

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

*Presented by*  
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**28 October 2009**

# Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund

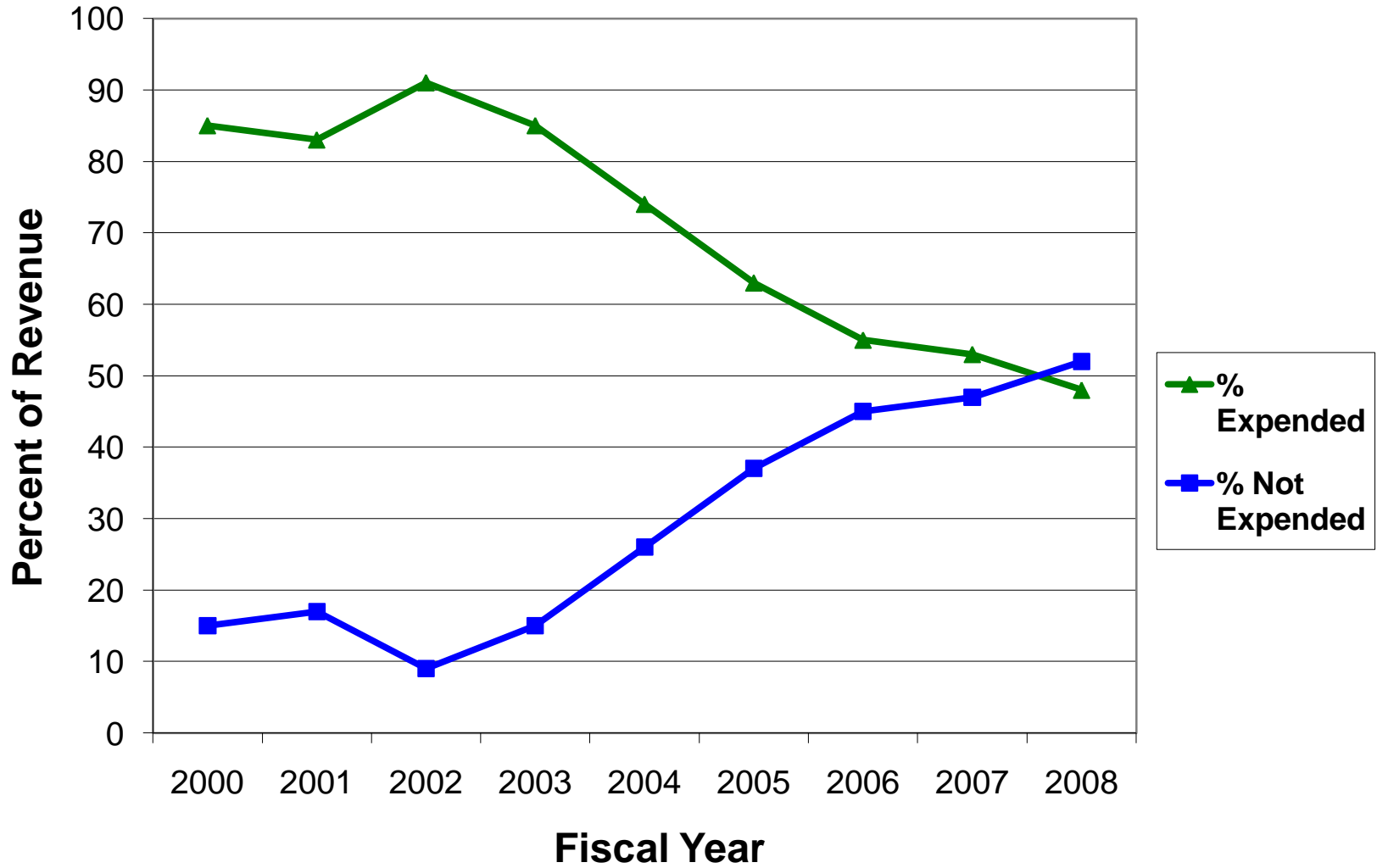
## What is the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF)?

- 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 \$1.6 billion, yet only \$766 million was used for its intended purpose. The remaining \$900 million was deposited into the General Treasury to offset the deficit.

# COMPARISON OF HMTF EXPENDITURES TO REVENUES

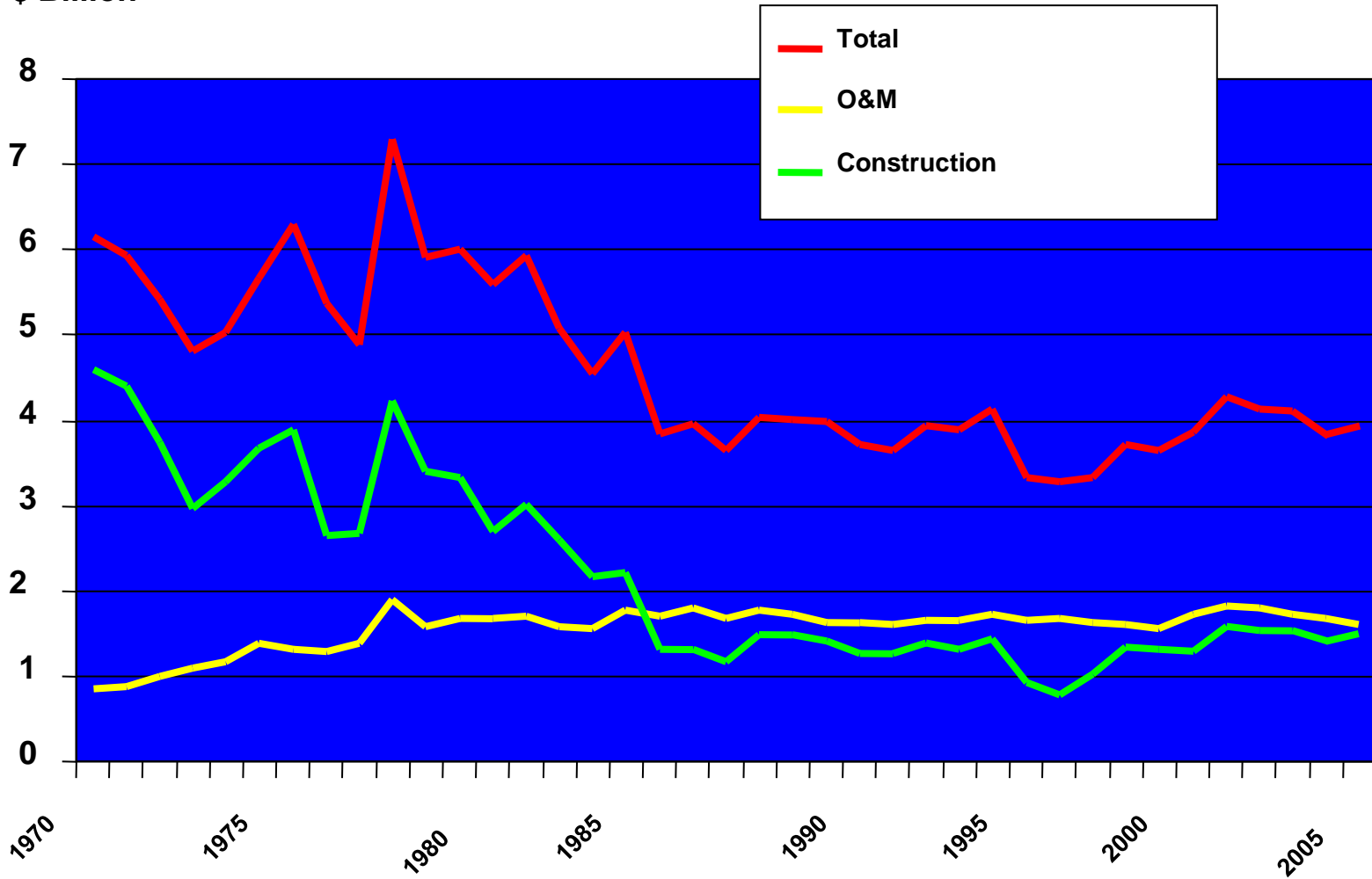
| FISCAL YEAR | EXPENDITURES<br>(millions) | REVENUES<br>(millions) | EXP/REV<br>(%) |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| FY 2000     | \$631.2                    | \$760.6                | 83.0%          |
| FY 2001     | \$669.4                    | \$810.8                | 82.6%          |
| FY 2002     | \$645.2                    | \$710.8                | 90.8%          |
| FY 2003     | \$685.1                    | \$804.5                | 85.2%          |
| FY 2004     | \$681.4                    | \$922.4                | 73.9%          |
| FY 2005     | \$708.8                    | \$1,123.0              | 63.1%          |
| FY 2006     | \$697.2                    | \$1,275.0              | 54.7%          |
| FY 2007     | \$751.0                    | \$1,416.0              | 53.0%          |
| FY 2008     | \$766.0                    | \$1,626.4              | 47.1%          |

# Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund



# CORPS CIVIL WORKS BUDGET

\$ Billion

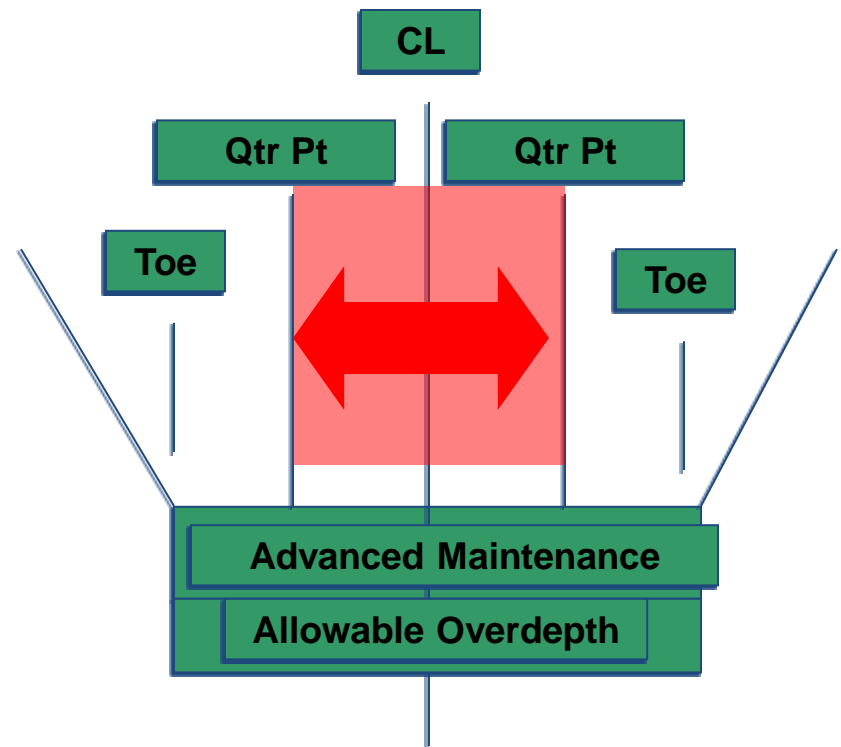


# DREDGING COST DRIVERS

- **FUEL**
- **STEEL**
- **LABOR**
- **LACK OF SUPPORT EQUIPMENT**  
**(e.g., Tugs, Barges)**
- **CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS**
- **NO REPROGRAMMING**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS**

# Coastal Navigation Performance Standard

- Standard
  - Full project depth
  - Half project width, 95% of the time
- Trend
  - FY 2005: 38%
  - FY 2006: 35%
  - FY 2007: 32%
  - FY 2009 – 2013: FYDP get to 95%



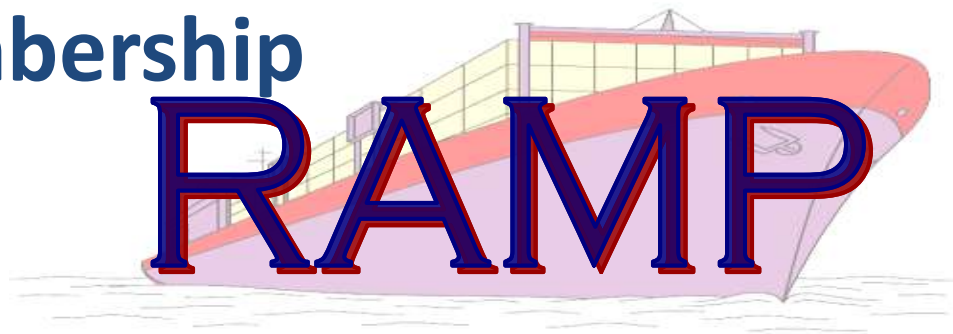
# What We Have Done

- **Gathering coalition members – the list continues to grow – more than 180 organizations**
- **Prepared information papers**
- **Met with Senate and House members and staff**
- **Testified before T&I Subcommittee**
- **Prepared Draft Legislation**



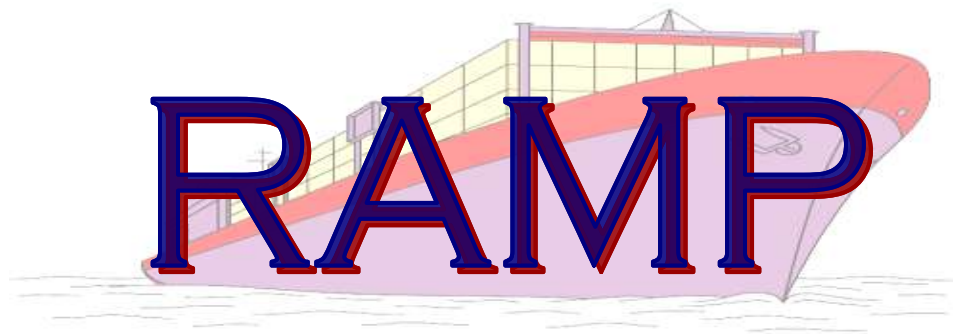
# Current Status

- **Dear Colleague Letters**
  - Senate and House
  - 17 Senators and 52 Congressmen
- **Presentations, briefings, calls**
- **Maritime Trade Department letter**
- **Congressman Boustany testimony**
- **Membership**



# NEXT STEPS

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

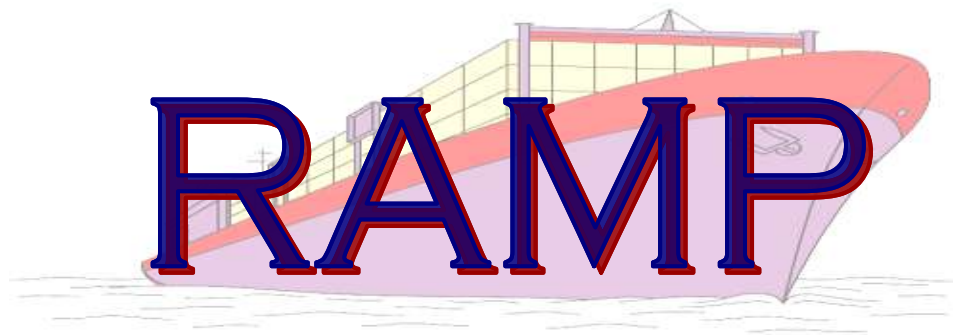


# WAITING FOR DREDGING \$\$ -- HOW LONG?



# 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)**