

Commerce, and the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consult, as appropriate, with the Marine Mammal Commission and with other departments and agencies of the United States.

(c) Icebreaking

The Department of Homeland Security shall facilitate planning for the design, procurement, maintenance, deployment, and operation of icebreakers needed to provide a platform for Antarctic research. All funds necessary to support icebreaking operations, except for recurring incremental costs associated with specific projects, shall be allocated to the United States Coast Guard.

(Pub. L. 98-623, title III, §312, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3405; Pub. L. 109-241, title IX, §902(h)(2), July 11, 2006, 120 Stat. 567.)

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-241 substituted “of Homeland Security” for “of Transportation”.

§ 2442. Relationship to existing treaties and statutes

(a) In general

Nothing in this chapter¹ shall be construed as contravening or superseding (1) the provisions of any international treaty, convention, or agreement, if such treaty, convention or agreement is in force with respect to the United States on Nov. 8, 1984, or (2) the provisions of any statute which implements any such treaty, convention, or agreement. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as contravening or superseding the provisions of any statute enacted before Nov. 8, 1984, which may otherwise apply to Antarctic marine living resources.

(b) Application of more restrictive provisions

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the application of provisions of the Convention, conservation measures adopted by the Commission pursuant to article IX of the Convention, or regulations promulgated under this chapter, which are more restrictive than the provisions of, measures adopted under, or regulations promulgated under, the treaties or statutes described in subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 98-623, title III, §313, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3406.)

CODIFICATION

This chapter, the first time it appears in subsec. (a), was in the original “this Act” and was translated as reading “this title”, as the probable intent of Congress.

§ 2443. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of this chapter, including, but not limited to—

- (1) necessary travel expenses of the United States representatives referred to in section 2433 of this title, alternate United States representatives, and authorized advisers and ex-

perts, in accordance with sections 5701 through 5708, 5731, and 5733 of title 5 and the regulations issued under those sections;

- (2) the United States contribution to the budget of the Commission as provided in article XIX of the Convention; and

- (3) the directed research program and the furnishing of facilities and personnel to the Commission referred to in section 2441 of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-623, title III, §314, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3406.)

§ 2444. Severability

If any provision of this chapter or the application of this chapter to any person or circumstance is held invalid, neither the remainder of this chapter nor the application of that provision to other persons or circumstances shall be affected thereby.

(Pub. L. 98-623, title III, §315, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3407.)

CHAPTER 44B—ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES PROTECTION

Sec.	
2461.	Findings and purpose.
2462.	Definitions.
2463.	Prohibition of Antarctic mineral resource activities.
2464.	Repealed.
2465.	Enforcement.
2466.	Repealed.

§ 2461. Findings and purpose

(a) Findings

Congress finds that—

- (1) the Antarctic continent with its associated and dependent ecosystems is a distinctive environment providing a habitat for many unique species and offering a natural laboratory from which to monitor critical aspects of stratospheric ozone depletion and global climate change;

- (2) Antarctica is protected by a series of international agreements, including the Antarctic Treaty and associated recommendations, the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Seals, and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which are intended to conserve the renewable natural resources of Antarctica and to recognize the importance of Antarctica for the conduct of scientific research;

- (3) recurring and recent developments in Antarctica, including increased siting of scientific stations, poor waste disposal practices, oil spills, increased tourism, and the over-exploitation of marine living resources, have raised serious questions about the adequacy and implementation of existing agreements and domestic law to protect the Antarctic environment and its living marine resources;

- (4) the parties to the Antarctic Treaty have negotiated a Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resources Activities which the United States has signed but not yet ratified;

- (5) the Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resources Activities does not

¹ See Codification note below.

guarantee the preservation of the fragile environment of Antarctica and could actually stimulate movement toward Antarctic mineral resource activity;

(6) the exploitation of mineral resources in Antarctica could lead to additional degradation of the Antarctic environment, including increased risk of oil spills;

(7) the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties have agreed to a voluntary ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities which needs to be made legally binding;

(8) the level of scientific study, including necessary support facilities, has increased to the point that some scientific programs may be degrading the Antarctic environment; and

(9) the planned special consultative meeting of parties to the Antarctic Treaty and the imminence of the thirtieth anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty provide opportunities for the United States to exercise leadership toward protection and sound management of Antarctica.

(b) Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to—

(1) strengthen substantially overall environmental protection of Antarctica;

(2) prohibit prospecting, exploration, and development of Antarctic mineral resources by United States citizens and other persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

(3) urge other nations to join the United States in immediately negotiating one or more new agreements to provide an indefinite ban on all Antarctic mineral resource activities and comprehensive protection for Antarctica and its associated and dependent ecosystems; and

(4) urge all nations to consider a permanent ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities.

(Pub. L. 101-594, § 2, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2975.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 101-594, § 1, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2975, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Antarctic Protection Act of 1990'."

§ 2462. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter:

(1) The term "Antarctica" means the area south of the Antarctic Convergence as defined in section 2432(1) of this title.

(2) The term "Antarctic mineral resource activity" means prospecting, exploration, or development in Antarctica of mineral resources, but does not include scientific research within the meaning of article III of the Antarctic Treaty, done at Washington on December 1, 1959.

(3) The term "development" means any activity, including logistic support, which takes place following exploration, the purpose of which is the exploitation of specific mineral resource deposits, including processing, storage, and transport activities.

(4) The term "exploration" means any activity, including logistic support, the purpose of which is the identification or evaluation of specific mineral resource deposits. The term includes exploratory drilling, dredging, and

other surface or subsurface excavations required to determine the nature and size of mineral resource deposits and the feasibility of their development.

(5) The term "mineral resources" means all nonliving natural nonrenewable resources, including fossil fuels, minerals, whether metallic or nonmetallic, but does not include ice, water, or snow.

(6) The term "person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association, or any other entity existing or organized under the laws of the United States, or any officer, employee, agent, department, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government or of any State or political subdivision thereof.

(7) The term "prospecting" means any activity, including logistic support, the purpose of which is the identification of mineral resource potential for possible exploration and development.

(8) The term "Under Secretary" means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

(Pub. L. 101-594, § 3, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2976.)

§ 2463. Prohibition of Antarctic mineral resource activities

It is unlawful for any person to engage in, finance, or otherwise knowingly provide assistance to any Antarctic mineral resource activity.

(Pub. L. 101-594, § 4, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2977; Pub. L. 104-227, title II, § 202(a), Oct. 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 3044.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-227 substituted "It" for "Pending a new agreement among the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in force for the United States, to which the Senate has given advice and consent or which is authorized by further legislation by the Congress, which provides an indefinite ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities, it".

§ 2464. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-227, title II, § 202(b), Oct. 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 3044

Section, Pub. L. 101-594, § 5, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2977, declared the sense of Congress that Secretary of State should negotiate international agreements relating to protection of Antarctic environment and that any such international agreement be consistent with purpose and provisions of this chapter.

§ 2465. Enforcement

(a) In general

A violation of this chapter or any regulation promulgated under this chapter is deemed to be a violation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 2431-2444) and shall be enforced under that Act by the Under Secretary or another Federal official to whom the Under Secretary has delegated this responsibility.

(b) Penalty

If the Under Secretary determines that a person has violated section 2463 of this title—

(1) that person shall be ineligible to locate a mining claim under the mining laws of the United States; and