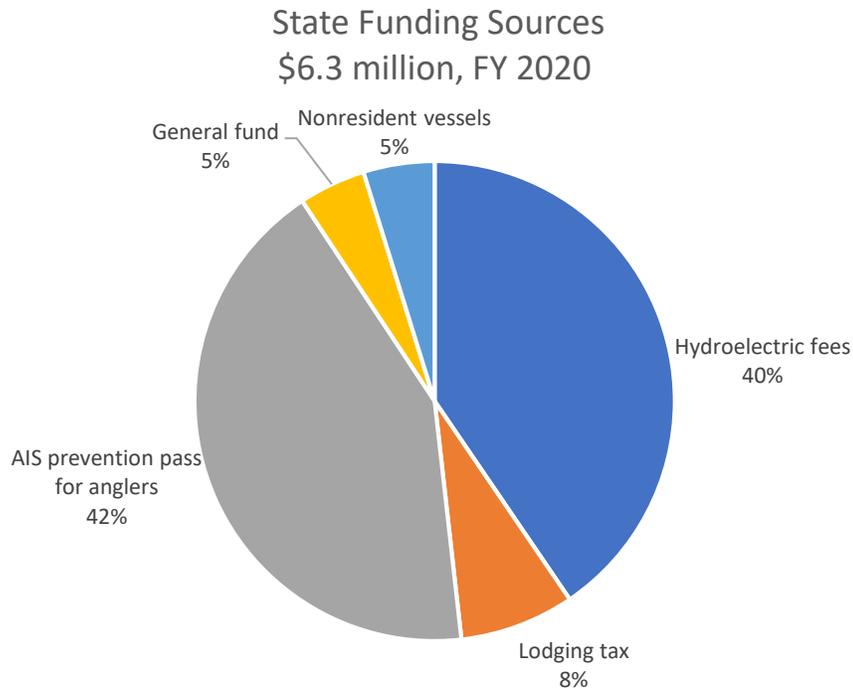


# AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES: FY 2020 FUNDING AT A GLANCE

## STATE FUNDING SOURCES

After relying on one-time-only general fund appropriations to prevent and control aquatic invasive species (AIS) since 2009, the confirmed presence of mussel larvae at Tiber Reservoir in 2016 and the suspected presence in Canyon Ferry prompted the Legislature to establish dedicated funding sources in 2017. The \$7 million in annual revenue generated by [Senate Bill 363](#) came almost 50-50 from hydroelectric and angler fees.

In 2019, the legislature diversified the funding via [House Bill 411](#), carving out a portion of existing lodging tax revenue and establishing fees for vessels owned by nonresidents. HB 411 initially also proposed a registration fee for motorized vessels owned by residents, but legislators replaced that funding with general fund money via [Senate Bill 352](#). All in all, HB 411 generated an estimated \$6.3 million in state funding sources for FY 2020.

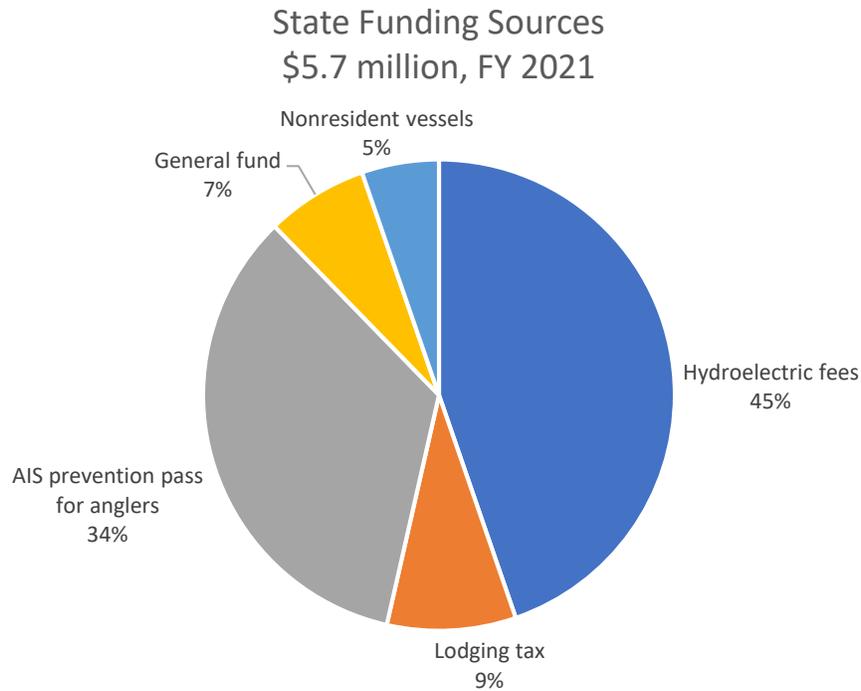


Source: LEPO staff analysis of fiscal note for HB 411, 2019

With its 2019 adjustments, the legislature decreased the cost of the AIS prevention pass for nonresident anglers from \$15 to \$7.50 and exempted all youth under 16 years of age from the fee, resulting in an expected drop in revenue in FY 2021 when those changes go into effect.

	FY 2020	FY 2021
Hydroelectric fees	\$ 2,550,000.00	\$ 2,550,000.00
Lodging tax	\$ 486,827.00	\$ 503,757.00
AIS prevention pass for anglers	\$ 2,675,929.00	\$ 1,947,483.00
General fund	\$ 283,620.00	\$ 398,625.00
Nonresident vessels	\$ 302,000.00	\$ 302,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,298,376.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,701,865.00</b>

Source: LEPO staff analysis of fiscal note for HB 411, 2019



Source: LEPO staff analysis of fiscal note for HB 411, 2019

**FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES**

For FY 2020, the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) received several federal grants, and the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission, which is administratively attached to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), will spend the remainder of a grant received in FY 2019.

<b>FWP</b>	
<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>	
Outreach	\$24,999
<b>Bureau of Reclamation</b>	
Tiber inspection station operations	\$320,000
Tiber inspection station capital projects	\$757,893
Anaconda inspection station	\$140,000
<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</b>	
Monitoring	\$89,285
<b>U.S. Forest Service</b>	
Clearwater inspection station	\$12,394
<b>Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)</b>	
Watercraft inspection	\$1,999,978
Monitoring	\$231,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,576,332</b>

Data provided by FWP

<b>Upper Columbia Conservation Commission</b>	
<b>Bureau of Reclamation</b>	
Monitoring, website, advertising	\$79,295

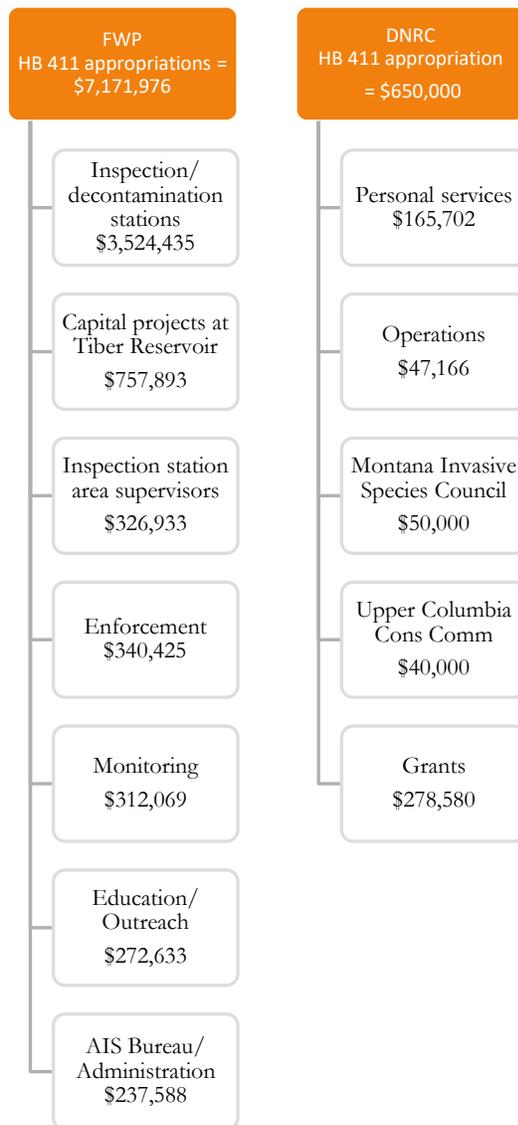
Data provided by DNRC

FWP expects to receive an additional \$1,968,084 in WRRDA funds for watercraft inspections in FY 2020, but the timing is uncertain.

# APPROPRIATIONS

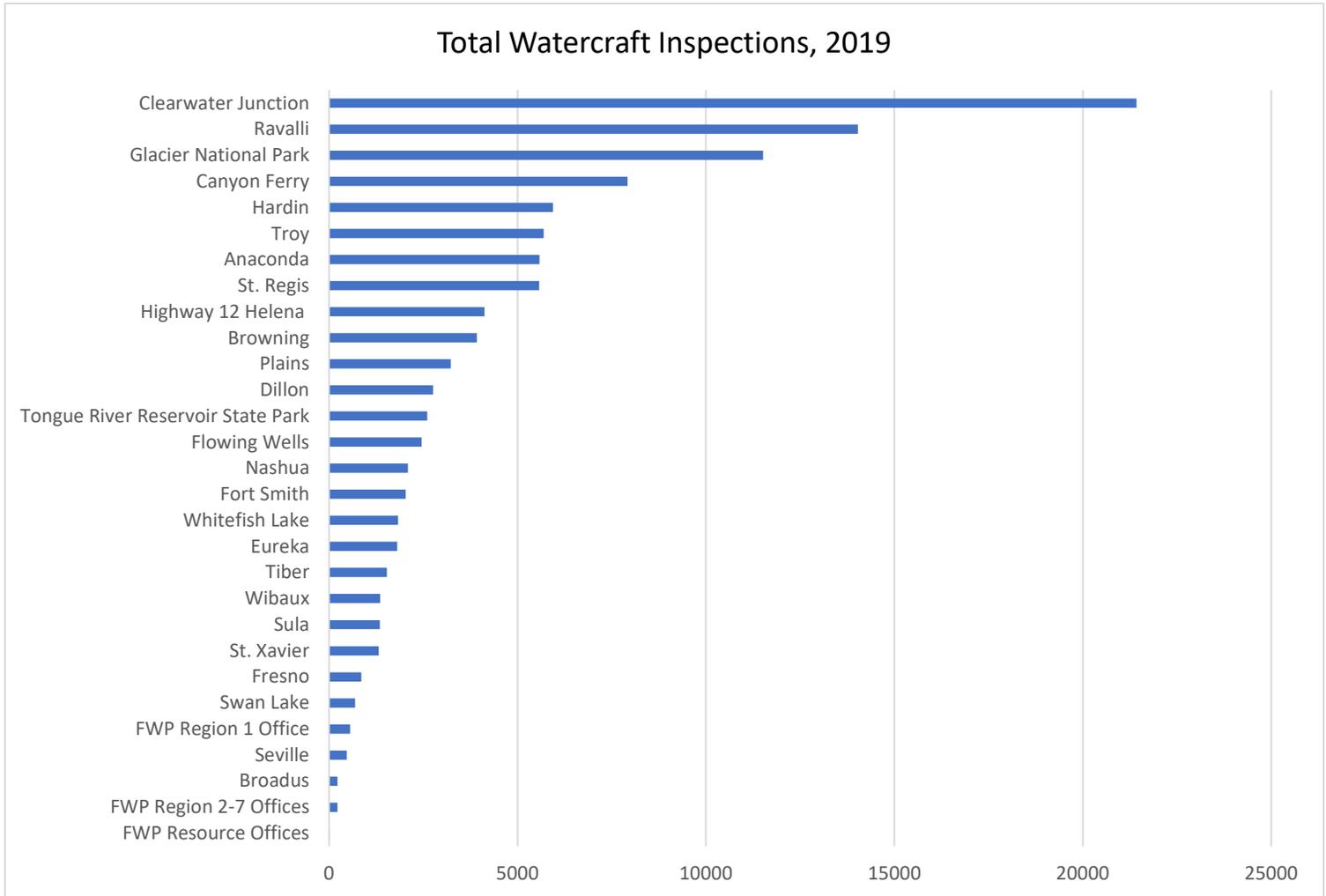
For FY 2020, HB 411 appropriated \$650,000 to DNRC in state funds. FWP received \$4,934,083 of authority in state funds and \$1,400,000 in federal funds with the stipulation that if more federal funds come in, the federal appropriation must be increased commensurately and the state appropriation decreased commensurately. HB 411 also appropriated another \$837,893 in federal funds to FWP for AIS capital improvements and operations at Tiber Reservoir. That amount is included in the Bureau of Reclamation funding listed on the previous page. Its use is not limited to FY 2020.

The chart below depicts expected expenditures for each agency in FY 2020.



Data provided by FWP and DNRC

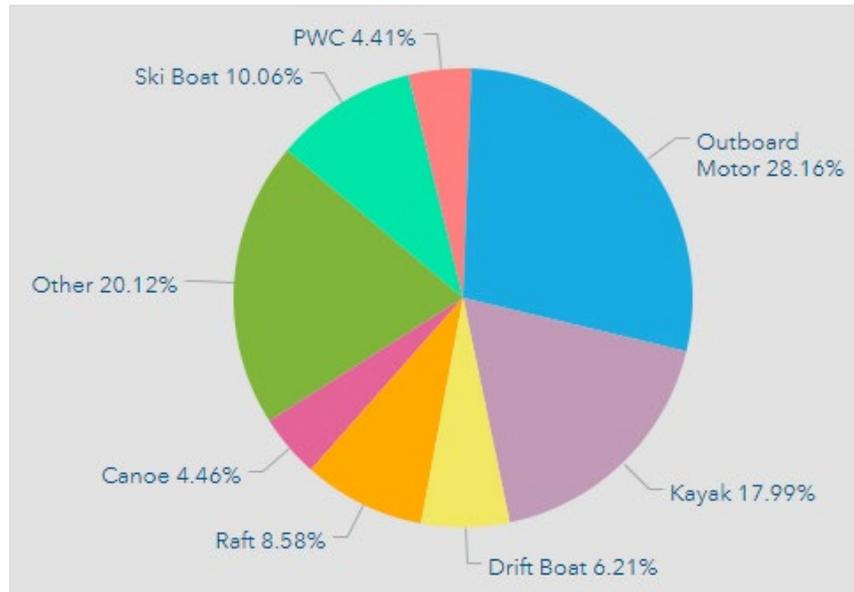
Watercraft inspection stations account for the biggest chunk of FWP's expenditures. FWP and its partners<sup>1</sup> inspected more than 113,000 watercraft in 2019 and found 16 boats fouled by mussels.



Data provided by FWP

<sup>1</sup> Partners include Bighorn, Garfield, and Powder River Conservation Districts, Bighorn National Recreation Area, Blackfeet Nation, CSKT, Missoula County Weed District, National Park Service, and the Whitefish Lake Institute.

### Inspections by Watercraft Type, 2019



Source: AIS Dashboard

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ba6a79c9be714ba29856fcd194d64a23>

January 7, 2020

In the first half of FY 2020, FWP spent \$1.8 million on inspection stations and personnel. For all of FY 2020, \$3.85 million is budgeted.

## AIS TRUST FUND

The 2015 Legislature created the invasive species trust fund (80-7-1016, MCA) to fund an AIS grant program administered by the DNRC ([House Bill 525](#)).<sup>2</sup> In 2017, SB 363 disconnected the trust fund from the grant program and rerouted its interest and income for deposit into the state special revenue account (80-7-1004, MCA) that funds the AIS programs at FWP and DNRC. Unreserved funds remaining in the AIS account at the end of a fiscal year are swept back into the trust fund.

According to the Legislative Fiscal Division, the balance of the trust fund was \$1,943,244 as of November 2019. The corpus of the trust may not be used until it reaches \$100 million or unless appropriated by a three-fourths vote of each house of the legislature.<sup>3</sup>

The DNRC, which still administers the trust fund, distributed \$25,215 in earnings from the trust to the AIS account in 2019.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The grant program funds public education and planning and development and implementation of programs and projects to prevent, research, detect, control, or eradicate AIS (80-7-1018, MCA).

<sup>3</sup> The 2015 Legislature originally set the corpus at \$10 million before disbursements could be made to the grant program.

<sup>4</sup> Invasive Species Trust - DNRC, Trust Number (09084), December 4, 2019.