

HUNTER'S POCKET FACT CARD



This wallet card contains current facts and statistics on the hunter's vital role in wildlife conservation—ready whenever needed to debate the merits of hunting.

www.huntandshoot.org
www.nssf.org

KEY FACTS

-  Sportsmen contribute **\$4.7 million** every day, adding up to **\$1.7 billion** every year for conservation.
-  Hunters and shooters have paid **\$3.95 billion** in excise taxes since 1939.
-  Hunting in America is big business, generating **more than one million jobs** in the United States.
-  For more than 80 years, sportsmen have paid more than **\$7.6 billion** for on-the-ground projects in every state, protecting our natural environment and our fish and wildlife.
-  The **\$2.4 billion** in annual federal income-tax money generated by hunters' spending could cover the annual paychecks of 100,000 U.S. Army troops.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

In 1900, less than half a million white-tailed deer remained in the nation. Today, conservation programs have returned the whitetail population to some 30 million.

Source: Whitetails Unlimited, 2006

THEN 500,000

NOW 30,000,000



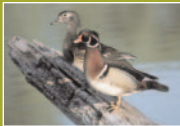
DUCKS

In 1901, only a few ducks remained. Today, there are over 31 million ducks populating the United States and Canada.

Source: Ducks Unlimited, 2006

THEN FEW

NOW 31,000,000



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK

In 1907, only about 41,000 elk could be counted in the U.S. Today, populations in 10 Western states total approximately 1 million.

Source: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, 2006

THEN 41,000

NOW 1,000,000



WILD TURKEYS

By the early 1900's, encroaching civilization and habitat loss may have reduced the wild turkey population to under 100,000. Today, conservation programs have restored the population to over 7 million birds. Source: National Wild Turkey Federation, 2006

THEN 100,000

NOW 7,000,000



PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

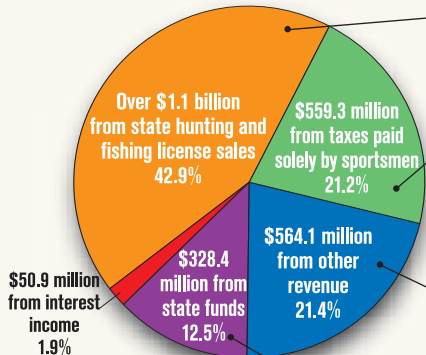
About 50 years ago, the total U.S. population of pronghorn was only about 12,000. Today, conservation programs have helped increase the population to more than one million. Source: Texas Parks and Wildlife, 2006

THEN 12,000

NOW 1,100,000



Sportsmen pay over \$4 million each day for conservation...Here's how:



License Revenues provide nearly half the income, on average, for state fish and wildlife agencies. The money supports wildlife management and restoration programs, habitat improvement and general conservation efforts.

Excise Taxes on sporting equipment (such as firearms, ammunition and fishing tackle) provide over one-fifth the income for state fish and wildlife agencies. The funds are used to acquire, maintain and improve wildlife habitat and to make the nation's lands and waters more accessible and enjoyable to all its citizens.

Other Income Sources include special taxes and receipts from the sale of "Duck Stamps" (required of all waterfowl hunters), income tax check-offs and interest collected on license fees. 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.

This money comes from the **states' overall budgets**, supported by taxes paid by everyone (including sportsmen).

Interest income is from investment earnings on wildlife funds deposited in state treasuries.

Summary: Hunters and anglers provide more than 75% of the annual income of the 50 state conservation agencies. Sportsmen are clearly the largest contributors to conservation, paying for programs that benefit all Americans and all wildlife.

*Fish & Wildlife Agency Funding Survey 2001, Wildlife Conservation Fund of America, Columbus, OH

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) is the trade association for the shooting, hunting and firearms industry. For more information about NSSF programs and safety and conservation educational materials, visit www.nssf.org or contact:

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