

Environmental Benefits for Everyone

The sportfishing and boating communities' investments through the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (from excise taxes on fishing gear and motor boat fuels) amount to several hundred million dollars each year. These are matched by state fish and wildlife agencies and become a hugely significant source of revenue for conservation and outdoor recreation.

As of 2013, nearly \$7.7 billion in these excise taxes have underwritten fisheries and habitat conservation, research and monitoring efforts, fishing and boating access facilities like piers and boat ramps, and aquatic education throughout the country. Since 1999, some of the money has been dedicated to the Recreational

Boating & Fishing Foundation, established to promote participation in these two pastimes.

Excise tax investments are supplemented by money from the sale of fishing licenses. A major funding source for state fish and wildlife agencies, fishing license sales also generate several hundred million dollars each year for various state conservation and recreation programs. Since states began tallying them, license sales have provided about \$12 billion altogether.

This leadership role in conservation and outdoor recreation is unique to the sportfishing, boating, and hunting communities (the latter has similar investment programs).

Every American citizen—whether they get out on the water and wet a line or raise a rifle or not—benefits tremendously from the broad contributions the sporting community makes to the lasting protection of our Great Outdoors.