Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

A Summary of Economic Performance in the Surrounding Communities

SUMMARY FINDINGS
Research shows that conserving public lands like the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument helps to safeguard and highlight amenities that draw new residents, tourists, and businesses to surrounding communities.

Western counties with protected public lands, like national monuments, have been more successful at attracting fast-growing economic sectors and as a result grow more quickly, on average, than counties without protected public lands. In addition, protected natural amenities—such as the pristine scenery found at Cascade-Siskiyou—also help sustain property values and attract new investment.

ECONOMY GROWS AFTER DESIGNATION
The communities in Jackson County, Oregon neighboring the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument experienced strong growth after the designation of the monument, continuing previous growth trends.

From 2001 to 2015, in Jackson County:
- Population grew by 16%
- Jobs grew by 14%
- Real personal income grew by 30%
- Real per capita income grew by 12%

SERVICES JOBS INCREASING ACROSS THE BOARD
Services jobs—such as doctors, engineers, and teachers—account for the majority of employment growth in Jackson County in recent decades. These jobs are increasingly mobile, and many entrepreneurs locate their businesses in areas with a high quality of life.

From 2001 to 2015, in Jackson County:
- Services grew from 71,726 to 87,018 jobs, a 21% increase
- Non-Services shrunk from 20,230 to 19,399 jobs, a 4% decrease

BACKGROUND
The 54,000 acre Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument was created in 2000 in recognition of its location at the crossroads of the Cascade, Klamath, and Siskiyou mountains which contain a remarkable variety of species in a small area. It was the first national monument established solely to protect biodiversity. Located in Jackson County, Oregon the monument is managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE OF THE MONUMENT
The monument allows access to in-holdings, existing rights-of-way, grazing, and hunting and fishing. Cascade-Siskiyou provides a wide diversity of recreation opportunities such as hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, cycling, and winter sports.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM
Travel and tourism are important to communities in Jackson County, representing about 19% of total private wage and salary employment, or 13,067 jobs, in 2015. In Oregon, the Outdoor Industry Association reports that recreation contributes more than $12.8 billion annually to the state’s economy.

THE INCREASES IN POPULATION, JOBS, PERSONAL INCOME, AND PER CAPITA INCOME ALSO MIRROR OTHER WESTERN COUNTIES WITH NATIONAL MONUMENTS OR OTHER PROTECTED LANDS.

METHODOLOGY
This fact sheet is part of a series that assesses the economic performance of local communities that are adjacent to national monuments. The series examines national monuments in the eleven western continental states that are larger than 10,000 acres and were created in 1982 or later.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Series: The Economic Importance of National Monuments to Local Communities

NON-LABOR INCOME GROWS FASTEST
One of the largest and fastest growing sources of new personal income in the Jackson County is non-labor income, which is made up of investment income such as dividends, interest and rent, and government transfer payments such as Social Security and Medicare.

For people with investment income and many retirees, protected public lands and recreation provide important aspects of a high quality of life. Non-labor income already represents more than a third of all personal income in the West—and will grow as the Baby Boomer generation retires.7

From 2001 to 2015, in Jackson County:
• Non-Labor income grew from $2.8 billion to $4.2 billion, a 51% increase
• As a result, in 2015 non-labor income made up 48% of total personal income

TRADITIONAL JOBS HOLD STEADY
Long before the monument’s creation, commodity industries (agriculture, mining, timber) were becoming a smaller share of the overall economy in Jackson County. These industries remain part of the region’s economy today.

In 2015, in Jackson County:
• Agriculture accounted for 2% of total employment
• Mining accounted for 0.1% of total private employment
• Timber accounted for 4.2% of total private employment

PROSPERITY ON THE RISE
As the economy has grown since designation of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, per capita income has risen as well. This indicates growing prosperity in the region.

From 2001 to 2015, in Jackson County:
• Real per capita income grew from $36,705 to $41,227, a 12% increase

5 The U.S. Department of Commerce changed the way it classifies industries between 2000 and 2001. To show a continuous timeline for services and non-services employment, we subtracted non-services jobs from total private employment to derive services jobs.

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