



## SPOILED PARKS

### *The Threat to our Coastal National Parks from Expanded Offshore Drilling*

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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, that haven’t seen drilling in decades, if ever.

The proposal was met with overwhelming, bipartisan opposition: tens of thousands of local businesses and hundreds of thousands of commercial fishing families that depend on clean coasts, the majority of Americans, over 250 coastal municipalities, many Alaskan Native organizations, over 150 Members of the House, 40 Senators, more than a dozen governors, numerous local and state officials and a host of faith leaders reject the Trump administration’s move to expand offshore drilling and energy exploration. These stakeholders want to protect thriving tourism economies connected to coastal national parks.

#### *Coastal National Parks*

Our nation’s coastlines newly on the table for 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. National Parks including Everglades, Olympic, Acadia and Kenai Fjords protect uniquely American ecosystems and wildlife. Historical and cultural parks including Fort Sumter, Cabrillo and the Statue of Liberty National Monuments 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.

National parks and monuments along the coast contributed **\$5,725,675,500 in economic output** in 2017, supporting **59,517 jobs**. These park sites 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.

National Parks contribute to larger ocean-related tourism and recreation economies in each state. In 2015, the ocean-related tourism and recreation sectors in the below states alone contributed over **\$90.3 billion** to the states’ Gross Domestic Product (GDP). That year, those industries comprised over a hundred thousand businesses that employed more than **1,794,549 workers** and generated at least **\$44,056,074,017 in wages**.

State	Number of Parks	2017 Visits	2017 Economic Output	Supported Jobs (2017)
Alaska	10	21.8 million	\$868 million	9,932
California	10	26.3 million	\$994.9 million	9,761
Florida	11	11.1 million	\$876.1 million	9,215
Georgia	3	600 thousand	\$44.6 million	501
Maryland & Delaware	3	2.9 million	\$157.9 million	1,737
New England	8	11.6 million	\$882.7 million	9,394
New Jersey	2	13.6 million	\$602 million	5,385
New York	5	14.8 million	\$679.4 million	6,053
North Carolina	3	3.1 million	\$229.4 million	2,773
Oregon	1	293 thousand	\$23.9 million	260
South Carolina	2	950 thousand	\$67.7 million	768
Virginia	4	5.8 million	\$382.9 million	4,365
Washington	3	3.96 million	\$428.3 million	4,007