Congressional Research Service
Informing the legislative debate since 1914

Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act: Understanding Apportionments for States and Territories

April 5, 2019

Congressional Research Service
https://crsreports.congress.gov
R45667

CRS REPORT
Prepared for Members and
Committees of Congress

Congressional Research Service
Informing the legislative debate since 1914

SUMMARY

R45667

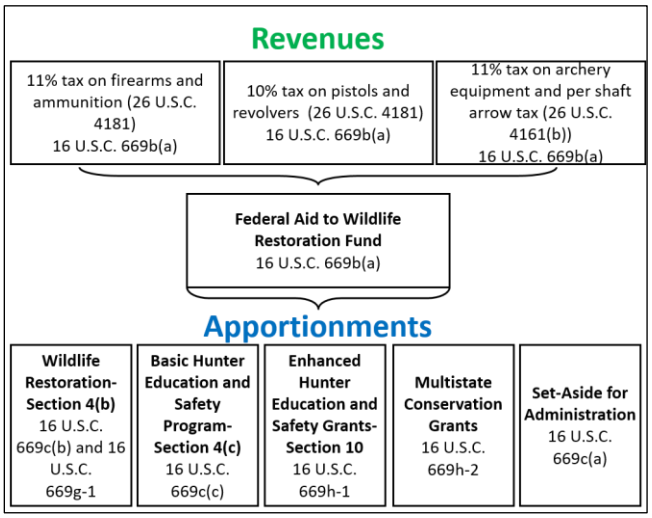
April 5, 2019

R. Eliot Crafton
Analyst in Natural Resources Policy

Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act: Understanding Apportionments for States and Territories

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. §§669 et seq.), enacted in 1937 and now known as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, provides funding for states and territories to support wildlife restoration, conservation, and hunter education and safety programs. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), within the Department of the Interior, administers Pittman-Robertson. All 50 states (but not the District of Columbia) as well as the 5 inhabited U.S. territories receive Pittman-Robertson funds.

Funding for FWS to carry out Pittman-Robertson programs comes from excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. Receipts from these excise taxes are deposited into the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund in the Treasury, and monies from the fund are made available for FWS in the fiscal year following their collection without any further action by Congress. Between FY1939 and FY2019, FWS disbursed $18.8 billion (in 2018 dollars) for wildlife restoration and hunter education and safety activities for Pittman-Robertson programs.



FWS apportions and disburses funds to states and territories through three formula-based programs: Wildlife Restoration (known as Section 4(b)), Basic Hunter Education and Safety (Section 4(c)), and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants (Section 10). FWS also allocates nonformula funding for multistate conservation grants and program administration. State apportionments for wildlife restoration projects are based on the land and inland water area and the number of hunting licenses sold in each state. State population is used to determine apportionments for both the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs. FWS also apportions funding for territories. For Wildlife Restoration, Puerto Rico receives not more than 0.5% of the apportionments made under the act and American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands each receive not more than 0.17%. Each territory receives 0.17% of the total apportionments for both the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs.

Amending Pittman-Robertson is of perennial interest to some in Congress. Members routinely consider legislation to amend how states and territories may use their Pittman-Robertson apportionments, sources of funding to support Pittman-Robertson, and the Pittman-Robertson apportionment formulas. Issues of interest have included whether Pittman-Robertson funds should be available for hunter recruitment and retention activities and the amount available for the expansion or construction of public shooting ranges. Because Pittman-Robertson derives its funding through an excise tax on shooting and archery equipment, the number of people participating in these and related activities influences the amount of available funding for these programs. This, in turn, can lead some to consider issues related to funding sources and whether the existing revenue sources derived from excise taxes on shooting and archery equipment should be modified. Other issues that Congress has addressed include whether to modify the existing apportionment structure, including whether to amend how funding is apportioned for states and territories.

Contents

Introduction 1
Revenues and Apportionments 1
Revenues 4
State and Territory Apportionment 5
Wildlife Restoration Program 8
Hunter Education and Safety Programs 12
Issues for Congress 15
Eligible Uses 15
Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion 15
Shooting Ranges 16
Funding Sources and Structure 18
Apportionment Formulas 20

Figures

Figure 1. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Revenue and Apportionment Structure 3
Figure 2. Pittman-Robertson Revenues from Ammunition, Firearms, Pistols and Revolvers, and Archery Equipment, FY2007-FY2016 5
Figure 3. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Total Apportionments, FY1939-FY2019 (top), and Apportionments by Program, FY2015-FY2019 (bottom) 7
Figure 4. Percentage Area and Average Annual Number of Hunting Licenses (Calculation Years 2015-2019), by State 11
Figure 5. Percentage Population in United States by State Based on 2010 Decennial Census 13

Tables

Table 1. Percentage of Revenues Attributable to Ammunition, Firearms, Pistols and Revolvers, and Archery Equipment, FY2007-FY2016 5
Table 2. Distribution of the Number of States Receiving Wildlife Restoration Apportionment Percentages, FY2007-FY2019 9

Table A-1. Pittman-Robertson State Program Allocation Formula Criteria 21
Table A-2. Hunting Licenses Sold by State (Calculation Years 2015-FY2019) 23
Table B-1. Pittman-Robertson Total Apportionment, Under Sections 4(b), 4(c), and 10, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019) 25
Table B-2. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration (Section 4(b)) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019) 27
Table B-3. Pittman-Robertson Basic Hunter Education (Section 4(c)) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019) 29

Table B-4. Pittman-Robertson Enhanced Hunter Education (Section 10) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019) 31

Appendixes

Appendix A. State Characteristics 21
Appendix B. Annual Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Apportionments by State and Territory, FY2015-FY2019 25

Contacts

Author Information 32

Introduction

Enacted in 1937, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, now known as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (hereinafter referred to as Pittman-Robertson),[1] provides funding for states and territories to support projects that promote the conservation and restoration of wild birds and mammals and their habitats and programs that provide hunter education and safety training and opportunities.[2]

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), an agency within the Department of the Interior, administers Pittman-Robertson as part of its Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program. Revenues generated through excise taxes on pistols and revolvers, other firearms, ammunition, bows, and other archery equipment provide the funding for Pittman-Robertson.[3] After collection, receipts from these excise taxes are deposited into the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund in the Treasury, and monies from the fund are made available for FWS for Pittman-Robertson activities in the fiscal year following their collection without any further action by Congress.[4] For three programs within Pittman-Robertson, FWS apportions the funds directly among the states and territories.[5] All 50 states as well as Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (collectively referred to as *territories* in this report) are eligible to receive funding through Pittman-Robertson.[6] Since its creation, Pittman-Robertson has provided over $18.8 billion (in 2018 dollars; $12.2 billion in nominal dollars) to states and territories.

This report provides an overview of the Pittman-Robertson state and territory programs that support wildlife restoration and hunter education and safety activities, including a breakdown of the various apportionment formulas and an analysis of related issues that may be of interest to Congress. This report focuses on the formula-based programs within Pittman-Robertson that provide funding for states and territories.

Revenues and Apportionments[7]

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act apportions and allocates funding for five distinct purposes:[8]

[1] 16 U.S.C. §§669-669k.

[2] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR), *Wildlife Restoration Program—Overview*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR.htm. Also, see 50 C.F.R. §80.50.

[3] 16 U.S.C. §669b(a); 26 U.S.C. §§4161(b) and 4181.

[4] For more information on excise taxes and additional background on the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, see CRS Report R45123, *Guns, Excise Taxes, Wildlife Restoration, and the National Firearms Act*.

[5] Typically, FWS disburses funds to states' fish and wildlife, or equivalent, agencies.

[6] The District of Columbia is not eligible for apportionments under §§4(b), 4(c), or 10 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act.

[7] Data for revenues and apportionments are presented in nominal dollars, unless otherwise stated. When data are presented in constant 2018 dollars, which is the case for historic data (pre-FY2015) and time series other than FY2015-FY2019, nominal dollars have been converted to constant 2018 dollars using the GDP (Chained) Price Index column in Table 10.1 (Gross Domestic Product and Deflators Used in the Historical Tables: 1940-2023) from the Office of Management and Budget, *Historical Tables*, at https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/historical-tables/.

[8] Each section can also be found in the *U.S. Code*: §4(a) at 16 U.S.C. §669c(a), §4(b) at 16 U.S.C. §669c(b), §4(c) at 16

1. program administration (Section 4(a));[9]
2. Wildlife Restoration (Section 4(b));
3. Basic Hunter Education and Safety (Section 4(c));[10]
4. Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants (Section 10); and
5. Multistate Conservation Grants (Section 11).[11]

Funds for three of these programs—Wildlife Restoration, Basic Hunter Education and Safety, and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants—are disbursed directly to states based on two apportionment formulas (both hunter education and safety programs use the same formula). The formulas take into account a state's acreage, number of hunting licenses sold, and population (**Figure 1** and **Table A-1**). Territories are apportioned a set percentage of the funds for each program. Washington, DC, does not receive funding under these programs. States and territories can use their apportionments to support the federal share of wildlife and hunter and safety projects that receive Pittman-Robertson funding.[12] Additionally, Pittman-Robertson provides for FWS to allocate nonformula based funding for multistate conservation grants and program administration.[13]

U.S.C. §669c(c), §10 at 16 U.S.C. §669h-1, and §11 at 16 U.S.C. §669h-2.

[9] Per 16 U.S.C. §669c(a), the amount set aside for program administration in a given year is determined by the amount set aside in the preceding year, adjusted for inflation.

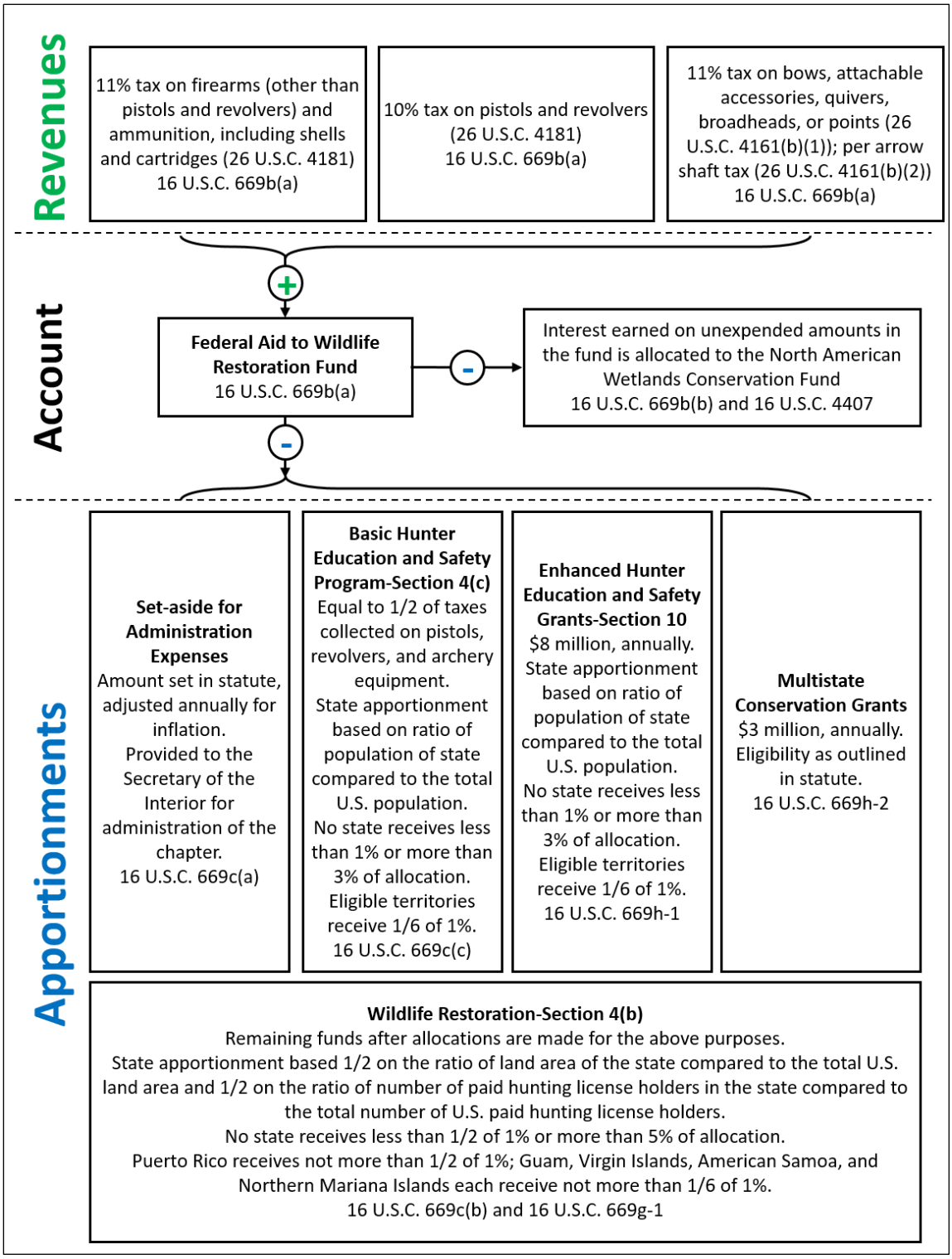
[10] In 50 C.F.R. §80.50(b), this program is referred to as the Basic Hunter Education and Safety *subprogram* within the Wildlife Restoration program. For the purposes of clarity, the Basic Hunter Education and Safety *subprogram* is referred to as the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program within this report.

[11] Per 16 U.S.C. §669h-2(c), Pittman-Robertson allocates $3 million per year for multistate conservation grants. Eligible multistate conservation grantees include a state or group of states, FWS, and nongovernmental organizations.

[12] The federal share for states is not to exceed 75% of the project cost (16 U.S.C. §§669e, 669g(b), and 669h-1). The federal share for territories is outlined in 16 U.S.C. §669g-1, which states, "the Secretary [of the Interior] shall in no event require any of said cooperating agencies [in the territories] to pay an amount which will exceed 25 per centum of the cost of any project." Further, 48 U.S.C. 1469a(d) provides limited waiver authority to waive cost-share requirements for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Puerto Rico is not eligible for the waiver.

[13] The act, under 16 U.S.C. §669b(b)(2), also provides that interest earned on monies in the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund shall be made available for allocation under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. §4407). In addition, per 16 U.S.C. §669b(a)(1), funds that are unobligated within their allowed use window under the Wilderness Restoration and Basic Hunter Education and Safety programs become available to carry out provisions related to the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. §§715 et seq.).

Figure 1. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Revenue and Apportionment Structure



Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), with information from 16 U.S.C. §§669 et seq.

Revenues

Funding for programs authorized in Pittman-Robertson comes from excise taxes on certain firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment.[14] Taxes on these items are imposed on the manufacturer, producer, or importer of these goods. However, these taxes may result in higher prices for the purchaser if part or all of the cost is passed on in the final purchase price. The tax rates are 10% for pistols and revolvers, 11% for other firearms and ammunition, 11% for bows and archery equipment, and a per shaft tax for arrows that is adjusted annually for inflation.[15] Receipts from these excise taxes are deposited into the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund in the Treasury, and monies from the fund are made available for FWS in the fiscal year following their collection without any further action by Congress.

Revenues generated from these excise taxes vary year by year both in total revenue (**Figure 2**) and in revenue attributable to a specific item group (**Table 1**). From FY2007 through FY2016,[16] FWS reported a total of $6.2 billion (in 2018 dollars) of revenue. Ammunition accounted for $2.1 billion (34%), firearms for $1.9 billion (32%), pistols and revolvers for $1.7 billion (27%), and archery equipment for $0.5 billion (8%) of the total (in 2018 dollars). The revenues attributable to ½ the revenues generated from excise taxes on pistols, revolvers, and archery equipment accounted for 17% of the total revenue.[17] These revenues determined the amount available for apportionments through the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program for the years from FY2008 through FY2017 (the years following excise tax collection). The remaining revenues, 83% for FY2007 through FY20016, provide funds for the Wildlife Restoration and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs as well as the Multistate Conservation Grant program and the set-aside for administration.

While the overall revenues generated determines the total amount available for apportionment in the year following collection, the amount available for Basic Hunter Education and Safety program (Section 4(c)) is solely based on revenues generated from pistols, revolvers, and archery equipment. As such, amounts available for apportionment and disbursement are program specific and fluctuate based on the total volume of shooting and archery equipment and the type of goods.

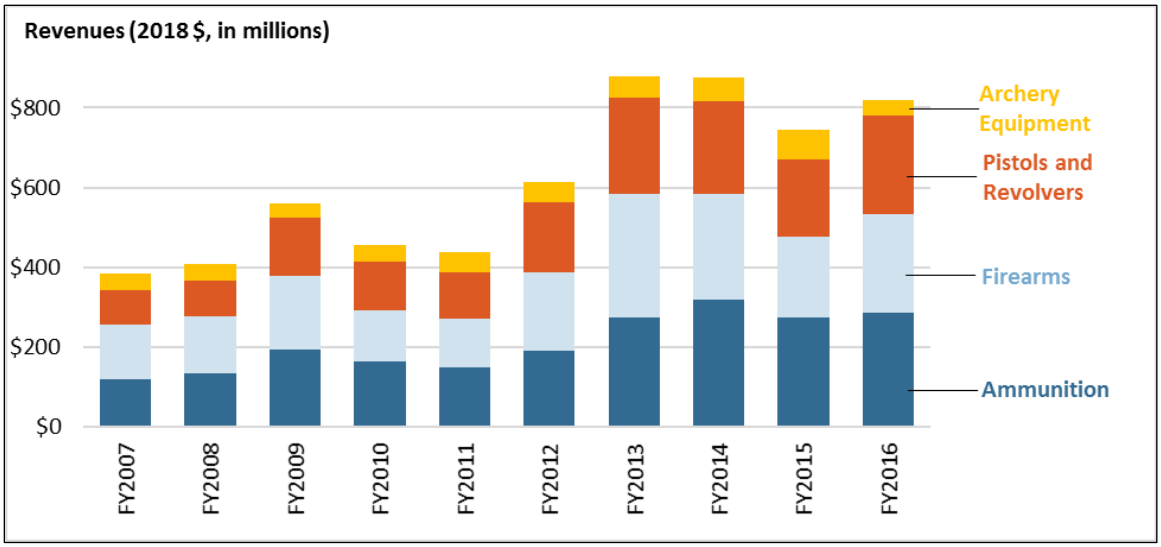
[14] 16 U.S.C. §669b(a).

[15] 26 U.S.C. §§4161(b) and 4181. Certain equipment is exempt from these excise taxes as laid out in 26 U.S.C. §§4161(b) and 4182.

[16] FY2007-FY2016 is the most recent period for which FWS has made revenue data available on the WSFR website. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *Wildlife Restoration Excise Tax Receipts*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_ExciseTax.html.

[17] 17% is for the total revenues collected from FY2007 through FY2016. Each year may fluctuate from this average based on actual revenues generated in that year.

Figure 2. Pittman-Robertson Revenues from Ammunition, Firearms, Pistols and Revolvers, and Archery Equipment, FY2007-FY2016



Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *Wildlife Restoration Excise Tax Receipts*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_ExciseTax.html.

Note: Nominal dollars have been converted to constant 2018 dollars using the GDP (Chained) Price Index column in Table 10.1 (Gross Domestic Product and Deflators Used in the Historical Tables: 1940-2023) from the Office of Management and Budget, *Historical Tables*, at https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/historical-tables/.

Table 1. Percentage of Revenues Attributable to Ammunition, Firearms, Pistols and Revolvers, and Archery Equipment, FY2007-FY2016

Year	Ammunition	Firearms	Pistols and Revolvers	Archery Equipment
FY2007	30.5%	36.1%	22.9%	10.5%
FY2008	32.9%	34.5%	22.0%	10.5%
FY2009	34.2%	33.4%	25.8%	6.6%
FY2010	35.7%	28.4%	26.8%	9.1%
FY2011	33.8%	28.5%	26.4%	11.3%
FY2012	31.0%	32.2%	28.8%	8.0%
FY2013	31.0%	35.2%	27.5%	6.3%
FY2014	36.3%	30.4%	26.6%	6.7%
FY2015	36.6%	27.4%	26.0%	9.9%
FY2016	34.7%	30.3%	30.1%	4.8%

Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *Wildlife Restoration Excise Tax Receipts*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_ExciseTax.html.

State and Territory Apportionment

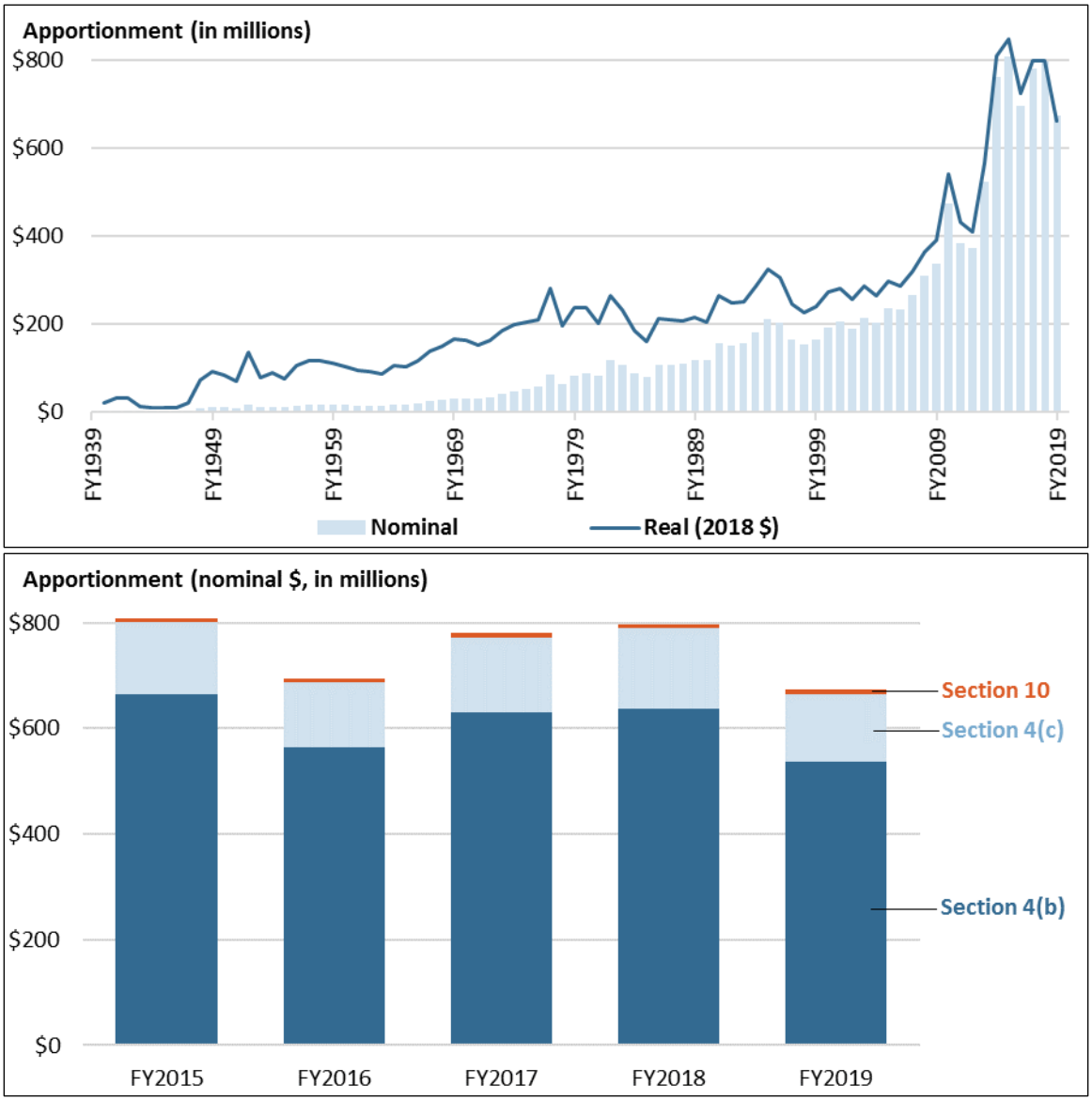
Between FY1939 and FY2019, FWS disbursed $18.8 billion (in constant 2018 dollars; $12.2 billion in nominal dollars) for wildlife restoration and hunter education and safety activities to

states and territories (**Figure 3**).[18] Annual apportionments have increased over time. However, in recent years, there have been fluctuations of over $100 million between years. FWS disbursed $3.8 billion (in nominal dollars)—an average of $751 million per year—to states and territories for the Wildlife Restoration and the two Hunter Education and safety programs for FY2015 through FY2019 (**Figure 3**). Each year, individual states received between $4.5 million and $34.7 million, on average, in total apportionments for FY2015 through FY2019. American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands each received $1.3 million per year, on average, and Puerto Rico received $3.3 million per year, on average.[19] **Table B-1** provides the annual total apportionment for each state and territory for FY2015 through FY2019.

[18] FWS, WSFR, *1939 through 2019 WR Apportionments (includes Hunter Ed)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WRApportionmentsHE-1939-2019.xlsx.

[19] 16 U.S.C. §669c(c) and 16 U.S.C. §669h-1 require that each of the territories receives one-sixth of 1% of funding apportioned for the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs each year. 16 U.S.C. §669g-1 requires that American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Marina Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands each receive not more than one-sixth of 1% and that Puerto Rico receives not more than one-half of 1% of funding apportioned through Pittman-Robertson. Typically, WSFR reports the wildlife restoration state apportionment (Section 4(b); 16 U.S.C. §669c(b)) and territorial apportionment (16 U.S.C. §669g-1) for wildlife restoration together, and the territories receive an amount equal to 0.17% (all but Puerto Rico) and 0.5% (Puerto Rico) of the total state and territorial apportionments for wildlife restoration.

Figure 3. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Total Apportionments, FY1939-FY2019 (top), and Apportionments by Program, FY2015-FY2019 (bottom)



Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *1939 through 2019 WR Apportionments (includes Hunter Ed)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WRApportionmentsHE-1939-2019.xlsx.

Notes: Apportionments include total funding for Wildlife Restoration and Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs. Totals do not include funding for program administration or multistate conservation grants. Section 4(b) is also known as Wildlife Restoration, Section 4(c) is also known as Basic Hunter Education and Safety, and Section 10 is also known as Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants. In the top figure, nominal dollars have been converted to constant 2018 dollars using the GDP (Chained) Price Index column in Table 10.1 (Gross Domestic Product and Deflators Used in the Historical Tables: 1940-2023) from the Office of Management and Budget, *Historical Tables*, at https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/historical-tables/.

Wildlife Restoration Program

The Wildlife Restoration program, also known as Section 4(b), comprises the largest funding stream within Pittman-Robertson. From FY2015 through FY2019, annual state and territory apportionments for the Wildlife Restoration Program averaged $606 million (81% of the $751 million, on average, disbursed directly to states and territories under Pittman-Robertson; see **Figure 3** and **Table B-2**). The total amount of funding available for the Wildlife Restoration program for states is determined by deducting the amounts available for administration, the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs (Sections 4(c) and 10, respectively), multistate conservation grants, and territorial allocations for wildlife restoration activities from the total amount of revenues generated from the excise taxes on pistols, revolvers, firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment in the previous year. States and territories may use this funding to pay the federal share of wildlife restoration projects.[20] States and territories may use their apportionments to pay for up to 75% of the total project cost; they are responsible for the remaining cost of the project using non-Pittman-Robertson funds.[21] Wildlife Restoration program funds are available for use by the states and territories for the fiscal year in which they are apportioned and the following fiscal year.[22]

FWS calculates the Wildlife Restoration apportionment for each state using a two-part formula, with each part determining half of the amount apportioned.[23] The formula is based on

- the ratio of the area of a state compared with the total area of all 50 states and
- the number of paid hunting licenses sold in a state compared with the total number of paid hunting licenses sold in all 50 states.

The area of and number of licenses sold in the territories and Washington, DC, are not included in the totals for all 50 states.

However, the minimum and maximum amount any state may receive is 0.5% and 5%, respectively. Territorial apportionments are not formula based. Rather, the caps for territorial apportionments for wildlife restoration activities are set in statute: Puerto Rico receives not more than one-half of 1% (0.5%), and Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands each receive not more than one-sixth of 1% (0.17%) of the total funds apportioned.[24] Collectively, territories can receive slightly more than 1% of the allocated funding.

FWS calculates state area as the sum of land and inland water areas in a state.[25] State area does not include coastal, Great Lakes, or territorial waters. The area within an individual state is compared to the total area in all 50 states (territorial area is not counted in the total). In total, the United States contains 3.6 million square miles of land and inland water areas. States' areas vary

[20] States must propose and receive approval by the Secretary of the Interior for wildlife restoration projects for which they are seeking Pittman-Robertson funding (16 U.S.C. §669e). States may propose projects individually or as part of a comprehensive fish and wildlife resource management plan. 16 U.S.C. §669e states that the Secretary of the Interior "shall approve only such comprehensive plans or projects as may be substantial in character and design."

[21] 16 U.S.C. §669e.

[22] 16 U.S.C. §669b(a)(1).

[23] 16 U.S.C. §669c(b).

[24] 16 U.S.C. §669g-1.

[25] Email from FWS Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to CRS, February 8, 2019. U.S. Census Bureau, *State Area Measurements and Internal Point Coordinates*, at https://www.census.gov/geo/reference/state-area.html#n4.

from 0.03% (Rhode Island) to over 16% (Alaska) of the total U.S. area (**Figure 4**).[26] States' areas do not change on an annual basis, though they may be updated periodically.[27]

The number of paid hunting-license holders used for the calculation in a given apportionment year (also known as calculation year) is "the number of paid hunting-license holders in each State in the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which such apportionment is made."[28] The act does not distinguish between in-state and out-of-state hunters; a hunting license purchased by a nonresident would be equivalent under this formula to one purchased by a resident.[29] For calculation years 2015 to 2019, states collectively sold 15.4 million licenses per year, on average, in the United States.[30] During these five years, Rhode Island sold the fewest licenses per year (8,404, on average) and Texas sold the most (1.1 million per year, on average) (**Figure 4**). Unlike area, the number of hunting licenses sold varies from year to year (**Table A-2**). This annual variation influences the apportionment level and can result in states receiving more or less in a given year (subject to minimum and maximum requirements; **Table 2**).

Table 2. Distribution of the Number of States Receiving Wildlife Restoration Apportionment Percentages, FY2007-FY2019

Year	<1%	1%-2%	2%-3%	3%-4%	>4%
FY2007	9	21	11	7	2
FY2008	9	20	12	7	2
FY2009	9	20	13	6	2
FY2010	9	20	13	6	2
FY2011	9	20	13	6	2
FY2012	9	20	13	6	2
FY2013	9	17	16	6	2
FY2014	9	18	15	6	2
FY2015	9	20	13	6	2
FY2016	9	20	13	6	2
FY2017	9	19	14	6	2
FY2018	9	19	14	6	2
FY2019	9	19	16	4	2

[26] The smallest state, Rhode Island, comprises 0.03% (1,215 square miles) of the total area of the United States and the largest, Alaska, comprises 16.3% (589,945 square miles). Overall, 12 states each contain less than 1% of the land area, 22 contain between 1% and 2%, 9 between 2% and 3%, 3 between 3% and 4%, and the remaining 4 have greater than 4%.

[27] FWS may update the land and inland water area values used in the apportionment calculation.

[28] 16 U.S.C. §669c(b).

[29] Each state's fish and game department, or equivalent, is responsible for reporting the number of hunting-license holders. FWS posts the number of "Paid Hunting License Holders" through the WSFR Program, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/LicenseInfo/Hunting.htm. Email from FWS Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to CRS, February 8, 2019.

[30] The calculation year is the year in which the apportionment is made. The actual year of sale is two years prior to the apportionment year.

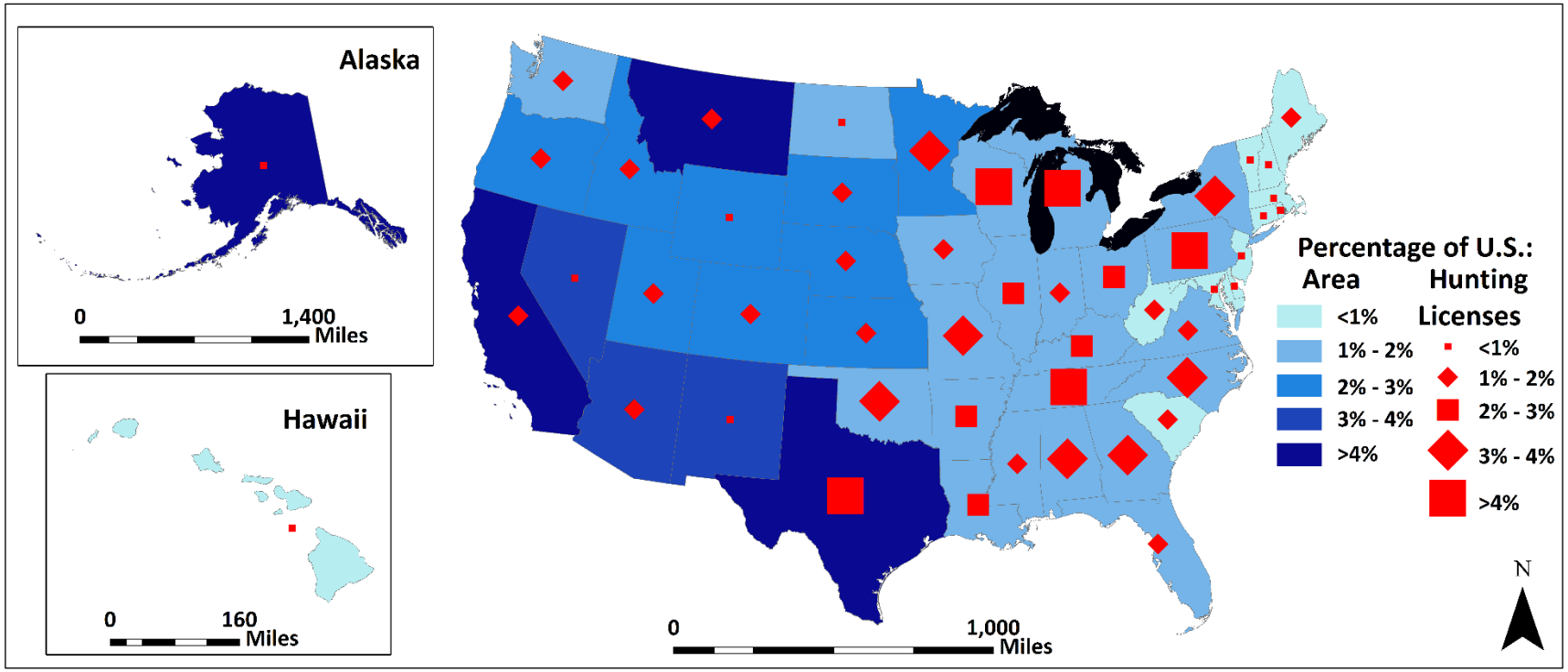
Source: CRS, with data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Wildlife Restoration Program – Funding (WR Final Apportionment FY2015-FY2019)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_Funding.htm.

From FY2015 through FY2019, 8 states each received the minimum of 0.5% of the apportionments for the Wildlife Restoration program ($3.0 million per year, on average), 40 states received between the minimum and maximum, and 2 states received the maximum of 5% ($30.3 million). All 8 states receiving the minimum allocation are comparatively small (each consists of less than 0.5% of the total U.S. area) and sold a comparatively small number of hunting licenses in recent years (on average, each sold less than 0.5% of the U.S. total).[31] The 2 states—Texas and Alaska—that received the maximum apportionment of 5% are both large (7.4% and 16.3% of the total U.S. area, respectively) but differed significantly in license sales in recent years (on average 7.4% and 0.7%, respectively).[32]

[31] States receiving the minimum (0.5%) were Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

[32] Hunting license data are for calculation years 2015 through 2019.

Figure 4. Percentage Area and Average Annual Number of Hunting Licenses (Calculation Years 2015-2019), by State



Source: CRS, with data from email from FWS Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to CRS, March 26, 2019, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *National Hunting License Data*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/LicenseInfo/Hunting.htm.

Note: The state area percentage was calculated by dividing the sum of land area and inland water area for each state by the total land and inland water area in all 50 states (total does not include territories or Washington, DC). The hunting licenses percentage was calculated by dividing the number of "Paid Hunting License Holders" for each state for calculation years 2015 through 2019 by the total number of all "Paid Hunting License Holders" for all 50 states (total does not include territories or Washington, DC). License data used to calculate apportionment for a given fiscal year ("calculation year") are the number of licenses sold in the second fiscal year preceding the apportionment year (16 U.S.C. §669c(b)). As such, license sales data used to calculate apportionments for 2015-2019 are from 2013-2017. An average is presented for context as the annual number of licenses sold can vary from year to year; apportionments are determined based on a single year's license sales. The apportionments for territories (not shown) are not determined based on the percentage of area or hunting licenses. Instead, Puerto Rico receives not more than one-half of 1% (0.5%), and Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands each receive not more than one-sixth of 1% (approximately 0.17%) of the total funds apportioned.

Hunter Education and Safety Programs

Two programs within Pittman-Robertson provide support to states and territories for hunter education and safety projects: Basic Hunter Education and Safety (Section 4(c)) and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants (Section 10). The amount of funding available for state and territorial apportionments for the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program fluctuates based on annual revenues deposited in the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund from excise taxes on pistols, revolvers, and archery equipment (**Figure 1**). The Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program receives a statutorily fixed amount of $8 million per year.[33] Both programs use the same apportionment structure, premised on the ratio of a state's population to the total population of the United States, as reported in the most recent decennial census. Statute dictates a minimum (1%) and maximum (3%) state apportionment cap for both programs. Each of the five eligible territories receives one-sixth of 1% (0.17%) of the total amount available for each program. States and territories may use their apportionments to pay for up to 75% of the total cost of a project.[34]

Based on the 2010 decennial census,[35] 21 states each contain less than 1% of the U.S. population. Of the 29 remaining, 12 contain between 1% and 2%, 7 between 2% and 3%, 4 between 3% and 4%, and 6 more than 4%. The most populous state, California, contains 12.1% of the total U.S. population. **Figure 5** shows the percentage of the population for each state compared with the total for all 50 states calculated from the 2010 U.S. decennial census.

Because apportionments are determined based on the decennial census, which only changes when a new decennial census is conducted, the percentage of apportionment each state receives is constant in the years between decennial censuses, though the actual apportionment will fluctuate based on revenues generated by the excise tax on pistols, revolvers, and archery equipment.[36] Based on the 2010 decennial census, 21 states have received the minimum 1%, 3 states have received between 1% and 2%, 9 states between 2% and 3%, and 17 states the 3% cap. The territories have received 0.17% as required in statute.

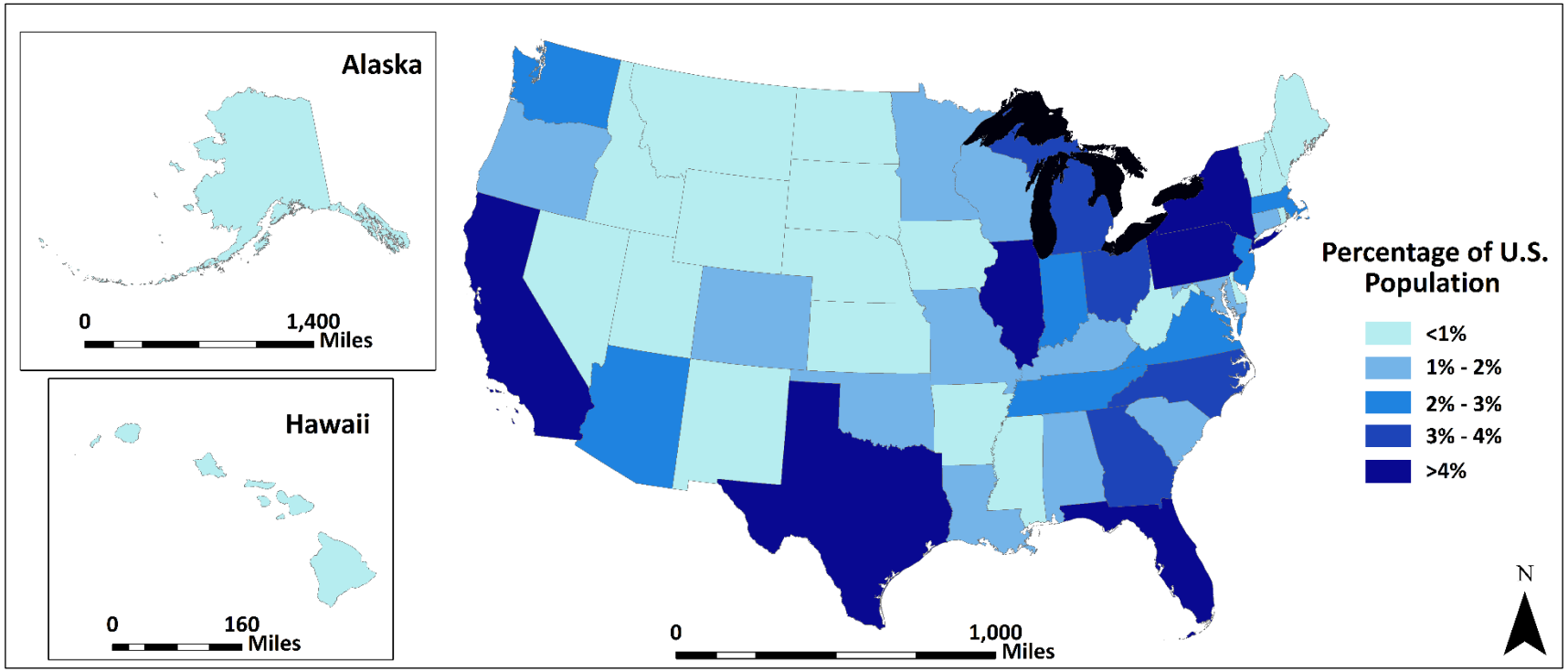
[33] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1. Although statute sets the amount for Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety grants at $8 million per year, the actual amount set aside has varied slightly since FY2013 due to sequestration pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (2 U.S.C. §§900 et seq.).

[34] 16 U.S.C. §§669g and 669h-1(b). The nonfederal cost share can come from revenues generated by selling hunting licenses, but it may not come from other federal grant programs.

[35] U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, *Annual Estimates of the Residential Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018*, at https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2018_PEPANNRES&src=pt.

[36] After the 2010 decennial census, the apportionment percentages fluctuated in FY2010 and FY2011, but have remained constant between FY2012-FY2019.

Figure 5. Percentage Population in United States by State Based on 2010 Decennial Census



Source: CRS with data from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, *Annual Estimates of the Residential Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018*, at https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2018_PEPANNRES&src=pt.

Notes: The allocations for territories (not shown) are not based on the percentage of population within a given territory. Instead, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands each receive one-sixth of 1% (approximately, 0.17%) of the funds apportioned for both basic (Section 4(c)) and enhanced (Section 10) hunter education programs.

Basic Hunter Education and Safety Program (Section 4(c))

The total amount of funding available for the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program is equal to the revenue generated by half of the excise taxes collected on pistols, revolvers, and archery equipment but not other firearms and ammunition.[37] Apportionments for the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program represent the second-largest component of Pittman-Robertson in terms of funding. Between FY2015 and FY2019, the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program apportioned an average of $136 million per year in total to states and territories (18.2% of the $751 million total average annual apportionments disbursed to states and territories under Pittman-Robertson apportionment programs; see **Figure 3** and **Table B-3**). Between FY2015 and FY2019, the majority of states received either the minimum or the maximum allocation established in statute each year; 21 states received the minimum amount required by law (1%, or $1.4 million per year, on average), and 17 states received the maximum (3%, or $4.1 million per year, on average). Each territory received 0.17% ($227,473 per year, on average), as required by statute. States may use funding under this program to pay the federal share of the "costs of a hunter safety program and the construction, operation, and maintenance of public target ranges, as part of such program."[38] Basic Hunter Education and Safety program funds are available for use by states and territories for the fiscal year in which they are apportioned and the following fiscal year.[39]

Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants Program (Section 10)

Congress passed legislation to add the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program (also known as Section 10) to Pittman-Robertson in 2000.[40] Since FY2003, $8.0 million has been set aside annually for the program for firearm and bow hunter education and safety grants. Pittman-Robertson states that the allowed uses for these grants are determined based on whether a state or territory has "used all of the funds apportioned to the State under section 669c(c) [Section 4(c)] of this title for the fiscal year."[41] If a state or territory has not used all the funds apportioned to it under the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program, it may use monies apportioned under the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program for the enhancement of

- hunter education programs, hunter and firearm safety programs, and hunter development programs;
- interstate coordination, hunter education, and shooting range programs;
- bow hunter and archery education, safety, and development; and
- construction and updating of firearm and archery shooting ranges.[42]

[37] 16 U.S.C. §669c(c).

[38] 16 U.S.C. §669g(b).

[39] 16 U.S.C. §669b(a)(1).

[40] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1; P.L. 106-408. Under the amended law, $7.5 million was set aside for the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants Program in FY2001 and FY2002. Starting in FY2003, the amount increased to $8 million. The amount set aside for Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants has varied slightly since FY2013 due to sequestration pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (2 U.S.C. §§900 et seq.). Also, pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, starting in FY2014, sequestered funds have been made available for inclusion in apportionments in years after their sequestration.

[41] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1(a).

[42] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1(a)(1)(A).

If a state or territory has used all of its Basic Hunter Education and Safety program apportionment, it may use its Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants apportionment for any purpose authorized by Pittman-Robertson.[43]

FWS annually apportions and disburses funding to states and territories under the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program (**Figure 3** and **Table B-4**). For FY2015 to FY2019, each state received between 1% ($80,160 per year, on average) and 3% ($240,480 per year, on average) of the total amount apportioned for these grants. Each eligible territory received 0.17% ($13,360 per year, on average) of the total Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program apportionments. Because both hunter education programs use the same distribution formula, apportionments for the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program follow the same pattern as apportionments for the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program. Unlike the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program, Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grant program funds are available for use by states and territories only for the fiscal year in which they are apportioned.[44]

Issues for Congress

Members of Congress have routinely introduced legislation to amend Pittman-Robertson.[45] In particular, Congress has considered issues related to eligible uses of state and territorial apportionments, the funding structure and funding sources for the program, and the apportionment formulas.

Eligible Uses

In recent Congresses, some Members have introduced several bills that would amend the way states and territories are able to spend their apportionments. Some bills have proposed amending Pittman-Robertson to allow additional uses, such as hunter recruitment and retention; others have proposed modifying the federal share and eligible uses of funds for existing or related activities, such as for public target ranges. Some Members introduced multiple bills for both purposes in recent Congresses, including in the 115th and 116th Congresses.

Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion

Several bills in the 115th Congress would have allowed and in the 116th Congress would allow states to use funds provided through Pittman-Robertson to promote hunting and recreational shooting, recruitment and retention of hunters and shooters, and public relations.[46] According to the *2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, the number of hunters in the United States declined by 16% (2.2 million individuals) compared to the similar survey in 2011 (from 13.7 million in 2011 to 11.5 million in 2016).[47] These bills would allow

[43] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1(a)(1)(B).

[44] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1(c)(1).

[45] Congress has not substantially amended Pittman-Robertson since the 106th Congress (P.L. 106-408 and P.L. 106-553). Since the 106th Congress, Section 3 (16 U.S.C. §669b) has been amended twice (P.L. 109-75 and P.L. 114-113) to extend the date after which interest earned on the fund shall be available for apportionment under Pittman-Robertson in addition to allocation under the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund (16 U.S.C. §4407). See **Figure 1**.

[46] For example, H.R. 877 in the 116th Congress and H.R. 2591 and S. 1613 in the 115th Congress. H.R. 2591 passed the House.

[47] FWS, *2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation*, October 2018, p. 6,

states to use funds currently provided for the Wildlife Restoration, Basic Hunter Education and Safety, and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants programs for hunter and recreational shooter recruitment and retention.[48] In addition, they would create a funding mechanism for the Secretary of the Interior to use for recruitment and retention purposes at the national level. Currently, Pittman-Robertson prohibits the use of Wildlife Restoration program apportionments for public relations related to wildlife management activities.[49] These proposals would remove this prohibition.

Proponents of this type of legislation have argued that these bills would provide states with flexibility to use Pittman-Robertson apportionments to support recruitment efforts that would promote participation in hunting and shooting sports.[50] They contend there is a need to attract and retain hunters and recreational shooters, which, in turn, could increase excise tax revenues that support Pittman-Robertson. Stakeholders also point out that wildlife restoration would remain the primary purpose of the act even if amended.[51] Other stakeholders have raised the concern that these bills would diminish wildlife restoration activities by allowing states to use funds currently apportioned for wildlife restoration purposes for recruitment and retention.[52]

Shooting Ranges

Other legislation has been introduced, including in the 115th and 116th Congresses, that would change the terms under which states may use Pittman-Robertson allocations for projects related to the construction and expansion of public target ranges.[53] Currently, Pittman-Robertson allows states to use funds apportioned under the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program (Section 4(c)) for the "construction, operation, and maintenance of public target ranges."[54] Funds apportioned under the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program (Section 10) may be used for "enhancement of construction or development of firearm shooting ranges and archery

https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/demo/fhw16-nat.pdf.

[48] These bills would amend Pittman-Robertson to include a definition for *hunter recruitment and recreational shooter recruitment* and would allow states to use funds for marketing, education, range construction, education related to the role of hunting and shooting for conservation, and other activities determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

[49] 16 U.S.C. §669g.

[50] For example, see Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, *Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act of 2017*, at http://congressionalsportsmen.org/policies/federal/modernizing-the-pittman-robertson-fund.

[51] These bills would allow for funds provided under both Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs to be used for recruitment and retention. In addition, up to 25% of funding apportioned for the Wildlife Restoration program over any five-fiscal-year period could also be used for recruitment and retention. The remainder of funding for wildlife restoration (at least 75% in a given five-year period) still would be for wildlife restoration projects, as currently provided. For example, see Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, "U.S. House Passes the Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act," September 14, 2018, at https://www.fishwildlife.org/landing/blog/us-house-passes-modernizing-pittman-robertson-fund-tomorrows-needs-act.

[52] For example, see John E. McDonald Jr., the Wildlife Society, testimony submitted to U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, regarding H.R. 4647 and H.R. 2591, February 15, 2018, at http://wildlifeorg9.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/0222_TWS-News_TWS-Testimony-funding-bills.pdf. For the five-year period from FY2015 through FY2019, the wildlife restoration apportionments through Section 4(b) (16 U.S.C. §669c(b)) of Pittman-Robertson totaled $3.03 billion.

[53] See, for example, S. 94 in the 116th Congress and S. 593 and H.R. 788 in the 115th Congress. In addition, similar legislative language has been included in several broad natural resource bills, including S. 47, as introduced (S. 47 was enacted as P.L. 116-9, but as enacted, it did not contain the section that would have amended Pittman-Robertson), in the 116th Congress and S. 733, H.R. 4489, and H.R. 3668 in the 115th Congress.

[54] 16 U.S.C. §669g(b).

ranges, and the updating of safety features of firearm shooting ranges and archery ranges."[55] However, both programs have a 75% cap for the federal share of projects supported by Pittman-Robertson funding. All of the proposals in the 115th and 116th Congress to amend the eligibility of activities related to shooting ranges would

- allow states and territories to use their Basic Hunter Education and Safety program apportionments for land acquisition, expansion, and construction related to a target range, rather than solely for construction, operation, and maintenance of a range;
- allow states and territories to use up to 10% of funds apportioned to them through the Wildlife Restoration program to supplement apportionments for the Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program to be used for land acquisition, expansion, and construction related to a target range;[56]
- allow states and territories to use their apportionments to pay for up to 90% of the total cost of a project related to a shooting range, instead of the current 75% federal cost-share cap; and
- extend the obligation and expenditure window of Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety Grants program apportionments used for shooting ranges to up to five fiscal years from the current window (the fiscal year for which they were apportioned).[57]

According to their authors, these bills would address a stated decline in the availability of public target ranges and would provide increased opportunity for target practice at public shooting ranges.[58] Some proponents have further argued that this type of legislation would allow the use of more funds to provide the public with opportunities to "embrace hunting and shooting sports," which could lead to economic benefits.[59] Some proponents also contend that this legislation would make it easier for states to use federal funding, because it would lower the state matching requirement from at least 25% to 10% for target range-related projects and extend the funding window for certain funds. Some stakeholders have raised concerns that this legislation would allow states to use funding for target range-purposes that otherwise would be available for wildlife restoration activities under Section 4(b).[60]

[55] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1.

[56] For the five-year period from FY2015 through FY2019, $606 million was apportioned for allocation to states for wildlife restoration under Section 4(b) per year, on average.

[57] 16 U.S.C. §669h-1(c).

[58] For example, S. 94 in the 116th Congress states (in §2(a)(3)), "the availability of public target ranges on non-Federal land has been declining for a variety of reasons, including continued population growth and development near former ranges."

[59] For example, see Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, *Target Practice Marksmanship Training Support Act*, at http://congressionalsportsmen.org/policies/federal/target-practice-marksmanship-training-support-act, and National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc., "NSSF Applauds Bipartisan Introduction of Target And Marksmanship Training Support Act of 2017 in the Senate," press release, March 9, 2017, at https://www.nssf.org/nssf-applauds-bipartisan-introduction-of-target-and-marksmanship-training-support-act-of-2017-in-the-senate/.

[60] For example, see Ceasefire Oregon, S. 593 *Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act*, at https://www.ceasefireoregon.org/bills/target-practice-and-marksmanship-training-support-act/.

Funding Sources and Structure

Under current law, the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund receives revenues generated through an excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment.[61] Because Pittman-Robertson funding is entirely reliant on revenues from these taxes, it is subject to spending patterns on these items and can fluctuate with the markets for these goods.[62] In addition, although firearm and archery equipment owners, hunters, and recreational shooters generate the funds used by Pittman-Robertson, many stakeholders contend that the act's wildlife restoration benefits accrue to the American public at large (this is often referred to as user-pay, public-benefit). Both the potential for market-based fluctuation of the excise tax structure and the public benefit nature of Pittman-Robertson have led some stakeholders to propose amending the act to include a funding source that they argue is more stable and not solely reliant on hunters and recreational shooters.

Congress has structured revenue sources for Pittman-Robertson so that those who recreate with firearms or bows contribute to funding that is used to maintain and preserve wildlife and hunter safety programs. Upon enactment of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, in 1937, Congress only included revenues generated from excise taxes on firearms (not including pistols and revolvers) and shells and cartridges.[63] In debating this act, some Members stated that taxes imposed on sporting arms and ammunition should be used to benefit wildlife restoration.[64] In 1970, Congress enacted legislation to deposit revenues from an excise tax on pistols and revolvers into the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund rather than into the general fund of the Treasury, into which they were being deposited.[65] The purpose of this legislation was to increase revenues available to support wildlife restoration and programs for hunter safety.[66] Congress further amended the revenue sources in 1972, providing that an excise tax on bows and arrows, also created in the same law, also be deposited into the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund.[67] This inclusion provided that archers also contribute to the benefits provided by the act.[68]

The concept of providing more stable and diversified funds for Pittman-Robertson is not new, and both stakeholders and Congress have addressed this issue on several occasions. For example, some stakeholders have suggested that given the public benefit nature of Pittman-Robertson, an excise tax should be imposed on other categories of goods and services related to outdoor

---

[61] 16 U.S.C. §669b(a).

[62] For more information on the excise taxes related to Pittman-Robertson, see CRS Report R45123, *Guns, Excise Taxes, Wildlife Restoration, and the National Firearms Act*.

[63] Law enacted Sept. 2, 1937, ch. 899, 50 Stat. 917.

[64] S.Rept. 75-868 and H.Rept. 75-1572 state "One-of the cardinal principles of conservationists has always been that moneys taken in by government agencies from wildlife resources, sportsmen's license fees, etc., should be spent in the conservation and maintenance of wildlife species. This bill now before Congress applies to the Federal Government this principle which has long been in successful operation in the States and provides for its equitable distribution of this revenue to the 48 States in cooperative projects with the Federal Government."

[65] P.L. 91-503.

[66] U.S. Congress, House Committee on Merchant Marines and Fisheries, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, Hearing on H.R. 1048 and H.R. 12475, 91st Cong., 1st sess., September 18-19, 1969, Serial No. 91-11. U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and the Environment, Hearing on S. 670, S. 2311, S. 3860, S. 3927, S. 3962, and H.R. 12475, 91st Cong., 2nd sess., September 9, 1970, Serial No. 91-92. Also, H.Rept. 91-1272 and S.Rept. 91-1289.

[67] P.L. 92-558.

[68] H.Rept. 92-1492 and S.Rept. 92-1305.

recreation (e.g., backpacks, bicycles, climbing gear, and sport utility vehicles, among other items).[69] This proposal—sometimes referred to as a *backpack tax*—has spurred an ongoing debate for several decades. Proponents have contended that it would be fairer for all users, not just hunters and shooters, to support wildlife conservation and restoration and that broadening the tax base could raise more revenue for restoration.[70] Conversely, opponents have suggested that the proposal would place an untenable burden on the outdoor industry, leading to fewer sales and making items prohibitively expensive for some stakeholders, and that it could deter individuals from enjoying the outdoors.[71]

Congress has not enacted legislation to broaden the excise tax base supporting Pittman-Robertson beyond firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. However, in FY2001, Congress amended Pittman-Robertson to include an additional subaccount within the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund, the Wildlife Restoration and Conservation Account, to provide supplemental funding for wildlife restoration and conservation.[72] In the same law that created the subaccount, Congress appropriated $50 million to the subaccount "for the development, revision, and implementation of wildlife conservation and restoration plans and programs."[73] Congress appropriated funding to this subaccount only in FY2001.

In recent Congresses, including the 115th Congress, some Members have introduced legislation that would have amended Pittman-Robertson to repurpose the subaccount.[74] These bills would have transferred up to $1.3 billion per year into the subaccount from revenues deposited into the Treasury under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Mineral Leasing Act.[75] These funds would have been available for states and territories for a variety of conservation and restoration activities.

In the 116th Congress, Congress may continue to consider alternate funding sources for Pittman-Robertson through existing or new mechanisms. Proponents have argued that additional funds from alternate sources would bolster restoration and conservation activities and provide a secure source of funding for Pittman-Robertson.[76] Some stakeholders also have stated that a bill authorizing such alternate funding sources could provide additional resources for federal agencies or tribal partners to implement the conservation of threatened and endangered species, among

[69] For example, see Dan Dewitt, "The Backpack Tax Debate," *Blue Ridge Outdoors*, October 1, 2018, at https://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/politics/the-backpack-tax-debate/.

[70] For example, see Frederick Reimers, "Put Your Money Where Your Fun Is," *Outside*, March 10, 2017 at https://www.outsideonline.com/2156701/put-your-money-where-your-fun.

[71] For example, see Outdoor Industry Association, "Where We Stand on the 'Backpack Tax,'" March 10, 2017, at https://outdoorindustry.org/article/where-we-stand-on-the-backpack-tax/.

[72] P.L. 106-553, §§901-902. 16 U.S.C. §669c includes two sections labeled §c. The first provides for the Basic Hunter Education and Safety program; the second provides for the apportionment formula structure for the Wildlife Restoration and Conservation Account.

[73] P.L. 106-553, §§901-902.

[74] S. 3223 and H.R. 4647, both introduced in the 115th Congress, would have provided for up to $1.3 billion to be deposited into the subaccount. However, S. 3223 would have required these funds to be subject to appropriations, whereas H.R. 4647 would have provided these funds without further appropriations.

[75] Specifically, revenues would be transferred from deposits under §9 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. §1338) and §35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. §191).

[76] For example, see National Wildlife Federation, *Recovering America's Wildlife Act*, at https://www.nwf.org/Our-Work/Wildlife-Conservation/Policy/Recovering-Americas-Wildlife-Act.

other concerns.[77] However, Congress may consider if providing funding for conservation and restoration under Pittman-Robertson could affect other potential uses of federal funds.

Apportionment Formulas

In addition to eligible uses and funding sources, Congress may consider amending Pittman-Robertson's apportionment structure. Currently, states and territories are treated differently under the program; states are apportioned funds based on area, population, and number of hunting licenses (see "State and Territory Apportionment" above), whereas territories are allocated funding based on a set percentage or percentage caps. For the Wildlife Restoration program, states receive a minimum of 0.5% of the program's total apportionment, Puerto Rico receives not more than 0.5%, and each of the remaining four eligible territories receives not more than 0.17%.[78] For both the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs, states receive at least 1% of the total apportionments and territories receive 0.17% of the apportionments.[79] Under current law, Washington, DC, does not receive funding through any of these programs. However, in FY2001, Washington, DC, received funding through the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Account.[80]

Congress may consider issues related to apportionment formulas, including topics related to parity between states, territories, and others. It also may consider amending the apportionment structures, including minimum and maximum allocations, in general. The current structure is the result of multiple congressional actions since the original enactment in 1937. Through these actions, Congress has added and modified apportionment formula and eligibility. Some stakeholders have expressed concern over the discrepancy between the minimum apportionment to states and the set percentage provided to territories; they contend there should be greater parity between states and territories.[81] Other stakeholders have suggested that tribes also should be eligible to receive allocations under Pittman-Robertson programs.[82]

[77] For example, see Defenders of Wildlife, "'Recovering America's Wildlife Act' Needs Improvement," February 15, 2018, at https://newsroom.defenders.org/recovering-americas-wildlife-act-needs-improvement/.

[78] 16 U.S.C. §§669c(b) and 669g-1.

[79] 16 U.S.C. §669c(c).

[80] P.L. 106-553, §§901-902 (16 U.S.C. §669c(c): Apportionment of Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Account). Under the act, states received at least 1% but not more than 5%; Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia each received not more than 0.5%; and Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands each received not more than 0.25% of the total apportionment made through the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Account. See "Funding Sources and Structure" for more information on this subaccount.

[81] For example, see H.R. 1809 in the 116th Congress and H.R. 5875 in the 115th Congress.

[82] For example, see National Congress of American Indians, "Include Tribes as Eligible for Funding Under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act," Resolution #PHX-16-028, October 2016, at http://www.ncai.org/resources/resolutions/include-tribes-as-eligible-for-funding-under-the-federal-aid-in-wildlife-restoration-act-and-the-federal-aid-in-sport-fish-restoration-act.

Appendix A. State Characteristics[83]

Table A-1. Pittman-Robertson State Program Allocation Formula Criteria

	Wildlife Restoration		Hunting Education and Safety
State	Area (sq. miles)[a]	Hunting Licenses[b]	Population[c]
Alabama	51,704	541,146	4,779,736
Alaska	589,945	111,157	710,231
Arizona	113,990	271,139	6,392,017
Arkansas	53,179	324,664	2,915,918
California	158,613	282,994	37,253,956
Colorado	104,094	289,852	5,029,196
Connecticut	5,013	39,623	3,574,097
Delaware	2,040	17,633	897,934
Florida	58,652	185,237	18,801,310
Georgia	58,926	591,402	9,687,653
Hawaii	6,465	10,737	1,360,301
Idaho	83,569	276,134	1,567,582
Illinois	56,339	312,025	12,830,632
Indiana	36,187	271,410	6,483,802
Iowa	56,273	221,861	3,046,355
Kansas	82,278	246,606	2,853,118
Kentucky	40,408	349,814	4,339,367
Louisiana	47,766	389,440	4,533,372
Maine	33,156	165,196	1,328,361
Maryland	10,475	123,709	5,773,552
Massachusetts	8,285	58,066	6,547,629
Michigan	58,540	728,530	9,883,640
Minnesota	84,390	572,041	5,303,925
Mississippi	47,693	282,603	2,967,297
Missouri	69,707	498,215	5,988,927
Montana	147,040	238,002	989,415
Nebraska	77,348	178,768	1,826,341
Nevada	110,572	67,797	2,700,551
New Hampshire	9,280	59,135	1,316,470
New Jersey	7,790	74,425	8,791,894

[83] U.S. territories are not included in this table because their apportionments under Pittman-Robertson are set in statute rather than determined by formula.

	Wildlife Restoration		Hunting Education and Safety
State	**Area (sq. miles)[a]**	**Hunting Licenses[b]**	**Population[c]**
New Mexico	121,590	102,828	2,059,179
New York	49,115	559,358	19,378,102
North Carolina	52,670	573,514	9,535,483
North Dakota	70,698	143,491	672,591
Ohio	41,335	394,076	11,536,504
Oklahoma	69,899	468,681	3,751,351
Oregon	97,056	277,230	3,831,074
Pennsylvania	45,306	973,339	12,702,379
Rhode Island	1,215	8,404	1,052,567
South Carolina	31,124	208,552	4,625,364
South Dakota	77,116	230,419	814,180
Tennessee	42,144	711,771	6,346,105
Texas	266,848	1,132,306	25,145,561
Utah	84,897	226,363	2,763,885
Vermont	9,616	71,304	625,741
Virginia	40,772	276,078	8,001,024
Washington	68,170	181,522	6,724,540
West Virginia	24,230	218,853	1,852,994
Wisconsin	56,154	707,189	5,686,986
Wyoming	97,813	131,057	563,626
Total	**3,617,485**	**15,375,694**	**308,143,815**

Source: CRS, with data from email from FWS Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to CRS, March 26, 2019, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *National Hunting License Data*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/LicenseInfo/Hunting.htm.

Notes: The Wildlife Restoration program apportionment is calculated using two components. One-half of the apportionment is based on the ratio that the area of each state bears to the total area of all states, and one-half is based on the ratio of the number of paid hunting license holders in each state to the total number of hunting license holders in all states in the second fiscal year preceding the year of the apportionment (16 U.S.C. §669c(b)). Both Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education and Safety programs apportionments are determined based on the ratio that the population of each state bears to the population of all states (16 U.S.C. §§669c(c) and 669h-1). For each program, there are minimum and maximum apportionment caps. Territories are not included in the table because they are allocated funding based on set percentages or caps, as laid out in statute for each program. Additionally, territorial area, population, and hunting licenses are not included in the totals used to calculate state apportionments. Washington, DC, does not receive funding under the Wildlife Restoration or Hunter Safety and Education programs.

a. Area: State area is the sum of land area and inland water area for each state included.

b. Hunting Licenses: The annual average number of "Paid Hunting License Holders" for calculation years 2015 through 2019. The average is provided for context; however, annual apportionments are based on a single year's sales (see **Table A-2** for individual year data).

c. Population: State population is determined using the most recent decennial census. Current data are from the 2010 census.

Table A-2. Hunting Licenses Sold by State (Calculation Years 2015-FY2019)

State	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Alabama	507,926	565,139	548,829	547,905	535,933	2,705,732
Alaska	107,131	106,916	108,487	108,921	124,330	555,785
Arizona	200,092	215,444	324,553	305,214	310,392	1,355,695
Arkansas	326,779	328,542	340,200	326,559	301,240	1,623,320
California	283,539	287,147	284,069	280,967	279,248	1,414,970
Colorado	281,201	284,773	290,064	294,319	298,901	1,449,258
Connecticut	42,535	42,924	39,488	37,489	35,681	198,117
Delaware	16,786	17,369	18,323	17,847	17,839	88,164
Florida	175,349	181,040	190,526	190,232	189,038	926,185
Georgia	395,219	604,863	620,740	651,910	684,277	2,957,009
Hawaii	10,537	11,113	10,831	10,617	10,585	53,683
Idaho	258,547	266,007	273,887	286,947	295,281	1,380,669
Illinois	320,765	319,588	314,135	306,024	299,614	1,560,126
Indiana	278,322	280,952	270,875	267,447	259,453	1,357,049
Iowa	219,798	217,282	221,231	223,232	227,761	1,109,304
Kansas	239,335	245,647	245,779	251,390	250,877	1,233,028
Kentucky	340,902	356,500	353,098	352,408	346,161	1,749,069
Louisiana	370,528	386,310	395,322	398,808	396,233	1,947,201
Maine	165,781	168,890	166,051	163,191	162,065	825,978
Maryland	124,187	129,376	123,833	120,334	120,814	618,544
Massachusetts	56,797	59,669	57,973	57,921	57,970	290,330
Michigan	763,618	767,896	719,850	706,101	685,185	3,642,650
Minnesota	592,125	572,203	564,694	568,057	563,127	2,860,206
Mississippi	218,161	307,747	298,637	300,146	288,325	1,413,016
Missouri	496,583	502,652	499,489	498,319	494,030	2,491,073
Montana	229,317	239,542	240,702	253,412	227,039	1,190,012
Nebraska	175,591	174,493	175,468	183,056	185,231	893,839
Nevada	65,606	66,950	67,906	68,744	69,780	338,986
New Hampshire	59,068	61,556	59,318	58,099	57,632	295,673
New Jersey	74,067	75,006	75,248	74,794	73,009	372,124
New Mexico	97,103	99,328	103,719	107,331	106,661	514,142
New York	535,915	544,229	572,992	579,043	564,612	2,796,791
North Carolina	545,032	570,495	573,712	585,766	592,564	2,867,569
North Dakota	148,793	145,538	140,243	141,553	141,328	717,455
Ohio	404,997	404,081	394,598	390,268	376,435	1,970,379
Oklahoma	419,445	421,681	431,077	529,651	541,553	2,343,407

State	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Oregon	264,102	259,000	262,822	264,684	335,543	1,386,151
Pennsylvania	969,633	980,613	984,637	975,650	956,163	4,866,696
Rhode Island	8,624	8,978	8,797	8,209	7,414	42,022
South Carolina	206,397	212,461	212,621	210,369	200,912	1,042,760
South Dakota	244,182	221,979	223,394	233,215	229,323	1,152,093
Tennessee	727,229	734,733	717,256	700,600	679,038	3,558,856
Texas	1,060,455	1,132,099	1,148,765	1,157,779	1,162,430	5,661,528
Utah	207,331	217,471	226,225	236,656	244,131	1,131,814
Vermont	72,930	74,219	71,807	69,943	67,619	356,518
Virginia	276,660	282,132	277,281	276,019	268,300	1,380,392
Washington	180,829	182,251	182,149	183,063	179,316	907,608
West Virginia	220,811	222,686	219,990	217,123	213,656	1,094,266
Wisconsin	717,381	719,110	700,843	706,400	692,209	3,535,943
Wyoming	133,568	132,141	127,198	130,304	132,075	655,286
Total	14,837,609	15,408,761	15,479,732	15,614,036	15,538,333	76,878,471

Source: CRS, with data from email from FWS Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to CRS, March 26, 2019, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, *National Hunting License Data: Calculation Years 2014-2018*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/LicenseInfo/Hunting.htm.

Appendix B. Annual Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Apportionments by State and Territory, FY2015-FY2019

Table B-1. Pittman-Robertson Total Apportionment, Under Sections 4(b), 4(c), and 10, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019)

(in nominal dollars)

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
Alabama	19,393,471	17,265,640	19,083,685	19,360,421	16,219,453	91,322,670
Alaska	34,625,771	29,532,768	32,969,429	33,455,771	28,219,617	158,803,356
American Samoa	1,347,460	1,158,529	1,299,808	1,328,563	1,122,415	6,256,775
Arizona	20,405,240	17,707,564	21,858,466	22,080,003	18,738,872	100,790,145
Arkansas	13,962,632	11,711,463	13,272,093	13,221,723	10,826,338	62,994,249
California	26,808,714	22,913,160	25,602,136	26,037,993	21,988,681	123,350,684
Colorado	20,211,205	17,257,494	19,418,582	19,872,123	16,885,597	93,645,001
Connecticut	5,777,433	5,038,584	5,702,335	5,901,190	4,998,992	27,418,534
Delaware	4,767,143	4,128,477	4,652,531	4,785,824	4,048,853	22,382,828
Washington, DC	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	14,179,497	12,264,952	13,978,911	14,351,398	12,111,926	66,886,684
Georgia	18,777,937	19,312,410	22,240,949	23,213,465	20,190,369	103,735,130
Guam	1,347,460	1,158,529	1,299,808	1,328,563	1,122,415	6,256,775
Hawaii	4,767,143	4,128,477	4,652,531	4,785,824	4,083,070	22,417,045
Idaho	15,584,921	13,299,962	15,029,712	15,474,320	13,238,818	72,627,733
Illinois	16,981,518	14,452,361	16,115,520	16,335,080	13,732,772	77,617,251
Indiana	13,982,134	11,993,245	13,302,902	13,573,699	11,384,459	64,236,439
Iowa	11,945,027	10,069,154	11,333,962	11,515,178	9,811,372	54,674,693
Kansas	15,059,994	12,833,780	14,334,290	14,646,057	12,381,483	69,255,604
Kentucky	14,369,716	12,432,857	13,914,162	14,127,290	11,874,003	66,718,028
Louisiana	15,878,957	13,708,874	15,525,062	15,884,383	13,432,035	74,429,311
Maine	8,407,092	7,162,578	7,964,547	8,055,283	6,801,597	38,391,097
Maryland	7,674,842	6,742,718	7,545,171	7,754,551	6,592,492	36,309,774
Massachusetts	7,666,174	6,740,034	7,664,947	7,986,372	6,775,277	36,832,804
Michigan	26,568,621	22,443,457	24,198,482	24,296,525	20,242,515	117,749,600
Minnesota	24,907,623	20,719,919	22,971,924	23,400,370	19,741,200	111,741,036
Mississippi	11,014,940	10,729,644	11,956,397	12,144,757	10,102,194	55,947,932
Missouri	21,843,658	18,598,232	20,756,674	21,117,103	17,819,728	100,135,395

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
Montana	21,552,756	18,441,964	20,611,646	21,131,270	17,468,080	99,205,716
N. Mariana Islands	1,347,460	1,158,529	1,299,808	1,328,563	1,122,415	6,256,775
Nebraska	13,199,091	11,172,967	12,495,645	12,833,330	10,890,046	60,591,079
Nevada	14,315,511	12,234,352	13,697,843	13,948,153	11,795,554	65,991,413
New Hampshire	4,767,143	4,128,477	4,652,531	4,785,824	4,048,853	22,382,828
New Jersey	7,666,174	6,740,034	7,664,947	7,986,372	6,775,277	36,832,804
New Mexico	16,123,634	13,769,046	15,467,517	15,787,434	13,326,908	74,474,539
New York	20,837,603	17,702,363	20,341,226	20,862,345	17,470,049	97,213,586
North Carolina	21,315,164	18,446,736	20,734,869	21,338,737	18,198,167	100,033,673
North Dakota	11,935,140	10,085,485	11,170,517	11,377,784	9,616,313	54,185,239
Ohio	17,194,036	14,593,198	16,188,100	16,457,632	13,737,911	78,170,877
Oklahoma	18,677,008	15,826,672	17,845,424	19,907,732	17,143,599	89,400,435
Oregon	18,283,088	15,457,600	17,345,633	17,690,588	16,031,149	84,808,058
Pennsylvania	29,542,027	24,948,408	27,913,408	28,157,633	23,560,142	134,121,618
Puerto Rico	3,559,210	3,040,328	3,397,357	3,452,263	2,912,843	16,362,001
Rhode Island	4,767,143	4,128,477	4,652,531	4,785,824	4,048,853	22,382,828
South Carolina	10,776,814	9,311,672	10,497,258	10,678,793	8,941,843	50,206,380
South Dakota	14,620,621	12,010,444	13,394,017	13,775,104	11,599,587	65,399,773
Tennessee	23,852,672	20,400,396	22,484,134	22,544,767	18,764,908	108,046,877
Texas	37,524,802	32,144,324	35,981,845	36,656,319	30,946,041	173,253,331
Utah	14,645,168	12,569,415	14,206,094	14,616,342	12,480,803	68,517,822
Vermont	4,767,143	4,128,477	4,652,531	4,785,824	4,048,853	22,382,828
Virgin Islands	1,347,460	1,158,923	1,299,808	1,328,563	1,122,415	6,257,169
Virginia	14,436,495	12,399,343	13,854,774	14,176,335	11,914,111	66,781,058
Washington	15,239,993	13,098,081	14,726,685	15,120,458	12,756,164	70,941,381
West Virginia	8,622,897	7,314,107	8,126,275	8,209,596	6,898,259	39,171,134
Wisconsin	24,887,261	20,982,254	23,095,485	23,542,090	19,739,356	112,246,446
Wyoming	14,432,352	12,244,765	13,588,772	13,861,148	11,741,122	65,868,159
Total	808,492,189	695,141,699	780,031,696	797,160,652	673,586,164	3,754,412,400

Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Wildlife Restoration Program – Funding (WR Final Apportionment FY2015-FY2019)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_Funding.htm.

Note: Table includes values reported in nominal dollars not accounting for change in purchasing power.

Table B-2. Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration (Section 4(b)) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019)

(in nominal dollars)

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
Alabama	16,103,906	14,302,276	15,665,460	15,728,723	13,125,746	74,926,111
Alaska	33,176,254	28,226,990	31,463,221	31,855,497	26,856,405	151,578,367
American Samoa	1,105,874	940,900	1,048,774	1,061,850	895,213	5,052,611
Arizona	16,056,692	13,790,229	17,339,842	17,279,181	14,649,236	79,115,180
Arkansas	12,513,115	10,405,685	11,765,885	11,621,449	9,463,126	55,769,260
California	22,460,166	18,995,825	21,083,512	21,237,171	17,899,045	101,675,719
Colorado	16,749,953	14,139,468	15,821,958	16,050,882	13,630,427	76,392,688
Connecticut	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
Delaware	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
Washington, DC	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	9,830,949	8,347,617	9,460,287	9,550,576	8,022,290	45,211,719
Georgia	14,429,389	15,395,075	17,722,325	18,412,643	16,100,733	82,060,165
Guam	1,105,874	940,900	1,048,774	1,061,850	895,213	5,052,611
Hawaii	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,719,858	15,192,056
Idaho	14,135,404	11,994,184	13,523,504	13,874,046	11,875,606	65,402,744
Illinois	12,632,970	10,535,026	11,596,896	11,534,258	9,643,136	55,942,286
Indiana	9,633,586	8,075,910	8,784,278	8,772,877	7,294,823	42,561,474
Iowa	10,495,510	8,763,376	9,827,754	9,914,904	8,448,160	47,449,704
Kansas	13,610,477	11,528,002	12,828,082	13,045,783	11,018,271	62,030,615
Kentucky	11,383,225	9,742,511	10,810,867	10,830,192	9,065,328	51,832,123
Louisiana	12,758,946	10,898,251	12,283,026	12,439,874	10,497,788	58,877,885
Maine	6,957,575	5,856,800	6,458,339	6,455,009	5,438,385	31,166,108
Maryland	3,701,301	3,163,203	3,416,221	3,367,742	2,855,534	16,504,001
Massachusetts	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
Michigan	22,220,073	18,526,122	19,679,858	19,495,703	16,152,879	96,074,635
Minnesota	21,257,294	17,431,565	19,178,826	19,370,387	16,308,209	93,546,281
Mississippi	9,565,423	9,423,866	10,450,189	10,544,483	8,738,982	48,722,943
Missouri	17,721,890	14,885,182	16,473,699	16,566,649	13,943,368	79,590,788
Montana	20,103,239	17,136,186	19,105,438	19,530,996	16,104,868	91,980,727
N. Mariana Islands	1,105,874	940,900	1,048,774	1,061,850	895,213	5,052,611
Nebraska	11,749,574	9,867,189	10,989,437	11,233,056	9,526,834	53,366,090
Nevada	12,865,994	10,928,574	12,191,635	12,347,879	10,432,342	58,766,424

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
New Hampshire	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
New Jersey	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
New Mexico	14,674,117	12,463,268	13,961,309	14,187,160	11,963,696	67,249,550
New York	16,489,055	13,785,028	15,822,602	16,061,523	13,380,413	75,538,621
North Carolina	16,966,616	14,529,401	16,216,245	16,537,915	14,108,531	78,358,708
North Dakota	10,485,623	8,779,707	9,664,309	9,777,510	8,253,101	46,960,250
Ohio	12,845,488	10,675,863	11,669,476	11,656,810	9,648,275	56,495,912
Oklahoma	16,095,209	13,500,885	15,162,651	17,057,413	14,715,523	76,531,681
Oregon	15,646,421	13,082,388	14,605,848	14,779,696	13,551,469	71,665,822
Pennsylvania	25,193,479	21,031,073	23,394,784	23,356,811	19,470,506	112,446,653
Puerto Rico	3,317,624	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,837
Rhode Island	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
South Carolina	7,593,491	6,444,017	7,189,433	7,164,389	5,948,056	34,339,386
South Dakota	13,171,104	10,704,666	11,887,809	12,174,830	10,236,375	58,174,784
Tennessee	19,504,124	16,483,061	17,965,510	17,743,945	14,675,272	86,371,912
Texas	33,176,254	28,226,989	31,463,221	31,855,497	26,856,405	151,578,366
Utah	13,195,651	11,263,637	12,699,886	13,016,068	11,117,591	61,292,833
Vermont	3,317,626	2,822,699	3,146,323	3,185,550	2,685,641	15,157,839
Virgin Islands	1,105,874	941,294	1,048,774	1,061,850	895,213	5,053,005
Virginia	10,087,947	8,482,008	9,336,150	9,375,513	7,824,475	45,106,093
Washington	10,891,445	9,180,746	10,208,061	10,319,636	8,666,528	49,266,416
West Virginia	7,173,380	6,008,329	6,620,067	6,609,322	5,535,047	31,946,145
Wisconsin	20,973,296	17,456,409	19,028,444	19,221,052	16,058,431	92,737,632
Wyoming	12,982,835	10,938,987	12,082,564	12,260,874	10,377,910	58,643,170
Total	663,540,568	564,563,859	629,410,911	637,133,274	537,264,963	3,031,913,575

Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Wildlife Restoration Program – Funding (WR Final Apportionment FY2015-FY2019)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_Funding.htm.

Note: Table includes values reported in nominal dollars not accounting for change in purchasing power.

Table B-3. Pittman-Robertson Basic Hunter Education (Section 4(c)) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019)

(in nominal dollars)

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
Alabama	3,108,193	2,780,902	3,236,852	3,449,963	2,911,063	15,486,973
Alaska	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
American Samoa	228,266	204,229	237,714	253,366	213,788	1,137,363
Arizona	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Arkansas	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
California	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Colorado	3,270,414	2,926,041	3,405,786	3,630,021	3,062,994	16,295,256
Connecticut	2,324,184	2,079,448	2,420,389	2,579,746	2,176,777	11,580,544
Delaware	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Washington, DC	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Georgia	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Guam	228,266	204,229	237,714	253,366	213,788	1,137,363
Hawaii	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Idaho	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Illinois	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Indiana	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Iowa	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Kansas	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Kentucky	2,821,828	2,524,695	2,938,633	3,132,106	2,642,859	14,060,121
Louisiana	2,947,987	2,637,566	3,070,013	3,272,140	2,761,018	14,688,724
Maine	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Maryland	3,754,457	3,359,116	3,909,866	4,167,287	3,516,339	18,707,065
Massachusetts	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Michigan	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Minnesota	3,449,066	3,085,882	3,591,834	3,828,317	3,230,317	17,185,416
Mississippi	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Missouri	3,894,512	3,484,428	4,055,719	4,322,743	3,647,511	19,404,913
Montana	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
N. Mariana Islands	228,266	204,229	237,714	253,366	213,788	1,137,363
Nebraska	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Nevada	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189

State	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	Total
New Hampshire	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
New Jersey	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
New Mexico	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
New York	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
North Carolina	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
North Dakota	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Ohio	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Oklahoma	2,439,450	2,182,582	2,540,424	2,707,685	2,284,732	12,154,873
Oregon	2,491,293	2,228,965	2,594,411	2,765,227	2,333,287	12,413,183
Pennsylvania	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Puerto Rico	228,266	204,229	237,714	253,366	213,788	1,137,363
Rhode Island	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
South Carolina	3,007,808	2,691,087	3,132,309	3,338,538	2,817,044	14,986,786
South Dakota	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Tennessee	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Texas	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Utah	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Vermont	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Virgin Islands	228,266	204,229	237,714	253,366	213,788	1,137,363
Virginia	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
Washington	4,108,788	3,676,135	4,278,864	4,560,582	3,848,196	20,472,565
West Virginia	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Wisconsin	3,698,166	3,308,750	3,851,243	4,104,807	3,463,616	18,426,582
Wyoming	1,369,597	1,225,378	1,426,288	1,520,194	1,282,732	6,824,189
Total	136,959,621	122,537,840	142,628,785	152,019,378	128,273,201	682,418,825

Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Wildlife Restoration Program – Funding (WR Final Apportionment FY2015-FY2019)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_Funding.htm.

Note: Table includes values reported in nominal dollars not accounting for change in purchasing power.

Table B-4. Pittman-Robertson Enhanced Hunter Education (Section 10) Apportionment, by State and Territory (FY2015-FY2019)

(in nominal dollars)

State	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Alabama	181,372	182,462	181,373	181,735	182,644	909,586
Alaska	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
American Samoa	13,320	13,400	13,320	13,347	13,414	66,801
Arizona	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Arkansas	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
California	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Colorado	190,838	191,985	190,838	191,220	192,176	957,057
Connecticut	135,623	136,437	135,623	135,894	136,574	680,151
Delaware	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Washington, DC	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Georgia	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Guam	13,320	13,400	13,320	13,347	13,414	66,801
Hawaii	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Idaho	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Illinois	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Indiana	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Iowa	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Kansas	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Kentucky	164,663	165,651	164,662	164,992	165,816	825,784
Louisiana	172,024	173,057	172,023	172,369	173,229	862,702
Maine	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Maryland	219,084	220,399	219,084	219,522	220,619	1,098,708
Massachusetts	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Michigan	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Minnesota	201,263	202,472	201,264	201,666	202,674	1,009,339
Mississippi	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Missouri	227,256	228,622	227,256	227,711	228,849	1,139,694
Montana	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
N. Mariana Islands	13,320	13,400	13,320	13,347	13,414	66,801
Nebraska	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Nevada	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800

State	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
New Hampshire	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
New Jersey	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
New Mexico	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
New York	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
North Carolina	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
North Dakota	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Ohio	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Oklahoma	142,349	143,205	142,349	142,634	143,344	713,881
Oregon	145,374	146,247	145,374	145,665	146,393	729,053
Pennsylvania	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Puerto Rico	13,320	13,400	13,320	13,347	13,414	66,801
Rhode Island	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
South Carolina	175,515	176,568	175,516	175,866	176,743	880,208
South Dakota	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Tennessee	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Texas	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Utah	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Vermont	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Virgin Islands	13,320	13,400	13,320	13,347	13,414	66,801
Virginia	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
Washington	239,760	241,200	239,760	240,240	241,440	1,202,400
West Virginia	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Wisconsin	215,799	217,095	215,798	216,231	217,309	1,082,232
Wyoming	79,920	80,400	79,920	80,080	80,480	400,800
Total	7,992,000	8,040,000	7,992,000	8,008,000	8,048,000	40,080,000

Source: CRS, data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Wildlife Restoration Program – Funding (WR Final Apportionment FY2015-FY2019)*, at https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR_Funding.htm.

Note: Table includes values reported in nominal dollars not accounting for change in purchasing power. The variation in total annual apportionment is due to adjustments made pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (2 U.S.C. §§900 et seq.).

Author Information

R. Eliot Crafton
Analyst in Natural Resources Policy

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.