

Conservation

BOATERS & ANGLERS ARE THE ORIGINAL CONSERVATIONISTS

Critical Infrastructure Dollars at Work: Paid by Boaters for all Americans

Boaters and anglers lead the way in preserving our nation's waterways, contributing:

\$600 million annually from motor boat fuel and fishing equipment excise taxes.

The Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund

is the backbone for fisheries conservation and provides critical funding for state and national fishing and boating programs.

Who supports the Trust Fund?

- Boaters
- Anglers
- Accessory, Boat & Engine manufacturers



How? Taxes on motor boat fuel, fishing tackle and equipment, imported boats and fishing equipment, and small engines contribute to the Trust Fund.

Why? Boaters and Anglers pay so that all Americans can enjoy clean water, abundant fisheries, and resource protection.

Conservation Dollars at Work

In the past 8 years, the Trust Fund has supported:

3.8 BILLION	fish stocked annually
11,000	boat ramps and access sites created and improved
4.7 MILLION	students taught aquatic education
64,000	acres of fish habitat protected
6,000	boat sewage pump out stations constructed

ACTIONS FOR LEADERS TO TAKE

- 1 **Protect the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund as an important source of conservation for our waterways.**
- 2 **Modernize the SFRBTF to:**
 - ▶ Better Recruit, Retain, and Reactive Anglers— a critical source of state conservation dollars from fishing license fees
 - ▶ Educate the public on the Trust Fund and its important value for conservation
- 3 **Support necessary infrastructure and education funding to prevent the spread of AIS in our nation's lakes.**



Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species

- The spread of harmful plants, animals and other organisms threaten America's water habitats and have lasting economic damage for the boater, local community, and boating industry.
- Marine manufacturers and the industry are doing their part to examine design controls which help prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).
- AIS is not only Asian Carp in the Great Lakes, but also invasive quagga-zebra mussels in the West, and invasive grasses like hydrilla in the Potomac River and salvinia in the Gulf of Mexico.
- AIS impacts not only the boating industry but local economies, businesses and tourism.
- Pump out and decontamination stations are an important tool to fight the spread of AIS at boat ramps!