
FISCAL TOPICS

Fiscal Services Division

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Marine Fuel Tax Fund

Overview

The Marine Fuel Tax (MFT) Fund was established by the General Assembly in the 2006 Infrastructure Appropriations Act to support the recreational boating program operated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Previously, these marine fuel tax receipts were deposited in the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF). The amount received by the Fund is determined by Iowa Code section [452A.84](#). The State Treasurer makes monthly transfers to the MFT Fund from the Motor Fuels Tax Fund receipts. This amount is 0.9% of the total amount of motor fuel tax collected, less the fuel taxes refunded to commercial fishermen and 3.0% of the transfer for administration. Money from this transfer does not revert at the close of the fiscal year.

The DNR administers the MFT Fund to support and encourage recreational boating. Iowa Code section [452A.79A](#) outlines, but does not limit, MFT funds for the following uses:

- Dredging and renovation of lakes of this State.
- Acquisition, development, and maintenance of access to public boating waters.
- Development and maintenance of boating facilities and navigation aids.
- Administration, operation, and maintenance of recreational boating activities of the DNR.
- Acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreation facilities associated with recreational boating.

Facilities supported include marinas, boating facilities, safety stations, and infrastructure related to boating. MFT funds also support FTEs that support the boating program. Examples of budgeted projects for FY 2012 to FY 2013 include water trail grants, boat docks, boat ramps, patrol boats, and other related program expenditures.

The MFT Fund budget is approved annually by the Natural Resource Commission (NRC). The NRC also approves proposals for dredging or renovation of lakes; the acquisition, development, and maintenance of boating facilities; and the acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreational facilities associated with recreational boating.

Federal Funds

The MFT Fund receives federal grants from the State Boating Safety Grant Program. Grant money is used to support boating safety program objectives including personnel salaries, training, administration, and the cost of acquiring, constructing, and repairing public access sites.

Marine Fuel Tax Fund Budget

The chart on the following page provides a three-year summary of the MFT Fund.

More Information

State Boating Safety Grant Program: uscgboating.org/grants/state-grants-rbs-program

DNR Boating Information: iowadnr.gov/recreation/boating

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Marine Tax Fuel Fund Three-Year Summary

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Balance Brought Forward	\$4,346,285	\$4,367,609	\$4,161,438
Revenue:			
Federal Support	\$ 836,748	\$ 780,521	\$ 132,703
Intra-State Transfers	4,300,258	4,072,665	4,073,827
Gov. Transfer in Other Agencies	0	62,634	3,297
Refunds and Reimbursements	366	3,000	0
Total Revenue	<u>\$5,137,372</u>	<u>\$4,918,820</u>	<u>\$4,209,827</u>
Total Revenue and Balance Brought Forward	<u>\$9,483,657</u>	<u>\$9,286,429</u>	<u>\$8,371,265</u>
Expenditures:			
Facility Maintenance Supplies	\$ 126,333	\$ 169,883	\$ 160,102
Equipment Maintenance Supplies	2,525	640	0
Ag., Conservation & Horticulture Supplies	65,312	91,009	34,436
Other Supplies	246	1,466	914
Printing and Binding	1,527	740	0
Postage	0	56	0
Rentals	850	1,030	1,340
Professional & Scientific Services	22,915	70,253	31,809
Outside Services	78,972	107,004	120,474
Intra-State Transfers	766,936	675,341	736,048
Gov. Fund Type Transfers - Other Agencies' Services	1,060	175	0
Equipment	295,672	0	0
Equipment - Non-Inventory	6,961	8,261	59,541
Other Expense and Obligations	8,697	1,874	1,561
Licenses	35	0	0
State Aid	210,219	518,526	795,324
Capitals	3,527,789	3,478,465	1,969,896
Total Expenditures	<u>\$5,116,049</u>	<u>\$5,124,723</u>	<u>\$3,911,445</u>