

**§ 470cc. Excavation and removal****(a) Application for permit**

Any person may apply to the Federal land manager for a permit to excavate or remove any archaeological resource located on public lands or Indian lands and to carry out activities associated with such excavation or removal. The application shall be required, under uniform regulations under this chapter, to contain such information as the Federal land manager deems necessary, including information concerning the time, scope, and location and specific purpose of the proposed work.

**(b) Determinations by Federal land manager prerequisite to issuance of permit**

A permit may be issued pursuant to an application under subsection (a) if the Federal land manager determines, pursuant to uniform regulations under this chapter, that—

(1) the applicant is qualified, to carry out the permitted activity,

(2) the activity is undertaken for the purpose of furthering archaeological knowledge in the public interest,

(3) the archaeological resources which are excavated or removed from public lands will remain the property of the United States, and such resources and copies of associated archaeological records and data will be preserved by a suitable university, museum, or other scientific or educational institution, and

(4) the activity pursuant to such permit is not inconsistent with any management plan applicable to the public lands concerned.

**(c) Notification to Indian tribes of possible harm to or destruction of sites having religious or cultural importance**

If a permit issued under this section may result in harm to, or destruction of, any religious or cultural site, as determined by the Federal land manager, before issuing such permit, the Federal land manager shall notify any Indian tribe which may consider the site as having religious or cultural importance. Such notice shall not be deemed a disclosure to the public for purposes of section 470hh of this title.

**(d) Terms and conditions of permit**

Any permit under this section shall contain such terms and conditions, pursuant to uniform regulations promulgated under this chapter, as the Federal land manager concerned deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

**(e) Identification of individuals responsible for complying with permit terms and conditions and other applicable laws**

Each permit under this section shall identify the individual who shall be responsible for carrying out the terms and conditions of the permit and for otherwise complying with this chapter and other law applicable to the permitted activity.

**(f) Suspension or revocation of permits; grounds**

Any permit issued under this section may be suspended by the Federal land manager upon his determination that the permittee has violated any provision of subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 470ee of this title. Any such permit may be

revoked by such Federal land manager upon assessment of a civil penalty under section 470ff of this title against the permittee or upon the permittee's conviction under section 470ee of this title.

**(g) Excavation or removal by Indian tribes or tribe members; excavation or removal of resources located on Indian lands**

(1) No permit shall be required under this section or under the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431),<sup>1</sup> for the excavation or removal by any Indian tribe or member thereof of any archaeological resource located on Indian lands of such Indian tribe, except that in the absence of tribal law regulating the excavation or removal of archaeological resources on Indian lands, an individual tribal member shall be required to obtain a permit under this section.

(2) In the case of any permits for the excavation or removal of any archaeological<sup>2</sup> resource located on Indian lands, the permit may be granted only after obtaining the consent of the Indian or Indian tribe owning or having jurisdiction over such lands. The permit shall include such terms and conditions as may be requested by such Indian or Indian tribe.

**(h) Permits issued under chapter 3203 of title 54**

(1) No permit or other permission shall be required under chapter 3203 of title 54 for any activity for which a permit is issued under this section.

(2) Any permit issued under chapter 3203 of title 54 shall remain in effect according to its terms and conditions following the enactment of this chapter. No permit under this chapter shall be required to carry out any activity under a permit issued under chapter 3203 of title 54 before October 31, 1979, which remains in effect as provided in this paragraph, and nothing in this chapter shall modify or affect any such permit.

**(i) Compliance with provisions relating to undertakings on property listed in the National Register not required**

Issuance of a permit in accordance with this section and applicable regulations shall not require compliance with section 306108 of title 54.

**(j) Issuance of permits to State Governors for archaeological activities on behalf of States or their educational institutions**

Upon the written request of the Governor of any State, the Federal land manager shall issue a permit, subject to the provisions of subsections (b)(3), (b)(4), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of this section for the purpose of conducting archaeological research, excavation, removal, and curation, on behalf of the State or its educational institutions, to such Governor or to such designee as the Governor deems qualified to carry out the intent of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 96-95, §4, Oct. 31, 1979, 93 Stat. 722; Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(6), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3264.)

**Editorial Notes****REFERENCES IN TEXT**

The Act of June 8, 1906, referred to in subsec. (g)(1), is act June 8, 1906, ch. 3060, 34 Stat. 225, known as the

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Probably should be "archaeological".

Antiquities Act of 1906, which was classified generally to sections 431, 432, and 433 of this title. The Act was repealed and restated as section 1866(b) of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and sections 320301(a) to (c), 320302, and 320303 of Title 54, National Park Service and Related Programs, by Pub. L. 113-287, §§3, 4(a)(1), 7, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3094, 3260, 3272. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables. For disposition of former sections of this title, see Disposition Table preceding section 100101 of Title 54.

Following the enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (h)(2), means following the enactment of Pub. L. 96-95, approved Oct. 31, 1979.

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (h)(1). Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(6)(A)(i), substituted “chapter 3203 of title 54” for “the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431-433).”.

Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(6)(A)(ii), substituted “chapter 3203 of title 54” for “the Act of June 8, 1906,” in two places.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(6)(B), substituted “section 306108 of title 54” for “section 470f of this title”.

### § 470dd. Custody of archaeological resources

The Secretary of the Interior may promulgate regulations providing for—

- (1) the exchange, where appropriate, between suitable universities, museums, or other scientific or educational institutions, of archaeological resources removed from public lands and Indian lands pursuant to this chapter, and
- (2) the ultimate disposition of such resources and other resources removed pursuant to chapter 3125 or chapter 3203 of title 54.

Any exchange or ultimate disposition under such regulation of archaeological resources excavated or removed from Indian lands shall be subject to the consent of the Indian or Indian tribe which owns or has jurisdiction over such lands. Following promulgation of regulations under this section, notwithstanding any other provision of law, such regulations shall govern the disposition of archaeological resources removed from public lands and Indian lands pursuant to this chapter.

(Pub. L. 96-95, §5, Oct. 31, 1979, 93 Stat. 724; Pub. L. 113-287, §5(d)(7), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3264.)

#### Editorial Notes

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Par. (2). Pub. L. 113-287 substituted “chapter 3125 or chapter 3203 of title 54” for “the Act of June 27, 1960 (16 U.S.C. 469-469c) or the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431-433)”.

### § 470ee. Prohibited acts and criminal penalties

#### (a) Unauthorized excavation, removal, damage, alteration, or defacement of archaeological resources

No person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface, or attempt to excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resource located on public lands or Indian lands unless such activity is pursuant to a permit issued under section 470cc of this title, a permit referred to in section 470cc(h)(2) of this title, or the exemption contained in section 470cc(g)(1) of this title.

#### (b) Trafficking in archaeological resources the excavation or removal of which was wrongful under Federal law

No person may sell, purchase, exchange, transport, receive, or offer to sell, purchase, or exchange any archaeological resource if such resource was excavated or removed from public lands or Indian lands in violation of—

- (1) the prohibition contained in subsection (a), or

- (2) any provision, rule, regulation, ordinance, or permit in effect under any other provision of Federal law.

#### (c) Trafficking in interstate or foreign commerce in archaeological resources the excavation, removal, sale, purchase, exchange, transportation or receipt of which was wrongful under State or local law

No person may sell, purchase, exchange, transport, receive, or offer to sell, purchase, or exchange, in interstate or foreign commerce, any archaeological resource excavated, removed, sold, purchased, exchanged, transported, or received in violation of any provision, rule, regulation, ordinance, or permit in effect under State or local law.

#### (d) Penalties

Any person who knowingly violates, or counsels, procures, solicits, or employs any other person to violate, any prohibition contained in subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both: *Provided, however*, That if the commercial or archaeological value of the archaeological resources involved and the cost of restoration and repair of such resources exceeds the sum of \$500, such person shall be fined not more than \$20,000 or imprisoned not more than two years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent such violation upon conviction such person shall be fined not more than \$100,000, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

#### (e) Effective date

The prohibitions contained in this section shall take effect on October 31, 1979.

#### (f) Prospective application

Nothing in subsection (b)(1) of this section shall be deemed applicable to any person with respect to an archaeological resource which was in the lawful possession of such person prior to October 31, 1979.

#### (g) Removal of arrowheads located on ground surface

Nothing in subsection (d) of this section shall be deemed applicable to any person with respect to the removal of arrowheads located on the surface of the ground.

(Pub. L. 96-95, §6, Oct. 31, 1979, 93 Stat. 724; Pub. L. 100-588, §1(b), (c), Nov. 3, 1988, 102 Stat. 2983.)

#### Editorial Notes

#### AMENDMENTS

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-588, §1(b), inserted “, or attempt to excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface” after “deface”.