

- (i) an interstate compact that is approved by Congress;
- (ii) a Federal statute; or
- (iii) a treaty or other international agreement with respect to which the United States is a party; and

(B)(i) that represents 2 or more—

- (I) States or political subdivisions thereof; or
- (II) Indian tribes; or

(ii) that represents—

- (I) 1 or more States or political subdivisions thereof; and
- (II) 1 or more Indian tribes; or

(iii) that represents the Federal Government and 1 or more foreign governments; and

(C) has jurisdiction over, serves as forum for coordinating, or otherwise has a role or responsibility for the management of, any land or other natural resource;

(11) “nonindigenous species” means any species or other viable biological material that enters an ecosystem beyond its historic range, including any such organism transferred from one country into another;

(12) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating;

(13) “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands of the United States;

(14) “recreational vessel” has the meaning given that term in section 1362 of title 33;

(15) “Task Force” means the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force established under section 4721 of this title;

(16) “territorial sea” means the belt of the sea measured from the baseline of the United States determined in accordance with international law, as set forth in Presidential Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27, 1988;

(17) “Under Secretary” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere;

(18) “waters of the United States” means the navigable waters and the territorial sea of the United States; and

(19) “unintentional introduction” means an introduction of nonindigenous species that occurs as the result of activities other than the purposeful or intentional introduction of the species involved, such as the transport of nonindigenous species in ballast or in water used to transport fish, mollusks or crustaceans for aquaculture or other purposes.

(Pub. L. 101-646, title I, §1003, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4762; Pub. L. 102-580, title III, §302(b)(2), Oct. 31, 1992, 106 Stat. 4839; Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2), (h)(1), (3), Oct. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 4074, 4091; Pub. L. 117-263, div. K, title CXIII, §11327(a), (e)(2), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 4096, 4098.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, which, to reflect the probable intent of

Congress, was translated as reading “this title” meaning title I of Pub. L. 101-646, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4761, known as the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4701 of this title and Tables.

Proclamation Number 5030, referred to in par. (5), is set out under section 1453 of this title.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, referred to in par. (9), is Pub. L. 92-203, Dec. 18, 1971, 85 Stat. 688, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 33 (§1601 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1601 of Title 43 and Tables.

Presidential Proclamation Number 5928, referred to in par. (14), is set out under section 1331 of Title 43.

#### AMENDMENTS

2022—Par. (7). Pub. L. 117-263, §11327(e)(2), substituted “Canadian” for “Canandian”.

Pars. (13) to (19). Pub. L. 117-263, §11327(a), added pars. (13) and (14) and redesignated former pars. (13) to (17) as (15) to (19), respectively.

1996—Pub. L. 104-332, §2(h)(1), (3), made technical amendment to Pub. L. 101-646, §1003, which enacted this section.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(A), redesignated par. (2) as (1) and struck out former par. (1) which read as follows: “‘appropriate Committees’ means the Committee on Public Works and Transportation and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries in the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works and Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation in the Senate; and”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(B), substituted “‘Assistant Secretary’ means” for “‘assistant Secretary’ means”.

Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(A), redesignated par. (3) as (2). Former par. (2) redesignated (1).

Pars. (3) to (7). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(A), redesignated pars. (4) to (8) as (3) to (7), respectively. Former par. (3) redesignated (2).

Par. (8). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(D), added par. (8).

Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(A), redesignated par. (8) as (7).

Pars. (9), (10). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(D), added pars. (9) and (10).

Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(C), redesignated pars. (9) and (10) as (11) and (12), respectively.

Pars. (11) to (17). Pub. L. 104-332, §2(a)(2)(C), redesignated pars. (9) to (15) as (11) to (17), respectively.

1992—Par. (1). Pub. L. 102-580 inserted “the Committee on Public Works and Transportation and” after “means”.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—PREVENTION OF UNINTENTIONAL INTRODUCTIONS OF NON-INDIGENOUS AQUATIC SPECIES

#### § 4711. Repealed. Pub. L. 115-282, title IX, § 903(a)(2)(A)(i), Dec. 4, 2018, 132 Stat. 4354

Section, Pub. L. 101-646, title I, §1101, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4763; Pub. L. 102-580, title III, §302(b)(1), Oct. 31, 1992, 106 Stat. 4839; Pub. L. 102-587, title IV, §4002,

Nov. 4, 1992, 106 Stat. 5068; Pub. L. 104-332, §2(b)(2), Oct. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 4075, related to aquatic nuisance species in waters of United States.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Pub. L. 115-282, title IX, §903(a)(2)(A), Dec. 4, 2018, 132 Stat. 4354, provided that the repeal of this section by section 903(a)(2)(A) is effective beginning on Dec. 4, 2018.

### § 4712. National ballast water management information

#### (a) Studies on introduction of aquatic nuisance species by vessels

##### (1) Ballast exchange study

The Task Force, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a study—

(A) to assess the environmental effects of ballast water exchange on the diversity and abundance of native species in receiving estuarine, marine, and fresh waters of the United States; and

(B) to identify areas within the waters of the United States and the exclusive economic zone, if any, where the exchange of ballast water does not pose a threat of infestation or spread of aquatic nuisance species in the Great Lakes and other waters of the United States.

##### (2) Biological study

The Task Force, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a study to determine whether aquatic nuisance species threaten the ecological characteristics and economic uses of Lake Champlain and other waters of the United States other than the Great Lakes.

##### (3) Shipping study

The Secretary shall conduct a study to determine the need for controls on vessels entering waters of the United States, other than the Great Lakes, to minimize the risk of unintentional introduction and dispersal of aquatic nuisance species in those waters. The study shall include an examination of—

(A) the degree to which shipping may be a major pathway of transmission of aquatic nuisance species in those waters;

(B) possible alternatives for controlling introduction of those species through shipping; and

(C) the feasibility of implementing regional versus national control measures.

#### (b) Ecological and ballast water discharge surveys

##### (1) Ecological surveys

###### (A) In general

The Task Force, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct ecological surveys of the Chesapeake Bay, San Francisco Bay, and Honolulu Harbor and, as necessary, of other estuaries of national significance and other waters that the Task Force determines—

(i) to be highly susceptible to invasion by aquatic nuisance species resulting from ballast water operations and other operations of vessels; and

(ii) to require further study.

##### (B) Requirements for surveys

In conducting the surveys under this paragraph, the Task Force shall, with respect to each such survey—

(i) examine the attributes and patterns of invasions of aquatic nuisance species; and

(ii) provide an estimate of the effectiveness of ballast water management and other vessel management guidelines issued and regulations promulgated under this subchapter in abating invasions of aquatic nuisance species in the waters that are the subject of the survey.

#### (2) Ballast water discharge surveys

##### (A) In general

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Task Force, shall conduct surveys of ballast water discharge rates and practices in the waters referred to in paragraph (1)(A) on the basis of the criteria under clauses (i) and (ii) of such paragraph.

##### (B) Requirements for surveys

In conducting the surveys under this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

(i) examine the rate of, and trends in, ballast water discharge in the waters that are the subject of the survey; and

(ii) assess the effectiveness of voluntary guidelines issued, and regulations promulgated, under this subchapter in altering ballast water discharge practices to reduce the probability of accidental introductions of aquatic nuisance species.

#### (3) Columbia River

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Task Force and academic institutions in each of the States affected, shall conduct an ecological and ballast water discharge survey of the Columbia River system consistent with the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2).

#### (c) Reports

##### (1) Ballast exchange

Not later than 18 months after November 29, 1990, and prior to the effective date of the regulations issued under section 4711(b) of this title (as in effect on the day before December 4, 2018), the Task Force shall submit a report to the Congress that presents the results of the study required under subsection (a)(1) and makes recommendations with respect to such regulations.

##### (2) Biological and shipping studies

Not later than 18 months after November 29, 1990, the Secretary and the Task Force shall each submit to the Congress a report on the results of their respective studies under paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a).

#### (d) Negotiations

The Secretary, working through the International Maritime Organization, is encouraged to enter into negotiations with the governments of foreign countries concerning the planning and implementation of measures aimed at the prevention and control of unintentional introduc-