

THE PITTMAN-ROBERTSON ACT

A Partnership in Support of Conservation, Our Sporting Traditions, and Enhanced Opportunities to Exercise Our Firearms Rights



Background:

Enacted in 1937 at the urging of hunters and recreational shooters, the Pittman-Robertson Act (P-R) is a celebrated partnership between the firearms and archery industries, state fish and wildlife agencies, and America's nearly 55 million sportsmen and women. Over the decades this partnership has delivered consistent, and meaningful results including increased opportunities to exercise firearms rights, conservation of wildlife and their habitats through science-based management, stronger sporting traditions, and a host of benefits for all people of this nation who enjoy clean air, clean water, and access to public lands and waters on which to recreate.

- For 85 years, P-R, which is the lifeblood of most state fish and wildlife agencies, has served as the bedrock of our American System of Conservation Funding, and been heralded as the most successful public access and conservation program in the world. P-R directs a 10-11% manufacturer-level excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment to fund state-based programs and research that directly benefit the industries financing the program, our wildlife resources, and the American public at large.

By The Numbers:

- State fish and wildlife agencies have received over \$15 billion in funding since 1937 - \$1.1 billion in FY22 alone.
- Nearly 35 million acres are managed by states for public hunting and other recreational access using P-R funds.
- Nearly 80% of P-R funding is generated from the manufacture of firearms and ammunition attributed to America's 32 million recreational shooters.
- Iconic species once in precipitous decline and extirpated from portions of their historical range are now thriving.
- 2 million students have completed P-R-funded hunter education programs in the last three years alone helping ensure safe firearms ownership and handling skills.
- Wild turkey populations have soared from an estimated 30,000 prior to the passage of P-R to approximately 7 million today.
- 1,506 public shooting ranges have been developed or enhanced since 2014, enhancing opportunities for the public to exercise their firearms rights.
- White-tailed deer were estimated at fewer than 500,000 in the 1930's, and today their total population numbers nearly 30 million thanks to research and management funded by P-R.

THE PITTMAN-ROBERTSON ACT IS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING SPORTING-CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS:



Boone and Crockett Club
Fair Chase and Conservation
SINCE 1887



CONSERVATION FORCE



NSSF
The Firearm Industry
Trade Association



ORION
THE HUNTER'S INSTITUTE



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