

§ 559a. Reward for information leading to arrest and conviction for violating laws and regulations

The Secretary of Agriculture may pay rewards from appropriations available for the protection and management of the national forests, under such regulations as he may prescribe, for information leading to the arrest and conviction for violation of the laws and regulations relating to fires in or near national forests, or for the unlawful taking of, or injury to, Government property.

(Sept. 21, 1944, ch. 412, title II, §201, 58 Stat. 736.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as a part of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944.

§ 559b. Prevention of manufacture, etc., of marijuana and other controlled substances

(a) Purpose

The purpose of sections 559b to 559f of this title is to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter in sections 559b to 559f of this title referred to as the "Secretary") to take actions necessary, in connection with the administration and use of the National Forest System, to prevent the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of marijuana and other controlled substances.

(b) Law enforcement authority

Nothing in sections 559b to 559f of this title shall diminish in any way the law enforcement authority of the Forest Service.

(c) Definitions

As used in sections 559b to 559f of this title, the terms "manufacture", "dispense", and "distribute" shall have the same meaning given such terms in section 802 of title 21.

(Pub. L. 99-570, title XV, §15002, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-191.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 559b to 559f of this title, referred to in text, was in the original "this title", meaning title XV of Pub. L. 99-570, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-191, known as the National Forest System Drug Control Act of 1986, which enacted sections 559b to 559f of this title, amended section 841 of Title 21, Food and Drugs, and enacted provisions set out as a note below. For complete classification of title XV to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 99-570, title XV, §15001, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-191, provided that: "This title [enacting this section and sections 559c to 559f of this title and amending section 841 of Title 21, Food and Drugs] may be cited as the 'National Forest System Drug Control Act of 1986'."

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM, NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM, AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC LANDS SAFETY; FINDINGS

Pub. L. 100-690, title VI, §6254(a), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4363, provided that: "Congress finds that—

"(1) National Forest System lands continue to be a haven for the unlawful production of marijuana and other controlled substances, which—

"(A) endangers the public in its use of National Forest System lands;

"(B) interferes with the ability of the Forest Service to effectively manage the natural resources and activities within the National Forest System; and

"(C) causes damage and destruction of the natural resources and facilities managed by the Forest Service;

"(2) the unlawful production of marijuana and other controlled substances often—

"(A) is generally harmful to the environment and public health and safety;

"(B) pollutes the air, soil, and water; and

"(C) is harmful to wildlife;

"(3) the Forest Service needs additional authority to adequately deal with the problem of controlled substance production that affects the administration of the National Forest System;

"(4) the Forest Service needs to be able to exercise its investigative authorities outside the boundaries of the National Forest System for drug-related crimes arising from within the National Forest System in order to be effective in deterring such crime;

"(5) the authority and powers of the Forest Service are not intended to be in conflict or interfere with the statutory authority, powers, or responsibilities of any State or political subdivision thereof; and

"(6) the Forest Service, in the exercise of its law enforcement powers, should cooperate to every extent possible with any other Federal, State, or local law enforcement authority having jurisdiction in areas where national forests are located, particularly where coordinated investigative and enforcement actions can be effective to control crime which affects multiple agencies."

§ 559c. Powers of officers and employees of Forest Service

For the purposes of sections 559b to 559f of this title, if specifically designated by the Secretary and specially trained, not to exceed 1,000 special agents and law enforcement officers of the Forest Service when in the performance of their duties shall have authority to—

(1) carry firearms;

(2) conduct, within the exterior boundaries of the National Forest System, investigations of violations of and enforce section 841 of title 21 and other criminal violations relating to marijuana and other controlled substances that are manufactured, distributed, or dispensed on National Forest System lands and to conduct such investigations and enforcement of such laws outside the exterior boundaries of the National Forest System for offenses committed within the National Forest System or which affect the administration of the National Forest System (including the pursuit of persons suspected of such offenses who flee the National Forest System to avoid arrest);

(3) make arrests with a warrant or process for misdemeanor violations, or without a warrant or process for violations of such misdemeanors that any such officer or employee has probable cause to believe are being committed in his presence or view, or for a felony with a warrant or without a warrant if he has probable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed or is committing such felony, for offenses committed within the National Forest System or which affect the administration of the National Forest System;¹

¹ So in original.