



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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John Day Fossil Beds National Monument News Release

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Tourism to John Day Fossil Beds National Monument creates \$6,493,600 in Economic Benefit. Report shows visitor spending supports 88 jobs in local economy

Kimberly, Oregon – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 148,152 visitors to John Day Fossil Beds National Monument in 2012 spent \$6,493,600 in communities near the park. That spending supported 88 jobs in the local area.

“John Day Fossil Beds tells an important story of paleontology and the Age of Mammals. We are proud to welcome visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Superintendent Shelley Hall. “We are delighted to share this place and the experiences it provides and to use the park as a way to introduce our visitors to Eastern Oregon and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy – returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service - and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber and Lynne Koontz for the National Park Service. The report shows \$14.7 billion of direct spending by 283 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 243,000 jobs nationally, with 201,000 jobs found in these gateway communities, and had a cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy of \$26.75 billion. According to the report most visitor spending supports jobs in restaurants, grocery and convenience stores (39 percent), hotels, motels and B&Bs (27 percent), and other amusement and recreation (20 percent).

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>

The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

To learn more about national parks in Oregon and how the National Park Service works with Oregon communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/Oregon.

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.