

of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1131 of this title and Tables.

The Mining Law of 1872, referred to in subsec. (e)(2), is act May 10, 1872, ch. 152, 17 Stat. 91, which was incorporated into the Revised Statutes of 1878 as R.S. §§ 2319 to 2328, 2331, 2333 to 2337, and 2344, which are classified to sections 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 35, 37, 39 to 42, and 47 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining. For complete classification of such Revised Statutes sections to the Code, see Tables.

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.

§ 539m-3. Pueblo rights and interests in the Area

(a) In general

The Pueblo shall have the following rights and interests in the Area:

(1) Free and unrestricted access to the Area for traditional or cultural uses, to the extent that those uses are not inconsistent with—

(A) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) (including regulations promulgated under that Act) as in effect on February 20, 2003; or

(B) applicable Federal wildlife protection laws as provided in section 539m-4(a)(2) of this title.

(2) Perpetual preservation of the national forest and wilderness character of the Area under sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title.

(3) Rights in the management of the Area as specified in section 539m-5 of this title, including—

(A) the right to consent or withhold consent to a new use;

(B) the right to consultation regarding a modified use;

(C) the right to consultation regarding the management and preservation of the Area; and

(D) the right to dispute resolution procedures.

(4) Exclusive authority, in accordance with the customs and laws of the Pueblo, to administer access to the Area for traditional or cultural uses by members of the Pueblo and of other federally-recognized Indian tribes.

(5) Such other rights and interests as are recognized in subsection (c) of this section and sections 539m-2, 539m-5, 539m-6, and 539m-7 of this title.

(b) Access

Except as provided in subsection (a)(4), access to and use of the Area for all other purposes shall continue to be administered by the Secretary.

(c) Compensable interest

(1) In general

If, by an Act of Congress enacted after February 20, 2003, Congress diminishes the national forest or wilderness designation of the Area by authorizing a use prohibited by section 539m-2(e) of this title in all or any portion of the Area, or denies the Pueblo access for any traditional or cultural use in all or any portion of the Area—

(A) the United States shall compensate the Pueblo as if the Pueblo held a fee title interest in the affected portion of the Area and as though the United States had acquired such an interest by legislative exercise of the power of eminent domain; and

(B) the restrictions of sections 539m-2(e) and 539m-4(a) of this title shall be disregarded in determining just compensation owed to the Pueblo.

(2) Effect

Any compensation made to the Pueblo under paragraph (c)¹ shall not affect the extinguishment of claims under section 539m-8 of this title.

(Pub. L. 108-7, div. F, title IV, § 405, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 283.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Wilderness Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(A), is Pub. L. 88-577, Sept. 3, 1964, 78 Stat. 890, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 23 (§ 1131 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1131 of this title and Tables.

Sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), was in the original “this title”, meaning title IV of div. F of Pub. L. 108-7, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 279, which is classified generally to sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 539m of this title and Tables.

§ 539m-4. Limitations on Pueblo rights and interests in the Area

(a) Limitations

The rights and interests of the Pueblo recognized in sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title do not include—

(1) any right to sell, grant, lease, convey, encumber, or exchange land or any interest in land in the Area (and any such conveyance shall not have validity in law or equity);

(2) any exemption from applicable Federal wildlife protection laws;

(3) any right to engage in a use prohibited by section 539m-2(e) of this title; or

(4) any right to exclude persons or governmental entities from the Area.

(b) Exception

No person who exercises traditional or cultural use rights as authorized by section 539m-3(a)(4) of this title may be prosecuted for a Federal wildlife offense requiring proof of a violation of a State law (including regulations).

(Pub. L. 108-7, div. F, title IV, § 406, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 284.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title IV of div. F of Pub. L. 108-7, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 279, which is classified generally to sections 539m to 539m-12 of this title. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 539m of this title and Tables.

¹ So in original. Probably should be paragraph “(1)”.

§ 539m-5. Management of the Area**(a) Process****(1) In general**

The Secretary shall consult with the Pueblo not less than twice each year, unless otherwise mutually agreed, concerning protection, preservation, and management of the Area (including proposed new uses and modified uses in the Area and authorizations that are anticipated during the next 6 months and were approved in the preceding 6 months).

(2) New uses**(A) Request for consent after consultation****(i) Denial of consent**

If the Pueblo denies consent for a new use within 30 days after completion of the consultation process, the Secretary shall not proceed with the new use.

(ii) Granting of consent

If the Pueblo consents to the new use in writing or fails to respond within 30 days after completion of the consultation process, the Secretary may proceed with the notice and comment process and the environmental analysis.

(B) Final request for consent**(i) Request**

Before the Secretary (or a designee) signs a record of decision or decision notice for a proposed new use, the Secretary shall again request the consent of the Pueblo.

(ii) Denial of consent

If the Pueblo denies consent for a new use within 30 days after receipt by the Pueblo of the proposed record of decision or decision notice, the new use shall not be authorized.

(iii) Failure to respond

If the Pueblo fails to respond to the consent request within 30 days after receipt of the proposed record of decision or decision notice—

(I) the Pueblo shall be deemed to have consented to the proposed record of decision or decision notice; and

(II) the Secretary may proceed to issue the final record of decision or decision notice.

(3) Public involvement**(A) In general**

With respect to a proposed new use or modified use, the public shall be provided notice of—

(i) the purpose and need for the proposed new use or modified use;

(ii) the role of the Pueblo in the decisionmaking process; and

(iii) the position of the Pueblo on the proposal.

(B) Court challenge

Any person may bring a civil action in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico to challenge a determination

by the Secretary concerning whether a use constitutes a new use or a modified use.

(b) Emergencies and emergency closure orders**(1) Authority**

The Secretary shall retain the authority of the Secretary to manage emergency situations, to—

(A) provide for public safety; and

(B) issue emergency closure orders in the Area subject to applicable law.

(2) Notice

The Secretary shall notify the Pueblo regarding emergencies, public safety issues, and emergency closure orders as soon as practicable.

(3) No consent

An action of the Secretary described in paragraph (1) shall not require the consent of the Pueblo.

(c) Disputes involving Forest Service management and Pueblo traditional uses**(1) In general**

In a case in which the management of the Area by the Secretary conflicts with a traditional or cultural use, if the conflict does not pertain to a new use subject to the process specified in subsection (a)(2), the process for dispute resolution specified in this subsection shall apply.

(2) Dispute resolution process**(A) In general**

In the case of a conflict described in paragraph (1)—

(i) the party identifying the conflict shall notify the other party in writing addressed to the Governor of the Pueblo or the Regional Forester, as appropriate, specifying the nature of the dispute; and

(ii) the Governor of the Pueblo or the Regional Forester shall attempt to resolve the dispute for a period of at least 30 days after notice has been provided before bringing a civil action in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.

(B) Disputes requiring immediate resolution

In the case of a conflict that requires immediate resolution to avoid imminent, substantial, and irreparable harm—

(i) the party identifying the conflict shall notify the other party and seek to resolve the dispute within 3 days of the date of notification; and

(ii) if the parties are unable to resolve the dispute within 3 days—

(I) either party may bring a civil action for immediate relief in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico; and

(II) the procedural requirements specified in subparagraph (A) shall not apply.

(Pub. L. 108-7, div. F, title IV, § 407, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 284.)