

SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAM

UPDATED 3/2020

Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program



DISTRIBUTION METHOD

Apportion formula based on: 60% paid sport fishing license holders + 40% land/water area

Governing Guidance

- Sport Fish Restoration Act, also known as Dingell-Johnson Act of 1950 (Enabling Legislation)
- 2 CFR 200
- 50 CFR 80

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

Purpose: To provide funding to aid the States in fish restoration and management

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- Restoring, conserving, managing, and enhancing sport fish populations.
- Conducting research on the problems of managing fish and their habitat.
- Stocking fish for recreational purposes.
- Providing public access for recreational sport fishing.
- Providing technical assistance for managing sport fish populations.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Fifty-eight percent of amount in 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 funding; requires 25% non-federal cost-sharing match.
- 100% federal funding for Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Northern Mariana Islands
- Annual apportionment available for obligation to grants for two years before it reverts. Reverted funds are returned to the program and reapportioned back to the states.
- Amount allocated by States for freshwater programs each fiscal year cannot be less than amount allocated in fiscal year 1988.
- Up to 15% of annual apportionment may be spent on aquatic education (no limit for PR, DC, CNMI, Guam, VI, and American Samoa).
- At least 15% of annual apportionment must be allocated to the boating access subprogram (each USFWS region's boating access allocation must be at least 15% during each 5 year period. If not, those states below 15% revert funds).
- Coastal States must equitably allocate apportionment between freshwater and marine projects in proportion to number of resident marine/freshwater anglers

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OR REQUIREMENTS

- * State Fish and Wildlife Agencies must pass and maintain assent legislation
- * Submit annual license certifications
- * Ineligible projects include law enforcement, public relations, and revenue producing activities