

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937

During the early part of the 1900's commercial market hunting had taken a heavy toll on wild game populations in the United states bringing some species to near extinction. The **Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937** was authored and introduced by Nevada Senator Key Pittman and Virginia Congressman Absalom Willis Robertson and was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on September 2, 1937.

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 redirected an already existing 11% tax on firearms and ammunition that had been going directly to the Treasury Department to the Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary of the Interior in turn distributes the revenue from the tax to the states based both on the area of the state and the number of licensed hunters in the state.

The funding collected by the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 is commonly referred to as Pittman-Robertson funds. The funds may be used for wildlife research, surveys, management of wildlife, acquisition and lease of land. In the 1970's amendments to the act created a 10% tax on handguns and their ammunition as well as an 11% tax on archery equipment. These amendments also designated that half of the proceeds from these taxes be used for the creation and maintenance of Hunter Safety training classes and shooting and target ranges. At the State level the use of the Pittman-Robertson funding is generally controlled by the State Fish and Game Departments Commission which are advised by the Director of Fish and Game as well as Citizen Advisory Committee's. Project funding is made up of 75% Pittman-Robertson funds and 25% matching funds from the sale of Hunting Licenses.

Most firearms manufacturers don't break out the cost of the Federal Aid In Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, instead it is rolled into the final cost of their product. C. Sharps Arms Co. believes that the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 is an important part of keeping our hunting and shooting opportunities alive and well in our great country and are pleased to be able to shed light on what this important act contributes to our hunting and shooting opportunities.

The 8.25% tax collected on all firearms manufactured and sold by C. Sharps Arms Co. is the result of formulas contained in the tax code that govern the collection of the Federal Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 funds.