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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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The wide state support of the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act is demonstrated by the fact that every state except Nevada has adopted legislation assenting to the provisions of the act and is now participating, according to Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

During the past fiscal year 168 Federal Aid projects obligating \$1,040,040 were approved. These consisted of 48 research projects, obligating \$312,859; 55 development projects at \$342,452; 49 land projects at \$307,050; and 16 coordination projects at \$77,679.

During 1945 the States emphasized the purchase of lands of no particular agricultural value so as to accumulate a backlog of developmental opportunities for treatment during the postwar period. Of the 49 land projects approved, 44 involved the direct purchase of 39,456.53 acres in 17 states. Big-game winter ranges and marsh areas to be developed as waterfowl refuges and public shooting grounds comprised the principal part of the acreage approved for purchase.

Under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, which is commonly called the Pittman-Robertson Act and was approved by Congress in 1937, each participating state pays 25 percent of the cost of a project and the Federal Government 75 percent. For this purpose Congress each year can appropriate a sum not to exceed the total income derived from the 11 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition.

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