



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE ✓

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FEDERAL-AID WILDLIFE FUNDS APPORTIONED TO STATES

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug announced today that \$10,780,620 will be available to the 48 states during fiscal year 1949 for the restoration and development of their wildlife resources.

Under the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act the money is apportioned to the states, the funds coming from the 11 per cent excise tax paid by the manufacturers of sporting arms and ammunition.

The sum allotted to the states for 1949 exceeds that of last year by \$2,516,848.

In order to obtain the Federal grants, the states must contribute 25 percent of the cost of the projects. On this basis the total amount which will be available for Federal-aid wildlife work during fiscal year 1949 will be \$14,374,160. With the addition of Nevada last year, all states are now participating in the program.

For the 1949 Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program, the 80th Congress appropriated "an amount equal to the sum credited during the fiscal year 1948 to the special fund created by the Pittman-Robertson Act." This amounted to \$11,276,687. From this sum, before the apportionment to the states was made, \$496,067 was deducted--\$45,000 for projects in Alaska (\$25,000); Hawaii (\$10,000); Puerto Rico (\$5,000); and the Virgin Islands (\$5,000); and \$451,067 for administration of the Act. The Act authorizes a deduction of 8 percent for administrative purposes. This year, however, the Service elected to set aside only 4 percent for this purpose which made an additional \$451,000 available for apportionment to the states.

By the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act as amended on July 24, 1946, appropriated funds are apportioned to the states on the basis of land area and the number of paid hunting license holders in each state, but no state may receive more than 5 percent nor less than one-half of one percent of the total amount apportioned to all the states.

Under this maximum limitation of 5 percent, Michigan and Texas each receive \$539,031, an increase of \$125,842 apiece over last year. In applying the minimum formula, Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, and Vermont each receive \$53,903. Last year their apportionment was \$41,319.

Other high-ranking states for 1949 include California with \$496,628; New York, receiving \$456,755; Pennsylvania, \$456,501; Ohio, \$386,506; Minnesota, \$369,931; Colorado, \$369,471; Montana, \$327,085; Washington, \$290,857; Illinois, \$290,102; Missouri, \$271,750; Wisconsin, \$268,545; and Oregon, \$260,542.

Collections from the 11 percent Federal excise tax are deposited in a special fund in the Treasury known as the "Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund." Annual appropriations from that fund are made by the Congress and allotted in the following manner: one-half on the ratio of the area of each state to the area of all the states, and one-half on the ratio of the number of paid hunting license holders in each state to the total in all the states. On this basis small states with large hunting license sales and large states with low populations and proportionately lower hunting license sales are treated in an equitable manner.

Since the Act became effective on July 1, 1938, the following amounts have been apportioned to the states, exclusive of Territories, for each fiscal year: 1939, \$890,000; 1940, \$1,400,000; 1941, \$2,300,000; 1942, \$2,530,000; 1943, \$1,128,000; 1944, \$910,000; 1945, \$806,500; 1946, \$880,000; 1947, \$2,260,000; 1948, \$8,263,772; and 1949, \$10,780,620.

Projects submitted by the states are approved by the Fish and Wildlife Service on behalf of Secretary Krug to determine soundness of character and design. They consist of surveys and investigations, land acquisition, development of areas, coordination, and maintenance of completed projects. Project costs are borne initially by the State game departments after which reimbursement is made from Federal funds for the Federal pro-rata share which may not exceed 75 percent of the cost of the projects.

Allotments to the states for fiscal year 1949 are listed in alphabetical order as follows:

Alabama, \$182,022; Arizona, \$223,866; Arkansas, \$180,247; California, \$496,628; Colorado, \$369,471; Connecticut, \$53,903; Delaware, \$53,903; Florida, \$148,949; Georgia, \$167,736; Idaho, \$222,196; Illinois, \$290,102; Indiana, \$228,993; Iowa, \$231,119; Kansas, \$224,471; Kentucky, \$152,603.

Louisiana, \$161,963; Maine, \$118,312; Maryland, \$71,642; Massachusetts, \$75,220; Michigan, \$539,031; Minnesota, \$369,931; Mississippi, \$166,284; Missouri, \$271,750; Montana, \$327,085; Nebraska, \$235,251; Nevada, \$207,219; New Hampshire, \$65,197; New Jersey, \$95,592; New Mexico, \$239,105; New York, \$456,755; North Carolina, \$186,120; North Dakota, \$156,382; Ohio, \$386,506.

Oklahoma, \$197,634; Oregon, \$260,542; Pennsylvania, \$456,501; Rhode Island, \$53,903; South Carolina, \$131,507; South Dakota, \$230,582; Tennessee, \$184,957; Texas, \$539,031; Utah, \$198,577; Vermont, \$53,903; Virginia, \$199,630; Washington, \$290,857; West Virginia, \$160,939; Wisconsin, \$268,545; and Wyoming, \$197,961.

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