

Article - Natural Resources

8-709.

(a) The Department shall include in its annual budget request an itemized list of requests for the use of any available money from the Waterway Improvement Fund for the projects under § 8-707 of this subtitle. The Department's list shall include a brief description of each project, an estimate of its cost, and the benefits to be derived from it. The list shall designate which projects are financed solely by the Waterway Improvement Fund, which are matching fund projects, and which are interest-free loan projects.

[(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Department may propose in its annual budget, beginning with the fiscal year 1994 budget, an appropriation of not more than \$1,000,000 from the Waterway Improvement Fund to support marine operations in the Natural Resources Police.]

(C) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROPOSE AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT FUND TO SUPPORT MARINE OPERATIONS OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE NOT EXCEEDING:

(1) ~~\$1,500,000~~ \$1,700,000 IN THE DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET; AND

(2) \$2,000,000 IN THE DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET, AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER.

8-716.

[(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 8-723 of this subtitle, the Department shall deposit \$225,000 of funds from the excise tax levied under this section with the Comptroller of the Treasury in the General Fund, and the balance in excess of \$225,000 with the Comptroller of the Treasury in the Waterway Improvement Fund to be expended only for the purposes specified.]

[(i) (H) If the Department determines there has been an overpayment of the tax on a vessel, or an overpayment has resulted for any other reason, the Department may submit the overpayment and supporting data whether accompanied by a written claim or not to the State Comptroller for refund to the appropriate person.

[(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Department shall deposit, in accordance with the provisions of § 8-723 of this subtitle, up to \$350,000 of funds from the excise tax levied under this section and as appropriated in the State budget, to be used for enforcement of the State Boat Act, including collection of the excise tax levied under this section.]

[(k) (I) (1) For purposes of subsection (a)(3) of this section, a vessel is deemed to be held for maintenance or repair if:

(i) The maintenance or repair work is provided in exchange for compensation;