

Roseburg, Oregon

People and Place

Location

Roseburg covers 9.22 square miles of land and 0.2 square miles of water; and is located in Douglas County on the Umpqua River along Interstate 5, approximately 179 miles south of Portland, and 134 miles south of the state capital, Salem. The geographic coordinates of Roseburg, Oregon are: 43°13'00"N, 123°20'26"W.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Roseburg was 20,017, a 17.5% increase from the 1990 U.S. Census. In the same year the gender structure was evenly divided with slightly more females (51.6%) than males (48.4%). The median age of Roseburg's population in 2000 was 39.2, slightly higher than the national median of 35.3 for the same year. According to the same data, 23.2% of the population was under the age of 18, 40.5% of the population was between the ages of 25 and 54, and 15.0% was age 70 or older. For the population 18 years and over, 80.1% had a high school education or higher, 15.4% had attained a bachelor's degree or higher, and 5.6% earned a graduate or professional degree. The highest level of educational attainment was a high school diploma/equivalency for 31.2% of the population. In 2000 a total of 76.0% of the population lived in family households.

The 2000 U.S. Census shows that the racial composition was predominantly White, (93.6%), followed by American Indian and Alaskan Native (1.3%), and Asian (1.0%). Black or African American and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander each constituted less than one percent (0.3% and 0.1% respectively). Overall, 1.3% classified themselves as belonging to some other race and 3.9% of the population identified themselves with two or more races. A total of 3.7% identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino. A small percentage of the population (1.9%) was foreign-born, including 16.8% from Canada and 12.8% from Mexico.

History

The Umpqua Indians have inhabited the area around Roseburg since before European contact. The early history of contact between Indians and Europeans, and the story of colonization and settlement, illustrate the complicated relations between Indians and non-Indians in the area. Trappers and explorers working for The Hudson Bay Company operated in Umpqua territory beginning in the early 1800s. In 1852, gold was discovered at Jackson Creek in Cow Creek Umpqua territory, starting an influx of gold miners and, later, Euro-American settlers into the area. Battles and skirmishes between White settlers and Indians ensued. Seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict with non-Indian settlers, the Cow Creek Umpquas became the first Oregon tribe to negotiate a treaty with the U.S. government in 1853.¹

At this time, Roseburg was a small community on the North Umpqua River, called "Deer Creek" by the locals. The community was at that time under the jurisdiction of Umpqua County, which had been created in 1851. In early 1852, a new County was created out of the portion of Umpqua County located east of the Coast Range. The new county was named Douglas County to honor Stephen A. Douglas, the U.S. Senator from

Illinois who was an advocate for Oregon Statehood. In the meantime, Deer Creek was renamed Roseburg in 1885 and Umpqua County was absorbed into Douglas County since the gold rush played out and the local population decreased.² Today Roseburg is a community of more than 20,000 residents known for its wineries and recreation opportunities.

Infrastructure

Current Economy

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 52.3% of the potential labor force was employed and there was a 7.2% unemployment rate (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). Of the population over the age of 16, 43.7% were not in the labor force. A total of 25.9% of the employed civilian population worked in 'educational, health and social services,' the majority falling under 'health care and social services,' while 12.7% worked in 'Manufacturing' and 12.5% worked in 'Retail trade.' A total of 19.5% of the employed civilian population was employed by the government at some level (local, state, or federal); 2.8% of which were reported as working for the government in the 'agriculture, forestry, fishing, and mining' industries. Only 2.2% of the employed civilian population over the age of 16 was involved in 'agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting' according to the 2000 U.S. Census.

Roseburg's per capita income in 1999 was \$17,082 according to the 2000 U.S. Census, while the median household income was \$31,250. In 1999 a total of 15.1% of the population was living below the poverty level. In 2000 there were 8838 housing units in Roseburg, 93.2% of which were occupied, and 6.8% were vacant. Of the occupied housing units, 56.5% were owner occupied and 43.5% were renter occupied. Half (50.0%) of the vacant housing units were 'For rent' and 18.1% were 'For sale only.'

Governance

Roseburg, the seat of Douglas County, is an incorporated city with a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council includes the Mayor and eight Council Members. The Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua, a sovereign tribe recognized by the U.S. government, is located in Roseburg and has a tribal reservation. The Tribal Council provides government services to tribal members.

Fishing businesses located in Oregon or deriving income from Oregon resources must pay a corporate excise or income tax totaling 6% of their net Oregon income. Wholesale fish dealers, cannerys, and bait dealers pay a landing fee that is determined from a percentage of the value of the food fish purchased from commercial harvesters. Salmon and Steelhead Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) landing fees are \$0.05 per pound for round, \$.0575 per pound for dressed, and \$.0605 per pound for dressed with heads off. Other regular landing fees are based on value; salmon and steelhead are 3.15% of value (including eggs and parts); all other fish and shellfish are 1.09% of value, and near-shore species are 5% of value.

Vessel owners must pay registration and title fees, and marine fuel taxes that support boating facilities, marine law enforcement, and boating safety education. Fishing boats and equipment may be taxed as personal property if they are valued at less than \$1 million. If their value exceeds this amount, they are taxed as industrial property. In 2004, title transfer fees are \$30 and registration fees are \$3 per foot based on center length of

vessel. Oregon levies a fuel tax of \$0.24 per gallon of gasoline and use fuel. The Oregon Department of Agriculture administers four commodity commissions, Oregon Albacore Commission, Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, Oregon Salmon Commission, and Oregon Trawl Commission. Fishermen pay fees to these commissions for marketing and lobbying on behalf of fishermen involved in these specific fisheries.

The National Marine Fisheries Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services all have local offices in Roseburg. Roseburg is 85 miles from the nearest U.S. Coast Guard Unit in Coos Bay. The Pacific and North Pacific Fisheries Management Councils hold meetings in Portland, approximately 179 miles north of Roseburg.

Facilities

Roseburg is accessible primarily by road, as it is located along Interstate 5. Amtrak and Greyhound provide rail and bus service respectively to nearby communities and to greater metropolitan areas throughout the country. The local Roseburg Airport, with a 4602-foot runway, is accessible to general aviation and serves primarily small planes. The nearest major airport is located in Eugene, approximately 72 miles north of Roseburg. Highways 42 and 138 pass through Roseburg, providing access westward to the Pacific coast and eastward to the Cascade Range.

Local schools include eight elementary schools, two junior high schools, and one high school.³ Roseburg is also home to Umpqua Community College. The Roseburg Police Department and Douglas County Sheriff's Office administer local law enforcement. The main electric supply is provided by Douglas Electric, a non-profit electric distribution utility that serves western and northern Douglas County. Water and sewer services are supplied by the City of Roseburg. There are several medical clinics in Roseburg, and larger hospitals are located in Eugene and Medford. Roseburg's lodging accommodations include ten hotels/motels, and several bed-and-breakfasts.

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

There were 13 commercial vessels owned by Roseburg residents in 2000, six of which participated in the Federally Managed Groundfish fishery. However no vessels delivered landings to Roseburg in the same year. According to recorded data the number of vessels owned by Roseburg residents in 2000 that participated in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/1/0), groundfish (0/0/NA), highly migratory species (NA/0/NA), salmon (0/8/0), shellfish (NA/0/NA), shrimp (NA/0/0), and other species (0/41/0).⁴ According to available data, there were no seafood processors in Roseburg in 2000.

In 2000, one federal groundfish permit was held by a Roseburg community member. In the same year, recorded data indicates that the number of Roseburg residents holding permits in each said fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/1/0), highly migratory species (NA/0/0), salmon (3/7/0), shellfish (0/0/NA), and other species (0/2/0).⁵

According to available data, there were at least 15 commercial fishing permits registered to Roseburg residents in 2000, including 14 were registered state permits. Recorded data indicates that the number permits held by Roseburg residents in each said

fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: coastal pelagic (0/1/0), highly migratory species (NA/0/0), salmon (3/7/0), shellfish (0/0/NA), and other species (0/3/0).⁶

Sportfishing

Available resources indicate that at least one sportfishing charter businesses operates out of Roseburg, targeting mainly river salmon and steelhead. In addition, there were at least 16 registered outfitters or guides based out of Roseburg in 2000. At least two licensed charter vessels were owned by Roseburg residents in 2000, but they operated out of Umpqua/Charleston. Twelve sportfishing licensing agents were located in Roseburg in the same year. Because Roseburg lacks access to the coast, it has no sport fish landings.

Subsistence

Subsistence harvest by both tribal and nontribal fishermen for marine species may exist in the Roseburg area. Under the trust doctrine, the federal government is charged to protect tribal resources and by constitutional mandate to protect natural resources. The government-to-government agreements made between tribal groups and the United States through treaties guarantee fishing rights on traditional grounds. Specific information on subsistence fishing in Roseburg is not discussed in detail in this Community Profile due to the lack of available data on both state and federal levels.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

In 2000 there were two vessels owned by Roseburg residents that participated in North Pacific fisheries. These vessels made landings in the shellfish fishery, but specific information (landings in metric tons/value of landings) is confidential. Thirteen Roseburg residents served as crew members on vessels involved in North Pacific fisheries in 2000. In the same year, five community residents held state permits for Alaska, including one Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) shellfish permit and four CFEC salmon permits.

Sportfishing

While the majority of recreational anglers in Roseburg target salmon and steelhead in the local rivers, 196 community members purchased Alaska sportfishing licenses in 2000. There were no sportfishing businesses in Roseburg that participated in Alaskan fisheries in 2000.

¹ Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. 2006. Summary, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://www.cowcreek.com/story/x01history/index.html> (access date - January 2006).

² Douglas County. No date. Douglas County History, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/county/cpdouglashome.html> (access date - January 2006).

³ National Center for Education Statistics. No date. No Title, [Online]. Available: URL: <http://nces.ed.gov/globallocator/> (access date - April 2005).

⁴ '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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