

§ 4405. Conditions relating to wetlands conservation projects

(a) Projects in United States

(1) Subject to the allocation requirements of section 4407(a)(2) of this title and the limitations on Federal contributions under section 4407(b) of this title, the Secretary shall assist in carrying out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, which have been approved by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, with the Federal funds made available under this chapter and section 669b(b) of this title.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), any lands or waters or interests therein acquired in whole or in part by the Secretary with the Federal funds made available under this chapter and section 669b(b) of this title to carry out wetlands conservation projects shall be included in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

(3) In lieu of including in the National Wildlife Refuge System any lands or waters or interests therein acquired under this chapter, the Secretary may, with the concurrence of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, grant or otherwise provide the Federal funds made available under this chapter and section 669b(b) of this title or convey any real property interest acquired in whole or in part with such funds without cost to a State or to another public agency or other entity upon a finding by the Secretary that the real property interests should not be included in the National Wildlife Refuge System: *Provided*, That any grant recipient shall have been so identified in the project description accompanying the recommendation from the Council and approved by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. The Secretary shall not convey any such interest to a State, another public agency or other entity unless the Secretary determines that such State, agency or other entity is committed to undertake the management of the property being transferred in accordance with the objectives of this chapter, and the deed or other instrument of transfer contains provisions for the reversion of title to the property to the United States if such State, agency or other entity fails to manage the property in accordance with the objectives of this chapter. Any real property interest conveyed pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to such terms and conditions that will ensure that the interest will be administered for the long-term conservation and management of the wetland ecosystem and the fish and wildlife dependent thereon.

(b) Projects in Canada or Mexico

Subject to the allocation requirements of section 4407(a)(1) of this title and the limitations on Federal contributions under section 4407(b) of this title, the Secretary shall grant or otherwise provide the Federal funds made available under this chapter and section 669b(b) of this title to public agencies and other entities for the purpose of assisting such entities and individuals in carrying out wetlands conservation projects in Canada or Mexico that have been approved by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: *Provided*, That the grant recipient shall have been so identified in the project description ac-

companying the recommendation from the Council and approved by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. The Secretary may only grant or otherwise provide Federal funds if the grant is subject to the terms and conditions that will ensure that any real property interest acquired in whole or in part, or enhanced, managed, or restored with such Federal funds will be administered for the long-term conservation and management of such wetland ecosystem and the fish and wildlife dependent thereon. Real property and interests in real property acquired pursuant to this subsection shall not become part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Acquisitions of real property and interests in real property carried out pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to any provision of Federal law governing acquisitions of property for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

(Pub. L. 101-233, § 6, Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1973.)

§ 4406. Amounts available to carry out this chapter

(a) Omitted

(b) Migratory bird fines, penalties, forfeitures

The sums received under section 707 of this title as penalties or fines, or from forfeitures of property are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior for purposes of allocation under section 4407 of this title. This subsection shall not be construed to require the sale of instrumentalities.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

In addition to the amounts made available under subsections (a) and (b) of this section, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior for purposes of allocation under section 4407 of this title not to exceed \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030.

(d) Availability of funds

Sums made available under this section shall be available until expended.

(Pub. L. 101-233, § 7, Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1974; Pub. L. 103-375, § 4, Oct. 19, 1994, 108 Stat. 3495; Pub. L. 105-312, title III, § 302, Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2958; Pub. L. 106-553, § 1(a)(2) [title IX, § 902(i)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2762, 2762A-124; Pub. L. 107-308, § 5, Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2447; Pub. L. 109-322, § 2, Oct. 11, 2006, 120 Stat. 1756; Pub. L. 116-188, title I, § 106, Oct. 30, 2020, 134 Stat. 917; Pub. L. 118-198, title I, § 105, Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2680.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 7 of Pub. L. 101-233. Subsec. (a) of section 7 of Pub. L. 101-233 amended sections 669b and 669c of this title and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 669b of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2024—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 118-198 substituted “2030” for “2025”.

2020—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116-188 substituted “not to exceed \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.” for “not to exceed—” and pars. (1) to (5), author-