## It's past time to fund lowa's Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund.

## THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN.

In 2010, Iowans voted to approve a constitutional amendment that created the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund, which would set up a reliable source of funding to protect and enhance lowa's natural resources and recreation opportunities. The Trust, also known as IWILL, was a product of bipartisan and widespread support. More than 90% of lawmakers in the lowa Legislature, both Republicans and Democrats, supported its inclusion on the ballot, and 63% of lowa voters supported the creation of the Trust Fund.

Despite widespread support, the Trust has remained empty. To receive funding, the Trust requires a 3/8ths cent increase in the state sales tax. For 15 years, lowa's leaders have failed to take the necessary action to realize the will of the voters and fund the Trust.

It is estimated that when the Trust is active, it will provide roughly \$200 million each year for conservation in lowa. This means that in the 15 years that the Trust Fund has sat empty, lowans have missed out on roughly \$3 billion in support for our natural resources and outdoor recreation.



## What does the Trust Fund support?

The Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund would provide permanent, reliable funding to improve water quality, protect the soil, enhance wildlife habitat, and increase outdoor recreation opportunities throughout Iowa.

## SPECIFICALLY, THE TRUST WILL SUPPORT:

Natural Resources Watershed Protection

**Trails** 

Lake Restoration

Iowa Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Soil Conservation and Water Protection

Local Conservation Partnerships

Beyond positive impacts on environmental quality and recreation opportunities, the Trust will provide benefits to economic development, rural revitalization, public health, and quality of life. These are impacts that will be felt by all lowans for generations to come.

It is time for lowa's elected officials to realize the vision that lowans voted for and fund the Trust.

Learn more about the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund at <a href="https://www.fundthetrust.org">www.fundthetrust.org</a>.