HB 2459 Adjusts Fees Related to Boat Titling And Registration



History

HB 2459 increases fees charged by the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) for registration and titling of certain watercraft. **The current OSMB fee schedule has not been updated since the 2003 legislative session.**

- OSMB fees are dedicated revenues and are statutorily required to remain within the OSMB budget, directly benefiting boaters.
- The updated fee schedule will provide adequate revenues to maintain current level of service through the next three biennium (with assumed 1.5% annual growth in registrations and no reduction in gas tax revenues.)
- Agency ending fund balances have been depleted in previous years with legislative approval to postpone raising fees, requiring a fee increase this session to maintain the current level of service.
- OSMB success is vital to the operations of local governments in providing safe, affordable access to Oregon's waterways.
- OSMB provides funding to local entities for marine law enforcement and boating facility maintenance.
- Without an increase, funding provided to local facility providers and law enforcement agencies will be curtailed.
- Distressed counties rely on OSMB revenue sharing and without current funding, local marine law enforcement and facility maintenance will likely decline across the state.

Why Do Local Park Providers Need Help?

- Of the 946 boating access points statewide, 812 are operated by public agencies.
- Over \$180 million in facility needs have been identified across 225 waterbodies in each of Oregon's 36 counties.
- Many providers do not receive local General Fund support and are forced to focus improvements and operational expenses on revenue generating facilities, such as campgrounds to maintain level of service.
- Safe, well maintained boating facilities generate tourism dollars in rural communities.

For further information, please contact Steve Lambert, OPA Legislative Chair (541) 774-6303 lambersm@jacksoncounty.org



How does the OSMB help local park providers?

The OSMB provides Maintenance Assistance Program (MAP) funds to local jurisdictions for the maintenance and operations of boating facilities. This program helps to fund access to Oregon's waterways and the funds are crucial to local governments. These funds are matched at an approximate rate of 3 to 1 by local entities, further leveraging boater dollars. In addition, funds are provided for capital improvements at boating facilities to maintain access points that are key to many local economies.

What do OSMB funds do for your park systems? (Not including marine law enforcement distributions)

Map Funds Jurisdiction	# Participants	\$ Received
Cities Counties	38 24	\$485,678 \$1,131,372
Special Districts State Agencies Ports	7 2 16	\$91,075 \$413,232 \$222,952
TOTAL	87	\$2,344,309
Facility Capital Grants (matched with \$4,868,883 other funds)		
Jurisdiction	# Participants	\$ Received
Cities Counties Special Districts State Agencies Ports TOTAL	10 15 4 3 14 46	\$907,010 \$1,240,004 \$702,610 \$115,821 \$1,312,725 \$4,278,261

Source: OSMB staff upon request, 2013/2015 biennium distributions