UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

★ news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Most - Interior 5634

For Release AUGUST 11, 1963

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT REPORTS INCREASE IN EXCISE TAX COLLECTIONS ON SPORTING ARMS AND FISHING TACKLE

The Department of the Interior today reported that Federal excise collections on taxable hunting and fishing equipment increased for the period July 1, 1962, through March 31, 1963, over a like period a year ago.

Excise tax collections on arms and ammunition were $14,060,000, a 6.3 percent increase over the $13,230,000 collected during the preceding period. Sport fishing tackle excise tax receipts were $3,939,000, a 3.2 percent gain over the $3,816,000 collected for the period a year ago.

Collections are reported to the Department on a quarterly basis.

Use of the Federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition for wildlife work was authorized by Congress in 1937. Known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, after its sponsors in Congress, this legislation set aside the 11 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition for wildlife restoration projects.

The excise tax on sport fishing equipment is 10 percent. This tax was earmarked for fisheries work in 1950 by the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, known as the Dingell-Johnson Act, also after its sponsors in Congress.

Funds from these taxes are shared by the States in proportion to paid license holders and the State area. The money is used to establish fishing access sites, fishing lakes, public hunting areas, waterfowl marshes, and for research, land acquisition, and other types of fish and wildlife restoration. States bear the cost of approved projects and are then reimbursed by the Federal Government for up to 75 percent of the investment.

x x x

P.N. 32984-63