

May 19, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Chairman  
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen  
Ranking Member  
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen,

On behalf of the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Surface Transportation reauthorization of 2026. In particular, NMMA applauds the committee for including Title IX of the draft bill, which would reauthorize the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (Trust Fund).

NMMA is the leading recreational marine trade association in North America, representing more than 1,300 manufacturers of boats, engines, trailers, and marine accessories. Recreational boating has a \$230 billion economic impact, supporting more than 812,000 jobs and 36,000 businesses across the country. Boating and fishing are the largest contributors to the \$1.3 trillion outdoor recreation economy, supporting over 5 million jobs across the nation.

Millions of Americans rely on access to public waters for outdoor recreation, and these activities support hundreds of thousands of jobs and small businesses. The Trust Fund is a user-pay, public-benefit program that generates \$750 million each year to every state across the nation to support boating and fishing infrastructure. Currently, the Trust Fund is set to expire on September 30, 2026. Continued authorization and operation of this program is vital to protecting access to America's waterways while supporting jobs, strengthening local economies, and advancing conservation.

Moreover, the Trust Fund supports the U.S. Coast Guard's recreational boating safety program, maintains over 9,000 boat launch ramps across the country, provides resources for marinas and communities to build and maintain access to waterways, and enhances coastal wetland restoration projects. Since its last reauthorization, the Trust Fund has generated over \$3.5 billion to support these critical initiatives and programs.

The Trust Fund is supported primarily by motorboat fuel taxes and excise taxes on sportfishing equipment. Because motorboat fuel taxes generate more than half of the Trust Fund's revenue, any pause or disruption in collections would significantly impact state fish and wildlife agencies and boating access projects.

Thank you again for working together to advance bipartisan infrastructure legislation. We look forward to working with the Committee to reauthorize the Trust Fund and ensure Americans continue having safe and reliable access to our waterways for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Robyn Boerstling  
Senior Vice President and Chief Advocacy Officer