

(Pub. L. 85-582, §1, Aug. 1, 1958, 72 Stat. 479; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §2(a)(2)(i), eff. Dec. 2, 1970, 35 F.R. 15623, 84 Stat. 2086.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

“Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency” substituted in text for “Secretary of the Interior” pursuant to Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1970, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, which abolished the Federal Water Quality Administration in Department of the Interior and transferred to Administrator of Environmental Protection Agency all functions vested in Secretary of the Interior by this section.

APPROPRIATIONS

Section 2 of Pub. L. 85-582, Aug. 1, 1958, 72 Stat. 479, as amended by Pub. L. 86-279, Sept. 16, 1959, 73 Stat. 563; Pub. L. 89-232, Oct. 1, 1965, 79 Stat. 902; Pub. L. 90-394, July 11, 1968, 82 Stat. 338, provided that: “In order to carry out the provisions of this Act [this section], there is authorized to be appropriated \$3,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969, and for each of the two fiscal years immediately following such year. Such sums shall remain available until expended.”

§ 742e. Transfer of functions to Secretary

(a) Functions of Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, etc.

There shall be transferred to the Secretary all functions of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the head of any other department or agency, as determined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to relate primarily to the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of commercial fisheries; but nothing in this section shall be construed to modify the authority of the Department of State or the Secretary of State to negotiate or enter into any international agreements, or conventions with respect to the development, management, or protection of any fisheries and wildlife resources or with respect to international commissions operating under conventions to which the United States is a party.

(b) Transfer of personnel, property, records, etc.

There shall be transferred to the Department of the Interior so much of the personnel, property, facilities, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds (available or to be made available) as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determines to be necessary in connection with the exercise of any functions transferred to the Secretary pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Cooperation of other departments and agencies

The Secretary may request and secure the advice or assistance of any department or agency of the Government in carrying out the provisions of this Act, and any such department or agency which furnishes advice or assistance to the Secretary may expend its own funds for such purposes, with or without reimbursement from the Secretary as may be agreed upon between the Secretary and the department or agency.

(Aug. 8, 1956, ch. 1036, §6, 70 Stat. 1122; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 2, §102, eff. July 1, 1970, 35 F.R. 7959, 84 Stat. 2085.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is act Aug. 8, 1956, ch. 1036, 70 Stat. 1119, as amended, known as the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, which is classified generally to sections 742a to 742d and 742e to 742j-2 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 742a of this title and Tables.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

All functions vested by law (including reorganization plan) in Bureau of the Budget or Director of Bureau of the Budget were transferred to the President of the United States by section 101 of 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 2, eff. July 1, 1970, 35 F.R. 7959, 84 Stat. 2085, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. Section 102 of 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 2 redesignated Bureau of the Budget as Office of Management and Budget.

Secretary of the Interior authorized to exercise authority in relation to issuance of ship mortgage insurance on fishing vessels comparable to authority of Secretary of Commerce under Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended, see Pub. L. 86-577, July 5, 1960, 74 Stat. 314, set out as a note under section 1275 of Title 46, Appendix, Shipping.

Transfer of functions to Secretary of Commerce from Secretary of the Interior by Reorg. Plan No. 4 of 1970, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090, see note set out under section 742b of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 1534 of this title.

§ 742f. Powers of Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce

(a) Policies, procedures, and recommendations

The Secretary of the Interior, with such advice and assistance as he may require from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, shall consider and determine the policies and procedures that are necessary and desirable in carrying out efficiently and in the public interest the laws relating to fish and wildlife. The Secretary, with the assistance of the departmental staff herein authorized, shall—

(1) develop and recommend measures which are appropriate to assure the maximum sustainable production of fish and fishery products and to prevent unnecessary and excessive fluctuations in such production;

(2) study the economic condition of the industry, and whenever he determines that any segment of the domestic fisheries has been seriously disturbed either by wide fluctuation in the abundance of the resource supporting it, or by unstable market or fishing conditions or due to any other factors he shall make such recommendations to the President and the Congress as he deems appropriate to aid in stabilizing the domestic fisheries;

(3) develop and recommend special promotional and informational activities with a view to stimulating the consumption of fishery products whenever he determines that there is a prospective or actual surplus of such products; and

(4) take such steps as may be required for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources including, but not limited to, research, development of existing facilities, and acquisition by purchase or exchange of land and water, or interests therein.

(b) Gifts, devises, or bequests for performance of activities and services of United States Fish and Wildlife Service; restrictive or affirmative covenants or conditions of servitude; separate account in Treasury; disbursement orders; gifts or bequests to United States for Federal tax purposes

(1) In furtherance of the purposes of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept any gifts, devises, or bequests of real and personal property, or proceeds therefrom, or interests therein, for the benefit of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, in performing its activities and services. Such acceptance may be subject to the terms of any restrictive or affirmative covenant, or condition of servitude, if such terms are deemed by the Secretary to be in accordance with law and compatible with the purpose for which acceptance is sought.

(2) USE OF GIFTS, DEVISES, AND BEQUESTS.—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Any gifts and bequests of money and proceeds from the sales of other property received as gifts or bequests pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in a separate account in the Treasury and shall be disbursed upon order of the Secretary for the benefit of programs administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(B) GIFTS, DEVISES, AND BEQUESTS TO PARTICULAR REFUGES.—

(i) **DISBURSAL.**—Any gift, devise, or bequest made for the benefit of a particular national wildlife refuge or complex of geographically related refuges shall be disbursed only for the benefit of that refuge or complex of refuges and without further appropriations.

(ii) **MATCHING.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations and the requirements of the National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and other applicable law, the Secretary may provide funds to match gifts, devises, and bequests made for the benefit of a particular national wildlife refuge or complex of geographically related refuges. With respect to each gift, devise, or bequest, the amount of Federal funds may not exceed the amount (or, in the case of property or in-kind services, the fair market value) of the gift, devise, or bequest.

(3) For the purpose of Federal income, estate, and gift taxes, property, or proceeds therefrom, or interests therein, accepted under this subsection shall be considered as a gift or bequest to the United States.

(c) Volunteer services; incidental expenses; Federal employee status; authorization of appropriations

(1) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce may each recruit, train, and accept, without regard to the provisions of title 5, the services of individuals without compensation as volunteers for, or in aid of programs conducted by either Secretary through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce are each authorized to provide for incidental expenses such as transportation, uniforms, lodging, awards (including

nominal cash awards) and recognition, and subsistence of such volunteers without regard to their places of residence.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a volunteer shall not be deemed a Federal employee and shall not be subject to the provisions of law relating to Federal employment, including those relative to hours of work, rates of compensation, leave, unemployment compensation, and Federal employee benefits.

(4) For the purpose of the tort claim provisions of title 28, a volunteer under this subsection shall be considered a Federal employee.

(5) For the purposes of subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, relating to compensation to Federal employees for work injuries, volunteers under this subsection shall be deemed employees of the United States within the meaning of the term “employees” as defined in section 8101 of title 5, and the provisions of that subchapter shall apply.

(6) **SENIOR VOLUNTEER CORPS.**—The Secretary of the Interior may establish a Senior Volunteer Corps, consisting of volunteers over the age of 50. To assist in the recruitment and retention of the volunteers, the Secretary may provide for additional incidental expenses to members of the Corps beyond the incidental expenses otherwise provided to volunteers under this subsection. The members of the Corps shall be subject to the other provisions of this subsection.

(d) Community partnership enhancement

(1) Definition of partner organization

In this subsection, the term “partner organization” means an organization that—

(A) draws its membership from private individuals, organizations, corporations, academic institutions, or State or local governments;

(B) is established to promote the understanding of, education relating to, and the conservation of the fish, wildlife, plants, and cultural and historical resources of a particular refuge or complex of geographically related refuges; and

(C) is described in section 501(c)(3) of title 26 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that title.

(2) Cooperative agreements

(A) In general

The Secretary of the Interior may enter into a cooperative agreement (within the meaning of chapter 63 of title 31) with any partner organization, academic institution, or State or local government agency to carry out 1 or more projects or programs for a refuge or complex of geographically related refuges in accordance with this subsection.

(B) Projects and programs

Subject to the requirements of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and other applicable law, and such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, the Secretary may approve projects and programs for a refuge or complex of geographically related refuges that—

(i) promote the stewardship of resources of the refuge through habitat maintenance, restoration, and improvement, biological monitoring, or research;

(ii) support the operation and maintenance of the refuge through constructing, operating, maintaining, or improving the facilities and services of the refuge;

(iii) increase awareness and understanding of the refuge and the National Wildlife Refuge System through the development, publication, or distribution of educational materials and products;

(iv) advance education concerning the purposes of the refuge and the mission of the System through the use of the refuge as an outdoor classroom and development of other educational programs; or

(v) contribute financial resources to the refuge, under terms that require that the net revenues be used exclusively for the benefit of the refuge, through donation of net revenues from the sale of educational materials and products and through encouragement of gifts, devises, and bequests.

(C) Federal funding and ownership

(i) Matching

Subject to the availability of appropriations and the requirements of the National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and other applicable law, the Secretary may provide funds to match non-Federal funds donated under a cooperative agreement under this paragraph. With respect to each project or program, the amount of funds provided by the Secretary may not exceed the amount of the non-Federal funds donated through the project or program.

(ii) Use of Federal funds

Any Federal funds used to fund a project or program under a cooperative agreement may be used only for expenses directly related to the project or program and may not be used for operation or administration of any non-Federal entity.

(iii) Ownership of facilities

Any new facility, improvement to an existing facility, or other permanent improvement to a refuge constructed under this subsection shall be the property of the United States Government.

(D) Treasury account

Amounts received by the Secretary of the Interior as a result of projects and programs under subparagraph (B) shall be deposited in a separate account in the Treasury. Amounts in the account that are attributable to activities at a particular refuge or complex of geographically related refuges shall be available to the Secretary of the Interior, without further appropriation, to pay the costs of incidental expenses related to volunteer activities, and to carry out cooperative agreements for the refuge or complex of refuges.

(e) Refuge education program enhancement

(1) Guidance

Not later than 1 year after October 5, 1998, the Secretary of the Interior shall develop guidance for refuge education programs to further the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the purposes of individual refuges through—

(A) providing outdoor classroom opportunities for students on national wildlife refuges that combine educational curricula with the personal experiences of students relating to fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitat and to the cultural and historical resources of the refuges;

(B) promoting understanding and conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants and cultural and historical resources of the refuges; and

(C) improving scientific literacy in conjunction with both formal and nonformal education programs.

(2) Refuge programs

Based on the guidance developed under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior may develop or enhance refuge education programs as appropriate, based on the resources of individual refuges and the opportunities available for such programs in State, local, and private schools. In developing and implementing each program, the Secretary should cooperate with State and local education authorities, and may cooperate with partner organizations in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2004.

(Aug. 8, 1956, ch. 1036, § 7, 70 Stat. 1122; Pub. L. 95-616, § 4, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3112; Pub. L. 97-347, § 2, Oct. 18, 1982, 96 Stat. 1652; Pub. L. 98-44, title I, § 103(a)(2), July 12, 1983, 97 Stat. 216; Pub. L. 98-498, title IV, § 430(2), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2310; Pub. L. 105-242, §§ 3, 4(b), (c), 5-7, Oct. 5, 1998, 112 Stat. 1574-1578.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act Aug. 8, 1956, ch. 1036, known as the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, which is classified generally to sections 742a to 742d and 742e to 742j-2 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 742a of this title and Tables.

The National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966, referred to in subsecs. (b)(2)(B)(ii) and (d)(2)(B), (C)(i), probably means the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, which consists of sections 4 and 5 of Pub. L. 89-699, Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 927, as amended, and is classified to sections 668dd and 668ee of this title. For further details, see Short Title note set out under section 668dd of this title.

The tort claim provisions of title 28, referred to in subsec. (c)(4), are the provisions of the Federal Tort Claims Act, which is classified generally to section 1346(b) and to chapter 171 (§ 2671 et seq.) of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 105-242, § 3, inserted par. (2) heading, designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and inserted heading, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 105-242, §4(b), inserted “awards (including nominal cash awards) and recognition,” after “lodging,” and “without regard to their places of residence” after “volunteers”.

Subsec. (c)(6). Pub. L. 105-242, §4(c), added par. (6) and struck out former par. (6) which read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$100,000 for the Secretary of the Interior and \$50,000 for the Secretary of Commerce for each of the fiscal years 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1986.”

Subsecs. (d) to (f). Pub. L. 105-242, §§5-7, added subsecs. (d) to (f).

1984—Subsec. (c)(6). Pub. L. 98-498 substituted “1984, 1985, and 1986” for “and 1984”.

1983—Subsec. (c)(6). Pub. L. 98-44 substituted “, 1983, and 1984” for “and 1983”.

1982—Subsec. (c)(6). Pub. L. 97-347 substituted “1982 and 1983” for “and 1982”.

1978—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 95-616, §4(1), reenacted existing provisions, substituting reference to fish resources for prior reference to fisheries resources and incorporated provisions of par. (5) relating to wildlife resources, substituting reference to acquisition by purchase or exchange of land and water for prior reference to acquisition of refuge lands.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 95-616, §4(1), struck out par. (5) relating to wildlife resources. See par. (4).

Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 95-616, §4(3), added subsecs. (b) and (c).

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Transfer of functions to Secretary of Commerce from Secretary of the Interior by Reorg. Plan No. 4 of 1970, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090, see note set out under section 742b of this title.

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

Pub. L. 105-242, §2, Oct. 5, 1998, 112 Stat. 1574, provided that:

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

“(1) the National Wildlife Refuge System (referred to in this Act [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 742a of this title] as the ‘System’), consisting of more than 500 refuges and 93,000,000 acres, plays an integral role in the protection of the natural resources of the United States;

“(2) the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-57; 111 Stat. 1252) [see Tables for classification] significantly improved the law governing the System, although the financial resources for implementing this law and managing the System remain limited;

“(3) by encouraging volunteer programs and donations, and facilitating non-Federal partnerships with refuges, Federal funding for the refuges can be supplemented and the System can fully benefit from the amendments made by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997; and

“(4) by encouraging refuge educational programs, public awareness of the resources of the System and public participation in the conservation of those resources can be promoted.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

“(1) to encourage the use of volunteers to assist the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the management of refuges within the System;

“(2) to facilitate partnerships between the System and non-Federal entities to promote public awareness of the resources of the System and public participation in the conservation of those resources; and

“(3) to encourage donations and other contributions by persons and organizations to the System.”

PILOT PROJECTS

Pub. L. 105-242, §4(a), Oct. 5, 1998, 112 Stat. 1575, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior shall carry

out a pilot project at 2 or more national wildlife refuges or complexes of geographically related refuges in each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region, but not more than 20 pilot projects nationwide.

“(2) VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR.—Each pilot project shall provide for the employment of a full-time volunteer coordinator for the refuge or complex of geographically related refuges. The volunteer coordinator shall be responsible for recruiting, training, and supervising volunteers. The volunteer coordinator may be responsible for assisting partner organizations in developing projects and programs under cooperative agreements under section 7(d) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 [16 U.S.C. 742f(d)] (as added by section 5) and coordinating volunteer activities with partner organizations to carry out the projects and programs.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 5, 1998], the Secretary of the Interior shall submit a report to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate evaluating and making recommendations regarding the pilot projects.

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.”

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 4601-9, 1534, 3705 of this title.

§ 742g. Cooperation with State Department

(a) Representation at international meetings

The Secretary shall cooperate to the fullest practicable extent with the Secretary of State in providing representation at all meetings and conferences relating to fish and wildlife in which representatives of the United States and foreign countries participate.

The Secretary of State shall designate the Secretary of the Interior or the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, or a person designated by the Secretary of the Interior, as a member of the United States delegation attending such meetings and conferences and also as a member of the negotiating team of any such delegation.

(b) Consultation with officials responsible for technical and economic aid

The Secretary of State and all other officials having responsibilities in the fields of technical and economic aid to foreign nations shall consult with the Secretary in all cases in which the interests of fish and wildlife are involved, with a view to assuring that such interests are adequately represented at all times.

(c) International negotiations

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall be represented in all international negotiations conducted by the United States pursuant to section 1351 of title 19, in any case in which fish products are directly affected by such negotiations.

(d) Consultation with governmental, private nonprofit, and other organizations

The Secretary shall consult periodically with the various governmental, private nonprofit, and other organizations and agencies which have to do with any phase of fish and wildlife with respect to any problems that may arise in connection with such fish and wildlife.