

WILDLIFE RESTORATION PROGRAM

UPDATED 3/2019



Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

DISTRIBUTION METHOD

Apportioned formula based on: 50% paid hunting license holders + 50% land/water area

Governing Guidance

- Wildlife Restoration Act, also known as Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937 (Enabling Legislation)
- 50 CFR 80
- 2 CFR 200

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

Purpose

- Restoration, conservation, management and enhancement of wild birds and mammals and their habitat
- Provide public use and access to wildlife resources
- Provide for education of hunters and development of shooting ranges

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Manage wildlife and their habitats, monitor populations, conduct research, collect and analyze data, maintain facilities, perform outreach, and other activities designed to promote wildlife restoration and wildlife-based recreation.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund

Includes Revenues from:

- **Excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunition (firearms, ammunition, pistols, handguns, revolvers, bows, archery, arrow components)**

MATCHING REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

- States may be paid up to 75% federal funding, 25% required from non-federal sources
- 100% federal funding for Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Northern Mariana Islands
- Annual apportionment available for two years before it reverts
- Reverted funds are returned to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for use in Migratory Bird Program
- Basic Hunter Education (separate formula and apportionment) - may be used for hunter education or other WR Act authorized projects
- Enhanced Hunter Education (eight million dollars set aside) - must be used for hunter education or shooting range enhancements (if all Basic Hunter Education funds are used for hunter education, Enhanced HE may be used for any WR Act authorized projects)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OR REQUIREMENTS

- * State Fish and Wildlife Agencies must pass and maintain assent legislation
- * Submit annual license certification
- * Ineligible projects include law enforcement, public relations, and revenue producing activities
- * Wildlife includes indigenous or naturalized species of birds or mammals that are either wildlife or free-ranging; held in a captive breeding program for reintroduction of depleted species; or under the jurisdiction of State fish and wildlife agency.