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sufficient in any given year to meet that year's cost of water carriage through the Farmers' Irrigation District Canal, all or any part of the said $3,500 may be applied to pay the portion of the carriage charge not so met, and the construction charge installment for payment to the United States for that year shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That the proviso respecting application of net revenues from power plants connected with the North Platte Federal Reclamation project contained in the Act of March 3, 1925 (43 Stat. 1141, 1167), is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

Rules and regulations.

SEC. 2. The Secretary is hereby authorized to perform any and all acts and to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act and any contracts made pursuant thereto.

Approved May 25, 1948.

[CHAPTER 348]

AN ACT

May 26, 1948
[S. 1979]
[Public Law 556]

Authorizing and directing the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior to undertake certain studies of the soft-shell and hard-shell clams.

Fish and Wildlife Service.
Studies of clams.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to undertake, in cooperation with appropriate State and interstate agencies in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 14, 1946 (60 Stat. 1080), comprehensive studies of the soft-shell clam, Mya arenaria, and the hard-shell clam, Venus mercenaria, with particular respect to the biology, propagation, and methods of cultivation of such clams. Such Service shall from time to time recommend appropriate measures for (1) arresting depletion in existing productive beds; (2) restoring to production beds formerly productive but now barren or unusable; (3) developing new areas which may be found suitable; (4) improving methods and techniques of digging, transplanting, and handling; and (5) otherwise increasing production and improving the quality of such clams for the benefit of both producers and consumers.

16 U. S. C. §§ 661-666c.

Appropriation authorized.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, for the five-year period beginning July 1, 1948, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $250,000 to carry out the studies of the soft-shell clam and the sum of $250,000 to carry out the studies of the hard-shell clam.

Approved May 26, 1948.

[CHAPTER 349]

AN ACT

May 26, 1948
[H. R. 5298]
[Public Law 557]

To establish Civil Air Patrol as a civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force and to authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to extend aid to Civil Air Patrol in the fulfillment of its objectives, and for other purposes.

Civil Air Patrol.
Establishment as volunteer civilian auxiliary.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Civil Air Patrol be established as a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force; and that, to assist Civil Air Patrol in the fulfillment of its objectives as set out in section 2 of Act of July 1, 1946 (Public Law 476, Seventy-ninth Congress), the Secretary of the Air Force is hereby authorized, to the extent and under such conditions and regulations as he may prescribe—

60 Stat. 346.
36 U. S. C. § 202.

(a) to make available to Civil Air Patrol by gift or by loan, sale or otherwise, with or without charge therefor, obsolete or