

Seaview, Washington

People and Place

Location

Seaview is located on the Pacific Coast of Southwest Washington at 46°20'05"N and 124°03'12"W.¹ The community lies at the southern end of Long Beach Peninsula, which separates Willapa Bay from the Pacific Ocean. Routes U.S.-101 and WA-103 (which travels the length of the peninsula) intersect in Seaview. The nearest major metropolitan area is Portland, Oregon, which lies approximately 111 miles to the southeast, and Seattle, Washington, is located 170 miles to the northeast.

Demographic Profile

Seaview was not recognized as a place on the 2000 U.S. Census. However, basic demographic data are available for Seaview at the zipcode level. According to the U.S. Census, the Seaview zipcode (98644) supported a population of 516 in 2000. The community displayed a slightly uneven gender balance, with 47.9% male and 52.1% female residents. The median age for both sexes in Seaview was 46.4, over 11 years older than the national median age of 35.3. The age structure of Seaview in 2000 revealed an older population with only 23% of residents falling under the age 25, compared to 35.3% for the U.S. population overall.

The racial composition of Seaview was relatively homogenous in 2000. According to the U.S. Census, 92.1% of residents identified themselves as White, 1.2% as Asian, 0.2% as American Indian or Alaskan Native alone, and 0.2% as Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A total of 3.3% of the population identified as other and 3.1% as two or more races. About 7.4% of Seaview residents indicated they were of Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity. Of the total population of Seaview, 6.6 % indicated on the census that they were foreign-born. All of these foreign-born residents were from Mexico.

Seaview's population in 2000 lived in 253 households, with 72.4% of residents living in family households. About 75.4% of Seaview residents 18 and over had a high school diploma/equivalency or higher, 5% had obtained a bachelor's degree or higher, and 2.6% had completed a graduate or professional degree. The highest level of educational attainment for 34.9% of residents was a high school degree.

History

Seaview derives its name from its scenic location on Washington's Pacific Coast. The community was formerly founded in 1881 by Jonathan L. Stout, a local entrepreneur who also invested heavily in the development of Ilwaco. Stout purchased 153.5 acres of oceanfront property in 1880 and constructed Seaview as a summer resort for visitors made wealthy by the region's timber and fishing industry. In 1889, regular train service was extended to Stout's resort, and Seaview became one of Long Beach Peninsula's most popular vacation spots. Stout ran a successful beachside hotel and quickly sold all of his Seaview lots for \$100 a piece to entrepreneurs interested in building businesses and vacation cottages. Stout's hotel burned to the ground in 1892 but his resort community continues to thrive.

Seaview residents remain heavily dependent on tourism, and the community serves as a popular summer retreat for visitors from Portland and other local cities.² Cranberry farming has also become an important activity on the Long Beach Peninsula, and numerous Seaview restaurants and tourist services advertise cranberry products and opportunities to tour nearby

cranberry farms. Although Seaview does not operate a port or marina, its beach access attracts may attract recreational visitors interested in clam digging and beach combing.

Infrastructure

Current Economy

Founded as a resort area, the contemporary community of Seaview continues to depend heavily on revenue and jobs generated by tourism. Jobs in accommodation and food services employ a substantial portion of the population. Seaview is also home to Long Beach Peninsula Visitor's Bureau and the Pacific County Housing Authority, which provide jobs in information and social services. The Sportsmen's Cannery, a fresh fish retailer located in Seaview, purchases some of its stock from local fishermen and attracts tourists and other recreational visitors traveling along US-101. The Washington State Business Database also includes listings for several fly and bait shops, hotels and cottage inns, a logging contractor, marine services providers, and a number of small shops in Seaview. Residents may also commute to manufacturing and fish processing jobs in nearby Ilwaco (2 miles) or other neighboring communities with ports and/or industrial facilities.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 40.3% of Seaview residents 16 and older were employed and another 52.1% did not participate in the labor force (were not actively seeking work). Seaview therefore displayed a 5.1% unemployment rate (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force), which compared favorably to the national unemployment rate of 5.7%. Approximately 13.4% of the employed civilian population 16 years and over worked for the state, federal, or local government in 2000. No Seaview area residents indicated on the census that they worked in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, but these data may be somewhat misleading given that many fishermen are self-employed and are not represented in this tabulation. About 25.9% of residents were employed in manufacturing, 18.1% in health care and social assistance, 12.5% in retail trade, 11.1% in accommodation and food services, 11.1% in construction, 9.3% in other services, 5.6% in public administration, 3.2% in information, and 3.2% in transportation and warehousing. No Seaview residents 16 years or older were employed by the military in 2000.

According to the U.S. Census, the per capita income in Seaview was about \$19,266 in 1999, compared to a national per capita income of \$21,587. In the same year the median household income in Seaview was about \$30,968, compared to a national median household income of \$41,994. Approximately 13.6% of residents were living below the poverty level in 1999, a value slightly higher than the national poverty level of about 12.4%.

There were 398 housing units in Seaview in 2000. Approximately 36.4% of these units were vacant at the time of the census, but 82.8% of these vacant units were intended for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. About 66.4% of occupied housing units were owner-occupied, a value nearly identical to the 66.2% ownership rate for occupied housing units in the U.S. overall.

Governance

Under Washington State law, an area cannot be incorporated as a city unless it houses a minimum of 1500 residents. Seaview is therefore classified as an unincorporated area governed by Pacific County. Seaview has neither a City Council nor its own separate municipal tax structure. Seaview residents elect county officials, whose offices are located in the County Seat of South Bend, approximately 31 miles north along US-101. Pacific County, which was organized in 1851, has a 7.8% sales tax and a 9.8% hotel/lodging tax.^{3,4}

Several taxes directly impact commercial and recreational fishermen. Commercial fishermen operating in Washington waters are subject to the Business and Occupation (B&O) tax under the “extraction” classification (0.48%); those fishing outside of Washington waters but selling fish within Washington are subject to the tax under either the “wholesaling” or “retailing” classifications (0.48% and 0.47% respectively), unless the fish are sold in interstate or foreign commerce.⁵ Those who both catch and sell fish in Washington are eligible for a Multiple Activities Tax Credit (MATC).⁶

Washington State levies a Food, Fish, and Shellfish Tax, paid by the first commercial processor of food fish or shellfish, including: Chinook, coho, and chum salmon or eggs (5.62%); sockeye and pink salmon or eggs (3.37%); oysters (0.09%); sea urchins/cucumbers (4.92%); and shellfish and other food fish or eggs (2.25%). Tuna, mackerel, and jackfish are exempt from this tax. Additionally, there is an Enhanced Food Fish Tax, which applies to the “first possession of enhanced food fish by an owner in Washington State” and is based on the “value of the enhanced food fish at the point of landing.”⁷ The rate of the tax depends upon the species of fish or shellfish.

Vessels used for commercial fishing purposes part-time are subject to an annual Washington State Watercraft Excise Tax levied at 0.5% of the fair market value of the boat. Vessels used for commercial fishing purposes full-time are subject to personal property taxes at the base rate levied by the state. Washington also levies a 10% excise tax on fishing equipment, a three percent tax on electric motors and sonar fish finders, and import duties on tackle and pleasure boats to fund sportfish restoration programs.⁸ Washington State levies a tax of \$0.28 per gallon on motor vehicle fuel. Since most of this tax is used to maintain terrestrial roadways, Washington boaters are entitled to a refund of about \$0.17 per gallon. The difference includes state sales tax and a penny per gallon contribution to a Coastal Protection Fund. Most diesel fuel sold at docks has already had this tax removed.⁹

Seaview lies within the jurisdiction of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council and is approximately 111 driving miles from Council meetings in Portland, 170 miles from Seattle, 738 miles from San Francisco, and 1189 miles from San Diego.¹⁰ The nearest U.S. Coast Guard Group and Air Station is located in Warrenton, Oregon (21 miles), and the Coast Guard operates the National Motor Lifeboat School (NMLB) in Ilwaco, Washington (2 miles).¹¹ Seaview is under the jurisdiction of the NMFS Northwest Regional Office located in Seattle and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Southwest Regional Office in Vancouver, Washington (106 miles).

Facilities

Seaview lies at the junction of the Ocean Beach Highway (US-101), which runs the length of the Pacific Coast from Seattle to Los Angeles, and WA-103, which runs the length of Long Beach Peninsula. The major international airport closest to Seaview is located in Portland, Oregon (111 miles). Astoria Regional Airport (18 miles) is the nearest airport certified for carrier operations, and the Port of Ilwaco Airport (2 miles) provides an unattended paved runway that is open to the public. There are several motels, bed and breakfast inns, campgrounds, and RV parks located in Seaview.

Seaview lies within the Ocean Beach School District, but there are no public schools located in the community itself.¹² Students travel by bus to schools in Ilwalco (2 miles), Ocean Park (11 miles), and Long Beach (1 mile). In addition to traditional elementary, middle, and high schools, the District also offers a small alternative high school in Long Beach.

The community's water supply is provided by the nearby City of Long Beach. Sewer services are administered by the local Seaview Sewer District. Electricity is supplied by Public Utility District No. 2 of Pacific County, Washington. Law enforcement services are provided by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Fire safety services are administered by the Long Beach Fire Department in nearby Long Beach, Washington (1 mile). The closest major health care facilities are Ocean Beach Hospital in Ilwaco, Washington (2 miles), Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria, Oregon (18 miles), and Willapa Harbor Hospital in South Bend, Washington (41 miles).

Seaview is located along the Pacific Ocean but does not support a marina, port, or other facilities for launching or storing boats. However, Seaview does offer seasonal beach access with restrooms, restaurants, fuel, and other services aimed at tourists and recreational visitors. The Seaview Beach can be accessed by automobile from Memorial Day to September 15.

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

Because there is no port located in the community, fish caught by Seaview residents are landed and processed elsewhere. No data concerning the weight or value of these landings are available. In 2000, Seaview fisherman involved in the West Coast fisheries owned a total of 16 vessels, including 10 that participated in the Federally Managed Groundfish fishery. According to recorded data the numbers of vessels owned by Seaview residents that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab (6/5/0), groundfish (0/0/NA), highly migratory species (NA/0/NA), salmon (6/3/0), shellfish (NA/0/NA), shrimp (NA/1/0), and other species (1/0/0).¹³

No individuals living in Seaview in 2000 held federal groundfish fishery permits. In 2000, recorded data indicates that the number of Seaview residents holding permits in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (3/0/0), crab (5/4/0), highly migratory species (NA/0/0), salmon (4/3/0), shellfish (0/0/NA), shrimp (0/1/0), and other species (1/0/0).¹⁴

According to available data, 15 state permits were registered to Seaview residents in 2000. Recorded data indicates that the number of permits held by these community members in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (1/0/0), crab (7/4/0), highly migratory species (NA/0/0), salmon (6/3/0), shellfish (0/0/NA), shrimp (0/4/0), and other species (1/0/0).¹⁵

Sportfishing

According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, there is one sport license vendor operating in Seaview. No Seaview residents owned or operated charter boats in 2003 or 2004. The closest Catch Record Card Areas to Seaview are Area 1 (Ilwaco) and 1A (Ilwaco – Buoy 10). The 2000-2001 sport salmon catch in these Areas was 27,889 (1) and 16,335 (1A) respectively. This data includes (1/1A): Chinook (1630/2972) and coho (26,259/13,363). These figures are based on creel survey estimates. In the same year there were approximately 16,243 (1) and 42,061 (1A) marine angler trips in the sport salmon fishery. In the same period there were 106 steelhead caught by sportfishermen in Area 1 (Columbia River – Leadbetter Point). In 2000 the coastal bottomfish catch was 8388 for Area 1 (Ilwaco) and 631 for the Ilwaco Jetty.

Subsistence

Subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering activities are fundamental to the way of life of some coastal community members. Both tribal and nontribal individuals participate in

subsistence fishing, obtaining fishery resources from the waters surrounding Seaview. Subsistence fishing is not discussed in great detail in this Community Profile due to the lack of available data.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000, two vessels owned by Seaview residents participated in the North Pacific fisheries. In the same year community members landed fish in the following North Pacific fisheries (data shown represent landings in metric tons/value of said landings/number of vessels landing): salmon (confidential/confidential/1).

In 2000, seven Seaview residents worked as crewmembers on vessels in the North Pacific. Seaview residents held a total of seven permits for North Pacific fisheries, with two individuals holding federal permits and two individuals holding state permits. These community members held 1 groundfish License Limitation Program (LLP) permit, 3 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) Bering Strait and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish permits, 1 CFEC halibut permit, 1 CFEC salmon permit, and 1 CFEC shellfish permit. Under the individual quota system for the Alaskan halibut and sablefish fisheries, Seaview fishermen were allotted 1283 halibut quota shares and no sablefish shares in 2000.

Sportfishing

According to state records, Seaview residents purchased a total of two sportfishing licenses for North Pacific fisheries in 2000.

¹ Unites States Geological Survey. 2004. Geographic Names Information System, [Online]. Available: URL: [Hhttp://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis_web_query_formH](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis_web_query_formH) (access date - June 2004).

² Weathers, Larry J. 1989. Place Names of Pacific County. The Sou'wester of the Pacific County Historical Society and Museum, XXIV(1-4): 19-68.

³ Washington State Department of Revenue. 2004. Local Sales & Use Tax Rates and Changes, [Online]. Available: URL: [Hhttp://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/Excstx/LocSalUseTx/LocalSlUseFlyer_Quarterly.pdfH](http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/Excstx/LocSalUseTx/LocalSlUseFlyer_Quarterly.pdfH) (access date - July 2004).

⁴ Washington State Department of Revenue. 2003. Lodging Tax Rates by Location, [Online]. Available: URL: [Hhttp://dor.wa.gov/docs/forms/excstx/locsalusetx/lodgingrates_03_a.pdfH](http://dor.wa.gov/docs/forms/excstx/locsalusetx/lodgingrates_03_a.pdfH) (access date - July 2004).

⁵ Washington State Department of Revenue. 2004. Commercial fishing, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://dor.wa.gov/content/taxes/Industry/Fish/default.aspx> (access date - July 2004).

⁶ Washington State Department of Revenue. 2002. Information on Washington's Tax Structure: Fish Taxes, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://dor.wa.gov/content/taxes/industry/fish/default.aspx> (access date - July 2004).

⁷ Washington State Department of Revenue. 2001. Commercial Fishing, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://dor.wa.gov/content/taxes/Industry/Fish/default.aspx#enhanced> (access date - July 2004).

⁸ National Conference of State Legislatures. 2004. Environment, Energy, and Transportation Program: Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/esnr/FISHHUNTWILD.htm> (access date - July 2004).

⁹ Washington State Department of Licensing. 2003. Fuel Tax Frequently Asked Questions, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.dol.wa.gov/vs/ft-faq.htm> (access date - July 2004).

¹⁰ Mapquest. 2004. Driving Directions, [Online]. Available: URL: [Hhttp://www.mapquest.comH](http://www.mapquest.comH) (access date - July 2004).

¹¹ United States Coast Guard. 2004. Pacific Northwest Unit List, [Online]. Available: URL:
Hhttp://www.uscg.mil/d13/ipa/pacific_northwest_unit_alpha.htmH (access date - July 2004).

¹² Ocean Beach School District. 2003. Location of OSBD Schools, [Online]. Available: URL:
Hhttp://www.ocean.k12.wa.us/location.htmH (access date - June 2004).

¹³ 'NA' refers to data which was not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.

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