

SUBCHAPTER III—LAND CONSERVATION
AND LAND UTILIZATION

§ 1010. Land conservation and land utilization

The Secretary is authorized and directed to develop a program of land conservation and land utilization, in order thereby to correct maladjustments in land use, and thus assist in controlling soil erosion, reforestation, preserving natural resources, protecting fish and wildlife, developing and protecting recreational facilities, mitigating floods, preventing impairment of dams and reservoirs, developing energy resources, conserving surface and subsurface moisture, protecting the watersheds of navigable streams, and protecting the public lands, health, safety, and welfare, but not to build industrial parks or establish private industrial or commercial enterprises.

(July 22, 1937, ch. 517, title III, §31, 50 Stat. 525; Pub. L. 87-703, title I, §102(a), Sept. 27, 1962, 76 Stat. 607; Pub. L. 89-796, §1(a), Nov. 8, 1966, 80 Stat. 1478; Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1513, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1333.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1981—Pub. L. 97-98 inserted development of energy resources to the enumeration of aims for which the Secretary may develop programs of land conservation and land utilization.

1966—Pub. L. 89-796 inserted “developing and protecting recreational facilities,” after “protecting fish and wildlife.”

1962—Pub. L. 87-703 struck out “including the retirement of lands which are submarginal or not primarily suitable for cultivation,” after “land utilization”, provided for assistance in protecting fish and wildlife and prohibited the building of industrial parks or establishment of private industrial or commercial enterprises.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-98 effective Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1801 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4301 of this title.

REPEAL; SAVINGS PROVISION

Section repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, §706(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2793, effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976, insofar as applicable to the issuance of rights-of-way over, upon, under, and through the public lands and lands in the National Forest System. Such repeal not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Provisions of section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94-579, except as pertaining to rights-of-way, not to be construed as affecting the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture under this section, see note set out under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

Executive Documents

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Enforcement functions of Secretary or other official in Department of Agriculture, insofar as they involve lands and programs under jurisdiction of that Department, related to compliance with this subchapter with

respect to pre-construction, construction, and initial operation of transportation system for Canadian and Alaskan natural gas transferred to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, until first anniversary of date of initial operation of Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, see Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1979, §§102(f), 203(a), 44 F.R. 33663, 33666, 93 Stat. 1373, 1376, effective July 1, 1979, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System abolished, and functions and authority vested in Inspector transferred to Secretary of Energy by section 3012(b) of Pub. L. 102-486, set out as an Abolition of Office of Federal Inspector note under section 719e of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. Functions and authority vested in Secretary of Energy subsequently transferred to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects by section 720d(f) of Title 15.

§ 1010a. Soil, water, and related resource data

In recognition of the increasing need for soil, water, and related source data for land conservation, use, and development, for guidance of community development for a balanced rural-urban growth, for identification of prime agriculture producing areas that should be protected, and for use in protecting the quality of the environment, the Secretary of Agriculture is directed to carry out a land inventory and monitoring program to include, but not be limited to, studies and surveys of erosion and sediment damages, flood plain identification and utilization, land use changes and trends, and degradation of the environment resulting from improper use of soil, water, and related resources.

(Pub. L. 92-419, title III, §302, Aug. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 670; Pub. L. 96-470, title I, §102(c), Oct. 19, 1980, 94 Stat. 2237.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act which constitutes a major part of this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-470 struck out provision that the Secretary issue at not less than five-year intervals a land inventory report reflecting soil, water, and related resource conditions.

§ 1011. Powers of Secretary of Agriculture

To effectuate the program provided for in section 1010 of this title, the Secretary is authorized—

(a) Repealed. Pub. L. 87-703, title I, §102(b), Sept. 27, 1962, 76 Stat. 607.

(b) To protect, improve, develop, and administer any property so acquired and to construct such structures thereon as may be necessary to adapt it to its most beneficial use.

(c) To sell, exchange, lease, or otherwise dispose of, with or without a consideration, any property so acquired, under such terms and conditions as he deems will best accomplish the purposes of this subchapter, but any sale, exchange, or grant shall be made only to public authorities and agencies and only on condition that the property is used for public purposes: *Provided, however,* That an exchange may be made with private owners and with subdivisions

or agencies of State governments in any case where the Secretary of Agriculture finds that such exchange would not conflict with the purposes of the Act, and that the value of the property received in exchange is substantially equal to that of the property conveyed. The Secretary may recommend to the President other Federal, State, or Territorial agencies to administer such property, together with the conditions of use and administration which will best serve the purposes of a land-conservation and land-utilization program, and the President is authorized to transfer such property to such agencies.

(d) With respect to any land, or any interest therein, acquired by, or transferred to, the Secretary for the purposes of this subchapter, to make dedications or grants, in his discretion, for any public purpose, and to grant licenses and easements upon such terms as he deems reasonable.

(e) To cooperate with Federal, State, territorial, and other public agencies and local nonprofit organizations in developing plans for a program of land conservation and land utilization or plans for the conservation, development and utilization of water for aquacultural purposes, to assist in carrying out such plans by means of loans to State and local public agencies and local nonprofit organizations designated by the State legislature or the Governor, to conduct surveys and investigations relating to conditions and factors affecting, and the methods of accomplishing most effectively the purposes of this subchapter, and to disseminate information concerning these activities. As used in this subsection, the term "aquaculture" means the culture or husbandry of aquatic animals or plants. Loans to State and local public agencies and to local nonprofit organizations shall be made only if such plans have been submitted to, and not disapproved within 45 days by, the State agency having supervisory responsibility over such plans, or by the Governor if there is no such State agency. No appropriation shall be made for any single loan under this subsection in excess of \$500,000 unless such loan has been approved by resolutions adopted by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives. A loan under this subsection shall be made under a contract that provides, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate, for the repayment of the loan in not more than 30 years, with interest at a rate not to exceed the current market yield for outstanding municipal obligations with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturity for the loan, adjusted to the nearest $\frac{1}{8}$ of 1 percent. Repayment of principal and interest on such loans shall begin within 5 years. In providing assistance for carrying out plans developed under this subchapter, the Secretary shall be authorized to bear such proportionate share of the costs of installing any works of improvement applicable to public water-based fish and wildlife or recreational development as is determined by him to be equitable in consideration of national needs and assistance authorized for similar purposes under other Federal programs: *Provided*, That all engineering and other technical assist-

ance costs relating to such development may be borne by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That when a State or other public agency or local nonprofit organization participating in a plan developed under this subchapter agrees to operate and maintain any reservoir or other area included in a plan for public waterbased fish and wildlife or recreational development, the Secretary shall be authorized to bear not to exceed one-half of the costs of (a) the land, easements, or rights-of-way acquired or to be acquired by the State or other public agency or local nonprofit organization for such reservoir or other area, and (b) minimum basic facilities needed for public health and safety, access to, and use of such reservoir or other area for such purposes: *Provided further*, That in no event shall the Secretary share any portion of the cost of installing more than one such work of improvement for each seventy-five thousand acres in any project; and that any such public water-based fish and wildlife or recreational development shall be consistent with any existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan found adequate for purposes of chapter 2003 of title 54; and that such cost-sharing assistance for any such development shall be authorized only if the Secretary determines that it cannot be provided under other existing authority.

The Secretary shall also be authorized in providing assistance for carrying out plans developed under this subchapter:

(1) To provide technical and other assistance, and to pay for any storage of water for present or anticipated future demands or needs for rural community water supply included in any reservoir structure constructed or modified pursuant to such plans: *Provided*, That the cost of water storage to meet future demands may not exceed 30 per centum of the total estimated cost of such reservoir structure and the public agency or local nonprofit organization shall give reasonable assurances, and there is evidence, that such demands for the use of such storage will be made within a period of time which will permit repayment of the cost of such water supply storage within the life of the reservoir structure: *Provided further*, That the public agency or local nonprofit organization prior to initiation or construction or modification of any reservoir structure including water supply storage, make provision satisfactory to the Secretary to pay for not less than 50 per centum of the cost of storage for present water supply demands, and all of the cost of storage for anticipated future demands: *And provided further*, That the cost to be borne by the public agency or local nonprofit organization for anticipated future demands may be repaid within the life of the reservoir structure but in no event to exceed fifty years after the reservoir structure is first used for the storage of water for anticipated future water supply demands except that (1) no payment on account of such cost need be made until such supply is first used, and (2) no interest shall be charged on such cost until such supply is first used, but in no case shall the interest-free period exceed ten years. The interest rate used for purposes of computing the interest on the unpaid balance shall be the average rate, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, payable

by the Treasury upon its marketable public obligations outstanding at the beginning of the fiscal year in which the advancement for such water supply is first made, which are neither due nor callable for redemption for fifteen years from date of issue;

(2) To provide, for the benefit of rural communities, technical and other assistance and such proportionate share of the costs of installing measures and facilities for water quality management, for the control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution, for the disposal of solid wastes, and for the storage of water in reservoirs, farm ponds, or other impoundments, together with necessary water withdrawal appurtenances, for rural fire protection, as is determined by the Secretary to be equitable in consideration of national needs and assistance authorized for similar purposes under other Federal programs.

(f) To make such rules and regulations as he deems necessary to prevent trespasses and otherwise regulate the use and occupancy of property acquired by, or transferred to, the Secretary for the purposes of this subchapter, in order to conserve and utilize it or advance the purposes of this subchapter. Any violation of such rules and regulations shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. Any person charged with the violation of such rules and regulations may be tried and sentenced by any United States magistrate judge specially designated for that purpose by the court by which he was appointed, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as provided for in section 3401(b) to (e) of title 18.

(July 22, 1937, ch. 517, title III, §32, 50 Stat. 525; July 28, 1942, ch. 531, 56 Stat. 725; Pub. L. 87-703, title I, §102(b), (c), Sept. 27, 1962, 76 Stat. 607; Pub. L. 87-869, §7, Oct. 23, 1962, 76 Stat. 1157; Pub. L. 88-537, Aug. 31, 1964, 78 Stat. 745; Pub. L. 89-796, §1(b), Nov. 8, 1966, 80 Stat. 1478; Pub. L. 90-578, title IV, §402(b)(2), Oct. 17, 1968, 82 Stat. 1118; Pub. L. 91-343, July 18, 1970, 84 Stat. 439; Pub. L. 92-419, title III, §301, Aug. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 669; Pub. L. 95-113, title XV, §§1503(a), 1507, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 1021, 1022; Pub. L. 101-650, title III, §321, Dec. 1, 1990, 104 Stat. 5117; Pub. L. 103-437, §4(a)(4), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4581; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §791(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1151; Pub. L. 113-287, §5(a), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3263.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act which is classified generally to this chapter (§1000 et seq.). For complete classification of the Act to the Code, see section 1000 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 113-287 substituted “chapter 2003 of title 54” for “the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (78 Stat. 897)”.

1996—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-127 added fifth sentence and struck out former fifth sentence which read as follows: “Loans under this subsection shall be made under contracts which will provide, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate, for the

repayment thereof in not more than 30 years, with interest at the average rate, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, payable by the Treasury on its marketable public obligations outstanding at the beginning of the fiscal year in which the loan is made, which are neither due nor callable for redemption for 15 years from date of issue.”

1994—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 103-437 substituted “Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry” for “Committee on Agriculture and Forestry”.

1977—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 95-113 inserted reference to plans for the conservation, development, and utilization of water for aquacultural purposes, inserted definition of “aquaculture”, and substituted “\$500,000” for “\$250,000”.

1972—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 92-419 inserted par. (1) and (2) provisions which authorized Secretary of Agriculture to provide Federal assistance for water storage and for water quality management, for control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution, for disposal of solid wastes, and for storage of water in reservoirs, farm ponds, or other impoundments, together with necessary water withdrawal appurtenances, for rural fire protection.

1970—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 91-343 inserted provisions authorizing Secretary to bear an equitable share of the costs of installing works of improvement, to bear all engineering and other technical assistance costs, and to bear up to one half of the costs of land, easements or rights of way and minimum basic public facilities, and limited the Federal contribution to one work of improvement for each seventy-five thousand acres in any project where such assistance is not provided under any other authority.

1966—Pub. L. 89-796 inserted “local nonprofit organizations” to the enumerated public agencies to which this section is applicable.

1964—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 88-537 provided that persons charged with violation of such rules and regulations may be tried and sentenced by any United States commissioner specially designated for that purpose by the court by which he was appointed, in the same manner as in section 3401(b) to (e) of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

1962—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 87-703, §102(b), repealed authority of Secretary to acquire submarginal land and land not primarily suitable for cultivation, and interests in and options on such land.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 87-703, §102(c), authorized Secretary to assist in carrying out the plans by means of loans to State and local public agencies, conditioned loans on absence of disapproval of plans within 45 days, prescribed a \$250,000 limitation on appropriation for a single loan without prior committee approval and provided for loan contracts and interest and repayment of principal and interest.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 87-869 substituted “by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both” for “as prescribed in section 104 of title 18”.

1942—Subsec. (c). Act July 28, 1942, inserted proviso.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

“United States magistrate judge” substituted for “United States magistrate” in subsec. (f) pursuant to section 321 of Pub. L. 101-650, set out as a note under section 631 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure. Previously, “United States magistrate” substituted for “United States commissioner” pursuant to Pub. L. 90-578. See chapter 43 (§631 et seq.) of Title 28.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-113 effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 1901 of Pub. L. 95-113, set out as a note under section 1307 of this title.

REPEAL; SAVINGS PROVISION

Section repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, §706(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2793, effective on and after Oct. 21,

1976, insofar as applicable to the issuance of rights-of-way over, upon, under, and through the public lands and lands in the National Forest System. Such repeal not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Provisions of section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94-579, except as pertaining to rights-of-way, not to be construed as affecting the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture under this section, see note set out under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

ADJUSTMENT OF SEBASTIAN MARTIN GRANT BOUNDARY DISPUTES

Act Aug. 11, 1945, ch. 366, 59 Stat. 532, provided for the adjustment of the Sebastian Martin grant boundary disputes.

Executive Documents

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Enforcement functions of Secretary or other official in Department of Agriculture, insofar as they involve lands and programs under jurisdiction of that Department, related to compliance with this subchapter with respect to pre-construction, construction, and initial operation of transportation system for Canadian and Alaskan natural gas transferred to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, until first anniversary of date of initial operation of Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, see Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1979, §§102(f), 203(a), 44 F.R. 33663, 33666, 93 Stat. 1373, 1376, effective July 1, 1979, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System abolished, and functions and authority vested in Inspector transferred to Secretary of Energy by section 3012(b) of Pub. L. 102-486, set out as an Abolition of Office of Federal Inspector note under section 719e of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. Functions and authority vested in Secretary of Energy subsequently transferred to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects by section 720d(f) of Title 15.

Functions of Secretary of the Interior under section 402 of 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, with respect to use and disposal from lands under jurisdiction of Secretary of Agriculture of those mineral materials which Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to dispose of from other lands under his jurisdiction under sections 601 to 604 and 611 to 615 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining, transferred to Secretary of Agriculture, see Pub. L. 86-509, June 11, 1960, 74 Stat. 205, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

Functions of Secretary of Agriculture with respect to uses of mineral deposits in lands under subsec. (c) of this section transferred to Secretary of the Interior by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §402, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1099, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Authority of President under subsec. (c) of this section to transfer to Federal, State, or Territorial agencies lands acquired by Secretary of Agriculture under subsec. (a) of this section delegated to Administrator of General Services, see section 1(14) of Ex. Ord. No. 11609, July 22, 1971, 36 F.R. 13747, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

§ 1012. Payments to counties

As soon as practicable after the end of each calendar year, the Secretary shall pay to the county in which any land is held by the Secretary under this subchapter, 25 per centum of

the net revenues received by the Secretary from the use of the land during such year. In case the land is situated in more than one county, the amount to be paid shall be divided equitably among the respective counties. Payments to counties under this section shall be made on the condition that they are used for school or road purposes, or both. This section shall not be construed to apply to amounts received from the sale of land.

(July 22, 1937, ch. 517, title III, §33, 50 Stat. 526.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

REPEAL; SAVINGS PROVISION

This section is section 33 of act July 22, 1937. Section is being treated as repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, §706(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2793, effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976, insofar as applicable to the issuance of rights-of-way over, upon, under, and through the public lands and lands in the National Forest System. The table of repealed laws contained in section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94-579 did not list section 33 of act July 22, 1937, but did list section 1012 of Title 7. Such repeal not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Provisions of section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94-579, except as pertaining to rights-of-way, not to be construed as affecting the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture under this section, see note set out under section 1701 of Title 43, Public Lands.

§ 1012a. Townsites

When the Secretary of Agriculture determines that a tract of National Forest System land in Alaska or in the eleven contiguous Western States is located adjacent to or contiguous to an established community, and that transfer of such land would serve indigenous community objectives that outweigh the public objectives and values which would be served by maintaining such tract in Federal ownership, he may, upon application, set aside and designate as a townsite an area of not to exceed six hundred and forty acres of National Forest System land for any one application. After public notice, and satisfactory showing of need therefor by any county, city, or other local governmental subdivision, the Secretary may offer such area for sale to a governmental subdivision at a price not less than the fair market value thereof: *Provided, however,* That the Secretary may condition conveyances of townsites upon the enactment, maintenance, and enforcement of a valid ordinance which assures any land so conveyed will be controlled by the governmental subdivision so that use of the area will not interfere with the protection, management, and development of adjacent or contiguous National Forest System lands.

(Pub. L. 85-569, July 31, 1958, 72 Stat. 438; Pub. L. 94-579, title II, §213, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2760.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section, which is also set out as section 478a of Title 16, Conservation, was not enacted as part of the