UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING NEW REFUGE REVENUE-SHARING FORMULA
PROPOSED BY INTERIOR

Procedures for applying a new formula for sharing National Wildlife Refuge revenues with counties are spelled out in proposed regulations announced today by the Department of the Interior.

Congress established the new formula in 1964, but first payments under it will not be made until after June 30, 1966.

The previous formula, in effect since 1935, provides payments to counties of 25 percent of net receipts from Federal operation of refuges. The Refuge Revenue-Sharing Act of 1964, soon to be effective, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make annual payments based on three-fourths of one percent of the adjusted cost of acquired land or 25 percent of net receipts, whichever is greater.

Revenue-sharing payments to counties for public lands of the United States that are included in refuges will continue as 25 percent of net receipts.

Refuge receipts come from grazing permits, oil leasing, timber harvests, and other operations. Last year, $1,063,837.01 was distributed to 246 counties.

A notice regarding the new formula is being published in the Federal Register to inform the public of procedures used by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for administering the revenue-sharing program.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed regulations. They should be addressed to the Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington, D. C. 20240 within 60 days of publication in the Federal Register.

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