A few state fish and wildlife agencies use a portion of their federal Pittman-Robertson (P-R) Act funding to make grants to nonprofit organizations or local governments for shooting range projects.

To help Izaak Walton League chapters capitalize on this funding opportunity, we have researched and developed the series of P-R Funding Summaries detailing grant programs offered in states where the League has a significant presence.

*Note:* This information is subject to change. Checking with the state contact is always the best way to stay up-to-date.

**Relevant Web Links**

Contains a multitude of links and resources:

http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/shootingrange.html

**Eligible Grant Recipients**

- Counties, cities, villages, townships, other governmental agencies or units, clubs or organizations, businesses or corporations and educational institutions.

**Eligible Projects**

- Improvements to existing outdoor ranges, including: backstops and berms, target holders, shooting benches, baffles, protective fencing, signs, trenches, gun racks, platforms, restrooms, addition of archery ranges and other items considered essential for the project by the department.
- Construction of indoor ranges, when it is determined by the department they are needed, including classroom, storage and restroom facilities.
- Other items that the department deems essential for the project. If considering other items, the best first step is to contact state agency staff to discuss.
Ineligible Projects

- Operation and maintenance of the range.
- Construction of clubhouses and facilities not essential to the operation of the shooting range.

Grant Amounts

- There is no typical amount but awards have ranged between $2,000 and $84,000.
- Based on the public accessibility of the range, grants can cover up to 50% of project expenses. (projects providing more access will be more likely to qualify for 50% compared to those that have more limited public use opportunities)

Public Use Requirements

- Range open to the public 3 days per week or a minimum of 100 days per year for a period of 20 years following the completion of the project.
- Range operators may charge a reasonable fee for public access, but may not require a membership.

Conditions That Apply To Project After Completion

After grants are awarded and projects are completed, certain conditions continue to apply to range operations and grant recipients, including:

- Range must continue to meet public use requirements.
- Only a final report about what and how the grant funds were expended is mandatory.
- Range may be subject to periodic inspections by state agency staff.

Matching Funds Requirements

To be eligible for all grants an applicant must cover a portion of the total cost of the project. The applicant’s portion is generally referred to as “match.”

- Applicants must cover at least 50% of project costs.
- For example: If a project costs $10,000 to complete the grant may cover up to $5,000 of it.
- Matches can be cash or in-kind.
- All matches must come from non-federal sources.
Application Process and Requirements

- Shooting Range Development Grant Application Form
- Shooting Range Grant Program Guidance and Application Instructions
- Authorizing Resolution Form
- Environmental Hazards Assessment Form
- IRS Form W-9
- DUNS#
- “Before” photos of area
- Map of project area
- See complete Application Checklist.

Application Schedule

- Application deadline is always November 15th of even numbered years.

What Is Involved In The Application Review Process

- Proposals are scored based on applicability to program priorities and detail included in the application.
- A description of the review process starts on page 5 of Shooting Range Grant Program Guidance and Application Instructions PDF.

Staff Contact Information

Keith Warnke, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Shooting Sports Coordinator)
Keith.Warnke@wisconsin.gov or (608) 576-5243

Bobbi Winebar, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Grant Manager)
Roberta.Winebar@wisconsin.gov or (920) 662-5175