

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), probably means the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-263, Oct. 19, 1998, 112 Stat. 2343, which amended section 460ccc-1 of this title and section 6901 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 6901 of Title 31. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1998 Amendment note set out under section 6901 of Title 31 and Tables.

§ 460qqq-5. Right-of-way

Not later than 180 days after November 6, 2002, the Secretary shall convey to the City of Henderson the public right-of-way requested for public trail purposes under the application numbered N-76312 and the public right-of-way requested for public trail purposes under the application numbered N-65874.

(Pub. L. 107-282, title VI, § 607, Nov. 6, 2002, 116 Stat. 2012.)

SUBCHAPTER CXXIX—RIO GRANDE
NATURAL AREA

§ 460rrr. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) Commission

The term “Commission” means the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission established by section 460rrr-2(a) of this title.

(2) Natural Area

The term “Natural Area” means the Rio Grande Natural Area established by section 460rrr-1(a) of this title.

(3) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(Pub. L. 109-337, § 2, Oct. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 1777.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 109-337, § 1, Oct. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 1777, provided that: “This Act [enacting this subchapter] may be cited as the ‘Rio Grande Natural Area Act’.”

§ 460rrr-1. Establishment of Rio Grande Natural Area**(a) In general**

There is established the Rio Grande Natural Area in the State of Colorado to conserve, restore, and protect the natural, historic, cultural, scientific, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources of the Natural Area.

(b) Boundaries

The Natural Area shall include the Rio Grande River from the southern boundary of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge to the New Mexico State border, extending ¼ mile on either side of the bank of the River.

(c) Map and legal description**(1) In general**

As soon as practicable after October 12, 2006, the Secretary shall prepare a map and legal description of the Natural Area.

(2) Effect

The map and legal description of the Natural Area shall have the same force and effect as if included in this subchapter, except that the Secretary may correct any minor errors in the map and legal description.

(3) Public availability

The map and legal description of the Natural Area shall be available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(Pub. L. 109-337, § 3, Oct. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 1777.)

§ 460rrr-2. Establishment of the Commission**(a) Establishment**

There is established the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission.

(b) Purpose

The Commission shall—

(1) advise the Secretary with respect to the Natural Area; and

(2) prepare a management plan relating to non-Federal land in the Natural Area under section 460rrr-4(b)(2)(A) of this title.

(c) Membership

The Commission shall be composed of 9 members appointed by the Secretary, of whom—

(1) 1 member shall represent the Colorado State Director of the Bureau of Land Management;

(2) 1 member shall be the manager of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, ex officio;

(3) 3 members shall be appointed based on the recommendation of the Governor of Colorado, of whom—

(A) 1 member shall represent the Colorado Division of Wildlife;

(B) 1 member shall represent the Colorado Division of Water Resources; and

(C) 1 member shall represent the Rio Grande Water Conservation District; and

(4) 4 members shall—

(A) represent the general public;

(B) be citizens of the local region in which the Natural Area is established; and

(C) have knowledge and experience in the fields of interest relating to the preservation, restoration, and use of the Natural Area.

(d) Terms of office**(1) In general**

Except for the manager of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, the term of office of a member of the Commission shall be 5 years.

(2) Reappointment

A member may be reappointed to the Commission on completion of the term of office of the member.

(e) Compensation

A member of the Commission shall serve without compensation for service on the Commission.

(f) Chairperson

The Commission shall elect a chairperson of the Commission.

(g) Meetings**(1) In general**

The Commission shall meet at least quarterly at the call of the chairperson.

(2) Public meetings

A meeting of the Commission shall be open to the public.

(3) Notice

Notice of any meeting of the Commission shall be published in advance of the meeting.

(h) Technical assistance

The Secretary and the heads of other Federal agencies shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide any information and technical services requested by the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 109-337, §4, Oct. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 1777.)

§ 460rrr-3. Powers of the Commission**(a) Hearings**

The Commission may hold such hearings, meet and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers advisable to carry out this subchapter.

(b) Cooperative agreements**(1) In general**

For purposes of carrying out the management plan on non-Federal land in the Natural Area, the Commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with the State of Colorado, a political subdivision of the State, or any person.

(2) Requirements

A cooperative agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall establish procedures for providing notice to the Commission of any action proposed by the State of Colorado, a political subdivision of the State, or any person that may affect the implementation of the management plan on non-Federal land in the Natural Area.

(3) Effect

A cooperative agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall not enlarge or diminish any right or duty of a Federal agency under Federal law.

(c) Prohibition of acquisition of real property

The Commission may not acquire any real property or interest in real property.

(d) Implementation of management plan**(1) In general**

The Commission shall assist the Secretary in implementing the management plan by carrying out the activities described in paragraph (2) to preserve and interpret the natural, historic, cultural, scientific, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources of the Natural Area.

(2) Authorized activities

In assisting with the implementation of the management plan under paragraph (1), the Commission may—

(A) assist the State of Colorado in preserving State land and wildlife within the Natural Area;

(B) assist the State of Colorado and political subdivisions of the State in increasing public awareness of, and appreciation for, the natural, historic, scientific, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources in the Natural Area;

(C) encourage political subdivisions of the State of Colorado to adopt and implement land use policies that are consistent with—

(i) the management of the Natural Area; and

(ii) the management plan; and

(D) encourage and assist private landowners in the Natural Area in the implementation of the management plan.

(Pub. L. 109-337, §5, Oct. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 1778.)

§ 460rrr-4. Management plan**(a) In general**

Not later than 4 years after October 12, 2006, the Secretary and the Commission, in coordination with appropriate agencies in the State of Colorado, political subdivisions of the State, and private landowners in the Natural Area, shall prepare management plans for the Natural Area as provided in subsection (b).

(b) Duties of Secretary and Commission**(1) Secretary**

The Secretary shall prepare a management plan relating to the management of Federal land in the Natural Area.

(2) Commission**(A) In general**

The Commission shall prepare a management plan relating to the management of the non-Federal land in the Natural Area.

(B) Approval or disapproval**(i) In general**

The Commission shall submit to the Secretary the management plan prepared under subparagraph (A) for approval or disapproval.

(ii) Action following disapproval

If the Secretary disapproves the management plan submitted under clause (i), the Secretary shall—

(I) notify the Commission of the reasons for the disapproval; and

(II) allow the Commission to submit to the Secretary revisions to the management plan submitted under clause (i).

(3) Cooperation

The Secretary and the Commission shall cooperate to ensure that the management plans relating to the management of Federal land and non-Federal land are consistent.

(c) Requirements

The management plans shall—

(1) take into consideration Federal, State, and local plans in existence on October 12, 2006, to present a unified preservation, restoration, and conservation plan for the Natural Area;

(2) with respect to Federal land in the Natural Area—