

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
555	40:484(r).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(r), as added Pub. L. 105-27, §1, July 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 244.

§ 556. Disposal of dredge vessels

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General Services, pursuant to sections 521 through 527, 529, and 549 of this title, may dispose of a United States Army Corps of Engineers vessel used for dredging, together with related equipment owned by the Federal Government and under the control of the Chief of Engineers, if the Secretary of the Army declares the vessel to be in excess of federal needs.

(b) RECIPIENTS AND PURPOSES.—Disposal under this section is accomplished—

(1) through sale or lease to—

(A) a foreign government as part of a Corps of Engineers technical assistance program;

(B) a federal or state maritime academy for training purposes; or

(C) a non-federal public body for scientific, educational, or cultural purposes; or

(2) through sale solely for scrap to foreign or domestic interests.

(c) NO DREDGING ACTIVITIES.—A vessel described in subsection (a) shall not be disposed of under any law for the purpose of engaging in dredging activities within the United States.

(d) DEPOSIT OF AMOUNTS COLLECTED.—Amounts collected from the sale or lease of a vessel or equipment under this section shall be deposited into the revolving fund authorized by section 101 (9th par.) of the Civil Functions Appropriation¹ Act, 1954 (33 U.S.C. 576), to be available, as provided in appropriation laws, for the operation and maintenance of vessels under the control of the Corps of Engineers.

(Pub. L. 107-217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1102.)

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Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
556	40:483d.	Pub. L. 99-662, title IX, §945, Nov. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 4200.

In subsection (a), the words “U.S. Army Corps of Engineers” are substituted for “Corps of Engineers” for clarity. The words “Secretary of the Army” are substituted for “Secretary” because of section 2 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33:2201).

In subsection (d), the words “U.S. Army Corps of Engineers” are substituted for “Corps of Engineers” for clarity.

§ 557. Donation of books to Free Public Library

Subject to regulations under this subtitle, a book that is no longer needed by an executive department, bureau, or commission of the Federal Government, and that is not an advisable addition to the Library of Congress, shall be turned over to the Free Public Library of the District of Columbia for general use if the book is appropriate for the Free Public Library.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “Appropriations”.

(Pub. L. 107-217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1102.)

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Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
557	40:484-1.	Feb. 25, 1903, ch. 755, §1 (7th par. on p. 865), 32 Stat. 865; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 654, §2(1), 65 Stat. 706.

§ 558. Donation of forfeited vessels

(a) IN GENERAL.—A vessel that is forfeited to the Federal Government may be donated, in accordance with procedures under this subtitle, to an eligible institution described in subsection (b).

(b) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—An eligible institution referred to in subsection (a) is an educational institution with a commercial fishing vessel safety program or other vessel safety, education and training program. The institution must certify to the federal officer making the donation that the program includes, at a minimum, all of the following courses in vessel safety:

- (1) Vessel stability.
- (2) Firefighting.
- (3) Shipboard first aid.
- (4) Marine safety and survival.
- (5) Seamanship rules of the road.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The donation of a vessel under this section shall be made on terms and conditions considered appropriate by the federal officer making the donation. All of the following terms and conditions are required:

(1) NO WARRANTY.—The institution must accept the vessel as is, where it is, and without warranty of any kind and without any representation as to its condition or suitability for use.

(2) MAINTENANCE.—The institution is responsible for maintaining the vessel.

(3) INSTRUCTION ONLY.—The vessel may be used only for instructing students in a vessel safety education and training program.

(4) DOCUMENTATION.—If the vessel is eligible to be documented, it must be documented by the institution as a vessel of the United States under chapter 121 of title 46. The requirements of paragraph (5) must be noted on the permanent record of the vessel.

(5) DISPOSAL.—The institution must obtain prior approval from the Administrator of General Services before disposing of the vessel and any proceeds from disposal shall be payable to the Government.

(6) INSPECTION OR REGULATION.—The vessel shall be inspected or regulated in the same manner as a nautical school vessel under chapter 33 of title 46.

(d) GOVERNMENT LIABILITY.—The Government is not liable in an action arising out of the transfer or use of a vessel transferred under this section.

(Pub. L. 107-217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1103.)