

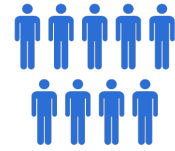
# BOATING INDUSTRY WRDA PRIORITIES



**170 billion**  
in total U.S. economic activity



**12 million**  
registered boats



**691,000**  
American jobs



**35,000**  
U.S. businesses

## OUTDOOR RECREATION IS A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE U.S. ECONOMY

2.2% of  
U.S. GDP

\$778  
Billion in  
Economic  
Output

5.2  
Million  
Jobs  
Supported

#1  
Contributor:  
Boating &  
Fishing

## WRDA PRIORITIES

To support the recreational boating economy, the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA) 2020 reauthorization should address:

1. Aquatic invasive species (AIS)
2. Impacts of climate change to coastal economies
3. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project prioritization
4. Marine debris

## COMBAT AIS

The spread of AIS is a national problem that Congress must tackle, yet the federal government only spends \$260 million annually to combat AIS.

**Congress must evaluate the effectiveness of existing AIS funding, identify funding shortfalls, and develop best practices for stopping and reversing the spread of AIS.**



## REFORM ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERING PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Small federal harbors and waterways are critical to public safety and communities and businesses that depend on economic activity from recreational boating. However, funding for federal water infrastructure projects ignores the recreational boating industry's \$170.3 billion annual economic impact and the needs of smaller waterways.

**Congress must improve the benefit cost ratio formula by requiring the recognition of recreation as an economic benefit in the water infrastructure project prioritization process.**



## PREPARE COASTAL ECONOMIES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

The effects of climate change, rising sea levels, and more frequent and intense storms have put the future of coastal economies at risk.

**Congress must direct ACOE to assess the resiliency of coastal economies to climate change and provide recommendations for mitigating vulnerabilities.**



## REMOVE AND PREVENT MARINE DEBRIS

Eight million metric tons of plastics are dumped into the ocean each year, endangering marine ecosystems, coastal economies, and boating safety. By 2025, our oceans will consist of one pound of plastic for every three pounds of fish.

**Congress must incorporate the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act into WRDA, which would improve the domestic response to marine debris and enhance global engagement to address oceans plastic pollution.**

