

SVRN

SVRN RESEARCH · INSTITUTIONAL REPORT · MARCH 2026

NEAR Protocol

The Bottom-Up Investment Case

\$14B+

Cumulative Intents Volume

\$25M+

Cumulative Fees Generated

\$1.49B

Current Market Cap

2.5%

Post-Halving Inflation Rate

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IN COLLABORATION WITH **The Tie**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Coordination Layer Thesis

NEAR Protocol is at an inflection point—not the kind announced by a press release, but the kind that emerges when a technical architecture built over five years begins to generate the revenue signatures that precede reflexive token value accrual. This report establishes that inflection point with precision. Where prior institutional research established the top-down market size for NEAR's AI coordination thesis, this report works from the bottom up—from actual fee data, real volume trajectories, and a tokenomics model that identifies the specific daily volume threshold at which NEAR becomes net deflationary.

KEY FINDING

Under conservative modeling assumptions, NEAR Intents fee revenue alone is projected to make the NEAR network net deflationary in 2026—before the full monetization of NEAR's AI product suite (DCML, Private Inference, IronClaw, NEAR AI Agent Marketplace). At ~\$1.22 NEAR, the deflationary threshold is approximately \$177M in daily Intents volume—just 2.3× the current trailing 90-day average. Any future AI-driven demand represents pure upside to the deflationary thesis.

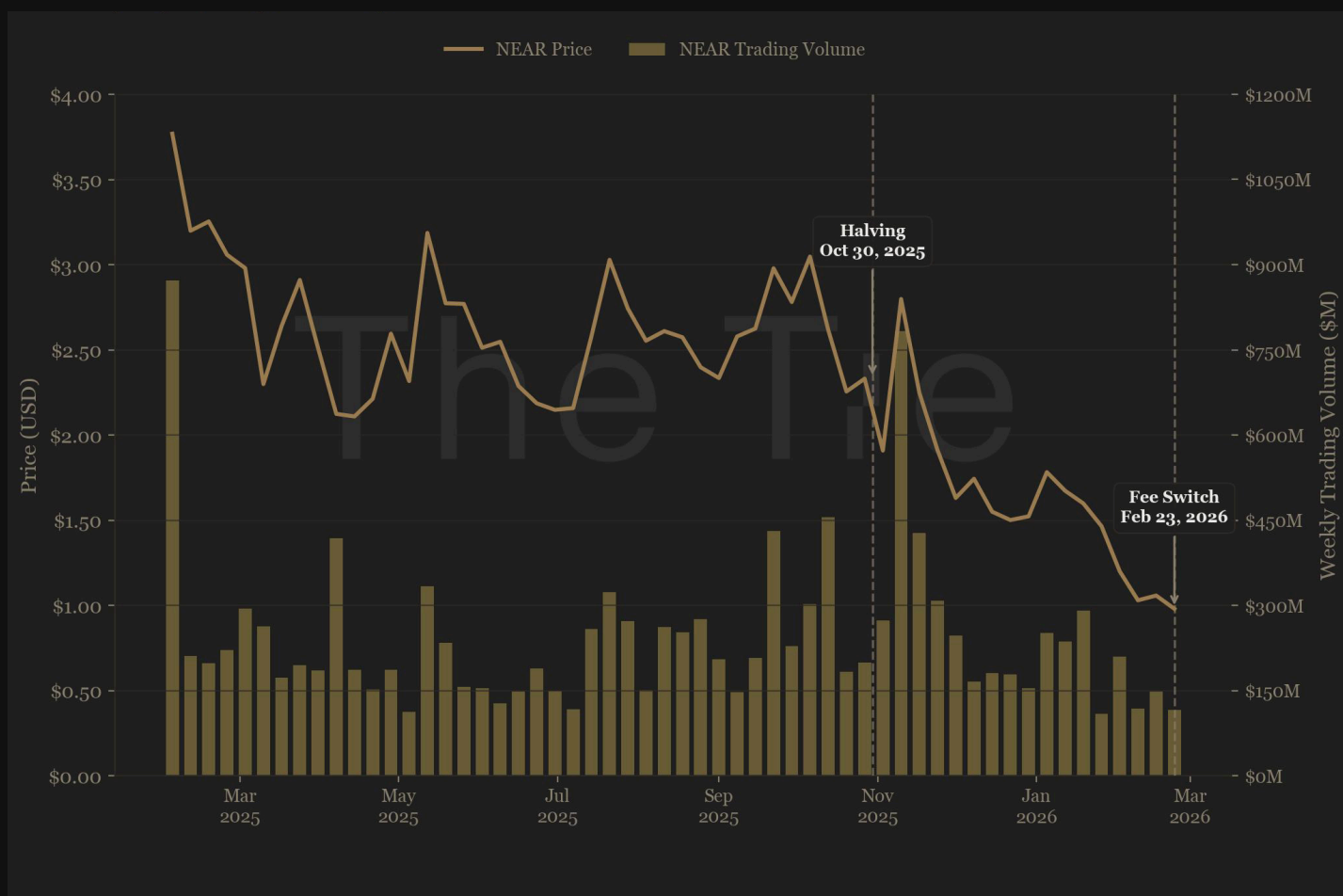
The thesis rests on three mutually reinforcing dynamics. First, NEAR's coordination architecture—NEAR Intents, Chain Signatures, and the AI infrastructure stack—positions it as the settlement layer for autonomous agent-mediated commerce. Second, the updated fee structure converts all fees into \$NEAR tokens, creating direct protocol-level demand scaling with volume. Third, the Halving halved inflation, dramatically lowering the deflationary threshold.

The Market Has Not Repriced the Structural Shift

Despite the convergence of the October 2025 Halving and the February 2026 fee switch activation—two of the most significant tokenomic events in NEAR's history—price remains well below its 12-month highs. The chart below illustrates this disconnect: structural catalysts have activated while the market prices NEAR as though nothing has changed.

NEAR Protocol: Price & Trading Volume

February 2025—February 2026 · Weekly Data



Source: The Tie · NEAR price and weekly trading volume, Feb 2025 – Feb 2026. Key events: NEAR Halving (Oct 30, 2025), Fee Switch Activation (Feb 23, 2026)

The Valuation Gap

Traditional L1 metrics dramatically understate NEAR’s traction. The Intents-adjusted picture shows \$14B+ in cumulative coordinated volume, \$25M+ in gross fees generated, and a fee architecture where all fees convert to \$NEAR. Annualizing the trailing 90-day fee run rate (Dec 2025–Feb 2026) implies ~\$53M in annual ecosystem fees—placing NEAR’s Intents-adjusted P/S at approximately 28x, versus ETH at 194x and SOL at 40x. At a \$1.49B market cap, the gap is the opportunity.

The Coordination Layer Thesis

NEAR is building the infrastructure stack for agentic commerce, the emerging category of AI agent-mediated transactions that require three properties no single blockchain currently provides: privacy (confidential execution via Private Shard and DCML, or Decentralized Confidential Machine Learning), confidentiality (sealed intent routing through Chain Signatures across 28 chains), and verifiability (on-chain settlement with cryptographic proof). NEAR Intents abstracts execution paths so agents express outcomes, not routes. Together, these components form the only cross-chain coordination layer purpose-built for autonomous economic activity, and NEAR is the settlement token.

Why Now: The Convergence Window

Three catalysts are converging simultaneously in a way that has not occurred for any L1 protocol since Ethereum's EIP-1559 upgrade in August 2021. First, the fee switch activated on February 23, 2026—converting volume into direct NEAR demand for the first time. Second, the October 2025 Halving permanently reduced inflation, compressing the timeline to deflation. Third, institutional access is expanding via the Bitwise NEAR Strategy ETF filing and institutional back- and middle-office integration pipeline. This convergence creates maximum asymmetry between protocol maturity and market recognition.

SECTION I

Understanding NEAR's Coordination Architecture

From execution substrate to coordination layer for agentic commerce

Three Components of NEAR's Coordination Stack

INFRASTRUCTURE FOUNDATION

High-Performance L1

NEAR's sharded Nightshade architecture achieves 600ms block times, sub-\$0.002 transaction fees, and 100% uptime since mainnet launch. In 2025, NEAR expanded from six to eight shards (+33% capacity). In December 2025, NEAR achieved 1 million TPS (transactions per second) in a test environment, validating the dynamic resharding roadmap.¹

COORDINATION LAYER

NEAR Intents

NEAR Intents allow users and agents to express desired outcomes rather than specifying execution paths. A solver network competes to fulfill these intents across 28 blockchains via NEAR's chain signature architecture. NEAR Intents launched in Q4 2024 and reached \$14B+ in cumulative volume by March 2026, generating \$25M+ in gross cumulative fees.²

DECENTRALIZED AI STACK

AI Infrastructure

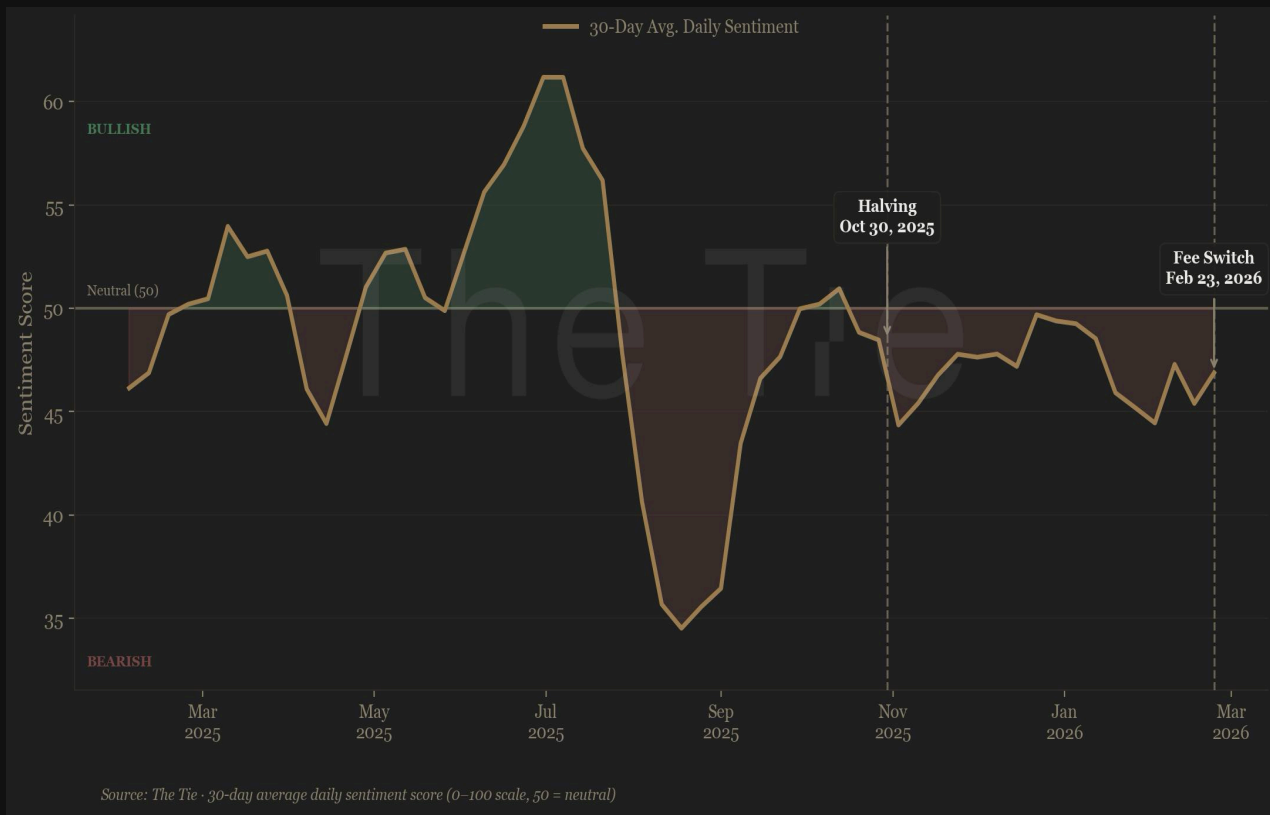
NEAR's third component introduces DCML (Decentralized Confidential Machine Learning), Private Inference, IronClaw, and the NEAR Private Shard for institutional-grade privacy and confidentiality—the foundational properties required for agentic commerce. This layer is early-stage; the market assigns it near-zero value today.

Sentiment Lags the Evolution in Tokenomics

Market sentiment has remained range-bound and has not broken decisively bullish despite the fundamental catalysts activating in Q4 2025 and Q1 2026. The 12-month sentiment trend below shows social perception lagging the structural shift—a pattern consistent with institutional-grade opportunities where narrative repricing follows fundamentals with a delay.

The Coordination Moat

February 2025—February 2026 · 30-Day Rolling Average



Technical Benchmarks

METRIC	NEAR	SOLANA	ETHEREUM	SOURCE
Finality	1.2 sec	12.8 sec†	~960 sec	[3]
Block Time	0.61 sec	0.40 sec	12.1 sec	[3]
Avg. Tx Fee	< \$0.002	~\$0.01	~\$0.50	[3]
Network Uptime	~100%	~99%	~100%	[3]
Peak TPS	1M* (Dec '25)	65K	~30	[1]

†Solana finality of 12.8 sec reflects full/rooted finality; optimistic confirmation is ~400ms. *1M TPS achieved in controlled testnet.

The Coordination Moat

NEAR's competitive advantage is structural, not merely technical. While other L1s compete on execution speed—a commodity race with diminishing returns—NEAR has built a coordination layer above execution. The 28-chain integration, intent-based architecture, and solver network create compounding network effects: every new chain integration increases the utility of every existing one. This is analogous to how Visa's value scales with merchant acceptance, not transaction throughput. No competing protocol has replicated this cross-chain coordination depth, and the switching costs for integrated solvers and distribution channels create durable lock-in that strengthens with volume.

SECTION CONCLUSION

NEAR has evolved from a fast L1 into the only protocol architecture purpose-built for autonomous agent coordination across chains. The technical benchmarks confirm infrastructure readiness; Intents volume confirms product-market fit. The market prices NEAR as an L1—but it is becoming the settlement rail for a new category of economic activity where privacy, confidentiality, and verifiability are non-negotiable.

[1] NEAR Foundation, Dec 2025 testnet. 1M TPS achieved in controlled testnet; Solana 65K and ETH ~30 reflect production peaks.

[2] Dune Analytics / Defuse Labs, Mar 2026. \$25M represents gross cumulative fees generated since launch across all participants.

[3] Artemis, Messari, protocol docs.

[4] NEAR Foundation, May 2025 (46M MAUs, #2 L1).

[5] Electric Capital Developer Report 2024/2025: ETH 31,869 MADs (#1), SOL 17,708 (#2). NEAR: 2,500+ MADs.

SECTION II

Tokenomics & the Fee Architecture

How NEAR's economics create the conditions for deflationary value accrual

Supply Dynamics

NEAR launched with 1 billion tokens in April 2020. Unlike newer L1 networks with complex vesting schedules and concentrated insider positions, NEAR has 100% of its supply unlocked and vested—eliminating vesting overhang. As of March 9, 2026, total supply is approximately 1.29B NEAR with ~1.22B circulating, trading at ~\$1.22 with a market capitalization of ~\$1.49B.

The NEAR Halving (October 30, 2025). NEAR's inflation was permanently cut from 5.0% to 2.5%. Of this, 2.4% is distributed as staking emissions to validators and delegators, and 0.1% flows to the protocol treasury. Annual issuance dropped from ~64M to ~32.2M NEAR—halving the deflationary threshold.

The EIP-1559 Parallel

STRUCTURAL PRECEDENT

The closest structural precedent is Ethereum's August 2021 EIP-1559 upgrade, which introduced fee burns that — combined with the Merge's issuance reduction—transformed ETH into a periodically deflationary asset. ETH appreciated ~78% in the three months following EIP-1559 activation (with multiple contributing factors). NEAR's February 2026 fee switch and October 2025 Halving represent the same structural pair—fee conversion plus issuance reduction—compressed into a tighter window. The critical difference: NEAR's transition occurs at a \$1.49B market cap versus ETH's ~\$300B, implying significantly greater asymmetric upside.

NEAR Intents Fee Architecture

NEAR Intents has implemented a streamlined fee architecture with two critical design features. First, all fees are converted into \$NEAR, regardless of the asset being swapped, creating direct buy pressure on the NEAR token scaling with volume. Second, NEAR's base-layer economics apply a 70/30 split: 70% of gas fees are permanently burned by the protocol, while 30% flows to contract accounts. For NEAR Intents fees specifically, 100% of generated fees are used to purchase \$NEAR, with a portion then distributed to authorized distribution partners per revenue-share agreements.

ALL FEES CONVERTED TO \$NEAR

Every fee collected—universal swap rate, unauthorized channel surcharges, and distribution channel markups — triggers a \$NEAR market purchase. Revenue switch activated February 23, 2026. The \$25M in gross fees since launch was earned pre-switch by solvers and the protocol; post-switch, all fees now settle in \$NEAR. Additional fees for swaps are under consideration.

FEE TYPE	RATE	APPLIED TO	ACCRUES TO	VALUE CAPTURE
Universal Swap Fee	0.01 bps (0.0001%)	All swaps (100%)	Protocol	Universal
Unauthorized Channel	20 bps (0.20%)	Non-partner channels	Protocol (100%)	Direct revenue
Distribution Channel	Variable	Authorized partners	50% / 50%	Revenue share
near.com / intents-near.org	0.20%	Native channels	100% Protocol	Full buyback

Source: NEAR Foundation presentation, Mar 2026. \$25M represents gross fees generated since launch; \$NEAR conversion active from Feb 23, 2026.

Fee Rate Reconciliation & Channel Mix

The report uses a dynamic blended take rate that evolves as the channel mix shifts toward higher-fee native front-ends. The effective ecosystem fee rate of ~0.19% represents total gross fees as a percentage of volume and is used for P/S calculations. The blended take rate represents the net protocol buyback rate after distribution partner splits. Authorized API partners are modeled at an average fee of 5 basis points (bilateral negotiated), with a 50/50 revenue share, yielding 2.5 bps net to the protocol. As near.com and intents-near.org capture a growing share of total volume, the blended rate rises from ~0.061% in 2026 to ~0.089% by 2030, progressively lowering the deflationary threshold.

The channel-mix-weighted blended take rate for 2026 is approximately 6.1 basis points (0.061%), rising to ~8.9 bps by 2030 as native front-end adoption grows. Full channel fee rates, mix projections, and resulting blended rates are detailed in Appendix A.

To request the full calculation file and test your own assumptions, contact us at research@svrn.net

Volume Trajectory & Adoption Curve

NEAR Intents launched in December 2024 and has exhibited exponential adoption. Cumulative all-time volume exceeds \$14B from over 15.7M swaps, generating \$25M+ in gross fees. February 2026 recorded \$2.52B in monthly volume, the highest month on record.

Adoption Curve Analysis. Monthly volume has averaged ~42% MoM growth since launch (arithmetic average; the compound monthly growth rate is lower due to variance). For context, Uniswap's first 14 months produced ~\$20B in cumulative volume; NEAR Intents reached \$14B+ in the same timeframe, both are on-chain swap infrastructure serving the same fundamental demand, though NEAR Intents executes across 28 blockchains simultaneously. Annualizing the trailing 90-day fee run rate (Dec 2025–Feb 2026 volume: \$6.93B × effective fee rate of ~0.19%) implies ~\$53M in annualized ecosystem fee revenue—placing NEAR's Intents-adjusted P/S at approximately 28x, a fraction of ETH (194x) and SOL (40x).

SECTION CONCLUSION

NEAR's tokenomics have undergone the most significant structural improvement in the protocol's history. The combination of halved inflation, activated fee conversion, exponential volume growth, and a P/S of ~28x on trailing annualized fees creates the precise conditions for reflexive value accrual—a structural parallel to ETH's post-EIP-1559 dynamics, at a fraction of ETH's market cap.

[6] CoinGecko / CoinMarketCap, Mar 9, 2026. Note that different aggregators may report slightly different circulating supply figures.

[7] Dune Analytics / Defuse Labs, Mar 2026. Feb 2026: 28-day month; daily run rate = \$2,520M / 30.

[8] Intents-adjusted P/S: trailing 90-day volume (\$6.93B) × effective fee rate (~0.19%) = ~\$13.2M/quarter → ~\$53M annualized → \$1.49B / \$53M = ~28x. Sources: Token

Terminal, DefiLlama, SVRN Research.

SECTION III

The Deflationary Inflection Point

Volume threshold at which NEAR becomes net deflationary

The Deflationary Mechanics

NEAR issues ~32.2M tokens annually (2.5%: 2.4% staking + 0.1% treasury)—worth ~\$39.3M at current prices (\$1.22). Two mechanisms offset issuance. Base-layer gas fees follow a 70/30 split: 70% permanently burned (destroyed) by the protocol, 30% retained by contract accounts. NEAR Intents fees operate differently—100% of generated fees are used to purchase \$NEAR (a market buyback, not a burn), with a portion then redistributed to authorized distribution partners, meaning the full gross fee amount creates direct buy-and-hold pressure. At current trailing 90-day volume (~\$77M/day), fee-driven demand offsets approximately 48% of daily issuance. At sufficient volume, combined fee-driven supply removal exceeds total issuance, producing net deflation.

DEFLATIONARY THRESHOLD

At ~\$1.22 NEAR and the 2026 blended take rate of ~6.1 bps, the threshold is ~\$177M/day—2.3× the trailing 90-day average of ~\$77M/day (Dec 2025–Feb 2026). The Halving cut this threshold in half. As native front-end share grows, the blended rate increases and the threshold declines further—to ~\$121M/day by 2030. Base case crosses in 2026.

Sensitivity: Threshold by NEAR Price

Using 2026 blended take rate of ~0.061%. Threshold declines in subsequent years as take rate increases.

NEAR PRICE	ANNUAL ISSUANCE	DAILY VOL. REQUIRED	MONTHLY VOL.	VS. CURRENT
\$0.50	\$16.1M	\$72M	\$2.2B	0.9x
\$0.75	\$24.2M	\$109M	\$3.3B	1.4x
\$1.00	\$32.3M	\$145M	\$4.3B	1.9x
\$1.22 ← current	\$39.3M	\$177M	\$5.3B	2.3x
\$1.50	\$48.4M	\$217M	\$6.5B	2.8x
\$2.00	\$64.5M	\$290M	\$8.7B	3.8x
\$3.00	\$96.8M	\$435M	\$13.0B	5.6x
\$5.00	\$161.3M	\$724M	\$21.7B	9.4x

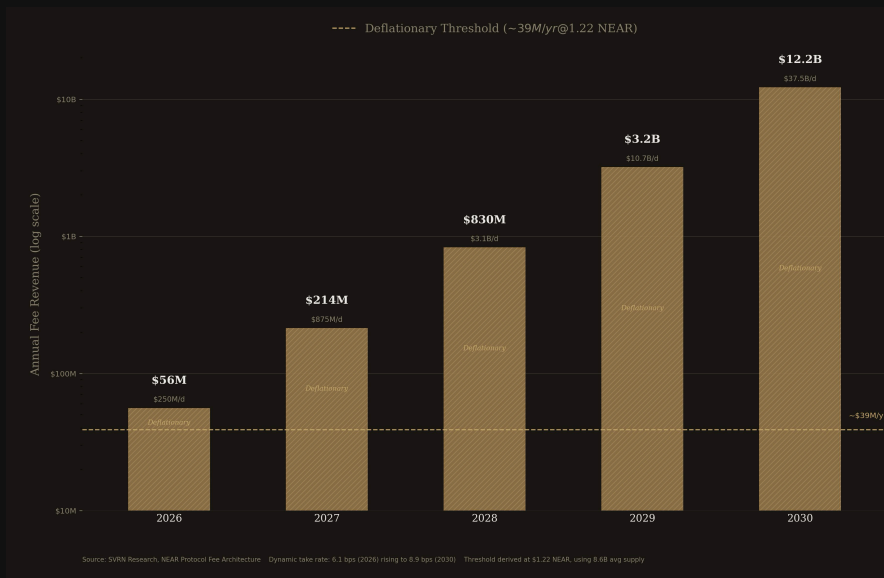
Issuance: ~32.2M NEAR/yr. 2026 blended take rate: ~0.061% (channel-mix weighted). Trailing 90-day daily avg: ~\$77M/d (Dec 2025–Feb 2026).

Projected Annual Fee Revenue & Deflationary Timeline

The chart below projects annual fee revenue from NEAR Intents under base case assumptions with a dynamic blended take rate that increases from ~0.061% in 2026 to ~0.089% by 2030 as native front-end volume share grows. The deflationary threshold—the annual fee revenue needed to offset new token issuance—is ~\$39M/year at \$1.22 NEAR. Under this projection, fee revenue crosses the deflationary threshold in 2026 under the base case and exceeds it by orders of magnitude through 2030.

Projected Annual Fee Revenue from NEAR Intents

Base Case · Dynamic Blended Take Rate (0.061%-0.089%)



THE REFLEXIVE DYNAMIC

A critical and underappreciated feature of NEAR's deflationary mechanics is the reflexive relationship between price and threshold. As NEAR appreciates, each token bought back via the Intents fee mechanism absorbs more USD-denominated issuance—meaning higher prices lower the effective barrier to deflation in token terms. This creates a self-reinforcing loop: volume drives deflation, deflation drives price appreciation, price appreciation broadens institutional access, institutional access drives volume. This is the same reflexive mechanic George Soros described in financial markets—and it operates most powerfully at inflection points.

Growth Scenarios & Path to Threshold

Note: Deflationary status depends on four interacting variables (price, volume, fee rate, channel mix). Labels below are directionally illustrative under a static price assumption.

<p>BEAR CASE</p> <p>\$100M/d</p> <p>End-2026 · 2× annual growth Deflationary by 2027 \$520M fees by 2030</p>	<p>BASE CASE</p> <p>\$250M/d</p> <p>End-2026 · 3.5× annual growth Deflationary in 2026 \$12.2B fees by 2030</p>	<p>BULL CASE</p> <p>\$1B/d</p> <p>End-2026 · 5× annual growth Strongly deflationary immediately \$203B fees by 2030</p>
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BEAR CASE: \$100M/D END-2026, 2× ANNUAL GROWTH

BASE CASE: \$250M/D END-2026, 3.5× ANNUALGROWTH

BULL CASE: \$1B/D END-2026, 5× ANNUAL GROWTH

YEAR	DAILY VOL	ANN. FEES	STATUS	YEAR	DAILY VOL	ANN. FEES	STATUS	YEAR	DAILY VOL	ANN. FEES	STATUS
2026	\$100M	\$22M	Inflationary	2026	\$250M	\$56M	Deflationary	2026	\$1,000M	\$223M	Strongly Defl.
2027	\$200M	\$49M	Deflationary	2027	\$875M	\$214M	Strongly Defl.	2027	\$5,000M	\$1.2B	Strongly Defl.
2028	\$400M	\$108M	Strongly Defl.	2028	\$3,063M	\$830M	Strongly Defl.	2028	\$25.0B	\$6.8B	Strongly Defl.
2029	\$800M	\$239M	Strongly Defl.	2029	\$10.7B	\$3.2B	Strongly Defl.	2029	\$125.0B	\$37.3B	Strongly Defl.
2030	\$1,600M	\$520M	Strongly Defl.	2030	\$37.5B	\$12.2B	Strongly Defl.	2030	\$625.0B	\$203B	Strongly Defl.

Deflationary threshold declines each year as blended take rate increases: ~\$177M/d (2026), ~\$161M/d (2027), ~\$145M/d (2028), ~\$132M/d (2029), ~\$121M/d (2030). Dynamic take rate model; price held constant at \$1.22.

Institutional Volume Catalysts

The \$1B daily volume target by Q2 2027 maps to specific institutional adoption milestones. NEAR Intents is being integrated into institutional back- and middle-office platforms that process trillions in annual trading volume. Multiple institutional platform integrations are in active development with go-live timelines through Q2 and Q3 2026, alongside qualified custodian and custody technology provider partnerships. As tokenized equities (RWAs, or Real World Assets), bonds, and fiat rails are routed through NEAR Intents, even marginal institutional flow would represent a step-change for NEAR's volume trajectory. For context, global FX markets trade ~\$7.5T per day—NEAR Intents capturing just 0.002% of that flow would reach the \$177M/day deflationary threshold at current prices.

SECTION CONCLUSION

NEAR's deflationary inflection is not a prediction—it is a mathematical identity that activates at a known volume threshold (~\$177M/day at \$1.22, declining each year as the blended take rate increases). The Halving halved the threshold. The fee switch activated the \$NEAR buy mechanism. What remains is volume growth—and NEAR Intents grew 17% MoM in February 2026. We estimate approximately 80% probability of reaching the deflationary threshold by 2030, based on probability-weighted scenarios—our base case (50% weight) reaches threshold in 2026 and bull case (25% weight) immediately. The bear case (25% weight) reaches threshold by 2028.

SECTION IV

Unified Valuation Framework

Three methodologies converge on material undervaluation

Three independent methodologies converge: comparable network analysis, deflationary threshold valuation, and probability-weighted scenario analysis. All suggest NEAR is materially undervalued at current levels.

Methodology 1: Comparable Network Analysis

PROTOCOL	MKT CAP	ANN. REV.	P/S	FEE MECHANISM	VALUE ACCRUAL
Ethereum	\$233B	\$1.2B	194x	Gas burn (EIP-1559)	Strong
Solana	\$48B	\$1.2B	40x	Priority fees + tips	Moderate
Hyperliquid	~\$15B	~\$0.6B	~25x	97% HYPE buyback	Very Strong
Bittensor (TAO)	~\$1.8B	N/A*	N/A	Subnet incentives	Moderate
NEAR (L1 only)	\$1.49B	\$7.85M	~200x†	Gas burn (70%)	Emerging
NEAR (Intents adj.)	\$1.49B	~\$53M	~28x††	Intents → \$NEAR	Strong

*TAO uses subnet incentives, not traditional fees. †L1-only P/S: ~\$7.85M annualized gas revenue. ††Intents-adjusted P/S: trailing 90-day volume (\$6.93B) × effective fee rate (~0.19%) = ~\$13.2M/quarter → ~\$53M annualized → \$1.49B/\$53M = 28x. Sources: Token Terminal, DefiLlama, SVRN Research, Mar 2026.

Methodology 2: Deflationary Threshold Valuation

The second valuation lens uses the deflationary inflection as a repricing catalyst. Historically, L1 tokens that transition from inflationary to deflationary undergo significant repricing as the market reclassifies them from dilutive utility tokens to accruing monetary assets. ETH's post-EIP-1559 trajectory—appreciating ~78% in three months (with multiple contributing factors)—provides the structural precedent.

Under our base case, NEAR crosses the deflationary threshold in 2026 at ~\$250M/day volume. At that volume level, annual fee-driven \$NEAR demand would be ~\$41M—exceeding annual issuance—creating persistent supply compression. As the blended take rate increases with native front-end adoption, the deflationary dynamics strengthen over time. Applying a conservative 2–3x repricing multiple from the deflationary catalyst alone implies a \$3–\$4 range by 2027 before accounting for volume growth beyond the threshold.

Methodology 3: Probability-Weighted Scenario Analysis

The third methodology constructs price targets from volume-driven fee revenue projections, applying P/S multiples derived from comparable protocols at similar stages of maturity. Bear cases use compressed multiples (10–15x) reflecting persistent market skepticism; base cases use the current Intents-adjusted P/S (~28x) as the floor, expanding modestly as institutional adoption validates the thesis; bull cases apply Hyperliquid-tier multiples (20–25x) on significantly higher revenue bases.

Probability weights shift progressively bullish over time (bear 25%→15%, bull 25%→35%) reflecting our expectation that institutional adoption milestones (ETF approval, institutional platform go-live Q2–Q3 2026, custodian integrations) de-risk the thesis over the investment horizon.

Estimated Scenario Price Ranges

YEAR	BEAR RANGE	BASE RANGE	BULL RANGE	P(BEAR/BASE/BULL)
2026	\$2–\$5	\$6–\$10	\$12–\$18	25/50/25%
2027	\$4–\$7	\$15–\$25	\$35–\$55	20/50/30%
2028	\$8–\$15	\$35–\$55	\$70–\$110	20/50/30%
2029	\$15–\$25	\$65–\$100	\$130–\$200	15/50/35%
2030	\$25–\$40	\$100–\$150	\$200–\$300	15/50/35%

Ranges represent modeled scenarios based on volume-driven fee revenue projections and comparable protocol P/S multiples. These are estimates, not predictions. Actual outcomes may differ materially. See Disclosures.

Probability Weight Rationale

Scenario probability weights shift progressively bullish over the 2026–2030 horizon (bear: 25%→15%, bull: 25%→35%) for three reasons. First, institutional adoption milestones—ETF approval, institutional back- and middle-office platform go-live in Q2–Q3 2026, qualified custodian integrations—are binary de-risking events: once live, they cannot be undone, permanently expanding the addressable investor base. Second, the deflationary threshold declines each year as the blended take rate increases with native front-end adoption, making sustained deflation progressively easier to achieve. Third, NEAR's AI infrastructure stack (DCML, Private Inference, NEAR AI Agent Marketplace) is not yet monetized; as these products launch and generate fee revenue, they represent incremental demand for \$NEAR not captured in the current Intents-only model.

5 Year Target

Based on our volume-driven fee revenue models, the 2030 scenario ranges imply the following approximate market capitalizations and P/S ratios, demonstrating P/S compression as volume scales:

SCENARIO	2030 RANGE	IMPLIED MKT CAP	IMPLIED ANN. REVENUE	IMPLIED P/S
Bear	\$25–\$40	~\$32–\$52B	~\$100–\$200M	~25–40x
Base	\$100–\$150	~\$129–\$194B	~\$2–\$4B	~5–8x
Bull	\$200–\$300	~\$258–\$387B	~\$30–\$60B	<1x

Risk-Adjusted Return Profile

At \$1.22, the risk-reward profile is noteworthy. Based on our probability-weighted scenario analysis, the base case E[V] range for 2027 of approximately \$20–\$25 implies significant potential upside—and even the bear case of \$3–\$5 suggests positive return potential. The maximum downside to \$0.50 (complete thesis invalidation) represents ~59% loss, while the probability-weighted 2030 E[V] range of approximately \$125–\$155 suggests substantial long-term potential. For institutional allocators, a 1–2% portfolio allocation may capture the majority of expected value with portfolio-level downside contained to ~1.2% in the zero-case.

CONVERGENCE

All three methodologies converge: at \$1.22, NEAR appears to trade at a fraction of estimated risk-adjusted value. Intents-adjusted P/S of ~28× vs ETH at 194×. Base case reaches deflationary status in 2026 under the dynamic take rate model. We estimate approximately 80% probability of sustaining deflation through 2030.

Summary

METRIC	CURRENT	BASE CASE 2027 (EST.)	IMPLIED CHANGE
NEAR Price	\$1.22	\$15–\$25	Significant upside
Market Cap	\$1.49B	~\$19–\$32B	Material expansion
Daily Intents Vol.	~\$77M (120d avg)	~\$875M	~10x
Supply Status	Inflationary	Deflationary	Structural shift
Institutional Access	Limited	ETF + Institutional Platforms	Step change

SECTION CONCLUSION

NEAR is mispriced by every methodology we apply. Comparable analysis shows it trading below peers with inferior economics. The deflationary threshold valuation identifies a specific, quantifiable repricing catalyst as early as 2026. The probability-weighted model produces expected values that significantly exceed the current price at every time horizon. The risk-reward asymmetry represents one of the most noteworthy developments in the digital asset ecosystem.

SECTION V

Investment Access & Vehicles

Three institutional pathways to NEAR Protocol exposure

U.S. PUBLIC EQUITY

SVRN

NASDAQ: SVRN · Treasury company driving NEAR commercialization · Direct NEAR token holdings · U.S.-listed, fully regulated · Accessible via standard brokerage accounts

EUROPEAN ETP · DEUTSCHE BÖRSE XETRA

Bitwise NEAR Staking ETP

ISIN: DE000A4A5GV2 · 3.08% net staking yield (4.6% gross; 33% service fee) · AUM: \$28.3M · TER: 0.85% p.a. · Daily liquidity; no lock-up

PENDING · SUBJECT TO SEC APPROVAL

Bitwise NEAR Strategy ETF

NYSE Arca · Filed Dec 30, 2025 · Expected effective date ~March 16, 2026 · First US-listed NEAR ETF · Institutional flow catalyst

SVRN provides regulated U.S. equity exposure through its NASDAQ-listed treasury structure. The Bitwise NEAR Staking ETP offers European institutional investors direct NEAR exposure with a 3.08% net staking yield on Deutsche Börse XETRA. The Bitwise NEAR Strategy ETF (filed December 30, 2025), subject to SEC approval, would be the first US-listed NEAR-focused ETF—a significant catalyst for institutional inflows. Bitcoin ETFs attracted ~\$12B in net inflows in their first year; even a fraction of that pace against NEAR's \$1.49B market cap would represent a structural step-change in the investor base.

Risk Factors

RISK	SEVERITY	DESCRIPTION	MITIGANT
Volume Stalls	HIGH	NEAR Intents fails to sustain growth trajectory	Institutional go-live Q2–Q3 2026
Fee Change	MEDIUM	Fee rates reduced or restructured by governance	Governance-controlled parameters; community aligned
Competition	MEDIUM	Competing protocols capture cross-chain market share	28-chain moat; first-mover; switching costs
Regulatory	MEDIUM	SEC or other regulatory action on NEAR token	Bitwise ETF filing signals regulatory clarity
Integration Delay	MEDIUM	Institutional integration timelines slip	Multiple parallel integration efforts underway
RWA Rail Risk	MEDIUM	Tokenization adoption slower than expected	Intents operates independently of RWA timeline
Smart Contract	LOW	Exploit in Intents or Chain Signatures	100% uptime; rigorous audits; progressive decentralization

Risk Assessment: The dominant risk is volume growth stalling—all other risks are mitigated by NEAR's architectural decisions and institutional momentum. The bear case assigns 25% probability.

CONCLUSION

The Investment Case for NEAR Protocol

Synthesis of findings and final assessment

This report has analyzed NEAR Protocol's investment case through four independent analytical lenses—each of which suggests NEAR may be materially undervalued at current levels.

Architecture

NEAR has built the only cross-chain coordination layer purpose-designed for autonomous agent commerce requiring privacy, confidentiality, and verifiability. With 28-chain integration, intent-based routing, and a growing solver network, NEAR occupies a structural position no competing L1 has replicated. The 1M TPS testnet achievement and 46M monthly active users confirm infrastructure readiness at scale.

Fee Conversion

The February 2026 fee switch transforms NEAR from a utility-only token into a fee-accrual asset. The three-tier fee architecture ensures 100% of NEAR Intents volume triggers \$NEAR purchases—a mechanism that, combined with the 70% gas burn, creates direct supply compression proportional to network usage. Trailing 90-day annualized fees of ~\$53M imply an Intents-adjusted P/S of ~28x.

Deflationary Inflection Point

At ~\$1.22, NEAR requires approximately \$177M in daily volume to become net deflationary under the 2026 channel-mix-adjusted blended take rate of ~0.061%. The October 2025 Halving cut the issuance threshold in half. February 2026 volume reached \$2.52B monthly (~\$90M/day). The trailing 90-day daily average (Dec 2025–Feb 2026) is ~\$77M/day. Under base case growth of 3.5x annually, we estimate NEAR could cross the deflationary threshold in 2026—with the threshold declining each subsequent year.

Valuation

At a \$1.49B market cap, NEAR's Intents-adjusted P/S is ~28x—a fraction of ETH (194x) and SOL (40x). Based on our probability-weighted scenario analysis, the estimated base case range for 2027 of approximately \$15–\$25 suggests significant potential upside at current prices. Even the bear case suggests positive return potential.

SVRN RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

Based on our analysis, NEAR Protocol at \$1.22 presents an asymmetric risk-reward profile. The convergence of fee switch activation, halved inflation, exponential volume growth, and expanding institutional access creates conditions that the market may not have fully priced. Intents-adjusted P/S of ~28x. Base case estimated range: approximately \$15–\$25 by 2027, \$100–\$150 by 2030. Under our dynamic take rate model, we estimate approximately 80% probability of NEAR sustaining deflationary status through 2030, with the base case reaching deflation as early as 2026. These are modeled estimates, not predictions. See Disclosures.

METRIC	CURRENT	BASE CASE 2027 (EST.)	IMPLIED CHANGE
NEAR Price	\$1.22	\$15–\$25	Significant upside
Market Cap	\$1.49B	~\$19–\$32B	Material expansion
Daily Intents Vol.	~\$77M (120d avg)	~\$875M	~10x
Supply Status	Inflationary	Deflationary	Structural shift
Institutional Access	Limited	ETF + Institutional Platforms	Step change

REFERENCE

Abbreviations & Data Sources

Please refer to the Important Disclosures and Forward-Looking Statements on page 2 of this Report before reviewing the analysis contained herein.

Data sources referenced throughout this Report via footnotes: Dune Analytics, Defuse Labs, Bitwise Europe, Artemis, Electric Capital, NEAR Foundation, CoinMarketCap, CoinGecko, The Tie, Token Terminal, DefiLlama. Data as of March 9, 2026 unless otherwise noted. All dollar amounts in USD.

APPENDIX A

Channel Mix & Blended Take Rate Assumptions

The deflationary threshold model uses a dynamic blended take rate derived from the fee schedule below and projected channel volume distribution. The blended rate represents the weighted-average net fee accruing to the protocol (triggering \$NEAR purchases) across all channel types.

Channel Fee Rates (Net to Protocol)

CHANNEL TYPE	GROSS FEE	PROTOCOL SHARE	NET TO PROTOCOL
Native (near.com, intents-near.org)	20 bps (0.20%)	100%	20.00 bps
Unauthorized channels	20 bps (0.20%)	100%	20.00 bps
Authorized API partners (avg)	5 bps (0.05%)	50%	2.50 bps
Universal swap fee (base)	0.01 bps (0.0001%)	100%	0.01 bps

Source: NEAR Foundation fee schedule. Authorized API fee of 5 bps represents estimated average of bilateral negotiated agreements with distribution partners.

Projected Channel Mix (% of Volume)

CHANNEL	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Native front-end	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%
Unauthorized	7%	5%	4%	3%	2%
Authorized API	68%	68%	65%	63%	60%
Universal-only	10%	7%	6%	4%	3%

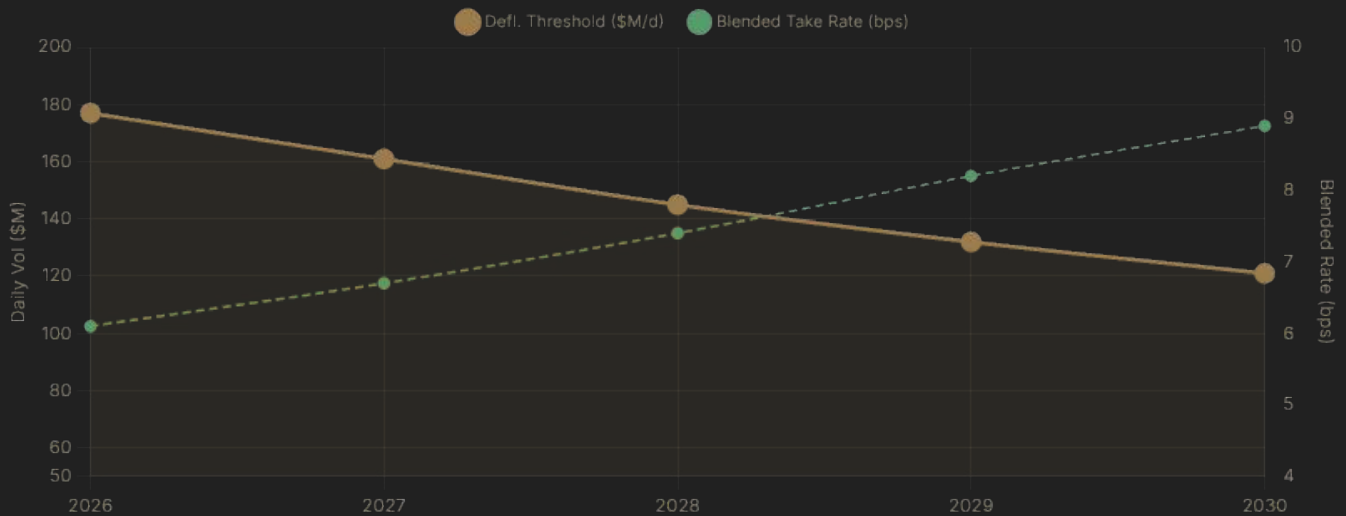
Resulting Blended Take Rate & Deflationary Threshold

YEAR	BLENDED RATE	THRESHOLD (\$M/D)	THRESHOLD (\$B/MO)
2026	6.1 bps (0.061%)	\$177	\$5.3
2027	6.7 bps (0.067%)	\$161	\$4.8
2028	7.4 bps (0.074%)	\$145	\$4.4
2029	8.2 bps (0.082%)	\$132	\$4.0
2030	8.9 bps (0.089%)	\$121	\$3.6

Deflationary threshold at \$1.22 NEAR. Threshold declines as blended take rate increases with native front-end adoption. Annual issuance: ~\$39.3M (~32.2M NEAR at \$1.22).

Dynamic Blended Take Rate & Threshold Decline

Deflationary threshold (\$M/day) declines each year as native front-end share grows



Source: SVRN Research. 2026 blended rate: 6.1 bps. Threshold at \$1.22 NEAR.

APPENDIX B

Glossary of Terms

L1 / L2	Layer 1 (base blockchain) / Layer 2 (scaling solution built on L1)
TPS	Transactions per second
Chain Signatures	NEAR's cross-chain signing protocol enabling intent fulfillment across 28 chains
DCML	Decentralized Confidential Machine Learning
NEAR Intents	Intent-based cross-chain swap infrastructure on NEAR Protocol
Solver Network	Competitive network of agents that fulfill user intents at optimal rates
DEX / DeFi	Decentralized Exchange / Decentralized Finance
ETP	Exchange-Traded Product (regulated, exchange-listed investment vehicle)
ETF	Exchange-Traded Fund (subset of ETP; US-regulated fund structure)
P/S	Price-to-Sales ratio (market cap divided by annualized revenue)
E[V]	Expected Value (probability-weighted average across scenarios)
RWA	Real World Assets (tokenized equities, bonds, real estate on-chain)
FX	Foreign Exchange (global currency trading markets, ~\$7.5T/day volume)
MAD / MAU	Monthly Active Developer / Monthly Active User
AUM	Assets Under Management
TER	Total Expense Ratio (annual fund operating cost as % of AUM)
Fee Switch	Activation of \$NEAR conversion for all Intents fees (Feb 23, 2026)
Halving	Permanent 50% reduction in NEAR inflation rate (Oct 30, 2025)
Blended Take Rate	Channel-mix-weighted net fee rate to protocol; used for threshold calculations
Private Shard	NEAR's privacy-preserving execution environment for institutional use
IronClaw	Confidential compute infrastructure within NEAR's AI stack

