



Beach Restoration in a Changing Climate

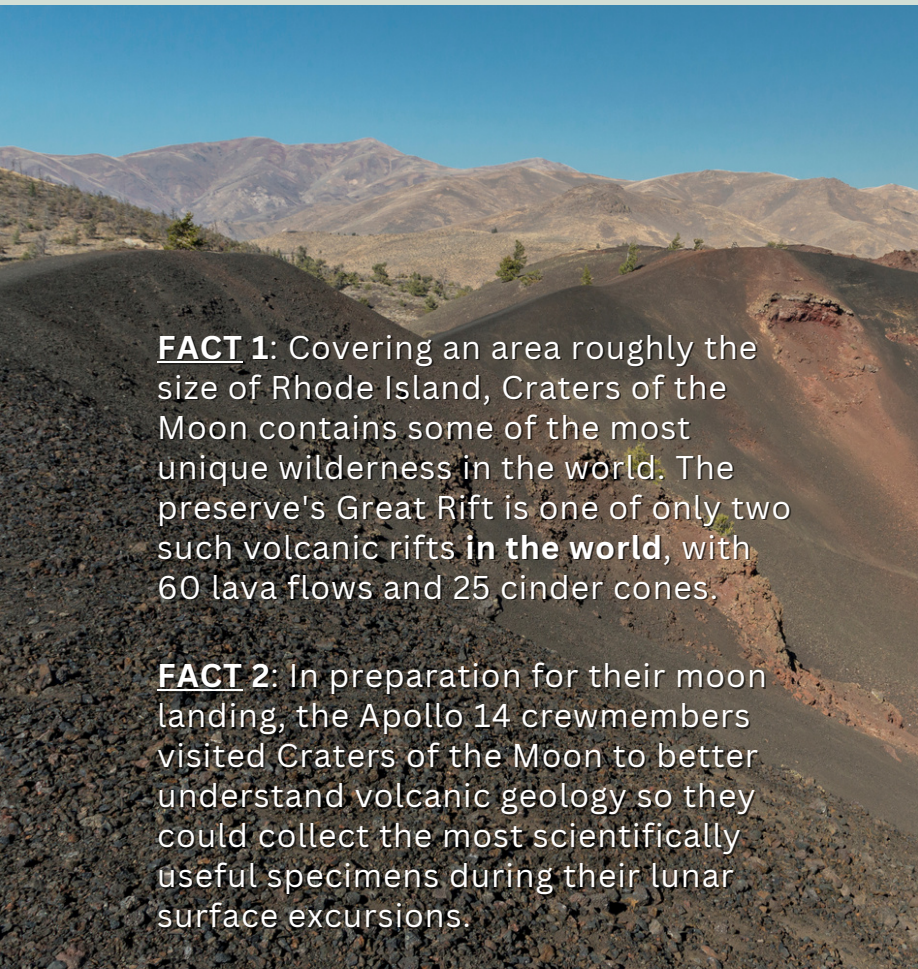
Read about how the National Park Trust partnered with the National Park Service to purchase and remove two uninhabitable homes in Rodanthe, NC that currently pose significant environmental hazards to the community and coastal ecosystem.

FEATURED PARK



Photos and facts of
your favorite parks,
one issue at a time

Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve Idaho



FACT 1: Covering an area roughly the size of Rhode Island, Craters of the Moon contains some of the most unique wilderness in the world. The preserve's Great Rift is one of only two such volcanic rifts **in the world**, with 60 lava flows and 25 cinder cones.

FACT 2: In preparation for their moon landing, the Apollo 14 crewmembers visited Craters of the Moon to better understand volcanic geology so they could collect the most scientifically useful specimens during their lunar surface excursions.



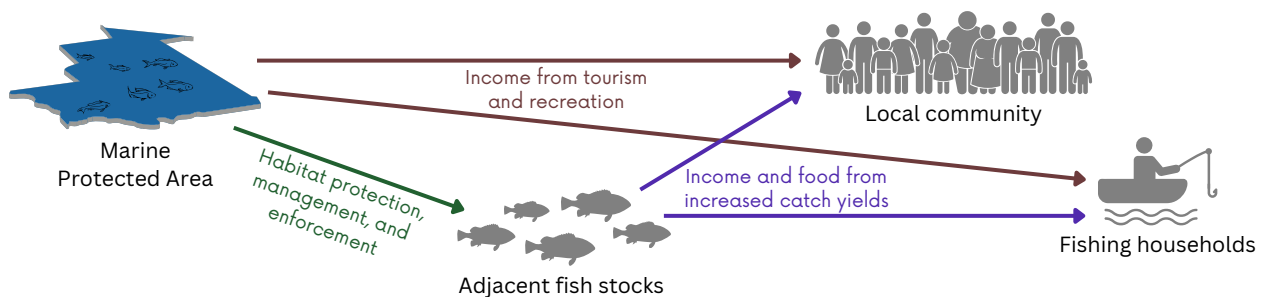
Nominate *your* favorite local, state, or national park [here](#) so our subscribers can learn about it.



The environmental benefits of marine protected areas (MPAs) are frequently discussed, but what about their effects on local communities? This week's [article](#), published this June in the journal *Nature Sustainability*, investigates the human benefits MPAs might provide on top of their conservation value. The authors categorized Mesoamerican Reef sites based on protection level and compiled data on fish abundance at each site. They then used a statistical matching approach to gauge the relationship between these variables and socio-economic factors of local communities like income and food security.

Co-benefits of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Potential pathways to income and well-being



Adapted from Nowakowski et al., *Nature Sust.* 2023; 6
DOI: 10.1038/s41893-023-01150-4

The authors concluded that strict MPAs broadly benefit the environment **and** local communities. MPAs with the highest level of protection were, on average, not only associated with greater fish biomass, but also increased income and food security in nearby communities, *even among non-fishers*. Increased fish biomass was similarly associated with a higher wealth index in communities near MPAs.

While restrictions on resource harvesting have sometimes led to friction between conservationists and local communities, the study suggests that this need not be the case, and that well-planned and well-managed protected areas have the potential to benefit local residents and the environment.

PLAY GROUND

Why are biologists always exhausted?

their work is taxa-ing

SHUTDOWN PERILS

National parks serve as a foundation for America's outdoor recreation economy, which supports **4.5 million** American jobs and contributes over **\$862 billion** in annual economic output.

Join the Institute's partner, NPCA, in urging Congress to prioritize our parks.