

Wildlife Restoration Act Funding Quick Facts

- Once a grant is awarded, payment is made as a cost reimbursement as the work is completed
- The funds must be used within two years
- Use of Federal WRA grants requires compliance with several Federal acts, regulations and Executive Orders (i.e., National Environmental Policy Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act)
- States may only use WRA funding for management of wildlife and wildlife habitat, hunter education, and approved wildlife-associated activities
- There is a formula for how each state receives WRA funds:
 - ◇ 50% of square mileage of state's land and inland waterways
 - ◇ 50% of the number of licenses sold in that state
 - ◇ No state receives more than 5% or less than 1/2 of 1% of the total WRA trust fund



To learn more about the Wildlife Restoration Act and how it funds projects in Delaware, visit:

<http://de.gov/wsfrde>



Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife

*We Bring You Delaware's Great Outdoors
through Science and Service*

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DE Division of Fish & Wildlife

A History of Conservation

Wildlife Restoration
Act funding for fish
and wildlife
conservation in
Delaware



A History of Funding Conservation

Early 1900's—Unregulated hunting and destruction of habitat led to the decline of many game animals. License sales alone could not support national wildlife conservation efforts.

1937—Wildlife Restoration Act Passed
Senators Pittman (NV) and Robertson (VA) sponsored the Wildlife Restoration Act (WRA) in the US Congress in 1937 as a user/pay, user/benefit model where excise taxes on sporting firearms, ammunition and hunting gear would fund national wildlife restoration and conservation efforts.

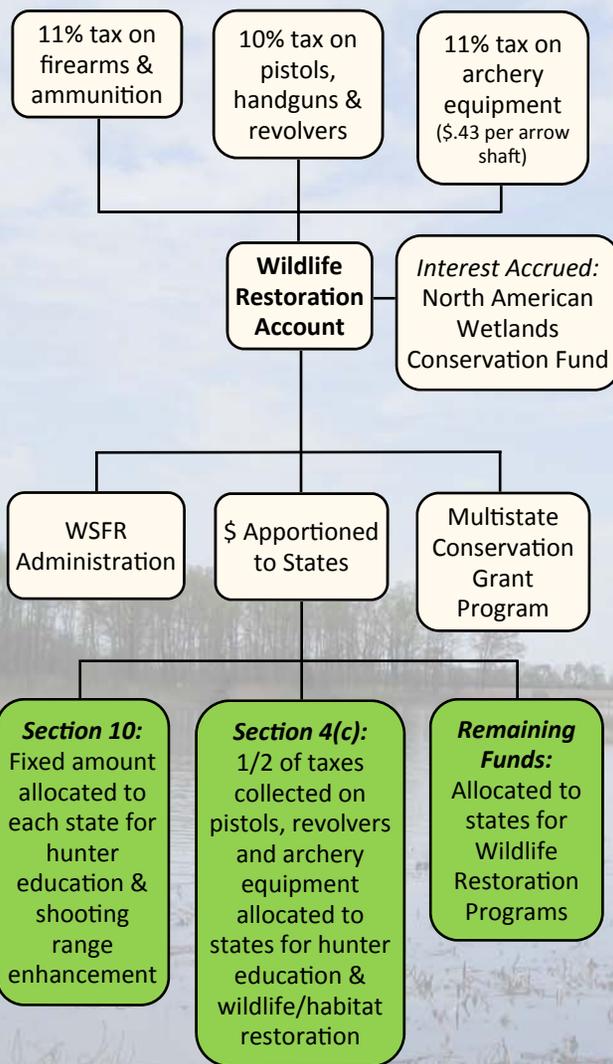
***Interesting Fact:** *The Wildlife Restoration Act is often referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act after the senators who sponsored it.*

1970-1972—The WRA was amended to include handgun and archery equipment sales to fund hunter education and shooting ranges.

Today—The WRA continues to fund wildlife and habitat restoration as well as hunter education and shooting range enhancement throughout the US.

In total, where do WRA funds come from?
The WRA is currently funded through excise taxes placed on sporting firearms and ammunition, pistols, handguns, revolvers, archery equipment and hunting gear.

Wildlife Restoration Act Funding Model



Matching Grant Funds

All states must apply for grant funding each year.

Once a grant is approved, the WRA will provide 75% of the project costs (as a cost reimbursement as work is completed). Each state must provide 25% of the project costs to match the WRA funds.

How does Delaware match its grant funds?

License revenues must be used first to match WRA grant funds. If there are not enough license funds to provide the 25% match, other short-term sources may be used:

- Donations
- Volunteer hours
- One-time state appropriations
- General Funds
- In-kind match from universities
- Land acquisition (through donations or other funding)

Delaware is eligible each year for 1/2 of 1% of the total WRA funds available.

The Division of Fish & Wildlife can only access those funds (in total or as a portion) **if it is able to provide the necessary matching funds.**

