

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 re-