

(e) Use of existing programs

The Under Secretary shall use existing programs within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to create and maintain the database required under this section.

(f) Public availability

The Under Secretary shall make the information collected and maintained under this section available to the public.

(Pub. L. 106-457, title I, §107, Nov. 7, 2000, 114 Stat. 1964.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2903, 2904, 2907 of this title.

§ 2907. Reporting**(a) In general**

At the end of the third and fifth fiscal years following November 7, 2000, the Secretary, after considering the advice and recommendations of the Council, shall transmit to Congress a report on the results of activities carried out under this chapter.

(b) Contents of report

A report under subsection (a) of this section shall include—

- (1) data on the number of acres of estuary habitat restored under this chapter, including descriptions of, and partners involved with, projects selected, in progress, and completed under this chapter that comprise those acres;
- (2) information from the database established under section 2906(b) of this title related to ongoing monitoring of projects to ensure that short-term and long-term restoration goals are achieved;
- (3) an estimate of the long-term success of varying restoration techniques used in carrying out estuary habitat restoration projects;
- (4) a review of how the information described in paragraphs (1) through (3) has been incorporated in the selection and implementation of estuary habitat restoration projects;
- (5) a review of efforts made to maintain an appropriate database of restoration projects carried out under this chapter; and
- (6) a review of the measures taken to provide the information described in paragraphs (1) through (3) to persons with responsibility for assisting in the restoration of estuary habitat.

(Pub. L. 106-457, title I, §108, Nov. 7, 2000, 114 Stat. 1965.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2904 of this title.

§ 2908. Funding**(a) Authorization of appropriations****(1) Estuary habitat restoration projects**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out and providing technical assistance for estuary habitat restoration projects—

- (A) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2001;
- (B) \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003;

- (C) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and
- (D) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

Such sums shall remain available until expended.

(2) Monitoring

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere of the Department of Commerce for the acquisition, maintenance, and management of monitoring data on restoration projects carried out under this chapter, \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005. Such sums shall remain available until expended.

(b) Set-aside for administrative expenses of the Council

Not to exceed 3 percent of the amounts appropriated for a fiscal year under subsection (a)(1) of this section or \$1,500,000, whichever is greater, may be used by the Secretary for administration and operation of the Council.

(Pub. L. 106-457, title I, §109, Nov. 7, 2000, 114 Stat. 1965.)

§ 2909. General provisions**(a) Agency consultation and coordination**

In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary shall, as necessary, consult with, cooperate with, and coordinate its activities with the activities of other Federal departments and agencies.

(b) Cooperative agreements; memoranda of understanding

In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary may—

- (1) enter into cooperative agreements with Federal, State, and local government agencies and other entities; and
- (2) execute such memoranda of understanding as are necessary to reflect the agreements.

(c) Federal agency facilities and personnel

Federal agencies may cooperate in carrying out scientific and other programs necessary to carry out this chapter, and may provide facilities and personnel, for the purpose of assisting the Council in carrying out its duties under this chapter.

(d) Identification and mapping of dredged material disposal sites

In consultation with appropriate Federal and non-Federal public entities, the Secretary shall undertake, and update as warranted by changed conditions, surveys to identify and map sites appropriate for beneficial uses of dredged material for the protection, restoration, and creation of aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands, in order to further the purposes of this chapter.

(e) Study of bioremediation technology**(1) In general**

Not later than 180 days after November 7, 2000, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, with the participation of the estuarine scientific community, shall begin a 2-year study on the efficacy of bioremediation products.

(2) Requirements

The study shall—

(A) evaluate and assess bioremediation technology—

(i) on low-level petroleum hydrocarbon contamination from recreational boat bilges;

(ii) on low-level petroleum hydrocarbon contamination from stormwater discharges;

(iii) on nonpoint petroleum hydrocarbon discharges; and

(iv) as a first response tool for petroleum hydrocarbon spills; and

(B) recommend management actions to optimize the return of a healthy and balanced ecosystem and make improvements in the quality and character of estuarine waters.

(Pub. L. 106-457, title I, §110, Nov. 7, 2000, 114 Stat. 1966.)