

News Release

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March 5, 2010

10-031

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US Fish and Wildlife Service Announces Nearly \$65 Million to Pacific Region States for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Projects

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Region will distribute nearly \$65 million to four states, one commonwealth and two territories to support hunting, sport-fishing, wildlife research and fish and wildlife conservation and education programs.

The funding, through the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, is derived from excise taxes and import duties on sporting firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, sport-fishing equipment, electric outboard motors, and fuel taxes attributable to motorboats and small engines.

The total Wildlife Restoration apportionment for 2010 totals nearly \$473 million, with more than \$86 million going to hunter education and firearm and archery range programs. The total Sport Fish Restoration apportionment for 2010 totals more than \$389 million. The federal government pays up to 75 percent of the cost of each eligible project in the 50 states and up to 100 percent in the commonwealths and territories.

“These reliable, dedicated funds are even more critical given today’s economic climate,” said Pacific Regional Director Robyn Thorson. “The roots of this amazing partnership with Federal and state fish and wildlife agencies reside in the Federal Assistance in Wildlife Restoration Act passed by Congress in 1937. Since then more than \$9 billion has enhanced state wildlife recreation and \$4 billion has enhanced sport fishing opportunities. These opportunities lie in conservation education for our children and enhanced recreational hunting and fishing programs for people to enjoy the outdoors.”

Wildlife Restoration Program

Funding provided through the 2010 Wildlife Restoration Program apportionment for the Pacific Region totals nearly \$35 million and will fund the continuation of 2009 projects into the 2010-2011 grant period. The next cycle begins in June 2010. Pacific Region recipients use their grants to implement similar activities across the landscape. Examples of these activities are provided, below.

States utilize these funds for managing, enhancing and protecting wildlife habitat through operation and maintenance of state owned wildlife areas and by working with private landowners to improve wildlife habitat on their lands. States occasionally use funds to secure access for wildlife related recreation on private land. State wildlife areas are managed to provide winter habitat for big game (deer, elk, bighorn sheep, pronghorn and moose) and nesting and foraging habitat for waterfowl, waterbirds and upland species. Winter feeding programs for big game are conducted on some wildlife areas help reduce wildlife impacts to private property. States also use these funds to administer research and management programs including surveys and inventories and harvest

surveys for big game species like elk and deer, mountain lion, mountain sheep, Rocky Mountain goat, pronghorn, moose and black bear. Funds also are used to benefit grouse and pheasant and other upland birds and waterfowl. Wildlife research projects include investigating habitat interactions, predator-prey relations, wildlife disease issues, human cougar interactions and lynx habitat use. Guam will use its funding to survey birds and deer on Guam, and monitor bird, deer and pig hunting on the island. American Samoa will use its funds to enhance their ecological studies on food and critical habitat resources need to support indigenous species. All recipients will also use a portion of the funds to administer the grants and to provide operations and maintenance of wildlife management area equipment.

The Pacific Region has benefited from Wildlife Restoration funds since 1937. The first year Oregon, Washington and Idaho received a total of \$60,531. Today \$34,654,093 benefits programs in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, American Samoa and the Mariana Islands.

For a spreadsheet showing the full funding history of the Wildlife Restoration Program in the Pacific Region please visit the following link:

Wildlife Restoration funding is available to the 50 States, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (State(s)). For more information on the Wildlife Restoration Program, please visit the Fish and Wildlife service website at <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR.htm>.

State	2010 Wildlife Restoration Funds
Hawaii	\$ 2,795,702
Idaho	\$ 9,167,162
Oregon	\$10,979,103
Washington	\$ 9,349,788
American Samoa	\$ 787,446
Guam	\$ 787,446
Mariana Islands	\$ 787,446
Total:	\$34,654,093

Sport Fish Restoration Program

Funding provided through the 2010 Sport Fish Restoration Program apportionment for the Pacific Region totals nearly \$32 million. Examples of activities conducted through this Program across the Pacific Region include:

- Raising and stocking sport fish;
- Acquiring and improving habitat for sport fishing programs;
- Providing aquatic resource education opportunities;
- Conducting fisheries population surveys and disease research; and
- Building boat ramps, fishing piers and other facilities necessary for recreational access

The Pacific Region has benefited from Sport Fish Restoration funds since 1952. The first year Hawaii, Oregon, Washington and Idaho received a total of \$190,840. Today \$31,878,432 benefits programs in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, American Samoa and the Mariana Islands.

For a spreadsheet showing the full funding history of the Sport Fish Restoration Program in the Pacific Region please visit the following link:

State	2010 Dingell-Johnson Fish Restoration Funds
Hawaii	\$ 3,895,530
Idaho	\$ 6,769,990
Oregon	\$9,123,001
Washington	\$ 8,194,384
American Samoa	\$ 1,298,509
Guam	\$ 1,298,509
Mariana Islands	\$ 1,298,509
Total:	\$31,878,432

Modeled after the Wildlife Restoration Program, the Sport Fish Restoration Program provides funding to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands through a formula based on 40 percent of the land and water area of a state and 60 percent of the number of paid fishing license holders. For more information on the Sport Fish Restoration Program please go to:

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SFR/SFR.htm>

Please visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Web site at <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/> for state, commonwealth, and territory funding allocations or for more general and background information on the program.

To learn more about what is happening in each individual state, territory and commonwealth please use the pull-down menus to run state reports at the following location:

http://faims.fws.gov/reports/rwservlet?faimskeys&report=fwrg0300_p

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

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