

**State Planning and Research Program
Quarterly Report**

PROJECT TITLE: Mileage Based User Fee TPF-5(289)

OBJECTIVES: The objective of the pooled fund project is to learn and begin coordinating efforts with respect to the MBUF concept. Up to now, coordination between states has been difficult. Several states have conducted their own research and demonstration projects and some states have expressed interest in just learning more about the topic. In an effort to begin coordinating efforts and advancing the knowledge on MBUF the pooled fund, the project will have two main objectives: Offer membership in the MBUF Alliance and Solicit and select specific research projects that all member states and jointly interested in performing.

PERIOD COVERED:

April – June 2016

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

Minnesota Department of Transportation, Nevada Department of Transportation, Washington Department of Transportation

PROJECT MANAGER:

Ken Buckeye

SP&R PROJECT NO:

TPF-5(289)

PROJECT IS:

Planning
 Research & Development

LEAD AGENCY:

Minnesota Department of Transportation

ANNUAL BUDGET:

PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:

WORK COMPLETED:

In the last quarter Minnesota and Washington State both developed proposals for user based fee demonstrations. These proposals were submitted in response to provisions under Section 6020, Surface Transportation Funding Alternatives, of the FAST Act. Pooled fund states have already learned a lot about the Oregon “road user charge” (RYC) project, and that California has launched its own mileage-based user fee demonstration. The pooled fund involvement with MBUFA allows continued and timely involvement that will build upon the Oregon experience.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:

Regional pilots being called for under the FAST Act will be extremely challenging to execute. They will be time consuming, expensive, and difficult to organize and manage. Winning public support is still a significant hurdle around the country. Research and market analysis and providing trusted information which we jointly acquire and share will help to advance the support of MBUF among the public. Future demonstrations must pass reasonableness tests such as providing rational driver incentives, being trusted, offering privacy protection, and being an enforceable policy. A major challenge to winning public support is explaining the “value proposition” and communicating it effectively. The combined and shared experience enabled through the MBUF Pooled Fund will position the partnering states to advance ideas that will be integral to future demonstrations