WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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WEST VIRGINIA TO RECEIVE \$2.8 MILLION FOR SPORT FISHING AND WILDLIFE

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall(D-W.Va.) today announced that West Virginia will receive \$2.8 million in federal assistance to finance programs beneficial to sport fishing and wildlife resources during fiscal year 1987.

According to Rahall, about 50 percent of the funding will be directed to the development or improvement of public access facilities for fishing, improvement of fish habitat and fishery research under the "Dingell-Johnson" program with the other half of the funds to be used to finance hunter education programs and wildlife restoration efforts. The funding is distributed by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

"As a long time supporter of programs beneficial to sport fishing in West Virginia, I am pleased to see this funding distributed to projects and programs beneficial to sportsmen," Rahall said. "Hunting and fishing is a favorite recreational pursuit of many West Virginians who will now see a return on the excise taxes they pay to support these federal programs."

The "Dingell-Johnson" program is financed by excise taxes on fishing equipment and a portion of motorboat fuel taxes while the wildlife restoration program is supported through excise taxes paid on sporting arms, ammunition and certain archery equipment.