**Session Successes**

• Successfully got a clean version of the boat fees bill introduced in the House and passed through the committee process. The bill was floor eligible, but without a Senate companion, it failed to advance, but we have continued to build more understanding and support for the bill.

• Secured level funding of $1.5M for the Dam Mitigation program.

• Defeated Sen. Zumbach’s DNR Complaints bill in the Senate subcommittee process.

• Worked with a large coalition to defeat the Public Lands bill again.

• Defeated Bayer’s pesticide immunity legislation (SF 2391/HSB 737).

• Worked with the Iowa Association of Counties to introduce flood mitigation bills in both chambers.

• Worked diligently with IEC, ISWEP and interested groups to educate legislators about the unintended consequences of passing SF455, Stormwater/Topsoil legislation. We were successful in amending the bill, slowing down the process to move the bill to the Governor. The first time it came up on the floor in the House, it failed and then took a couple of weeks to garner the votes to pass the bill in the House.

• Worked with the Center for Rural Affairs and Rep. Mommsen on an amendment to ensure WMAs could continue to exist and their funding would not be restricted. The bill was tabled in the 2024 session.

**Budget Items of Interest**

FY 25 RIIF Appropriations

The FY 25 RIIF budget (HF 2691) appropriates a net total of $216.6 million from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) and the Technology Reinvestment Fund (TRF) to numerous infrastructure, technology, and tourism initiatives across the state. The final bill provides the following appropriations and policy provisions of interest to your organization:

• $1,500,000 – Water Trails and Low Head Dams Safety Grants – Level Funding

• $8,200,00 – Water Quality Initiative – Level Funding

• $9,600,000 – DNR Lake restoration – Level Funding

• $10,000,000 – Community Attraction & Tourism (CAT) Grants – Level Funding

• $10,000,000 – Destination Iowa Fund – $3.5 Million Increase

• $3,500,000 – Recreational Trails – One-Time $1 Million Increase

• $6,000,000 - Park Infrastructure Fund – One-time Additional $1.0 Million to prioritize projects that increase accessibility for persons with disabilities when visiting state parks and recreation areas

FY 25 Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations

The FY 25 Agriculture and Natural Resources budget provides $46.0 million from the General Fund and 1,618.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for FY 2025. This is an increase of $2.4 million and an increase of 204.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 2024, as outlined in this amendment SF 2421. The final bill provides the following appropriations and policy provisions of interest to your organization:

Environment First Fund (Division V)

$2,375,000 for Water Quality Initiative – Level Funding

$1,000,000 for Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) - Level Funding

$900,000 for Watershed Protection – Level Funding

$900,000 for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – Level Funding

$12,000,000 for REAP – Level Funding

$8,325,000 for IDALS Soil and Water Conservation – Level Funding

$425,000 for Ambient Air Quality— Level Funding

$1.51 M for Floodplain Management and Dam Safety – Level Funding (Division II, Sec. 11)

NEW: $250,000 from the Blufflands Protection Revolving Fund to the Iowa Geological Survey (Division X, Sec. 29):

The money must be used by the Iowa Geological Survey to map and assess the condition of this state’s aquifers. The Iowa Geological Survey may measure the volume of groundwater that is available for various uses, the current and predicted allocations of groundwater to support those uses, the recharge rate for the aquifers, and the development of models for budgeting this state’s water resources.

Soil and Water Conservation (Division V, Sec. 17.4):

d. Of the amount appropriated in paragraph “c” that the department allocates to a soil and water conservation district, the first $15,000 may be expended by the district for the purpose of providing financial incentives under section 161A.73 to establish management practices for the control of soil erosion on land that is row-cropped, including but not limited to nontill planting, ridge-till planting, and contouring strip-cropping. Of any remaining amount of that appropriation allocated by the department to a district, 30 percent may be expended by the district for that same purpose.

f. Of the money appropriated in paragraph “c”, 5 percent shall be allocated for financial incentives to establish practices to protect watersheds above publicly owned lakes of the state from soil erosion and sediment as provided in section 5 161A.73.

FY 25 Economic Development Appropriations

The FY 25 Economic Development budget provides funding to the Economic Development Authority, the Iowa Finance Authority, the Public Employment Relations Board, the Department of Workforce Development, and the State Board of Regents. SF 2432 allocates $42M from the General Fund, an increase of $184,000 from FY 24. The final bill provides the following appropriations and policy provisions of interest to your organization:

• $1.1M – Tourism Office – level funding

• $1.44M – Regional Tourism Marketing – level funding

**Priority Legislation**

| **BILL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **STATUS** | **NOTE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [HF 2429](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2429) | A bill for an act relating to vessel registration exemptions, including paddlecraft and water use permit decals, providing penalties, and including effective date provisions. | Committee report, recommending amendment and passage. (3/19/24) | Support/For |
| [SF 455](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF455) | A bill for an act relating to the regulation of topsoil and storm water at construction sites. (Formerly SF 34.) Effective date: 07/01/2024. | Fiscal Note. (4/29/24) Failed to pass House, yeas 44, nays 49. (3/6/24) Passed House , yeas 53, nays 46. (3/11/24) Passed Senate , yeas 29, nays 18. (3/25/24) | Oppose/Against |

**Signed by the Governor**

| **BILL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **STATUS** | **NOTE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [HF 2364](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2364) | A bill for an act requiring the natural resource commission to research and develop recommendations relating to state park accessibility for persons with disabilities. (Formerly HF 2009.) Effective date: 07/01/2024 | Signed by Governor . (5/16/24) Passed House , yeas 97, nays 0. (2/21/24) Passed Senate , yeas 46, nays 0. (4/17/24) |  |
| [HF 2485](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2485) | A bill for an act relating to regulation of watercraft and equipment on public lakes by common interest communities and certain nonprofit corporations, and including effective date provisions. (Formerly HSB 647.) Effective date: 02/28/2024. | Signed by Governor . (2/28/24) Passed House , yeas 74, nays 22. (2/21/24) Passed Senate , yeas 44, nays 5. (2/27/24) |  |
| [HF 2691](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2691) | A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations from the rebuild Iowa infrastructure fund and technology reinvestment fund, providing for related matters including renewable fuel infrastructure incentives, and including effective date provisions. Effective date: 05/09/2024, 07/01/2024. | Signed by Governor . (5/9/24) Passed House , yeas 96, nays 1. (4/16/24) Passed Senate , yeas 47, nays 0. (4/19/24) Passed House , yeas 57, nays 35. (4/19/24) |  |
| [SF 455](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF455) | A bill for an act relating to the regulation of topsoil and storm water at construction sites. (Formerly SF 34.) Effective date: 07/01/2024. | Fiscal Note. (4/29/24) Failed to pass House, yeas 44, nays 49. (3/6/24) Passed House , yeas 53, nays 46. (3/11/24) Passed Senate , yeas 29, nays 18. (3/25/24) | Oppose/Against |
| [SF 2421](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF2421) | A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations involving state government entities associated with agriculture, natural resources, and environmental protection, and including effective date provisions. (Formerly SSB 3196.) Conditional effective date. | Signed by Governor . (5/9/24) Passed Senate , yeas 33, nays 14. (4/18/24) Passed House , yeas 79, nays 12. (4/18/24) |  |
| [SF 2432](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF2432) | A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations for the economic development of the state, including to the economic development authority, the Iowa finance authority, the public employment relations board, the department of workforce development, and the state board of regents and certain regents institutions. (Formerly SSB 3198.) Effective date: 07/01/2024 | Signed by Governor . (5/9/24) Passed Senate , yeas 45, nays 0. (4/17/24) Passed House , yeas 75, nays 16. (4/18/24) |  |

**Passed One Chamber**

| **BILL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **STATUS** | **NOTE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [SF 2324](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF2324)  [CO:HF 2104](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2104) | A bill for an act relating to restrictions on the acquisition of real property by the department of natural resources.(Formerly SSB 3129.) | Subcommittee recommends passage. Vote Total: 2-1. (3/12/24) |  |

**Did Not Advance**

| **BILL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **STATUS** | **NOTE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [HF 2429](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF2429) | A bill for an act relating to vessel registration exemptions, including paddlecraft and water use permit decals, providing penalties, and including effective date provisions. | Committee report, recommending amendment and passage. (3/19/24) | Support/For |
| [HSB 607](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HSB607)  [CO:SF 2371](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF2371) | A bill for an act relating to open feedlot operations, by providing for the validity of nutrient management plans and updates when classified as pending further action, and including effective date provisions. | Subcommittee Meeting: 01/25/2024 8:00AM RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber (Cancelled). (1/25/24) |  |
| [SF 331](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF331)  [CO:HF 312](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF312) | A bill for an act relating to the registration requirements for certain vessels, requiring water use permits, making appropriations, and including effective date provisions. | Subcommittee: Rozenboom, Celsi, and Zumbach. (1/8/24) | Support/For |
| [SF 550](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF550) | A bill for an act relating to state and local revenue and finances by modifying sales and use taxes, the charitable conservation contribution tax credit available against individual and corporate income taxes, the water service tax, property taxes, transit funding, and local option taxes, crediting moneys to the natural resources and outdoor recreation trust fund, modifying allocations of road use tax fund moneys, making appropriations, and including effective date, retroactive applicability, and applicability provisions.(Formerly SSB 1125.) | Subcommittee: Dawson, Dotzler, and Koelker. (1/9/24) | Track (no public position, but follow it) |
| [SF 2371](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SF2371)  [CO:HSB 607](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HSB607) | A bill for an act providing for the removal of effluent from certain structures.(Formerly SSB 3152.) | Committee report, approving bill. (2/15/24) |  |
| [SSB 3120](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SSB3120) | A bill for an act relating to the regulation of fertilizers and soil conditioners by amending the term unmanipulated manures, and including effective date provisions. | Subcommittee reassigned: Shipley, Green, and Knox. (2/6/24) |  |
| [SSB 3192](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SSB3192) | A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations for the economic development of the state, including to the economic development authority, the Iowa finance authority, the public employment relations board, the department of workforce development, and the state board of regents and certain regents institutions. | Subcommittee: Lofgren, Dotzler, and Koelker. (3/18/24) |  |
| [SSB 3193](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=SSB3193) | A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations involving state government entities associated with agriculture, natural resources, and environmental protection. | Subcommittee: Zumbach, Giddens, and Green. (3/18/24) |  |