

the Secretary shall provide technical assistance and financial assistance to councils to develop and carry out area plans and projects in designated areas—

(1) to conserve and improve the use of land, develop natural resources, and improve and enhance the social, economic, and environmental conditions in primarily rural areas of the United States; and

(2) to encourage and improve the capability of State,<sup>1</sup> units of government, Indian tribes, nonprofit organizations, and councils to carry out the purposes described in paragraph (1).

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1529, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title II, §2504, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 272.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3452, Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1529, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1337, related to definitions, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107-171.

### § 3453. Selection of designated areas

The Secretary shall select designated areas for assistance under this subchapter on the basis of the elements of area plans.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1530, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title II, §2504, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 272.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3453, Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1530, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1339, related to the establishment and scope of resource conservation and development program, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107-171.

### § 3454. Powers of the Secretary

#### (a) In general

In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary may—

(1) provide technical assistance to any council to assist in developing and implementing an area plan for a designated area;

(2) cooperate with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government, States, local units of government, local Indian tribes, and local nonprofit organizations in conducting surveys and inventories, disseminating information, and developing area plans;

(3) assist in carrying out an area plan approved by the Secretary for any designated area by providing technical assistance and financial assistance to any council; and

(4) enter into agreements with councils in accordance with section 3455 of this title.

#### (b) Coordinator

##### (1) In general

To improve the provision of technical assistance to councils under this subchapter, the Secretary shall designate for each council an individual to be the coordinator for the council.

##### (2) Responsibility

A coordinator for a council shall be directly responsible for the provision of technical assistance to the council.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1531, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title II, §2504, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 272; amended Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2805(c), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1088; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2805(c), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1816.)

#### 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.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3454, Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1531, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1339, related to selection of designated areas for assistance, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107-171.

#### AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §2805(c), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

#### 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.

### § 3455. Eligibility; terms and conditions

#### (a) Eligibility

Technical assistance and financial assistance may be provided by the Secretary under this subchapter to any council to assist in carrying out a project specified in an area plan approved by the Secretary only if—

(1) the council agrees in writing—

(A) to carry out the project; and

(B) to finance or arrange for financing of any portion of the cost of carrying out the project for which financial assistance is not provided by the Secretary under this subchapter;

(2) the project is included in an area plan and is approved by the council;

(3) the Secretary determines that assistance is necessary to carry out the area plan;

(4) the project provided for in the area plan is consistent with any comprehensive plan for the area;

(5) the cost of the land or an interest in the land acquired or to be acquired under the plan by any State, local unit of government, Indian tribe, or local nonprofit organization is borne by the State, local unit of government, Indian tribe, or local nonprofit organization, respectively; and

(6) the State, local unit of government, Indian tribe, or local nonprofit organization participating in the area plan agrees to maintain and operate the project.

#### (b) Loans

##### (1) In general

Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a loan made under this subchapter shall be made on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

##### (2) Term

A loan for a project made under this subchapter shall have a term of not more than 30

<sup>1</sup> So in original.