





HARDEE COUNTY

The entirety of Hardee County is within the CHNEP area. The total economic impact of natural resources in Hardee County within the CHNEP area is approximately \$723.3 million annually. The primary driver in the county is agriculture followed by natural resource-based recreation (primarily tourism) and ecological restoration. Agriculture is dominated by fresh market crops, ranching and timber. As Hardee County is inland, there are not commercial fishing impacts attributable.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Natural resources in the CHNEP region generate economic impacts for Hardee County through:

			
Annual Recreation Spending	Annual Commercial Fishing Production	Annual Agriculture Production Value	Property Value Impacts*
\$63,285,000	N/A	\$601,311,000	\$1,507,000

*not annualized

Annual spending driven by natural resources in the CHNEP area **creates indirect spending through other businesses and induced spending through jobs as well as tax revenues.** The table below shows the components of the annual economic impacts in Hardee County:

Activity	Total Output	Labor Income	Value Added	Jobs
Recreation	\$38,484,000	\$10,544,000	\$17,685,000	16,353
Commercial Fishing	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Agriculture	\$684,677,000	\$394,686,000	\$464,003,000	
Total	\$723,325,000	\$405,324,000	\$481,795,000	



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Capital investments in protection of natural resources in **Hardee County** results in a net fiscal benefit of **\$15,532,000**. Fiscal impacts include tax revenues from resource-based activity, improved property values, and return on investment from specific capital projects. In Hardee County, fiscal benefits are primarily driven by spending in the agriculture and recreation sectors.



ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

The Habitat Restoration Needs Plan (HRN) was developed to guide habitat preservation/conservation, connectivity, management, restoration, sustainability, and resiliency through the CHNEP Area. **At full implementation, the HRN would preserve/conservate an additional \$192,000 of land value in the Hardee County. It is estimated that these investments will generate economic benefits of \$163,000 every year.**