

**(b) Punishment**

The punishment for violating any provision of subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisonment of not more than one year or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of title 18, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent violation, the punishment shall be imprisonment of not more than 3 years or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of title 18, or both.

(Pub. L. 100-691, §7, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4549.)

**§ 4307. Civil penalties****(a) Assessment**

(1) The Secretary may issue an order assessing a civil penalty against any person who violates any prohibition contained in this chapter, any regulation promulgated pursuant to this chapter, or any permit issued under this chapter. Before issuing such an order, the Secretary shall provide such person written notice and the opportunity to request a hearing on the record within 30 days. Each violation shall be a separate offense, even if such violations occurred at the same time.

(2) The amount of such civil penalty shall be determined by the Secretary taking into account appropriate factors, including (A) the seriousness of the violation; (B) the economic benefit (if any) resulting from the violation; (C) any history of such violations; and (D) such other matters as the Secretary deems appropriate. The maximum fine permissible under this section is \$10,000.

**(b) Judicial review**

Any person aggrieved by an assessment of a civil penalty under this section may file a petition for judicial review of such assessment with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or for the district in which the violation occurred. Such a petition shall be filed within the 30-day period beginning on the date the order assessing the civil penalty was issued.

**(c) Collection**

If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty—

(1) within 30 days after the order was issued under subsection (a) of this section, or

(2) if the order is appealed within such 30-day period, within 10 days after court has entered a final judgment in favor of the Secretary under subsection (b) of this section,

the Secretary shall notify the Attorney General and the Attorney General shall bring a civil action in an appropriate United States district court to recover the amount of penalty assessed (plus costs, attorney's fees, and interest at currently prevailing rates from the date the order was issued or the date of such final judgment, as the case may be). In such an action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of such penalty shall not be subject to review.

**(d) Subpoenas**

The Secretary may issue subpoenas in connection with proceedings under this subsection compelling the attendance and testimony of witnesses and subpoenas duces tecum, and may re-

quest the Attorney General to bring an action to enforce any subpoena under this section. The district courts shall have jurisdiction to enforce such subpoenas and impose sanctions.

(Pub. L. 100-691, §8, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4550.)

**§ 4308. Miscellaneous provisions****(a) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated \$100,000 to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

**(b) Effect on land management plans**

Nothing in this chapter shall require the amendment or revision of any land management plan the preparation of which began prior to November 18, 1988.

**(c) Fund**

Any money collected by the United States as permit fees for collection and removal of cave resources; received by the United States as a result of the forfeiture of a bond or other security by a permittee who does not comply with the requirements of such permit issued under section 4306 of this title; or collected by the United States by way of civil penalties or criminal fines for violations of this chapter shall be placed in a special fund in the Treasury. Such moneys shall be available for obligation or expenditure (to the extent provided for in advance in appropriation Acts) as determined by the Secretary for the improved management, benefit, repair, or restoration of significant caves located on Federal lands.

**(d) Existing rights**

Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to affect the full operation of the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States, or otherwise affect valid existing rights.

(Pub. L. 100-691, §9, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4550.)

**§ 4309. Savings provision****(a) Water**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as authorizing the appropriation of water by any Federal, State, or local agency, Indian tribe, or any other entity or individual. Nor shall any provision of this chapter—

(1) affect the rights or jurisdiction of the United States, the States, Indian tribes, or other entities over waters of any river or stream or over any ground water resource;

(2) alter, amend, repeal, interpret, modify, or be in conflict with any interstate compact made by the States; or

(3) alter or establish the respective rights of States, the United States, Indian tribes, or any person with respect to any water or water-related right.

**(b) Fish and wildlife**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the States with respect to fish and wildlife.

(Pub. L. 100-691, §10, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4551.)

**§ 4310. Establishment of Cave Research Program****(a) Establishment**

In order to provide for needed research relating to cave resources on certain lands in the

United States, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service shall establish and administer a Cave Research Program (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Program”). The Program shall include the orderly and scholarly collection, analysis, and dissemination of research material related to caves in lands managed by the National Park Service including, but not limited to, Carlsbad Caverns National Park and the Capitan Reef area.

#### (b) Functions

The Program shall produce educational and interpretive information and materials vital to public understanding of cave geology, assist students and researchers, and provide for a comprehensive evaluation of cave resources and measures needed for their protection.

#### (c) Emphasis

The program<sup>1</sup> shall be directed primarily toward lands managed by the National Park Service, but the Secretary of the Interior may enter into cooperative agreements with other agencies or entities as may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Pub. L. 101-578, title II, §202, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2859.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This section, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c), was in the original “this title” meaning title II of Pub. L. 101-578, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2859, which enacted this section and provisions set out as notes below. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 which comprises this chapter.

#### NATIONAL CAVE AND KARST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Pub. L. 105-325, Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 3038, as amended by Pub. L. 111-11, title VII, §7305, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1219, provided that:

#### “SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

“This Act may be cited as the ‘National Cave and Karst Research Institute Act of 1998’.

#### “SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

“The purposes of this Act are—

- “(1) to further the science of speleology;
- “(2) to centralize and standardize speleological information;
- “(3) to foster interdisciplinary cooperation in cave and karst research programs;
- “(4) to promote public education;
- “(5) to promote national and international cooperation in protecting the environment for the benefit of cave and karst landforms; and
- “(6) to promote and develop environmentally sound and sustainable resource management practices.

#### “SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the ‘Secretary’), acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute (referred to in this Act as the ‘Institute’).

“(b) PURPOSES.—The Institute shall, to the extent practicable, further the purposes of this Act.

“(c) LOCATION.—The Institute shall be located in the vicinity of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, in the

State of New Mexico. The Institute shall not be located inside the boundaries of Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

#### “SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSTITUTE.

“(a) MANAGEMENT.—The Institute shall be jointly administered by the National Park Service and a public or private agency, organization, or institution, as determined by the Secretary.

“(b) GUIDELINES.—The Institute shall be operated and managed in accordance with the study prepared by the National Park Service pursuant to section 203 of the Act entitled ‘An Act to conduct certain studies in the State of New Mexico’, approved November 15, 1990 (Public Law 101-578; 16 U.S.C. 4310 note).

“(c) CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with a public or private agency, organization, or institution to carry out this Act.

#### “(d) FACILITY.—

“(1) LEASING OR ACQUIRING A FACILITY.—The Secretary may lease or acquire a facility for the Institute.

“(2) CONSTRUCTION OF A FACILITY.—If the Secretary determines that a suitable facility is not available for a lease or acquisition under paragraph (1), the Secretary may construct a facility for the Institute.

“(e) ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND TRANSFERS.—To carry out this Act, the Secretary may accept—

- “(1) a grant or donation from a private person; or
- “(2) a transfer of funds from another Federal agency.

#### “SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.”

#### CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 101-578, title II, §201, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2859, provided that: “The Congress makes the following findings:

“(1) The World’s most exposed fossil reef, Capitan Reef, in southern New Mexico that includes Carlsbad Caverns, contains over 300 caves, including 75 identified caves in Carlsbad Caverns National Park and 22 caves in Guadalupe Mountains National Park.

“(2) Recent explorations of Lechuguilla Cave at Carlsbad Caverns National Park have provided much new information about the wonders of this cave including the fact that it is the second deepest cave in the United States and contains outstanding world-class cave features such as gypsum crystal chandeliers and gypsum flowers.

“(3) The Lechuguilla Cave has been described by cave researchers as possibly the finest cave in America.

“(4) The interest and excitement of cave researchers throughout the world have been focused on Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

“(5) Cave researchers could use this research institute as an operational base for study of caves in other regions and as a focal point for storage of data on cave geology and speleology.

“(6) The Congress, with the passage of Public Law 100-691, the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 [16 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.], recognized the significance of cave resources on Federal lands and established the policy that Federal lands be managed in a manner which protects and maintains, to the extent practicable, significant cave resources.”

#### CAVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE STUDY

Pub. L. 101-578, title II, §203, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2860, directed Secretary of the Interior, not later than one year after Nov. 15, 1990, to prepare and transmit to Congress a study on the feasibility of establishing a Cave Research Institute.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Pub. L. 101-578, title II, §204, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2860, provided that: “There are authorized to be appro-

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be capitalized.

riated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title [enacting this section and provisions set out as notes above].”

#### CHAPTER 64—NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION

Sec.	
4401.	Findings and statement of purpose.
4402.	Definitions.
4403.	Establishment of North American Wetlands Conservation Council.
4404.	Approval of wetlands conservation projects.
4405.	Conditions relating to wetlands conservation projects.
4406.	Amounts available to carry out this chapter.
4407.	Allocation of amounts available to carry out this chapter.
4408.	Restoration, management, and protection of wetlands and habitat for migratory birds on Federal lands.
4409.	Report to Congress.
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4412.	Limitation on assessments against Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.
4413.	Other agreements.
4414.	Assessment of progress in wetlands conservation.

#### § 4401. Findings and statement of purpose

##### (a) Findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the maintenance of healthy populations of migratory birds in North America is dependent on the protection, restoration, and management of wetland ecosystems and associated habitats in Canada, as well as in the United States and Mexico;

(2) wetland ecosystems provide essential and significant habitat for fish, shellfish, and other wildlife of commercial, recreational, scientific, and aesthetic values;

(3) almost 35 per centum of all rare, threatened, and endangered species of animals are dependent on wetland ecosystems;

(4) wetland ecosystems provide substantial flood and storm control values and can obviate the need for expensive manmade control measures;

(5) wetland ecosystems make a significant contribution to water availability and quality, recharging ground water, filtering surface runoff, and providing waste treatment;

(6) wetland ecosystems provide aquatic areas important for recreational and aesthetic purposes;

(7) more than 50 per centum of the original wetlands in the United States alone have been lost;

(8) wetlands destruction, loss of nesting cover, and degradation of migration and wintering habitat have contributed to long-term downward trends in populations of migratory bird species such as pintails, American bitterns, and black ducks;

(9) the migratory bird treaty obligations of the United States with Canada, Mexico, and other countries require protection of wetlands that are used by migratory birds for breeding, wintering, or migration and are needed to achieve and to maintain optimum population levels, distributions, and patterns of migration;

(10) the 1988 amendments to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980 require the Secretary of the Interior to identify conservation measures to assure that nongame migratory bird species do not reach the point at which measures of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.] are necessary;

(11) protection of migratory birds and their habitats requires long-term planning and the close cooperation and coordination of management activities by Canada, Mexico, and the United States within the framework of the 1916 and 1936 Migratory Bird Conventions and the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere;

(12) the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, signed in 1986 by the Minister of Environment for Canada and the Secretary of the Interior for the United States and in 1994 by the Secretary of Sedesol for Mexico, provides a framework for maintaining and restoring an adequate habitat base to ensure perpetuation of populations of North American waterfowl and other migratory bird species;

(13) a tripartite agreement signed in March 1988, by the Director General for Ecological Conservation of Natural Resources of Mexico, the Director of the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, provides for expanded cooperative efforts in Mexico to conserve wetlands for migratory birds that spend the winter there;

(14) the long-term conservation of migratory birds and habitat for these species will require the coordinated action of governments, private organizations, landowners, and other citizens; and

(15) the treaty obligations of the United States under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as waterfowl habitat requires promotion of conservation and wise use of wetlands.

##### (b) Purpose

The purposes of this chapter are to encourage partnership among public agencies and other interests—

(1) to protect, enhance, restore, and manage an appropriate distribution and diversity of wetland ecosystems and habitats associated with wetland ecosystems and other fish and wildlife in North America;

(2) to maintain current or improved distributions of wetland associated migratory bird populations; and

(3) to sustain an abundance of waterfowl and other wetland associated migratory birds consistent with the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, the United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, the Partners In Flight Conservation Plans, and the international obligations contained in the migratory bird treaties and conventions and other agreements with Canada, Mexico, and other countries.

(Pub. L. 101-233, §2, Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1968; Pub. L. 107-308, §§3, 8(a)(1), (2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2446, 2447.)