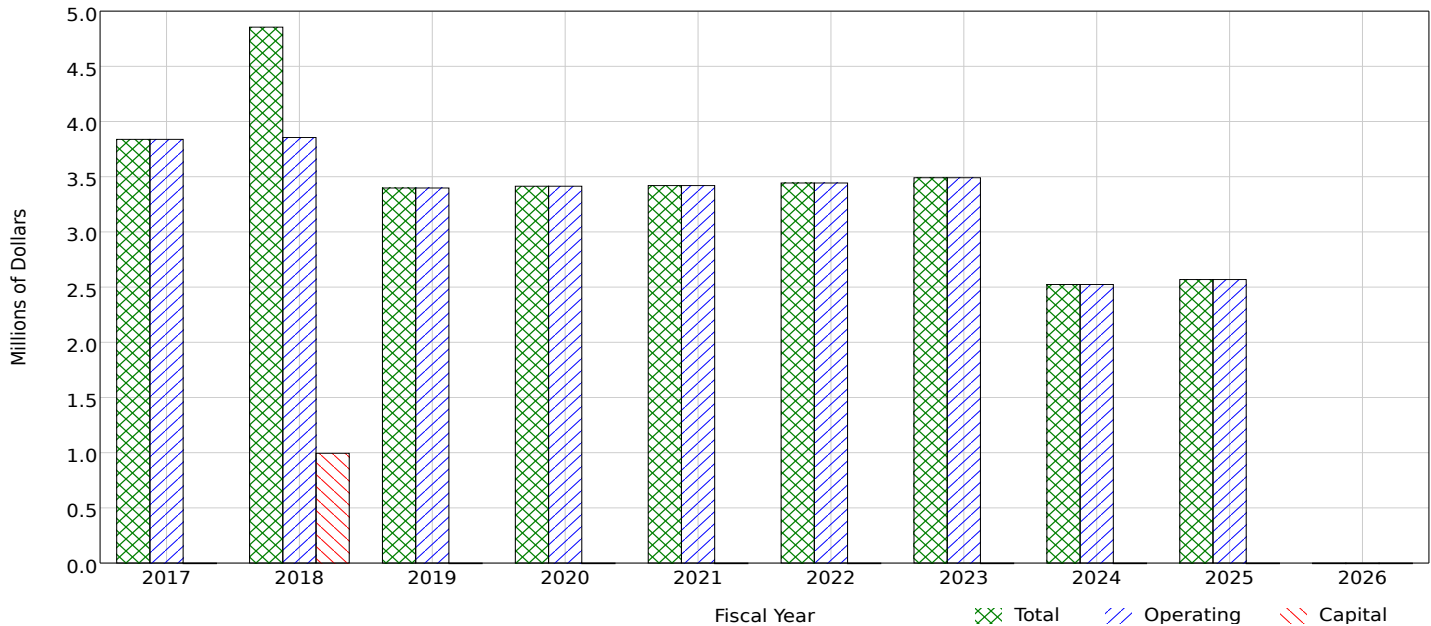


# Fund Source Report

## 1109 Test Fish Test Fisheries Receipts

Year Authorized 1960 Year Repealed Active? Yes Mental Health? No Duplicated? No Fund Group Designated General

### Operating and Capital Appropriations



#### Legal Authority

AS 16.05.050(a)(14), AS 37.05.146(c)(20)

#### Source of Revenue

Consists of program receipts for test fishery projects initiated by the Department of Fish and Game or a third party for a specific fishery project.

#### Restrictions on Use

As with other program receipts, AS 37.05.144 limits use of test fish receipts to the program generating the receipts--in this case, the commercial fisheries program. The receipts must be appropriated.

#### Description and History

Before the early 1960s, fish taken and killed during department resource assessment programs were returned to the water. The test fish fund was established in the early 1960s. It provided a means to collect and spend receipts from test fishery activity. As with other program receipts, the receipts can be used only to pay the costs of the program generating the receipts.

Legislation (SB 55, SLA 97) added test fish receipts to the list of receipts (AS 37.05.146) that are not part of the unrestricted general fund.

An example of a test fishery project is the Sitka Sound Herring Roe Fishery. The Department of Fish and Game accepts bids for fishing vessels interested in participating in the test fishery. The department contracts with fishermen to collect herring to test the content and maturity of the roe, and examine the run strength. Fish & Game use test data to determine when the roe should be harvested and how much can be harvested without damaging the upcoming herring opening or depleting future herring stocks.

The fish collected for roe are then sold to a processor. The boats under contract retain payment in the amount of their cost to do the test fishery and the balance from the sale of fish and roe is paid to the department and accounted for as Test Fisheries Receipts. Examples of other test fisheries are for crab harvests, and calculating Bristol Bay salmon run timing and run strength.

The department typically uses test fisheries receipts for management within the region that generated the receipts, often for the fishery that generated the receipts.

October 2010

The Budget Clarification Project changed the fund code classification from "Other" to "Designated General Funds."