Overview
America’s 34 million hunters and anglers are a $76 billion economic force. Their spending on hunting and fishing creates a ripple effect of $192 billion a year.

Hunters and anglers support 1.6 million jobs and spend more than a billion dollars just on licenses, tags, stamps and permits. And they generate $25 billion a year in federal, state and local taxes.

Through license fees and excise taxes, hunters and anglers annually provide more than 80 percent of the funding for most state fish and wildlife agencies (this figure differs from agency to agency depending on funding sources such as sales tax, generally appropriated funds, section 6 funding, etc).

73 percent of all Americans approve of hunting.

User Pay/User Benefits (Federal excise taxes)
Through excise taxes (Pittman Robertson, Dingell Johnson), hunters and anglers have contributed an all time total of $10 billion to conservation.

Hunters paid $233 million in Federal excise taxes in 2007. Anglers contributed $291 million in federal excise taxes in 2007. In 2009, recreational shooters and hunters contributed a record $336 million for to wildlife conservation through the excise taxes they pay on firearms and ammunition. During the first calendar quarter of 2009, Firearm and ammunition manufacturers paid more than $109.8 million, an increase of 43 percent over the same time period in 2008.

Wildlife Restoration Program (Pittman Robertson) – 10 percent tax on pistols and revolvers. 11 percent excise tax on long guns and ammunition. 11 percent tax on archery equipment. This money is apportioned back to the state wildlife agencies to be used for wildlife research, management and habitat improvement projects (game and nongame) as well as hunter safety programs and shooting range development.

Sportfish Restoration Program (Dingell/Johnson) - Anglers pay Federal excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat and small engine fuels that are apportioned to states and territories for fishery projects, boating access and aquatic education.

Funds for Wildlife Restoration and Sportfish Restoration are apportioned to States and Territories based on a formula which includes land area, number of paid license holders, minimums and maximums.

Number of Hunters/Angers (over 16 years of age)
Number of hunters: 12.5 million
Number of anglers: 30 million anglers