

National Parks Huge Impact on Del Norte

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The Department of Interior's National Park continues to make a profound economic influence on America. Just released figures: \$55.6 billion benefit across 31 states and two territories which support some 415,400 jobs.

Nationally, 325.5 million visitors spent \$26.4 billion in communities situated around National Parks. Lodging alone accounted for \$9.9 billion in economic output. Restaurants were bolstered by \$5.2 billion in economic output.

California has nine National Parks, the most prominent being Yosemite.

Redwood National and State Parks and Prairie Creek State Park provide significant economic impact within Del Norte County.

The impact on Del Norte could not be quantified but the Chamber of Commerce touted the dollars expended here are profound. Chamber Director Cindy Vosburg said, "hundreds of visitors come to the Visitor Center

weekly asking about the Redwoods, the Parks, where to go and what to see. The Parks have a significant economic impact on Del Norte.”

The busy Summer season will begin to wane after Labor Day as kids return to school but the Parks will continue to display its Autumn and Winter splendor. This time period may indeed be the best time to visit the National Parks.