

## § 959. Enforcement of chapter

### (a) Issuance of process

The judges of the United States district courts and United States magistrate judges may, within their respective jurisdictions, upon proper oath or affirmation showing probable cause, issue such warrants or other process as may be required for enforcement of this chapter and the regulations issued pursuant thereto.

### (b) Federal law enforcement agents

Enforcement of the provisions of this chapter and the regulations issued pursuant thereto shall be the joint responsibility of the United States Coast Guard, the United States Department of Commerce, and the United States Customs Service. In addition, the Secretary of Commerce may designate officers and employees of the States of the United States, of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and of American Samoa to carry out enforcement activities hereunder. When so designated, such officers and employees are authorized to function as Federal law enforcement agents for these purposes.

### (c) Execution of process

Any person authorized to carry out enforcement activities hereunder shall have the power to execute any warrant or process issued by any officer or court of competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of this chapter.

### (d) Arrests

Such person so authorized shall have the power—

(1) with or without a warrant or other process, to arrest any persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any place within the jurisdiction of the United States committing in his presence or view a violation of this chapter or the regulations issued thereunder;

(2) with or without a warrant or other process, to search any vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and, if as a result of such search he has reasonable cause to believe that such vessel or any person on board is engaging in operations in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations issued thereunder, then to arrest such person.

### (e) Seizures and disposition of fish

Such person so authorized may seize, whenever and wherever lawfully found, all fish taken or retained in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations issued pursuant thereto. Any fish so seized may be disposed of pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section or, if perishable, in a manner prescribed by regulations of the Secretary of Commerce.

### (f) Security

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2464 of title 28, when a warrant of arrest or other process in rem is issued in any cause under this section, the marshal or other officer shall stay the execution of such process, or discharge any fish seized if the process has been levied, on receiving from the claimant of the fish a bond or stipulation for the value of the property with

sufficient surety to be approved by a judge of the district court having jurisdiction of the offense, conditioned to deliver the fish seized, if condemned, without impairment in value or, in the discretion of the court, to pay its equivalent value in money or otherwise to answer the decree of the court in such cause. Such bond or stipulation shall be returned to the court and judgment thereon against both the principal and sureties may be recovered in event of any breach of the conditions thereof as determined by the court. In the discretion of the accused, and subject to the direction of the court, the fish may be sold for not less than its reasonable market value and the proceeds of such sale placed in the registry of the court pending judgment in the case.

(Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 907, §10, 64 Stat. 779; Pub. L. 87-814, §5, Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 925; Pub. L. 90-578, title IV, §402(b)(2), Oct. 17, 1968, 82 Stat. 1118; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 4, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090; Pub. L. 101-650, title III, §321, Dec. 1, 1990, 104 Stat. 5117.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1962—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 87-814 substituted provisions for issuance of process for provisions respecting arrest and execution of process, incorporated in subsecs. (c) and (d)(1) of this section.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 87-814 substituted provisions respecting Federal law enforcement agents for provisions relating to inspections, incorporated in section 956 of this title.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 87-814 substituted provisions for execution of process, formerly incorporated in subsec. (a), for provisions respecting the functioning of officers and law enforcement officers, incorporated in subsec. (b) of this section.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 87-814 incorporated provisions of former subsec. (a) in par. (1) and added par. (2).

Subsecs. (e), (f). Pub. L. 87-814 added subsecs. (e) and (f).

#### CHANGE OF NAME

“United States magistrate judges” substituted for “United States magistrates” in subsec. (a) 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 magistrates” substituted for “United States commissioners” pursuant to Pub. L. 90-578. See chapter 43 (§631 et seq.) of Title 28.

“Customs Service” substituted for “Bureau of Customs” in subsec. (b) pursuant to Treasury Department Order 165-23, Apr. 4, 1973, eff. Aug. 1, 1973, 38 F.R. 13037. See, also, section 308 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

For transfer of functions, personnel, assets, and liabilities of the United States Customs Service of the Department of the Treasury, including functions of the Secretary of the Treasury relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 203(1), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

In subsecs. (b) and (e), “Department of Commerce” substituted for “Department of the Interior” and “Secretary of Commerce” for “Secretary of the Interior” pursuant to Reorg. Plan No. 4 of 1970, see note set out under section 955 of this title.

**§ 960. Commissions’ functions not restrained by this chapter or State laws**

None of the prohibitions contained in this chapter or in the laws and regulations of the States shall prevent the commissions from conducting or authorizing the conduct of fishing operations and biological experiments at any time for the purpose of scientific investigations as authorized by the conventions, or shall prevent the commissions from discharging any of its or their functions or duties prescribed by the conventions.

(Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 907, §11, 64 Stat. 779.)

**§ 961. Authorization of appropriations**

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated from time to time, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of each convention and of this chapter, including—

(a) contributions to each commission for the United States share of any joint expenses of the commission and the expenses of the United States Commissioners and their staff, including personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere;

(b) travel expenses without regard to the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, as amended, subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, or section 5731(a) of title 5;

(c) printing and binding without regard to section 501 of title 44 or section 6101 of title 41;

(d) stenographic and other services by contract, if deemed necessary, without regard to section 6101 of title 41; and

(e) purchase, hire, operation, maintenance, and repair of aircraft, motor vehicles (including passenger-carrying vehicles), boats and research vessels.

(Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 907, §12, 64 Stat. 780.)

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (b), “subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, or section 5731(a) of title 5” substituted for “the Travel Expense Act of 1949, or section 10 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (U.S.C., title 5, sec. 73b)” on authority of Pub. L. 89-554, §7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

In subsec. (c), “section 501 of title 44 or section 6101 of title 41” substituted for “section 11 of the Act of March 1, 1919 (U.S.C., title 44, sec. 111), or section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U.S.C., title 41, sec. 5)” on authority of Pub. L. 90-620, §2(b), Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1305, which Act enacted Title 44, Public Printing and Documents, and Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

In subsec. (d), “section 6101 of title 41” substituted for “section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U.S.C., title 41, sec. 5)” on authority of Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

**§ 962. Reduction of bycatch in eastern tropical Pacific Ocean**

The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and acting through the United States Commissioners, shall seek, in cooperation with other nations whose vessel<sup>1</sup> fish for tuna in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, to establish standards and measures for a bycatch reduction program for vessels fishing for yellowfin tuna in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. The bycatch reduction program shall include measures—

(1) to require, to the maximum extent practicable, that sea turtles and other threatened species and endangered species are released alive;

(2) to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the harvest of nontarget species;

(3) to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the mortality of nontarget species; and

(4) to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the mortality of juveniles of the target species.

(Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 907, §15, as added Pub. L. 105-42, §7(c), Aug. 15, 1997, 111 Stat. 1138.)

CODIFICATION

Section 7(c) of Pub. L. 105-42, which directed the addition of this section at the end of the Tuna Conventions Act, was executed by adding this section at the end of the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective upon certification by Secretary of Commerce that sufficient funding is available to complete first year of study required by section 1414a(a) of this title and that study has commenced, and certification by Secretary of State to Congress that binding resolution of Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission or other legally binding instrument establishing International Dolphin Conservation Program has been adopted and is in force, see section 8 of Pub. L. 105-42, set out as an Effective Date of 1997 Amendment note under section 1362 of this title.

**CHAPTER 16A—ATLANTIC TUNAS CONVENTION**

Sec.	Definitions.
971a.	Commissioners.
971b.	Advisory committee.
971b-1.	Species working groups.
971c.	Authority of Secretary of State; cooperative enforcement agreements.
971d.	Administration.
971e.	Violations.
971f.	Enforcement.
971g.	Cooperation in carrying out Convention.
971h.	Authorization of appropriations.
971i.	Research on Atlantic highly migratory species.
971j.	Annual report.
971k.	Savings clause.

**§ 971. Definitions**

For the purpose of this chapter—

(1) The term “Convention” means the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, signed at Rio de Janeiro May

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “vessels”.