

Wallop-Breaux Reauthorization Discussions

The American Sportfishing Association (ASA), the [Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation](#), the [National Marine Manufacturers Association](#), the [National Association of State Boating Law Administrators](#), the [Marine Retailers Association of America](#), the [Association of Marina Industries](#), the [American Recreation Coalition](#), the [National Boating Federation](#), the [Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies](#), [BoatUS](#), [Trout Unlimited](#), the [Coastal Conservation Association](#), and [Bass Anglers Sportsman Society](#) have formed the Angling and Boating Alliance to reach consensus on issues related to the reauthorization of the [Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund](#) (Wallop-Breaux).

The U.S. [Coast Guard](#) and the U.S. [Fish and Wildlife Service](#) have an advisory role within the Alliance, furnishing the group technical and programmatic information as requested.

In its recent meetings, the Alliance members discussed reauthorization options and strategies for Congressional outreach.

For more information, contact ASA Vice President [Gordon Robertson](#), x237. ■

ASA's Position on the Funds' Reauthorization

The American Sportfishing Association's official position on the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund Reauthorization is as follows:

1. Maintain and increase the Sport Fish Restoration account value so continuing sport fish management needs are met at the state level.
2. Maintain the transfer of fuel tax revenue attributable to motor boat and small engine use from the Highway Trust Fund.
3. Increase the Outreach account (up to 3 percent equivalent of current statute) so that research, marketing and promotion activities continue efforts to increase the number of anglers and boaters.
 - a. Consider requiring state matching fund programs for second tier marketing.
 - b. Provide financial incentives to pull major angler education programs together in an angler education consortium.
 - c. Include language that provides for a state to use up to ten percent of its apportionment for angler and boater outreach.
4. Examine the Trust Fund for ways to improve its efficiency and function relative to revenue.
 - a. Change all accounts to a percent of the total revenues.
 - b. Minimize administrative costs charged to the Trust Fund by including them within accounts allocated by a percentage of the whole.
5. Include language that reduces a state's apportionment by the percentage of waters closed to recreational fishing for reasons based on other than fisheries science, excluding national security.
6. Provide for an industry advisory council that allows for direct input from the sportfishing industry on how sport fish restoration monies are spent.
7. Be vigilant and proactive to avoid Trust Fund revenue short falls while seeking additional revenue sources.