

WASHINGTON

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in Washington

People in Washington support the continued protection and restoration of public lands. This was shown in a 2018 poll that found that 73% of voters in Washington wanted to see the reinstatement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Among other things, this fund supported programs that enhance recreational opportunity by investing in public lands and other outdoor spaces across the state. Similarly, 71% of Western voters are more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes protecting and investing in national parks and monuments for the public.

Washington's economy is deeply entwined with outdoor recreation and the public lands that make recreation possible. This is reflected by the \$20 billion that recreation contributed to the state economy in 2022. Moreover, national monuments are a critical component of what drives recreation in parts of the state, including San Juan and Benton counties.

73

percent of Western voters are more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes protecting and investing in national parks and monuments for the public.

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"Our community and nearby communities are surrounded by protected public lands - they make our towns what they are - locals and visitors come to nearby public lands to recreate and experience their beauty and solitude.

These places, including national monuments like nearby Hanford Reach National Monument, also support our growing outdoor recreation and tourism economies. They help provide jobs and revenue to support local employees and projects. The monument, which was designated through the use of the Antiquities Act, also protects important archaeological and historic artifacts; significant geological and paleontological objects; and a diversity of native plant and animal species. I celebrate the designation of new national monuments by President Biden and support more communities benefiting from protected public lands - as we have."



City of Leavenworth, Washington Mayor Carl Florea

"The San Juan Islands are part of our horizon and setting, part of our sense of place. We are thankful to have such a special place protected as a national monument both for visitors and residents - so many of whom love to visit San Juan Islands National Monument for weekend trips."

City of Bellingham, Washington Council Member Michael Lilliquist

WASHINGTON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments



Photo Credit: Jeff Clark and Stephen Baker

San Juan Islands National Monument

In 2021, Washington was ranked #37 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.7% of state GDP, \$8.3 billion in wages, 121,446 direct jobs, and added a value of \$20 billion to the state economy.

As the numbers above show, the economic contribution of outdoor recreation within Washington is quite large. This holds true in counties located near national monuments. A report released in 2020 showed this by breaking down the economic contribution of

recreation in each county across the state. In San Juan County, which is home to San Juan Islands National Monument, outdoor recreation employed 1,578 people and generated \$16,573 in tax revenue, while in Benton County, home to Hanford Reach National Monument, this sector employed 3,837 people and generated \$35,229 in tax revenue. Similar numbers can be found in Lewis, Cowlitz, and Skamania counties, which are located near Mount St. Helens National Monument. These large numbers are prompting concerted efforts to ensure recreation and tourism in the state are bolstered in a sustainable way. The state is also taking the need for recreation seriously with a grant program to support this sector within small communities.

WASHINGTON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

National Park Service Visits, Spending, and Economic Contributions to the Washington Economy

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Washington	8,043,387	\$524,900,000	5,693	\$722,000,000

National Park Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Park Unit	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending \$2022	Jobs	Labor Income \$2022	Value Added \$2022	Economic Output \$2022
<u>Minidoka (Washington) National Historic Site*</u>	8,746	\$577,000	7	\$217,000	\$403,000	\$670,000
<u>Olympic National Park*</u>	2,432,972	\$227,620,000	2,453	\$117,022,000	\$208,138,000	\$320,238,000

*Since its initial designation, this location's management and/or name has been updated. See our 2022 Mountain Pact [Washington](#) National Monuments Fact Sheet for more information.

WASHINGTON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Bureau of Land Management National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>San Juan Islands National Monument</u>	According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u> , in 2021 San Juan Islands National Monument received 117,902 visits.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Hanford Reach National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015, Hanford Reach National Monument supported 33% job growth, with 37% growth in the service sector, 37% population growth, and 17% growth in real per capita income in nearby Benton, Franklin, and Grant counties.</u>