

### § 6454. Responsibilities of Federal agency members

#### (a) In general

A member of the Task Force described in section 6453(a) of this title shall—

(1) identify the actions of the agency that member represents that may affect coral reef ecosystems;

(2) use the programs and authorities of that agency to protect and enhance the conditions of such ecosystems, including through the promotion of basic and applied scientific research;

(3) collaborate with the Task Force to appropriately reflect budgetary needs for coral reef conservation and restoration activities in all agency budget planning and justification documents and processes; and

(4) engage in any other coordinated efforts approved by the Task Force.

#### (b) Co-chairpersons

In addition to their responsibilities under subsection (a), the co-chairpersons of the Task Force shall perform the administrative functions of the Task Force and facilitate the coordination of the members of the Task Force described in section 6453(a) of this title.

#### (c) Briefing

Not less than 30 days before each meeting of the Task Force, the program offices of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration responsible for implementing this title shall provide a briefing to the relevant congressional committees on efforts and spending associated with such implementation.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title C, §10014, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3953.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title, referred to in subsec. (c), means title C of division J of Pub. L. 117–263, which enacted this chapter and sections 6401 to 6415 of this title, amended section 7504 of this title, repealed sections 6401 to 6409 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 6401 of this title. For complete classification of title C to the Code, see Tables.

### § 6455. Working groups

#### (a) In general

The co-chairpersons of the Task Force may establish working groups as necessary to meet the goals and carry out the duties of the Task Force.

#### (b) Requests from members

The members of the Task Force may request that the co-chairpersons establish a working group under subsection (a).

#### (c) Participation by nongovernmental organizations

The co-chairpersons may allow nongovernmental organizations as appropriate, including academic institutions, conservation groups, and commercial and recreational fishing associations, to participate in a working group established under subsection (a).

### (d) Nonapplicability of Federal Advisory Committee Act

The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)<sup>1</sup> shall not apply to working groups established under this section.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title C, §10015, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3954.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92–463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which was set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and was substantially repealed and restated in chapter 10 (§1001 et seq.) of Title 5 by Pub. L. 117–286, §§3(a), 7, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4197, 4361. For disposition of sections of the Act into chapter 10 of Title 5, see Disposition Table preceding section 101 of Title 5.

### § 6456. Definitions

In this subchapter:

#### (1) Appropriate congressional committees

The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(D) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

#### (2) Conservation, coral, coral reef, etc.

The terms “conservation”, “coral”, “coral reef”, “coral reef ecosystem”, “covered reef manager”, “covered State”, “Federal reef manager”, “National Coral Reef Resilience Strategy”, “restoration”, “resilience”, and “State” have the meanings given those terms in section 6415 of this title, as added by this division.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title C, §10016, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3954.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This division, referred to in par. (2), is div. J of Pub. L. 117–263, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3930. For complete classification of div. J to the Code, see Tables.

## SUBCHAPTER II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CORAL REEF AUTHORITIES

### § 6471. Coral reef conservation and restoration assistance

#### (a) In general

The Secretary of the Interior may provide scientific expertise and technical assistance, and subject to the availability of appropriations, financial assistance for the conservation and restoration of coral reefs consistent with all applicable laws governing resource management in Federal, State, and Tribal waters, including—

(1) the National Coral Reef Resilience Strategy; and

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

(2) coral reef action plans in effect under section 205 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 [16 U.S.C. 6404], as added by this division, as applicable.

**(b) Coral Reef Initiative**

The Secretary may establish a Coral Reef Initiative Program—

(1) to provide grant funding to support local management, conservation, and protection of coral reef ecosystems in—

- (A) coastal areas of covered States; and
- (B) Freely Associated States;

(2) to enhance resource availability of National Park Service and National Wildlife Refuge System management units to implement coral reef conservation and restoration activities;

(3) to complement the other conservation and assistance activities conducted under this Act or the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 [16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.], as amended by section 10001; and

(4) to provide other technical, scientific, and financial assistance and conduct conservation and restoration activities that advance the purposes of this title and the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by this division.

**(c) Consultation with the Department of Commerce**

**(1) Coral reef conservation and restoration activities**

The Secretary of the Interior may consult with the Secretary of Commerce regarding the conduct of any activities to conserve and restore coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems in waters managed under the jurisdiction of the Federal agencies specified in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 203(c) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 [16 U.S.C. 6402(c)(2), (3)], as added by this division.

**(2) Award of Coral Reef Management Fellowship**

The Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Secretary of Commerce to award the Susan L. Williams Coral Reef Management Fellowship under subchapter III of this chapter.

**(d) Cooperative agreements**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into cooperative agreements with covered reef managers to fund coral reef conservation and restoration activities in waters managed under the jurisdiction of such managers that—

(1) are consistent with the National Coral Reef Resilience Strategy; and

(2) support and enhance the success of coral reef action plans in effect under section 205 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 [16 U.S.C. 6404], as added by this division.

**(e) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Conservation, coral, coral reef, etc.**

The terms “conservation”, “coral reef”, “covered reef manager”, “covered State”,

“National Coral Reef Resilience Strategy”, “restoration”, and “State” have the meanings given those terms in section 216 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 [16 U.S.C. 6415], as added by this division.

**(2) Tribe; Tribal**

The terms “Tribe” and “Tribal” refer to Indian Tribes (as defined in section 5130 of title 25).

(Pub. L. 117-263, div. J, title C, §10021, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3954.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This division, referred to in subsecs. (a)(2), (b)(4), (c)(1), (d)(2), and (e)(1), is div. J of Pub. L. 117-263, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3930. For complete classification of div. J to the Code, see Tables.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is Pub. L. 117-263, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2395, known as the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), (4), is Pub. L. 106-562, title II, §201, Dec. 23, 2000, 114 Stat. 2800, which is classified generally to chapter 83 (§6401 et seq.) of this title. The Act was amended by section 10001 of div. J of Pub. L. 117-263, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3931. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6401 of this title and Tables.

This title, referred to in subsec. (b)(4), means title C of division J of Pub. L. 117-263, which enacted this chapter and sections 6401 to 6415 of this title, amended section 7504 of this title, repealed sections 6401 to 6409 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 6401 of this title. For complete classification of title C to the Code, see Tables.

SUBCHAPTER III—SUSAN L. WILLIAMS NATIONAL CORAL REEF MANAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP

**§ 6481. Susan L. Williams National Coral Reef Management Fellowship**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Alaska Native Corporation**

The term “Alaska Native Corporation” has the meaning given the term “Native Corporation” in section 1602 of title 43.

**(2) Fellow**

The term “fellow” means a National Coral Reef Management Fellow.

**(3) Fellowship**

The term “fellowship” means the National Coral Reef Management Fellowship established in subsection (c).

**(4) Covered Native entity**

The term “covered Native entity” has the meaning given the term in section 6415 of this title, as added by this division.

**(5) Covered State**

The term “covered State” has the meaning given the term in section 6415 of this title, as added by this division.

**(6) Native entity**

The term “Native entity” has the meaning given the term in section 6415 of this title, as added by this division.