



**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

**Region 7 - Alaska**

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*News*

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## **Fish and Wildlife Service Announces Almost \$40 Million in User-Generated Funding to Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game**

### *Hunters, Anglers, and Other Recreational Users Provide Record Support for Critical Conservation Projects*

More than \$882.4 million in excise tax revenues generated in 2012 by sportsmen and sportswomen will be distributed to state and territorial fish and wildlife agencies to fund fish and wildlife conservation and recreation projects across the nation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today.

The State of Alaska will receive almost \$40-million in combined Wildlife Restoration and Sport Fish Restoration funding.

These funds are made available to all 50 states and territories through the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration programs. Revenues come from excise taxes generated by the sale of sporting firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, fishing equipment and tackle, and electric outboard motors. Recreational boaters also contribute to the program through fuel taxes on motorboats and small engines. The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program national apportionment for 2013 totals \$522.5 million. The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Program national apportionment for 2013 totals \$359.9 million.

“Men and women who hunt, fish, and boat have formed the backbone of wildlife conservation in America for more than 75 years,” said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Alaska Regional Director Geoff Haskett. “Together, they help fund everything from fish and wildlife conservation to shooting ranges to improved boat access. They are truly some of America’s first and most dedicated conservationists.”

“These trust funds are dedicated by Congress, administered to state fish and wildlife agencies by the USFWS, and are used exclusively to restore and manage fisheries and wildlife and their habitats; open and maintain recreational access for all (including shooting ranges); and deliver hunter and boating safety education,” said Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner Cora Campbell. “The

Alaska Department of Fish and Game is grateful to the manufacturers of hunting and fishing equipment who provide this funding through their payment of an annual excise tax, as well as to the millions of anglers, boaters, hunters and shooters who purchase this equipment. The annual Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration apportionment is matched with state hunting and fishing license revenues to support successful wildlife and fisheries conservation, management, and research across the state.”

The Service’s Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program reimburses up to 75 percent of the cost of each eligible project while state fish and wildlife agencies contribute a minimum of 25 percent, generally using hunting and fishing license revenues as the required non-Federal match.

Funding is paid by manufacturers, producers, and importers, and distributed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program to each state and territory. For information on funding for each state, visit

[http://www.fws.gov/home/feature/2013/pdf/Master\\_apport\\_table\\_Final\\_2013.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/home/feature/2013/pdf/Master_apport_table_Final_2013.pdf).

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs have generated a total of more than \$15.3 billion since their inception – in 1937 in the case of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program, and 1950 for the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Program – to conserve fish and wildlife resources. The recipient fish and wildlife agencies have matched these program funds with more than \$5.1 billion. This funding is critical to sustaining healthy fish and wildlife populations and providing opportunities for all to connect with nature.

Please visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program website at <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/> for more information on the goals and accomplishments of these programs and for individual state, commonwealth, and territorial funding allocations.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). Connect with our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/usfws](http://www.facebook.com/usfws), follow our tweets at [www.twitter.com/usfwshq](http://www.twitter.com/usfwshq), watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>*