

Calendar No. 504

112TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 3525**

To protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

Mr. TESTER introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Sportsmen’s Act of 2012”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—HUNTING, FISHING, AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTING

Subtitle A—Hunting and Recreational Shooting

- Sec. 101. Making public land public.
- Sec. 102. Permits for importation of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada.
- Sec. 103. Transporting bows through National Parks.

Subtitle B—Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support

- Sec. 111. Target practice and marksmanship training.
- Sec. 112. Findings; purpose.
- Sec. 113. Definition of public target range.
- Sec. 114. Amendments to Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act.
- Sec. 115. Sense of Congress regarding cooperation.

Subtitle C—Fishing

- Sec. 121. Modification of definition of toxic substance to exclude sport fishing equipment.
- Sec. 122. Prohibition on sale of billfish.
- Sec. 123. Report on artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico.

TITLE II—NATIONAL FISH HABITAT

Subtitle A—National Fish Habitat

- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. National Fish Habitat Board.
- Sec. 203. Fish habitat partnerships.
- Sec. 204. Fish habitat conservation projects.
- Sec. 205. National Fish Habitat Conservation Partnership Office.
- Sec. 206. Technical and scientific assistance.
- Sec. 207. Conservation of aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms on Federal land.
- Sec. 208. Coordination with States and Indian tribes.
- Sec. 209. Accountability and reporting.
- Sec. 210. Regulations.
- Sec. 211. Effect of subtitle.
- Sec. 212. Nonapplicability of Federal Advisory Committee Act.
- Sec. 213. Funding.

Subtitle B—Duck Stamps

- Sec. 221. Findings.
- Sec. 222. Cost of stamps.
- Sec. 223. Waivers.
- Sec. 224. Permanent electronic duck stamps.

Subtitle C—Joint Ventures to Protect Migratory Bird Populations

- Sec. 231. Purposes.
- Sec. 232. Definitions.
- Sec. 233. Joint Ventures Program.
- Sec. 234. Administration.
- Sec. 235. Grants and other assistance.
- Sec. 236. Reporting.

Sec. 237. Relationship to other authorities.
 Sec. 238. Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Subtitle D—Reauthorizations

Sec. 241. North American Wetlands Conservation Act.
 Sec. 242. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act.
 Sec. 243. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation reauthorization.
 Sec. 244. Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp.
 Sec. 245. Multinational species conservation funds reauthorizations.
 Sec. 246. Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act.
 Sec. 247. Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act.
 Sec. 248. Nutria eradication and control.

1 **TITLE I—HUNTING, FISHING,**
 2 **AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTING**
 3 **Subtitle A—Hunting and**
 4 **Recreational Shooting**

5 **SEC. 101. MAKING PUBLIC LAND PUBLIC.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Land and Water
 7 Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–6) is
 8 amended—

9 (1) by striking “SEC. 3. APPROPRIATIONS.—
 10 Moneys” and inserting the following:

11 **“SEC. 3. FUNDING.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(b) PRIORITY LIST.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability
 16 of appropriations and notwithstanding any other
 17 provision of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior
 18 and the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that,
 19 of the amounts made available for the fund for each

1 fiscal year, not less than 1.5 percent of the amounts
2 shall be made available for projects identified on the
3 priority list developed under paragraph (2).

4 “(2) PRIORITY LIST.—The Secretary of the In-
5 terior and the Secretary of Agriculture, in consulta-
6 tion with the head of each affected Federal agency,
7 shall annually develop a priority list for the sites
8 under the jurisdiction of the applicable Secretary.

9 “(3) CRITERIA.—Projects identified on the pri-
10 ority list developed under paragraph (2) shall secure
11 recreational public access to Federal public land in
12 existence as of the date of enactment of this sub-
13 section that has significantly restricted access for
14 hunting, fishing, and other recreational purposes
15 through rights-of-way or acquisition of land (or any
16 interest in land) from willing sellers.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

18 (1) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND
19 ACT.—The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act
20 of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–4 et seq.) is amended—

21 (A) in the proviso at the end of section
22 2(c)(2) (16 U.S.C. 460l–5(c)(2)), by striking
23 “notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of
24 this Act”;

1 (B) in the first sentence of section 9 (16
2 U.S.C. 460l–10a), by striking “by section 3 of
3 this Act”; and

4 (C) in the third sentence of section 10 (16
5 U.S.C. 460l–10b), by striking “by section 3 of
6 this Act”.

7 (2) FEDERAL LAND TRANSACTION FACILITA-
8 TION ACT.—Section 206(f)(2) of the Federal Land
9 Transaction Facilitation Act (43 U.S.C. 2305(f)(2))
10 is amended by striking “section 3 of the Land and
11 Water Conservation Fund Act (16 U.S.C. 460l–6)”
12 and inserting “the Land and Water Conservation
13 Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–4 et seq.)”.

14 **SEC. 102. PERMITS FOR IMPORTATION OF POLAR BEAR**
15 **TROPHIES TAKEN IN SPORT HUNTS IN CAN-**
16 **ADA.**

17 Section 104(c)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection
18 Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374(c)(5)) is amended by strik-
19 ing subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

20 “(D)(i) The Secretary of the Interior shall, ex-
21 peditiously after the expiration of the applicable 30-
22 day period under subsection (d)(2), issue a permit
23 for the importation of any polar bear part (other
24 than an internal organ) from a polar bear taken in
25 a sport hunt in Canada to any person who submits,

1 with the permit application, proof that the polar
2 bear—

3 “(I) was legally harvested by the person
4 before February 18, 1997; or

5 “(II) was legally harvested by the person
6 before May 15, 2008, from a polar bear popu-
7 lation from which a sport-hunted trophy could
8 be imported before that date in accordance with
9 section 18.30(i) of title 50, Code of Federal
10 Regulations (or a successor regulation).

11 “(ii) The Secretary shall issue permits under
12 clause (i)(I) without regard to subparagraphs (A)
13 and (C)(ii) of this paragraph, subsection (d)(3), and
14 sections 101 and 102.

15 “(iii) The Secretary shall issue permits under
16 clause (i)(II) without regard to subparagraph (C)(ii)
17 of this paragraph, subsection (d)(3), and sections
18 101 and 102.”.

19 **SEC. 103. TRANSPORTING BOWS THROUGH NATIONAL**
20 **PARKS.**

21 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

22 (1) bowhunters are known worldwide as among
23 the most skilled, ethical, and conservation-minded of
24 all hunters;

1 (2) bowhunting organizations at the Federal,
2 State, and local level contribute significant financial
3 and human resources to wildlife conservation and
4 youth education programs throughout the United
5 States; and

6 (3) bowhunting contributes \$38,000,000,000
7 each year to the economy of the United States.

8 (b) POSSESSION OF BOWS IN UNITS OF NATIONAL
9 PARK SYSTEM OR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYS-
10 TEM.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
12 the Secretary of the Interior shall permit individuals
13 carrying bows and crossbows to traverse national
14 park land if the traverse is—

15 (A) for the sole purpose of hunting on ad-
16 jacent public or private land; and

17 (B) the most direct means of access to the
18 adjacent land.

19 (2) USE.—Nothing in this section authorizes
20 the use of the bows or crossbows that are being car-
21 ried while on national park land.

1 **Subtitle B—Target Practice and**
2 **Marksmanship Training Support**

3 **SEC. 111. TARGET PRACTICE AND MARKSMANSHIP TRAIN-**
4 **ING.**

5 This subtitle may be cited as the “Target Practice
6 and Marksmanship Training Support Act”.

7 **SEC. 112. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) the use of firearms and archery equipment
10 for target practice and marksmanship training ac-
11 tivities on Federal land is allowed, except to the ex-
12 tent specific portions of that land have been closed
13 to those activities;

14 (2) in recent years preceding the date of enact-
15 ment of this Act, portions of Federal land have been
16 closed to target practice and marksmanship training
17 for many reasons;

18 (3) the availability of public target ranges on
19 non-Federal land has been declining for a variety of
20 reasons, including continued population growth and
21 development near former ranges;

22 (4) providing opportunities for target practice
23 and marksmanship training at public target ranges
24 on Federal and non-Federal land can help—

1 (A) to promote enjoyment of shooting, rec-
2 reational, and hunting activities; and

3 (B) to ensure safe and convenient locations
4 for those activities;

5 (5) Federal law in effect on the date of enact-
6 ment of this Act, including the Pittman-Robertson
7 Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.),
8 provides Federal support for construction and ex-
9 pansion of public target ranges by making available
10 to States amounts that may be used for construc-
11 tion, operation, and maintenance of public target
12 ranges; and

13 (6) it is in the public interest to provide in-
14 creased Federal support to facilitate the construction
15 or expansion of public target ranges.

16 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this subtitle is to fa-
17 cilitate the construction and expansion of public target
18 ranges, including ranges on Federal land managed by the
19 Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

20 **SEC. 113. DEFINITION OF PUBLIC TARGET RANGE.**

21 In this subtitle, the term “public target range” means
22 a specific location that—

23 (1) is identified by a governmental agency for
24 recreational shooting;

25 (2) is open to the public;

1 (3) may be supervised; and

2 (4) may accommodate archery or rifle, pistol, or
3 shotgun shooting.

4 **SEC. 114. AMENDMENTS TO PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILD-
5 LIFE RESTORATION ACT.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Pittman-Robert-
7 son Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669a) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through
10 (8) as paragraphs (3) through (9), respectively; and

11 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(2) the term ‘public target range’ means a
14 specific location that—

15 “(A) is identified by a governmental agen-
16 cy for recreational shooting;

17 “(B) is open to the public;

18 “(C) may be supervised; and

19 “(D) may accommodate archery or rifle,
20 pistol, or shotgun shooting;”.

21 (b) EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILD-
22 LIFE AREAS AND RESOURCES.—Section 8(b) of the Pitt-
23 man-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C.
24 669g(b)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “(b) Each State” and inserting
2 the following:

3 “(b) EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILD-
4 LIFE AREAS AND RESOURCES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
6 graph (2), each State”;

7 (2) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by
8 striking “construction, operation,” and inserting
9 “operation”;

10 (3) in the second sentence, by striking “The
11 non-Federal share” and inserting the following:

12 “(3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal
13 share”;

14 (4) in the third sentence, by striking “The Sec-
15 retary” and inserting the following:

16 “(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary”; and

17 (5) by inserting after paragraph (1) (as des-
18 ignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding the limita-
21 tion described in paragraph (1), a State may pay up
22 to 90 percent of the cost of acquiring land for, ex-
23 panding, or constructing a public target range.”.

24 (c) FIREARM AND BOW HUNTER EDUCATION AND
25 SAFETY PROGRAM GRANTS.—Section 10 of the Pittman-

1 Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h–1)
2 is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
4 following:

5 “(3) ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS.—
6 Of the amount apportioned to a State for any fiscal
7 year under section 4(b), the State may elect to allo-
8 cate not more than 10 percent, to be combined with
9 the amount apportioned to the State under para-
10 graph (1) for that fiscal year, for acquiring land for,
11 expanding, or constructing a public target range.”;

12 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(b) COST SHARING.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
16 graph (2), the Federal share of the cost of any activ-
17 ity carried out using a grant under this section shall
18 not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of the activ-
19 ity.

20 “(2) PUBLIC TARGET RANGE CONSTRUCTION OR
21 EXPANSION.—The Federal share of the cost of ac-
22 quiring land for, expanding, or constructing a public
23 target range in a State on Federal or non-Federal
24 land pursuant to this section or section 8(b) shall

1 not exceed 90 percent of the cost of the activity.”;
2 and

3 (3) in subsection (c)(1)—

4 (A) by striking “Amounts made” and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
7 subparagraph (B), amounts made”; and

8 (B) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(B) EXCEPTION.—Amounts provided for
10 acquiring land for, constructing, or expanding a
11 public target range shall remain available for
12 expenditure and obligation during the 5-fiscal-
13 year period beginning on October 1 of the first
14 fiscal year for which the amounts are made
15 available.”.

16 **SEC. 115. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING COOPERATION.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that, consistent with appli-
18 cable laws (including regulations), the Chief of the Forest
19 Service and the Director of the Bureau of Land Manage-
20 ment should cooperate with State and local authorities and
21 other entities to implement best practices for waste man-
22 agement and removal and carry out other related activities
23 on any Federal land used as a public target range to en-
24 courage continued use of that land for target practice or
25 marksmanship training.

1 or limits the application of or obligation to comply with
2 any other Federal, State or local law.

3 **SEC. 122. PROHIBITION ON SALE OF BILLFISH.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

5 (1) the United States carefully regulates its do-
6 mestic fisheries for billfish and participates in inter-
7 national fishery management bodies in the Atlantic
8 and Pacific Oceans;

9 (2) global billfish populations have declined sig-
10 nificantly because of overfishing primarily through
11 retention of bycatch by non-United States commer-
12 cial fishing fleets; and

13 (3) ending the importation of foreign-caught
14 billfish for sale in the United States aligns with
15 United States management measures relating to bill-
16 fish and protects the significant economic benefits to
17 the United States economy of recreational fishing
18 and marine commerce and the traditional cultural
19 fisheries.

20 (b) DEFINITION OF BILLFISH.—In this section:

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The term “billfish” means
22 any fish of the species—

23 (A) *Makaira nigricans* (blue marlin);

24 (B) *Kajikia audax* (striped marlin);

25 (C) *Istiompax indica* (black marlin);

1 (D) *Istiophorus platypterus* (sailfish);

2 (E) *Tetrapturus angustirostris* (shortbill
3 spearfish);

4 (F) *Kajikia albida* (white marlin);

5 (G) *Tetrapturus georgii* (roundscale spear-
6 fish);

7 (H) *Tetrapturus belone* (Mediterranean
8 spearfish); or

9 (I) *Tetrapturus pfluegeri* (longbill spear-
10 fish).

11 (2) EXCLUSION.—The term “billfish” does not
12 include the species *Xiphias gladius* (swordfish).

13 (c) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in subsection
14 (e), no person shall offer for sale, sell, or have custody,
15 control, or possession of for purposes of offering for sale
16 or selling billfish or products containing billfish.

17 (d) PENALTY.—For purposes of section 308(a) of the
18 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Manage-
19 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(a)), a violation of this section
20 shall be treated as an act prohibited by section 307 of
21 that Act (16 U.S.C. 1857).

22 (e) EXEMPTIONS FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES AND
23 MARKETS.—

24 (1) UNITED STATES FISHING VESSELS.—Sub-
25 section (c) does not apply to billfish caught by

1 United States fishing vessels and landed in the State
2 of Hawaii or a Pacific Insular Area (as defined in
3 section 3 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
4 servation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802)).

5 (2) FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS.—Subsection
6 (c) does not apply to billfish landed by foreign fish-
7 ing vessels in a Pacific Insular Area (as so defined)
8 if the foreign-caught billfish is exported to non-
9 United States markets or retained within the State
10 of Hawaii and the Pacific Insular Areas for local
11 consumption.

12 (f) STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.—
13 Congress enacts this section pursuant to clause 3 of sec-
14 tion 8 of article I of the Constitution.

15 **SEC. 123. REPORT ON ARTIFICIAL REEFS IN THE GULF OF**
16 **MEXICO.**

17 (a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after
18 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
19 Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce
20 and the heads of other Federal and State agencies, shall
21 submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
22 sources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Re-
23 sources of the House of Representatives a plan to assess
24 how best to integrate the goals of the National Fishing
25 Enhancement Act of 1984 (33 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) and

1 the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331
2 et seq.).

3 (b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan required under
4 subsection (a) shall include—

5 (1) an assessment of the capability of the De-
6 partment of the Interior to identify and issue a pub-
7 lic notice of platforms and related structures sched-
8 uled to be removed in 2012 and 2013 pursuant to
9 sections 250.1700 through 250.1754 of title 30,
10 Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the
11 date of enactment of this Act), and the timeframe
12 set out in the notice to lessees on the decommis-
13 sioning for platforms and related structures in the
14 Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (NTL No. 2010–G05)
15 of the Department of the Interior;

16 (2) strategies for coordination with relevant
17 Federal and State agencies and accredited marine
18 research institutes and university marine biology de-
19 partments to assess the biodiversity and critical
20 habitat present at platforms and related structures
21 subject to removal pursuant to sections 250.1700
22 through 250.1754 of title 30, Code of Federal Regu-
23 lations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this
24 Act), and the timeframe set out in NTL No. 2010–
25 G05;

1 (3) an assessment of the potential impacts of
2 the removal of the platforms and related structures
3 pursuant to sections 250.1700 through 250.1754 of
4 title 30, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on
5 the date of enactment of this Act), and the time-
6 frame set out in NTL No. 2010–G05 on the Gulf
7 of Mexico ecosystem and marine habitat;

8 (4) an assessment of the potential impacts of
9 not removing the platforms and related structures
10 pursuant to sections 250.1700 through 250.1754 of
11 title 30, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on
12 the date of enactment of this Act), and the time-
13 frame set out in NTL NO. 2010–G05, including po-
14 tential damage as a result of hurricanes and other
15 incidents; and

16 (5) an assessment of the potential impacts of
17 the removal of platforms and related structures on
18 the rebuilding plans for Gulf reef fish and habitat,
19 as developed by the National Marine Fisheries Serv-
20 ice of the Department of Commerce.

21 (c) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after
22 the date of submission of the plan developed under sub-
23 section (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
24 on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the

1 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives a final report that includes—

3 (1) a description of public comments from re-
4 gional stakeholders, including recreational anglers,
5 divers, offshore oil and gas companies, marine biolo-
6 gists, and commercial fisherman; and

7 (2) findings relative to comments developed
8 under this subsection, including options to mitigate
9 potential adverse impacts on marine habitat associ-
10 ated with the removal of platforms and related
11 structures pursuant to sections 250.1700 through
12 250.1754 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations
13 (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act),
14 and the timeframe set out in NTL No. 2010–G05.

15 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the
17 Interior to carry out this section such sums as are nec-
18 essary.

19 **TITLE II—NATIONAL FISH**
20 **HABITAT**

21 **Subtitle A—National Fish Habitat**

22 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this subtitle:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
5 and Transportation and the Committee on En-
6 vironment and Public Works of the Senate; and

7 (B) the Committee on Natural Resources
8 of the House of Representatives.

9 (2) AQUATIC HABITAT.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “aquatic
11 habitat” means any area on which an aquatic
12 organism depends, directly or indirectly, to
13 carry out the life processes of the organism, in-
14 cluding an area used by the organism for
15 spawning, incubation, nursery, rearing, growth
16 to maturity, food supply, or migration.

17 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “aquatic
18 habitat” includes an area adjacent to an aquat-
19 ic environment, if the adjacent area—

20 (i) contributes an element, such as the
21 input of detrital material or the promotion
22 of a planktonic or insect population pro-
23 viding food, that makes fish life possible;

24 (ii) protects the quality and quantity
25 of water sources;

1 (iii) provides public access for the use
2 of fishery resources; or

3 (iv) serves as a buffer protecting the
4 aquatic environment.

5 (3) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term
6 “Assistant Administrator” means the Assistant Ad-
7 ministrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic
8 and Atmospheric Administration.

9 (4) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the Na-
10 tional Fish Habitat Board established by section
11 202(a)(1).

12 (5) CONSERVATION; CONSERVE; MANAGE; MAN-
13 AGEMENT.—The terms “conservation”, “conserve”,
14 “manage”, and “management” mean to protect, sus-
15 tain, and, where appropriate, restore and enhance,
16 using methods and procedures associated with mod-
17 ern scientific resource programs (including protec-
18 tion, research, census, law enforcement, habitat
19 management, propagation, live trapping and trans-
20 plantation, and regulated taking)—

21 (A) a healthy population of fish, wildlife,
22 or plant life;

23 (B) a habitat required to sustain fish, wild-
24 life, or plant life; or

1 (C) a habitat required to sustain fish, wild-
2 life, or plant life productivity.

3 (6) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife
5 Service.

6 (7) FISH.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “fish” means
8 any freshwater, diadromous, estuarine, or ma-
9 rine finfish or shellfish.

10 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “fish” in-
11 cludes the egg, spawn, spat, larval, and other
12 juvenile stages of an organism described in sub-
13 paragraph (A).

14 (8) FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECT.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “fish habitat
16 conservation project” means a project that—

17 (i) is submitted to the Board by a
18 Partnership and approved by the Secretary
19 under section 204; and

20 (ii) provides for the conservation or
21 management of an aquatic habitat.

22 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “fish habitat
23 conservation project” includes—

24 (i) the provision of technical assist-
25 ance to a State, Indian tribe, or local com-

1 community by the National Fish Habitat Con-
2 servation Partnership Office or any other
3 agency to facilitate the development of
4 strategies and priorities for the conserva-
5 tion of aquatic habitats; or

6 (ii) the obtaining of a real property
7 interest in land or water, including water
8 rights, in accordance with terms and condi-
9 tions that ensure that the real property
10 will be administered for the long-term con-
11 servation of—

12 (I) the land or water; and

13 (II) the fish dependent on the
14 land or water.

15 (9) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
16 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the
17 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
18 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

19 (10) NATIONAL FISH HABITAT ACTION PLAN.—
20 The term “National Fish Habitat Action Plan”
21 means the National Fish Habitat Action Plan dated
22 April 24, 2006, and any subsequent revisions or
23 amendments to that plan.

24 (11) PARTNERSHIP.—The term “Partnership”
25 means an entity designated by the Board as a Fish

1 Habitat Conservation Partnership pursuant to sec-
2 tion 203(a).

3 (12) REAL PROPERTY INTEREST.—The term
4 “real property interest” means an ownership interest
5 in—

6 (A) land;

7 (B) water (including water rights); or

8 (C) a building or object that is perma-
9 nently affixed to land.

10 (13) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
11 means the Secretary of the Interior.

12 (14) STATE AGENCY.—The term “State agen-
13 cy” means—

14 (A) the fish and wildlife agency of a State;

15 (B) any department or division of a de-
16 partment or agency of a State that manages in
17 the public trust the inland or marine fishery re-
18 sources or the habitat for those fishery re-
19 sources of the State pursuant to State law or
20 the constitution of the State; or

21 (C) the fish and wildlife agency of the
22 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Vir-
23 gin Islands, or any other territory or possession
24 of the United States.

1 **SEC. 202. NATIONAL FISH HABITAT BOARD.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a board,
4 to be known as the “National Fish Habitat
5 Board”—

6 (A) to promote, oversee, and coordinate the
7 implementation of this subtitle and the National
8 Fish Habitat Action Plan;

9 (B) to establish national goals and prior-
10 ities for aquatic habitat conservation;

11 (C) to designate Partnerships; and

12 (D) to review and make recommendations
13 regarding fish habitat conservation projects.

14 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall be com-
15 posed of 27 members, of whom—

16 (A) 1 shall be the Director;

17 (B) 1 shall be the Assistant Administrator;

18 (C) 1 shall be the Chief of the Natural Re-
19 sources Conservation Service;

20 (D) 1 shall be the Chief of the Forest
21 Service;

22 (E) 1 shall be the Assistant Administrator
23 for Water of the Environmental Protection
24 Agency;

25 (F) 1 shall be the President of the Associa-
26 tion of Fish and Wildlife Agencies;

1 (G) 1 shall be the Secretary of the Board
2 of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife
3 Foundation appointed pursuant to section
4 3(g)(2)(B) of the National Fish and Wildlife
5 Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C.
6 3702(g)(2)(B));

7 (H) 4 shall be representatives of State
8 agencies, 1 of whom shall be nominated by a re-
9 gional association of fish and wildlife agencies
10 from each of the Northeast, Southeast, Mid-
11 west, and Western regions of the United States;

12 (I) 1 shall be a representative of the Amer-
13 ican Fisheries Society;

14 (J) 2 shall be representatives of Indian
15 tribes, of whom—

16 (i) 1 shall represent Indian tribes
17 from the State of Alaska; and

18 (ii) 1 shall represent Indian tribes
19 from the other States;

20 (K) 1 shall be a representative of the Re-
21 gional Fishery Management Councils estab-
22 lished under section 302 of the Magnuson-Ste-
23 vens Fishery Conservation and Management
24 Act (16 U.S.C. 1852);

1 (L) 1 shall be a representative of the Ma-
2 rine Fisheries Commissions, which is composed
3 of—

4 (i) the Atlantic States Marine Fish-
5 eries Commission;

6 (ii) the Gulf States Marine Fisheries
7 Commission; and

8 (iii) the Pacific States Marine Fish-
9 eries Commission;

10 (M) 1 shall be a representative of the
11 Sportfishing and Boating Partnership Council;
12 and

13 (N) 10 shall be representatives selected
14 from each of the following groups:

15 (i) The recreational sportfishing in-
16 dustry.

17 (ii) The commercial fishing industry.

18 (iii) Marine recreational anglers.

19 (iv) Freshwater recreational anglers.

20 (v) Terrestrial resource conservation
21 organizations.

22 (vi) Aquatic resource conservation or-
23 ganizations.

24 (vii) The livestock and poultry produc-
25 tion industry.

1 (viii) The land development industry.

2 (ix) The row crop industry.

3 (x) Natural resource commodity inter-
4 ests, such as petroleum or mineral extrac-
5 tion.

6 (3) COMPENSATION.—A member of the Board
7 shall serve without compensation.

8 (4) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the
9 Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per
10 diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for
11 an employee of an agency under subchapter I of
12 chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while
13 away from the home or regular place of business of
14 the member in the performance of the duties of the
15 Board.

16 (b) APPOINTMENT AND TERMS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
18 vided in this subsection, a member of the Board de-
19 scribed in any of subparagraphs (H) through (N) of
20 subsection (a)(2) shall serve for a term of 3 years.

21 (2) INITIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIP.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
23 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
24 the representatives of the board established by
25 the National Fish Habitat Action Plan shall ap-

1 point the initial members of the Board de-
2 scribed in subparagraphs (H) through (I) and
3 (K) through (N) of subsection (a)(2).

4 (B) TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES.—Not
5 later than 180 days after the enactment of this
6 Act, the Secretary shall provide to the board es-
7 tablished by the National Fish Habitat Action
8 Plan a recommendation of not less than 4 tribal
9 representatives, from which that board shall ap-
10 point 2 representatives pursuant to subpara-
11 graph (J) of subsection (a)(2).

12 (3) TRANSITIONAL TERMS.—Of the members
13 described in subsection (a)(2)(N) initially appointed
14 to the Board—

15 (A) 4 shall be appointed for a term of 1
16 year;

17 (B) 4 shall be appointed for a term of 2
18 years; and

19 (C) 3 shall be appointed for a term of 3
20 years.

21 (4) VACANCIES.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy of a member
23 of the Board described in any of subparagraphs
24 (H) through (I) or (K) through (N) of sub-

1 section (a)(2) shall be filled by an appointment
2 made by the remaining members of the Board.

3 (B) TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES.—Fol-
4 lowing a vacancy of a member of the Board de-
5 scribed in subparagraph (J) of subsection
6 (a)(2), the Secretary shall recommend to the
7 Board not less than 4 tribal representatives,
8 from which the remaining members of the
9 Board shall appoint a representative to fill the
10 vacancy.

11 (5) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—An individual
12 whose term of service as a member of the Board ex-
13 pires may continue to serve on the Board until a
14 successor is appointed.

15 (6) REMOVAL.—If a member of the Board de-
16 scribed in any of subparagraphs (H) through (N) of
17 subsection (a)(2) misses 3 consecutive regularly
18 scheduled Board meetings, the members of the
19 Board may—

20 (A) vote to remove that member; and

21 (B) appoint another individual in accord-
22 ance with paragraph (4).

23 (c) CHAIRPERSON.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall elect a
2 member of the Board to serve as Chairperson of the
3 Board.

4 (2) TERM.—The Chairperson of the Board shall
5 serve for a term of 3 years.

6 (d) MEETINGS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall meet—

8 (A) at the call of the Chairperson; but

9 (B) not less frequently than twice each cal-
10 endar year.

11 (2) PUBLIC ACCESS.—All meetings of the
12 Board shall be open to the public.

13 (e) PROCEDURES.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall establish
15 procedures to carry out the business of the Board,
16 including—

17 (A) a requirement that a quorum of the
18 members of the Board be present to transact
19 business;

20 (B) a requirement that no recommenda-
21 tions may be adopted by the Board, except by
22 the vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of all members present and vot-
23 ing;

1 (C) procedures for establishing national
2 goals and priorities for aquatic habitat con-
3 servation for the purposes of this subtitle;

4 (D) procedures for designating Partner-
5 ships under section 203; and

6 (E) procedures for reviewing, evaluating,
7 and making recommendations regarding fish
8 habitat conservation projects.

9 (2) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of
10 the Board shall constitute a quorum.

11 **SEC. 203. FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIPS.**

12 (a) AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE.—The Board may
13 designate Fish Habitat Partnerships in accordance with
14 this section.

15 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of a Partnership shall
16 be—

17 (1) to coordinate the implementation of the Na-
18 tional Fish Habitat Action Plan at a regional level;

19 (2) to identify strategic priorities for fish habi-
20 tat conservation;

21 (3) to recommend to the Board fish habitat
22 conservation projects that address a strategic pri-
23 ority of the Board; and

24 (4) to develop and carry out fish habitat con-
25 servation projects.

1 (c) APPLICATIONS.—An entity seeking to be des-
2 ignated as a Partnership shall submit to the Board an
3 application at such time, in such manner, and containing
4 such information as the Board may reasonably require.

5 (d) APPROVAL.—The Board may approve an applica-
6 tion for a Partnership submitted under subsection (c) if
7 the Board determines that the applicant—

8 (1) includes representatives of a diverse group
9 of public and private partners, including Federal,
10 State, or local governments, nonprofit entities, In-
11 dian tribes, and private individuals, that are focused
12 on conservation of aquatic habitats to achieve results
13 across jurisdictional boundaries on public and pri-
14 vate land;

15 (2) is organized to promote the health of impor-
16 tant aquatic habitats and distinct geographical
17 areas, keystone fish species, or system types, includ-
18 ing reservoirs, natural lakes, coastal and marine en-
19 vironments, and estuaries;

20 (3) identifies strategic fish and aquatic habitat
21 priorities for the Partnership area in the form of
22 geographical focus areas or key stressors or impair-
23 ments to facilitate strategic planning and decision-
24 making;

1 (4) is able to address issues and priorities on a
2 nationally significant scale;

3 (5) includes a governance structure that—

4 (A) reflects the range of all partners; and

5 (B) promotes joint strategic planning and
6 decisionmaking by the applicant;

7 (6) demonstrates completion of, or significant
8 progress toward the development of, a strategic plan
9 to address the causes of system decline in fish popu-
10 lations, rather than simply treating symptoms in ac-
11 cordance with the National Fish Habitat Action
12 Plan; and

13 (7) ensures collaboration in developing a stra-
14 tegic vision and implementation program that is sci-
15 entifically sound and achievable.

16 **SEC. 204. FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECTS.**

17 (a) SUBMISSION TO BOARD.—Not later than March
18 31 of each calendar year, each Partnership shall submit
19 to the Board a list of fish habitat conservation projects
20 recommended by the Partnership for annual funding
21 under this subtitle.

22 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS BY BOARD.—Not later than
23 July 1 of each calendar year, the Board shall submit to
24 the Secretary a description, including estimated costs, of
25 each fish habitat conservation project that the Board rec-

1 omends that the Secretary approve and fund under this
2 subtitle, in order of priority, for the following fiscal year.

3 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Board shall select each
4 fish habitat conservation project to be recommended to the
5 Secretary under subsection (b)—

6 (1) based on a recommendation of the Partner-
7 ship that is, or will be, participating actively in car-
8 rying out the fish habitat conservation project; and

9 (2) after taking into consideration—

10 (A) the extent to which the fish habitat
11 conservation project fulfills a purpose of this
12 subtitle or a goal of the National Fish Habitat
13 Action Plan;

14 (B) the extent to which the fish habitat
15 conservation project addresses the national pri-
16 orities established by the Board;

17 (C) the availability of sufficient non-Fed-
18 eral funds to match Federal contributions for
19 the fish habitat conservation project, as re-
20 quired by subsection (e);

21 (D) the extent to which the fish habitat
22 conservation project—

23 (i) increases fishing opportunities for
24 the public;

1 (ii) will be carried out through a coop-
2 erative agreement among Federal, State,
3 and local governments, Indian tribes, and
4 private entities;

5 (iii) increases public access to land or
6 water;

7 (iv) advances the conservation of fish
8 and wildlife species that are listed, or are
9 candidates to be listed, as threatened spe-
10 cies or endangered species under the En-
11 dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
12 1531 et seq.);

13 (v) where appropriate, advances the
14 conservation of fish and fish habitats
15 under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16
16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) and other relevant
17 Federal law and State wildlife action plans;
18 and

19 (vi) promotes resilience such that de-
20 sired biological communities are able to
21 persist and adapt to environmental
22 stressors such as climate change; and

23 (E) the substantiality of the character and
24 design of the fish habitat conservation project.

25 (d) LIMITATIONS.—

1 (1) REQUIREMENTS FOR EVALUATION.—No
2 fish habitat conservation project may be rec-
3 ommended by the Board under subsection (b) or
4 provided financial assistance under this subtitle un-
5 less the fish habitat conservation project includes an
6 evaluation plan designed—

7 (A) to appropriately assess the biological,
8 ecological, or other results of the habitat protec-
9 tion, restoration, or enhancement activities car-
10 ried out using the assistance;

11 (B) to reflect appropriate changes to the
12 fish habitat conservation project if the assess-
13 ment substantiates that the fish habitat con-
14 servation project objectives are not being met;
15 and

16 (C) to require the submission to the Board
17 of a report describing the findings of the assess-
18 ment.

19 (2) ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY INTER-
20 ESTS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—No fish habitat con-
22 servation project that will result in the acquisi-
23 tion by the State, local government, or other
24 non-Federal entity, in whole or in part, of any
25 real property interest may be recommended by

1 the Board under subsection (b) or provided fi-
2 nancial assistance under this subtitle unless the
3 project meets the requirements of subparagraph
4 (B).

5 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—

6 (i) IN GENERAL.—A real property in-
7 terest may not be acquired pursuant to a
8 fish habitat conservation project by a
9 State, public agency, or other non-Federal
10 entity unless the State, agency, or other
11 non-Federal entity is obligated to under-
12 take the management of the property being
13 acquired in accordance with the purposes
14 of this subtitle.

15 (ii) ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS.—Any
16 real property interest acquired by a State,
17 local government, or other non-Federal en-
18 tity pursuant to a fish habitat conservation
19 project shall be subject to terms and condi-
20 tions that ensure that the interest will be
21 administered for the long-term conserva-
22 tion and management of the aquatic eco-
23 system and the fish and wildlife dependent
24 on that ecosystem.

25 (e) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), no fish habitat conservation project may
3 be recommended by the Board under subsection (b)
4 or provided financial assistance under this subtitle
5 unless at least 50 percent of the cost of the fish
6 habitat conservation project will be funded with non-
7 Federal funds.

8 (2) PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LAND OR WATER.—
9 Notwithstanding paragraph (1), Federal funds may
10 be used for payment of 100 percent of the costs of
11 a fish habitat conservation project located on Fed-
12 eral land or water.

13 (3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal
14 share of the cost of a fish habitat conservation
15 project—

16 (A) may not be derived from a Federal
17 grant program; but

18 (B) may include in-kind contributions and
19 cash.

20 (4) SPECIAL RULE FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—Not-
21 withstanding paragraph (1) or any other provision of
22 law, any funds made available to an Indian tribe
23 pursuant to this subtitle may be considered to be
24 non-Federal funds for the purpose of paragraph (1).

25 (f) APPROVAL.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of receipt of the recommendations of
3 the Board for fish habitat conservation projects
4 under subsection (b), and based, to the maximum
5 extent practicable, on the criteria described in sub-
6 section (c)—

7 (A) the Secretary shall approve, reject, or
8 reorder the priority of any fish habitat con-
9 servation project recommended by the Board
10 that is not within a marine or estuarine habitat;
11 and

12 (B) the Secretary and the Secretary of
13 Commerce shall jointly approve, reject, or reor-
14 der the priority of any fish habitat conservation
15 project recommended by the Board that is with-
16 in a marine or estuarine habitat.

17 (2) FUNDING.—If the Secretary, or the Sec-
18 retary and the Secretary of Commerce jointly, ap-
19 proves a fish habitat conservation project under
20 paragraph (1), the Secretary, or the Secretary and
21 the Secretary of Commerce jointly, shall use
22 amounts made available to carry out this subtitle to
23 provide funds to carry out the fish habitat conserva-
24 tion project.

1 (3) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary, or the
2 Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce jointly, re-
3 jects or reorders the priority of any fish habitat con-
4 servation project recommended by the Board under
5 subsection (b), the Secretary, or the Secretary and
6 the Secretary of Commerce jointly, shall provide to
7 the Board and the appropriate Partnership a written
8 statement of the reasons that the Secretary, or the
9 Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce jointly, re-
10 jected or modified the priority of the fish habitat
11 conservation project.

12 (4) LIMITATION.—If the Secretary, or the Sec-
13 retary and the Secretary of Commerce jointly, has
14 not approved, rejected, or reordered the priority of
15 the recommendations of the Board for fish habitat
16 conservation projects by the date that is 180 days
17 after the date of receipt of the recommendations, the
18 recommendations shall be considered to be approved.

19 **SEC. 205. NATIONAL FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION PART-**
20 **nership Office.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after
22 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall estab-
23 lish an office, to be known as the “National Fish Habitat
24 Conservation Partnership Office”, within the United
25 States Fish and Wildlife Service.

1 (b) FUNCTIONS.—The National Fish Habitat Con-
2 servation Partnership Office shall—

3 (1) provide funding for the operational needs of
4 the Partnerships, including funding for activities
5 such as planning, project development and imple-
6 mentation, coordination, monitoring, evaluation,
7 communication, and outreach;

8 (2) provide funding to support the detail of
9 State and tribal fish and wildlife staff to the Office;

10 (3) facilitate the cooperative development and
11 approval of Partnerships;

12 (4) assist the Secretary and the Board in car-
13 rying out this subtitle;

14 (5) assist the Secretary in carrying out the re-
15 quirements of sections 206 and 208;

16 (6) facilitate communication, cohesiveness, and
17 efficient operations for the benefit of Partnerships
18 and the Board;

19 (7) facilitate, with assistance from the Director,
20 the Assistant Administrator, and the President of
21 the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the
22 consideration of fish habitat conservation projects by
23 the Board;

1 (8) provide support to the Director regarding
2 the development and implementation of the inter-
3 agency operational plan under subsection (c);

4 (9) coordinate technical and scientific reporting
5 as required by section 209;

6 (10) facilitate the efficient use of resources and
7 activities of Federal departments and agencies to
8 carry out this subtitle in an efficient manner; and

9 (11) provide support to the Board for national
10 communication and outreach efforts that promote
11 public awareness of fish habitat conservation.

12 (c) INTERAGENCY OPERATIONAL PLAN.—Not later
13 than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and
14 every 5 years thereafter, the Director, in cooperation with
15 the Assistant Administrator and the heads of other appro-
16 priate Federal departments and agencies, shall develop an
17 interagency operational plan for the National Fish Habi-
18 tat Conservation Partnership Office that describes—

19 (1) the functional, operational, technical, sci-
20 entific, and general staff, administrative, and mate-
21 rial needs of the Office; and

22 (2) any interagency agreements between or
23 among Federal departments and agencies to address
24 those needs.

25 (d) STAFF AND SUPPORT.—

1 (1) DEPARTMENTS OF INTERIOR AND COM-
2 MERCE.—The Director and the Assistant Adminis-
3 trator shall each provide appropriate staff to support
4 the National Fish Habitat Conservation Partnership
5 Office, subject to the availability of funds under sec-
6 tion 213.

7 (2) STATES AND INDIAN TRIBES.—Each State
8 and Indian tribe is encouraged to provide staff to
9 support the National Fish Habitat Conservation
10 Partnership Office.

11 (3) DETAILEES AND CONTRACTORS.—The Na-
12 tional Fish Habitat Conservation Partnership Office
13 may accept staff or other administrative support
14 from other entities—

15 (A) through interagency details; or

16 (B) as contractors.

17 (4) QUALIFICATIONS.—The staff of the Na-
18 tional Fish Habitat Conservation Partnership Office
19 shall include members with education and experience
20 relating to the principles of fish, wildlife, and aquat-
21 ic habitat conservation.

22 (5) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
23 may waive all or part of the non-Federal contribu-
24 tion requirement under section 204(e)(1) if the Sec-
25 retary determines that—

1 (A) no reasonable means are available
2 through which the affected applicant can meet
3 the requirement; and

4 (B) the probable benefit of the relevant
5 fish habitat conservation project outweighs the
6 public interest in meeting the requirement.

7 (e) REPORTS.—Not less frequently than once each
8 year, the Director shall provide to the Board a report de-
9 scribing the activities of the National Fish Habitat Con-
10 servation Partnership Office.

11 **SEC. 206. TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANCE.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director, the Assistant Ad-
13 ministrators, and the Director of the United States Geo-
14 logical Survey, in coordination with the Forest Service and
15 other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, shall
16 provide scientific and technical assistance to the Partner-
17 ships, participants in fish habitat conservation projects,
18 and the Board.

19 (b) INCLUSIONS.—Scientific and technical assistance
20 provided pursuant to subsection (a) may include—

21 (1) providing technical and scientific assistance
22 to States, Indian tribes, regions, local communities,
23 and nongovernmental organizations in the develop-
24 ment and implementation of Partnerships;

1 (2) providing technical and scientific assistance
2 to Partnerships for habitat assessment, strategic
3 planning, and prioritization;

4 (3) supporting the development and implemen-
5 tation of fish habitat conservation projects that are
6 identified as high priorities by Partnerships and the
7 Board;

8 (4) supporting and providing recommendations
9 regarding the development of science-based moni-
10 toring and assessment approaches for implementa-
11 tion through Partnerships;

12 (5) supporting and providing recommendations
13 for a national fish habitat assessment; and

14 (6) ensuring the availability of experts to con-
15 duct scientifically based evaluation and reporting of
16 the results of fish habitat conservation projects.

17 **SEC. 207. CONSERVATION OF AQUATIC HABITAT FOR FISH**
18 **AND OTHER AQUATIC ORGANISMS ON FED-**
19 **ERAL LAND.**

20 To the extent consistent with the mission and author-
21 ity of the applicable department or agency, the head of
22 each Federal department and agency responsible for ac-
23 quiring, managing, or disposing of Federal land or water
24 shall cooperate with the Assistant Administrator and the
25 Director to conserve the aquatic habitats for fish and

1 other aquatic organisms within the land and water of the
2 department or agency.

3 **SEC. 208. COORDINATION WITH STATES AND INDIAN**
4 **TRIBES.**

5 The Secretary shall provide a notice to, and coordi-
6 nate with, the appropriate State agency or tribal agency,
7 as applicable, of each State and Indian tribe within the
8 boundaries of which an activity is planned to be carried
9 out pursuant to this subtitle by not later than 30 days
10 before the date on which the activity is implemented.

11 **SEC. 209. ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING.**

12 (a) IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
14 the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years
15 thereafter, the Board shall submit to the appropriate
16 congressional committees a report describing the im-
17 plementation of—

18 (A) this subtitle; and

19 (B) the National Fish Habitat Action
20 Plan.

21 (2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under
22 paragraph (1) shall include—

23 (A) an estimate of the number of acres,
24 stream miles, or acre-feet (or other suitable
25 measure) of aquatic habitat that was protected,

1 restored, or enhanced under the National Fish
2 Habitat Action Plan by Federal, State, or local
3 governments, Indian tribes, or other entities in
4 the United States during the 2-year period end-
5 ing on the date of submission of the report;

6 (B) a description of the public access to
7 aquatic habitats protected, restored, or estab-
8 lished under the National Fish Habitat Action
9 Plan during that 2-year period;

10 (C) a description of the opportunities for
11 public fishing established under the National
12 Fish Habitat Action Plan during that period;
13 and

14 (D) an assessment of the status of fish
15 habitat conservation projects carried out with
16 funds provided under this subtitle during that
17 period, disaggregated by year, including—

18 (i) a description of the fish habitat
19 conservation projects recommended by the
20 Board under section 204(b);

21 (ii) a description of each fish habitat
22 conservation project approved by the Sec-
23 retary under section 204(f), in order of
24 priority for funding;

25 (iii) a justification for—

1 (I) the approval of each fish
2 habitat conservation project; and

3 (II) the order of priority for
4 funding of each fish habitat conserva-
5 tion project;

6 (iv) a justification for any rejection or
7 reordering of the priority of each fish habi-
8 tat conservation project recommended by
9 the Board under section 204(b) that was
10 based on a factor other than the criteria
11 described in section 204(c); and

12 (v) an accounting of expenditures by
13 Federal, State, or local governments, In-
14 dian tribes, or other entities to carry out
15 fish habitat conservation projects.

16 (b) STATUS AND TRENDS REPORT.—Not later than
17 December 31, 2012, and every 5 years thereafter, the
18 Board shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees a report describing the status of aquatic habitats
20 in the United States.

21 (c) REVISIONS.—Not later than December 31, 2013,
22 and every 5 years thereafter, the Board shall revise the
23 goals and other elements of the National Fish Habitat Ac-
24 tion Plan, after consideration of each report required by
25 subsection (b).

1 **SEC. 210. REGULATIONS.**

2 The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as
3 the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this
4 subtitle.

5 **SEC. 211. EFFECT OF SUBTITLE.**

6 (a) WATER RIGHTS.—Nothing in this subtitle—

7 (1) establishes any express or implied reserved
8 water right in the United States for any purpose;

9 (2) affects any water right in existence on the
10 date of enactment of this Act;

11 (3) preempts or affects any State water law or
12 interstate compact governing water; or

13 (4) affects any Federal or State law in exist-
14 ence on the date of enactment of the Act regarding
15 water quality or water quantity.

16 (b) STATE AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subtitle—

17 (1) affects the authority, jurisdiction, or respon-
18 sibility of a State to manage, control, or regulate
19 fish and wildlife under the laws and regulations of
20 the State; or

21 (2) authorizes the Secretary to control or regu-
22 late within a State the fishing or hunting of fish and
23 wildlife.

24 (c) EFFECT ON INDIAN TRIBES.—Nothing in this
25 subtitle abrogates, abridges, affects, modifies, supersedes,

1 or alters any right of an Indian tribe recognized by treaty
2 or any other means, including—

3 (1) an agreement between the Indian tribe and
4 the United States;

5 (2) Federal law (including regulations);

6 (3) an Executive order; or

7 (4) a judicial decree.

8 (d) ADJUDICATION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Nothing in
9 this subtitle diminishes or affects the ability of the Sec-
10 retary to join an adjudication of rights to the use of water
11 pursuant to subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 208 of
12 the Department of Justice Appropriation Act, 1953 (43
13 U.S.C. 666).

14 (e) EFFECT ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.—

15 (1) ACQUISITION OF LAND AND WATER.—Noth-
16 ing in this subtitle alters or otherwise affects the au-
17 thorities, responsibilities, obligations, or powers of
18 the Secretary to acquire land, water, or an interest
19 in land or water under any other provision of law.

20 (2) PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION.—Nothing
21 in this subtitle permits the use of funds made avail-
22 able to carry out this subtitle to acquire real prop-
23 erty or a real property interest without the written
24 consent of each owner of the real property or real
25 property interest.

1 (3) MITIGATION.—Nothing in this subtitle per-
 2 mits the use of funds made available to carry out
 3 this subtitle for fish and wildlife mitigation purposes
 4 under—

5 (A) the Federal Water Pollution Control
 6 Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

7 (B) the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
 8 (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.);

9 (C) the Water Resources Development Act
 10 of 1986 (Public Law 99–662; 100 Stat. 4082);
 11 or

12 (D) any other Federal law or court settle-
 13 ment.

14 **SEC. 212. NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-**
 15 **MITTEE ACT.**

16 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)
 17 shall not apply to—

18 (1) the Board; or

19 (2) any Partnership.

20 **SEC. 213. FUNDING.**

21 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

22 (1) FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECTS.—

23 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
 24 retary \$7,200,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
 25 through 2016 to provide funds for fish habitat con-

1 servation projects approved under section 204(f), of
2 which 5 percent shall be made available for each fis-
3 cal year for projects carried out by Indian tribes.

4 (2) NATIONAL FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION
5 PARTNERSHIP OFFICE.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to
7 be appropriated to the Secretary for each of fis-
8 cal years 2012 through 2016 for the National
9 Fish Habitat Conservation Partnership Office,
10 and to carry out section 209, an amount equal
11 to 5 percent of the amount appropriated for the
12 applicable fiscal year pursuant to paragraph
13 (1).

14 (B) REQUIRED TRANSFERS.—The Sec-
15 retary shall annually transfer to other Federal
16 departments and agencies such percentage of
17 the amounts made available pursuant to sub-
18 paragraph (A) as is required to support partici-
19 pation by those departments and agencies in
20 the National Fish Habitat Conservation Part-
21 nership Office pursuant to the interagency
22 operational plan under section 205(c).

23 (3) TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANCE.—

24 There are authorized to be appropriated for each of
25 fiscal years 2012 through 2016 to carry out, and

1 provide technical and scientific assistance under, sec-
2 tion 206—

3 (A) \$500,000 to the Secretary for use by
4 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

5 (B) \$500,000 to the Assistant Adminis-
6 trator for use by the National Oceanic and At-
7 mospheric Administration; and

8 (C) \$500,000 to the Secretary for use by
9 the United States Geological Survey.

10 (4) PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EX-
11 PENSES.—There is authorized to be appropriated to
12 the Secretary for each of fiscal years 2012 through
13 2016 for use by the Board, the Director, and the
14 Assistant Administrator for planning and adminis-
15 trative expenses an amount equal to 3 percent of the
16 amount appropriated for the applicable fiscal year
17 pursuant to paragraph (1).

18 (b) AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS.—The Secretary
19 may—

20 (1) on the recommendation of the Board, and
21 notwithstanding sections 6304 and 6305 of title 31,
22 United States Code, and the Federal Financial As-
23 sistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (31
24 U.S.C. 6101 note; Public Law 106–107), enter into
25 a grant agreement, cooperative agreement, or con-

1 tract with a Partnership or other entity for a fish
2 habitat conservation project or restoration or en-
3 hancement project;

4 (2) apply for, accept, and use a grant from any
5 individual or entity to carry out the purposes of this
6 subtitle; and

7 (3) make funds available to any Federal depart-
8 ment or agency for use by that department or agen-
9 cy to provide grants for any fish habitat protection
10 project, restoration project, or enhancement project
11 that the Secretary determines to be consistent with
12 this subtitle.

13 (c) DONATIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may—

15 (A) enter into an agreement with any orga-
16 nization described in section 501(c)(3) of the
17 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt
18 from taxation under section 501(a) of that
19 Code to solicit private donations to carry out
20 the purposes of this subtitle; and

21 (B) accept donations of funds, property,
22 and services to carry out the purposes of this
23 subtitle.

24 (2) TREATMENT.—A donation accepted under
25 this section—

1 (A) shall be considered to be a gift or be-
2 quest to, or otherwise for the use of, the United
3 States; and

4 (B) may be—

5 (i) used directly by the Secretary; or

6 (ii) provided to another Federal de-
7 partment or agency through an inter-
8 agency agreement.

9 **Subtitle B—Duck Stamps**

10 **SEC. 221. FINDINGS.**

11 Congress finds that—

12 (1) Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Con-
13 servation Stamps (commonly known as “duck
14 stamps”) were created in 1934 as Federal licenses
15 required for hunting migratory waterfowl;

16 (2)(A) duck stamps are a vital tool for wetland
17 conservation;

18 (B) 98 percent of the receipts from duck stamp
19 sales are used to acquire important migratory bird
20 breeding, migration, and wintering habitat, which
21 are added to the National Wildlife Refuge System;
22 and

23 (C) those benefits extend to all wildlife, not just
24 ducks;

1 (3) since inception, the Federal duck stamp
2 program—

3 (A) has generated more than
4 \$750,000,000;

5 (B) has preserved more than 5,000,000
6 acres of wetland and wildlife habitat; and

7 (C) is considered among the most success-
8 ful conservation programs ever initiated;

9 (4)(A) since 1934, when duck stamps cost \$1,
10 the price has been increased 7 times to the price in
11 effect on the date of enactment of this Act of \$15,
12 which took effect in 1991; and

13 (B) the price of the duck stamp has not in-
14 creased since 1991, the longest single period without
15 an increase in program history; and

16 (5) with the price unchanged during the 20-
17 year period ending on the date of enactment of this
18 Act, duck stamps have lost 40 percent of the value
19 of the duck stamps based on the consumer price
20 index, while the United States Fish and Wildlife
21 Service reports the price of land in targeted wetland
22 areas has tripled from an average of \$306 to \$1,091
23 per acre.

1 **SEC. 222. COST OF STAMPS.**

2 Section 2 of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Con-
3 servation Stamp Act (16 U.S.C. 718b) is amended by
4 striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

5 “(b) COST OF STAMPS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the 3-calendar-year pe-
7 riod beginning with calendar year 2013, and for
8 each 3-calendar-year period thereafter, the Sec-
9 retary, in consultation with the Migratory Bird Con-
10 servation Commission, shall establish the amount to
11 be collected under paragraph (2) for each stamp sold
12 under this section.

13 “(2) COLLECTION OF AMOUNTS.—The United
14 States Postal Service, the Department of the Inte-
15 rior, or any other agent approved by the Department
16 of the Interior shall collect the amount established
17 under paragraph (1) for each stamp sold under this
18 section for a hunting year if the Secretary deter-
19 mines, at any time before February 1 of the cal-
20 endar year during which the hunting year begins,
21 that all amounts described in paragraph (3) have
22 been obligated for expenditure.

23 “(3) AMOUNTS.—The amounts described in this
24 paragraph are amounts in the Migratory Bird Con-
25 servation Fund that are available for obligation and
26 attributable to—

1 “(A) amounts appropriated pursuant to
2 this Act for the fiscal year ending in the imme-
3 diately preceding calendar year; and

4 “(B) the sale of stamps under this section
5 during that fiscal year.”.

6 **SEC. 223. WAIVERS.**

7 Section 1(a) of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Con-
8 servation Stamp Act (16 U.S.C. 718a(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and sub-
10 section (d)” after “paragraph (2)”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(d) **WAIVERS.**—

13 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, in consulta-
14 tion with the Migratory Bird Conservation Commis-
15 sion, may waive requirements under this section for
16 such individuals as the Secretary, in consultation
17 with the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission,
18 determines to be appropriate.

19 “(2) **LIMITATION.**—In making the determina-
20 tion described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
21 grant only those waivers the Secretary determines
22 will have a minimal adverse effect on funds to be de-
23 posited in the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund es-
24 tablished under section 4(a)(3).”.

1 **SEC. 224. PERMANENT ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMPS.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 (1) ACTUAL STAMP.—The term “actual stamp”
4 means a Federal migratory-bird hunting and con-
5 servation stamp required under the Act of March
6 16, 1934 (16 U.S.C. 718a et seq.) (popularly known
7 as the “Duck Stamp Act”), that is printed on paper
8 and sold through the means established by the au-
9 thority of the Secretary immediately before the date
10 of enactment of this Act.

11 (2) AUTOMATED LICENSING SYSTEM.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “automated
13 licensing system” means an electronic, comput-
14 erized licensing system used by a State fish and
15 wildlife agency to issue hunting, fishing, and
16 other associated licenses and products.

17 (B) INCLUSION.—The term “automated li-
18 censing system” includes a point-of-sale, Inter-
19 net, telephonic system, or other electronic appli-
20 cations used for a purpose described in sub-
21 paragraph (A).

22 (3) ELECTRONIC STAMP.—The term “electronic
23 stamp” means an electronic version of an actual
24 stamp that—

25 (A) is a unique identifier for the individual
26 to whom it is issued;

1 (B) can be printed on paper or produced
2 through an electronic application with the same
3 indicators as the State endorsement provides;

4 (C) is issued through a State automated li-
5 censing system that is authorized, under State
6 law and by the Secretary under this section, to
7 issue electronic stamps;

8 (D) is compatible with the hunting licens-
9 ing system of the State that issues the elec-
10 tronic stamp; and

11 (E) is described in the State application
12 approved by the Secretary under subsection (c).

13 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15 (b) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE ELECTRONIC DUCK
16 STAMPS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may author-
18 ize any State to issue electronic stamps in accord-
19 ance with this section.

20 (2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall im-
21 plement this subsection in consultation with State
22 management agencies.

23 (c) STATE APPLICATION.—

24 (1) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION REQUIRED.—
25 The Secretary may not authorize a State to issue

1 electronic stamps under this section unless the Sec-
2 retary has received and approved an application sub-
3 mitted by the State in accordance with this sub-
4 section.

5 (2) NUMBER OF NEW STATES.—The Secretary
6 may determine the number of new States per year
7 to participate in the electronic stamp program.

8 (3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—The Sec-
9 retary may not approve a State application unless
10 the application contains—

11 (A) a description of the format of the elec-
12 tronic stamp that the State will issue under this
13 section, including identifying features of the li-
14 censee that will be specified on the stamp;

15 (B) a description of any fee the State will
16 charge for issuance of an electronic stamp;

17 (C) a description of the process the State
18 will use to account for and transfer to the Sec-
19 retary the amounts collected by the State that
20 are required to be transferred to the Secretary
21 under the program;

22 (D) the manner by which the State will
23 transmit electronic stamp customer data to the
24 Secretary;

1 (E) the manner by which actual stamps
2 will be delivered;

3 (F) the policies and procedures under
4 which the State will issue duplicate electronic
5 stamps; and

6 (G) such other policies, procedures, and in-
7 formation as may be reasonably required by the
8 Secretary.

9 (d) PUBLICATION OF DEADLINES, ELIGIBILITY RE-
10 QUIREMENTS, AND SELECTION CRITERIA.—Not later than
11 30 days before the date on which the Secretary begins ac-
12 cepting applications under this section, the Secretary shall
13 publish—

14 (1) deadlines for submission of applications;

15 (2) eligibility requirements for submitting appli-
16 cations; and

17 (3) criteria for approving applications.

18 (e) STATE OBLIGATIONS AND AUTHORITIES.—

19 (1) DELIVERY OF ACTUAL STAMP.—The Sec-
20 retary shall require that each individual to whom a
21 State sells an electronic stamp under this section
22 shall receive an actual stamp—

23 (A) by not later than the date on which
24 the electronic stamp expires under subsection

25 (f)(3); and

1 (B) in a manner agreed on by the State
2 and Secretary.

3 (2) COLLECTION AND TRANSFER OF ELEC-
4 TRONIC STAMP REVENUE AND CUSTOMER INFORMA-
5 TION.—

6 (A) REQUIREMENT TO TRANSMIT.—The
7 Secretary shall require each State authorized to
8 issue electronic stamps to collect and submit to
9 the Secretary in accordance with this sub-
10 section—

11 (i) the first name, last name, and
12 complete mailing address of each individual
13 that purchases an electronic stamp from
14 the State;

15 (ii) the face value amount of each
16 electronic stamp sold by the State; and

17 (iii) the amount of the Federal por-
18 tion of any fee required by the agreement
19 for each stamp sold.

20 (B) TIME OF TRANSMITTAL.—The Sec-
21 retary shall require the submission under sub-
22 paragraph (A) to be made with respect to sales
23 of electronic stamps by a State according to the
24 written agreement between the Secretary and
25 the State agency.

1 (C) ADDITIONAL FEES NOT AFFECTED.—

2 This subsection shall not apply to the State
3 portion of any fee collected by a State under
4 paragraph (3).

5 (3) ELECTRONIC STAMP ISSUANCE FEE.—A
6 State authorized to issue electronic stamps may
7 charge a reasonable fee to cover costs incurred by
8 the State and the Department of the Interior in
9 issuing electronic stamps under this section, includ-
10 ing costs of delivery of actual stamps.

11 (4) DUPLICATE ELECTRONIC STAMPS.—A State
12 authorized to issue electronic stamps may issue a
13 duplicate electronic stamp to replace an electronic
14 stamp issued by the State that is lost or damaged.

15 (5) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE
16 PURCHASE OF STATE LICENSE.—A State may not
17 require that an individual purchase a State hunting
18 license as a condition of issuing an electronic stamp
19 under this section.

20 (f) ELECTRONIC STAMP REQUIREMENTS; RECOGNI-
21 TION OF ELECTRONIC STAMP.—

22 (1) STAMP REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary
23 shall require an electronic stamp issued by a State
24 under this section—

1 (A) to have the same format as any other
2 license, validation, or privilege the State issues
3 under the automated licensing system of the
4 State; and

5 (B) to specify identifying features of the li-
6 censee that are adequate to enable Federal,
7 State, and other law enforcement officers to
8 identify the holder.

9 (2) RECOGNITION OF ELECTRONIC STAMP.—
10 Any electronic stamp issued by a State under this
11 section shall, during the effective period of the elec-
12 tronic stamp—

13 (A) bestow on the licensee the same privi-
14 leges as are bestowed by an actual stamp;

15 (B) be recognized nationally as a valid
16 Federal migratory bird hunting and conserva-
17 tion stamp; and

18 (C) authorize the licensee to hunt migra-
19 tory waterfowl in any other State, in accordance
20 with the laws of the other State governing that
21 hunting.

22 (3) DURATION.—An electronic stamp issued by
23 a State shall be valid for a period agreed to by the
24 State and the Secretary, which shall not exceed 45
25 days.

1 (g) TERMINATION OF STATE PARTICIPATION.—The
2 authority of a State to issue electronic stamps under this
3 section may be terminated—

4 (1) by the Secretary, if the Secretary—

5 (A) finds that the State has violated any of
6 the terms of the application of the State ap-
7 proved by the Secretary under subsection (c);
8 and

9 (B) provides to the State written notice of
10 the termination by not later than the date that
11 is 30 days before the date of termination; or

12 (2) by the State, by providing written notice to
13 the Secretary by not later than the date that is 30
14 days before the termination date.

15 **Subtitle C—Joint Ventures to Pro-** 16 **tect Migratory Bird Populations**

17 **SEC. 231. PURPOSES.**

18 The purpose of this subtitle is to authorize the Sec-
19 retary of the Interior, acting through the Director, to
20 carry out a partnership program called the “Joint Ven-
21 tures Program”, in coordination with other Federal agen-
22 cies with management authority over fish and wildlife re-
23 sources and the States, to develop, implement, and sup-
24 port innovative, voluntary, cooperative, and effective con-
25 servation strategies and conservation actions—

1 (1) to promote, primarily, sustainable popu-
2 lations of migratory birds, and, secondarily, the fish
3 and wildlife species associated with their habitats;

4 (2) to encourage stakeholder and government
5 partnerships consistent with the goals of protecting,
6 improving, and restoring habitat;

7 (3) to establish, implement, and improve
8 science-based migratory bird conservation plans and
9 promote and facilitate broader landscape-level con-
10 servation of fish and wildlife habitat; and

11 (4) to support the goals and objectives of the
12 North American Waterfowl Management Plan and
13 other relevant national and regional, multipartner
14 conservation initiatives, treaties, conventions, agree-
15 ments, or strategies entered into by the United
16 States, and implemented by the Secretary, that pro-
17 mote the conservation of migratory birds and the
18 habitats of migratory birds.

19 **SEC. 232. DEFINITIONS.**

20 In this subtitle:

21 (1) CONSERVATION ACTION.—The term “con-
22 servation action” means activities that—

23 (A) support the protection, restoration,
24 adaptive management, conservation, or en-
25 hancement of migratory bird populations, their

1 terrestrial, wetland, marine, or other habitats,
2 and other wildlife species supported by those
3 habitats, including—

4 (i) biological and geospatial planning;

5 (ii) landscape and conservation de-
6 sign;

7 (iii) habitat protection, enhancement,
8 and restoration;

9 (iv) monitoring and tracking;

10 (v) applied research; and

11 (vi) public outreach and education;

12 and

13 (B) incorporate adaptive management and
14 science-based monitoring, where applicable, to
15 improve outcomes and ensure efficient and ef-
16 fective use of Federal funds.

17 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
18 the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife
19 Service.

20 (3) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The term “Im-
21 plementation Plan” means an Implementation Plan
22 approved by the Director under section 232.

23 (4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
24 has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the

1 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
2 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

3 (5) JOINT VENTURE.—The term “Joint Ven-
4 ture” means a self-directed, voluntary partnership,
5 established and conducted for the purposes described
6 in section 231 and in accordance with section 233.

7 (6) MANAGEMENT BOARD.—The term “Man-
8 agement Board” means a Joint Venture Manage-
9 ment Board established in accordance with section
10 233.

11 (7) MIGRATORY BIRDS.—The term “migratory
12 birds” means those species included in the list of mi-
13 gratory birds that appears in section 10.13 of title
14 50, Code of Federal Regulations, under the author-
15 ity of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

16 (8) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means
17 the Joint Ventures Program conducted in accord-
18 ance with this subtitle.

19 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21 (10) SERVICE.—The term “Service” means the
22 United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

23 (11) STATE.—The term “State” means—

24 (A) any State of the United States, the
25 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of

1 Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Amer-
2 ican Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the
3 Northern Mariana Islands; and

4 (B) one or more agencies of a State gov-
5 ernment responsible under State law for man-
6 aging fish or wildlife resources.

7 **SEC. 233. JOINT VENTURES PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the
9 Director, shall carry out a Joint Ventures Program that—

10 (1) provides financial and technical assistance
11 to support regional migratory bird conservation part-
12 nerships;

13 (2) develops and implements plans to protect
14 and enhance migratory bird populations throughout
15 their range, that are focused on regional landscapes
16 and habitats that support those populations; and

17 (3) complements and supports activities by the
18 Secretary and the Director to fulfill obligations
19 under—

20 (A) the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16
21 U.S.C. 701 et seq.);

22 (B) the Migratory Bird Conservation Act
23 (16 U.S.C. 715 et seq.);

24 (C) the Neotropical Migratory Bird Con-
25 servation Act (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.);

1 (D) the North American Wetlands Con-
2 servation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.);

3 (E) the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act
4 of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.); and

5 (F) the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act
6 (16 U.S.C. 3771 et seq.).

7 (b) COORDINATION WITH STATES.—In the adminis-
8 tration of the program authorized under this section, the
9 Director shall coordinate and cooperate with the States
10 to fulfill the purposes of this subtitle.

11 **SEC. 234. ADMINISTRATION.**

12 (a) PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director may enter into
14 an agreement with eligible partners to achieve the
15 purposes described in section 231.

16 (2) ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.—The eligible part-
17 ners referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

18 (A) Federal and State agencies and Indian
19 tribes.

20 (B) Affected regional and local govern-
21 ments, private landowners, land managers, and
22 other private stakeholders.

23 (C) Nongovernmental organizations with
24 expertise in bird conservation or fish and wild-

1 life conservation or natural resource and land-
2 scape management generally.

3 (D) Other relevant stakeholders, as deter-
4 mined by the Director.

5 (b) MANAGEMENT BOARD.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—A partnership agreement for
7 a Joint Venture under this section shall establish a
8 Management Board in accordance with this sub-
9 section.

10 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Management Board
11 shall include a diversity of members representing
12 stakeholder interests from the appropriate geo-
13 graphic region, including, as appropriate, representa-
14 tives from the Service and other Federal agencies
15 that have management authority over fish and wild-
16 life resources on public lands or in the marine envi-
17 ronment, or that implement programs that affect
18 migratory bird habitats, and representatives from
19 the States, Indian tribes, and other relevant stake-
20 holders, and may include—

21 (A) regional governments and Indian
22 tribes;

23 (B) academia or the scientific community;

24 (C) nongovernmental landowners or land
25 managers;

1 (D) nonprofit conservation or other rel-
2 evant organizations with expertise in migratory
3 bird conservation, or in fish and wildlife con-
4 servation generally; and

5 (E) private organizations with a dedicated
6 interest in conserving migratory birds and their
7 habitats.

8 (3) FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—Sub-
9 ject to applicable Federal and State law, the Man-
10 agement Board shall—

11 (A) appoint a coordinator for the Joint
12 Venture in consultation with the Director;

13 (B) identify other full- or part-time admin-
14 istrative and technical non-Federal employees
15 necessary to perform the functions of the Joint
16 Venture and meet objectives specified in the
17 Implementation Plan; and

18 (C) establish committees or other organiza-
19 tional entities necessary to implement the Im-
20 plementation Plan in accordance with sub-
21 section (c).

22 (4) USE OF SERVICE AND FEDERAL AGENCY
23 EMPLOYEES.—Subject to the availability of appro-
24 priations and upon the request from a Management
25 Board, and after consultation with and approval of

1 the Director, the head of any Federal agency may
2 detail to the Management Board, on a reimbursable
3 or nonreimbursable basis, any agency personnel to
4 assist the Joint Venture in performing its functions
5 under this subtitle.

6 (c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each Joint Venture Man-
8 agement Board shall develop and maintain an Imple-
9 mentation Plan that shall contain, at a minimum,
10 the following elements:

11 (A) A strategic framework for migratory
12 bird conservation.

13 (B) Provisions for effective communication
14 among member participants within the Joint
15 Venture.

16 (C) A long-term strategy to conduct public
17 outreach and education regarding the purposes
18 and activities of the Joint Venture and activi-
19 ties to regularly communicate to the general
20 public information generated by the Joint Ven-
21 ture.

22 (D) Coordination with laws and conserva-
23 tion plans that are relevant to migratory birds,
24 and other relevant regional, national, or inter-
25 national initiatives identified by the Director to

1 conserve migratory birds, their habitats, eco-
2 logical functions, and associated populations of
3 fish and wildlife.

4 (E) An organizational plan that—

5 (i) identifies the representative mem-
6 bership of the Management Board and in-
7 cludes procedures for updating the mem-
8 bership of the Management Board as ap-
9 propriate;

10 (ii) describes the organizational struc-
11 ture of the Joint Venture, including pro-
12 posed committees and subcommittees, and
13 procedures for revising and updating the
14 structure, as necessary; and

15 (iii) provides a strategy to increase
16 stakeholder participation or membership in
17 the Joint Venture.

18 (F) Procedures to coordinate the develop-
19 ment, implementation, oversight, monitoring,
20 tracking, and reporting of conservation actions
21 approved by the Management Board and an
22 evaluation process to determine overall effec-
23 tiveness of activities undertaken by the Joint
24 Venture.

1 (2) REVIEW.—A Joint Venture Implementation
2 Plan shall be submitted to the Director for approval.

3 (3) APPROVAL.—The Director shall approve an
4 Implementation Plan submitted by the Management
5 Board for a Joint Venture if the Director finds
6 that—

7 (A) implementation of the plan would pro-
8 mote the purposes of this subtitle described in
9 section 231;

10 (B) the members of the Joint Venture
11 have demonstrated the capacity to implement
12 conservation actions identified in the Implemen-
13 tation Plan; and

14 (C) the plan includes coordination with
15 other relevant and active conservation plans or
16 programs within the geographic scope of the
17 Joint Venture.

18 **SEC. 235. GRANTS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
20 (b), and subject to the availability of appropriations, the
21 Director may award financial assistance to implement a
22 Joint Venture through—

23 (1) support of the activities of the Management
24 Board of the Joint Venture and to pay for necessary

1 administrative costs and services, personnel, and
2 meetings, travel, and other business activities; and

3 (2) support for specific conservation actions and
4 other activities necessary to carry out the Implemen-
5 tation Plan.

6 (b) LIMITATION.—A Joint Venture is not eligible for
7 assistance or support authorized in this section unless the
8 Joint Venture is operating under an Implementation Plan
9 approved by the Director under section 234.

10 (c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary,
11 through the Director, may provide technical and adminis-
12 trative assistance for implementation of Joint Ventures
13 and the expenditure of financial assistance under this sub-
14 section.

15 (d) ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.—The
16 Secretary, through the Director, may accept and use dona-
17 tions of funds, gifts, and in-kind contributions to provide
18 assistance under this section.

19 **SEC. 236. REPORTING.**

20 (a) ANNUAL REPORTS BY MANAGEMENT BOARDS.—
21 The Secretary, acting through the Director, shall—

22 (1) require each Management Board to submit
23 annual reports for all approved Joint Ventures of
24 the Management Board; and

1 (2) establish guidance for Joint Venture annual
2 reports, including contents and any necessary pro-
3 cesses or procedures.

4 (b) JOINT VENTURE PROGRAM 5-YEAR REVIEWS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
6 through the Director, shall at 5 years after the date
7 of enactment of this Act and at 5-year intervals
8 thereafter, complete an objective and comprehensive
9 review and evaluation of the Program.

10 (2) REVIEW CONTENTS.—Each review under
11 this subsection shall include—

12 (A) an evaluation of the effectiveness of
13 the Program in meeting the purpose of this
14 subtitle specified in section 231;

15 (B) an evaluation of all approved Imple-
16 mentation Plans, especially the effectiveness of
17 existing conservation strategies, priorities, and
18 methods to meet the objectives of such plans
19 and fulfill the purpose of this subtitle; and

20 (C) recommendations to revise the Pro-
21 gram or to amend or otherwise revise Imple-
22 mentation Plans to ensure that activities under-
23 taken pursuant to this subtitle address the ef-
24 fects of climate change on migratory bird popu-

1 lations and their habitats, and fish and wildlife
2 habitats, in general.

3 (3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary, acting
4 through the Director, in the implementation of this
5 subsection—

6 (A) shall consult with other appropriate
7 Federal agencies with responsibility for the con-
8 servation or management of fish and wildlife
9 habitat and appropriate State agencies; and

10 (B) may consult with appropriate, Indian
11 tribes, Flyway Councils, or regional conserva-
12 tion organizations, public and private land-
13 owners, members of academia and the scientific
14 community, and other nonprofit conservation or
15 private stakeholders.

16 (4) PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Secretary,
17 through the Director, shall provide for adequate op-
18 portunities for general public review and comment of
19 the Program as part of the 5-year evaluations con-
20 ducted pursuant to this subsection.

21 **SEC. 237. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER AUTHORITIES.**

22 (a) AUTHORITIES, ETC. OF SECRETARY.—Nothing in
23 this subtitle affects authorities, responsibilities, obliga-
24 tions, or powers of the Secretary under any other Act.

1 (b) STATE AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subtitle
 2 preempts any provision or enforcement of a State statute
 3 or regulation relating to the management of fish and wild-
 4 life resources within such State.

5 **SEC. 238. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**

6 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)
 7 shall not apply to any boards, committees, or other groups
 8 established under this subtitle.

9 **Subtitle D—Reauthorizations**

10 **SEC. 241. NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION**
 11 **ACT.**

12 Section 7(c)(5) of the North American Wetlands Con-
 13 servation Act (16 U.S.C. 4406(c)(5)) is amended by strik-
 14 ing “2012” and inserting “2017”.

15 **SEC. 242. PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT.**

16 Section 5 of the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act
 17 (16 U.S.C. 3774) is amended by striking “2011” and in-
 18 serting “2017”.

19 **SEC. 243. NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION RE-**
 20 **AUTHORIZATION.**

21 (a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FOUNDATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the National
 23 Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16
 24 U.S.C. 3702) is amended—

25 (A) in subsection (b)—

1 (i) by striking paragraph (2) and in-
 2 serting the following:

3 “(2) IN GENERAL.—After consulting with the
 4 Secretary of Commerce and considering the rec-
 5 ommendations submitted by the Board, the Sec-
 6 retary of the Interior shall appoint 28 Directors
 7 who, to the maximum extent practicable, shall—

8 “(A) be knowledgeable and experienced in
 9 matters relating to conservation of fish, wildlife,
 10 or other natural resources; and

11 “(B) represent a balance of expertise in
 12 ocean, coastal, freshwater, and terrestrial re-
 13 source conservation.”; and

14 (ii) by striking paragraph (3) and in-
 15 serting the following:

16 “(3) TERMS.—Each Director (other than a Di-
 17 rector described in paragraph (1)) shall be appointed
 18 for a term of 6 years.”; and

19 (B) in subsection (g)(2)—

20 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 21 “(A) Officers and employees may not be
 22 appointed until the Foundation has suffi-
 23 cient funds to pay them for their service.
 24 Officers” and inserting the following:

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Officers”; and

1 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and
2 inserting the following:

3 “(B) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Foun-
4 dation shall have an Executive Director who
5 shall be—

6 “(i) appointed by, and serve at the di-
7 rection of, the Board as the chief executive
8 officer of the Foundation; and

9 “(ii) knowledgeable and experienced in
10 matters relating to fish and wildlife con-
11 servation.”.

12 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
13 4(a)(1)(B) of the North American Wetlands Con-
14 servation Act (16 U.S.C. 4403(a)(1)(B)) is amended
15 by striking “Secretary of the Board” and inserting
16 “Executive Director of the Board”.

17 (b) RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE FOUNDA-
18 TION.—Section 4 of the National Fish and Wildlife Foun-
19 dation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3703) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (c)—

21 (A) by striking “(c) POWERS.—To carry
22 out its purposes under” and inserting the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(c) POWERS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the purposes
2 described in”;

3 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
4 through (11) as subparagraphs (A) through
5 (K), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

6 (C) in subparagraph (D) (as redesignated
7 by subparagraph (B)), by striking “that are in-
8 sured by an agency or instrumentality of the
9 United States” and inserting “at 1 or more fi-
10 nancial institutions that are members of the
11 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the
12 Securities Investment Protection Corporation”;

13 (D) in subparagraph (E) (as redesignated
14 by subparagraph (B)), by striking “paragraph
15 (3) or (4)” and inserting “subparagraph (C) or
16 (D)”;

17 (E) in subparagraph (J) (as redesignated
18 by subparagraph (B)), by striking “; and” and
19 inserting a semicolon;

20 (F) by striking subparagraph (K) (as re-
21 designating by subparagraph (B)) and inserting
22 the following:

23 “(K) to receive and administer restitution
24 and community service payments, amounts for
25 mitigation of impacts to natural resources, and

1 other amounts arising from legal, regulatory, or
2 administrative proceedings, subject to the con-
3 dition that the amounts are received or admin-
4 istered for purposes that further the conserva-
5 tion and management of fish, wildlife, plants,
6 and other natural resources; and

7 “(L) to do any and all acts necessary and
8 proper to carry out the purposes of the Founda-
9 tion.”; and

10 (G) by striking the undesignated matter at
11 the end and inserting the following:

12 “(2) TREATMENT OF REAL PROPERTY.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this
14 Act, an interest in real property shall be treated
15 as including easements or other rights for pres-
16 ervation, conservation, protection, or enhance-
17 ment by and for the public of natural, scenic,
18 historic, scientific, educational, inspirational, or
19 recreational resources.

20 “(B) ENCUMBERED REAL PROPERTY.—A
21 gift, devise, or bequest may be accepted by the
22 Foundation even though the gift, devise, or be-
23 quest is encumbered, restricted, or subject to
24 beneficial interests of private persons if any

1 current or future interest in the gift, devise, or
2 bequest is for the benefit of the Foundation.

3 “(3) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—The acceptance and
4 administration of amounts by the Foundation under
5 paragraph (1)(K) does not alter, supersede, or limit
6 any regulatory or statutory requirement associated
7 with those amounts.”;

8 (2) by striking subsections (f) and (g); and

9 (3) by redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as
10 subsections (f) and (g), respectively.

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
12 10 of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Estab-
13 lishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1)
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
17 appropriated to carry out this Act for each of fiscal
18 years 2012 through 2017—

19 “(A) \$20,000,000 to the Secretary of the
20 Interior;

21 “(B) \$5,000,000 to the Secretary of Agri-
22 culture; and

23 “(C) \$5,000,000 to the Secretary of Com-
24 merce.”;

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
2 ing the following:

3 “(1) AMOUNTS FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the
5 amounts authorized to be appropriated under
6 subsection (a), Federal departments, agencies,
7 or instrumentalities may provide funds to the
8 Foundation, subject to the condition that the
9 amounts are used for purposes that further the
10 conservation and management of fish, wildlife,
11 plants, and other natural resources in accord-
12 ance with this Act.

13 “(B) ADVANCES.—Federal departments,
14 agencies, or instrumentalities may advance
15 amounts described in subparagraph (A) to the
16 Foundation in a lump sum without regard to
17 when the expenses for which the amounts are
18 used are incurred.

19 “(C) MANAGEMENT FEES.—The Founda-
20 tion may assess and collect fees for the manage-
21 ment of amounts received under this para-
22 graph.”;

23 (B) in paragraph (2)—

24 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
25 ing “FUNDS” and inserting “AMOUNTS”;

1 (ii) by striking “shall be used” and in-
2 serting “may be used”; and

3 (iii) by striking “and State and local
4 government agencies” and inserting “,
5 State and local government agencies, and
6 other entities”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) ADMINISTRATION OF AMOUNTS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In entering into con-
10 tracts, agreements, or other partnerships pursu-
11 ant to this Act, a Federal department, agency,
12 or instrumentality shall have discretion to waive
13 any competitive process of that department,
14 agency, or instrumentality for entering into
15 contracts, agreements, or partnerships with the
16 Foundation if the purpose of the waiver is—

17 “(i) to address an environmental
18 emergency resulting from a natural or
19 other disaster; or

20 “(ii) as determined by the head of the
21 applicable Federal department, agency, or
22 instrumentality, to reduce administrative
23 expenses and expedite the conservation and
24 management of fish, wildlife, plants, and
25 other natural resources.

1 “(B) REPORTS.—The Foundation shall in-
2 clude in the annual report submitted under sec-
3 tion 7(b) a description of any use of the author-
4 ity under subparagraph (A) by a Federal de-
5 partment, agency, or instrumentality in that fis-
6 cal year.”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(d) USE OF GIFTS, DEVICES, OR BEQUESTS OF
9 MONEY OR OTHER PROPERTY.—Any gifts, devises, or be-
10 quests of amounts or other property, or any other amounts
11 or other property, transferred to, deposited with, or other-
12 wise in the possession of the Foundation pursuant to this
13 Act, may be made available by the Foundation to Federal
14 departments, agencies, or instrumentalities and may be
15 accepted and expended (or the disposition of the amounts
16 or property directed), without further appropriation, by
17 those Federal departments, agencies, or instrumentalities,
18 subject to the condition that the amounts or property be
19 used for purposes that further the conservation and man-
20 agement of fish, wildlife, plants, and other natural re-
21 sources.”.

22 (d) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—Section 11 of the
23 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act
24 (16 U.S.C. 3710) is amended by inserting “exclusive” be-
25 fore “authority”.

1 **SEC. 244. MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS**
2 **SEMIPOSTAL STAMP.**

3 Section 2(c) of the Multinational Species Conserva-
4 tion Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010 (Public Law
5 111–241; 39 U.S.C. 416 note) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “2 years” and
7 inserting “6 years”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(5) STAMP DEPICTIONS.—Members of the
10 public shall be offered a choice of 5 stamps under
11 this Act, depicting an African elephant or an Asian
12 elephant, a rhinoceros, a tiger, a marine turtle, and
13 a great ape, respectively.”.

14 **SEC. 245. MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS**
15 **REAUTHORIZATIONS.**

16 (a) AFRICAN ELEPHANTS.—Section 2306(a) of the
17 African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4245(a))
18 is amended by striking “2007 through 2012” and insert-
19 ing “2012 through 2017”.

20 (b) ASIAN ELEPHANTS.—Section 8(a) of the Asian
21 Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4266(a))
22 is amended by striking “2007 through 2012” and insert-
23 ing “2012 through 2017”.

24 (c) RHINOCEROS AND TIGERS.—Section 10(a) of the
25 Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16

1 U.S.C. 5306(a)) is amended by striking “2007 through
2 2012” and inserting “2012 through 2017”.

3 (d) GREAT APES.—Section 6 of the Great Ape Con-
4 servation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6305) is amended by
5 striking “2006 through 2010” and inserting “2012
6 through 2017”.

7 (e) MARINE TURTLES.—Section 7 of the Marine Tur-
8 tle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6606) is amended
9 by striking “2005 through 2009” and inserting “2012
10 through 2017”.

11 **SEC. 246. NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION**

12 **ACT.**

13 Section 10 of the Neotropical Migratory Bird Con-
14 servation Act (16 U.S.C. 6109) is amended to read as fol-
15 lows:

16 **“SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-
18 priated to carry out this Act \$6,500,000 for each of fiscal
19 years 2012 through 2017.

20 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made avail-
21 able under subsection (a) for each fiscal year, not less than
22 75 percent shall be expended for projects carried out at
23 a location outside of the United States.”.

1 **SEC. 247. FEDERAL LAND TRANSACTION FACILITATION**
2 **ACT.**

3 The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act is
4 amended—

5 (1) in section 203(2) (43 U.S.C. 2302(2)), by
6 striking “on the date of enactment of this Act was”
7 and inserting “is”;

8 (2) in section 205 (43 U.S.C. 2304)—

9 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “this
10 Act” and inserting “the Sportsmen’s Act of
11 2012”; and

12 (B) in subsection (d), by striking “11” and
13 inserting “22”;

14 (3) in section 206 (43 U.S.C. 2305), by striking
15 subsection (f); and

16 (4) in section 207(b) (43 U.S.C. 2306(b))—

17 (A) in paragraph (1)—

18 (i) by striking “96–568” and insert-
19 ing “96–586”; and

20 (ii) by striking “; or” and inserting a
21 semicolon;

22 (B) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) by inserting “Public Law 105–
24 263;” before “112 Stat.”; and

25 (ii) by striking the period at the end
26 and inserting a semicolon; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(3) the White Pine County Conservation,
3 Recreation, and Development Act of 2006 (Public
4 Law 109–432; 120 Stat. 3028);

5 “(4) the Lincoln County Conservation, Recre-
6 ation, and Development Act of 2004 (Public Law
7 108–424; 118 Stat. 2403);

8 “(5) subtitle F of title I of the Omnibus Public
9 Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 1132
10 note; Public Law 111–11);

11 “(6) subtitle O of title I of the Omnibus Public
12 Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 460www
13 note, 1132 note; Public Law 111–11);

14 “(7) section 2601 of the Omnibus Public Land
15 Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123
16 Stat. 1108); or

17 “(8) section 2606 of the Omnibus Public Land
18 Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123
19 Stat. 1121).”.

20 **SEC. 248. NUTRIA ERADICATION AND CONTROL.**

21 (a) FINDINGS; PURPOSE.—Section 2 of the Nutria
22 Eradication and Control Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–
23 16; 117 Stat. 621) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and in
2 Louisiana” and inserting “, the State of Lou-
3 isiana, and other coastal States”;

4 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “in
5 Maryland and Louisiana on Federal, State, and
6 private land” and inserting “on Federal, State,
7 and private land in the States of Maryland and
8 Louisiana and in other coastal States”; and

9 (C) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and
10 inserting the following:

11 “(3) This Act authorizes the Maryland Nutria
12 Project, which has successfully eradicated nutria
13 from more than 130,000 acres of Chesapeake Bay
14 wetlands in the State of Maryland and facilitated
15 the creation of voluntary, public-private partnerships
16 and more than 406 cooperative landowner agree-
17 ments.

18 “(4) This Act and the Coastal Wetlands Plan-
19 ning, Protection, and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C.
20 3951 et seq.) authorize the Coastwide Nutria Con-
21 trol Program, which has reduced nutria-impacted
22 wetland acres in the State of Louisiana from 80,000
23 acres to 23,141 acres.

24 “(5) The proven techniques developed under
25 this Act that are eradicating nutria in the State of

1 Maryland and reducing the acres of nutria-impacted
 2 wetlands in the State of Louisiana should be applied
 3 to nutria eradication or control programs in other
 4 nutria-infested coastal States”; and

5 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
 6 following:

7 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to au-
 8 thorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial
 9 assistance to the States of Delaware, Louisiana, Mary-
 10 land, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington
 11 to carry out activities—

12 “(1) to eradicate or control nutria; and

13 “(2) to restore nutria damaged wetlands.”.

14 (b) DEFINITIONS.—The Nutria Eradication and Con-
 15 trol Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) is
 16 amended—

17 (1) by redesignating sections 3 and 4 as sec-
 18 tions 4 and 5, respectively; and

19 (2) by inserting after section 2 the following:

20 **“SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 “In this Act:

22 “(1) COASTAL STATE.—The term ‘coastal
 23 State’ means each of the States of Delaware, Or-
 24 egon, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington.

1 “(2) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means
2 the nutria eradication program established by sec-
3 tion 4(a).

4 “(3) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP.—The
5 term ‘public-private partnership’ means a voluntary,
6 cooperative project undertaken by governmental en-
7 tities or public officials and affected communities,
8 local citizens, nongovernmental organizations, or
9 other entities or persons in the private sector.

10 “(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
11 the Secretary of the Interior.”.

12 (c) NUTRIA ERADICATION PROGRAM.—Section 4 of
13 the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 (Public
14 Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) (as redesignated by sub-
15 section (b)) is amended—

16 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, subject to
19 the availability of appropriations, provide financial assist-
20 ance to the States of Maryland and Louisiana and the
21 coastal States to implement measures—

22 “(1) to eradicate or control nutria; and

23 “(2) to restore wetlands damaged by nutria.”;

24 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “the
2 State of” before “Maryland”;

3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “other
4 States” and inserting “the coastal States”; and

5 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “marsh-
6 land” and inserting “wetlands”;

7 (3) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) by striking “(c) ACTIVITIES” and in-
9 serting “(c) ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF
10 MARYLAND”; and

11 (B) by inserting “, and updated in March
12 2009” before the period at the end;

13 (4) in subsection (e), by striking “financial as-
14 sistance provided by the Secretary under this sec-
15 tion” and inserting “the amounts made available
16 under subsection (f) to carry out the program”; and

17 (5) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the
18 following:

19 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subject
20 to subsection (e), there is authorized to be appropriated
21 to the Secretary to carry out the program \$6,000,000 for
22 each of fiscal years 2012 through 2016, of which—

23 “(1) \$2,000,000 shall be used to provide finan-
24 cial assistance to the State of Maryland;

1 “(2) \$2,000,000 shall be used to provide finan-
2 cial assistance to the State of Louisiana; and

3 “(3) \$2,000,000 shall be used to provide finan-
4 cial assistance, on a competitive basis, to other
5 coastal States.”.

6 (d) REPORT.—Section 5 of the Nutria Eradication
7 and Control Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat.
8 621) (as redesignated by subsection (b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “2002 docu-
10 ment entitled ‘Eradication Strategies for Nutria in
11 the Chesapeake and Delaware Bay Watersheds’;
12 and” and inserting “March 2009 update of the docu-
13 ment entitled ‘Eradication Strategies for Nutria in
14 the Chesapeake and Delaware Bay Watersheds’ and
15 originally dated March 2002;”;

16 (2) in paragraph (2)—

17 (A) by striking “develop” and inserting
18 “continue”; and

19 (B) by striking the period at the end and
20 inserting “; and”; and

21 (3) by adding after paragraph (2) the following:

22 “(3) develop, in cooperation with the State of
23 Delaware Department of Natural Resources and En-
24 vironmental Control, the State of Virginia Depart-
25 ment of Game and Inland Fisheries, the State of Or-

1 egon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State of
2 North Carolina Department of Environment and
3 Natural Resources, and the State of Washington De-
4 partment of Fish and Wildlife, long-term nutria con-
5 trol or eradication programs, as appropriate, with
6 the objective of—

7 “(A) significantly reducing and restoring
8 the damage nutria cause to coastal wetlands in
9 the coastal States; and

10 “(B) promoting voluntary, public-private
11 partnerships to eradicate or control nutria and
12 restoring nutria-damaged wetlands in the coast-
13 al States.”.

Calendar No. 504

112TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 3525

A BILL

To protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Read the second time and placed on the calendar