

# **Sportsmen’s Heritage and Recreate Enhancement (SHARE) Act of 2017**

**Lead Sponsor:** Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC)

Purpose: To provide for the preservation of sportsmen’s heritage and enhance recreation opportunities on Federal land, and for other purposes.

## **TITLE I—FISHING PROTECTION ACT**

- Prevents the EPA from regulating fishing tackle based on lead content under the Toxic Substances Control Act.
- Prevents the Departments of Interior and Agriculture from regulating the use of ammunition and fishing tackle based on lead content, except for the existing prohibition of lead used in waterfowl hunting, and if such use is in compliance with State law.

## **TITLE II—TARGET PRACTICE AND MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING SUPPORT ACT**

- Extends and increases states’ authority to allocate Pittman-Robertson Act funding for shooting ranges on public lands and encourages federal land agencies to cooperate with state and local governments to maintain shooting ranges.

## **TITLE III—RECREATIONAL LANDS SELF-DEFENSE ACT**

- Authorizes the lawful possession of firearms pursuant to state law on lands managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (this already applies to National Parks).

## **TITLE IV—RECREATIONAL FISHING AND HUNTING HERITAGE OPPORTUNITIES ACT**

- Requires Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands to be open for hunting fishing and shooting unless specifically closed. National Parks and Wildlife Refuges will remain exempt from this provision, and the BLM or Forest Service will retain authority to implement restrictions when needed to protect public safety
- Revises the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s (FWS) ‘Strategic Growth Policy’ to require the consideration of priority public uses such as hunting and fishing when adding new lands to National Wildlife Refuge System.
- Provides for the use of volunteers from the hunting community to cull excess animals on BLM, USFS, FWS, and NPS lands.

## **TITLE V—FARMER AND HUNTER PROTECTION ACT**

- Authorizes state extension offices to determine “normal agricultural practices.” This will remedy recent situations in which the Fish and Wildlife Service has interpreted the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to include hunting of migrating birds on rolled rice fields as illegal baiting, resulting in fines up to \$10,000 for farmers and hunters.

## **TITLE VI—TRANSPORTING BOWS ACROSS NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LANDS**

- Authorizes the lawful transportation of bows and crossbows on National Park Service lands. Bows and crossbows must be secured in a vehicle while in a National Park unit.

## **TITLE VII—RESPECT FOR TREATIES AND RIGHTS**

- Prevents the bill from modifying of treaties and rights of federally recognized Indian tribes.

## **TITLE VIII—STATE APPROVAL OF FISHING RESTRICTION**

- Requires the Department of the Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to obtain approval from the relevant fish and wildlife management agency of a state or territory before restricting fishing access to state or territorial marine waters within the jurisdiction of the NPS or the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

## **TITLE IX—OPEN BOOK ON EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

- Amends the Equal Access to Justice Act and the federal judicial code to require the Administrative Conference of the United States to make an initial report on the amount of fees and other expenses awarded to non-federal entities when they prevail against the United States in certain administrative proceedings and civil action cases.

## **TITLE X—GOOD SAMARITAN SEARCH AND RECOVERY**

- Requires the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop and implement a process to expedite access to Federal lands for good Samaritan search and recovery missions.

## **TITLE XI—INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION**

- Clarifies the intent of Congress by making clear that transportation of both firearms and ammunition is federally protected and travelers are allowed to "staying in temporary lodging overnight, stopping for food, fuel, vehicle maintenance, an emergency, medical treatment, and any other activity incidental" to the trip.

## **TITLE XII—POLAR BEAR CONSERVATION AND FAIRNESS ACT**

- Enables the Secretary of the Interior to authorize import permits of 41 Polar Bears legally harvested from approved populations in Canada before the polar bear was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 2008.

## **TITLE XIII—NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION EXTENSION**

- Reauthorizes the North American Wetlands Conservation Act for five years at \$50 million per year.

- Restricts funds from being used by the federal government to purchase land that will be administered by the United States.

#### **TITLE XIV—GRAY WOLVES**

- Requires the Department of Interior to reissue the final rules delisting the gray wolf in both Wyoming and the Greater Lakes region from the Endangered Species list.

#### **TITLE XV—HEARING PROTECTION**

- Will remove suppressors from the scope of the National Firearms Act (NFA), replacing the outdated federal transfer process with an instantaneous National Instant Criminal Background Check (NICS).

#### **TITLE XVI—LAWFUL PURPOSE AND SELF DEFENSE**

- Provides for the lawful importation of any non-NFA firearm or ammunition that may otherwise be lawfully possessed and sold within the United States.
- Eliminates ATF's authority to reclassify popular and traditional rifle ammunition as "armor piercing ammunition."

#### **TITLE XVII—FEDERAL LAND TRANSACTION FACILITATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION (FLTFA)**

- Reauthorizes FLTFA, enabling the government to sell excess public land and use the revenue to acquire high-priority in-holdings from willing sellers or fund projects on the maintenance backlog list.

#### **TITLE XIII—FILM CREW PERMIT AND FEES**

- Directs the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Agriculture to issue permits and assess fees on an annual-basis for commercial filming on federal land for crews of five people or fewer. This will allow for greater access for small media groups and individuals.

#### **TITLE XIX—RESPECT FOR STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

- Prevents the Executive Branch from interpreting the bill as an authorization to interfere with the jurisdictional authority of any State to exercise primary management, control, or regulation of fish and wildlife under State law on land or water within the state, including BLM and Forest Service land.