

National Wildlife Refuge Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to implement the Act of October 17, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 715s), \$10,811,000.

Authorizing Statutes

Refuge Revenue Sharing Act (16 U.S.C. 715s), as amended. Authorizes payments to be made to offset tax losses to counties in which Service fee and withdrawn public domain lands are located.

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), Section 1002 and Section 1008, 16 U.S.C. 3142 and 3148. These sections address the procedures for permitting oil and gas leases on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge coastal plain (Section 1002) and other non-North Slope Federal lands in Alaska (Section 1008).

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change from 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Appropriations	(\$000)	14,202	10,811			10,811	-
Impact of CR	(\$000)		+3,391		-3,391	0	-3,391
Subtotal, Appropriations	(\$000)	14,202	14,202	-	-3,391	10,811	-3,391
Receipts	(\$000)	11,609	8,500			8,500	-
Expenses for Sales	(\$000)	[3,086]	[3,274]			[3,274]	-
ANILCA-Expenses	(\$000)	[4]	[100]			[100]	-
Estimated User Pay/Cost Share	(\$000)	[252]	[258]			[256]	-
Total, National Wildlife Refuge Fund	(\$000)	25,811	22,702			19,311	-3,391
	FTE	21	21			21	-

Summary of 2008 Program Changes for National Wildlife Refuge Fund

Request Component	Amount	FTE
• Impact of CR	-3,391	-
TOTAL, Program Changes	-3,391	-

Impact of 2007 Continuing Resolution (-\$3,391,000)

The 2008 Budget includes a \$3,391,000 decrease to align the priorities of the 2007 President's Budget with the 2007 continuing resolution level, including eliminating unrequested congressional earmarks, implementing the program enhancement and other program reduction proposals included in the 2007 President's budget, including fixed costs for 2007

2008 Program Performance

The Service continues to provide numerous benefits to its county partners. Refuge lands provide many public services and place few demands on local infrastructure such as schools, fire, and police services when compared to development that is more intensive. Using a substantial share of refuge and construction dollars for visitor services and facilities brings visitors to refuges and thus increases economic benefits to local communities. For example, nearly 37 million people visited national wildlife refuges in 2004, creating almost 24,000 private sector jobs and producing about \$454 million in employment income, based on an economic analysis conducted by the Service which is entitled Banking on Nature, 2004: The Economic Benefits to Local Communities of National Wildlife Refuge Visitation. Recreation on refuges also circulates money into local economies when refuge visitors stay in local hotels. Additionally, recreational spending on refuges generated millions of dollars in tax revenue at the local, county, state and federal level.

In FY 2008, the Service expects to combine approximately \$5,126,000 in net receipts from FY 2007 with \$10,811,000 in appropriated funds to provide \$15,937,000 or about 35 percent of the revenue sharing entitlement, to the counties.

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>				
	2006	2007	2008	Program
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	Actual	CR	Estimate	Change (+/-)
Receipts / Expenses				
Receipts Collected	11,609	8,500	8,500	0
Expenses for Sales	-3,086	-3,274	-3,274	0
ANILCA Expenses	-4	-100	-100	0
Estimated User Pay/ Cost Share	[-252]	[258]	[256]	0
Net Receipts – available during the following year	8,519	5,126	5,126	0
Payments to Counties				
Receipts Available - collected previous year		8,519	5,126	-3,393
Current Appropriation Request		14,202	10,811	-3,391
Total Available for Payments to Counties		22,721	15,937	-6,784
Entitlement Level		44,000	46,000	+2,000
Percent Payment		52%	35%	-17%

The National Wildlife Refuge Fund supports the DOI Strategic Plan through the Serving Communities Mission Goal, which is to protect lives, resources, and property. The program contributes to Intermediate Outcome Strategy 4: Promote Respect for Private Property/Intermediate Outcome Measure: Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT).

Program Overview

The *Refuge Revenue Sharing Act*, as amended, authorizes revenues and direct appropriations to be deposited into a special fund, the National Wildlife Refuge Fund (NWRF), and used for payments to counties in which lands are acquired in fee (fee land) or reserved from the public domain (reserved land) and managed by the Service. These revenues are derived from the sale or disposition of (1) products (e.g., timber and gravel); (2) other privileges (e.g., right-of-way and grazing permits); and/or (3) leases for public accommodations or facilities (e.g., oil and gas exploration and development) incidental to, and not in conflict with, refuge purposes.

The Act authorizes payments for Service-managed fee lands based on a formula contained in the Act that entitles counties to whatever is the highest of the following amounts: (1) 25 percent of the net receipts; (2) 3/4 of 1 percent of the fair market value; or (3) 75 cents per acre. Appraisals are updated every 5 years to determine the fair market value.

If the net revenues are insufficient to make full payments for fee lands according to the formula contained in the Act, direct appropriations are authorized up to an amount equal to the difference between net receipts and full entitlement.

The refuge revenue sharing payments that are made on lands reserved from the public domain and administered by the Service for fish and wildlife purposes are always 25 percent of the net receipts collected from the reserved land in the county. If no receipts are collected, no revenue sharing payment is made. However, the Department makes Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) (31 U.S.C. 6901-6907) on all public domain lands, including Service-reserved land. The Service annually reports to the Department all of our reserved land acres and the revenue sharing amount already paid on those acres. The Department then calculates the PILT amount, subtracts the amount the Service has already paid, and makes the PILT payment to the community.

The *Refuge Revenue Sharing Act* also provides for the payment of certain expenses, for example, the field level expenses incurred in connection with revenue producing activities and the costs for appraisals and other realty operations in support of the revenue sharing program that are conducted on installations every five years. Such expenses include:

- Salaries of foresters who cruise and mark timber for sale;
- Staff salaries and supplies associated with maintenance of fences in support of grazing;
- Costs associated with sale of surplus animals and collecting refuge share of furs and crops;
- Conducting land appraisals and processing and maintaining the records.

Sections 1008 and 1009 of the *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act* (ANILCA), 16 U.S.C. 3148, address procedures for oil and gas leasing on non-North Slope Federal lands in Alaska. Title XI of the Act, 16 U.S.C. 3161, addresses the procedures for transportation and utility systems in and across the Alaska conservation system units. The cost to process an application or administer a permit relating to utility and transportation systems or seismic exploration is paid by the applicant and deposited in the NWRF for reimbursement to the Region.

2006 Receipts (\$000) by Source

Grazing	954
Haying	332
Forest Products	6,279
Mineral Resources - Oil and Gas	1,639
Mineral Resources - Sand and Gravel	499
Surplus Animal Disposal	260
Furbearers	9
Public Use Revenues (Concessions)	109
Public Use Revenues (User fees)	482
Other Special Use (Bee Hives, Raw Water)	1,046
Subtotal	11,609
FY 2006 Expenses for Sales (includes CAM)	-3,086
FY 2006 ANILCA Expenses	-4
Total FY 2006 Available for Payments to States	8,519

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND**

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 14-5091-0-2-806	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
<u>Obligations by Program Activity:</u>			
00.01 Expenses for sales	3	3	3
00.03 Payments to counties	23	23	16
10.00 Total new obligations	26	26	19
<u>Budgetary Resources Available for Obligation:</u>			
21.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	8	8	5
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	26	23	20
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	34	31	25
23.95 Total new obligations	-26	-26	-19
24.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	8	5	6
<u>New Budget Authority (gross), Detail:</u>			
Discretionary:			
40.00 Appropriation (general fund)	14	14	11
Mandatory:			
60.20 Appropriation (special fund)	12	9	9
70.00 Total new budget authority (gross)	26	23	20
<u>Change in Unpaid Obligations:</u>			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	0	0	3
73.10 New obligations	26	26	19
73.20 Total outlays, gross	-26	-23	-20
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	0	3	2
<u>Outlays, (gross) Detail:</u>			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	14	14	11
86.97 Outlays from new mandatory authority	3	3	3
86.98 Outlays from rmandatory balances	9	6	6
87.00 Total, outlays (gross)	26	23	20
<u>Net Budget Authority and Outlays</u>			
89.00 Budget authority	26	23	20
90.00 Outlays	26	23	20

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND**

<u>Object Classification (in millions of dollars)</u>	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Identification code 14-5091-0-2-806			
<u>Direct Obligations</u>			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	2	2	2
11.9 Total personnel compensation	2	2	2
25.3 Other purchase of goods and services from Gov't accounts	1	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	23	23	16
99.99 Total obligations	26	26	19

<u>Personnel Summary</u>	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Identification code 14-5091-0-2-806			
Direct			
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	21	21	21