

2009—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 111-11 added subsec. (c) and struck out former subsec. (c) which appropriated such sums as necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter relating to the trails designated by section 1244(a) of this title.

2004—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 108-352 substituted “the Ice Age” for “The Ice Age”.

1996—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104-333 struck out at end “Until the entire acquisition program is completed, he shall transmit in writing at the close of each fiscal year the following information to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives:

“(A) the amount of land acquired during the fiscal year and the amount expended therefor;

“(B) the estimated amount of land remaining to be acquired; and

“(C) the amount of land planned for acquisition in the ensuing fiscal year and the estimated cost thereof.”

1994—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 103-437 in introductory provisions substituted “Natural Resources” for “Interior and Insular Affairs” after “Committee on”.

1990—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 101-365 amended first sentence generally. Prior to amendment, first sentence read as follows: “There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1983 and subsequent fiscal years such sums as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter relating to the trails designated by paragraphs (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (15), and (16) of section 1244(a) of this title.”

1987—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 100-192 substituted “, (10), (11), (12), (13), (15), and (16)” for “through (13) and (15)”. Pub. L. 100-35 inserted “and (15)” after “(13)”.

1983—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 98-11, §209(1), (2), inserted “(a)(1)” before “There are hereby authorized to be appropriated” at beginning of undesignated opening paragraph, and substituted “for the” for “(a) The” before “Appalachian National Scenic Trail” at beginning of former subsec. (a).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 98-11, §209(3), (4), inserted “(2)” before sentence beginning “It is the express intent of the Congress” and substituted “protection of the Appalachian Trail” for “protection of the Trail”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-11, §209(5), designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted provision that funds may be expended for the acquisition of lands or interests therein for the purpose of providing for one trail interpretation site, as described in section 1246(c) of this title, and added par. (2).

1980—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-370 substituted “(7), (8), (9), and (10)” for “(7), and (8)” and inserted reference to the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

Pub. L. 96-199 inserted references to the North Country National Scenic Trail in two places, once by its full name and once by the designation as the trail “designated by” section 1244(a)(8) of this title, substituted “appropriated prior to October 1, 1978” for “appropriated prior to October 1, 1979”, and substituted “no funds may be expended by Federal agencies for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands outside the exterior boundaries of existing Federal area” for “no funds may be expended for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands”.

1978—Pub. L. 95-248 inserted provisions relating to determinations respecting appropriations authorized for fiscal year 1979 and succeeding fiscal years.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-625 struck out par. (1) designation, substituted “in subsequent fiscal years” for “in the subsequent fiscal year” and struck out par. (2) which provided for transmission of a report to Congressional committees by the Appalachian Trail Conference at the close of each fiscal year, until entire acquisition program was completed, covering conduct of negotiations for acquisition program and whether larger interests in land were being acquired than were necessary for the purposes of this chapter.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-625 added subsec. (c).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATIONS UNDER PUB. L. 98-11; CONTRACT AUTHORITY

Pub. L. 98-11, title I, §101, Mar. 28, 1983, 97 Stat. 42, provided that: “Authorizations of appropriations under this Act [enacting sections 1250 and 1251 of this title, amending this section and sections 1241 to 1247 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 1241 of this title] shall be effective only for the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 1983, and subsequent fiscal years. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, authority to enter into contracts, and to make payments, under this Act shall be effective only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.”

APPROPRIATIONS FOR OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL AND ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL; EFFECTIVE DATE; CONTRACT AUTHORITY

Pub. L. 96-370, §2, Oct. 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 1360, provided that: “Authorizations of moneys to be appropriated under this Act [amending sections 1244 and 1249 of this title] shall be effective on October 1, 1981. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, authority to enter into contracts, to incur obligations, or to make payments under this Act shall be effective only to the extent, and in such amounts, as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.”

§ 1250. Volunteer trails assistance

(a) Volunteer planning, development, maintenance, and management of trails

(1) In addition to the cooperative agreement and other authorities contained in this chapter, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the head of any Federal agency administering Federal lands, are authorized to encourage volunteers and volunteer organizations to plan, develop, maintain, and manage, where appropriate, trails throughout the Nation.

(2) Wherever appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter, the Secretaries are authorized and encouraged to utilize section 102301 of title 54, the Volunteers in the Forests Act of 1972¹ [16 U.S.C. 558a et seq.], and 200305² of title 54 (relating to the development of Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans).

(b) Scope of volunteer work

Each Secretary or the head of any Federal land managing agency may assist volunteers and volunteer organizations in planning, developing, maintaining, and managing trails. Volunteer work may include, but need not be limited to—

(1) planning, developing, maintaining, or managing (A) trails which are components of the national trails system, or (B) trails which, if so developed and maintained, could qualify for designation as components of the national trails system; or

(2) operating programs to organize and supervise volunteer trail building efforts with respect to the trails referred to in paragraph (1), conducting trail-related research projects, or providing education and training to volunteers on methods of trails planning, construction, and maintenance.

¹ See References in Text note below.

² So in original. Probably should be preceded by “section”.

(c) Use of Federal facilities, equipment, tools, and technical assistance

The appropriate Secretary or the head of any Federal land managing agency may utilize and make available Federal facilities, equipment, tools, and technical assistance to volunteers and volunteer organizations, subject to such limitations and restrictions as the appropriate Secretary or the head of any Federal land managing agency deems necessary or desirable.

(Pub. L. 90-543, §11, as added Pub. L. 98-11, title II, §210, Mar. 28, 1983, 97 Stat. 49; amended Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(27), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3267.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Volunteers in the Forests Act of 1972, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), probably means the Volunteers in the National Forests Act of 1972, Pub. L. 92-300, May 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 147, which was classified generally to former sections 558a to 558d of this title, prior to being amended generally and renamed the Volunteers in the National Forests and Public Lands Act by Pub. L. 118-234, title III, §341, Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 2913. Section 342 of Pub. L. 118-234, set out as a note under section 558a of this title, provides that a reference in any law to the Volunteers in National Forests Act of 1972 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Volunteers in the National Forests and Public Lands Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 558a of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 113-287 substituted “section 102301 of title 54” for “the Volunteers in the Parks Act of 1969” and “200305 of title 54” for “section 4607-8 of this title”.

§ 1251. Definitions

As used in this chapter:

(1) The term “high potential historic sites” means those historic sites related to the route, or sites in close proximity thereto, which provide opportunity to interpret the historic significance of the trail during the period of its major use. Criteria for consideration as high potential sites include historic significance, presence of visible historic remnants, scenic quality, and relative freedom from intrusion.

(2) The term “high potential route segments” means those segments of a trail which would afford high quality recreation experience in a portion of the route having greater than average scenic values or affording an opportunity to vicariously share the experience of the original users of a historic route.

(3) The term “State” means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(4) The term “without expense to the United States” means that no funds may be expended by Federal agencies for the development of trail related facilities or for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands outside the exterior boundaries of Federal areas. For the purposes

of the preceding sentence, amounts made available to any State or political subdivision under chapter 2003 of title 54 or any other provision of law shall not be treated as an expense to the United States.

(Pub. L. 90-543, §12, as added Pub. L. 98-11, title II, §210, Mar. 28, 1983, 97 Stat. 50; amended Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(28), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3267.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Par. (4). Pub. L. 113-287 substituted “chapter 2003 of title 54” for “the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965”.

Executive Documents

TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

CHAPTER 27A—NATIONAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS FUND

Sec.

1261. Repealed.

1262. National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee.

§ 1261. Repealed. Pub. L. 105-178, title I, § 1112(c), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 151

Section, Pub. L. 102-240, title I, §1302, Dec. 18, 1991, 105 Stat. 2064; Pub. L. 104-59, title III, §337(a)-(d), Nov. 28, 1995, 109 Stat. 602, 603; Pub. L. 104-88, title IV, §405(a)(5), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 957, related to national recreational trails funding program.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 102-240, title I, §1301, Dec. 18, 1991, 105 Stat. 2064, provided that: “This part [part B (§§1301-1303) of title I of Pub. L. 102-240, enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Symms National Recreational Trails Act of 1991.’”

§ 1262. National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee

(a) Establishment

There is established the National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee.

(b) Members

There shall be 12 members of the advisory committee, consisting of—

(1) 8 members appointed by the Secretary from nominations submitted by recreational trail user organizations, one each representing the following recreational trail uses:

- (A) hiking,
- (B) cross-country skiing,
- (C) off-highway motorcycling,
- (D) snowmobiling,
- (E) horseback riding,
- (F) all-terrain vehicle riding,
- (G) bicycling, and
- (H) four-wheel driving;

(2) 1 member appointed by the Secretary representing individuals with disabilities;