**AQUATIC RESOURCE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program**

**DISTRIBUTION METHOD**

Apportioned based on formula:
Maximum 15% of Sport Fish Restoration Funding

**Governing Guidance**

- Sport Fish Restoration Act also known as Dingell-Johnson (DJ) Act of 1950 (enabling legislation)
- 50 CFR 80
- 2 CFR 200

**ELIGIBLE GRANTEES: ALL STATE/TERRITORY FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES WITH ASSENT LEGISLATION**

**Purpose**

Enhance the public's understanding of water resources, aquatic life forms, sport fishing, and develop responsible attitudes and ethics toward the aquatic environment

**ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**

→ Projects that enhance the public’s understanding of aquatic resources

→ Projects that improve communications with anglers, boaters, and the general public on sport fishing and boating opportunities

→ Projects that increase participation in sport fishing and boating

→ Projects that advance the adoption of sound fishing and boating practices, including safety

→ Projects that promote conservation and responsible use of aquatic resources

**SOURCE OF FUNDS**

Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund

Includes Revenues from:

- Excise taxes on sport fishing equipment and electric motors
- Import duties on fishing tackle, yachts, and pleasure craft
- Portion of gasoline tax attributable to motorboats and small engines
- Interest earned on Trust Fund

**MATCHING REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

- States may be paid up to 75% federal funds, 25% match requirement from non-federal sources
- 100% federal funding for District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Virgin Islands, and American Samoa
- Annual apportionment available for obligation to grants for two years before it reverts. Reverted funds are reapportioned to the Sport Fish Restoration program during the subsequent year

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS OR REQUIREMENTS**

- State fish and wildlife agencies must pass and maintain assent legislation
- State fish and wildlife agencies must submit annual license certifications
- State fish and wildlife agencies may spend a maximum of 15% of their annual Sport Fish Restoration apportionment on aquatic education programs.
- 15% maximum does not apply to DC, Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Virgin Islands, and American Samoa

For More Information: [http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/AquaticEd/AE.htm](http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/AquaticEd/AE.htm)