

Editorial Notes**CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

DEFINITION OF “SECRETARY”

“Secretary” as meaning the Secretary of Agriculture, see section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

§ 3056. Prohibition on disclosure**(a) Nondisclosure of information****(1) In general**

The Secretary shall not disclose under section 552 of title 5 (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”), information relating to—

(A) subject to subsection (b)(1),¹ human remains or cultural items reburied on National Forest System land under section 3053 of this title; or

(B) subject to subsection (b)(2), resources, cultural items, uses, or activities that—

(i) have a traditional and cultural purpose; and

(ii) are provided to the Secretary by an Indian or Indian tribe under an express expectation of confidentiality in the context of forest and rangeland research activities carried out under the authority of the Forest Service.

(2) Limitations on disclosure

Subject to subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall not be required to disclose information under section 552 of title 5 (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”), concerning the identity, use, or specific location in the National Forest System of—

(A) a site or resource used for traditional and cultural purposes by an Indian tribe; or

(B) any cultural items not covered under section 3053 of this title.

(b) Limited release of information**(1) Reburial**

The Secretary may disclose information described in subsection (a)(1)(A)² if, before the disclosure, the Secretary—

(A) consults with an affected Indian tribe or lineal descendant;

(B) determines that disclosure of the information—

(i) would advance the purposes of this chapter; and

(ii) is necessary to protect the human remains or cultural items from harm, theft, or destruction; and

(C) attempts to mitigate any adverse impacts identified by an Indian tribe or lineal

descendant that reasonably could be expected to result from disclosure of the information.

(2) Other information

The Secretary, in consultation with appropriate Indian tribes, may disclose information described under paragraph (1)(B) or (2) of subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that disclosure of the information to the public—

(A) would advance the purposes of this chapter;

(B) would not create an unreasonable risk of harm, theft, or destruction of the resource, site, or object, including individual organic or inorganic specimens; and

(C) would be consistent with other applicable laws.

(Pub. L. 110-234, title VIII, §8106, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1288; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VIII, §8106, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2050.)

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§ 3057. Severability and savings provisions**(a) Severability**

If any provision of this chapter, or the application of any provision of this chapter to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision or circumstance and the remainder of this chapter shall not be affected thereby.

(b) Savings

Nothing in this chapter—

(1) diminishes or expands the trust responsibility of the United States to Indian tribes, or any legal obligation or remedy resulting from that responsibility;

(2) alters, abridges, repeals, or affects any valid agreement between the Forest Service and an Indian tribe;

(3) alters, abridges, diminishes, repeals, or affects any reserved or other right of an Indian tribe; or

(4) alters, abridges, diminishes, repeals, or affects any other valid existing right relating to National Forest System land or other public land.

(Pub. L. 110-234, title VIII, §8107, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1289; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VIII, §8107, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2051.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be “(b)(1),”.

² So in original. Probably should be “(a)(1)(A)”.