



Permanent Protections from Offshore Drilling Benefit Georgia's Economy & Help Fight Climate Change

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GEORGIA HAS
2,344 MILES
OF COASTLINE

WITH A CLEAN COAST ECONOMY
THAT SUPPORTS AROUND

27,000
AMERICAN JOBS

AND

\$1.6 BILLION
in gross domestic product

THROUGH ACTIVITIES LIKE



TOURISM



RECREATION



FISHING

which are threatened by offshore drilling

Off Georgia's coast, the economically
recoverable oil and gas resources
would only **meet demand** for roughly

ONE DAY

Georgians Need a Clean Coast

Georgia's beautiful shoreline is made up of a variety of national treasures, from strings of pristine barrier islands that buffer the rolling dunes and sandy lengths of shore to the intertwined marshlands, intertidal flats, tidal creeks, and maritime forests that extend further inland. The tides are the lifeblood of the region, connecting the Atlantic with a productive marsh system that provides nursery habitat for all manner of marine life, from shorebirds and crabs to economically important fish like croaker, drums, sea bass, and flounder.

This unique mix of environments draws tourists all year-round whales pass the coast, whether it's to explore the dynamic marshlands, watch dolphins play in the surf and whales pass the coast on their migration route, visit the coast's many historic sites, or relax in a charming seaside town. Georgia's fishing industry also contributes to the local economy, with commercial fishermen landing large catches of blue crab, clams, shrimp, grouper, and snapper.

What's at Risk?

Offshore drilling threatens coastal businesses and economies that depend on a clean and healthy ocean. We can fight the climate crisis and safeguard our coastal economy by advancing clean energy and permanently protecting our coasts from offshore drilling.

A Bad Deal for Georgia

A catastrophic oil spill, like the 1969 Santa Barbara blowout or the 2010 BP *Deepwater Horizon* disaster, would pose a great risk to Georgia's coastal economies that depend on a healthy ocean. When toxic oil is spilled, it poisons marine wildlife, causes beach closures, and disrupts lucrative fishing areas. Permanently protecting Georgia's coast from offshore drilling will safeguard its coastal economies from the next oil disaster.

Offshore drilling for oil and gas is dirty and dangerous and threatens Georgia's fishing, tourism, and recreation industries, which depend on a healthy ocean and provide consistent revenue year after year when sustainably managed. Oil and gas are finite resources; when the oil runs out, so do the jobs.

Protecting Georgia's Coast from Offshore Drilling Helps Combat the Climate Crisis

The climate disaster is already wreaking havoc across the United States and here in Georgia. As a result of increasingly intense and extreme weather, dangerous storm surges push farther inland, expanding their deadly and costly impact. Sea levels are rising and destructive flooding is becoming more frequent and severe. Increased flooding and saltwater intrusion stress coastal wildlife and threaten critical infrastructure, including roads and drinking water supplies.

PERMANENTLY PROTECTING

all federal waters from offshore
drilling can prevent **more than**

19 BILLION
TONS of greenhouse
gas emissions



EQUIVALENT TO

taking every car in the nation off the road for



15 YEARS

Protecting our coast from new oil
development can prevent over

\$720 BILLION
IN DAMAGES TO



PEOPLE



PROPERTY



ENVIRONMENT

THIS WOULD BE LIKE

losing the **entire economy** of a
major city, like **Washington, D.C.**,
Boston, or **Atlanta**, for a year

**Our ocean
can be a
major part
of the clean
energy
solution.**

**RESPONSIBLY SITED
OFFSHORE WIND**

has the potential to generate
MORE ELECTRICITY
than our nation currently demands



Learn More:

We must permanently protect Georgia's coast from the threat of offshore drilling.

For sources and methodology, please visit:
oceana.org/jobsanddollars

#ProtectOurCoast

