Outdoor Recreation Energizes Florida’s Economy

Florida’s natural areas are an example of ecosystems that provide benefits to people. Every year, natural areas around the state draw millions of residents and visitors for fishing, boating, beach activities, swimming, snorkeling, and other experiences.

In 2017, outdoor recreation in Florida’s natural areas generated

- $145 billion in total economic impact
- 1.2 million jobs supported
- $10 billion in tax revenues

Sources: Florida Department of Environmental Protection: Economic Impact of Outdoor Recreation Activities in Florida, https://tinyurl.com/FDEPECO

### Saltwater Recreational Fishing

- In 2017, 4.1 million anglers spent $6.6 billion while fishing in Florida
- $11.5 billion in total economic impact
- 106,296 jobs supported

### Freshwater Recreational Fishing

- In 2011, 1.2 million anglers spent $1 billion while fishing in Florida
- $1.7 billion in total economic impact
- 14,040 jobs supported

### Recreational Boating

- In 2018, 925,141 registered boats in Florida
- $23.3 billion in total economic impact
- 92,211 jobs supported
- 6,091 businesses supported
- $3.2 billion annual retail sales of new boats, engines and marine accessories

Protecting and restoring Florida’s water resources can translate into economic opportunity for local communities.