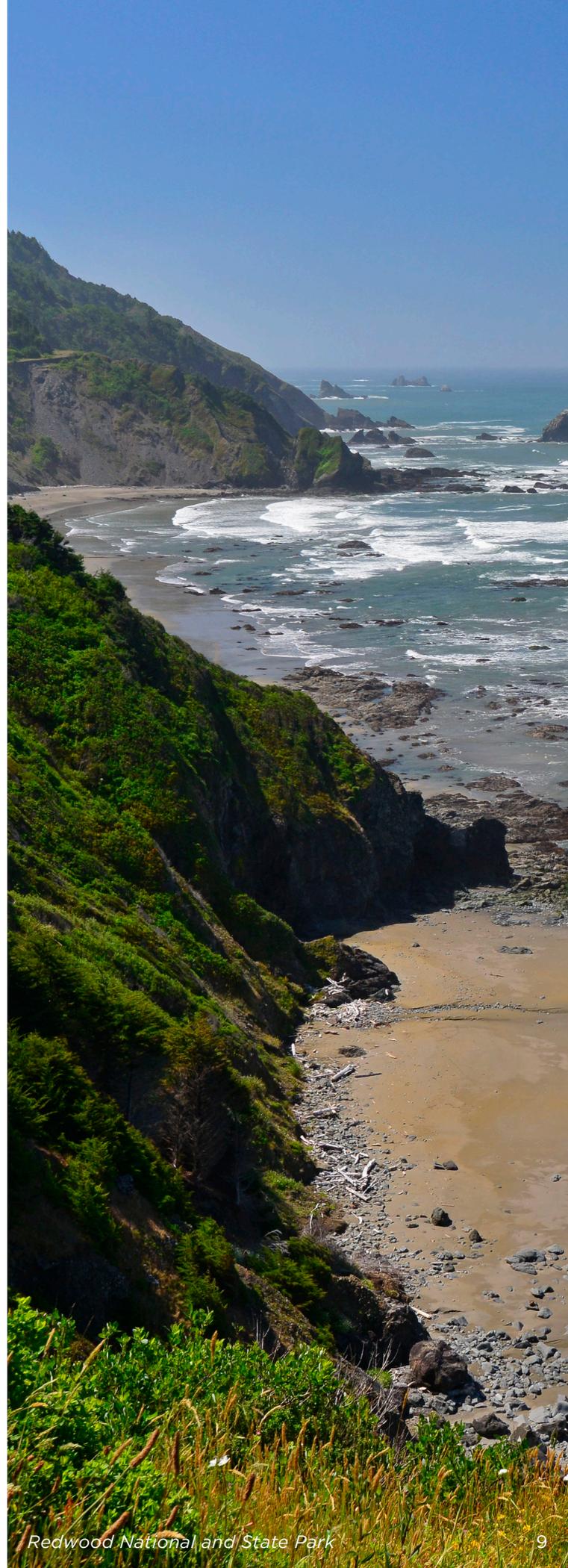
## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN CALIFORNIA

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Cabrillo National Monument, Channel Islands National Park, Fort Point National Historic Site, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial, Redwood National and State Park, Rosie the Riveter/ World War II Home Front National Historical Park, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in California contributed \$994,927,500 in economic output in 2017, supporting 9,761 jobs.<sup>[xxxvi]</sup> National parks and monuments along California's coast saw a total that same year of 26,250,821 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$816,631,900 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[xxxvii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in California is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, California's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$22.2 billion to the GDP.<sup>[xxxviii]</sup> That year those industries comprised nearly 20 thousand businesses which employed more than 418,077 workers and generated at least \$10,912,037,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[xxxix]</sup>



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN FLORIDA



- Coast threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- ① Big Cypress National Preserve
- ② Biscayne National Park
- ③ Canaveral National Seashore
- ④ Castillo de San Marcos National Monument
- ⑤ De Soto National Memorial
- ⑥ Dry Tortugas National Park
- ⑦ Everglades National Park
- ⑧ Fort Caroline National Memorial
- ⑨ Fort Matanzas National Monument
- ⑩ Gulf Islands National Seashore
- ⑪ Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$876.1 MILLION** in economic output

**9,215** jobs supported

**11.1 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

In southern Florida's coastal parks, one can find breathtaking pinelands, immersive swamps and lively estuaries. These wide-ranging habitats house hundreds of different animals and birds, including bobcats, white-tailed deer, river otters, tropical water birds and 500 different species of fish.<sup>[xi]</sup> These southern parks are also home to many endangered species like the Florida panther, Miami blue butterfly, American crocodile, wood stork, Florida manatee, and several species of both sea turtle and coral.<sup>[xii]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN FLORIDA

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Big Cypress National Preserve, Biscayne National Park, Canaveral National Seashore, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, De Soto National Memorial, Dry Tortugas National Park, Everglades National Park, Fort Caroline National Memorial, Fort Matanzas National Monument, Gulf Islands National Seashore, and Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve in Florida contributed \$876,118,100 in economic output in 2017, supporting 9,215 jobs.<sup>[xliii]</sup> National parks and monuments along Florida's coast saw a total that same year of 11,145,787 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$649,391,900 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[xliii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in Florida is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Florida's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$18.4 billion to the GDP.<sup>[xliv]</sup> That year those industries comprised over 19 thousand businesses which employed more than 39,7154 workers and generated at least \$9,285,502,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[xliv]</sup>



## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN GEORGIA

- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- ① Cumberland Island National Seashore
- ② Fort Frederica National Monument
- ③ Fort Pulaski National Monument

### COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$44.6 MILLION**  
in economic output

**501** jobs supported

**600,618** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*



## OVERVIEW

Georgia's three coastal national park sites are filled with ecological diversity and rich history. Cumberland Island National Seashore is one of the most biodiverse barrier islands in the world, sustaining 23 ecological communities that contain a wide array of different animal, bird, and plant species.<sup>[xlvii]</sup> Fort Pulaski National Monument is full of historical sites and recreational opportunities for visitors. Hiking, biking, bird watching, and guided ranger tours are popular activities.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN GEORGIA

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Cumberland Island National Seashore, Fort Frederica National Monument, and Fort Pulaski National Monument in Georgia contributed \$44,850,400 in economic output in 2017, supporting 501 jobs.<sup>[xlvii]</sup> National parks and monuments along Georgia's coast saw a total that same year of 600,618 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$35,588,200 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[xlviii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in Georgia is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Georgia's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$605.8 million to the GDP.<sup>[xlix]</sup> That year those industries comprised over 900 businesses which employed more than 16,669 workers and generated at least \$293,714,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[1]</sup>



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN MARYLAND AND DELAWARE



- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- 1 Assateague Island National Seashore
- 2 Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine
- 3 Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$157.9 MILLION**  
in economic output

**1,737** jobs supported

**2.9 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

With a wide array of habitats, Maryland's coastal parks contain stunning wildlife and terrific recreational beaches for a large urban population. Assateague Island National Seashore is famously home to wild horses, as well as deer, elk, foxes and raccoons.<sup>[i]</sup> There are also aquatic species, like the blue crab, that are economically vital for Maryland's communities.<sup>[ii]</sup> Visitors hike, camp, paddle, and horseback ride along the island's sandy beaches, salt marshes, maritime forests, and coastal bays. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park connects visitors to the legendary abolitionist and underground railroad conductor after which it is named. It preserves Eastern Shore wetlands crucial to Harriet Tubman's story: the area where she was born into slavery which she later used to ferry escaped slaves to freedom.<sup>[iii]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN MARYLAND AND DELAWARE

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Assateague Island National Seashore and Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Maryland contributed \$157,904,800 in economic output in 2017, supporting 1,737 jobs.<sup>[iv]</sup> National parks and monuments along Maryland's coast saw a total that same year of 2,939,027 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$133,658,600 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[v]</sup>

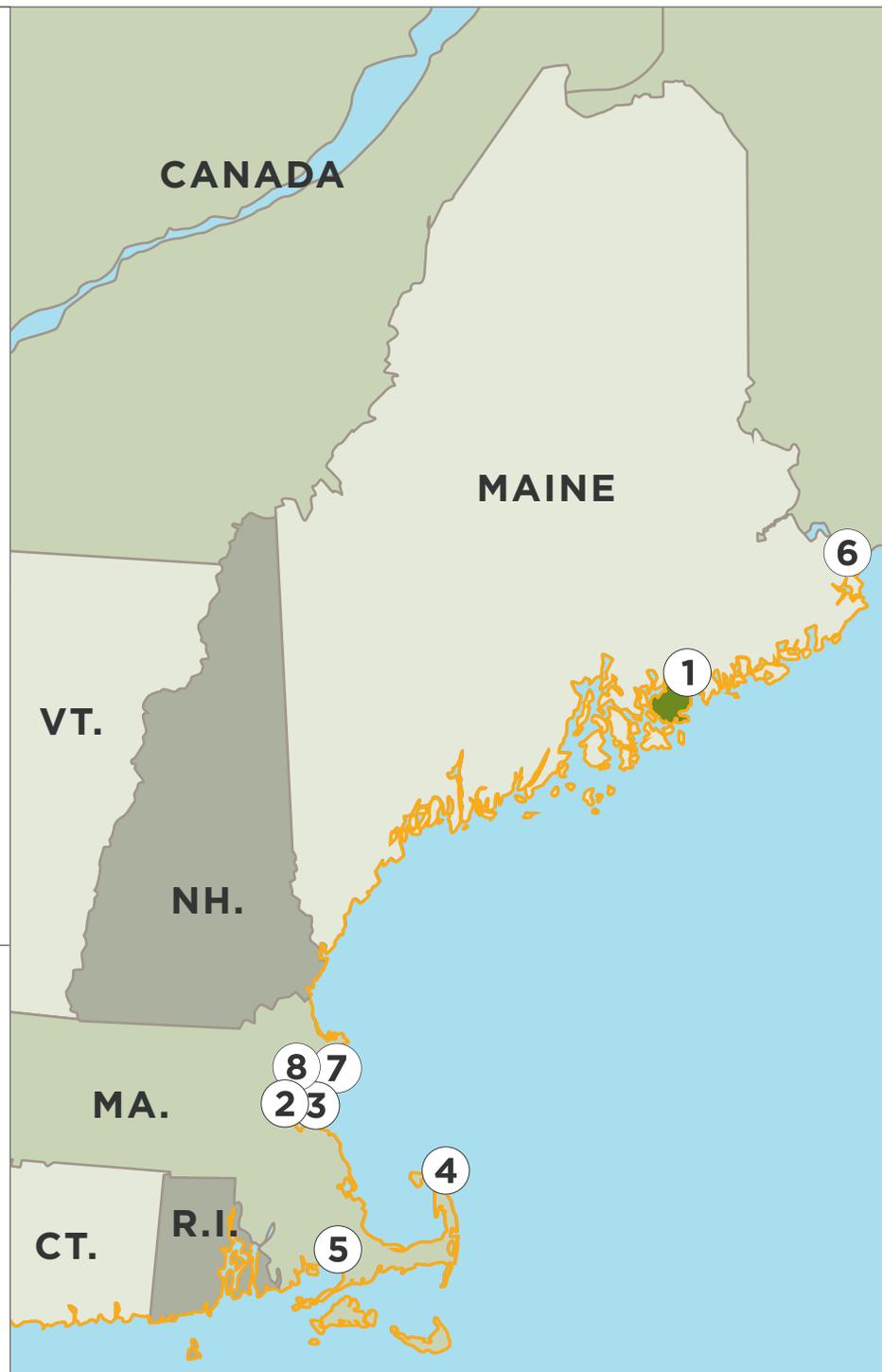
The economic output from the national parks and monuments in Maryland is a significant force in the state's coastal economy and that of its neighbor, Delaware. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Maryland and Delaware's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels and lodging, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$3.8 billion to the GDP.<sup>[vi]</sup> That year those industries comprised nearly five thousand businesses which employed more than 87,484 workers and generated at least 1,743,552,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[vii]</sup>



## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW ENGLAND

- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- ① Acadia National Park
- ② Boston National Historical Park
- ③ Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area
- ④ Cape Cod National Seashore
- ⑤ New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park
- ⑥ Saint Croix Island International Historic Site
- ⑦ Salem Maritime National Historic Site
- ⑧ Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site



### NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$882.7 MILLION**  
in economic output

**9,394** jobs supported

**11.6 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

The coastal parks of New England host a variety of habitats for visitors to explore including beaches, forests, lakes, ponds, mountains, wetlands, marshes, swamps, and shorelines. In Acadia National Park in Maine, these landscapes are home to an impressive array of species, including the peregrine falcon which was recently removed from the endangered species list.<sup>[lviii]</sup> Acadia offers hiking, biking, fishing, boating, and some of the best tide pooling in the country to its more than three million annual visitors.<sup>[lix]</sup> Massachusetts' coastal park sites preserve hotspots for recreation, history, wildlife, flora and fauna. Cape Cod National Seashore alone is home to over 450 species of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians.<sup>[lx]</sup> Visitors to Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area can experience historic lighthouses and a Civil War-era fort, tidepools, swimming, and fishing, all within a few short miles of downtown Boston.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW ENGLAND

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Acadia National Park, Boston National Historical Park, Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, Cape Cod National Seashore, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Salem Maritime National Historic Site, Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, and Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site in New England contributed \$882,704,900 in economic output in 2017, supporting 9,394 jobs.<sup>[lxi]</sup> National parks and monuments along New England's coast saw a total that same year of 11,624,948 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$688,310,100 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[lxii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in New England is a significant force in the coastal economy of the region. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, New England's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$9 billion to the GDP.<sup>[lxiii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over 12 thousand businesses which employed more than 18,4387 workers and generated at least \$4,237,312,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[lxiv]</sup>

*Acadia National Park*



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW JERSEY



## OVERVIEW

At the Sandy Hook unit of Gateway National Recreation Area in New Jersey, visitors can experience the calm of sandy beaches, exciting history of the oldest surviving lighthouse in the United States, and bike, fish, paddle, hike, camp, or enjoy a picnic. <sup>[lxvi]</sup> This coastal park is home to a variety of wildlife including seals, red foxes, crabs, muskrats, turtles, bats, tree frogs, and monarch butterflies. <sup>[lxvii]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW JERSEY

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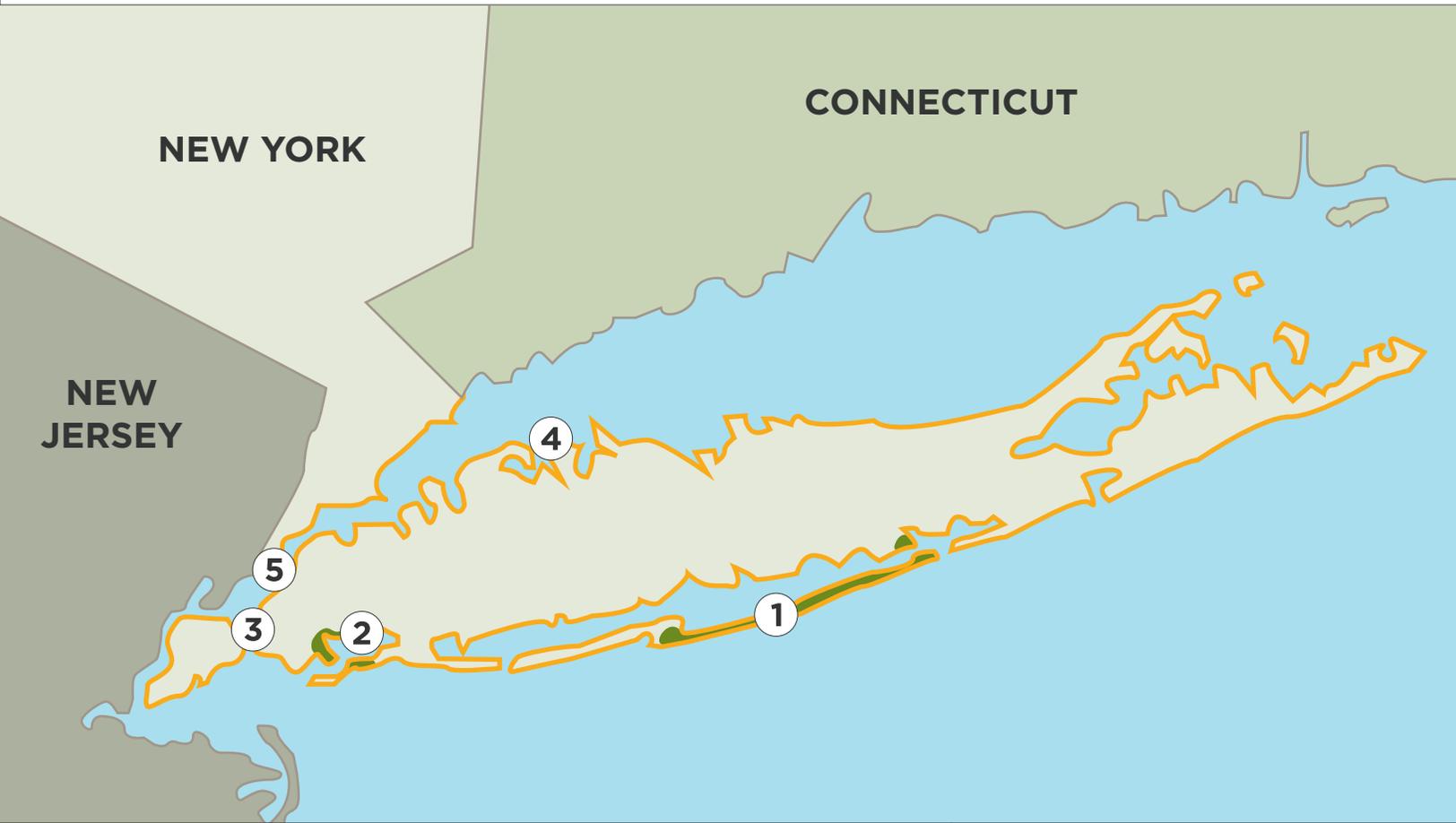
Gateway National Recreation Area and the Statue of Liberty National Monument—both of which have pieces in New Jersey and New York—together contributed \$602,034,200 in economic output in 2017, supporting 5,385 jobs.<sup>[lxviii]</sup> They saw a total that same year of 13,632,596 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$475,989,900 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[lxix]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in New Jersey is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, New Jersey's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, and campgrounds, among other industries, contributed over \$3.5 billion to the GDP.<sup>[lxx]</sup> That year those industries comprised over seven thousand businesses which employed more than 88,776 workers and generated at least \$1,862,676,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[lxxi]</sup>



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW YORK



- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- 1 Fire Island National Seashore
- 2 Gateway National Recreation Area
- 3 Governors Island National Monument
- 4 Sagamore Hill National Historic Site
- 5 Statue of Liberty National Monument

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$679.4 MILLION**  
in economic output

**6,053** jobs supported

**14.8 MILLION**  
annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

New York's coastal parks are a breath of fresh air at just a short distance from bustling Times Square. These park sites contain beachfronts, forests, marshes, dunes, ponds, and meadowlands, providing opportunities for urban recreation as well as habitat for hundreds of plants and animals.<sup>[lxxii]</sup> Jamaica Bay, a wetland estuary and unit of Gateway National Recreation Area, provides a nature-filled escape for busy New Yorkers, providing visitors with recreation options like archery, golf, boating, horseback riding, and hiking, to name a few. New York coastal park sites are home to seals, foxes, frogs, turtles, deer, mollusks, butterflies, crabs and numerous species of birds.<sup>[lxxiii]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NEW YORK

Fire Island National Seashore, Gateway National Recreation Area, Governors Island National Monument, Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, and Statue of Liberty National Monument in New York contributed \$679,382,400 in economic output in 2017, supporting 6,053 jobs.<sup>[lxxiv]</sup>

National parks and monuments along New York's coast saw a total that same year of 14,769,827 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$534,346,700 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[lxxv]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in New York is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, New York's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$20.6 billion to the GDP.<sup>[lxxvi]</sup> That year those industries comprised over 18 thousand businesses which employed more than 307,721 workers and generated at least \$9,929,522,017 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[lxxvii]</sup>



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NORTH CAROLINA



- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- ① Cape Hatteras National Seashore
- ② Cape Lookout National Seashore
- ③ Fort Raleigh National Historic Site

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

- \$229.4 MILLION** in economic output
- 2,773** jobs supported
- 3.1 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

Comprised of beaches, marshes, forests, dunes, and grasslands, North Carolina's coastal parks have a little bit of everything for visitors. Cape Lookout and Cape Hatteras National Seashores have both exquisite landscapes and amazing historical sites that are draws for millions of visitors each year. Both Seashores host historic lighthouses, long sandy beaches, and habitats for marine and land animals alike. Four species of endangered sea turtles call these seashores home and use their beaches to nest and hatch their young.<sup>[lxxviii]</sup> The otherwise quiet coastal communities around these park sites depend on the vitality of these Seashores.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN NORTH CAROLINA

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Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Cape Lookout National Seashore, and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site in North Carolina contributed \$229,405,700 in economic output in 2017, supporting 2,773 jobs.<sup>[lxxxix]</sup> National parks and monuments along North Carolina's coast saw a total that same year of 3,108,043 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$188,243,500 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[lxxx]</sup>

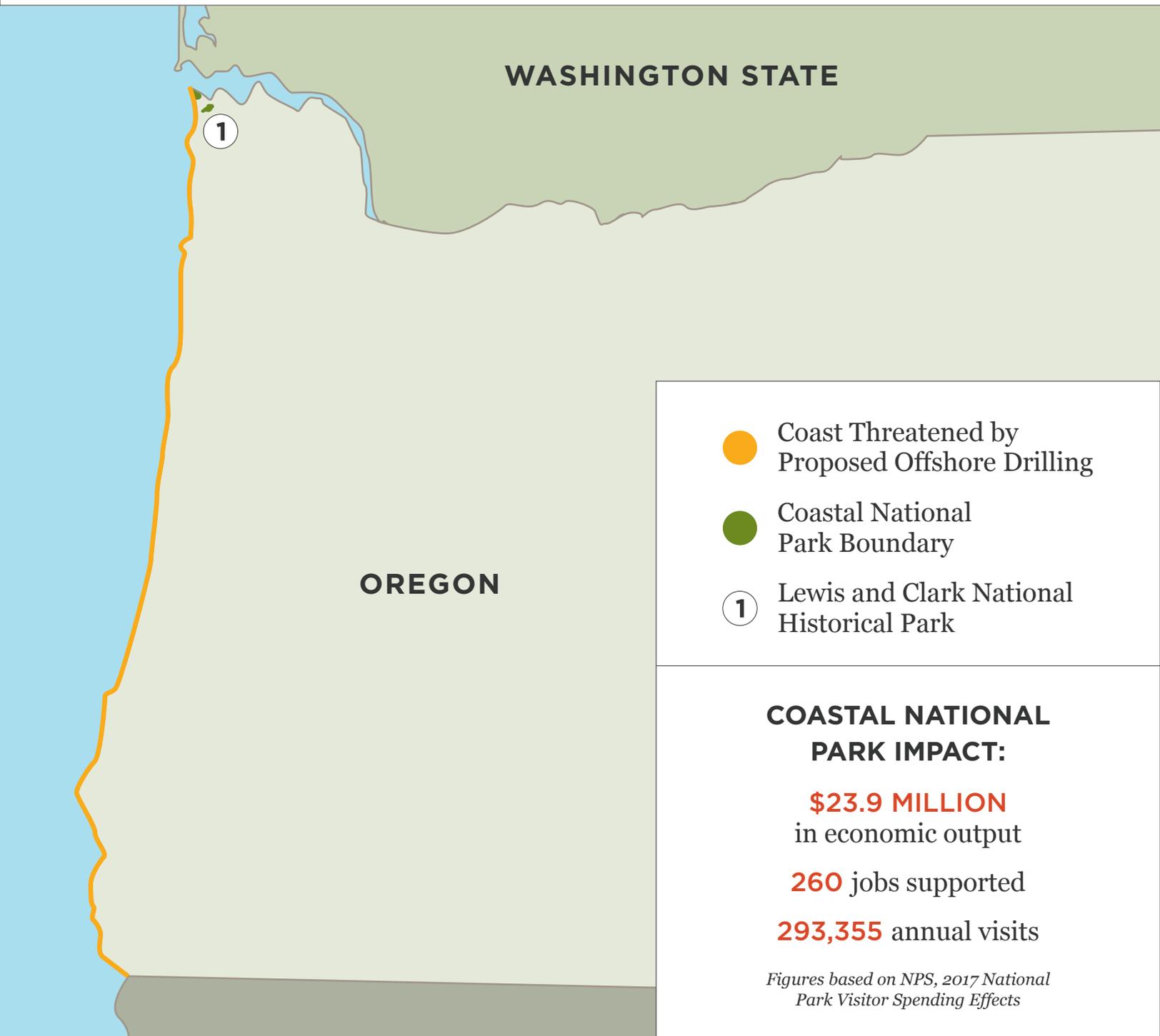
The economic output from the national parks and monuments in North Carolina is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, North Carolina's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$1.3 billion to the GDP.<sup>[lxxxix]</sup> That year those industries comprised over twenty-five hundred businesses which employed more than 40,581 workers and generated at least \$651,304,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[lxxxii]</sup>

*Cape Hatteras National Seashore*  
© William Britten/ISTOCKPHOTO



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN OREGON



## OVERVIEW

Along Oregon's coast, Lewis and Clark National Historic Park comprised 50 percent aquatic land, with rainforests and numerous historic sites.<sup>[lxxxiii]</sup> The park's habitat variety is part of the reason it is home to over 140 species of mammals, birds, amphibians, fish, and reptiles.<sup>[lxxxiv]</sup> Visitors to the park can walk in Lewis and Clark's footsteps and learn about the rich heritage of the region's tribal communities.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN OREGON

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Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Oregon contributed \$23,855,800 in economic output in 2017, supporting 260 jobs.<sup>[lxxxv]</sup> Lewis and Clark National Historical Park saw a total that same year of 293,355 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$16,772,200 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[lxxxvi]</sup>

The economic output from Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Oregon is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Oregon's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$1 billion to the GDP.<sup>[lxxxvii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over seventeen hundred businesses which employed more than 25,264 workers and generated at least \$504,683,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[lxxxviii]</sup>



# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN SOUTH CAROLINA



## OVERVIEW

With 76 national historic landmarks and 1,531 national register of historic places listings, South Carolina's national park sites are brimming with historical significance.<sup>[lxxxix]</sup> Charles Pinckney National Historic Site provides a look into the past, preserving the home of founding father Charles Pinckney. Fort Sumter National Monument commemorates the sacrifices of the American Civil War. These park sites are also full of several species of birds, amphibians and vegetation.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

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Charles Pinckney National Historic Site and Fort Sumter National Monument in South Carolina contributed \$67,737,100 in economic output in 2017, supporting 768 jobs.<sup>[xci]</sup> National historic sites and monuments in South Carolina saw a total that same year of 950,314 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$54,332,800 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[xci]</sup>

The economic output from the national historic sites and monuments in South Carolina is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, South Carolina's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$3.5 billion to the GDP.<sup>[xcii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over twenty-eight hundred businesses which employed more than 67,544 workers and generated at least \$1,338,503,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[xciii]</sup>



*Fort Sumter National Monument*

# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN VIRGINIA



## OVERVIEW

Colonial National Historic Park is not only a commemoration of early American history—including Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield—but also home to diverse groups of ecosystems home to hundreds of different plant and animal species.<sup>[xciv]</sup> Visitors can witness history unfold through living history programs or take a drive on Colonial Parkway to experience marshland, wooded upland ravines, and the beaches of the James River.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN VIRGINIA

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Assateague Island National Seashore, Colonial National Historical Park, Fort Monroe National Monument and George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Virginia contributed \$382,927,900 in economic output in 2017, supporting 4,365 jobs. <sup>[xcv]</sup> National parks and monuments along Virginia's coast saw a total that same year of 5,803,070 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$ \$295,869,100 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy. <sup>[xcvi]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks and monuments in Virginia is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Virginia's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$2 billion to the GDP. <sup>[xcvii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over three thousand businesses which employed more than 61,526 workers and generated at least \$1,028,641,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region. <sup>[xcviii]</sup>



*Assateague Island National Seashore*

# WHAT'S AT STAKE IN WASHINGTON STATE



- Coast Threatened by Proposed Offshore Drilling
- Coastal National Park Boundary
- ① Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve
- ② Lewis and Clark National Historical Park
- ③ Olympic National Park
- ④ San Juan Island National Historical Park

## COASTAL NATIONAL PARK IMPACT:

**\$428.3 MILLION** in economic output

**4,007** jobs supported

**3.96 MILLION** annual visits

*Figures based on NPS, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects*

## OVERVIEW

With stunning mountain ranges, rivers, lakes, forests, and beaches, Washington's coastal national park sites have a lot to offer for ecological and recreational diversity. Sites like Olympic National Park and San Juan Island National Historical Park are home to various species of amphibian, reptile, aquatic and terrestrial mammals, and hundreds of species of birds that are already threatened by environmental contaminants.<sup>[xcix]</sup> Olympic National Park provides habitats for peregrine falcons, sea otters, and gray whales.<sup>[c]</sup>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN WASHINGTON STATE

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Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Olympic National Park and San Juan Island National Historical Park in Washington contributed \$428,361,100 in economic output in 2017, supporting 4,007 jobs.<sup>[ci]</sup> National parks along Washington's coast saw a total that same year of 3,964,260 visits by visitors who contributed a total of \$311,538,700 in tourism dollars to the local and regional economy.<sup>[cii]</sup>

The economic output from the national parks in Washington is a significant force in the coastal economy of the state. The economic output measure goes far beyond just visitors' spending and includes the ripples of activity their visits generate: the spending of both the businesses they patronize and the communities their tourism supports. Many out-of-town visitors of coastal national parks identify a park as their primary reason for travelling to the area. In this way, national parks can enrich and amplify the strength of the regional economy.

In 2015, Washington's ocean-related tourism and recreation sector, which includes coastal hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, and aquaria, among other industries, contributed over \$4 billion to the GDP.<sup>[ciii]</sup> That year those industries comprised over five thousand businesses which employed more than 76,988 workers and generated at least \$1,752,220,000 in wages, the lifeblood of tax revenues in the region.<sup>[civ]</sup>



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[lxxxv] National Parks Conservation Association analysis of Catherine Thomas, Lynne Koontz, and Egan Cornachione 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation, National Park Service, April 2018, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>. Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is in both Oregon and Washington and its impact estimates are included in the figures presented for both states.

[lxxxvi] Ibid. The tourism spending figure is also fully incorporated in the economic output figure.

[lxxxvii] National Ocean Economics Program, "Ocean Economy Data," Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Center for the Blue Economy, <http://www.oceaneconomics.org/Market/ocean/oceanEcon.asp> (accessed May 2018).

[lxxxviii] Ibid.

[lxxxix] "South Carolina," National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/state/sc/index.htm> (accessed 2018).

[xc] National Parks Conservation Association analysis of Catherine Thomas, Lynne Koontz, and Egan Cornachione 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation, National Park Service, April 2018, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>.

[xci] Ibid. The tourism spending figure is also fully incorporated in the economic output figure.

[xcii] National Ocean Economics Program, "Ocean Economy Data," Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Center for the Blue Economy, <http://www.oceaneconomics.org/Market/ocean/oceanEcon.asp> (accessed May 2018).

[xciii] Ibid.

[xciv] Colonial National Historical Park, "Witness America's Beginnings, from an English colony in 1607 to an independent nation in 1781," National Park Service, [www.nps.gov/colo/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/colo/index.htm) (accessed 2018).

[xcv] National Parks Conservation Association analysis of Catherine Thomas, Lynne Koontz, and Egan Cornachione 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation, National Park Service, April 2018, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>. Assateague Island National Seashore is in both Virginia and Maryland and its impact estimates are included in the figures presented for both states.

[xcvi] Ibid. The tourism spending figure is also fully incorporated in the economic output figure.

[xcvii] National Ocean Economics Program, "Ocean Economy Data," Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Center for the Blue Economy, <http://www.oceaneconomics.org/Market/ocean/oceanEcon.asp> (accessed May 2018).

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[xcviii] Ibid.

[xcix] "Washington," National Park Service, [www.nps.gov/state/wa/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/state/wa/index.htm) (accessed 2018).

[c] Olympic National Park, "Animals," National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/olym/learn/nature/animals.htm> (accessed 2018).

[ci] National Parks Conservation Association analysis of Catherine Thomas, Lynne Koontz, and Egan Cornachione 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation, National Park Service, April 2018, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>. Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is in both Washington and Oregon and its impact estimates are included in the figures presented for both states.

[cii] Ibid. The tourism spending figure is also fully incorporated in the economic output figure.

[ciii] National Ocean Economics Program, "Ocean Economy Data," Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Center for the Blue Economy, <http://www.oceaneconomics.org/Market/ocean/oceanEcon.asp> (accessed May 2018).

[civ] Ibid.

*The views expressed in this report are those of the National Parks Conservation Association and the Natural Resources Defense Council, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Park Service.*