

This summary is for discussion purposes only and reflects the best effort of breakout session recorders to capture comments received during the AIS stakeholder meeting breakout sessions. The summary does not necessarily reflect the position or priorities of the state agencies involved in this meeting and should not be assumed to be the consensus of stakeholders involved.

**Michigan's Call to Action on Aquatic Invasive Species
March 5, 2008**

Funding Breakout Summary

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Top Priority Actions

- Organize to effect changes in an approach to sustainable funding.
- Better quantify the economic impacts for Michigan decision makers (gross numbers plus local anecdotal or case studies).
- Develop a coalition of AIS stakeholders (potentially affected interests) to buy in from the outset.
- Charge them with developing an action plan – economic impact on their niche funding.
- Develop statement of the problem; objectives; strategies; tactics.
- Enlist a champion/lead organization.

Key unresolved questions for the funding breakout session: development of actions/priorities

A. What **sources of state funding** could be created for implementing priority actions?

- Boat registration fees – possibly graduated
- Non-motorized watercraft
- Boat launch fee – could be expanded to all locations
- Port fees
- Gasoline tax – (some already goes to waterways fund) reallocating
- Sales tax on marine fuel
- Federal taxes – maximizing return – allocating to AIS
- General fund – coalition of constituents
- Tax on outdoor recreation sporting goods – canoes, kayaks, binoculars
- Environmental bond
- Non-resident fishing licenses
- Nonconsumptive users
- Increase the permit fee on ocean
- Fishing tournament organizers/participants – permit
- Regattas

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B. What **opportunities are there for partnerships** with non-state funding sources to collaborate on actions?

- Volunteers – monitoring (quantify \$\$ value)
- Foundations
- Corporate
- Community
- Major - Kellogg
- Corporate sponsorships
- Trust Fund - endowment
- Fishing tournament organizers – corporate
- Wildlife Forever – billboard campaign
- Leverage funding
- Boating and Fishing shows
- Raffles
- Service organizations
- Special assessments on local lakes – watershed oriented
- Michigan Aquatic Managers Association
- Tribal – GLIFWC
- Federal – better info about grant opportunities
- F&W Restoration grants

C. Are there any **transformational funding sources** for Michigan that would provide new opportunities for leadership in AIS prevention and control programs?

- Environmental Bond
- Trust Fund
- AIS Institute –
- Organic Federal legislation
- Great Lakes wide collaboration – consolidate
- L(eaking) U(nderground S(torage) T(anks) – for AIS
- Federal Cargo tax

D. Is there a need to **develop valid and reliable information on the costs** of invasive species to Michigan's economy to support requests for prevention funding mechanisms.

- Benefits accrue to other sectors
- Folks are concerned that they will pay now **and** later?