

1978—Pub. L. 95-625 redesignated as “Puuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park” the park previously designated “City of Refuge National Historical Park”.

SUBCHAPTER XLIV—VIRGIN ISLANDS
NATIONAL PARK

§ 398. Establishment; administration

A portion of the Virgin Islands of the United States, containing outstanding scenic and other features of national significance, shall be established, as prescribed in section 398a of this title, as the “Virgin Islands National Park”.

The national park shall be administered and preserved by the Secretary of the Interior in its natural condition for the public benefit and inspiration, in accordance with the laws governing the administration of the national parks.

(Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 885, §1, 70 Stat. 940.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The laws governing the administration of the national parks, referred to in the second par., are classified to section 1 et seq. of this title.

§ 398a. Conditions and limitations

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized subject to the following conditions and limitations, to proceed in such manner as he shall find to be necessary in the public interest to consummate the establishment of the Virgin Islands National Park:

(a) The acreage of the national park shall be limited to a total of not more than nine thousand five hundred acres of land area, such total to be comprised of not more than fifteen acres on the island of Saint Thomas, and not more than nine thousand four hundred and eighty-five additional acres to be comprised of portions of the island of Saint John and such small islands, rocks, and cays not in excess of five hundred acres in the general vicinity thereof as may be desirable for inclusion within the park;

(b) Tentative exterior boundary lines, to include land not in excess of the aforesaid acreage limitations, may be selected for the park in order to establish the particular areas in which land may be acquired pursuant to this section and section 398 of this title, such tentative boundaries to be selected and adjusted as may be necessary by the Secretary of the Interior;

(c) The Secretary, on behalf of the United States, is authorized to accept donations of real and personal property within the areas selected for the park until such time as the aforesaid total of nine thousand five hundred acres shall have been acquired for the park by the United States, and he may also accept donations of funds for the purposes of this section and section 398 of this title. Notwithstanding the acreage limitations and boundary designations contained in this section, the Secretary is authorized to accept through donation, or purchase from a willing seller, the real and personal property located on Lots 251-252 Estate Contant Enighed, Parcels 86B and 86AA Cruz Bay Quarter;

(d) Any Federal properties situated within the areas selected for the park, upon agreement by the particular agency administering such prop-

erties that such properties should be made available for the park, may be transferred without further authorization to the Secretary by such agency for purposes of this section and section 398 of this title;

(e) Establishment of the Virgin Islands National Park, in its initial phase, shall be and is declared to be accomplished and effective for purposes of administration when a minimum acreage of not less than five thousand acres in Federal ownership for purposes of this section and section 398 of this title shall have been acquired by the United States in specific areas containing such acquired lands to be designated by the Secretary; and

(f) Notice of the establishment of the park as authorized and prescribed by this section and section 398 of this title shall be published in the Federal Register.

(Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 885, §2, 70 Stat. 940; Pub. L. 95-348, §7(b)(6), Aug. 18, 1978, 92 Stat. 495.)

AMENDMENTS

1978—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-348 inserted provisions relating to acceptance through donation or purchase of the real and personal property located on Lots 251-252 Estate Contant Enighed.

§ 398b. Repealed. Pub. L. 85-404, May 16, 1958, 72 Stat. 112

Section, act Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 885, §3, 70 Stat. 941, authorized an appropriation for capital improvements and an annual appropriation for administration of the Virgin Islands National Park.

§ 398c. Addition of lands

In furtherance of the purposes of sections 398 and 398a of this title, providing for the establishment of the Virgin Islands National Park, and in order to preserve for the benefit of the public significant coral gardens, marine life, and seascapes in the vicinity thereof, the boundaries of such park, subject to valid existing rights, are revised to include the adjoining lands, submerged lands, and waters, and Hassel Island located in Saint Thomas Harbor and adjoining lands, submerged lands, and waters, described as follows:

NORTH OFFSHORE AREA

Beginning at the hereinafter lettered point A on the shore of Cruz Bay, a corner in the Virgin Islands National Park boundary, being also a corner of lot F, Cruz Bay, added to the park by order of designation signed June 29, 1960, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior pursuant to sections 398 and 398a of this title, and published in the Federal Register of July 7, 1960, the said corner being the terminus of the course recited therein as “north 58 degrees 50 minutes west a distance of 20.0 feet, more or less, along Government land to a point;” for the third call in the metes and bounds description lot F, Cruz Bay.

From the initial point A, distances in nautical miles, along direct courses between the hereinafter lettered points at geographic positions (latitudes north, longitudes west):

Northwestward approximately 0.13 mile to point B, latitude 18 degrees 20 minutes 08 seconds, longitude 64 degrees 47 minutes 43 seconds in Cruz Bay;