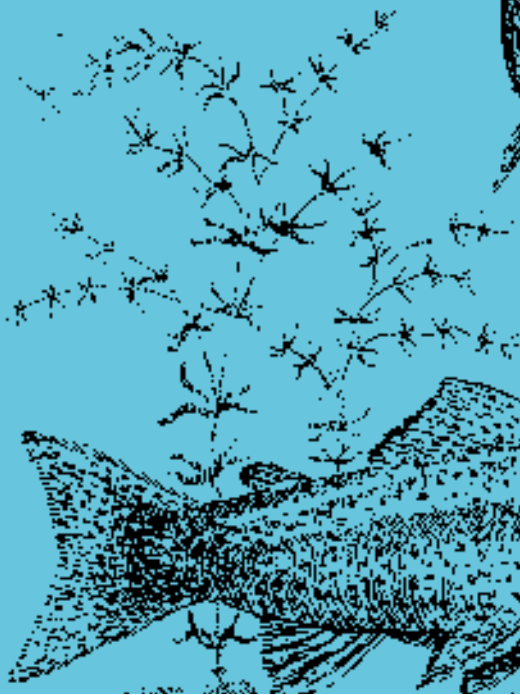


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Handbook

Fourth Edition



The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



1. The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program

Fourth Edition

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program (the Program) is a cooperative effort involving federal and state government agencies, the sport fishing industry, anglers and boaters. The Program is designed to increase sport fishing and boating opportunities through the wise investment of anglers' and boaters' tax dollars. The Program was created in 1950 through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (also known as the Dingell-Johnson Act). In 1984, funds to the Program were greatly increased through the creation of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Since then the Program has been amended three times: first in 1990, then in 1992, and most recently in 1998.

The Program is an outstanding example of a "user pays - user benefits" program (Figure 1). In this case, anglers and boaters (the users) pay a little more for their equipment and motorboat fuel and in return enjoy increased fishing and boating opportunities. These monies, along with other special fuel taxes on small engines, are deposited in the Department of Treasury, and then disbursed to state fishery agencies for sport fish restoration, wetlands conservation, aquatic education, outreach, boat safety, and boating access and facilities projects. The cycle is completed with a return of benefits to the users, through improved sport fishing and boating opportunities.

This Handbook describes the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program, explains how it works, contains guidelines for public participation, and provides a list of contacts who administer the Program. The Handbook is intended to make resource professionals, industry, anglers and boaters better informed so that they can take a more active role in administration of the Program. Further, it is our hope that this Handbook will stimulate those with an interest in sport fishing or fisheries conservation to become more involved in the operation of this vital sport fishing program. Through such involvement, the partnership between federal and state government, industry, and anglers/boaters will be enhanced.

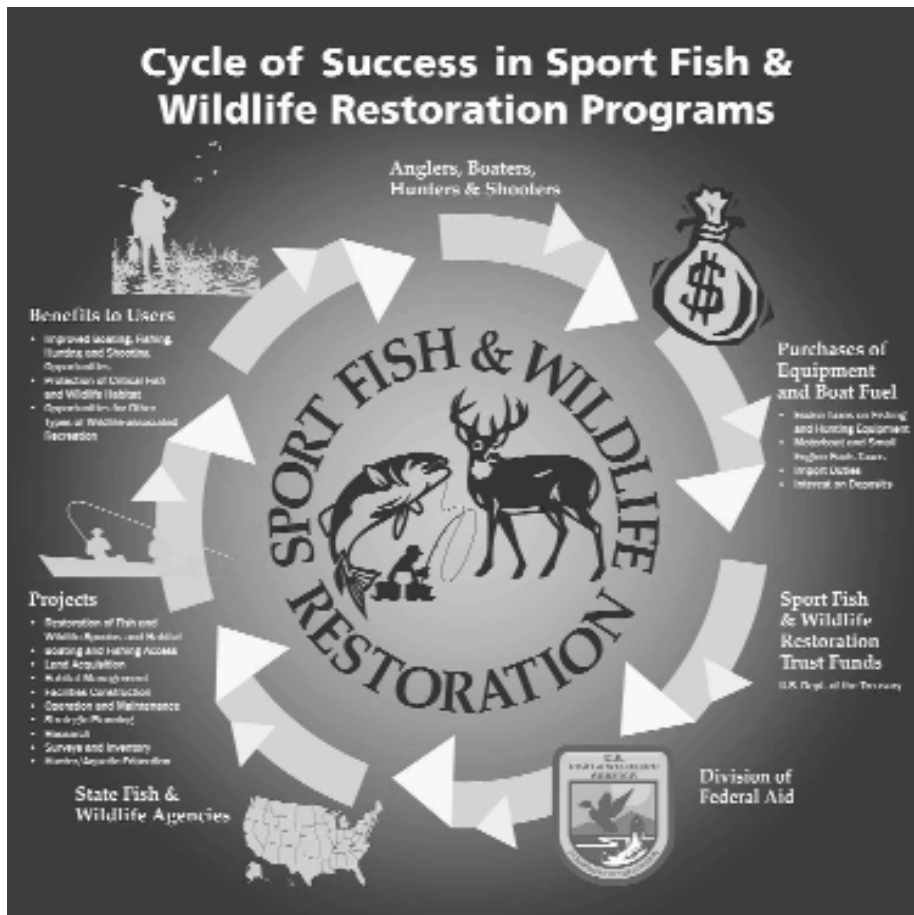


Figure 1. Following the money - overview of user payments and user benefits.

2. Program History

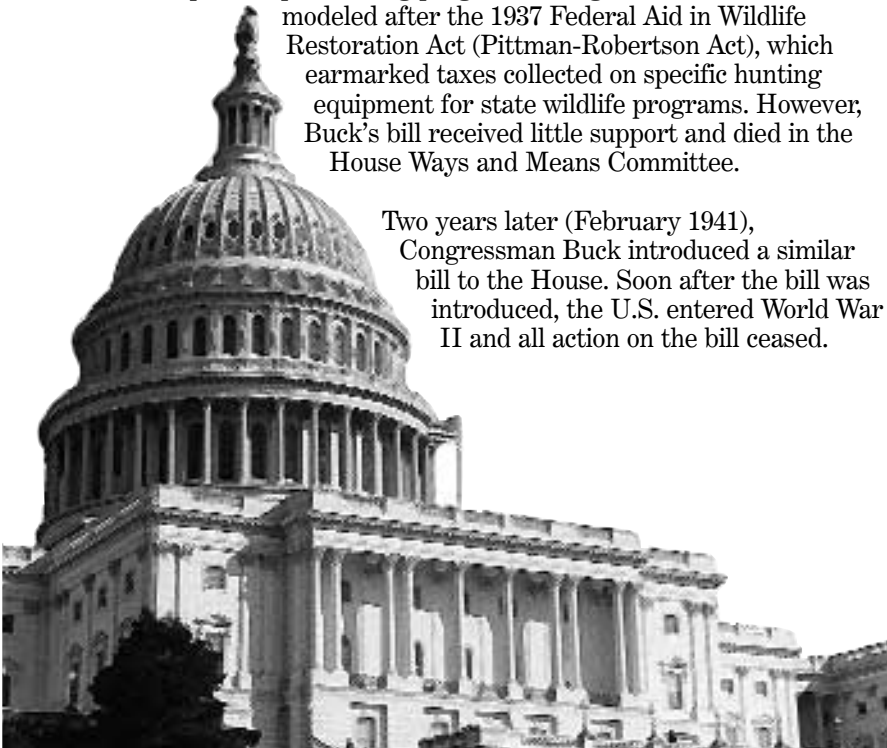
The current Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program is the result of five major Congressional actions. These are: 1) enactment of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act in 1950; 2) enactment of the Wallop-Breaux Amendments in 1984; 3) creation of the Coastal Wetlands Planning and Protection Act in 1990; 4) passage of the Clean Vessel Act in 1992; and 5) enactment of the Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998.

History of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act followed a lengthy and rather arduous legislative process before it was eventually enacted in 1950 under the co-sponsorship of Congressman John Dingell, Sr. (MI) and Senator Edwin Johnson (CO). The process began in May of 1939, when Congressman Frank H. Buck (CA) introduced legislation to impose a 10 percent manufacturers excise tax on certain fishing equipment, artificial lures, and all other similar articles and devices used for recreational fishing. The monies collected under authority of the proposed legislation were to be returned to the states to help fund sport fishing programs. Congressman Buck's bill was

modeled after the 1937 Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act), which earmarked taxes collected on specific hunting equipment for state wildlife programs. However, Buck's bill received little support and died in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Two years later (February 1941), Congressman Buck introduced a similar bill to the House. Soon after the bill was introduced, the U.S. entered World War II and all action on the bill ceased.



Interestingly, however, a bill similar to Buck's was passed in October 1941. The Act imposed a 10 percent excise tax on rods, reels, creels, and artificial lures. The money collected from the tax was deposited in the General Fund of the U.S. Treasury and used to aid in financing the war effort. Although World War II ended in 1945, the excise tax continued to be collected and deposited into the General Fund.

After the war, Buck resumed his efforts and in July 1946 his bill, the precursor to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, was reintroduced to the House. The bill was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and was tabled over objections stemming from commercial fishing interests and fishing tackle manufacturers.

Buck was not re-elected in 1947; however, Congressman John Dingell, Sr. (MI) took up the cause, and in February 1947 his version of the bill was introduced in the 80th Congress. Although Congressman Dingell streamlined the bill to address the previously voiced concerns of commercial fishermen and fishing tackle manufacturers, the bill failed once again. By this time sport fishermen had rallied and support for the legislation began to grow. Congressman Dingell reintroduced his bill early in the 81st Congress. On August 1, 1949, Senator Edwin Johnson introduced an identical bill in the Senate. The bills quickly passed; however, President Harry S. Truman vetoed the legislation on October 12, 1949.

On January 3, 1950, Congressman Dingell and Senator Johnson reintroduced the legislation in the 2nd session of the 81st Congress. The bill again passed Congress and, on August 9, 1950, President Truman reluctantly signed the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (Public Law 81-681). The excise taxes that were being collected on rods, reels, creels, and artificial baits under the authority of Buck's bill passed in 1941 were earmarked and put into a special account for apportionment to the states, effective July 1, 1951. The Act also provided a mechanism to prevent diversions of state fishing license fees. The new law was soon associated with its primary congressional advocates, Dingell and Johnson. Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act became a cooperative effort between the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state agencies to invest anglers' tax dollars in state sport fishing restoration projects.

The Wallop-Breaux Amendment

By the late 1970s, it was clear that the funds raised through the Sport Fish Restoration Program could not support the growing needs of the recreational fisheries and the sport fishing industry. At the same time the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program was providing considerable funds for wildlife work (\$86 million), the companion Sport Fish Restoration Program was providing only \$35 million for fishery projects. This difference in funds encouraged sport fishing enthusiasts to find ways to increase the monetary resources available through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program.

In August 1979, Senator Jennings Randolph (WV) introduced legislation to expand the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program by lengthening

the list of taxed fishing tackle items. The legislation would also have imposed a three percent manufacturers' excise tax on certain boats, outboard motors, and boat trailers. Congressman John Breaux introduced similar legislation in the House of Representatives in December 1979. However, the legislation was actively opposed and rejected by the boating industry.

A breakthrough came in 1982 with a compromise proposal developed by the Sport Fishing Institute. An essential element of the compromise was to delete the controversial three percent excise tax on boats, outboard motors, and boat trailers from the legislation. In its place, the Sport Fish Restoration Program was to receive monies collected from the motorboat fuel tax provisions of the Recreational Boating Safety and Facilities Improvement Act of 1980 (popularly known as the Biaggi Act). A second major element of the new proposal was to incorporate the duties collected on imported fishing tackle into the Sport Fish Restoration Program. These changes to the proposal fostered a strong coalition of boating and fishing interest groups (later known as the American League of Anglers and Boaters, or ALAB).

In July of 1984, through the leadership of Senator Malcolm Wallop and then Congressman John B. Breaux, the Amendment to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act eventually passed as part of the Deficit Reduction Act. As a reward for their unrelenting efforts, the Amendment took on their names and became the Wallop-Breaux Amendment. A major outcome of the amendment was the establishment of a new trust fund. The fund was named the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, popularly known as the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund. The fund is divided into two accounts: 1) the Boat Safety Account; and 2) the Sport Fish Restoration Account. The Wallop-Breaux Amendment increased revenues coming into the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund by 1) expanding the original excise tax on selected fishing tackle to include nearly all items of fishing tackle; 2) recovering from the General Fund fuel taxes payed on fuel used by motorboats; and 3) depositing into the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund import duties on fishing tackle and boats.

Effects of the Wallop-Breaux Amendment

The Wallop-Breaux Amendment changed the existing legislation in ways that altered the types of projects undertaken by the states through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program. The Amendment resulted in five primary changes: 1) it increased overall Program funding; 2) it required funding for boating access facilities; 3) it allowed funding for aquatic resources education; 4) it provided for the division of funds between freshwater and saltwater projects; and 5) it set rules for states to acquire or develop facilities using these funds.

Program Funding

Probably the most important feature of the Wallop-Breaux Amendment was the increase in Program funds. During the final year of funding under the original Sport Fish Restoration Act (1985), \$38 million was available to the Sport Fish Restoration Program. During the first year of the Program under the Wallop-Breaux Amendments (1986), funding ballooned to \$122 million.

Boating Access

The Wallop-Breaux Amendment mandated that each state must spend at least 10 percent of its annual apportionment on the development and maintenance of boating access facilities. A broad range of access facilities can be approved for funding and include boat ramps and lifts, docking and marina facilities, breakwaters, fish cleaning stations, restrooms, and parking areas.

Aquatic Resources Education

The new Amendment also stated that up to 10 percent of a state's annual apportionment could be used to fund an aquatic resources education program. Subjects covered under this provision include aquatic ecology, aquatic resources management, aquatic safety, conservation ethics, public information, and fishing.

Freshwater vs. Saltwater Projects

The fourth change imposed by the Wallop-Breaux Amendment was that marine coastal states and territories must now equitably divide expenditures of Program monies between freshwater and saltwater activities, based on the proportion of the number of resident freshwater anglers versus the number of resident saltwater anglers. The most recent USFWS *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation* may be used to calculate this proportion. This provision did not change allocation to the states. It only affected how apportionments to the marine coastal states are divided between fresh and saltwater fisheries programs within the state. State allocations remain dependent in part (60 percent) on the number of licensed anglers in the state in relation to the number of licensed anglers in the United States. (See "Allocation of Program Funds" on page 16.)

Prospective Purchase

The fifth major outcome of the Wallop-Breaux Amendment was that states may now acquire or develop facilities over a period of years using future apportionments. This may be accomplished in two ways: 1) states may finance the entire cost of the acquisition or construction from a non-federal funding source and claim Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program reimbursement in succeeding apportionment years according to a scheduled reimbursement plan; and 2) states may negotiate an installment purchase or contract, whereby periodic and specified amounts are paid to a seller or contractor. Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program reimbursements are allowed for each payment from any apportionment year current at the time of payment.



1988 Reauthorization of the Wallop-Breaux Amendment

Provisions of the original Wallop-Breaux Amendment required spending from the Boat Safety Account to undergo reauthorization after three years of enactment. Unlike the Sport Fish Restoration Account, which is managed by the USFWS, the Boat Safety Account is administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The monies transferred to this account are divided between the Coast Guard and the states (for the current division of these funds see “1998 Amendments” on page 10). Each states’ share is used on a matching basis for boating safety programs.

The 1988 reauthorization bill was passed and became law in September 1988. The new law increased the spending authorization for the Boat Safety Account and altered several administrative procedures of the Program (detailed below).

The Boat Safety Account

The 1984 Wallop-Breaux Amendment contained an authorization of \$45 million in appropriations to the Boat Safety Account for fiscal years (FYs) 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1988. Congress later raised spending authority from the Boat Safety Account to \$60 million for FYs 1987 and 1988.

Under the 1988 reauthorization, \$60 million was authorized for the Boat Safety Account for FYs 1989 and 1990, and \$70 million for FYs 1991, 1992, and 1993. Of the amounts appropriated by Congress each year (up to the \$60 or \$70 million authorized), half was allocated to the U.S. Coast Guard. For further information on particular state boating safety programs, direct inquiries to the contacts listed under “State Boating Administrators” in Appendix B.

Freshwater vs. Saltwater Projects

Another significant change in the Act occurred with reauthorization. The original provisions of the Act stipulated that only the “new monies” collected in the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund as a result of the Wallop-Breaux Amendments would be split equitably in coastal states between freshwater and saltwater projects. Under the reauthorization bill, no distinction is made between “old” and “new” monies. Therefore, all appropriations going to coastal states are to be divided equitably between freshwater and saltwater projects, based on the proportion of marine to freshwater anglers in that state. Also, to protect ongoing freshwater projects in the coastal states, the reauthorization bill mandated that allocations to freshwater projects should not be less than the amount allocated to such projects during FY 1988.

In-Kind Contributions

Under the 1988 reauthorization bill, the states may contribute funds, real property, materials, and services on approved projects in lieu of payment of the states’ 25 percent share of the cost of any project. This form of contribution shall be considered to be paid in an amount equal to the fair market value of the contribution.

Survey of Fuel Use by Recreational Vessels

In order to verify the actual percentage of fuel taxes collected from

recreational motorboat usage each year; the 1988 bill authorized the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of the Interior to jointly conduct a survey of: 1) the number, size and primary uses of recreational vessels operating on the waters of the U.S.; and 2) the amount and types of fuel used by those vessels. The findings of the report were submitted to Congress in the Fall of 1992.

1990 Amendments

During the last days of the 101st Congress, amendments were passed that led to a significant increase in deposits to the Sport Fish Restoration Account and also mandated the creation and funding of a new wetlands restoration effort within the Sport Fish Restoration Program. The 1990 federal budget reconciliation bill increased the federal highway gas excise tax by 5 cents per gallon. The bill allowed one half of the tax increase or 2.5 cents of the fuel tax to be deposited in the Highway Trust Fund. The Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, as in the past, received 1.08 percent of these new revenues. The remainder was deposited into the general fund for deficit reduction.

Concurrently, in related legislative action, the federal fuel tax receipts attributable to small gasoline engines (0.29 percent of the federal fuel tax) were captured for deposit to the Sport Fish Restoration Account. This amendment to the Internal Revenue Code requires federal fuel excise taxes on small gasoline engines (lawn mowers, string trimmers, snow-blowers, etc.) to be transferred from the Highway Trust Fund to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund.

National Wetlands Program

Funded directly from the Sport Fish Restoration Account, this program receives 18 percent per year of the total of all funds deposited into the Account. At the time the legislation was passed, funds dedicated to this program were thought to approximate an amount equal to the anticipated receipts from the new small engine gasoline tax.



With the acceptance of the 1990 amendments, a three-part wetlands program was created. The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Restoration Program (administered by the Army Corps of Engineers) was to receive 70 percent of the total wetlands funding; 15 percent of the funding was earmarked for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and the final 15 percent was dedicated to the creation of a National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program. This distribution formula for funds still holds today. A federal task force was created to prioritize Louisiana coastal wetlands restoration projects that could be completed within a five year period, and required development of a long term wetland restoration plan for Louisiana. The goal was to achieve a no-net-loss of wetlands in Louisiana by regulating development activities. Funds for the North American Wetlands Program were transferred to the Secretary of the Interior to undertake projects authorized by the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (Public Law 101-233) in coastal states. Finally, the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program, administered by the Director of the USFWS, was created to provide grants to coastal states (including Great Lakes states) for coastal wetlands conservation programs.

1992 Amendments

On November 4, 1992, President George Bush signed the Oceans Act of 1992 which contained a number of environmental provisions. Included in Title V of the Oceans Act was the Clean Vessel Act. The Clean Vessel Act included several changes to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration legislation. Among those changes were new distribution formulas to equitably distribute the additional boat-generated fuel tax that resulted from the 1984 Amendments. The essential elements of this amendment created a new merit-driven, cost-shared program making money available for construction, maintenance, and operation of pumpout facilities to handle sewage from boats equipped with marine sanitation devices. The new amendment made \$32.5 million available between FY 1993 and FY 1997.

The same amount of funding was provided to enhance the State Boat Safety Grants Program. Funding for this Grants Program started at \$5 million in FY 1993 and increased to \$20 million after FY 1997. This funding was in addition to that provided by the Boat Safety Account.

As part of the 1992 Amendments, the minimum percentage of state allocations to be invested in boating access and facilities projects was increased from 10 percent to 12.5 percent for each state. Two changes were included to provide greater flexibility to the states for their boating access and facilities projects. First, the Act required a USFWS Regional test for the 12.5 percent investment requirement, rather than a state by state test. The states were also provided five years in which to obligate their 12.5 percent boating access and facilities monies, again to provide flexibility to accommodate the imposition of additional planning and permitting burden associated with the development of boating access.

The final 1992 substantive change was to include the word “outreach” in the pre-existing Aquatic Resources Education Program. This allowed state agencies to provide both aquatic resource education and outreach to the

public, especially with regard to fishing, boating and the overall Sport Fish Restoration Program.

1998 Amendments

In 1998, amendments to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act were included in H.R. 2400, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, which was signed by President Clinton on June 9, 1998. These amendments resulted in three major changes to the Program along with a significant number of minor revisions. Monies received from motorboat and small engine fuel taxes were increased and new funds were allocated for “outreach and communications” and “boating infrastructure”.

Engine Fuel Tax

The Amendment of 1984 first dedicated the federal fuel taxes related to motorboat use to the Aquatic Resources (Wallop-Breaux) Trust Fund. Since that time, the federal fuel tax has been increased by Congress on a number of occasions. Currently, the tax on motorboat fuels totals 18.4 cents per gallon, of which 11.5 cents per gallon is used to calculate credits to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Of this amount, 1.08 percent of the 11.5 cents per gallon fuels tax is deposited into the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. The 1998 Amendment scheduled increases of the amount of fuel tax used to calculate the transfer of funds to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund from 11.5 cents per gallon to 13 cents per gallon on October 1, 2001 and to 13.5 cents per gallon on October 1, 2003.

Outreach and Communications

National and state “outreach and communications” programs were defined and allocated funding through to FY 2003. Annual funding for the National Outreach and Communications Program was set to range from \$5 million in FY 1999 to \$10 million in FY 2003. In addition, the Secretary of the Interior was given discretionary authority to allocate up to \$2.5 million of administrative funds for use in outreach and communication efforts.

The new amendments also included an increase in funding for state outreach and communications programs. Each state may now use up to 15 percent of the total annual funds allocated from the Sport Fish Restoration Account to pay up to 75 percent of the costs of a state outreach and communications program and/or an aquatic resources education program.

Boating Infrastructure

The amendments also authorized \$8 million per year for boating infrastructure funding. This money is earmarked to the states for the construction, renovation and maintenance of boating facilities for transient, nontrailerable, recreational vessels. “Facilities” for these boats include mooring buoys, day-docks, navigational aids, seasonal slips and safe harbors. Funds were allocated to the Secretary of the Interior for FYs 2000-2003. States may secure these funds through a grant application program.

The Amendments also carried a series of smaller changes to the funding requirements of the Act. First, the Act mandates that for each of FYs 2000 through 2003: 1) \$10 million per year will be available for pumpout facilities;

2) \$8 million per year will be available as funding for boating infrastructure (see above); and 3) permanent funding, in the amount of \$64 million annually was provided to the U.S. Coast Guard for state recreational boating safety programs. Second, the minimum percentage of state allocations to be invested in boating access and facility projects was increased from 12.5 percent to 15 percent, and the maximum time allowed for the expenditure of these funds was increased from 2 to 5 fiscal years. Third, funds allocated for state recreational boating safety programs are currently available for 2 years following the date of allocation. Prior to the 1998 amendments these funds were available for a 3-year period. Finally, the 1998 Amendments altered the distribution of funds allocated to the U.S. Coast Guard; for FYs 1999-2003, \$5 million per year is available to the Coast Guard for expenses related to the recreational boating safety programs.



3. How the Program Works

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program operates through a “user pays – user benefits” cycle of tax collection and disbursement. Anglers and boaters (the users) initiate the cycle through their purchase of taxed items associated with pursuit of their sport. In general, these tax dollars are collected by the U.S. Treasury and disbursed to the states under the authority of the Sport Fish Restoration Account by the USFWS Division of Federal Aid. The states use these allocations for sport fish restoration, wetlands conservation, aquatic education, outreach, and boating access projects. The cycle is completed with a return of benefits to the users through improved sport fishing and boating opportunities.

Sources of Program Income

The Program receives money from four sources: 1) excise taxes on fishing equipment; 2) duties on imported fishing tackle, pleasure boats, and yachts; 3) a portion of the federal fuel tax revenues that is attributable to the sale of motorboat fuels; and 4) interest accrual. This is exclusive of the small engine fuel tax which funds the Wetlands Conservation Program. Figure 2 illustrates the structure of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund and the flow of money collected from these sources, from point of collection to disbursement to the state agencies. Appendix A provides definitions and a list of items taxed under the Program.



1.) *Excise Taxes*

The Program receives funds from a 10 percent manufacturers' excise tax on many items of sport fishing tackle. Taxed items include rods, reels, artificial lures, tackle boxes, and most accessories. Also, monies are collected from a three percent manufacturers' excise tax on electric trolling motors and "flasher" type fish finders (sonar devices). These funds are paid by individual companies into the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund in the U.S. Treasury.

2.) *Import Duties*

The Program receives funds from the duties collected on the sale of imported fishing tackle, pleasure boats, and yachts. The monies are collected by the U.S. Customs Service and are deposited in the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund.

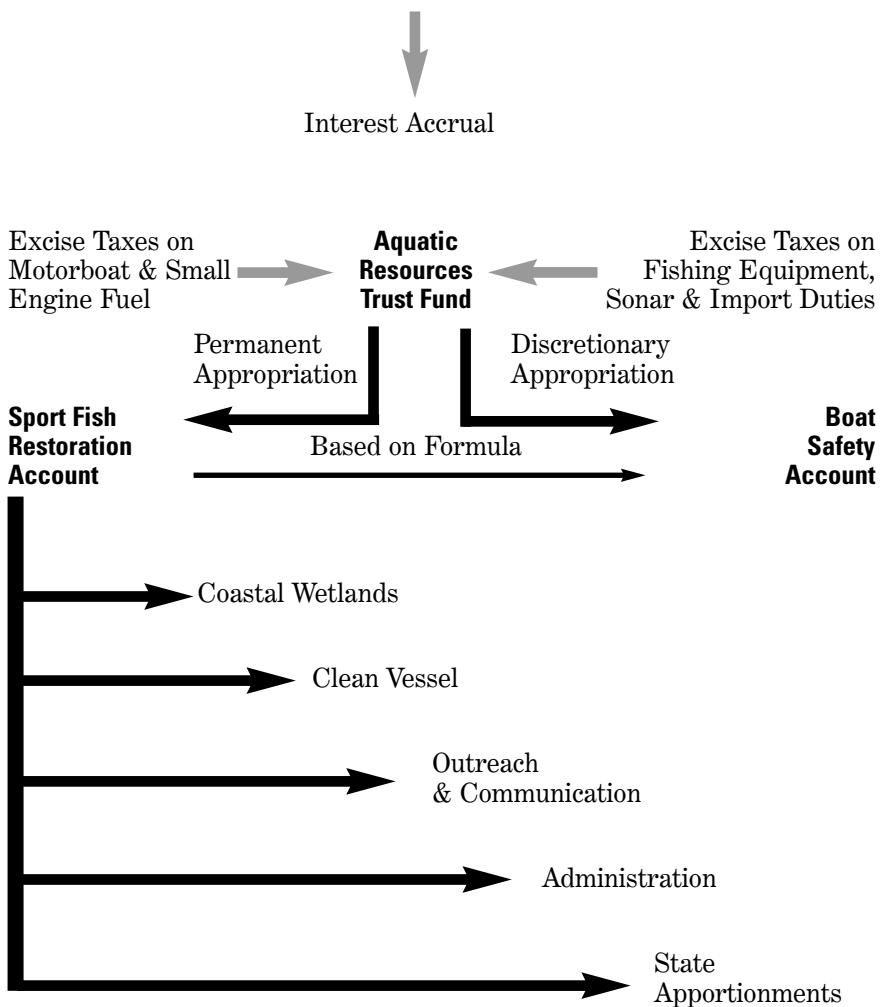


Figure 2. Primary flow of Sport Fish Restoration funds.

3.) Motorboat Fuel Taxes

The Program receives a portion of the monies collected by Treasury from the applicable 18.4 cents per gallon federal fuel tax paid by producers and importers of gasoline on nationwide fuel sales. Studies have determined that approximately one percent of total fuel tax revenues are attributable to the sale of motorboat fuels. These motorboat fuel tax revenues pass through Treasury's Highway Trust Fund with the first \$1 million collected being deposited in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF); then any amount appropriated by Congress is deposited in the Boat Safety Account (the Sport Fish Restoration Account's sister account in the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund). Any excess over appropriated amounts flows into the Sport Fish Restoration Account (see section entitled "The Boat Safety Account" on page 7).



4.) Interest

Prior to the Wallop-Breaux amendments, the Sport Fish Restoration Program did not have trust fund status and, therefore, did not collect interest. Since Congress created the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, a significant amount of interest accrues to the Fund each year. The monies are collected one year and apportioned the following year. The states have two years to spend the money. This has resulted in significant interest income.

5.) Small Engine Fuel Taxes (Wetlands Restoration/Conservation Funding)

As a consequence of the 1990 amendments to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, the federal fuel taxes paid by operators of small gasoline engines, which formerly remained in the Highway Trust Fund, are now deposited into the Sport Fish Restoration Account (Figure 3). The amount to be transferred currently exceeds \$75 million annually. These monies are earmarked for funding the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act.

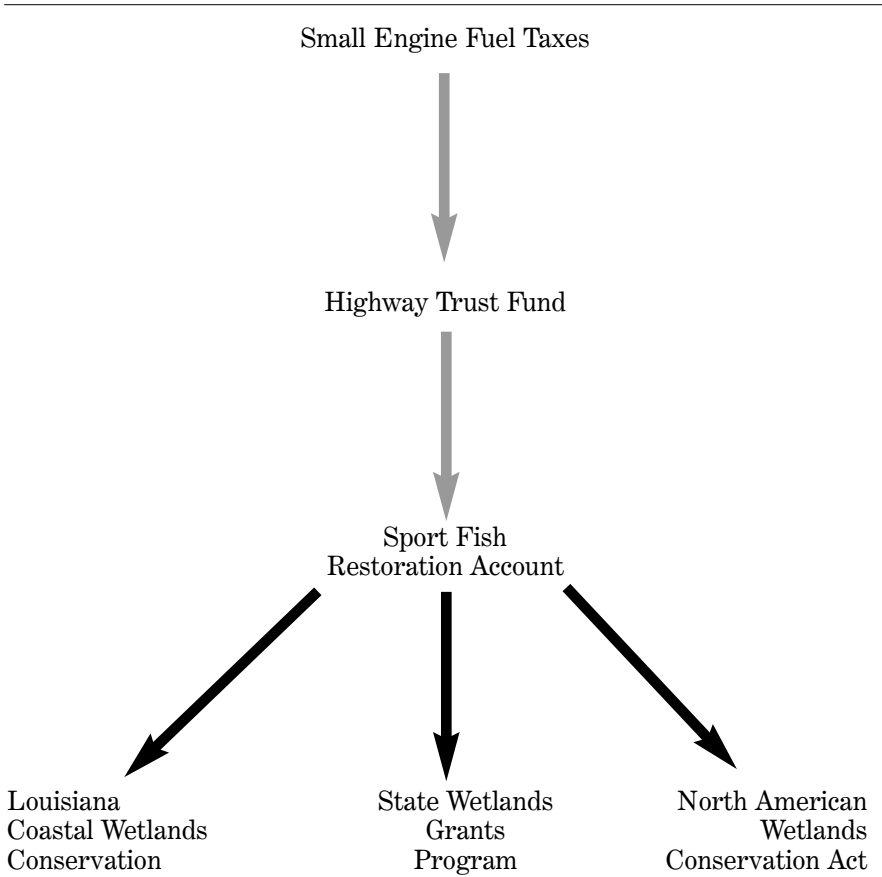


Figure 3. Wetlands conservation funding.

Role of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Aid Division



The Washington office of the USFWS Division of Federal Aid serves as the central administrative office for the Program. One of the primary functions of the office is to formulate and establish Program regulations and policies (compiled in the Federal Aid Handbook). In essence, the office translates the broad statements of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act into specific, detailed regulations that guide the Program. It also handles the budgetary and personnel aspects of the USFWS Federal Aid Division, and provides information about the Program in response to requests from Congress, private organizations, and the general public.

1.) Allocation of Program Funds

At the end of each federal fiscal year (September 30), the Treasury must report to the Department of the Interior on the amount of money that was collected in the Sport Fish Restoration Account during that fiscal year. The USFWS Division of Federal Aid represents the Department of the Interior. Thus, the Treasury reports the total monies collected in the Account to the Division of Federal Aid. The Program operates under a permanent, automatic appropriation. Therefore, congressional action is not necessary for appropriation each year. All monies in the Account become available to the USFWS Division of Federal Aid to allocate the year following collection.

Each year, the first allocation made by the Secretary of the Interior from the Sport Fish Restoration Account goes to the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Program. As discussed previously (see “1990 Amendments” on page 8), 18 percent per year of the total account funds are distributed amongst three coastal wetlands conservation programs; 70 percent of this money goes to the Army Corps of Engineers for administration of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Restoration Program, 15 percent of the money is allocated to National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program, and the remaining 15 percent goes to the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

The second allocation of funds goes to the State Boat Safety Grants Program. Funding for this Grants Program started at \$5 million in FY 1993 and increased to \$20 million after FY 1997. In light of the 1998 Amendments, the current Act mandates that for each of FYs 2000 through 2003 an amount equal to \$82 million, reduced by 82 percent of the funds supplied from the Boat Safety Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, should be distributed as follows; 1) \$10 million per year should be provided for pumpout facilities; 2) \$8 million per year should be provided as funding for boating infrastructure; and 3) the remaining balance should be used for state recreational boating safety programs.

The third allocation of funds is set aside for a national outreach and communications program. The 1988 Amendments provide \$5 million in FY 1999, increasing to \$10 million by FY 2003 to improve communication with anglers, boaters and the general public, reduce barriers to participation in these activities, and promote safety, conservation, and the responsible use of the nation's aquatic resources.

From the remaining Sport Fish Restoration Account, the Act authorizes the Division of Federal Aid to deduct up to 6 percent for use in administration of the Program. The Division of Federal Aid allocates the remaining Sport Fish Restoration Account monies among the states using the following formula: 40 percent of the amount apportioned is based on each state's land and water area (including coastal and Great Lakes waters) in relation to the total land and water area of the U.S.; 60 percent of the amount apportioned is based on the number of paid sport fishing license holders in each state in relation to all the paid fishing license holders in the United States. No state may receive more than five percent of the total apportionment and no state may receive less than one percent. Further, Puerto Rico receives one percent, and the



District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Northern Marianas Islands each receive one-third of one percent.

2.) State Eligibility for Funds

To receive Program funds, a state must have enacted legislation that prohibits sport fishing license fees from being diverted out of the state's fishery agency. If the state's Fish and Game Director does not certify to the Secretary of the Interior that fishing license fees have not been diverted, the state is ineligible to receive Program funds.

Furthermore, Sport Fish Restoration Program Funds are available only to state agencies responsible for managing the sport fish resources of that state. However, universities, private organizations, other state agencies, or county and municipal governments, may cooperate with state fishery agencies on sport fish projects that are administered by the state fishery agency. The state is responsible for setting priorities and making project proposals to the USFWS.

3.) Expenditure of Program Funds

Upon being notified of their apportionment and eligibility to receive Program funds, state fishery agencies propose sport fishery projects according to state priorities and needs. Each state fishery agency designates a Federal Aid Coordinator who processes all state project proposals to ensure that they meet USFWS Federal Aid requirements as detailed in the Federal Aid Handbook. The state Federal Aid Coordinator sends each proposal to the appropriate USFWS Federal Aid Regional Office (Appendix B provides a complete list of state Federal Aid contacts).

Each Region has a Federal Aid Office and an accompanying staff of administrators. The regional staff reviews and evaluates the project proposals to ensure that they are in compliance with the Sport Fish Restoration Act, its associated regulations, and the Federal Aid Handbook, as well as other applicable federal laws.

When the Federal Aid Regional Office approves a project, an amount up to 75 percent of the estimated cost of the project is set aside for the state to be reimbursed from the Sport Fish Restoration Account. The state must first expend the money on the project and is then reimbursed for up to 75 percent of the cost. The state share must be at least 25 percent of the cost and must be derived from a non-federal source.

The Federal Aid Regional Office monitors projects funded through the Program to ensure that Program funds are being used properly and that project goals and objectives are achieved. Following completion of each project, the state must submit a final report to the regional Federal Aid office documenting results and accomplishments of the project. Regional Federal Aid staff enter data from project documents into the Federal Aid Information Management System. Reports of project expenditures and accomplishments are generated from this computer database.

4. Types of Projects that are Allowed

Almost any type of sport fish restoration, management, or enhancement project is permissible under the law. The standard criteria that USFWS Division of Federal Aid uses to evaluate a proposed project is that it must be “substantial in character and design” (Section 7, Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act). “Substantial in character” generally means that the state must demonstrate a considerable need to undertake a project. “Substantial in design” generally means that a project must be technically sound and competently designed. If a proposed project meets these criteria, and if it passes through an array of other tests related to other federal laws, it is approvable for funding by the USFWS Division of Federal Aid.

The following are examples of projects eligible for funding: sport fisheries research and management activities, boating access development and maintenance, aquatic resource education projects, lake construction and maintenance, land acquisition, technical assistance, outreach, planning, habitat enhancement, administration, and hatchery construction. Law enforcement and public relations are examples of projects that will not be funded. Generally, states have wide latitude to undertake projects that address sport fish priorities.



To obtain information, contact either the state, regional, or national representative for the Program (listed in Appendix B). The representative contacted will depend on the type of information needed. The following can be used as a guide to determine where to direct your inquiries.

State Level

Appendix B contains a list of the Fish Chiefs, State Boating Administrators and Federal Aid contacts for each state and territory as of February 2000. The state Federal Aid Coordinator can provide specific information about all recently completed, on-going, or planned projects for the state. The state Fish Chief and Boating Administrator should be able to explain why a project was needed, results from the project, and the rationale for future projects that the state is planning.

Suggestions, comments, or questions pertaining to projects in your state should be directed to the state Federal Aid Coordinator or to the state Fish Chief. Most (if not all) state fishery agencies hold periodic meetings at which the public may voice opinions on issues of interest to them.

Regional Level

The Regional USFWS Division of Federal Aid Office (listed in Appendix B), or a staff member, can provide information on completed and ongoing projects in all states and territories of the region. Most questions on the regulations and policies that guide the administration of the Program may be answered by the regional office.

National Level

Appendix B also provides a contact within the USFWS Federal Aid Division Washington Office. Requests for detailed information regarding administration, policy, Program statistics, or status of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, should be directed to the Washington Office. This office produces an annual statistical summary, an annual report, and a semi-annual document titled, "Program Updates", which details all ongoing Program-funded research projects. The Federal Aid Information Management System (FAIMS) maintained by the USFWS allows preparation of tailored reports by states or other topics through utilization of a computerized data base. Also, as a special project, the Fish and Wildlife Reference Service conducts computerized literature searches of the numerous reports prepared over the years utilizing Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration funds. Upon request, the Reference Service can provide copies of these reports.

Conclusion

From its inception in 1950, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program has proved invaluable for the development of sport fishing.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the American Sportfishing Association provide this Handbook to answer questions about the history and the current status of the Program. We feel that increased knowledge and participation by anglers, boaters and the sport fishing industry will help the Program reach its full potential. This Handbook should be used as a guide and reference source to put you in contact with those who will be able to answer specific or more detailed questions concerning the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program.

We thank the American Sportfishing Association for their contributions to this work.



Appendix A

Items Taxed Under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program

The list of IRS approved fishing tackle items taxed under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program is lengthy (see below). What was originally a short list consisting of rods, reels, creels, and artificial baits has grown proportional to the ever-expanding number of new fishing articles. Maintained and updated by the IRS, items on this list now number in the hundreds.

All the essential sport fishing items are taxed such as: rods, reels, lines (under 130 pound test), artificial lures and baits, hooks, sinkers and jigs. In addition, nearly every imaginable fishing accessory for the person or boat is also taxed. That list includes, but is not limited to: nets, creels, floats, ice fishing tip-ups, downriggers, fighting chairs, rod holders, and gaff hooks. As a rule, whether specifically enumerated or not by the IRS, all items of terminal tackle are taxed.

Every manufacturer and importer of sport fishing equipment is subject to the 10% tax on these specified items. Difficulties sometimes arise over determination of who pays the tax when the manufacturer or importer is not clearly defined or when the item is new to the market. In an effort to resolve such disputes, the IRS allows for a private letter ruling process (essentially an advisory ruling by an IRS excise tax specialist) to pinpoint the correct taxpayer. This list of previous rulings also serves to guide other manufacturers and importers in gauging how the tax relates to their individual situations.

Some notable items that are not taxed include live baits and portable folding fishing chairs. Normally taxed items that are given away for free are also exempted from the tax. Equipment such as line over 130 pound test, that is considered commercial fishing gear, is not taxed nor are fishing toys and novelties. The situation becomes slightly more complicated when dealing with fishing kits containing both taxable and non-taxable items. In this case, the tax will be applied only to those taxable items in the kit, not the entire kit itself.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program also collects taxes from articles other than just fishing equipment. For instance, there is now a 3% tax applied to

electric outboard trolling motors and flasher-type fish finders. In addition, the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund receives a portion of the 18.4 cent tax on motorboat fuels. The Aquatic Resources Trust Fund currently receives 1.08 percent of the 11.5 cents per gallon tax of fuel used. This is scheduled to increase to 13 cents per gallon on October 1, 2001 and to 13.5 cents per gallon on October 1, 2003. These monies will increase the fund appreciably allowing the program to continue to meet its growing number of project needs.

Taxed Items

Basic Fishing Equipment:

Rods, poles, and component parts

Reels (including fly and ice-fishing reels)

Fishing lines less than 130 pound test (including fly fishing line)

Terminal tackle:

leaders

jigs

fishing hooks

snaps

bobbers

drayles

swivels

sinkers

artificial lures, baits, and flies



Fishing Supplies, Accessories and Equipment:

Fish stringers

Fishing hook disgorgers

Creels

Fish cleaner and scalers

Tackle boxes

Fishing tip-ups or tilts

Portable bait containers

Rod belts

Fishing vests

Rod holders

Landing nets

Fishing harnesses

Gaff hooks

Fighting chairs

Outriggers

Downriggers

Sonar fish finders

Electric outboards/trolling motors

Spear guns (does not include bowfishing equipment)

Bags, baskets, or other containers designed to hold fish

Dressing for fishing line or artificial flies

Flasher-type fish finders

Non-Taxed Items

Depth finders (non-flasher types)

Crab traps

Fishing tank aerators

Fish wells

Live bait wells

Knives

Fishing Kites

Toys and novelties

Scent oil for bait

Tag sticks

Practice rods

Dipping nets

Strike indicators

Portable folding fishing chairs

Baits of unmodified food products (cheese spread, marshmallows, chicken blood)

Appendix B

State and Federal Contacts in the Sport Fish Restoration Program

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Washington Office	US Fish & Wildlife Service 4401 N. Fairfax Drive Suite 140 Arlington, VA 22203 P: 703/358 2156 F: 703/358 1837		
Region 1 Regional Office	911 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4181 P: 503 231 6128 F: 503/231 2122		
California	Dept. of Game & Fish 1416 Ninth St. Sacramento, CA 95814 P: 916/653 7664 F: 916/653 1856	Dept. of Boating & Waterways 2000 Evergreen St. Sacramento, CA 95815-3896 P: 916/263 4326 F: 916/263 4380	California Dept. of Fish & Game 1416 North St. Sacramento, CA 95814 P: 916/657 4029 F: 916/653 8256
Marianas Islands Guam	Div. Of Aquatic & Wildlife Resources 192 Dairy Rd. Mangilao, GU 96923 P: 671/734 3944 F: 671/734 6570	Boating Law Administrator Police Dept. Special Programs Section P.O. Box 23909 GMF Barrigada GU 96921 P: 671/475 8447 F: 671/472 9704	
Hawaii	Administrator Div. of Aquatic Resources Dept. of Land & Natural Resources Box 621 Honolulu, HI 96809 P: 808/587 0100 F: 808/587 0115	State Boating Admin. Dept. of Land & Natural Resources Div. of Boating & Ocean Recreation 333 Queen St., Suite 300 Honolulu, HI 96813 P: 808/587 1966 F: 808/587 1977	Div. of Aquatic Resources 1151 Punchbowl St. Rm 330 Honolulu, HI 96809

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Idaho	Dept. Chief, Fisheries Fish & Game Dept. 600 South Walnut, Box 25 Boise, ID 83707 P: 208/334 3791 F: 208/334 2114	Dept. of Parks & Recreation Boating Program PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0065 P: 208/334 4180 ext. 235 F: 208/334 3741	Dept. of Fish & Game 600 S. Walnut St. PO Box 25 Boise, ID 83707 P: 208/334 3791 F: 208/334 2114
Nevada	Chief, Fisheries Division of Wildlife Resources PO Box 10678 Reno, NV 89520 P: 702/688 1500 F: 702/688 1595	Deputy Chief Game Warden Div. of Wildlife Law Enforcement Div. 1100 Valley Rd. Reno, NV 89512 P: 775/688 1542 F: 775/688 1551	Div. of Wildlife 1100 Valley Rd. PO Box 10678 Reno, NV 89420-0022 P: 702/688 1532 F: 702/688 1595
Oregon	Head of Fisheries Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 2501 SW 1st Avenue Portland, OR 97207 P: 503/872 5252 F: 503/872 5632	Director, State Marine Board 435 Commercial St., NE, #400 PO Box 14145 Salem, OR 97309-5065 P: 503/373 1405 ext. 244 F: 503/378 4597	OR Dept. of Fish & Wildlife PO Box 59 Portland, OR 97207 P: 503/872 5310 F: 503/872 5632
Washington	Assistant Director, Fisheries Management Program Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 600 Capitol Way, North Olympia, WA 98501-1091 P: 360/902 2325 F: 360/902 2171	State Parks & Recreation Commission Boating Programs 7150 Cleanwater Lane PO Box 42654 Olympia, WA 98504-2654 P: 360/902 8580 F: 360/753 1594	WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife PO Box 43135 (98504) Olympia, WA 98501-1092 P: 360/902 2433 F: 360/902 2941

Region 2

Regional Office

PO Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM
87103-1306
P: 505/248 7450
F: 505/248 7471

Arizona

Game & Fish Dept.
2222 West Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023-4312
P: 602/942 3000
F: 602/789 3265

Coordinator, Game &
Fish Department
Law Enforcement Branch
2221 W. Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023
P: 602/789 3383
F: 602/789 3945

Arizona Game & Fish Dept.
2221 W. Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023-4312
P: 602/789 3000
F: 602/789 3358

New Mexico

Chief, Fish Management
Dept. of Game & Fish
PO Box 25112
Santa Fe, NM 87504
P: 505/827 7905
F: 505/827 7915

Chief, Law Enforcement
State Parks Div.
Boating Safety Section
2040 South Pacheco St.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
P: 505/827 7125
F: 505/827 1376

New Mexico Dept. of
Game & Fish
408 Galisteo St.
2nd Floor, Villagra Bldg.
PO Box 25112
Santa Fe, NM 87503
P: 505/476 0286
F: 505/827 7941

Oklahoma

Chief, Fisheries
Department of Wildlife
Conservation
1801 North Lincoln
PO Box 53465
Oklahoma City, OK 73152
P: 405/521 3721
F: 405/521 6535

Dept. of Public Safety
Lake Patrol Div.
PO Box 11415
Oklahoma City, OK 73136-0415
P: 405/425 2143
F: 405/425 2894

Oklahoma Dept. of
Wildlife Conservation
1801 North Lincoln
PO Box 53465
Oklahoma City, OK 73152
P: 405/521 1651
F: 405/521 6841

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Texas	Director, Inland & Fisheries Parks & Wildlife Dept. 4200 Smith School Rd. Austin, TX 78744 P: 512/389 8110 F: 512/389 4398	Director of Water Safety Enforcement Parks & Wildlife Dept. Law Enforcement Div. 4200 Smith School Rd. Austin, TX 78744 P: 512/389 4624 F: 512/389 4740	Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. 4200 Smith School Rd. Austin, TX 78744 P: 512/389 4641 F: 512/389 4349
Region 3			
Regional Office	Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Bldg. 1 Federal Drive Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056 P: 612/713 5130 F: 612/713 5290		
Illinois	Chief, Fisheries Div. Dept. of Natural Resources 524 South 2nd St. Springfield, IL 62701 P: 217/782 6424 F: 217/785 8262	Deputy Chief Dept. of Natural Resources Office of Law Enforcement 524 S. South 2nd St. Springfield, IL 62701-1787 P: 217/782 6431 F: 217/785 8405	Dept. of Natural Resources Lincoln Tower Plaza 524 South 2nd St. Springfield, IL 62701-1787 P: 217/782 2602 F: 217/785 6040
Indiana	Fisheries Chief Dept. of Natural Resources 402 W. Washington St. Room W255B Indianapolis, IN 46204 P: 317/232 4080 F: 317/232 8036	Boating Law Administrator Dept. of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Div. AGCS Room W255-D 402 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 P: 317/232 4010 F: 317/232 8035	Division of Fish & Wildlife Dept. of Natural Resources 402 W. Washington Street Room 273 Indianapolis, IN 46204 P: 317/232 4080 F: 317/232 8150
Iowa	Chief, Fisheries Bureau Dept. of Natural Resources E. Ninth & Grand Aves. Wallace State Office Bldg. Des Moines, IA 50319 P: 515/281 5208 F: 515/281 6794	Dept. of Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Div. E. Ninth & Grand Aves. Wallace State Office Bldg. Des Moines, IA 50319 P: 515/281 8174 F: 515/281 6794	Dept. of Natural Resources E. Ninth & Grand Aves. Wallace State Office Bldg. Des Moines, IA 50319 P: 515/281 5631 F: 515/281 6794
Michigan	Chief, Fisheries Resources Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909 P: 517/373 1280 F: 517/373 0381	Dept. of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Div. PO Box 30031 Lansing, MI 48909 P: 517/335 3414 F: 517/373 6816	Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909 P: 517/335 3051 F: 517/335 6807
Minnesota	Chief, Fisheries Section Dept. of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4001 P: 651/296 3325 F: 651/297 4946	Boat & Water Safety Coordinator Dept. of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4046 P: 651/296 0905 F: 651/296 0902	Div. of Fish & Wildlife Dept. of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4046 P: 651/296 0598 F: 651 297 7272

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Missouri	Chief, Fisheries Div. Dept. of Conservation PO Box 180 Jefferson City, MO 65102 P: 573/751 4115 F: 573/ 526 4047	Commissioner, State Water Patrol Dept. of Public Safety PO Box 1368 Jefferson, MO 65102-1368 P: 573/751 3333 F: 573/636 8428	Dept. of Conservation PO Box 180 Jefferson City, MO 65102 P: 573/751 4115 F: 573/751 4864
Ohio	Fisheries Chief Dept. of Natural Resources Fountain Square Columbus, OH 43224 P: 614/265 6345 F: 614/265 1171	Chief, Dept. of Natural Resources Div. of Watercraft 4435 Fountain Square Drive Columbus, OH 43224-1300 P: 614/265 6476 F: 614/267 8883	Dept. of Natural Resources Div. of Wildlife Bldg. G-2 1840 Belcher Drive Columbus, OH 43224 P: 614/265 6337 F: 614/262 1143
Wisconsin	Director, Bureau of Fisheries Management Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707 P: 608/267 0796 F: 608/267 7857	Dept. of Natural Resources Div. of Law Enforcement PO Box 7921 101 S. Webster St. Madison, WI 53707-7921 P: 608/266 0859 F: 608/266 3696	Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 7921 101 S. Webster Street Madison, WI 53707 P: 608/266 5893 F: 608/267 0496
<i>Region 4</i>			
Regional Office	1875 Century Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30345 P: 404/679 4159 F: 404/679 4160		
Alabama	Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources 64 N. Union St. Montgomery, AL 36130 P: 334/242 3471 F: 334/242 3032	Director, Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources Marine Police Div. 604 N. Union St., Rm 438 Montgomery, AL 36130-1451 P: 334/242 3673 F: 334/242 0336	Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources 84 North Union St. Montgomery, AL 36130 P: 334/242 3471 F: 334/242 3032
Arkansas	Game & Fish Commission #2 Natural Resources Dr. Little Rock, AK 72205 P: 501/223 6371 F: 501/223 6461	Game & Fish Commission Boating Safety Section #2 Natural Resources Dr. Little Rock, AR 72205 P: 501/223 6399 F: 501/223 6407	Game & Fish Commission #2 Nat. Resources Dr. Little Rock, AR 72205 P: 501/223 6399 F: 501/223 6407
Florida	Dept. of Environmental Protection 3900 Commonwealth Blv. Tallahassee, FL 32399 P: 850/922 4340 F: 850/922 0463	Boating Safety Coordinator Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Div. of Law Enforcement 620 South Meridian St. Tallahassee, FL 32399 P: 850/488 5600 ext. 162 F: 850/488 9284	Dept. of Environmental Protection Division of Marine Resources 3900 Commonwealth Blvd. MS 240 P: 850/922 4340 F: 850 922 0463
Georgia	Fisheries Management Dept. of Natural Resources 2070 US Hwy 278, SE Social Circle, GA 30279 P: 770/918 6406 F: 706/557 3030	Dept. of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section Wildlife Resources Div. 2070 US Highway 278, SE Social Circle, GA 30025 P: 770/918 6408 F: 770/918 6410	Wildlife Resources Div. 2070 US Hwy 278, SE Social Circle, GA 30279 P: 770/918 6406 F: 706/557 3030

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Kentucky	Director, Div. of Fisheries Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources #1 Game Farm Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601 P: 502/564 3596 F: 502/564 6508	Div. of Law Enforcement Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Tourism Cabinet #1 Game Farm Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601 P: 502/564 3074 F: 502/564 3178	Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources #1 Game Farm Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601 P: 502/564 7109 F: 502/564 6508
Louisiana	Administrator Inland & Fisheries Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Baton Rouge, LA 70898 P: 504/765 2330 F: 504/765 2607	Assistant Chief Enforcement Div. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries PO Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 P: 225/765 2983 F: 225/765 2832	Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Div. of Inland Fisheries 2000 Qualil Drive, Rm. 324 PO Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898 P: 504/765 2329 F: 504/765 2455
Mississippi	Chief, Fisheries Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks PO Box 451 Jackson, MS 39205 P: 601/364 2202 F: 601/364 2209	Boating Law Administrator Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks Law Enforcement Div. PO Box 451 Jackson, MS 39205 P: 601/364 2185 F: 601/364 2186	Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks PO Box 451 Jackson, MS 39205-0451 P: 601/432 2208 F: 601/432 2203
North Carolina	Chief, Div. of Fisheries Management Div. of Marine Fisheries PO Box 769 Morehead City, NC 28557 P: 252/726 7021 F: 252/726 6062	Agency Contact Wildlife Resources Commission Div. of Enforcement 512 N. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27604-1188 P: 919/733 7191 ext. 251 F: 919/715 7644	Fisheries Program Manager Wildlife Resources Commis. Archdale Building 512 N. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27604-1188 P: 919/733 7191 F: n/a
South Carolina	Freshwater Fisheries Chief Dept. of Natural Resources Rembert C. Dennis Bldg. PO Box 167 1000 Assembly St. Columbia, SC 29202 P: 803/734 3935 F: 803/734 3951	Dept. of Natural Resources Marine Law Enforcement/ Education Affairs PO Box 12559 Charleston, SC 29422-2559 P: 843/762 5034 F: 843/762 5091	Dept. of Natural Resources Rembert C. Dennis Bldg. PO Box 167 1000 Assembly St. Columbia, SC 29202 P: 803/734 3808 F: 803/734 6020
Tennessee	Chief, Fisheries Management Div. PO Box 40747 Ellington Agricultural Center Nashville, TN 37204 P: 615/781 6575 F: 615 741 4606	Chief, Wildlife Resources Agency Boating Div. PO Box 40747 Nashville, TN 37204 P: 615/781 6682 F: 615/781 5268	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency PO Box 40747 Nashville, TN 37204 P: 615/781 6552 F: 615/741 4606
Puerto Rico	Secretary, Dept. of Natural & Environmental Resources PO Box 5887 Puerta de Tierra Sta. San Juan, PR 00906 P: 787/723 3090 F: 787/723 4255	Navigation Commissioner Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources PO Box 9066600 San Juan, PR 00906-6600 P: 787/724 2340 F: 787/724 7335	Dept. of Natural & Environmental Resources Div. of Coordination, Fisheries & Wildlife Bureau PO Box 9066600 San Juan, PR 00906-6600 P: 787/724 1520 F: 787/724 0365

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Virgin Islands	Director, Div. of Fish & Wildlife 6291 Nazareth, Suite 101 St. Thomas, VI 00803 P: 340/ 775 6762 F: 340/775 3972	Dept. of Planning & Natural Resources 396-I Foster Plaza Annas Retreat St. Thomas, VI 00802 P: 340/776 8600 F: 340/776 8608	
<i>Region 5</i>			
Regional Office	300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035-9589 P: 513/253 8200 F: 513/253 8487		
Connecticut	Dept. of Environmental Protection 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106-5127 P: 860/424 3400 F: 860/424 4078	Dept. of Environmental Protection 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106-5127 P: 860/424 3479 F: 860/424 4078	Dept. of Environmental Protection 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106 P: 860/424 3479 F: 860/424 4078
District of Columbia	Environmental Health Administration Fish & Wildlife Division 51 N St, NE, 5th Floor Washington, D.C. 20002 P: 202/535 2266 F: 202/535 1373	Environmental Health Administration Fish & Wildlife Division 51 N St, NE, 5th Floor Washington, D.C. 20002 P: 202/535 2266 F: 202/535 1373	Environmental Health Administration Fish & Wildlife Division 51 N St, NE, 5th Floor Washington, D.C. 20002 P: 202/535 2266 F: 202/535 1373
Delaware	Division of Fish & Wildlife Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control 89 Kings Highway Dover, DE 19901 P: 302/739 5295 F: 302/739 6157	Division of Fish & Wildlife Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control 89 Kings Highway Dover, DE 19901 P: 302/739 5296 F: 302/739 6157	Division of Fish & Wildlife Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control 89 Kings Highway Dover, DE 19901 P: 302/739 5296 F: 302/739 6157
Maine	Commissioner, Dept. of Inland Fisheries 284 State St., Station #41 Augusta, ME 04333 P: 207/287 5202 F: 207/287 6395	Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife 284 State St., Station #41 Augusta, ME 04333 P: 207/287 3286 F: 207/287 6395	Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife 284 State St., Station #41 Augusta, ME 04333 P: 207/287 3286 F: 207/287 6395
Maryland	Director, Fisheries Service Dept. of Natural Resources Tawes State Office Bldg. B2 580 Taylor Avenue Annapolis, MD 21401 P: 410/260 8281 F: 410/260 8279	Fisheries Service Dept. of Natural Resources Tawes State Office Bldg. B2 580 Taylor Avenue Annapolis, MD 21401 P: 410/260 8282 F: 410/260 2279	Fisheries Service Dept. of Natural Resources Tawes State Office Bldg. B2 580 Taylor Avenue Annapolis, MD 21401 P: 410/260 8282 F: 410/260 2279

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
Massachusetts	Director, Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife State Office Building 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02202 P: 617/626 1590 F: 617/626 1517	Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife State Office Building 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02202 P: 617/626 1576 F: 617/626 1517	Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife State Office Building 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02202 P: 617/626 1576 F: 617/626 1517
New Hampshire	Chief, Fish & Game Dept. 2 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301 P: 603/271 3421 F: 603/271 1438	Fish & Game Dept. 2 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301 P: 603/271 3511 F: 603/271 1438	Fish & Game Dept. 2 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301 P: 603/271 3511 F: 603/271 1438
New Jersey	Chief, Div. of Fish, Game & Wildlife PO Box 400 Trenton, NJ 08625 P: 609/292 9410 F: 609/984 1414	Div. of Fish, Game & Wildlife PO Box 400 Trenton, NJ 08625 P: 609/292 9481 F: 609/984 1414	Div. of Fish, Game & Wildlife PO Box 400 Trenton, NJ 08625 P: 609/292 9481 F: 609/984 1414
New York	Chief, Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources, DEC 50 Wolf Rd. Albany, NY 12223-4750 P: 518/457 5690 F: 518/457 0341	Division of Fish, Wildlife, & Marine Resources, DEC 205 N Belle Meade Rd. E Setauket, NY 11733 P: 516/444 0430 F: 516/444 0434	Division of Fish, Wildlife, & Marine Resources, DEC 50 Wolf Rd. Albany, NY 12223-4750 P: 518/457 9435 F: 518/457 5827
Pennsylvania	Fish & Boat Commission PO Box 67000 Harrisburg, PA 17106 P: 717/657 4515 F: 717/657 4549	Fish & Boat Commission PO Box 67000 Harrisburg, PA 17106 P: 717/540 7495 F: 717/657 4033	Fish & Boat Commission PO Box 67000 Harrisburg, PA 17106 P: 717/540 7495 F: 717/657 4033
Rhode Island	Chief, Fish & Wildlife Stedman Govt. Center 4808 Tower Hill Rd. Wakefield, RI 02879 P: 401/783 8906 F: 401/783 4460	Division of Fish & Wildlife Stedman Govt. Center 4808 Tower Hill Rd. Wakefield, RI 02879 P: 401/789 4757 F: 401/783 4460	Division of Fish & Wildlife Stedman Govt. Center 4808 Tower Hill Rd. Wakefield, RI 02879 P: 401/789 4757 / 783 7753 F: 401/783 4460
Vermont	Commissioner Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 103 South Main St., 10 South Waterbury, VT 05671 P: 802/241 3700 F: 802/244 3295	Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 103 South Main St., 10 South Waterbury, VT 05676 P: 802/241 3704 F: 802/241 3295	Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 103 South Main St., 10 South Waterbury, VT 05676 P: 802/241 3704 F: 802/241 3295
Virginia	Marine Resources Commission PO Box 756 2600 Washington Ave. Newport News, VA 23607 P: 757/247 2205 F: 757/247 2020	Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries PO Box 11104 Richmond, VA 23230 P: 804/367 8944 F: 804/367 2628	Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries PO Box 11104 Richmond, VA 23230 P: 804/367 8944 F: 804/367 2628

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
West Virginia	Director, DNR 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E Building #3, Room 814 Charleston, WV 25305 P: 304/558 2754 F: 304/558 2768	Wildlife Resources Section Div. of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E Building #3 Charleston, WV 25305 P: 304/558 2771 F: 304/558 3147	Wildlife Resources Section Div. of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E Building #3 Charleston, WV 25305 P: 304/558 2771 F: 304/558 3147
<i>Region 6</i>			
Regional Office	PO Box 25486 Denver Federal Center Denver, CO 80225 P: 303/236 7392 F: 303/236 8192		
Colorado	Div. of Wildlife 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216 P: 303/2917356 F: 303/294 0874	Chief of Law Enforcement Dept. of Natural Resources Div. of Parks & Outdoor Recreation 13787 S. Highway 85 Littleton, CO 80125 P: 303/791 1954 F: 303/470 0782	Colorado Div. of Wildlife 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216 P: 303/291 7243 F: 303/294 0874
Kansas	Director, Fisheries & Wildlife Div. Dept. of Wildlife & Parks Landon St. Office Bldg. Room 502 900 S.W. Jackson St. Topeka, KS 66612 P: 785/672 5911 F: 785/672 6508	Dept. of Wildlife & Parks Landon St. Office Bldg. Room 502 900 S.W. Jackson St. Topeka, KS 66612 P: 785/296 2281 F: 785/296 6953	Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks Landon St. Office Bldg. Room 502 900 SW Jackson St. Topeka, KS 66612 P: 758/296 2281 F: 758/296 1632
Montana	Chief, Fisheries Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks 1420 E. 6th Ave. PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620 P: 406/444 2449 F: 406/444 4952	Boating Law Administrator Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks Law Enforcement Div. 1420 E. 6th Ave. PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620 P: 406/444 2452 F: 406/444 4952	Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks 1420 East 6th Avenue PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701 P: 406/444 3186 F: 406/444 4952
Nebraska	Fisheries Admin. Game & Parks Comm. 2200 North 33rd St. PO Box 30370 Lincoln, NE 68503-0317 P: 402/471 5515 F: 402/471 5528	Game & Parks Commission Outdoor Education Div. 2200 N. 33rd St. Lincoln, NE 68503-0370 P: 402/471 5579 F: 402/471 5528	Nebraska Game & Parks Commission PO Box 30370 Lincoln, NE 68503 P: 402/471 5537 F: 402/471 5528
North Dakota	Fisheries Chief Game & Fish Dept. 100 N. Bismark Exp. Bismark, ND 58501 P: 701/328 6300 F: 701/328 6352	Boat & Water Safety Coordin. Game & Fish Dept. Information & Education Div. 100 N. Bismark Expressway Bismark, ND 58501-5095 P: 701/328 6327 F: 701/328 6352	ND Game & Fish Dept. 100 N. Bismark Expressway Bismark, ND 58501-5095 P: 701/328 6327 F: 701/328 6352

	<i>State Fish Chief</i>	<i>State Boating Administrator</i>	<i>Federal Aid Coordinator</i>
South Dakota	Div. Staff Specialist, Fisheries Game Fish & Parks Dept. 523 East Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501-3182 P: 605/773 4508 F: 605/773 6245	Boating Safety Program Specialist Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks Div. of Wildlife 523 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501-3182 P: 605/773 4506 F: 605/773 6245	Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks Div. of Wildlife 523 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-3182 P: 605/773 3381 F: 605/773 6345
Utah	Director, Div. of Wildlife Resources 1594 W. North Temple St. Suite 2110 Salt Lake City, UT 84111 P: 801/538 4700 F: 801/538 4709	Div. of Parks & Recreation 1594 W. North Temple St. Suite 116 Salt Lake, UT 84114-6001 P: 801/538 7341 F: 801/538 7378	Section Chief of Aquatics UT Div. of Wildlife Resources 1594 W. North Temple St. Suite 2130 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301 P: 801/538 4760 F: 801/538 4709
Wyoming	Chief, Fisheries Game & Fish Dept. 5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006 P: 307/777 4559 F: 307/777 4610	Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator Game & Fish Dept. 5400 Bishop Boulevard Cheyenne WY 82006-0001 P: 307/777 4579 F: 307/777 4650	Wyoming Game & Fish Dept. 5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82002 P: 307/777 4501 F: 307/777 4688

Region 7

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