

1994, 108 Stat. 3225; Pub. L. 110-234, title II, § 2804(a), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1086; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title II, § 2804(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1814.)

#### 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 L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub.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.

#### AMENDMENTS

2008—Par. (2). Pub. L. 110-246, § 2804(a)(1), substituted “base of the” for “base, of the”.

Pars. (3), (4). Pub. L. 110-246, § 2804(a)(2), added par. (3), redesignated former par. (3) as (4), and struck out “Resource appraisal is basic to effective soil and water conservation.” before “Since individual”.

1994—Par. (2). Pub. L. 103-354 struck out “created the Soil Conservation Service” after “resource base,” and substituted “, has ensured that the Department of Agriculture” for “Department of Agriculture which” after “United States”.

#### 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.

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 95-192, § 1, Nov. 18, 1977, 91 Stat. 1407, provided: “That this Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977’.”

### § 2002. Definitions

As used in this chapter:

(1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(2) The term “soil, water, and related resources” means those resources which come within the scope of the programs administered and participated in by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(3) The term “soil and water conservation program” means a set of guidelines for attaining the purposes of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 95-192, § 3, Nov. 18, 1977, 91 Stat. 1407; Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 246(f)(2)(B), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3225.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Par. (2). Pub. L. 103-354 struck out “through the Soil Conservation Service” after “Agriculture”.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Enforcement functions of Secretary or other official in Department of Agriculture, insofar as they involve lands and programs under jurisdiction of that Department, related to compliance with this chapter with respect to pre-construction, construction, and initial operation of transportation system for Canadian and Alaskan natural gas transferred to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, until first anniversary of date of initial operation of Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, see Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1979, §§ 102(f), 203(a), 44 F.R. 33663, 33666, 93 Stat. 1373, 1376, effective July 1, 1979, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System abolished and functions and authority vested in Inspector transferred to Secretary of Energy by section

3012(b) of Pub. L. 102-486, set out as an Abolition of Office of Federal Inspector note under section 719e of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. Functions and authority vested in Secretary of Energy subsequently transferred to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects by section 720d(f) of Title 15.

### § 2003. Congressional policy and declaration of purpose

#### (a) Responsiveness to long-term needs

In order to further the conservation of soil, water, and related resources, it is declared to be the policy of the United States and purpose of this chapter that the conduct of programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture for the conservation of such resources shall be responsive to the long-term needs of the Nation, as determined under the provisions of this chapter.

#### (b) Full utilization of cooperative arrangements with State and tribal agencies

Recognizing that the arrangements under which the Federal Government cooperates with State and tribal soil and water conservation agencies and other appropriate State and tribal natural resource agencies such as those concerned with forestry and fish and wildlife and, through conservation districts, with other local units of government and land users, have effectively aided in the protection and improvement of the Nation’s basic resources, including the restoration and maintenance of resources damaged by improper use, it is declared to be the policy of the United States that these arrangements and similar cooperative arrangements should be utilized to the fullest extent practicable to achieve the purpose of this chapter consistent with the roles and responsibilities of the non-Federal agencies, landowners and land users.

#### (c) Attainment of policies and purposes

The Secretary shall promote the attainment of the policies and purposes expressed in this chapter by—

(1) appraising on a continuing basis the soil, water, and related resources of the Nation;

(2) developing and updating periodically a program for furthering the conservation, protection, and enhancement of the soil, water, and related resources of the Nation consistent with the roles and program responsibilities of other Federal agencies and State, tribal, and local governments; and

(3) providing to Congress and the public, through reports, the information developed pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, and by providing Congress with an annual evaluation report as provided in section 2006 of this title.

(Pub. L. 95-192, § 4, Nov. 18, 1977, 91 Stat. 1407; Pub. L. 113-79, title II, § 2508(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 756.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-79, § 2508(a)(1), inserted “and tribal” after “State” in two places in text.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 113-79, § 2508(a)(2), inserted “, tribal,” after “State”.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of certain enforcement functions of Secretary or other official in Department of Agriculture