

**§ 1423d. Commission appointments; compensation, travel expenses, and claims**

**(a) Appointment of United States commissioners**  
**(1) Appointment**

The United States commissioners on the Commission shall be appointed by the President, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 8 of the Agreement, after taking into consideration the recommendations of—

- (A) the Secretary;
- (B) the Secretary of State; and
- (C) the Alaska Nanuq Commission.

**(2) Qualifications**

With respect to the United States commissioners appointed under this subsection, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 8 of the Agreement—

- (A) 1 United States commissioner shall be an official of the Federal Government;
- (B) 1 United States commissioner shall be a representative of the Native people of Alaska, and, in particular, the Native people for whom polar bears are an integral part of their culture; and
- (C) both commissioners shall be knowledgeable of, or have expertise in, polar bears.

**(3) Service and term**

Each United States commissioner shall serve—

- (A) at the pleasure of the President; and
- (B) for an initial 4-year term and such additional terms as the President shall determine.

**(4) Vacancies**

**(A) In general**

Any individual appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of any term of office of a United States commissioner shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

**(B) Manner**

Any vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

**(b) Alternate commissioners**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Alaska Nanuq Commission, shall designate an alternate commissioner for each member of the United States section.

**(2) Duties**

In the absence of a United States commissioner, an alternate commissioner may exercise all functions of the United States commissioner at any meetings of the Commission or of the United States section.

**(3) Reappointment**

An alternate commissioner—

- (A) shall be eligible for reappointment by the President; and
- (B) may attend all meetings of the United States section.

**(c) Duties**

The members of the United States section may carry out the functions and responsibilities

described in article 8 of the Agreement in accordance with this subchapter and the Agreement.

**(d) Compensation and expenses**

**(1) Compensation**

A member of the United States section shall serve without compensation.

**(2) Travel expenses**

A member of the United States section shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5 while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the United States-Russia Polar Bear Commission.

**(e) Agency designation**

The United States section shall, for the purpose of title 28 relating to claims against the United States and tort claims procedure, be considered to be a Federal agency.

(Pub. L. 92-522, title V, §505, as added Pub. L. 109-479, title IX, §902(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3663.)

**§ 1423e. Votes taken by the United States section on matters before the Commission**

In accordance with paragraph 3 of article 8 of the Agreement, the United States section, made up of commissioners appointed by the President, shall vote on any issue before the United States-Russia Polar Bear Commission only if there is no disagreement between the United States commissioners regarding the vote.

(Pub. L. 92-522, title V, §506, as added Pub. L. 109-479, title IX, §902(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3664.)

**§ 1423f. Implementation of actions taken by the Commission**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall take all necessary actions to implement the decisions and determinations of the Commission under paragraph 7 of article 8 of the Agreement.

**(b) Taking limitation**

Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary receives notice of the determination of the Commission of an annual taking limit, or of the adoption by the Commission of other restriction on the taking of polar bears for subsistence purposes, the Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing the determination or restriction.

(Pub. L. 92-522, title V, §507, as added Pub. L. 109-479, title IX, §902(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3664.)

**§ 1423g. Application with other subchapters of chapter**

**(a) In general**

The authority of the Secretary under this subchapter is in addition to, and shall not affect—

- (1) the authority of the Secretary under other subchapters<sup>1</sup> of this chapter or the

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

Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.) or the exemption for Alaskan natives under section 1371(b) of this title as applied to other marine mammal populations; or  
 (2) the authorities provided under subchapter III of this chapter.

**(b) Certain provisions inapplicable**

The provisions of subchapters II through V of this chapter do not apply with respect to the implementation or administration of this subchapter, except as specified in section 1423b of this title.

(Pub. L. 92-522, title V, § 508, as added Pub. L. 109-479, title IX, § 902(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3664.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Other subchapters of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), was in the original a reference to “other titles of this Act” meaning Pub. L. 92-522. Subchapter I of this chapter consists of sections of Pub. L. 92-522 that are not part of a title of that Act.

The Lacey Act Amendments of 1981, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), is Pub. L. 97-79, Nov. 16, 1981, 95 Stat. 1073, which enacted chapter 53 (§3371 et seq.) of this title, amended section 1540 of this title and section 42 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, repealed sections 667e and 851 to 856 of this title and sections 43, 44, 3054, and 3112 of Title 18, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1540 and 3371 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 3371 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1423h. Authorization of appropriations**

**(a) In general**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out the functions and responsibilities of the Secretary under this subchapter and the Agreement \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.

**(b) Commission**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out functions and responsibilities of the United States Section<sup>1</sup> \$150,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.

**(c) Alaskan cooperative management program**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subchapter and the Agreement in Alaska \$150,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.

(Pub. L. 92-522, title V, § 509, as added Pub. L. 109-479, title IX, § 902(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3665.)

**CHAPTER 32—MARINE SANCTUARIES**

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<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should not be capitalized.

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1445c-1.	Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program.

**§ 1431. Findings, purposes, and policies; establishment of system**

**(a) Findings**

The Congress finds that—

(1) this Nation historically has recognized the importance of protecting special areas of its public domain, but these efforts have been directed almost exclusively to land areas above the high-water mark;

(2) certain areas of the marine environment possess conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, educational, cultural, archeological, or esthetic qualities which give them special national, and in some cases international, significance;

(3) while the need to control the effects of particular activities has led to enactment of resource-specific legislation, these laws cannot in all cases provide a coordinated and comprehensive approach to the conservation and management of special areas of the marine environment; and

(4) a Federal program which establishes areas of the marine environment which have special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archeological, scientific, educational, or esthetic qualities as national marine sanctuaries managed as the National Marine Sanctuary System will—

(A) improve the conservation, understanding, management, and wise and sustainable use of marine resources;

(B) enhance public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the marine environment; and

(C) maintain for future generations the habitat, and ecological services, of the natural assemblage of living resources that inhabit these areas.

**(b) Purposes and policies**

The purposes and policies of this chapter are—

(1) to identify and designate as national marine sanctuaries areas of the marine environment which are of special national significance and to manage these areas as the National Marine Sanctuary System;

(2) to provide authority for comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of these marine areas, and activities affecting them, in a manner which complements existing regulatory authorities;

(3) to maintain the natural biological communities in the national marine sanctuaries, and to protect, and, where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes;