Public Lands Spur Local Economies

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Economic Benefits of Public Lands

- **Public lands draw millions of visitors who support local jobs and boost revenues for surrounding communities.** In 2016, 331 million people visited national parks. These visitors spent an estimated $18.4 billion in local gateway communities, supported 318,100 jobs, and added $34.9 billion in economic output in the national economy.

- **Spending on national parks is a smart investment.** Every tax dollar that is invested in the National Parks Service yields a $10 return on investment.

- **Public lands encourage outdoor recreation, a driver of the tourism and outdoor economies.** Consumers spend $887 billion annually on outdoor recreation, creating 7.6 million jobs.

- **Protected lands boost local economies by increasing per capita income.** In rural counties with 100,000 acres of protected public lands (relative to those with none), income per person is on average higher by $4,360.

Alabama By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Alabama welcomes 1 million visitors every year, who spend $45.6 million in local economies and support 740 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Alabama by $56.4 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $7.5 billion in consumer spending and $2 billion in wages in Alabama in 2012, which in turn created 86,000 direct jobs in the state and $494 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Alaska By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Alaska welcomes **2.8 million visitors** every year, who spend **$1,298.3 million** in local economies and support **18,940 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Alaska by **$1,857 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$9.5 billion in consumer spending** and **$2.6 billion in wages** in Alaska in 2012, which in turn created **92,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$711 million in state and local tax revenue.**
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Arizona By the Numbers

- The [National Park System](#) in Arizona welcomes 12 million visitors every year, who spend $995.9 million in local economies and support 15,648 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Arizona by $1,472.3 million.

- [Outdoor recreation](#) as a whole generated $10.6 billion in consumer spending and $3.3 billion in wages in Arizona in 2012, which in turn created 104,000 direct jobs in the state and $787 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Arkansas By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Arkansas welcomes 3.8 million visitors every year, who spend $203.3 million in local economies and support 3,268 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Arkansas by $251.9 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $10.0 billion in consumer spending and $2.9 billion in wages in Arkansas in 2012, which in turn created 126,000 direct jobs in the state and $696 million in state and local tax revenue.
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California By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in California welcomes **42 million visitors** every year, who spend **$2,005.9 million** in local economies and support **28,935 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in California by **$2,911.2 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$85.4 billion in consumer spending** and **$27.0 billion in wages** in California in 2012, which in turn created **732,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue**.
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Colorado By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Colorado welcomes **7.5 million visitors** every year, who spend **$485.8 million** in local economies and support **7,427 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Colorado by **$722 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$13.2 billion in consumer spending** and **$4.2 billion in wages** in Colorado in 2012, which in turn created **125,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$994 million in state and local tax revenue**.
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Connecticut By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Connecticut welcomes 39,080 visitors every year, who spend $2.3 million in local economies and support 33 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Connecticut by $3.1 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $6.9 billion in consumer spending and $2.2 billion in wages in Connecticut in 2012, which in turn created 71,000 direct jobs in the state and $502 million in state and local tax revenue.
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**Delaware By the Numbers**

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $4.0 billion in consumer spending and $1.1 billion in wages in Delaware in 2012, which in turn created 39,000 direct jobs in the state and $304 million in state and local tax revenue.
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**Florida By the Numbers**

- The **National Park System** in Florida welcomes **10.9 million visitors** every year, who **spend $653.6 million** in local economies and support **9,972 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Florida by **$949.1 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$38.3 billion in consumer spending** and **$10.7 billion in wages** in Florida in 2012, which in turn created **329,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$2.5 billion in state and local tax revenue**.
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Georgia By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Georgia welcomes 7 million visitors every year, who spend $374.8 million in local economies and support 6,087 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Georgia by $532.8 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $23.3 billion in consumer spending and $7.0 billion in wages in Georgia in 2012, which in turn created 231,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.4 billion in state and local tax revenue.

Chattahoochee River
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Hawaii By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Hawaii welcomes **5.8 million visitors** every year, who spend **$394.4 million** in local economies and support **4,793 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Hawaii by **$486.4 million**.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated **$6.7 billion in consumer spending** and **$2.1 billion in wages** in Hawaii in 2012, which in turn created **65,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$478 million in state and local tax revenue**.
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**Idaho By the Numbers**

- The National Park System in Idaho welcomes 629,191 visitors every year, who spend $30.8 million in local economies and support 525 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Idaho by $39.7 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $6.3 billion in consumer spending and $1.8 billion in wages in Idaho in 2012, which in turn created 77,000 direct jobs in the state and $461 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Illinois By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Illinois welcomes 239,719 visitors every year, who spend $14.6 million in local economies and support 225 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Illinois by $21.6 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $22.0 billion in consumer spending and $6.7 billion in wages in Illinois in 2012, which in turn created 204,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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Indiana By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Indiana welcomes 2 million visitors every year, who spend $87.2 million in local economies and support 1,399 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Indiana by $109.4 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $9.4 billion in consumer spending and $2.7 billion in wages in Indiana in 2012, which in turn created 106,000 direct jobs in the state and $705 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Iowa By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Iowa welcomes 229,579 visitors every year, who spend $13.8 million in local economies and support 229 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Iowa by $17.8 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $6.1 billion in consumer spending and $1.7 billion in wages in Iowa in 2012, which in turn created 75,000 direct jobs in the state and $433 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Kansas By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Kansas welcomes 121,250 visitors every year, who spend $6 million in local economies and support 94 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Kansas by $7.7 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $7.1 billion in consumer spending and $2.0 billion in wages in Kansas in 2012, which in turn created 85,000 direct jobs in the state and $477 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Kentucky By the Numbers

- **The National Park System** in Kentucky welcomes 1.9 million visitors every year, who spend $121.8 million in local economies and support 1,899 jobs.

- **These parks increase economic output in Kentucky by $155.7 million.**

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $8.4 billion in consumer spending and $2.5 billion in wages in Kentucky in 2012, which in turn created 105,000 direct jobs in the state and $552 million in state and local tax revenue.
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**Louisiana By the Numbers**

- The [National Park System](#) in Louisiana welcomes 500,798 visitors every year, who spend $29.3 million in local economies and support 449 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Louisiana by $38 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $15.1 billion in consumer spending and $4.6 billion in wages in Louisiana in 2012, which in turn created 146,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.1 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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Maine By the Numbers

- **The National Park System** in Maine welcomes 3.3 million visitors every year, who spend $275 million in local economies and support 4,531 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Maine by $386.2 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $5.3 billion in consumer spending and $1.5 billion in wages in Maine in 2012, which in turn created 65,000 direct jobs in the state and $382 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Maryland By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Maryland welcomes **6.7 million visitors** every year, who spend **$234.6 million** in local economies and support **3,262 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Maryland by **$309.7 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$9.5 billion in consumer spending** and **$2.8 billion in wages** in Maryland in 2012, which in turn created **85,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$686 million in state and local tax revenue**.
Public Lands Spur Local Economies

United States public lands are a cherished aspect of American heritage, and a key contributor to local economies. With their stunning views and unmatched recreational opportunities, national parks and public lands attract visitors, support jobs and drive economic growth in communities across the country. Rural economies in particular benefit from proximity to public lands. Cutting or privatizing our national parks and public lands, as Republicans have proposed, would both jeopardize our natural resources and harm nearby communities.

Economic Benefits of Public Lands

- **Public lands draw millions of visitors who support local jobs and boost revenues for surrounding communities.** In 2016, 331 million people visited national parks. These visitors spent an estimated $18.4 billion in local gateway communities, supported 318,100 jobs, and added $34.9 billion in economic output in the national economy.

- **Spending on national parks is a smart investment.** Every tax dollar that is invested in the National Parks Service yields a $10 return on investment.

- **Public lands encourage outdoor recreation, a driver of the tourism and outdoor economies.** Consumers spend $887 billion annually on outdoor recreation creating 7.6 million jobs.

- **Protected lands boost local economies by increasing per capita income.** In rural counties with 100,000 acres of protected public lands (relative to those with none), income per person is on average higher by $4,360.

**Massachusetts By the Numbers**

- The [National Park System](https://www.nps.gov) in Massachusetts welcomes 10.1 million visitors every year, who spend $521.6 million in local economies and support 7,220 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Massachusetts by $696.6 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $10.0 billion in consumer spending and $3.5 billion in wages in Massachusetts in 2012, which in turn created 90,000 direct jobs in the state and $739 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Michigan By the Numbers

- The [National Park System](https://www.nps.gov/) in Michigan welcomes **2.7 million visitors** every year, who spend **$235 million** in local economies and support **3,767 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Michigan by **$333.6 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$18.7 billion in consumer spending** and **$5.5 billion in wages** in Michigan in 2012, which in turn created **194,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$1.4 billion in state and local tax revenue.**
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Minnesota By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Minnesota welcomes 1 million visitors every year, who spend $56.2 million in local economies and support 897 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Minnesota by $79.7 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $11.6 billion in consumer spending and $3.4 billion in wages in Minnesota in 2012, which in turn created 118,000 direct jobs in the state and $815 million in state and local tax revenue.
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**Mississippi By the Numbers**

- The [National Park System](https://www.nps.gov) in Mississippi welcomes **6.6 million visitors** every year, who spend **$206.9 million** in local economies and support **2,967 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Mississippi by **$220.9 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$4.9 billion in consumer spending** and **$1.3 billion in wages** in Mississippi in 2012, which in turn created **58,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$329 million in state and local tax revenue**.

*Image: Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail*
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Missouri By the Numbers

- The [National Park System](#) in Missouri welcomes 2.8 million visitors every year, who spend $196.8 million in local economies and support 3,449 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Missouri by $283.9 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $11.2 billion in consumer spending and $3.3 billion in wages in Missouri in 2012, which in turn created 111,000 direct jobs in the state and $780 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Montana By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Montana welcomes 5.7 million visitors every year, who spend $547.8 million in local economies and support 9,467 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Montana by $762.3 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $5.8 billion in consumer spending and $1.5 billion in wages in Montana in 2012, which in turn created 64,000 direct jobs in the state and $403 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Nebraska By the Numbers

- **The National Park System in Nebraska welcomes 307,207 visitors every year, who spend $14.8 million in local economies and support 241 jobs.**

- These parks increase economic output in Nebraska by $19 million.

- **Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $5.7 billion in consumer spending and $1.7 billion in wages in Nebraska in 2012, which in turn created 74,000 direct jobs in the state and $396 million in state and local tax revenue.**
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Nevada By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Nevada welcomes 5.5 million visitors every year, who spend $242.9 million in local economies and support 3,122 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Nevada by $292.3 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $14.9 billion in consumer spending and $4.8 billion in wages in Nevada in 2012, which in turn created 148,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.0 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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New Hampshire By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in New Hampshire welcomes **42,377 visitors** every year, who **spend $2.1 million** in local economies and support **36 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in New Hampshire by **$3.2 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$4.2 billion in consumer spending** and **$1.2 billion in wages** in New Hampshire in 2012, which in turn created **49,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$293 million in state and local tax revenue**.
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New Jersey By the Numbers

- The [National Park System](https://www.nps.gov) in New Jersey welcomes **4.8 million visitors** every year, who spend **$160.5 million** in local economies and support **2,368 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in New Jersey by **$221.9 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$17.8 billion in consumer spending** and **$6.1 billion in wages** in New Jersey in 2012, which in turn created **158,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue**.

*Pinelands National Reserve*
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New Mexico By the Numbers

- The National Park System in New Mexico welcomes 1.9 million visitors every year, who spend $108.4 million in local economies and support 1,685 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in New Mexico by $132.4 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $6.1 billion in consumer spending and $1.7 billion in wages in New Mexico in 2012, which in turn created 68,000 direct jobs in the state and $458 million in state and local tax revenue.
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New York By the Numbers

- The National Park System in New York welcomes 18.9 million visitors every year, who spend $697.9 million in local economies and support 8,315 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in New York by $853.9 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $33.8 billion in consumer spending and $12.4 billion in wages in New York in 2012, which in turn created 305,000 direct jobs in the state and $2.8 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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North Carolina By the Numbers

- The National Park System in North Carolina welcomes **18.5 million visitors** every year, who spend **$1,269.6 million** in local economies and support **21,001 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in North Carolina by **$1,775.8 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $19.2 billion in consumer spending and $5.6 billion in wages in North Carolina in 2012, which in turn created **192,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue**.

*Blue Ridge Parkway*
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North Dakota By the Numbers

- The National Park System in North Dakota welcomes 784,710 visitors every year, who spend $50 million in local economies and support 740 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in North Dakota by $61.4 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $2.2 billion in consumer spending and $606 million in wages in North Dakota in 2012, which in turn created 28,000 direct jobs in the state and $189 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Ohio By the Numbers

- **The National Park System** in Ohio welcomes 2.8 million visitors every year, who spend $96.4 million in local economies and support 1,602 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Ohio by $131.6 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $17.4 billion in consumer spending and $5.1 billion in wages in Ohio in 2012, which in turn created 196,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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Oklahoma By the Numbers

- The [National Park System](#) in Oklahoma welcomes 1.7 million visitors every year, who spend $27.2 million in local economies and support 304 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Oklahoma by $24.4 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $8.4 billion in consumer spending and $2.5 billion in wages in Oklahoma in 2012, which in turn created 95,000 direct jobs in the state and $584 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Oregon By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Oregon welcomes 1.3 million visitors every year, who spend $97.5 million in local economies and support 1,640 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Oregon by $138.4 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $12.8 billion in consumer spending and $4.0 billion in wages in Oregon in 2012, which in turn created 141,000 direct jobs in the state and $955 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Pennsylvania By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Pennsylvania welcomes **11 million visitors** every year, who spend **$516.4 million** in local economies and support **8,568 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Pennsylvania by **$742.4 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$21.5 billion in consumer spending** and **$7.2 billion in wages** in Pennsylvania in 2012, which in turn created **219,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue**.
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**Rhode Island By the Numbers**

- The **National Park System** in Rhode Island welcomes 65,587 visitors every year, who spend $3.8 million in local economies and support 54 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Rhode Island by $5.1 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $2.4 billion in consumer spending and $737 million in wages in Rhode Island in 2012, which in turn created 24,000 direct jobs in the state and $145 million in state and local tax revenue.
Public Lands Spur Local Economies

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Economic Benefits of Public Lands

- **Public lands draw millions of visitors who support local jobs and boost revenues for surrounding communities.** In 2016, 331 million people visited national parks. These visitors spent an estimated $18.4 billion in local gateway communities, supported 318,100 jobs, and added $34.9 billion in economic output in the national economy.

- **Spending on national parks is a smart investment.** Every tax dollar that is invested in the National Parks Service yields a $10 return on investment.

- **Public lands encourage outdoor recreation, a driver of the tourism and outdoor economies.** Consumers spend $887 billion annually on outdoor recreation creating 7.6 million jobs.

- **Protected lands boost local economies by increasing per capita income.** In rural counties with 100,000 acres of protected public lands (relative to those with none), income per person is on average higher by $4,360.

South Carolina By the Numbers

- The National Park System in South Carolina welcomes 1.7 million visitors every year, who spend $93.5 million in local economies and support 1,449 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in South Carolina by $119.6 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $18.0 billion in consumer spending and $4.7 billion in wages in South Carolina in 2012, which in turn created 201,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.0 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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South Dakota By the Numbers

- The National Park System in South Dakota welcomes 4.5 million visitors every year, who spend $292.6 million in local economies and support 4,938 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in South Dakota by $379.2 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $3.7 billion in consumer spending and $1.0 billion in wages in South Dakota in 2012, which in turn created 44,000 direct jobs in the state and $243 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Tennessee By the Numbers

- **The National Park System** in Tennessee welcomes 9.4 million visitors every year, who spend $664.7 million in local economies and support 10,239 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Tennessee by $920.7 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $8.2 billion in consumer spending and $2.5 billion in wages in Tennessee in 2012, which in turn created 83,000 direct jobs in the state and $535 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Texas By the Numbers

- **The National Park System** in Texas welcomes **5.4 million visitors** every year, who **spend $288.5 million** in local economies and support **4,445 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Texas by **$410.3 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$28.7 billion in consumer spending** and **$8.9 billion in wages** in Texas in 2012, which in turn created **277,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$1.9 billion in state and local tax revenue**.
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Utah By the Numbers

- The National Park System in Utah welcomes 14.4 million visitors every year, who spend $1,059.6 million in local economies and support 17,914 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Utah by $1,597.5 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $12.0 billion in consumer spending and $3.6 billion in wages in Utah in 2012, which in turn created 122,000 direct jobs in the state and $856 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Vermont By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Vermont welcomes **55,716 visitors** every year, who **spend $3.3 million** in local economies and support **50 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Vermont by **$4.1 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$2.5 billion in consumer spending** and **$753 million in wages** in Vermont in 2012, which in turn created **34,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$176 million in state and local tax revenue**.
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**Virginia By the Numbers**

- The **National Park System** in Virginia welcomes 27.1 million visitors every year, who spend $1,069.8 million in local economies and support 16,795 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Virginia by $1,456 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $13.6 billion in consumer spending and $3.9 billion in wages in Virginia in 2012, which in turn created 138,000 direct jobs in the state and $923 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Washington By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Washington welcomes 8.5 million visitors every year, who spend $526.2 million in local economies and support 7,072 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Washington by $708 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $22.5 billion in consumer spending and $7.1 billion in wages in Washington in 2012, which in turn created 227,000 direct jobs in the state and $1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue.
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**West Virginia By the Numbers**

- The National Park System in West Virginia welcomes 1.7 million visitors every year, who spend $75.2 million in local economies and support 1,151 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in West Virginia by $87 million.

- Outdoor recreation as a whole generated $7.6 billion in consumer spending and $2.0 billion in wages in West Virginia in 2012, which in turn created 82,000 direct jobs in the state and $532 million in state and local tax revenue.
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Wisconsin By the Numbers

- The **National Park System** in Wisconsin welcomes 537,926 visitors every year, who spend $44.4 million in local economies and support 744 jobs.

- These parks increase economic output in Wisconsin by $60.4 million.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated $11.9 billion in consumer spending and $3.6 billion in wages in Wisconsin in 2012, which in turn created 142,000 direct jobs in the state and $844 million in state and local tax revenue.
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**Wyoming By the Numbers**

- The [National Park System](#) in Wyoming welcomes **7.5 million visitors** every year, who spend **$945.3 million** in local economies and support **13,431 jobs**.

- These parks increase economic output in Wyoming by **$1,180.4 million**.

- **Outdoor recreation** as a whole generated **$4.5 billion in consumer spending** and **$1.4 billion in wages** in Wyoming in 2012, which in turn created **50,000 direct jobs** in the state and **$300 million in state and local tax revenue**.