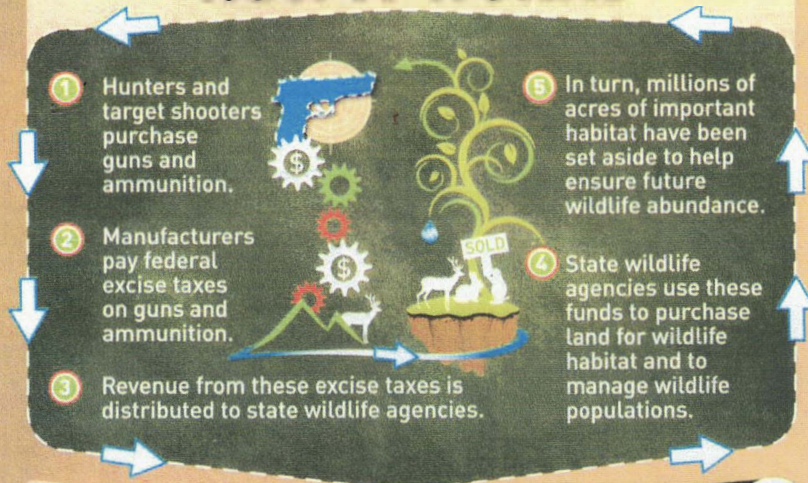


🦅 Hunters & Fisherman were the First Environmentalist!!! 🌲

# HOW WILDLIFE IS THRIVING BECAUSE OF GUNS & HUNTING

Since the late 1930s, hunters, target shooters and the firearms industry have been the nation's **LARGEST** contributors to **conservation**, paying for programs that benefit America's wildlife and all who love the outdoors.

## HOW IT WORKS



## THEN & NOW

White Tailed Deer Population	1900: 500,000	TODAY: 32,000,000
Ducks / Waterfowl Population	1901: FEW	TODAY: 44,000,000
Rocky Mountain Elk	1907: 41,000	TODAY: 1,000,000
Wild Turkeys	1900: 100,000	TODAY: 7,000,000
Pronghorn Antelope	50 YEARS AGO: 12,000	TODAY: 1,100,000

This System Has Provided

**MORE THAN \$12.5 Billion**

For Conservation So Far

### Where the Money Goes

Buy, develop, maintain and operate wildlife management areas

Research projects focused on wildlife conservation

Hunter safety and education programs

Construction and maintenance of public target shooting ranges

### Quick History

**Early 1900s**  
As many wildlife species are dwindling in numbers or disappearing, firearms industry steps forward and asks Congress to redirect excise tax on sale of guns and ammo to help fund wildlife conservation.

**1937**  
Congress passes and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act into law.

**1938 to today:**  
Revenue from this act has purchased millions of acres of prime habitat that is maintained by state wildlife agencies. These lands, where game and non-game species flourish, are purchased with sportsmen's dollars but used by all Americans.

## OTHER WAYS SPORTSMEN CONTRIBUTE

Excise taxes combined with revenue from hunting and fishing license sales fund the majority of state wildlife agency budgets.

**\$81 Million** CONTRIBUTED ANNUALLY

Duck stamp proceeds are used by the government to buy or lease wetland habitat for ducks, geese and hundreds of non-game birds and animals.

### SOME HEROES OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CONSERVATION MODEL IN THE WORLD ARE:

