

## **Community Descriptions**

The following section contains community descriptions of each coastal county located in Washington, Oregon and California. Each county description contains information on location in relation to surrounding counties, the location and 2000 population of American Indian reservations and trust lands (where applicable), a brief outline of industries the county was historically and is currently based on economically, and a discussion of a few fishing ports within each county (selected from random and snowball sampling methods). Each county also contains a list of recreational and commercial ports based on interviewee responses and 2001 PacFIN landings data. Please remember that the recreational designation is based on interviewee information. If a port is solely listed as commercial and in fact does contain recreational boaters as well, the designation is based on PacFIN data alone. The reason for this designation is because interviewees were not contacted at that particular location.

## Washington State Counties

### **Clallam**

#### Location

Clallam County is situated on the northern extension of the Olympic Peninsula in western Washington. It has a total landmass of 1,745.2 square miles and shares a border with Jefferson County. The county's other borders are the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Pacific Ocean. Approximately half of the county, including most of its Pacific shoreline, is designated as part of the Olympic National Forest, and ranks 20th in landmass among Washington counties (Payne, 2001).

#### Reservations and Trust Lands

Out of Clallam County's five American Indian reservations, two are located on the western shoreline. The largest is the Makah tribe situated in the northwest corner at Neah Bay on the county's central shoreline. Three additional tribes include the: Quileute tribe near La Push, the Lower Elwha tribe close to Port Angeles, and the Jamestown S'klallam Tribe by Sequim Bay (Payne, 2001).

#### History

The major founding industries of the county include fishing and timber products. In 1880, a salmon canning facility became a major provider of jobs to county residents. Though initially focused on salmon, the cannery expanded its product line to include clams and clam nectar. Later in 1889, the California Tanning Company set up the only west coast distilling plant (Payne, 2001). Leather tanning extract from hemlock bark was created by hundreds of workers in Clallam Bay (<http://www.sekiu.com/history.tpl>).

#### Current Industry

The majority of Clallam County's jobs come from industries developed around lumber products, the Clallam Bay Corrections Center, and agricultural services (Payne, 2001 and <http://www.sekiu.com/history.tpl>). However tourism is also an important industry.

#### Fishing Industry

Ports: Port Angeles (commercial/recreational), Sequim (commercial), Neah Bay (commercial/recreational)

The fishing industry in the city of Port Angeles began about 60 years ago. Commercial salmon fishermen utilized troll gear in the area until it was closed in the 1950s. Today, the community is primarily comprised of sport fishermen, and a few commercial fleets that fish in Alaska. Currently, however, a Native group fish for salmon locally.

Primarily, the fishing community of Port Angeles switched from a commercial fleet to a recreational fleet. This switch occurred around 1975 when the "Boldt Decision", U.S. versus Washington took place. The Boldt Decision was decided by George Boldt, which gave local Indians the right to fish 'in common with' commercial and sport fisherman. The decision gave the Indians the right to half of all the fish caught. (Personal Interview, 2002 and <http://www.ccrh.org/comm/river/legal/boldt.htm>).

## **Clark**

### Location

Clark County is one of the smallest counties in Washington State, with a total landmass of 628 square miles. The county is part of the geologic depression stretching from the Willamette Valley to Puget Sound. It is bounded in the north by the Lewis River, south and west by the Columbia River, and east by Skamania County (Froyalde, 2001).

### History

Clark County's economic base was built on agriculture, logging, and railroad development. In the late 1870's, the agricultural sector grew rapidly until the 1920's when the industry was unable to recover after a sharp economic downturn. Due to high demand for clearing land for farming in the 1870's, large-scale logging occurred. In 1885, the Columbia River Paper Company (now owned by Georgia Pacific) opened in Camas. This industry eventually led to the formation of the Vancouver, Klickitat, and Yakima Railroad. By 1908, Vancouver was a terminal for trains operating on the North Bank Road connecting Spokane, Portland, and Seattle. During the 1920s, when the agricultural industry was on its way out, the logging industry took over as one of the county's largest industries producing paper and pulp products (Froyalde, 2001). Another important industry to the residents of Clark County was aluminum smelting and ship building. In 1940, the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) began an aluminum smelting operation near Vancouver. Alcoa's arrival marked the beginning of a 50-year presence in the county (Froyalde, 2001). Kaiser Shipbuilding was also a prominent industry that boosted employment during World War II. By 1943, 38,000 employees were working in the Vancouver facility (Froyalde, 2001).

### Current Industry

The manufacturing industry in Clark County continued to grow through the mid-1990s, due to diversification into more advanced technologies. More traditional industries such as pulp and paper continue to be major employers. Additionally, residential and commercial construction, retail trade, and service jobs, have been strong for several years (Froyalde, 2001).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Vancouver (recreational), Camas (recreational), Washougal (recreational)

The current fishing industry at the Port of Camas and Washougal is 99 percent recreational, and one percent commercial. The primary species landed by the recreational division include sturgeon, salmon, pikeminnow and walleye. The port is made up of 350 berths ranging in size from 20 to 40 ft. The largest vessel that can be accommodated in the port is 60 feet (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Cowlitz**

### Location

Cowlitz County is located in southwest Washington. It is bordered on the north by Lewis County, on the east by Skamania County, on the south by Clark County, and on the west by Wahkiakum County. The county ranks 28th in size among Washington counties. The county's major rivers include: the Cowlitz, Toutle, Coweeman, Kalama, and Lewis, with the chief of these rivers being the Lewis River (Barrier, 1998).

### History

The lumber industry has been the foundation of Cowlitz County's local economy since the 1880's. It is estimated that at the turn of the century, approximately 1,000 workers were employed in the logging industry. At that time, the largest companies were Hammond Lumber, Inman Paulsen, Western, and Wisconsin. The wood processing industry increased in prominence during the latter half of the 1920s when the Long-Bell and Weyerhaeuser Companies' processing facilities were established. Logging continued to be an important industry well into the 1970's and 1980's. Additional industries of importance included: fishing, food processing, agriculture, dairying, and aluminum reduction (Barrier, 1998).

### Current Industry

Today Kalama's chemical plant, steel mill, and sawmill provide the bulk of the jobs in Cowlitz County. In 1997, however, the construction sector contained 2,880 workers, while the manufacturing sector employed more than two-thirds of its workers in lumber and wood products. Additionally, the manufacturing sector encompasses industries such as trucking, warehousing, communications (Barrier, 1998).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Kalama (recreational)

During the late 1800s, growth in the booming salmon fishing industry spurred growth in local salmon canning operations. These operations catered to the heavy demand of salmon on the East Coast and Western Europe. The first cannery located near Longview, was established in 1866. In addition to being the first cannery in the Northwest, it was the world's second largest. Today, the fishing industry is primarily focused on recreational fishing. Typical landings include salmon, steelhead and sturgeon. Currently, Kalama's economy is based on the local chemical plant, steel mill, and sawmill, making fishing of minor importance to the local economy. Kalama's port is currently made up of 222 berths, which accommodate boats from 24 to 50 feet (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Grays Harbor**

### Location

Grays Harbor County is located along the Pacific coast of Western Washington. It is bounded by Jefferson County in the north, Mason and Thurston Counties in the east, and Pacific County in the south. The county ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in size with an area of 1,918 square miles. Grays Harbor Bay dominates the coastal characteristics of the county (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Two American Indian Reservations are situated within Grays Harbor County. The Quinault Reservation is located in the northwest corner of the county, with a population of 1,370. The Chehalis Indian Reservation with a population of 661 is located in the southeast corner of the county (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Three primary industries, commercial fishing, agriculture and logging, provided Grays Harbor County with a strong economic base. The area's first sawmill was established in 1853 in the southeastern part of the county. During the next 30 to 40 years, additional sawmills were built in Aberdeen, Cosmopolis, Hoquiam, Ilwaco, Willapa, Raymond, and South Bend. The lumber industry eventually became the "backbone" of the regional economy by the late 1880's, while fishing became secondary (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Current Industry

Even though Grays Harbor County is dependent on timber, fish, shellfish, and boat building, lumber and wood processing dominate the manufacturing industry. However, with a recent downturn in the timber industry, the county is seeing an increase in retiree residents and tourism (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Westport (commercial/recreational), La Push (commercial/recreational), Copalis Beach (commercial), Grays Harbor (commercial)

Fishing has a long history in Grays Harbor County. By the turn of the century, the fishing industry employed about 300 gill net fishermen and managed an annual payroll of \$75,000. A processing and canning plant was established in Chinook in 1864 to attend to the growing East Coast demand for salmon. Later in the 1890s, the plant began processing and canning razor clams in addition to salmon. Like the salmon industry, cultivated oysters became an important resource. The fishing industry during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries continued to grow, and began harvesting crab from the deeper waters of the Columbia River, Willapa Bay, and Grays Harbor (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998). Today, however, the fishing industry is more focused on recreational fishing. Recreational fishermen typically land salmon, bottomfish, tuna, and crab. There are currently five large processors in Westport, and the marina is comprised of 550 berths that range in size from five to 150 feet in length. Fishermen are encouraged by the marina to sell their catch off their boat, where dock space has been specifically set-aside for that purpose (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Island**

### Location

Island County is the second smallest county in Washington, with a total landmass of 212 square miles. It is only one of two Washington counties completely surrounded by water. Ben Ure, Camano, Smith, Strawberry, and Whidbey are the five islands that make up the county. Whidbey and Camano Islands are the largest out of the five, with a combined area of 206 square miles. The county shares its eastern border with Skagit and Snohomish counties and its western border with the Strait of Rosario, Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Admiralty Inlet (Barrier and Froyalde, 2000).

### History

Island County's economic base was originally established from the logging industry, agriculture, and the military. By the 1880s Puget Sound Pulp and Timber Company (later named Pope and Talbot) purchased much of the uncut timberland from homesteaders on south Whidbey Island. Over time the counties' once prominent logging eventually gave way to agriculture and construction (Barrier and Froyalde, 2000).

### Current Industry

Today agriculture, forestry and fishing are relatively small industries in comparison to dairy farming and veterinarian services. Agriculture, forestry and fishing contribute about two percent of the counties' workers, compared with dairy farming which makes up the largest industries in the county. An additional contributor to the economy is the military base located on Whidby Island and tourism (Barrier and Froyalde, 2000).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Deception Pass (recreational)

The Deception Pass Marina is comprised of 85 slips ranging in size from 20 to 40 feet long. The marina primarily caters to recreational fishing, which has been an important sport for the last ten years. Typical landings include: salmon, crab, shrimp, smelt, halibut, and lingcod. The recreational industry is important to the local economy, while there is little or no commercial fishing. Local businesses such as bait and tackle shops, and grocery stores depend on the recreational fishing industry for economic support (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Jefferson**

### **Location**

Jefferson County is situated in the upper half of the Olympic Peninsula in northwest Washington. It has a total landmass of 1,808 square miles and shares its borders with three counties. The county's northern boundary is Clallam County, while its southern borders are shared by Grays Harbor and Mason counties. The Olympic National Forest comprises approximately three-quarters of the county's landmass, with the Olympic Mountains running through the middle of the county (Dillingham, and Froyalde, 2000).

### **Reservations and Trust Lands**

Two American Indian reservations are located in Jefferson County. The Hoh Reservation situated on the western shore has an estimated population of 100. Most of the Quinalt Reservation is located in Grays Harbor County, however, it overlaps Jefferson County slightly. Its population was estimated at 1,370 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### **History**

Jefferson County's economic base was established from the logging and agricultural industries. The paper and pulp industry arrived with the National Paper Products Company, a subsidiary of the San Francisco-based Zellerbach Corporation. In addition to the agriculture and logging industries, the military also had a substantial role in the development of the local economy. Fort Warden located at Point Wilson, and Fort Flagler at Point Marrowstone, were manned during the first and second World Wars and the Korean War (Dillingham, and Froyalde, 2000).

### **Current Industry**

Today, Jefferson County relies on several different industries for economic stability. Local government, food services, paper products, recreation, health and legal services provide most of the jobs (Dillingham, and Froyalde, 2000). Tourism is also an important factor economically throughout the county. Specifically, Port Townsend is recognized as the only west coast Victorian Seaport attracting over one million tourists to the seaport annually (<http://www.nwmaritime.org/history.htm>).

### **Fishing Industry**

Ports: Port Townsend (commercial)

Commercial fishing, historically, was an important contributor to Jefferson County's economic base. Specifically, the town of Brinnon was originally founded on commercial fishing and logging. Commercial fishermen used to fish for salmon using purse seines. However, today tribal, non-tribal and recreational fishermen target crab, clams and oysters. There are currently six major marinas located throughout the county. These marinas include: Point Hadlock, Pleasant Harbor, Point Hudson, Port Ludlow, Quilacene, and Port Townsend (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **King**

### Location

King County is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest county in Washington State, with a total landmass of 2,128 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Snohomish County, on the east by Chelan and Kittitas Counties, on the south by Pierce County, and on the west by Kitsap County. A large portion of eastern King County is located in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (Payne, 2001).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

The Muckleshoot reservation is located on the southwestern border of the county. It had an estimated population of 3,605 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

King County's economic base was established from the lumber industry as early as 1852. The close proximity to both timber and deep water harbors made it possible to ship products from ports on Puget Sound to markets in San Francisco and elsewhere on the West Coast. Agriculture, coal mining, and the railroad also contributed to the county's growing economy (Payne, 2001). During the early 1900s manufacturing came to the forefront, creating more jobs in the production of naval ships and airplanes. In 1911, the Port of Seattle was established, later making it the fourth largest container port in the nation (Payne, 2001).

### Current Industry

King County has developed from an economy based primarily in forest products and manufacturing, into a diversified export base focused on the high tech industry and trade services (Payne, 2001). Additionally, King County has more commercial fishermen than in all other Washington counties combined. The Port of Seattle is also one of the largest container ports in the world, served by 26 regularly scheduled steamship lines.

### Fishing Industry

#### Port: Seattle (commercial)

Fishing has been an important part of King County's economy for 120 years. One factor contributing to Seattle's important fishing industry is its strong tie to the Alaska fishery. Historically, salmon and halibut were landed with gillnets and long line gear. Today, salmon are caught with more diversified gear such as troll and purse seines. During the 1960s, Dungeness crab became part of the fishery, while groundfish took off with the availability of hydraulic power. Seattle's fishing fleet located at Fisherman's Terminal is primarily commercial, with few recreational boats. The commercial fishing communities located in Queen Anne, Magnolia, and Ballard, contributes to tying these three neighborhoods together. The Salmon Bay Marina has a total of 400 berths and can accommodate a vessel as small as 30 feet and as large as 307 feet (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Kitsap**

### Location

Kitsap County is located along the western shore of the central Puget Sound region. Because of the county's proximity to water, it is connected to Mason County by a land bridge located in the southwest corner. North of the county is Island County, while east are the ports of King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. Kitsap County also shares its southern border with Pierce County (Payne and Froyalde, 2001).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Two American Indian reservations are located in the northwest corner of the county. The more northern of the two is the Port Gamble Reservation. The population of this reservation was estimated to be 698. The second reservation with a population of 6,537 is the Port Madison Reservation (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Kitsap County, originally named Slaughter County, was established in 1857 with the county's first logging mill. The logging industry gave way to a prominent ship building industry and presence of the military. Fewer sectors had as great an impact on the economy and employment as the U.S. Navy (Payne and Froyalde, 2001). One exception, however, was the fishing industry in the cities of Poulsbo and Bremerton. Poulsbo housed one of the largest codfish processing plants in the Northwest (<http://www.poulsbo.net/heritage/>).

### Current Industry

Today, the military continues to provide a great number of jobs to almost 13,000 civilians. Much of the non-military industry sectors are indirectly related to military activity. Revenues from fishing, hunting, and trapping are almost double the state average. Additionally, the Port of Bremerton contributes to the economic base by attracting tourists, which supply approximately \$1.5 million dollars to the local economy (Payne and Froyalde, 2001).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Port Orchard (recreational), Bremerton (recreational), Poulsbo (recreational)  
Recreational boaters and fishermen currently dominate the fishing communities in Poulsbo and Bremerton, which were originally commercial fishing communities. Recreational fishing draws tourists to both cities, contributing to the communities' overall economic base. Liberty Bay Harbor, located in Poulsbo, has 300 berths that range in size from 35 to 40 feet dedicated to recreational boaters. The Port of Brownsville, situated in Bremerton, has 320 berths ranging in size from 20 to 50 feet. Bremerton has been involved in fishing since 1922, where it was centered on salmon fishing. Salmon fishing remains an important resource to the community (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Lewis**

### **Location**

Lewis County is located in the southwestern portion of Washington State. It shares boundaries with Grays Harbor, Thurston, Pierce, Yakama, Cowlitz, Skamania, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties. The county is the largest in the state with a land area of 2,452 square miles. Portions of the county contain the Snoqualmie and Gifford Pinchot National Forests, as well as Mt. Rainier National Park (Payne, 2001).

### **Reservations and Trust Lands**

Two American Indian reservations contain small portions of land that overlap Lewis County. The first is the Chehalis Reservation located in the northwestern corner of the county. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated its population at 661. The second reservation, the Yakama, is located in the southeastern corner of the county with a population of 31,731.

### **History**

Lewis County's economic base was established from several natural resource-based industries including fishing, agriculture, logging, and mining. (<http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea/labrmrkt/eco/lewieco.html> and <http://access.wa.gov>).

### **Current Industry**

Presently, Lewis County continues to be supported by the forestry, agriculture and mining industries. While much of the county is dominated by agriculture and forestry, the timber industry is declining. This decline has created an impetus to make the transition from a resource-based economy to one with an emphasis on manufacturing, wholesale distribution and commerce. One factor that is making this transition easier is that the manufacturing industry holds a large share of the county's private employment, with the second largest divisions being food processing (frozen fruits and vegetables), and transportation equipment (Payne, 2001).

### **Fishing Industry**

Ports: Centralia (recreational), Chehalis (recreational)

The fishing industry throughout Lewis County is recreational in nature. Most anglers that fish in Centralia and Chehalis do so in Riff and Mayfield Lakes (Personal Interview, 2002). However, the main headquarters of a fish producer is located in Winlock. The company not only produces fish, but it also processes, wholesales, distributes and exports salmon to both a local and international sales territory (Urner Barry, 2002-2003).

## **Mason**

### Location

Mason County is located in western Washington, with a total area of 961 square miles. It shares its borders with Jefferson County in the north, Grays Harbor County in the west, Thurston County in the south and Kitsap and Pierce counties in the east. The county's topography is diverse containing the Olympic National Forest, nearly 100 lakes, two islands, and the Skokomish River (Cichello, 1997).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Mason County contains two American Indian reservations, which are home to the Skokomish and Squaxin Island tribes. The Skokomish reservation, with a population of 704, is located on the southern end of Hood Canal's Annas Bay at the mouth of the Skokomish River. The Squaxin reservation is located near Kamilche with a population of 445 (Cichello, 1997 and U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Mason County was established in 1854, as the local commercial center for timber interests (Cichello, 1997). As the forest industry began to develop, so did the logging camps and sawmills. By the end of the 1850s several mills were operating throughout the County. Farming, fishing and the oyster industries were also beginning in other areas of the county during the late 1800s. The Skookum and Olympia oyster companies eventually moved into the county producing more than 25,000 sacks of oysters each year by 1902 (Cichello, 1997).

### Current Industry

Currently, agricultural services such as crop and livestock production, the manufacturing of forest products, trade, and government are the largest sectors of employment in the county (Cichello, 1997).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Shelton (commercial/recreational), Harstine Island (recreational)

Presently the only commercial fishing existing in Mason County is the tribal fishery. The Squaxin tribe fish for salmon, and operate a salmon pen between Harstine and Squaxin Islands. The tribe is also involved in the large geoduck and sea cucumber industry. The rest of the fishing community is dedicated to recreational salmon fishing. The oyster industry, however, has a long-standing history, and continues to be supported by the Harstine Oyster and Graser Oyster Companies (<http://www.ci.shelton.wa.us/history.htm#Oyster>, and Personal Interview, 2002). One company in particular, Taylor Shellfish Farms, owns shellfish beds throughout several locations in Puget Sound, and has been processing shellfish for over 100 years. It is known today as the largest Manila clam producer in the United States (<http://www.taylorshellfish.com/aboutus.html>).

## **Pacific**

### Location

Pacific County is located in the southwestern corner of Washington state with a landmass of 908 square miles. The Pacific Ocean and Willapa Bay dominates the coastal characteristics of the county, and contains over 90 percent of classified forestland (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

One American Indian reservation, the Shoalwater Bay reservation, is located in the northwestern portion of the county with an estimated population of 63 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

The fishing industry drew many residents to Pacific County in the 1800s. By 1870 several firms were engaged in processing and canning razor clams as well as cultivating oysters. The fishing industry continued to grow through the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and by 1930, approximately 800 people were employed in the canning industry. Crab was also an important resource to the fishing community, causing fishermen to harvest it from deeper waters at the mouth of the Columbia River, Willapa Bay, and Grays Harbor. Aside from the fishing industry, additional industries such as agriculture and logging contributed to the county's economic base. Sawmills built in South Bend, Raymond, and Ilwaco eventually replaced the fishing industry as the backbone of the regional economy (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Current Industry

Today, employment in Pacific County is concentrated in agriculture, manufacturing, government, tourism and fishing. The manufacturing sector consists almost entirely of logging, sawmills, and food processing, which account for about 92 percent of all manufacturing in the county. The fishing industry employs over 70 percent of the county's population, with the average wage in 1996 being \$18,449, almost \$4,000 more than the statewide average (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998). Employment throughout the county is also centered around the Public School System and tourism. Tourism is by far the number one industry countywide. This industry began to flourish in the 1980's and continues to be a contributing factor to the local economy (Personal Interview, 2002).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Ilwaco (commercial/recreational), Chinook (commercial/recreational), Willapa Bay (commercial/recreational)

Fishing has been an important resource to Pacific County residents since the 1800s. Today, the commercial fleet in Chinook comprises 25 % of the fishing population (in terms of numbers of vessels/boats), while recreational fishing make up the remainder. The Chinook marina, located south of Ilwaco, has 380 berths that accommodate both commercial and recreational fishing boats. The port of Ilwaco contains 800 slips, two fuel docks and a boat hoist, charter boats and canneries. Residents there also depend upon the local fishing industry in terms of tourism, commercial and recreational fishing and fish processing (Personal Interview, 2002 and <http://www.pacifedc.org>).

## **Pierce**

### Location

A total of 1,675 square miles situated in southwest Washington make up Pierce County. The county shares a border with King County in the north, Yakima County in the east, Lewis County in the south, and Thurston and Mason Counties in the west. Virtually all of Mt. Rainier, and parts of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, are located in the eastern portion of the county. Two prominent salt-water features include a deep-water harbor at Commencement Bay and a strait that separates the county between its main body of water and parts of the Kitsap Peninsula (Payne, and Froyalde, 2001).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Three American Indian reservations are located on the borders of Pierce County. These reservations include: the Nisqually Reservation located on the western border of the county, with an estimated population of 591, the Puyallup Reservation situated along the northern border with a population of 41,402, and the Muckleshoot Reservation located on the borders of Pierce and King Counties, with a population of 3,605 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Pierce County's economic base was largely founded on agriculture, logging, fishing, salting, packing, aluminum smelting and the military. One of the most notable events in the lumber industry was the establishment of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company in 1900. The American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO) became the largest aluminum producer in the 1960s. Today, ASARCO is closed but, aluminum continues to arrive by tanker for delivery to local smelters. The military has also had a large impact on the county. Fort Lewis began in 1917 when county citizens deeded 70,000 acres of land to the U.S. Government (Payne, and Froyalde, 2001).

### Current Industry

Pierce County's economy is primarily made up of agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, international shipping, personal and business services, national defense, forest products, and governmental services (<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/profile.htm#history>).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Tacoma (commercial), University Place (recreational)

The county's fishing industry has changed over time from a commercial fleet to a recreational fleet. The few commercial vessels that remain today fish in Alaska rather than in county waters. However, recreational fishing draws visitors to the county, contributing to local tourism dollars. Typical landings consist of Chinook, Coho, cod, and rockfish. Several marinas are located throughout the county including the Narrows marina with 400 slips, Point Defiance with 315, and Day Island marina with 250. There are a total of 20 marinas just within the city of Tacoma (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **San Juan**

### Location

San Juan County has a total landmass of 179 square miles, and is one of two Washington counties surrounded by water. The county is made up of a cluster of 200 Islands, of which only 172 are named. The four largest islands are: San Juan, Orcas, Lopez, and Shaw Islands. Whatcom and Skagit counties share the county's eastern border, and Vancouver Island share its western borders. The Strait of Rosario and the Strait of Juan de Fuca separate San Juan County from its southern border, Island County (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

One American Indian Reservation is located in San Juan County. The Samish reservation has an estimated population of 33,083 and covers about 90 percent of the county's land area (U.S.Census 2000).

### History

Historically, San Juan County's economic base was built on agriculture, mining, and fishing. Primarily known for its fishing industry, small sailing vessels have been reported fishing the waters south of the San Juan Islands as early as 1850. Ships would sail their catch to Griffin Harbor (or Griffin Bay) while their crews salted and packed their catch. As the local fishing industry grew, so did the fishing technology. The technology evolved in Griffin Bay from early hand-seines and reef-nets to power seiners, fish traps and fish wheels. Friday Harbor established the first fish saltery in the county, which was later replaced by the county's first cannery. Later however, technological advances in the canning industry caused the operations to be moved to the mainland. Due to this shift, the economy was negatively impacted until tourism and recreational services worked their way into the county (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999).

### Current Industry

The growth of San Juan County cannot be attributed to any one specific industry. A small percentage of workers derive their living from agriculture and fishing, which amounts to 2.5 percent of all covered employment. The county has a handful of fishermen harvesting finfish and shellfish, and a small number of farmers, few of which are involved in livestock (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999). San Juan County is also a draw for tourists; specifically, tourists who own vacation homes in the county (Personal Interview, 2003).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Friday Harbor (commercial/recreational)

Fishing in Friday Harbor has been a way of life "as long as there has been a history" (Personal Interview, 2002). Today Friday Harbor is primarily made up of recreational fishermen and a few commercial vessels. Currently, two remaining purse seine fishermen that moor in Friday Harbor fish in Alaska. The recreational fishing industry is important to the community in that "we fish for tourists". The Friday Harbor marina contains 464 berths that range in size from 16 to 300 feet (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Skagit**

### Location

Skagit County is located in the northwest portion of the state between Snohomish and Whatcom Counties. San Juan and Island counties border it on the east and it is bordered by Chelan County on the west. Comprising a geographic area of 1,735.3 square miles, the county ranks 21st in size among Washington's 39 counties (Froyalde, 2002).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Two American Indian reservations are located in Skagit County. The largest of the three is the Swinomish Reservation, situated in the western portion of the county with a population of 2,664. The second reservation is situated into two parts in the northwestern corner of the county. This reservation is the Upper Skagit Reservation with a population of 234 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Skagit County traditionally relied upon agriculture, food processing, fishing and timber for its economic base. During the 1870s, the commercial salmon and cod fishing industries were concentrated around Anacortes and La Conner. Complimentary industries, such as canning and packing, were quickly established to provide on-shore processing (Personal Interview, 2002). Even though the timber industry fluctuated through time, it remains a significant contributor to the economy. During the mid-1950s, Shell Oil Company built an oil refinery on Fidalgo Island near Anacortes, followed by Texaco in 1958. Both refineries continue to provide a substantial boost to the local economy (Froyalde, 2002).

### Current Industry

Agriculture, fishing, boat building, oil refining, wood products, tourism, international trade, and specialized manufacturing make up the current economy of the Skagit Valley. In 2000, commercial fishing generated a payroll larger than either agriculture or forestry. On average, commercial fishermen earned \$57,801 in annual wages, which was almost \$2,000, more than the fishing industry statewide. Manufacturing, however, makes up 22 percent of the total employment population with most jobs focused on food processing, petroleum and transportation equipment (Froyalde, 2002).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Anacortes (commercial), La Conner (commercial)

People have been fishing in Anacortes since the turn of the century for salmon, cod and halibut. Schooners brought their catch of halibut and cod to the Port of Anacortes to be processed at the dozen or so canneries that existed. Today, one processor remains, processing frozen fish products. The port of Anacortes, Cap Sante Marina, is made up of both commercial and recreational fishermen that occupy the 1,050 berths in the marina. The berths range in size from 25 to 85 feet. The Ports of Anacortes and Skagit are homeports for the county's commercial fleet, which is estimated at 200 vessels. Many of these vessels home ported in Anacortes fish in Alaska (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Skamania**

### Location

Skamania County is located in southwestern Washington along the Columbia River. It has a total landmass of 1,672 square miles, ranking it 24<sup>th</sup> out of Washington's 39 counties. It is bounded by Lewis County in the north, Cowlitz and Clark counties in the west, Yakima and Klickitat counties in the east, and the Columbia River and Oregon State in the south. Approximately 80 percent of the county falls within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Located in the county's northwest corner is Mount St. Helens.

### History

For a time, commercial salmon fishing was a major source of income for Skamania County residents as well as local area tribes to meet and fish. Fish wheels dotted both sides of the Columbia River from Upper Cascade Village, just west of Stevenson, to Beacon Rock. When the fish wheels were outlawed in 1934, the county began to see other industries contributing to the economy. These additional industries included logging, construction and hydroelectric projects. Logging and lumber mills were the mainstay of the economy until the early 1990's. The earliest saw mills date back to the mid-1850s ([http://www.skamania.org/history.html#anchor\\_salmon](http://www.skamania.org/history.html#anchor_salmon)). Later, construction and hydroelectric projects became the main source of income for county residents. Construction of the Lewis and Clark Highway not only created many jobs, but also bridged the gap between Western and Eastern Washington. During the 1930s to 1980s, construction of Bonneville Dam also influenced the county's growth in many ways. After Congress's designation of the Columbia River Gorge as a National Scenic Area, tourism began playing an important role in the county's economy (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Current Industry

Today, Skamania County's economy is based largely on government employment, especially as it relates to the management of national forests, fish and wildlife, logging and lumber; tourism, recreation, and light manufacturing. For example, the government owns approximately 85 percent of the county's land (Personal Interview, 2003). Additionally, the service and tourist industries contribute to the overall economy. The Skamania Lodge, is a popular resort destination (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Stevenson (recreational)

The fishing industry in Skamania County is primarily recreational. One moorage dock exists at Beacon Rock State Park. The park has an "L" shaped dock that can hold 15 to 50 vessels depending on size. The dock is most frequently visited by local recreational fishermen fishing for salmon, sturgeon, small mouth bass and walleye (Personal Interview, 2002). The only commercial fishing existing in the county today is the Indian net fishing in the Bonneville Pool ([http://www.skamania.org/history.html#anchor\\_salmon](http://www.skamania.org/history.html#anchor_salmon)).

## **Snohomish**

### Location

Snohomish County is located in northwestern Washington. It shares a border with Skagit County in the north, Chelan County in the east, King County in the south, and the waters of Puget Sound in the west (Payne, 2001).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Two American Indian reservations are located north of the city of Everett. The first reservation is home to the Tulalip tribe, who had a population of 9,246. The second reservation is the Stillaguamish with a population of 101 (Payne, 2001).

### History

Like most other counties in western Washington, Snohomish was largely built from the timber and agricultural industries. Much of the logging activity was concentrated in the southwestern portion of the county, where the Snoqualmie, Snohomish, and Pilchuck rivers are located. During the early 1900s, Everett was referred to as the “Lumber Capital of the World,” due to the Weyerhaeuser mill that employed from 1,500 to 2,000 workers. Aside from the Weyerhaeuser mill, the city of Snohomish alone had approximately 100 shingle mills, 35 sawmills, and several sash, door, and broom handle factories, employing more than 700 workers (Payne, 2001). Located in the northern portion of the county, agriculture formed a major base for the economy. Dairies were established in 1895 in Snohomish and Monroe, producing milk, cream, butter and cheese for distribution across the Puget Sound. In 1917, local farmers formed the Snohomish County Dairymen’s Association, an organization that would eventually become the Darigold Company. Darigold expanded and prospered over the years, however, consolidated its plants in the 1960s causing the Snohomish facility to close (Payne, 2001). Perhaps most important to the economy, was the development of the Paine Field airport near Everett. Throughout the 1960s, Snohomish County’s farmlands were slowly converted from farmlands to residential and commercial use. “The 1960s also witnessed the end of much of the county’s logging and lumber activity” (Payne, 2001). During the 1970s and 1980s, high-tech manufacturing moved into south Snohomish County (Payne, 2001).

### Current Industry

The manufacturing division is one of the most significant industries impacting Snohomish County’s economy. Approximately 28 percent of total employment is attributed to the manufacturing industry. Boeing is a large employer in Everett, which accounts for about 54 percent of employment (Payne, 2001).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Everett (commercial/recreational)

Within the port of Everett, salmon, bottomfish and crab fishing date to the early 1900s. Salmon were landed using purse seines and gillnets, and bottomfish were landed with draggers and long liners. Today, salmon is still an important resource. The Port of Everett is primarily made up of recreational boaters and a small percentage of commercial vessels. Economically, the commercial fishing industry is not as important as it was in the past. The Port has a total of 2,050 berths that range in size from 20 to 65 feet (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Thurston**

### Location

Thurston County is located in western Washington at the southernmost end of Puget Sound. It has a landmass of 727 square miles, and ranks 32<sup>nd</sup> in size among Washington's 39 counties. Bordering the county in the south and west are Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, and in the east is Pierce County. Several major rivers are located within the county including the Nisqually, Deschutes, Black, and Skookumchuck Rivers (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

One American Indian reservation shares its county borders with Thurston County. This reservation is home to the Nisqually tribe with a population of 591 (U.S. Census 2000).

### History

Thurston County's establishment dates back to the 1840's where the fishing and lumber industries contributed to the county's economic foundation. These two industries, especially, logging, created most of the early jobs for county residents. The lumber industry also became increasingly more important after Weyerhaeuser moved their plant to the county. It was not until the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century that additional industries such as coal mining, stone quarrying and beer manufacturing began contributing to the economic base (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999).

### Current Industry

Today the agriculture, forestry, mining and fishing sectors are relatively small, claiming approximately 4.5 percent of overall employment. The county experienced a shift from a natural resource based industry to manufacturing, government, services, and trade industries. Though it remains important to the economy, the manufacturing sector is experiencing a decline in its contribution to the local economy (Barrier and Froyalde, 1999).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Olympia (commercial/recreational)

The county's present fishing industry is mostly made up of recreational fishermen. The Fiddlehead Marina in Olympia contains 78 slips that accommodate 20 to 40 foot recreational boats. Like all other Puget Sound Marinas, the fish that are primarily sought after are salmon (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Wahkiakum**

### Location

Wahkiakum County is located in southwest Washington State on the Columbia River. Located south of Pacific and Lewis counties, it shares its eastern border with Cowlitz County. Major tributaries located in Wahkiakum County include Grays and Elochoman Rivers, which both flow directly into the Columbia River (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### History

The first commercial logging and lumber processing in the Wahkiakum region was developed in the late 1840s to provide wood for homes and other buildings. The two largest logging companies were Olsen Brothers Logging Company and Deep River Logging Company. Other industries have also played significant historic roles in the economic development of Wahkiakum County. These industries include: fishing, food processing, agriculture, dairying, and aluminum reduction. The region's location on the Columbia River also provided a strong incentive to establish a salmon fishing industry (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998). Though most county residents turned to the logging industry for employment, a good number of them remained fishermen. Increases in the booming fishing industry spurred growth in salmon canning operations. These firms catered to both the East Coast and Western European demand for packed salmon (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Current Industry

In Wahkiakum County, less than two-thirds of the working residents are employed locally, while the rest commute to jobs outside the county. Three industries employ the bulk of Wahkiakum County residents: government, manufacturing and services. The manufacturing industry is the second largest sector behind government, while the service industry accounts for 27 percent of employment (Barrier and Froyalde, 1998).

### Fishing Industry

Port: Cathlamet (recreational)

The city of Cathlamet has had a lucrative fishing industry since 1846. The city, however, has watched their community evolve from a commercial fishing industry into a more recreational one. For example, historically, the first cannery in the area, called the Hume Cannery, was located on the Columbia River approximately 12 miles east of Cathlamet at Eagle Creek, Washington. Today, however, the nearest processors/suppliers are situated in Longview and Astoria. With most of the fishermen leaving the commercial industry behind, recreational fishermen represent almost 100% of the fishing activity today (Personal Interview, 2002).

## **Whatcom**

### Location

Whatcom County is located in the far northwest corner of the state with a total landmass of 2,120 square miles. It is bounded by land in the north, south and east, and water in the west. To the south and east of Whatcom County are Skagit and Okanogan Counties, to the north is Canada and to the west are the straits of Georgia and Rosario. Portions of Mt. Baker National Forest and North Cascades National Park are situated in the eastern two-thirds of the county. The principal river is the Nooksack, which flows westerly before emptying into Bellingham Bay (Payne, 2001).

### Reservations and Trust Lands

Two American Indian reservations are located in Whatcom County. These reservations are the Nooksack Reservation with a population of 562 and the Lummi Reservation with a population of 4,193 (U.S. Census, 2000).

### History

Whatcom County's economic base is attributed to the timber, agriculture, fishing, and construction industries. The timber industry was a strong economic mainstay starting in the 1850s, and growing to over 70 sawmills, over 100 shingle mills, and a number of logging camps. By 1907, the Bellingham Bay Lumber Company was one of the world's largest sawmills. Agriculture also grew alongside the timber industry, producing one-third of all dairy products consumed in the Puget Sound area. Additionally, fish processing was a major industry following the growth of the first cannery built on Lummi Island in 1886. By the turn of the century, 12 canneries were operating throughout the county and employing more than 5,500 people. Hydroelectric power also played a role in Whatcom County during the 1900s, building three dams on the Skagit River (Payne, 2001).

### Current Industry

Currently, Whatcom County's economy is somewhat removed from its traditional industries. Although still important industries, agriculture, fishing, and forest products represent a substantially smaller division of the local economy than before. Today, government and education have replaced traditional industries. Over the years, the manufacturing sector has diversified due to the addition of the paper, chemicals, oil refining, aluminum, and food processing industries. The most recent employment gains, however, have come in the retail trade and service divisions (Payne, 2001).

### Fishing Industry

Ports: Bellingham (commercial), Blaine (commercial)

Salmon, halibut and crab have been important resources to Whatcom County fishermen since the turn of the century. Today, salmon fishing have diversified into other fisheries, largely due to the declining local salmon industry. To compensate for this decline, some remaining commercial fishermen currently fish in Alaska and use Bellingham and Blaine as their winter homeports. "Bellingham is the home of a major cold storage facility which processes a majority of the local and a portion of the Alaskan landings" (Personal Interview, 2002). Blaine Harbor contains 629 slips, with 113 dedicated to the commercial fleet, while Squaticum Harbor has 1,417 berths, with 170 dedicated to the

commercial fleet. Both harbors can accommodate vessels up to 100 feet (Personal Interview, 2001).