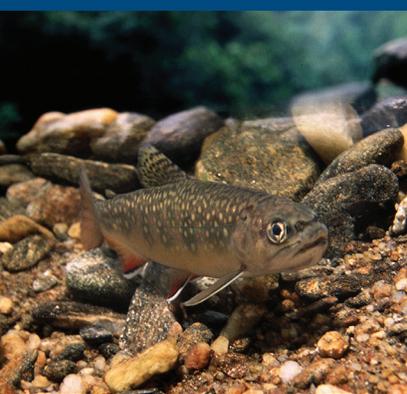
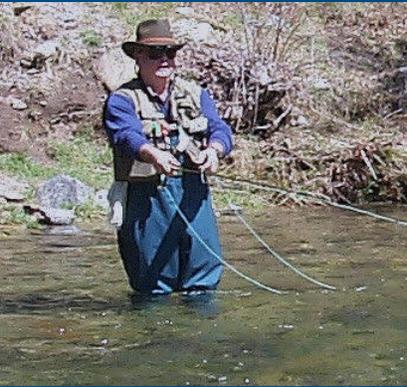


The Economic Impacts of Mountain Trout Fishing in North Carolina



A study on the economic impacts of trout fishing opportunities provided and managed by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.



Trout fishing opportunities provided and managed by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission have a substantial economic impact to western North Carolina and to the state — a **\$174 million** impact!

According to a recent study, “The Economic Impacts of Mountain Trout Fishing in North Carolina,” nearly **93,000** trout anglers fishing in North Carolina in 2008 spent almost **\$146 million** on trips and equipment. When the secondary (multiplier) effects of those dollars were factored in, the total economic output of the Commission’s trout management program exceeded **\$174 million**! The secondary effects are the total rounds of business and consumer spending stimulated by anglers’ original expenditures. (See table on back side for an economic summary of all mountain trout fishing.)

Money spent on mountain trout fishing last year supported **1,977 jobs** and provided an estimated **\$56 million** in income, much of it to workers in western North Carolina. Other study findings included:

- The most heavily fished counties were Transylvania, Watauga, Haywood, Cherokee, Henderson, Jackson and Ashe.
- An estimated 92,769 resident and non-resident anglers fished for 1.42 million days in North Carolina in 2008.
- Hatchery supported waters were the most frequently fished waters (625,147 days), followed by wild trout waters (422,671 days); and delayed harvest waters (374,611 days).
- Total economic impact of hatchery supported waters measured \$72.7 million; \$55.2 million for wild trout waters; \$46.5 million for delayed harvest waters.



“In addition to the economic contributions trout fishing provides are the intangible benefits of a wholesome outdoor recreational activity that is family-oriented and adds to our quality of life.”

Robert L. Curry
Chief, Division of Inland Fisheries
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

ECONOMIC SUMMARY FOR ALL MOUNTAIN TROUT FISHING (STATEWIDE)

	Resident Anglers	Non-Resident Anglers	All Anglers
Mountain Trout Anglers	76,761	16,008	92,769
Days Fished for Mountain Trout	1,274,528	147,901	1,422,429
Angler Purchases			
<i>Licenses and Fees</i>	\$1,679,326	\$432,333	\$2,111,659
<i>Trip Expenditures</i>	\$83,468,702	\$23,335,331	\$106,804,033
<i>Equipment Expenditures</i>	\$36,925,432	*	\$36,925,432
Total Dollars Spent	\$122,073,460	\$23,767,664	\$145,841,124
Impacts from Trip Spending			
<i>Total Economic Output</i>	\$118,879,235	\$30,814,136	\$149,693,371
<i>Income Provided</i>	\$37,417,675	\$9,837,538	\$47,255,213
<i>Jobs Supported</i>	1,322	347	1,669
Impacts from Equipment Spending			
<i>Total Economic Output</i>	\$24,683,912	*	\$24,683,912
<i>Income Provided</i>	\$9,080,790	*	\$9,080,790
<i>Jobs Supported</i>	308	*	308
Impacts from All Spending			
<i>Total Economic Output</i>	\$143,563,147	\$30,814,136	\$174,377,283
<i>Income Provided</i>	\$46,498,465	\$9,837,538	\$56,336,003
<i>Jobs Supported</i>	1,630	347	1,977
Tax Revenues from All Spending			
<i>State and Local</i>	\$11,175,095	\$2,232,836	\$13,407,931
<i>Federal</i>	\$11,342,552	\$2,397,591	\$13,740,143
* Most equipment spending takes place where people live; non-residents generally spend little on equipment in North Carolina.			

Note that the total economic output, which is \$174,377,283 in this table, reflects the economic activity (including multiplier effects) resulting from trip expenditures, equipment expenditures, and spending on licenses and fees. Licenses and fees are reported separately as an expenditure, but for purposes of the impact analysis, licenses and fees are included as a trip expenditure and are counted as a direct effect. In practical terms, they have no multiplier effect because purchases by the government sector are considered part of final demand.



“The Economic Impacts of Mountain Trout Fishing in North Carolina” study was conducted on behalf of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission by Responsive Management and Southwick Associates. A copy of the full report, along with the executive summary, is on the Commission’s Web site, www.ncwildlife.org.



The study was funded under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program, utilizing state fishing license money and federal grant funds derived from federal excise taxes on fishing tackle and other fishing-related expenditures. Funds from the program are used for fisheries management and research, aquatic education and boating access facilities. The program is administered by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.