

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1513

To reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
Establishment Act.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29, 2017

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CARPER, Mr. UDALL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. COCHRAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

---

## A BILL

To reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife  
Foundation Establishment Act.

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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Fish and  
5 Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FOUNDATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the National Fish  
8 and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C.  
9 3702) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)—

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

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

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

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

15 (B) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-  
16 ing the following:

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

20 (2) in subsection (g)(2)—

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

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Officers”; and

2 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-  
3 serting the following:

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

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

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

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

18 **SEC. 3. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE FOUNDATION.**

19 Section 4 of the National Fish and Wildlife Founda-  
20 tion Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3703) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (c)—

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

25 “(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 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 Section 10 of the National Fish and Wildlife Founda-  
13 tion Establishment 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 2018 through 2023—

19 “(A) \$15,000,000 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 are authorized to provide  
8 funds to the Foundation through Federal finan-  
9 cial assistance grants and cooperative agree-  
10 ments, subject to the condition that the  
11 amounts are used for purposes that further the  
12 conservation and management of fish, wildlife,  
13 plants, and other natural resources in accord-  
14 ance with this Act.

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

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

25 (B) in paragraph (2)—

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

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

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

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

10 “(3) ADMINISTRATION OF AMOUNTS.—

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

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

22 “(ii) as determined by the head of the  
23 applicable Federal department, agency, or  
24 instrumentality, to reduce administrative  
25 expenses and expedite the conservation and

1 management of fish, wildlife, plants, and  
2 other natural resources.

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

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

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

1 **SEC. 5. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.**

2 Section 11 of the National Fish and Wildlife Founda-  
3 tion Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3710) is amended by  
4 inserting “exclusive” before “authority”.

○