

ECONOMICS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RECREATION
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
ESTIMATES FOR 2004

Category	Expenditures	State Sales Taxes	Economic Impact	Jobs
Hunting	\$423,549,474	\$25,412,969	\$747,561,492	7,338
Freshwater Fishing	\$1,120,772,481	\$67,246,347	\$2,015,426,180	19,519
Saltwater Fishing	\$3,171,343,568	\$190,280,616	\$5,537,082,195	59,418
Wildlife Viewing	\$956,821,946	\$57,409,313	\$1,826,787,357	19,361
TOTAL	\$5,672,487,469	\$340,349,245	\$10,126,857,224	105,636

Additionally, commercial fishing and the boating industry contributed the following economic impacts to Florida's economy.

Category	Economic Impact
Commercial Fishing	\$534 Million 9,787 jobs
Seafood Processing Industry	\$583 Million 3,108 jobs
Boating Industry	\$15.7 Billion

NOTE: The expenditure data for fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing are derived from the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife – Associated Recreation.** Economic impact data are derived from the **American Sportfishing Association; Sportfishing in America, Values of Our Traditional Pastime; International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; Economic Importance of Hunting in America** and **Southwick and Associates; The 2001 Economic Benefits of Watachable Wildlife Recreation in Florida.** Estimates for the boating industry are derived from the **Marine Industries Association of Florida.** Estimates for commercial fishing are from the **University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Dr. Alan Hodges** Principal Investigator. The baseline for the expenditure data and economic impact data are for 2001. Estimates for 2004 are adjusted to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) through September 2004 with the exception of jobs which reflect the 2001 baseline data.

Limitations of the Analysis

1. The sample frame for Hunting is limited to 47 observations statewide.
2. Participant values (number of individuals participating in a particular activity) are tied to the formulas used to calculate the economic analysis for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing and reflect the baseline year of 2001.
3. Consumer behavior is not static. It is simply impossible (without conducting a major statewide study every year) to accurately predict consumer behavior. For instance, are consumers spending more or less and are consumers participating more or less in hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing activities. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume there is a measure of variability within the range of economic estimates provided for this analysis.
4. Economic impact figures for commercial fishing and the seafood processing industry historically demonstrate considerable variability from year to year.

The purpose of this document is to provide economic estimates for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, commercial fishing, the seafood processing industry and the boating industry beyond the baseline study for these activities. Use of these data should take into consideration the variables and limitations listed in this document.

Contact:

David Harding, Ph.D.

Economist

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Fish and Wildlife Research Institute

620 South Meridian Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32399 – 1600

Telephone: 850 – 410- 0656 EXT 142

E-mail: David.Harding@MyFWC.com