

of-way or easements which are necessary for the transportation of oil and gas minerals through the seashore which oil and gas minerals are removed from outside the boundaries thereof; and, the Secretary, subject to appropriate regulations for the protection of the natural and recreational values for which the seashore is established, shall permit such additional rights-of-way or easements as he deems necessary and proper.

(Pub. L. 91-660, §4, Jan. 8, 1971, 84 Stat. 1968.)

**§ 459h-4. Administration of seashore; conservation and management of wildlife and natural resources; authority to designate areas as national historic sites; agreements**

**(a) In general**

Except as otherwise provided in sections 459h to 459h-10 of this title, the Secretary shall administer the seashore in accordance with sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title, as amended and supplemented. In the administration of the seashore the Secretary may utilize such statutory authorities available to him for the conservation and management of wildlife natural resources as he deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of sections 459h to 459h-10 of this title. With respect to Fort Redoubt, Fort San Carlos, Fort Barrancas at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island, and Fort McRee on Perdido Key, Florida, and Fort Massachusetts on Ship Island, Mississippi, together with such adjacent lands as the Secretary may designate, the Secretary shall administer such lands so as to recognize, preserve, and interpret their national historical significance in accordance with sections 461 to 467 of this title, and he may designate them as national historic sites.

**(b) Agreements**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary may enter into agreements—

(A) with the State of Mississippi for the purposes of managing resources and providing law enforcement assistance, subject to authorization by State law, and emergency services on or within any land on Cat Island and any water and submerged land within the buffer zone; and

(B) with the owners of the approximately 150-acre parcel depicted as the “Boddie Family Tract” on the Cat Island Map concerning the development and use of the land.

**(2) No authority to enforce certain regulations**

Nothing in this subsection authorizes the Secretary to enforce Federal regulations outside the land area within the designated boundary of the seashore.

(Pub. L. 91-660, §5, Jan. 8, 1971, 84 Stat. 1968; Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title I, §137(d)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-232.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106-554 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

**§ 459h-5. Beach erosion control and hurricane protection; study and formulation of plans; activities by Chief of Engineers, Department of Army**

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army may cooperate in the study and formulation of plans for beach erosion control and hurricane protection of the seashore. Any such protective works or spoil deposit activities undertaken by the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, shall be carried out within the seashore in accordance with a plan that is acceptable to the Secretary of the Interior and that is consistent with the purposes of sections 459h to 459h-10 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-660, §6, Jan. 8, 1971, 84 Stat. 1969.)

**§ 459h-6. Transfer of Horn Island and Petit Bois National Wildlife Refuges from National Wildlife Refuge System; administration**

(a) There are hereby transferred from the National Wildlife Refuge System to the seashore the Horn Island and Petit Bois National Wildlife Refuges to be administered in accordance with the provisions of sections 459h to 459h-10 of this title.

(b) If any of the Federal land on Santa Rosa or Okaloosa Island, Florida, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense is ever excess to the needs of the Armed Forces, the Secretary of Defense shall transfer the excess land to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, subject to the terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary of the Interior shall administer the transferred land as part of the seashore in accordance with the provisions of sections 459h to 459h-10 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-660, §7, Jan. 8, 1971, 84 Stat. 1969; Pub. L. 109-163, div. B, title XXVIII, §2872(b), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3535.)

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-163 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

TRANSFER OF EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROPERTY ON SANTA ROSA AND OKALOOSA ISLAND, FLORIDA, TO GULF ISLANDS NATIONAL SEASHORE

Pub. L. 109-163, div. B, title XXVIII, §2872(a), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3534, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

“(1) Public Law 91-660 of the 91st Congress [16 U.S.C. 459h et seq.] established the Gulf Islands National Seashore in the States of Florida and Mississippi.

“(2) The original boundaries of the Gulf Islands National Seashore encompassed certain Federal land used by the Air Force and the Navy, and the use of such land was still required by the Armed Forces when the seashore was established.

“(3) Senate Report 91-1514 of the 91th Congress addressed the relationship between these military lands and the Gulf Islands National Seashore as follows: ‘While the military use of these lands is presently required, they remain virtually free of adverse development and they are included in the boundaries of the seashore so that they can be wholly or partially transferred to the Department of the Interior when they become excess to the needs of the Air Force.’

“(4) Although section 2(a) of Public Law 91-660 (16 U.S.C. 459h-1(a)) authorized the eventual transfer of