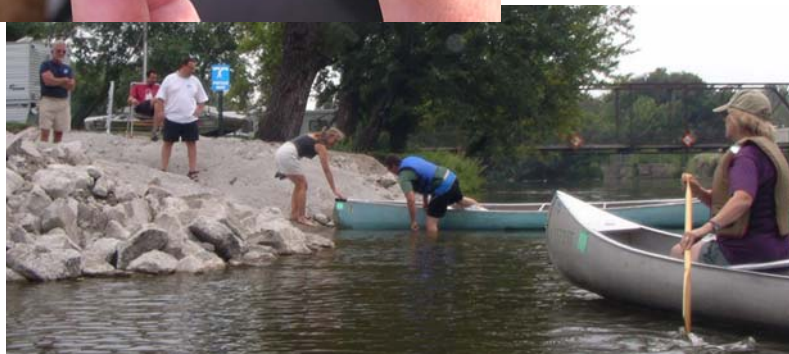


Fiscal Year 2007 Boat Fee Revenues and Expenditures Report



Department of Natural Resources
Conservation and Recreation Division
December 31, 2007
Richard A. Leopold, Director
Revised January 8, 2008



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2005, in order to provide for continued outreach and resources to the citizens of Iowa, the Iowa General Assembly amended Iowa Code Chapter 462A.52 to increase boat registration fees for all types of watercraft, to change the registration cycle, and to begin requiring the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to report on increased revenues and how they are expended until December 31, 2013. This is the first such annual report.

The increased fees are required to be used to control the spread of aquatic invasive species, the administration of enforcement of navigation laws and for water safety upon the inland waters of the state. The mandate required the Department to submit a report to the General Assembly by December 31 of each year beginning in 2007. It was directed that the report contain, but is not limited to, summarizing the activities of the Department on:

1. Administering and enforcing programs to control aquatic invasive species
2. Administering and enforcing navigation laws and water safety
3. Amount of revenues collected as a result of fee increases
4. Detail of how the revenues were expended
5. Amount and source of all other funds expended
6. Detail of how the funds were expended
7. The amount and source of other funds expended for the above purposes.

Revenues: Comparisons and projections

When boat fees were increased in the 2005 legislative session, the registration period also was changed from two years to three years. For planning purposes, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources must now plan revenues over three years.

Table 1

Previous Revenues Under Two-year Registration Periods				
	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
Boat fees	\$2,563,493	\$372,481	\$2,611,295	\$387,908
Federal match	\$1,298,443	\$1,296,070	\$1,411,585	\$1,533,266
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,861,936	\$1,668,551	\$4,022,880	\$1,921,174

Boat fees generated an average of \$1,483,794 per year (see Table 1) during the last four years of the two-year registration cycle. With fee increases and one year of actual record,

boat fees are expected to average \$2,343,204 per year (see Table 2) under the three-year registration cycle.

Table 2

Current / Projected Revenues Under Three-year Registration Periods				
	FY 07 (Collected)	FY 08 (Projected)	FY 09 (Projected)	3-Year Projected Revenues
Boat fees	\$6,229,611	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$7,029,611
Federal match	\$1,809,560	\$1,678,505	\$1,678,505	\$5,166,570
TOTAL REVENUES	\$8,039,171	\$2,078,505	\$2,078,505	\$12,196,181

With one year of record of annual actual increase in boat fees, the average increase is projected to be \$859,410 in additional state revenue per year, for a total of \$4,065,394 million available to expend per year in state and federal monies. The federal funding is expected to be status quo over the next two years. Federal funds include the safety and education portion and motorboat access portion from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration program, and Aquatic Invasive Species matching funds.

Expenditures: Comparisons and projections

For the purposes of this report, the final year under the previous fee structure, fiscal year 2006, will be the baseline year to measure future years' expenditures. The state salary adjustment each year will be added to the baseline figure, so current programs remain sustainable.

Table 3

General Expenditure Categories		
	FY 06	FY 07
Printing	\$60,274	\$232,429
Boat Safety	\$1,366,842	\$1,659,780
Boat infrastructure maintenance/mgt	\$1,015,873	\$1,053,340
Aquatic Invasive Species	\$164,556	\$333,818
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,607,545	\$3,279,367

Table 4

Expenditure Comparison: FY06 to FY07			
	FY06	FY07	Increase over baseline year
Aquatic Invasive Species program	\$164,556	\$333,818	\$169,262
Expanded enforcement & safety programs			
Water Patrol Officers (temporary/seasonal)	\$94,390	\$199,263	\$104,873
Patrol Boats	\$65,182	\$169,312	\$104,130
Boater Education program	\$0	\$81,591	\$81,591
Decibel Meters	\$0	\$6,210	\$6,210
Water Trails & Dam Safety program	\$10,410	\$58,655	\$48,245
Baseline enforcement and safety devoted to boating and navigation	\$1,196,860	\$1,144,749	(\$52,111)
*Baseline for boating recreation and safety infrastructure maintenance and management	\$1,015,873	\$1,053,340	\$37,467
Printing expenditures	\$60,274	\$232,429	\$172,155
TOTAL	\$2,607,545	\$3,279,367	\$671,822

* NOTE: Neither the Law Enforcement Bureau nor the Fisheries Bureau have land management or maintenance capacity. The Wildlife Bureau manages and maintains state fishing access areas, boat ramps, and docks in cooperation with the other bureaus.

More detailed reporting of program-level expenses follow in this report.

Aquatic Invasive Species Expenditures

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Invasive Species Program (DNR-AIS) is responsible for monitoring and managing aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Iowa. Goals of the DNR-AIS as stated in the “Plan for the Management of Aquatic Nuisance Species in Iowa” are:

- I. Minimize the risk of further introductions of AIS into the state of Iowa.
- II. Limit the spread of established populations of AIS into uninfested waters in Iowa.
- III. Eradicate or control to a minimum level of impact the harmful ecological, economic, social, and public health impacts resulting from infestations of AIS in Iowa.

Priority AIS in Iowa include Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*), bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), brittle naiad (*Najas minor*), and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).

Actions utilized to detect, manage, and prevent the introduction and spread of AIS in Iowa in FY07 included adding staff, developing partnerships to coordinate AIS activities, increasing public awareness of AIS, managing AIS infestations, and monitoring for early detection of AIS. Major accomplishments included the following.

- Added a permanent, full-time Natural Resources Technician to the DNR-AIS
- Conducted 2,795 watercraft inspections reaching over 7,400 people
- Supported 12 partnerships and cooperative projects
- Prepared Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans for the Fisheries Bureau standard operating procedures
- Distributed brochures, identifications cards, posters, and regulations booklets statewide
- Leased 5 billboards with AIS prevention messages on interstate and state highways
- Reached statewide audiences regarding AIS prevention with news releases, radio and television interviews, and presentations
- Posted new AIS prevention signs at public boat accesses in Iowa
- Chemically treated 7 waterbodies with Eurasian watermilfoil or brittle naiad
- Surveyed vegetation in 100 waterbodies
- Posted signs at accesses of waterbodies infested with AIS
- Surveyed zebra mussels in Clear Lake
- Responded to discovery of zebra mussels in Lake Delhi
- Sampled zebra mussel veligers in Clear Lake, Lake Delhi, and the Mississippi, Wapsipinicon, Cedar, and Iowa Rivers
- Supported Iowa State University study of Clear Lake



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

Aquatic Invasive Species Program Personnel and Activities

A Natural Resources Biologist has coordinated the DNR-AIS since 2000, and a permanent, full-time Natural Resources Technician was added in October 2006. During



the summer of 2007, 7 seasonal employees conducted watercraft inspections and 2 seasonal employees surveyed waterbodies for AIS across the state. Prior to the summer of 2007, the DNR-AIS only hired 2-3 seasonal employees who split their time between watercraft inspections and AIS surveys.

Watercraft inspectors discussed inspecting watercraft for AIS with operators and collected information on AIS presence and location, watercraft type and state of registration, number of people, last and next waterbody visited, and operator familiarity with Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, Asian carp, and Iowa's aquatic invasive species law. Trailer stickers reminding boaters to prevent the spread of AIS are given to each operator after inspection. The table below summarizes the watercraft inspection effort of the DNR-AIS during recent summers.



Watercraft inspection efforts			
	2005	2006	2007
Seasonal Employees	2 part-time	3 part-time	7 full-time
Watercraft Inspected	687	791	2,785
Personal Contacts	1,790	2,350	7,400
Waterbodies with Inspections	21	16	35
SAH Surveys (see AIS Outreach Materials section)	0	100	700

DNR-AIS staff supported several partnerships and working groups in FY07:

- Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force
- Mississippi River Basin Panel on ANS (Co-Chair)
- Missouri River ANS Work Group
- Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the U.S.
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Invasive Species Committee
- Midwest Invasive Plant Network (Education Committee member)
- Heart of Iowa Cooperative Weed Management Area (Steering Committee member)
- Northeast Iowa Cooperative Weed Management Area (Mapping Committee member)
- Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association
- St. Croix River Zebra Mussel Feasibility Study Team
- Mississippi River Mussel Coordination Team and Zebra Mussel Control Subgroup

DNR-AIS staff also participated in a workshop entitled the Ecology and Management of Nonnative, Invasive Submersed Plants in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Elsewhere and prepared Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans addressing fish (electrofishing, nets), vegetation, and water sampling for the Iowa DNR Fisheries updated standard operating procedures manual.

Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach Materials

The DNR-AIS has different types of outreach materials targeting water recreationists in Iowa. These informational materials were distributed statewide during watercraft inspections, to all Iowa DNR Fisheries regional and field offices, during the Iowa State Fair, and at state and county parks and nature centers.

- Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers brochures
- AIS identification cards
- Don't Dump Your Bait posters
- 2007 Iowa Fishing Regulations booklet
- Handbook of Iowa Boating Laws and Responsibilities



The DNR-AIS also provided information through the Iowa DNR website and 5 billboards posted along interstate and state highways near high use lakes in Iowa. The 5 billboards leased in 2007 were an increase over the 2 that have been leased the past several years.

Statewide audiences were targeted with news releases regarding volunteer opportunities within the Iowa DNR, declaring June as Invasive Species Month, and before the July 4th holiday. DNR-AIS staff were also interviewed for numerous newspaper articles regarding AIS identification and prevention.

DNR-AIS staff gave presentations about AIS in a variety of settings in FY07, including:

- Iowa Water Monitoring Conference
- Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau Annual Statewide Meeting
- County Weed Commissioners of Iowa Annual Meeting
- Iowa DNR Law Enforcement Water Patrol Officer Training
- Iowa Great Lakes Water Safety Council program
- Taking the Road Less Traveled: A Career Conference for Girls
- Outdoor Journey for Girls
- Iowa Envirothon
- Central Iowa Anglers meeting
- Mid-Iowa Bassmasters meeting



New signs incorporating the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers logo, prevention steps, and updated information regarding the aquatic invasive species law were posted at boat accesses across Iowa in 2007.

The AIS programs of the Minnesota DNR, Wisconsin DNR, Iowa DNR, Minnesota Sea Grant, and Wisconsin Sea Grant are cooperators on a project that is implementing and evaluating several outreach methods aimed at recreational boaters in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Outreach methods using the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers logo and message in 2006 and 2007 included gas pump toppers, billboards, flying banners, newspaper ads, television and radio PSAs, rest area displays, signs, watercraft inspectors, and a traveler information system. Surveys conducted by watercraft inspectors in 2006 and 2007 asked interviewees about the logo, sources of information about AIS, and actions regarding AIS.

Aquatic Invasive Species Management and Monitoring

DNR Fisheries cooperated with DNR-AIS staff to chemically treat 7 Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and brittle naiad (BN) infestations in FY07.

- Martens Lake (Bremer County), EWM
- Siems Park Ponds (Kossuth County), EWM
- Crawford Creek Lake (Ida County), BN
- Dog Creek Lake (O'Brien County), BN
- Eldred Sherwood Lake (Hancock County), BN
- Nelson Park Pond (Crawford County), BN
- Southwood Ponds (Woodbury County), BN

Two seasonal employees surveyed aquatic vegetation in 100 Iowa waterbodies in 2007 to monitor for new AIS infestations. Species lists and aquatic vegetation maps were completed for each waterbody surveyed. Fisheries and wildlife biologists and county conservation board personnel also monitored vegetation in the waterbodies in their areas during management activities. Three new infestations of Eurasian watermilfoil and 2 new infestations of brittle naiad were discovered in Iowa in 2007.

- Meiers Wildlife Management Area Pond (Hardin County), EWM
- Pony Creek Lake (Mills County), EWM
- Scout Camp Pond (County), EWM
- Lake Iowa (Iowa County), BN
- Lake Meyer (Winneshie County), BN

The table below summarizes the monitoring during recent summers.

Vegetation Monitoring and Treatment Efforts of the DNR-AIS			
	2005	2006	2007
Seasonal Employees	2 part-time	3 part-time	2 full-time
Waterbodies Surveyed	62	65	100
Waterbodies Treated	9	12	7

Signs were posted at all AIS-infested waterbodies alerting the public about the species present and how to prevent its spread. Eurasian watermilfoil has been identified in 31 waterbodies in Iowa since 1993; however, the rate of spread has slowed in recent years. Brittle naiad is continuing to spread across Iowa and has been identified in 33 waterbodies since 2003.

DNR Fisheries staff conducted a survey for adult zebra mussels in Clear Lake (Cerro Gordo County) in August 2006. Rocks at selected areas around the lake were removed and visually inspected for zebra mussels. A total of about 10 zebra mussels were found at scattered locations around the lake.



Zebra mussels were discovered in Lake Delhi (Delaware County) in July 2006. Local residents on Lake Delhi removed a concrete block

from the lake that had about 20 small zebra mussels attached to it. Visual inspection of rocks at the dam revealed low densities of zebra mussels of varying sizes on most rocks.



Zebra mussel veliger settlement samplers were placed in Clear Lake and Lake Delhi in 2007 to help determine zebra mussel population size and distribution in the two lakes. Docks, boat hoists, and other structures were also visually inspected for zebra mussels as they were removed from the two lakes during late summer and fall 2007. Juvenile zebra mussels were observed on most structures.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Minnesota DNR, Wisconsin DNR, Illinois DNR, and Iowa DNR collected zebra mussel veliger samples from the Upper Mississippi River and selected tributaries during July and August 2006 to monitor trends in abundance and peak veliger production. In Iowa, DNR staff collected samples below Lock and Dam 10 through 19 and from the Wapsipinicon, Iowa, and Cedar Rivers.

Iowa State University began a water quality and fisheries study for Clear Lake in 2007 that includes monitoring zebra mussel veliger and adult densities and distribution. The DNR-AIS Program agreed to provide \$10,000 annually for this 4-year project that is also being supported by DNR lake restoration and water quality monitoring funds.

Aquatic Invasive Species Expenditures		
	FY06	FY07
Personnel (includes Fisheries staff time)	\$85,234	\$165,672
Travel Expenses	\$4,915	\$12,962
State Vehicle Operation and Depreciation	\$3,281	\$6,230
Office Supplies	\$399	\$4,522
Facility Maintenance Supplies	\$26	\$722
Equipment Maintenance Supplies	\$2,936	\$9,802
Ag Supplies	\$42,751	\$40,130
Other Supplies (plant identification books)	\$100	\$755
Printing and Binding (includes signs)	\$477	\$16,941
Uniforms	\$455	\$1,511
Postage	\$536	\$183
Communications	\$651	\$566
Outside Services	\$595	\$6,463
Advertising and Publishing	\$11,390	\$32,302
Reimbursement	\$0	\$166
Equipment	\$1042	\$13,331
Indirects	\$9768	\$17,561
TOTAL	\$164,556	\$333,818

Boating Navigation Enforcement and Water Safety Expenditures

Seasonal Water Patrol Officers (WPO) Program



Iowa Water Patrol Officers Bill Winland and Matt Bruner on motor patrol on Saginaw Lake in Polk County. Photo courtesy Iowa DNR

The number of seasonal water patrol officers had remained flat from the 2003 to 2005 boating seasons. For the 2006 boating season, the Iowa DNR hired seven new seasonal water patrol officers committed to on-water education and navigation enforcement. These seasonal employees were hired based on the anticipated new revenues from the General Assembly decision to increase boat fees. It was necessary to hire the WPOs at the beginning of the 2006

boating season in order to choose from an adequate pool of applicants – premium candidates are typically unavailable if the Department cannot offer employment for the entire summer.

Seasonal Water Patrol Program Statistics

Year/ District	Number of Water Patrol Officers	Contacts	Citations
2005			
1	8	13,349	403
2	3	3,680	251
3	1	1,322	147
4	4	4,993	362
5	2	4,169	181
6	4	5,610	500
<i>totals</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>33,123</i>	<i>1,844</i>
2006			
1	14	18,029	438
2	3	3,447	165
3	1	1,653	53
4	4	4,964	313
5	3	3,191	132
6	4	6,234	296
<i>totals</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>37,518</i>	<i>1,397</i>
2007			
1	11	18,155	544
2	5	6,221	234
3	2	4,568	140
4	6	7,219	300
5	3	3,157	145
6	5	10,017	357
<i>totals</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>49,332</i>	<i>1,720</i>

Three additional water patrol officers were added in the 2007 boating season from the appropriated boater registration fee increases. The 10 additional seasonal water patrol officers increased presence of enforcement by seasonal officers and allowed Iowans a safer recreational experience on Iowa's waterways.

Water Patrol Officer Expenditures		
	FY06	FY07
Salaries	\$51,422	\$149,367
Equipment	\$1,844	\$3,638
Meals & Lodging	\$6,369	\$12,336
Training	\$2,917	\$1,439
Fuel	\$31,838	\$32,483
TOTAL	\$94,390	\$199,263



DNR Patrol Boats

The Department currently has approximately 25 large patrol boats used for navigation enforcement and boating education on Iowa's waterways. With the additional water patrol officers being hired, the Department is in dire need to purchase and replace patrol boats on a more consistent basis. Some of the DNR vessels in operation are more than 10 years old and increasingly showing their age. Additional revenues are allowing for vessels to be replaced on a 3-4 year maximum schedule.

In anticipation of the 7 new seasonal water patrol officers hired in fiscal year 2006, the Department purchased 2 large patrol boats in 2006 totaling \$65,182.

In Fiscal Year 2007 the Department purchased 4 additional large patrol boats at a cost of \$169,312.

Patrol Boats Expenditures		
	FY06	FY07
228 Edgewater patrol boat		\$47,604
242 Sportfish patrol boat		\$62,968
1800 Pro V patrol boat		\$26,836
1800 Pro V patrol boat		\$31,904
220 Bay	\$43,285	
Tundra 21	\$21,897	
TOTAL	\$65,182	\$169,312

IOWA DNR Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Law Enforcement Bureau

Attention Boat Operators

Boater Education is mandatory for any person 12-17 who will operate a motorboat over 10 horsepower or personal watercraft (PWC) on Iowa waters.

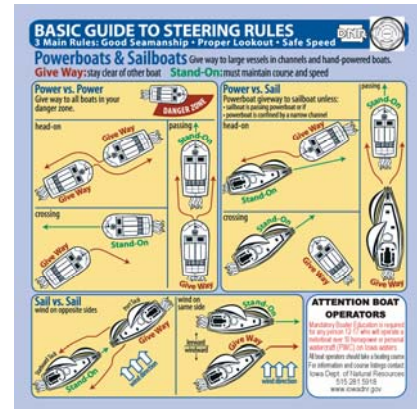
Student options to comply with Mandatory Boater Education

- Home Study Course
- Online Computer Internet Course
- Classroom Course
- Any National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved boating course from another state

For more information contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (515) 281-5918 or visit www.iowadnr.gov

Boater Education

The Iowa DNR hired a Boater Education Coordinator with the registration fee increase. Prior to the increase, the Department was unable to provide the staff and attention needed to advance the education program. The DNR relied heavily on other organizations and a handful of employees with a passion for boater education to carry the program. The Iowa DNR is now able to be proactive regarding boater education, instead of playing catch up on important trends and safety issues. The following expenditures were from the boat registration fee increase revenues.



Boater Education Expenditures		
	FY2006	FY2007
Salary (Boater Education Coordinator)	\$0	\$48,353
Vehicle Operating Expenses	\$0	\$6,134
Office Equipment	\$0	\$4,898
Education Supplies	\$0	\$640
Clothing Allowance	\$0	\$350
Travel expenses	\$0	\$2,479
Novelty items with boater education messages	\$0	\$11,170
Incentive awards for volunteer instructors	\$0	\$1,610
Educational materials	\$0	\$5,957
TOTAL	\$0	\$81,591

Attention Boat Operators:

It's the Law!

Boater Education is mandatory for any person 12 - 17 years of age who will operate a motorboat over 10 horsepower or personal watercraft (PWC) on Iowa waters.

For Boater Education Opportunities Please Visit:
www.iowadnr.gov
www.uscgmvt.org
www.iowaps.org

The education program created and purchased items to give away to young people at safety fairs, school programs, and education classes. These items are printed with boater education messages to help spread the importance of safety to the public. Items include pencils, pens, floating keytainers, bracelets, stickers, tattoos, and eye glass retainers.

The program purchased service awards to be given to volunteer boater education instructors. Volunteer instructors are vital to the continued success of the program. Their commitment and dedication to boater education keeps the program alive.

The education program was also able to purchase educational materials that assisted boaters regarding new laws and changes the Department has implemented. These messages were provided in poster and sticker format to be distributed to schools, parks, marinas, county conservation centers, and county recorders.

The DNR now offers home-study courses, courses over the internet, and classroom courses. The program helped increase the number of safety-educated boaters in 2007.

Boater Education Certifications		
Year	Students Certified	# of Classes
1999	681	14
2000	629	31
2001	349	13
2002	462	15
2003	1711	19
2004	1468	20
2005	1088	22
2006	545	17
2007	2298	29

Decibel Meters

Navigation noise complaints have always been a concern for the DNR Law Enforcement Bureau. Iowa’s natural lakes, man-made lakes, and federal impoundments require continuous attention throughout the boating season. Prior to the 2005 boat registration fee increase, the Department had purchased the majority of the decibel meters used for law enforcement in the 1980s. These outdated meters were ineffective when enforcing newer motorboat noise regulations. A training session using the new decibel meters was provided in July 2007 to 30 officers.



Decibel Meter Expenditures		
	2006	2007
3 decibel meters	\$0	\$6,210



Water Trails and Dam Safety Program

The Iowa DNR water trails and low-head dam safety program works statewide to ensure improved navigational safety on waterways throughout Iowa. This is achieved by developing consistently signed water trails, a warning signage system, navigation maps, accesses, and portage trails around dangerous dams. The Iowa DNR provides funds for and encourages local ownership of water trails throughout Iowa.



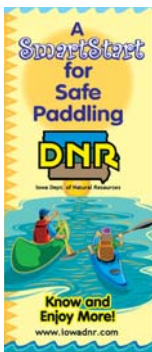
Children learn dam safety with a low-head dam model purchased with new boating revenues.

The program serves a growing segment of boat users – canoeists and kayakers. Many of these boaters previously did pay fees, but no program focused on their specific safety concerns. National statistics show that these users have a higher rate of death per capita compared to other boaters. With the advent of this new program in Iowa, two new brochures, “SmartStart for Safe Paddling” and “The Drowning Machine” were developed and disseminated to county recorders, boat rental facilities, paddling clubs, local governments, paddling and field staff.

Water trails and dam safety a glance		
	2006	2007
Number of individual water trails complete	0	3
Miles of water trails complete	0	70
Number of low-head dams with standard warning signage	2	19
Dam-related deaths	2	6
Number of portage trails around low-head dams complete	2	8
Number of low-head dams modified or removed for safety purposes	0	1

The program is currently working in more than 30 counties on more than 720 miles of water trails. Three water trails with a total of 70 miles of trail have been completed and officially designated by the state.

Other benefits of the water trails program include:



- Wearing life jackets and low-head dam safety demonstrations with a pump-driven low-head dam model were presented at 10 events, including the Iowa State Fair.
- Rivers are being promoted as valuable natural and quality-of-life resources.
- Volunteers and AmeriCorps members have participated in projects including portage construction, dam-safety outreach, and canoe-campsite construction.

Boat Fee Sourced Expenditures for Water Trails & Dam Safety		
	FY06	FY07
Salary and contracted services (Water Trails Coordinator)	\$7,572	\$45,943
Travel, training, conferences	\$1,038	\$1,980
Publications	\$1,800	\$3,010
Office Equipment		\$1,330
Boats and trailers		\$1,824
Supplies & materials		\$2,568
Events & marketing		\$2,000
TOTAL	\$10,410	\$58,655



Expenditures From Other Funding Sources for Water Trails & Dam Safety		
	FY06	FY07
Water trails mini-granting program (source: marine fuel tax)	\$50,000	\$50,000
AmeriCorps member cost of living allowances (source: AmeriCorps and REAP)	\$10,488	\$30,400
TOTAL	\$60,488	\$80,400

**Boating Recreation
Infrastructure Maintenance
and Management**

The Iowa DNR owns or manages infrastructure for boating recreation across the state. This infrastructure is integral to safe boating and access to the waters.



The Law Enforcement Bureau and the Fisheries Bureau do not typically manage land and do not have the staff for this type of maintenance and management. The Wildlife Bureau staff manages and maintains state fishing access areas, boat ramps and docks in cooperation with other bureaus. Responsibilities include supplying the labor and equipment to maintain and manage hundreds of boat ramps and the associated parking lots across the state; maintaining 41 boat docks; providing and maintaining directional, safety and usage signage for these public sites; and contracting with private vendors when appropriate.

Boating populations, including paddlers, have increased over the years and there is an ever-growing demand for safe, convenient and appropriate boating access areas. Maintenance and management needs have increased, especially when dealing with vandalism and littering.

Boat Fee Expenditures for Boating Infrastructure Maintenance and Management (Salaries for labor, contracted services, equipment, signage, publications)			
	Federal	Boat Fees	Total
FY06	\$749,405	\$266,468	\$1,015,873
FY07	\$777,505	\$275,835	\$1,053,340

IOWA'S MARINE FUEL TAX (MFT) PROGRAM

The DNR Marine Fuel Tax program is not directly tied to the boat fee revenues and expenditures, but it is a complimentary program. MFT has played a vital role in providing recreational boaters new opportunities as well as maintaining public lakes used by boaters.



- **Revenue from the excise tax on the sale of motor fuel used in watercraft**
 - Amount of revenue equals nine-tenths of one percent, minus 3% of the figure for administrative costs and minus the amount refunded to commercial fishers of paid fuel tax paid per gallons of fuel used
- **MFT funds are leveraged with a variety of sources including Federal Coast Guard, Corps of Engineers Section 1135, State of Iowa Parks and Institutional Roads Fund, and local city and county conservation funds.**
- **Annual MFT funding historically ranges from \$2.2 to \$2.7 million.**
- **MFT funds are appropriated to the DNR to support and enhance recreational boating. Funded projects may include but are not limited to:**
 1. Dredging and renovation of lakes of this state.
 2. Acquisition, development, and maintenance of access to public boating waters.
 3. Development and maintenance of boating facilities and navigation aids.
 4. Administration, operation, and maintenance of recreational boating activities.
 5. Acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreational facilities associated with recreational boating.
- **Examples of current and past MFT projects:**
 - ◆ Storm Lake (Buena Vista Co.) marina upgrade & expansion
 - ◆ Summerset State Park (Warren Co.) boat ramps and bathrooms
 - ◆ Lower Gar Lake (Dickinson Co.) outlet repair
 - ◆ Village Creek Access (Allamakee Co., Mississippi River) channel dredging
- **DNR Water Recreation Access Cost-Share Program**
 - ◆ Around \$200,000 of MFT funds are available in the form of grants to local cities and counties for boat access facilities to lakes and streams
 - ◆ Projects are funded 75% state to 25% local match
 - ◆ DNR receives grant requests for 15 to 30 projects and awards amounts usually between \$2,000 and \$50,000
- **Examples of Current and Past WRAC Grants**
 - ◆ Bentonsport boat ramp (Van Buren Co.)
 - ◆ Hills Access (Johnson Co.) boat ramp and parking lot
 - ◆ City of Dubuque (Dubuque Co.) water works park boat ramp and parking lot