



THE TRUST FUND'S FORMULA

“Natural resource management is complex, however, these funding vehicles are interrelated and, because of that, can provide assistance to meet the diverse needs of Iowa’s resources. For example, Iowa’s precious water resource can be positively affected by five to six of the funding vehicles allocating up to 60% of the new funding toward that resource in some way.”*

KEY POINTS ABOUT THE TRUST FUND FORMULA

- The formula was developed prior to the passing of the constitutional amendment. It was determined by a broad base of stakeholders including legislators, Farm Bureau, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), non-governmental organizations (NGO), and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and promised to the people of Iowa.
- Funds are administered through existing infrastructure to reduce bureaucracy, provide clarity, yet allow flexibility.
- The formula requires an annual report to the legislature. The DNR, IDALS, and Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) already work within this structure to submit an annual report of recommendations.
- The Trust must only be used for voluntary practices and **cannot be used** for regulatory efforts, enforcement actions, eminent domain, condemnation or litigation.
- The Trust Fund and expenditures are subject to a yearly audit.

EXAMPLE EXPENDITURES

Natural Resources (DNR)

- Wetland and wildlife habitat restoration and protection
- Technical assistance & sound financial incentives to landowners for land & water conservation
- Improvement of rivers and streams to reduce runoff/restore habitat

Soil Conservation and Water Protection (IDALS)

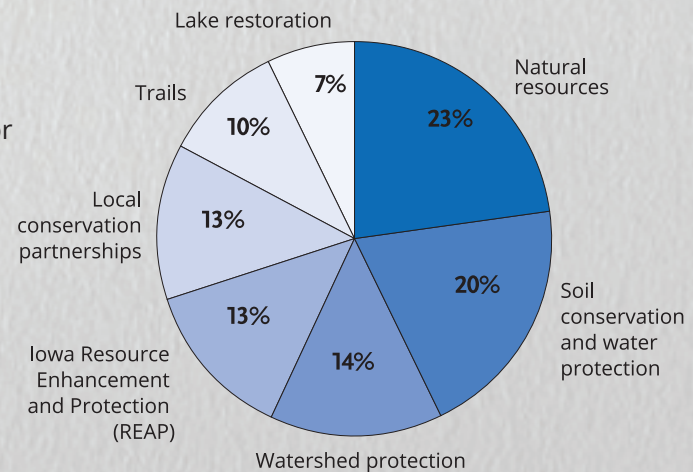
- Installing of conservation practices and watershed protection improvements
- Financial incentives and technical assistance to landowners
- CREP wetlands to enhance water quality

Watershed Protection (shared by DNR and IDALS)

- Financial assistance for locally directed projects/best management practices (BMP)
- Wetland restoration to improve water quality
- Enhance runoff filtration
- Improve water supplies through BMP installation

REAP (administered by the DNR, IDALS, DOT, and Department of Cultural Affairs)

- Buffer strips, wetlands, and roadside prairies to improve water quality
- Conserve critical habitat
- Establish conservation practices (BMPs) to improve water quality





“These funding vehicles were carefully and diligently identified as those which would reduce additional levels of bureaucracy for funding distribution when applicable. They are also structured in a way to work independently and to complement each other.”*

**Quoted directly from Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund report submitted by the Department of Natural Resources in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.*

Local Conservation Partnerships (allocated by the DNR to local communities)

- Promote programs for soil, water, wildlife and conservation
- Outreach to landowners on conservation practices
- Local partnerships

Trails (allocated by DNR and DOT)

- Develop, maintain and promote trails and water trails enhancing economic development and solidifying Iowa's reputation as national leader in trails

Lake Restoration (DNR)

- Leverage long-term water quality benefits through landowner cost share, federal farm programs and IDALS
- Investments to remove lakes from impaired waters list

IOWA VOTERS SUPPORT THE TRUST

- **66 percent** of Iowans support a revenue enhancement to fill the trust fund
- That number rises to **73 percent** when paired with reduction in other taxes, such as income or property
- **63 percent** of voters supported the creation of the trust fund in 2010
- **81 percent** of Iowans continue to support the fund today
- **82 percent** of Iowans agree that the state's parks, trails, wildlife areas, and other public lands are an essential part of our economy
- **95 percent** of Iowa voters believe we need to ensure our children and grandchildren can enjoy Iowa's water, land, wildlife, and natural beauty the same way we do today



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