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§ 4501. Forestry and related natural resource assistance

(a) Focus of activities

To achieve the maximum impact from activities undertaken under the authority of this chapter, the Secretary shall focus such activities on the key countries which could have a substantial impact on emissions of greenhouse gases related to global warming.

(b) Authority for international forestry activities

In support of forestry and related natural resource activities outside of the United States and its territories and possessions, the Secretary of Agriculture may—

(1) provide assistance that promotes sustainable development and global environmental stability, including assistance for—

(A) conservation and sustainable management of forest land;

(B) forest plantation technology and tree improvement;

(C) rehabilitation of cutover lands, eroded watersheds, and areas damaged by wildfires or other natural disasters;

(D) prevention and control of insects, diseases, and other damaging agents;

(E) preparedness planning, training, and operational assistance to combat natural disasters;

(F) more complete utilization of forest products leading to resource conservation;

(G) range protection and enhancement; and

(H) wildlife and fisheries habitat protection and improvement;

(2) share technical, managerial, extension, and administrative skills related to public and private natural resource administration;

(3) provide education and training opportunities to promote the transfer and utilization of scientific information and technologies;

(4) engage in scientific exchange and cooperative research with foreign governmental, educational, technical and research institutions; and

(5) cooperate with domestic and international organizations that further international programs for the management and protection of forests, rangelands, wildlife and fisheries, and related natural resource activities.

(c) Eligible countries

The Secretary shall undertake the activities described in subsection (b) of this section, in countries that receive assistance from the Agency for International Development only at the request, or with the concurrence, of the Administrator of the Agency for International Development.

(Pub. L. 101-513, title VI, § 602, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2070; Pub. L. 102-574, § 2(b)(1), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4596.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), was in the original “this title”, meaning title VI of Pub. L. 101-513, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2070, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title VI to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-574 struck out “(hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the Secretary)” after “Agriculture” in introductory provisions.

SHORT TITLE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Section 1 of Pub. L. 102-574 provided that: “This Act [enacting sections 4502a and 4503a to 4503d of this title, amending this section and section 4503 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 4502a and 4503a of this title] may be cited as the ‘Hawaii Tropical Forest Recovery Act’.”

SHORT TITLE

Section 601 of title VI of Pub. L. 101-513 provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter and amending sections 1641, 1643, 2101, and 2109 of this title] may be cited as the ‘International Forestry Cooperation Act of 1990’.”

§ 4502. Tropical deforestation assessment and assistance

In support of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan and to specifically address tropical deforestation and degradation, the Secretary may—

(1) support and actively participate in global and regional meetings that seek to reform such Plan;

(2) together with the United States Agency for International Development,¹ and other Federal agencies, provide technical assistance to tropical countries for the formulation of national forestry sector development strategies; and

(3) cooperate with tropical countries on research, training, and technical programs aimed at implementing national forestry sector development strategies.

(Pub. L. 101-513, title VI, § 603, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2071.)

§ 4502a. Tropical forestry research and assistance

(a) Assistance

To promote sound management and conservation of tropical forests of the United States and to promote the development and transfer of technical, managerial, educational, and administrative skills to managers of tropical forests within or outside the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to provide assistance through the Forest Service to eligible entities in States with tropical forests to—

(1) develop, promote, and demonstrate sustainable harvesting of native woods and other forest products on a sustainable yield basis in balance with natural resource conservation;

(2) promote habitat preservation and species protection or recovery;

(3) protect indigenous plant and animal species and essential watersheds from non-native animals, plants, and pathogens;

¹ So in original. The comma probably should not appear.

(4) establish biological control agents for non-native species that threaten natural ecosystems;

(5) establish a monitoring system in tropical forests to identify baseline conditions and determine detrimental changes or improvements over time;

(6) detect and appraise stresses affecting tropical forests caused by insect infestations, diseases, pollution, fire, and non-native animal and plant species, and by the influence of people;

(7) determine the causes of changes that are detected through experimentation, intensive monitoring, and data collection at affected tropical forest sites; and

(8) engage in research, demonstration, education, training, and outreach that furthers the objectives of this subsection.

(b) Form of assistance

Assistance provided to eligible entities under this section may be in the form of grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

(c) Definitions

As used in this section:

(1) Eligible entity

The term “eligible entity” means a State forester or equivalent State official, State, political subdivision of a State, Federal agency, private organization, corporation, or other private person.

(2) State

The term “State” means each of the 50 States, Guam, American Samoa, the Republic of Palau (until the Compact of Free Association enters into effect), Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(Pub. L. 102-574, §3, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4596.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

For Oct. 1, 1994, as the date the Compact of Free Association with the Republic of Palau enters into effect, referred to in subsec. (c)(2), see Proc. No. 6726, Sept. 27, 1994, 59 F.R. 49777, set out as a note under section 1931 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Hawaii Tropical Forest Recovery Act, and not as part of the International Forestry Cooperation Act of 1990 which comprises this chapter.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Section 5 of Pub. L. 102-574 provided that: “There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out sections 3 and 4 [enacting this section and provisions set out as a note under 4503a of this title].”

§ 4503. Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico

(a) Expansion

The Secretary shall expand the capabilities of and construct additional facilities at the Caribbean National Forest and Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico, as the Secretary determines necessary to support the purpose of this chapter, and as funds are appropriated for such expansion and construction.

(b) Tropical forestry plans

Not later than 1 year after November 5, 1990, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, and to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives, a tropical forestry plan for the expansion and construction of additional facilities under subsection (a) of this section. Such plan shall include provisions for—

(1) the construction or acquisition of a major center for education, interpretation, and appreciation of the benefits and methods of the intelligent management of tropical forests;

(2) the acquisition or construction of facilities for housing and classroom instruction near the Caribbean National Forest/Luguillo Experimental Forest; and

(3) the acquisition or construction of facilities for the study and recovery of endangered tropical wildlife, fish and plant species.

(Pub. L. 101-513, title VI, §604, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2071; Pub. L. 102-574, §2(b)(2), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4596.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-574 inserted “in Puerto Rico” in section catchline.

§ 4503a. Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry

(a) Expansion

The Secretary shall expand the capabilities of and construct additional facilities, as funds are appropriated for the expansion and construction, at—

(1) the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry; and

(2) tropical forests in the State of Hawaii.

(b) Tropical forestry plan

(1) In general

Not later than 1 year after the date of receipt by the Secretary of the action plan required by section 5(b)¹ of the Hawaii Tropical Forest Recovery Act, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, and to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, a tropical forestry plan to expand the capabilities of and construct additional facilities under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) Elements

The plan shall provide for—

(A) the establishment of a model center for research, demonstration, education, training, and outreach activities suitable for transferring scientific, technical, managerial, and administrative assistance to governmental and non-governmental organizations seeking to address problems associated with tropical forests within and outside the United States;

¹ See References in Text note below.