

**Realize America's Maritime Promise**  
**Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Fairness Coalition**

*Presented by*  
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## Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund

### What is the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF)?

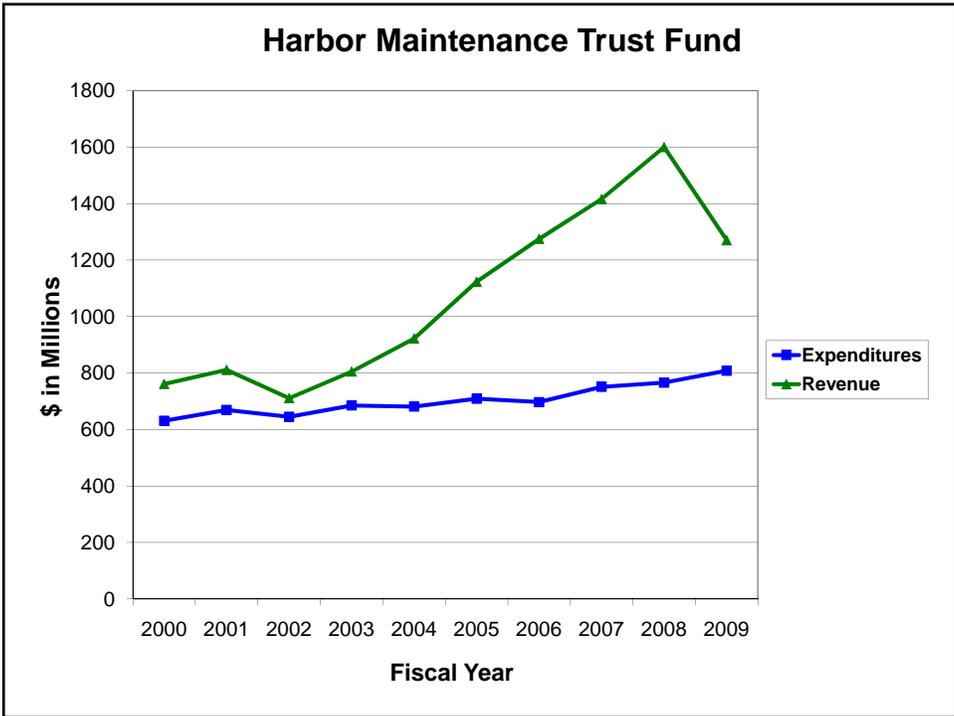
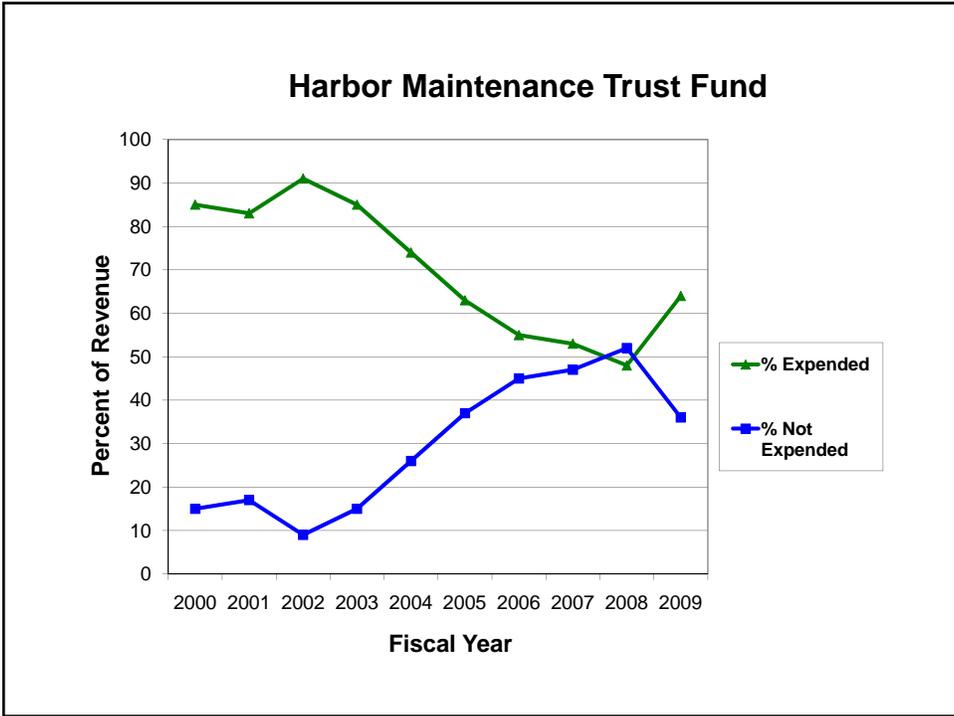
- An ad valorem tax equal to .125% on the declared value of imported commercial cargo and on passenger vessel tickets.
- The Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, P.L. 99-662, as a tax on channel users to pay for operations and maintenance costs on commercial waterways.
- This tax is collected by Customs on behalf of the Corps of Engineers.
- Last year this tax generated \$1.3 billion, yet only \$808 million was used for its intended purpose. The remaining \$500 million was deposited into the General Treasury to offset the deficit.

## Why RAMP is So Critical Now

- Possible 3-Year Budget Freeze would continue or even reduce the already flat O&M Budget
- JOBS – RAMP is ALL ABOUT JOBS for the Long Term!
- RAMP Goal will ensure viability to compete in global trade – It's about our Economy!
- Channel reliability, dredged material for beneficial use, safe channels, all are results of RAMP goal!

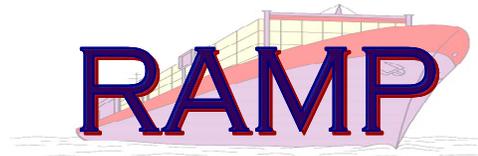
FY	Expenditures	Revenue
2000	631	761
2001	669	811
2002	645	711
2003	685	805
2004	681	922
2005	709	1123
2006	697	1275
2007	751	1416
2008	766	1600
2009	808	1270

FY	% Expended	% Not Expended
2000	85	15
2001	83	17
2002	91	9
2003	85	15
2004	74	26
2005	63	37
2006	55	45
2007	53	47
2008	48	52
2009	64	36



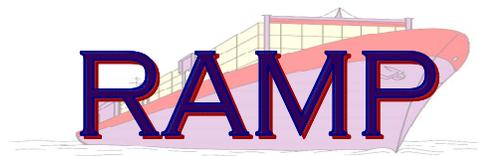
## **NEXT STEPS**

- **Seek legislation in Water Resources Development Act of 2010**
- **Coordinate with House and Senate members – NEED YOUR HELP!**
- **Continue The Dialogue**



## **OUR GOAL**

- **Simple – Seek Legislation that will result in full access to annual revenues from Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Tax, to be used for their intended purpose- operation and maintenance of Federal ports and harbors.**



**[WWW.RAMPHMTF.ORG](http://WWW.RAMPHMTF.ORG)**