

§ 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;
- (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 Inter-

national 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 pre-

¹ See References in Text note below.