CONTACT: JERRY BURKOT

202-225-3452

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.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) 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 be 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.



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release April 3, 1987

Elizabeth Lipscomb 202-343-5634

FEDERAL SPORT FISH AND WILDLIFE APPORTIONMENT NEARS QUARTER-BILLION LEVEL

States will receive a record \$248 million in Federal aid funds for sport fish and wildlife restoration for fiscal year 1987, Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel announced today.

The funds are distributed to States, Commonwealths, Territories, and the District of Columbia to finance programs beneficial to sport fish and wildlife resources under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, commonly known as the "Dingell-Johnson" program, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, known as the "Pittman-Robertson" program. Both programs are administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Over \$108 million will be made available to States to carry out wildlife restoration projects under the Pittman-Robertson program, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Funding for this program comes from an excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition, pistols and revolvers, and certain archery equipment. One-half of the taxes on handguns and archery equipment is distributed to the States to finance hunter education programs.

Since the Pittman-Robertson Act was signed in September 1937, over \$1.5 billion has been distributed to States, making possible the successful restoration of many of this country's most popular wildlife species, including the white-tailed deer and the wild turkey, both rare or absent throughout much of the Nation 50 years ago. Moreover, several species which had neared extinction during the early years of this century, such as the wood duck and pronghorn, have been brought back to relative abundance in much of their former ranges.

States will receive \$140 million for sport fish restoration projects under the Dingell-Johnson program. Much of this money comes from excise taxes on fishing equipment (base funds). Legislation in 1984 created the "Wallop-Breaux" expansion program, significantly increasing the funding sources for sport fish restoration by including a share of motorboat fuel taxes, import taxes on imported fishing equipment and pleasure boats, and excise taxes on previously untaxed fishing equipment (expanded funds).

Typical projects funded through the Sport Fish Restoration Program are development or improvement of public access facilities, acquisition of lakes or other public access areas for fishing, improvement of fish habitat, and fishery research. Under the Wallop-Breaux amendment, States are required to obligate at least 10 percent of their annual apportionment for motorboat access. In addition, they may obligate up to 10 percent for aquatic resources education programs. Coastal States are required to allocate new revenues to marine and freshwater projects proportional to the number of coastal and freshwater anglers estimated to reside in the State.

Distribution of sport fish restoration funds to the States is based on the land and water area and the number of fishing license holders in each State. Distribution of wildlife restoration funds is based on land area and the number of hunting license holders in each State. Distribution of hunter education funds, part of the wildlife restoration total, is based on the relative population of each State.

The final apportionment announced today represents the total funding available to each State for fiscal year 1987 under the Dingell-Johnson and Pittman-Robertson programs. This total reflects \$60 million in additional funding since the preliminary apportionment was made on September 26, 1986.

The attached tables show the distribution of 1987 funds by State.

-D0I-

NOTE TO EDITORS: Press kits and photographs commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act are available from the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 18th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC 20240.

The Service has also produced the following public information materials on the Pittman-Robertson program:

- 1. Restoring America's Wildlife--394-page book with color illustrations highlighting various species and restoration efforts. Available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325. Cost: \$15.00. Stock Number: 024-010-00671-4.
- 2. "In Celebration of America's Wildlife"--57-minute documentary movie featuring successful State wildlife restoration and management projects made possible through Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid funding. Contact Service regional offices or State fish and wildlife agencies. Available in 16mm and video cassette formats.
- 3. Four-color Poster--currently available from: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325. Cost: \$3.50.
- 4. "50 Years Restoring America's Wildlife" (brochure)--single copies available free-of-charge from the Service's Publications Unit.

FINAL APPORTIONMENT OF FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1987

	BASE FUNDS	EXPANDED FUND	S TOTAL
ALABAMA	1,070,225	1,296,573	2,366,798
ALASKA	3,167,555	3,837,480	7,005,035
ARIZONA	1,379,387	1,671,122	3,050,509
ARKANSAS	1,065,484	1,290,830	2,356,314
CALIFORNIA	3,167,555	3,837,480	7,005,035
		1,897,162	3,463,129
COLORADO	1,565,967		
CONNECTICUT	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
DELAWARE	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
FLORIDA	1,413,895	1,712,928	3,126,823
GEORGIA	1,277,185	1,547,304	2,824,489
HAWAII	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
IDAH0	1,102,554	1,335,740	2,438,294
ILLINOIS	1,436,112	1,739,844	3,175,956
INDIANA	1,009,494	1,222,998	2,232,492
IOWA	928,839	1,125,284	2,054,123
KANSAS	925,801	1,121,604	2,047,405
		1,224,145	2,234,586
KENTUCKY	1,010,441	1,261,467	2,302,715
LOUISIANA	1,041,248		
MAINE	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
MARYLAND	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
MASSACHUSETTS	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
MICHIGAN	2,321,147	2,812,060	5,133,207
MINNESOTA	2,329,702	2,822,424	5,152,126
MISSISSIPPI	889,105	1,077,147	1,966,252
MISSOURI	1,615,692	1,957,404	3,573,096
MONTANA	1,423,518	1,724,586	3,148,104
NEBRASKA	809,600	9.80,827	1,790,427
NEVADA	993,160	1,203,209	2,196,369
NEW HAMPSHIRE	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
NEW JERSEY	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
NEW MEXICO	1,143,913	1,385,846	2,529,759
NEW YORK	1,565,672	1,896,805	3,462,477
	916,418	1,110,237	2,026,655
NORTH CAROLINA		839,819	1,533,027
NORTH DAKOTA	693,208	2,049,669	3,741,519
OHIO	1,691,850		
OKLAHOMA	1,224,561	1,483,551	2,708,112 3,279,586
OREGON	1,482,972	1,796,614	
PENNSYLVANIA	1,523,797	1,846,074	3,369,871
RHODE ISLAND	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
SOUTH CAROLINA	723,170	876,118	1,599,288
SOUTH DAKOTA	751,201	910,077	1,661,278
TENNESSEE	1,177,737	1,426,823	2,604,560
TEXAS	3,167,555	3,837,480	7,005,035
UTAH	1,055,212	1,278,385	2,333,597
VERMONT	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
VIRGINIA	955,517	1,157,605	2,113,122
WASHINGTON	1,453,157	1,760,494	3,213,651
WEST VIRGINIA	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
WISCONSIN	2,244,542	2,719,254	4,963,796
WYOMING	978,970	1,186,019	2,164,989
PUERTO RICO	633,511	767,496	1,401,007
			467,002
GUAM	211,170	255,832	467,002
VIRGIN ISLANDS	211,170	255,832	
AMERICAN SAMOA	211,170	255,832	467,002
MARIANA ISLANDS	211,170	255,832	467,002
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	211,170	255,832	467,002
TOTAL	\$63,351,100	\$76,749,600	\$140,100,700

FINAL APPORTIONMENT OF FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1987

	WILDLIFE	HUNTER	
	RESTORATION	EDUCATION	TOTAL
ALABAMA	1,471,459	462,475	1,933,934
ALASKA	4,429,455	194,398	4,623,853
ARIZONA	2,108,672	323,115	2,431,787
ARKANSAS	1,524,854	271,714	1,796,568
CALIFORNIA		583,194	4,102,870
	3,519,676		
COLORADO	2,274,297	343,445	2,617,742
CONNECTICUT	442,945	369,443	812,388
DELAWARE	442,945	194,398	637,343
FLORIDA	1,499,728	583,194	2,082,922
GEORGIA	1,844,035	583,194	2,427,229
HAWAII	442,945	194,398	637,343
IDAHO	1,826,822	194,398	2,021,220
ILLINOIS	1,646,762	583,194	2,229,956
INDIANA	1,312,743	583,194	1,895,937
IOWA	1,430,359	346,362	1,776,721
KANSAS	1,675,515	280,954	1,956,469
KENTUCKY	1,373,868	435,293	1,809,161
LOUISIANA	1,716,095	499,794	2,215,889
MAINE	1,020,238	194,398	1,214,636
MARYLAND	599,484	501,275	1,100,759
MASSACHUSETTS	442,945	583,194	1,026,139
MICHIGAN	3,201,309	583,194	3,784,503
MINNESOTA	2,370,064	484,712	2,854,776
MISSISSIPPI	1,448,392	299,803	1,748,195
MISSOURI	2,236,461	583,194	2,819,655
MONTANA	2,722,712	194,398	2,917,110
			1,661,042
NEBRASKA	1,466,644	194,398	
NEVADA	1,689,507	194,398	1,883,905
NEW HAMPSHIRE	442,945	194,398	637,343
NEW JERSEY	460,909	583,194	1,044,103
NEW MEXICO	2,074,956	194,398	2,269,354
NEW YORK	2,812,598	583,194	3,395,792
NORTH CAROLINA	1,619,464	583,194	2,202,658
NORTH DAKOTA	1,239,089	194,398	1,433,487
OHIO	1,827,865	583,194	2,411,059
OKLAHOMA	1,687,654	359,659	2,047,313
OREGON	2,289,553	312,984	2,602,537
PENNSYLVANIA	3,870,036	583,194	4,453,230
RHODE ISLAND	442,945	194,398	637,343
SOUTH CAROLINA	967,790	370,828	1,338,618
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,510,056	194,398	1,704,454
TENNESSEE	2,157,929	545,773	2,703,702
TEXAS	4,429,455	583,194	5,012,649
UTAH	1,792,689	194,398	1,987,087
VERMONT	514,094	194,398	708,492
VIRGINIA	1,781,764	583,194	2,364,958
WASHINGTON	1,739,666	491,019	2,230,685
WEST VIRGINIA	1,184,762	194,398	1,379,160
WISCONSIN	2,697,125	559,396	3,256,521
WYOMING	1,831,284	194,398	2,025,682
PUERTO RICO	442,945	0	442,945
GUAM	147,649	32,270	179,919
VIRGIN ISLANDS			179,919
AMERICAN SAMOA	147,649	32,270 32,270	179,919
	147,649		
MARIANA ISLANDS	147,649	32,270	179,919
TOTAL	\$88,589,100	\$19,439,800	\$108,028,900