



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Lava Beds National  
Monument

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

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### **National Parks Return \$4 in Economic Benefit for Every Tax Dollar**

The National Park Service uses a Money Generation Model (MGM) to estimate the contribution of visitor and park payroll spending to gateway communities within a 50 mile radius of a park. A new economic analysis released by the nonpartisan National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) shows that national parks and other units within the U.S. National Park System generate an average of four dollars for state and local economies in return for every one tax dollar invested in each of the national park's annual budget. "Using this estimate, Lava Beds National Monument generates around \$6,200,000 manifest in local and state tax revenue, jobs, and direct purchases by visitors on lodging, food, transportation, souvenirs, etc. in the areas around the park" says Acting Superintendent Mac Brock.

Other interesting findings from the study include:

- National parks support \$13.3 billion of local private-sector economic activity and 267,000 private-sector jobs.
- National parks attract businesses and individuals to the local area, resulting in economic growth in areas near parks that is an average of 1 percent per year greater than statewide rates over the past three decades.
- Some parks have excelled far beyond others in helping the local economy. Point Reyes National Seashore proves \$14 for every one dollar in taxes spent to run the park, and Zion National Park in Utah generates \$10.

This most recent report substantiates other recent studies by the National Park Service that demonstrate the economic values to gateway communities from the presence and operations of National Park sites.

"The values of National Parks extend well beyond their spectacular scenery and public inspiration," Brock said. "The very presence of a National Park site is also very good for local and regional economies."

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For more information on the National Park Service Money Generation Models go to  
<http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM2Reports>.

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