Sport Fish Restoration Program

1. Enabling Legislation:

 Sport Fish Restoration Act also known as Dingell-Johnson (DJ) Act of 1950

2. Purpose:

- Restoration and management of fish species of material value for sport-fishing and recreation
- Provide facilities that create or add to public access for recreational boating
- Provide aquatic education to public to increase understanding of water resources and associated aquatic life

3. Eligible Grantees:

All State / Territory fish and wildlife agencies with assent legislation

4. Eligible Projects:

- Projects restoring, conserving, managing, and enhancing sport fish having material value for sport or recreation
- Projects enhancing the public's understanding of water resources and aquatic life, assisting them in developing attitudes toward the aquatic environment

5. Source of funds:

Permanent/Indefinite Appropriation

57% of amount in Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund (authorized through 2009) - revenues from the following:

- Excise taxes on sport fishing equipment and electric motors
- Import duties on fishing tackle, yachts and pleasure craft
- Portion of gasoline tax attributable to motorboats and small engines
- Interest earned on Trust Fund

6. Distribution method:

· Apportioned based on formula

7. Spending mandates, fund matching requirements, and/or limitations on availability of funds:

- Cost reimbursement
- Provides up to 75% federal funding, 25% required from non-federal sources
- 100% federal funding for Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and N. Mariana Islands
- Annual apportionment available for 2 years
- Reverted funds are reapportioned to Sport Fish Restoration in subsequent cycle
- Only 15% of apportioned funds may be used for aquatic education (no limit for PR, DC, CNMI, Guam, VI and American Samoa)
- At least 15% of apportioned funds must be used for acquisition, development, renovation or improvement of facilities to create or add public access to waters for recreational boating (averaged by region over 5 year period)
- Coastal States must equitably allocate apportionment between freshwater and marine projects in proportion to number of resident marine / freshwater anglers
- Amount allocated by States for freshwater programs each fiscal year cannot be less than amount allocated for fiscal year 1988

8. Special conditions or requirements:

- Pass and maintain assent legislation
- Submit eligible sport fish restoration projects including boating access and/or aquatic education
- Submit annual license certification

9. Governing Guidance:

- Sport Fish Restoration Act
- 50 CFR 80
- 43 CFR Part 12
- USFWS Manual Chapters