

among experts and other stakeholders in order to enhance the scientific and technical expertise and relevance of the national program.<sup>2</sup>

(7) provide guidance, in consultation with the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council, to Federal and State agencies, Tribal Governments, private industry, academia (including secondary schools, community colleges, and universities), and nongovernmental organizations on data standards, protocols for accepting data, and coordination of data collection, compilation, processing, archiving, and dissemination for data relating to ocean exploration and characterization; and

(8) coordinate with applicable ocean mapping, ocean monitoring, and ocean observation programs to maximize coordination and collaboration opportunities, prevent duplication of such activities and identify gaps in data.

#### (b) Donations

For the purpose of mapping, exploring, and characterizing the oceans or increasing the knowledge of the oceans, the Administrator may—

(1) accept monetary donations, which shall be credited as discretionary offsetting collections to the currently applicable appropriation, account, or fund of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and shall be made available for such purposes only to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts;

(2) accept donations of property, data, and equipment; and

(3) pay all necessary expenses in connection with the conveyance or transfer of a gift, devise, or bequest.

#### (c) Definition of exclusive economic zone

In this section, the term “exclusive economic zone” means the zone established by Presidential Proclamation Number 5030, dated March 10, 1983 (16 U.S.C. 1453 note).

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12003, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1417; Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title CIII, §10305(c), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3971.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 5405 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, referred to in subsec. (a)(6), probably means section 10304 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, Pub. L. 117–263, which established the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council, and is classified to section 3408 of this title. Pub. L. 117–263 does not contain a section 5405.

#### AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(A), inserted “, in consultation with the Ocean Policy Committee established under section 8932 of title 10,” after “Administration” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(B), substituted “expeditions” for “voyages” and “Federal and State agencies, Tribal Governments, private industry, academia (including secondary schools, community col-

leges, and universities), and nongovernmental organizations, to map, explore, and characterize” for “Federal agencies or academic or educational institutions, to explore and survey” and inserted “characterize,” after “observe.”

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(C), inserted “of the exclusive economic zone” after “deep ocean regions”.

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(D), substituted “expeditions” for “voyages”.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(E), struck out “, in consultation with the National Science Foundation,” after “implement”.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(F), amended par. (5) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (5) read as follows: “enhance the technical capability of the United States marine science community by promoting the development of improved oceanographic research, communication, navigation, and data collection systems, as well as underwater platforms and sensor and autonomous vehicles; and”.

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(G), inserted “, in consultation with the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council established under section 5405 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023,” after “forum”.

Subsec. (a)(7), (8). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(1)(H), added pars. (7) and (8).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(2), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Administrator may accept donations of property, data, and equipment to be applied for the purpose of exploring the oceans or increasing knowledge of the oceans.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(c)(3), added subsec. (c).

### §3404. Education, workforce training, and outreach

#### (a) In general

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall—

(1) conduct education and outreach efforts in order to broadly disseminate information to the public on the discoveries made by the program under section 3402 of this title;

(2) to the extent possible, coordinate the efforts described in paragraph (1) with the outreach strategies of other domestic or international ocean mapping, exploration, and characterization initiatives; and

(3) establish a fellowship program at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide year-long fellowships to undergraduate students from institutions described in section 1067q(a) of title 20.

#### (b) Education and outreach efforts

Efforts described in subsection (a)(1) may include—

(1) education of the general public, teachers, students, and ocean and coastal resource managers; and

(2) workforce training, reskilling, and opportunities to encourage development of ocean-related science, technology, engineering, and mathematics technical training programs involving secondary schools, community colleges, and universities, including institutions described in section 1067q(a) of title 20.

#### (c) Outreach strategy

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the National Ocean Exploration

<sup>2</sup> So in original. The period probably should be a semicolon.

Act,<sup>1</sup> the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall develop an outreach strategy to broadly disseminate information on the discoveries made by the program under section 3402 of this title.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12004, as added Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title CIII, §10305(e)(1), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3973.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of the National Ocean Exploration Act, referred to in subsec. (c), probably means the date of enactment of Pub. L. 117–263, which was approved Dec. 23, 2022. Prior versions of the bill that was enacted into law as title CIII of div. J of Pub. L. 117–263 included such Short Title, but it was not enacted as part of Pub. L. 117–263.

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3404, Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1418, related to an ocean exploration and undersea research technology and infrastructure task force, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title CIII, §10305(d), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3972.

### § 3405. Ocean Exploration Advisory Board

#### (a) Establishment

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall appoint an Ocean Exploration Advisory Board composed of experts in relevant fields, including representatives from academic, commercial, nonprofit, philanthropic, policy, and Tribal entities—

(1) to advise the Administrator on priority areas for survey, discovery, and opportunities for extramural collaboration and partnerships;

(2) to assist the program in the development of a 5-year strategic plan for the fields of ocean, marine, and Great Lakes science, exploration, and discovery;

(3) to annually review the quality and effectiveness of the proposal review process established under section 3403(a)(4) of this title; and<sup>1</sup>

(4) to identify market barriers to development or commercialization of novel ocean mapping, exploration, and characterization products, processes, and tools;

(5) to identify best practices to improve data management, processing, storage, and archiving standards; and

(6) to provide other assistance and advice as requested by the Administrator.

#### (b) Chapter 10 of title 5

Section 1013 of title 5 shall not apply to the Board appointed under subsection (a).

#### (c) Application with Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act

Nothing in this subchapter supersedes, or limits the authority of the Secretary of the Interior under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12005, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1418; Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title CIII,

§10305(f), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3973; Pub. L. 117–286, §4(a)(208), Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4329.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is act Aug. 7, 1953, ch. 345, 67 Stat. 462, which is classified generally to subchapter III (§1331 et seq.) of chapter 29 of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of Title 43 and Tables.

##### AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(f)(1)(A), inserted “, including representatives from academic, commercial, nonprofit, philanthropic, policy, and Tribal entities” after “relevant fields” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(f)(1)(B), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “to advise the Administrator on priority areas for survey and discovery;”.

Subsec. (a)(4) to (6). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(f)(1)(C), (D), added pars. (4) and (5) and redesignated former par. (4) as (6).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 117–286 substituted “Chapter 10 of title 5” for “Federal Advisory Committee Act” in heading and “Section 1013 of title 5” for “Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” in text.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 117–263, §10305(f)(2), inserted “this” before “subchapter”.

### § 3406. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out this subchapter \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028<sup>1</sup>

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12006, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1419; Pub. L. 117–263, div. J, title CIII, §10305(g), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3974.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2022—Pub. L. 117–263 substituted “this subchapter \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028” for “this subchapter—” and struck out pars. (1) to (7) which authorized appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2015.

### § 3407. Definitions

In this subchapter:

#### (1) Characterization

The terms “characterization”, “characterize”, and “characterizing” mean activities that provide comprehensive data and interpretations for a specific area of interest of the sea floor, sub-bottom, water column, or hydrologic features, such as water masses and currents, in direct support of specific research, environmental protection, resource management, policymaking, or applied mission objectives.

#### (2) Exploration

The term<sup>1</sup> “exploration”, “explore”, and “exploring” means<sup>1</sup> activities that provide—

(A) a multidisciplinary view of an unknown or poorly understood area of the sea floor, sub-bottom, or water column; and

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

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The word “and” probably should not appear.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “terms” and “mean”.