

the work force has available the best, up-to-date knowledge, skills and abilities with which to manage, interpret and protect the resources of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title I, §102, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

§ 5913. Management development and training

Within 2 years after November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall develop a clear plan for management training and development, whereby career, professional National Park Service employees from any appropriate academic field may obtain sufficient training, experience, and advancement opportunity to enable those qualified to move into park management positions, including explicitly the position of superintendent of a unit of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title I, §103, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

§ 5914. Park budgets and accountability

(a) Strategic and performance plans for each unit

Each unit of the National Park System shall prepare and make available to the public a 5-year strategic plan and an annual performance plan. Such plans shall reflect the National Park Service policies, goals, and outcomes represented in the Service-wide Strategic Plan, prepared pursuant to the provisions of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-62; 107 Stat. 285).

(b) Annual budget for each unit

As a part of the annual performance plan for a unit of the National Park System prepared pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, following receipt of the appropriation for the unit from the Operations of the National Park System account (but no later than January 1 of each year), the superintendent of the unit shall develop and make available to the public the budget for the current fiscal year for that unit. The budget shall include, at a minimum, funding allocations for resource preservation (including resource management), visitor services (including maintenance, interpretation, law enforcement, and search and rescue) and administration. The budget shall also include allocations into each of the above categories of all funds retained from fees collected for that year, including (but not limited to) special use permits, concession franchise fees, and recreation use and entrance fees.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title I, §104, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 103-62, Aug. 3, 1993, 107 Stat. 285, which enacted sections 1115 to 1119, 9703, and 9704 of Title 31, Money and Finance, section 306 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and sections 2801 to 2805 of Title 39, Postal Service, amended section 1105 of Title 31, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1101 and 1115 of Title 31. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1993 Amendment note set out under section 1101 of Title 31 and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER II—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM RESOURCE INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT

§ 5931. Purposes

The purposes of this subchapter are—

(1) to more effectively achieve the mission of the National Park Service;

(2) to enhance management and protection of national park resources by providing clear authority and direction for the conduct of scientific study in the National Park System and to use the information gathered for management purposes;

(3) to ensure appropriate documentation of resource conditions in the National Park System;

(4) to encourage others to use the National Park System for study to the benefit of park management as well as broader scientific value, where such study is consistent with sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title; and

(5) to encourage the publication and dissemination of information derived from studies in the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §201, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

§ 5932. Research mandate

The Secretary is authorized and directed to assure that management of units of the National Park System is enhanced by the availability and utilization of a broad program of the highest quality science and information.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §202, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

§ 5933. Cooperative agreements

(a) Cooperative study units

The Secretary is authorized and directed to enter into cooperative agreements with colleges and universities, including but not limited to land grant schools, in partnership with other Federal and State agencies, to establish cooperative study units to conduct multi-disciplinary research and develop integrated information products on the resources of the National Park System, or the larger region of which parks are a part.

(b) Report

Within one year of November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives on progress in the establishment of a comprehensive network of such college and university based cooperative study units as will provide full geographic and topical coverage for research on the resources contained in units of the National Park System and their larger regions.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §203, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

§ 5934. Inventory and monitoring program

The Secretary shall undertake a program of inventory and monitoring of National Park System resources to establish baseline information and to provide information on the long-term trends in the condition of National Park System resources. The monitoring program shall be developed in cooperation with other Federal monitoring and information collection efforts to ensure a cost-effective approach.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §204, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5935. Availability for scientific study**(a) In general**

The Secretary may solicit, receive, and consider requests from Federal or non-Federal public or private agencies, organizations, individuals, or other entities for the use of any unit of the National Park System for purposes of scientific study.

(b) Criteria

A request for use of a unit of the National Park System under subsection (a) of this section may only be approved if the Secretary determines that the proposed study—

- (1) is consistent with applicable laws and National Park Service management policies; and
- (2) will be conducted in a manner as to pose no threat to park resources or public enjoyment derived from those resources.

(c) Fee waiver

The Secretary may waive any park admission or recreational use fee in order to facilitate the conduct of scientific study under this section.

(d) Negotiations

The Secretary may enter into negotiations with the research community and private industry for equitable, efficient benefits-sharing arrangements.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §205, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5936. Integration of study results into management decisions

The Secretary shall take such measures as are necessary to assure the full and proper utilization of the results of scientific study for park management decisions. In each case in which an action undertaken by the National Park Service may cause a significant adverse effect on a park resource, the administrative record shall reflect the manner in which unit resource studies have been considered. The trend in the condition of resources of the National Park System shall be a significant factor in the annual performance evaluation of each superintendent of a unit of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §206, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5937. Confidentiality of information

Information concerning the nature and specific location of a National Park System resource which is endangered, threatened, rare, or commercially valuable, of mineral or paleontological objects within units of the National Park System, or of objects of cultural patrimony within units of the National Park System, may be withheld from the public in response to a request under section 552 of title 5, unless the Secretary determines that—

(1) disclosure of the information would further the purposes of the unit of the National Park System in which the resource or object is located and would not create an unreasonable risk of harm, theft, or destruction of the resource or object, including individual organic or inorganic specimens; and

- (2) disclosure is consistent with other applicable laws protecting the resource or object.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title II, §207, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3501.)

SUBCHAPTER III—NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT

§ 5951. Congressional findings and statement of policy**(a) Findings**

In furtherance of sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title, which directs the Secretary to administer units of the National Park System in accordance with the fundamental purpose of conserving their scenery, wildlife, and natural and historic objects, and providing for their enjoyment in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations, the Congress hereby finds that the preservation and conservation of park resources and values requires that such public accommodations, facilities, and services as have to be provided within such units should be provided only under carefully controlled safeguards against unregulated and indiscriminate use, so that—

- (1) visitation will not unduly impair these resources and values; and
- (2) development of public accommodations, facilities, and services within such units can best be limited to locations that are consistent to the highest practicable degree with the preservation and conservation of the resources and values of such units.

(b) Policy

It is the policy of the Congress that the development of public accommodations, facilities, and services in units of the National Park System shall be limited to those accommodations, facilities, and services that—

- (1) are necessary and appropriate for public use and enjoyment of the unit of the National Park System in which they are located; and
- (2) are consistent to the highest practicable degree with the preservation and conservation of the resources and values of the unit.

(Pub. L. 105-391, title IV, §402, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3503.)

SHORT TITLE

For short title of this subchapter as the “National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998”, see section 401 of Pub. L. 105-391, set out as a note under section 5901 of this title.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Pub. L. 105-391, title IV, §419, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3517, provided that: