

group established under this subchapter shall be considered to be a subcommittee of the applicable State technical committee.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1262, as added Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1446, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3604; amended Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §246(f)(3), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3225; Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §342(b), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1009; Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2711, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1084; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2711, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1812.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) to (c), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 99-198, which enacted this chapter and former section 2005a of this title and amended sections 590g, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, sections 4207 and 4209 of Title 7, Agriculture, and provisions set out as a note under section 1981 of Title 7.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §2711, which directed the general amendment of section 1262 of the “Farm Security Act of 1985”, was executed by making the amendment to this section, which is section 1262 of the Food Security Act of 1985, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) to (d) which related to general responsibilities of committees established under section 3861 of this title, wetland and wildlife habitat protection guidelines, provision of assistance and recommendations with respect to enumerated technical aspects, authority of committees, and FACA requirements.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-127, §342(b)(1), inserted at end “Each State technical committee shall provide public notice of, and permit public attendance at meetings considering, issues of concern related to carrying out this chapter.”

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 104-127, §342(b)(2), inserted at end “Each State technical committee shall establish criteria and guidelines for evaluating petitions by agricultural producers regarding new conservation practices and systems not already described in field office technical guides.”

Subsec. (c)(7) to (9). Pub. L. 104-127, §342(b)(3), struck out “and” at end of par. (7), added par. (8), and redesignated former par. (8) as (9).

1994—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 103-354 added subsec. (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT FOR REVISIONS TO CERTAIN STATE TECHNICAL GUIDES

Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §343, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1009, provided that: “After the date of enactment of this Act [Apr. 4, 1996], the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide for public notice and comment under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, with regard to any future revisions to those provisions of the Natural Resources Conservation Service State technical guides that are used to carry out subtitles A, B, and C of title

XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq. [3811 et seq., 3821 et seq.]).”

CHAPTER 59—WETLANDS RESOURCES

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.

3901. Findings and statement of purpose.
3902. Definitions.

SUBCHAPTER II—REVENUES FOR REFUGE OPERATIONS AND THE MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

3911. Repealed.
3912. Transfers to Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

SUBCHAPTER III—STATE AND FEDERAL WETLANDS ACQUISITION

3921. National wetlands priority conservation plan.
3922. Federal acquisition.
3923. Restriction on use of eminent domain in acquisitions.

SUBCHAPTER IV—WETLANDS INVENTORY AND TREND ANALYSIS

3931. National wetlands inventory project.
3932. Reports to Congress.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 3901. Findings and statement of purpose

(a) Findings

The Congress finds that—

(1) wetlands play an integral role in maintaining the quality of life through material contributions to our national economy, food supply, water supply and quality, flood control, and fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and thus to the health, safety, recreation, and economic well-being of all our citizens of the Nation;

(2) wetlands provide habitat essential for the breeding, spawning, nesting, migration, wintering and ultimate survival of a major portion of the migratory and resident fish and wildlife of the Nation; including migratory birds, endangered species, commercially and recreationally important finfish, shellfish and other aquatic organisms, and contain many unique species and communities of wild plants;

(3) the migratory bird treaty obligations of the Nation with Canada, Mexico, Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and with various countries in the Western Hemisphere require Federal protection of wetlands that are used by migratory birds for breeding, wintering or migration and needed to achieve and to maintain optimum population levels, distributions, and patterns of migration;

(4) wetlands, and the fish, wildlife, and plants dependent on wetlands, provide significant recreational and commercial benefits, including—

(A) contributions to a commercial marine harvest valued at over \$10,000,000,000 annually;

(B) support for a major portion of the Nation’s multimillion dollar annual fur and hide harvest; and

(C) fishing, hunting, birdwatching, nature observation and other wetland-related rec-