



Washington's fish & wildlife mean business and jobs

Outdoor recreation is big business in Washington state. Each year, spending by anglers, hunters and wildlife watchers generates \$4.5 billion for the state's economy and supports more than 60,000 jobs.

Annual economic activity in Washington:

	Annual Economic Activity	Associated Jobs
Hunting	\$313 million	5,595 jobs
Sport Fishing	\$1.1 billion	14,655 jobs
Wildlife Watching	\$1.5 billion	26,000 jobs
Commercial harvest/wholesale	\$1.4 billion	14,000 jobs
Total	\$4.5 billion	60,250 jobs

(Data from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, American Sportfishers Association)

Many of those jobs are in rural communities, where restaurants, motels, gas stations, convenience stores and sporting goods stores rely on outdoor recreation to keep their cash registers ringing.

"Fishing gear is a big part of our business," said Bob Schlecht, owner of a sporting goods store in Longview. When the fishing is good on the Columbia River, it's hard to find a place to park in our lot."

"During late buck deer-hunting season, up to 90 percent of our business is hunters," said Andy Hydorn, who owns a family-run motel in Colville.

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The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is the state agency charged with protecting native fish and wildlife, and providing sustainable fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for millions of people each year.

Look inside to see what those opportunities mean to other businesses around the state.



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**Gary Krein, owner and operator
All Star Fishing Charters, Everett**

"Year-round fishing opportunities in Puget Sound are important for us to maintain a successful business."



**Larry Carpenter, owner
Master Marine Services, Mount Vernon**

"The vast majority of our customers purchase boats so they can go fishing."



**Robin Stice, Eden Valley Guest Ranch owner
and Chamber of Commerce coordinator of
annual Northwest Ice Fishing Festival, Oroville**

"Fishing, hunting and especially birdwatching are major lures for visitors to the Okanogan Highlands, where county-wide tourism supports more than 1,500 jobs. It is more than money, though -- it is preserving our history by living it and improving people's health by getting them outside!"



**Andy Hydorn, 3rd generation owner
Benny's Colville Inn, Colville**

"During late buck deer hunting season, up to 90 percent of our business is hunters. That season, along with spring turkey hunting, has a huge impact on the economy of this entire area."



**Lon Schmidt, President
Farwest Sports Inc., Fife**

"Good fishing and hunting opportunities have provided job security at our two local stores and distributor business for over 25 years. They are the lifeblood of our organization and our 130 employees."



**Gail Mullvain, Co-owner
American Sunset RV and Tent Resort,
Westport**

"Clams in the winter, sport fishing in the summer and crabbing all year 'round. We have a seafood lovers' paradise and it's all family friendly fun."



**Butch Smith, Owner
Coho Charters, Ilwaco**

"Sturgeon and salmon fishing are to Ilwaco and the Long Beach Peninsula what Boeing and Microsoft are to Seattle."



**Bob Schlecht, Owner
Bob's Sporting Goods, Longview**

"Fishing gear is a big part of our business. When the fishing is good on the Columbia River, it's hard to find a place to park in our lot."



**Buzz Ramsey, Brand Manager
Yakima Bait, Yakima**

"When fishing's good, people fish. It's just like when a team is winning, the stadium seats are full. And participation means sales. For us, that's everything because good fishing means sales that support the 200 family wage jobs our fishing tackle company provides."



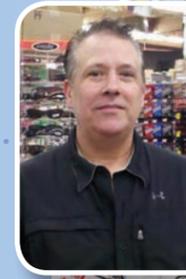
**Ehman Sheldon
City Administrator, Othello**

"The 14th annual Othello Sandhill Crane Festival is definitely on this year because it's become an important part of our local economy. The Adams County Development Council's analysis of the festival and wildlife-viewing tourism indicates a \$1.3 million impact over the last five years. The festival is part of our city's identity. When people think of Othello, they think sandhill cranes."



**Darcy Linklater, co-owner with wife Verna
Darver Tackle Shop, "Best 'Lil Tackle Shop by a Dam Site"
Little Goose Dam on Snake River, Starbuck**

"Local fishing and hunting is totally our business and our sales correlate directly with seasonal participation."



**Tom Kallas, owner
Hooked on Toys, Wenatchee**

"Fishing is at least half of our business, and the last couple years when steelhead and salmon runs have been good, business has been great."



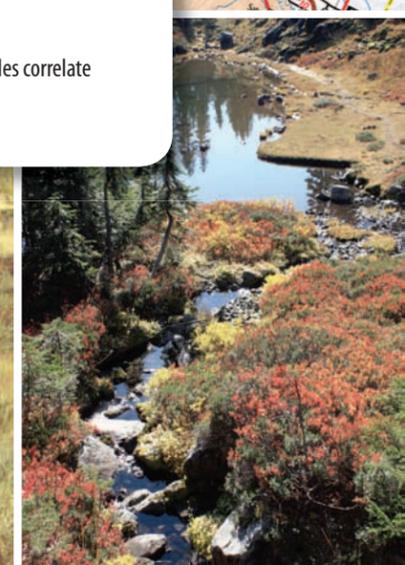
**Mike Meseberg, owner
MarDon Resort, Moses Lake**

"When the weather has walleye biting or ducks on the water, business is as good as ever."



**Dusty Klink, co-owner
Klink's Williams Lake Resort, Cheney**

"Our business is dependent on the fishing at this well-stocked and top-producing trout lake; it's so good that we're able to give back to the community with an annual fishing derby that has raised thousands of dollars for the medical needs of local kids."



Recreational license dealer activity by county (Fiscal Year 2010)

County	Number of dealers	License sales	Dealer fees	Total	In-store visits
Adams	3	\$180,739	\$12,916	\$193,655	6,202
Asotin	6	\$353,168	\$21,545	\$374,713	10,614
Benton	16	\$1,258,750	\$80,723	\$1,339,473	36,999
Chelan	8	\$712,389	\$47,754	\$760,142	22,960
Clallam	14	\$819,745	\$59,319	\$879,064	30,963
Clark	31	\$2,422,712	\$159,041	\$2,581,752	76,642
Columbia	4	\$85,404	\$5,450	\$90,854	2,544
Cowlitz	19	\$1,411,294	\$94,816	\$1,506,110	45,979
Douglas	5	\$265,682	\$17,737	\$283,419	8,256
Ferry	5	\$98,146	\$6,634	\$104,780	3,068
Franklin	2	\$392,635	\$27,205	\$419,840	12,886
Garfield	3	\$69,608	\$4,821	\$74,429	2,226
Grant	10	\$799,340	\$53,664	\$853,004	25,653
Grays Harbor	17	\$1,027,841	\$93,502	\$1,121,343	46,424
Island	10	\$709,848	\$55,417	\$765,265	29,286
Jefferson	4	\$239,050	\$19,103	\$258,153	9,718
King	54	\$4,844,629	\$342,359	\$5,186,988	174,855
Kitsap	11	\$1,216,433	\$84,374	\$1,300,806	42,000
Kittitas	7	\$489,729	\$31,911	\$521,640	14,188
Klickitat	10	\$408,522	\$24,073	\$432,595	11,571
Lewis	24	\$1,285,422	\$83,595	\$1,369,017	37,373
Lincoln	4	\$92,693	\$5,953	\$98,646	2,766
Mason	9	\$589,192	\$42,202	\$631,394	20,378
Okanogan	18	\$636,236	\$42,394	\$678,630	20,367
Pacific	10	\$608,579	\$65,134	\$673,713	33,228
Pend Oreille	2	\$49,795	\$3,413	\$53,208	1,632
Pierce	43	\$3,150,030	\$220,591	\$3,370,621	111,533
San Juan	6	\$197,499	\$16,469	\$213,968	8,652
Skagit	18	\$1,329,022	\$94,657	\$1,423,679	49,963
Skamania	4	\$181,428	\$11,259	\$192,687	5,384
Snohomish	38	\$3,120,319	\$220,806	\$3,341,125	114,487
Spokane	42	\$2,601,864	\$166,928	\$2,768,792	78,755
Stevens	17	\$623,848	\$37,740	\$661,588	17,007
Thurston	25	\$1,692,422	\$107,740	\$1,800,161	54,668
Wahkiakum	3	\$66,327	\$4,798	\$71,125	2,369
Walla Walla	5	\$354,421	\$21,591	\$376,012	9,402
Whatcom	20	\$1,083,355	\$80,421	\$1,163,776	40,816
Whitman	8	\$170,228	\$10,188	\$180,415	4,722
Yakima	25	\$1,330,457	\$89,199	\$1,419,656	40,342
Totals	560	\$36,968,803	\$2,567,435	\$39,536,238	1,266,878
All other dealers (ID/OR) + internet		\$5,537,429	\$304,181	\$5,841,609	113,606
Grand total		\$42,506,232	\$2,871,615	\$45,377,847	1,380,484