

SUBCHAPTER XCI—HELLS CANYON  
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

**§ 460gg. Establishment**

**(a) In general**

To assure that the natural beauty, and historical and archeological values of the Hells Canyon area and the seventy-one-mile segment of the Snake River between Hells Canyon Dam and the Oregon-Washington border, together with portions of certain of its tributaries and adjacent lands, are preserved for this and future generations, and that the recreational and ecologic values and public enjoyment of the area are thereby enhanced, there is hereby established the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

**(b) Boundaries; publication in Federal Register**

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as the "recreation area"), which includes the Hells Canyon Wilderness (hereinafter referred to as the "wilderness"), the components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System designated in section 3 of this Act, and the wilderness study areas designated in section 460gg-5(d) of this title, shall comprise the lands and waters generally depicted on the map entitled "Hells Canyon National Recreation Area" dated May 1978, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief, Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as "the Secretary"), shall, as soon as practicable, but no later than eighteen months after December 31, 1975, publish a detailed boundary description of the recreation area, the wilderness study areas designated in section 460gg-5(d) of this title, and the wilderness established in section 460gg-1 of this title in the Federal Register.

(Pub. L. 94-199, §1, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1117; Pub. L. 95-625, title VI, §607, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3520.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 3 of this Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is section 3 of Pub. L. 94-199. Subsec. (a) of section 3 added pars. (11) and (12) of section 1274(a) of this title, relating to components of the national wild and scenic rivers system. Subsec. (b) of section 3, relating to the administration of those segments of the Snake and Rapid Rivers designated as wild or scenic river areas, is set out as a note under section 1274 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1978—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-625 substituted "May 1978" for "September 1975" to clarify that the boundary between Saulsberry and Freezeout Saddles is the hydrologic divide.

SEPARABILITY

Pub. L. 94-199, §17, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1123, provided that: "If any provision of this Act [this subchapter] is declared to be invalid, such declaration shall not affect the validity of any other provision hereof."

**§ 460gg-1. Wilderness designation**

**(a) Map designation**

The lands depicted as the "Hells Canyon Wilderness" on the map referred to in section 460gg(b) of this title are hereby designated as wilderness.

**(b) Application of Wilderness Act**

The wilderness designated by this subchapter shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter or in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act [16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.], whichever is the more restrictive, except that any reference in such provisions of the Wilderness Act to the effective date of that Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this subchapter. The provisions of section 460gg-6(b) and section 460gg-8 of this title shall apply to the wilderness. The Secretary shall make such boundary revisions to the wilderness as may be necessary due to the exercise of his authority under subsection 3(b) of this Act.

(Pub. L. 94-199, §2, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1117.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original "this Act", which is Pub. L. 94-199, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1117, which enacted sections 460gg to 460gg-13 of this title, amended sections 1274 and 1276 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 460gg and 1274 of this title.

The Wilderness Act, referred to in subsec. (b), 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.

The effective date of the Wilderness Act, referred to in subsec. (b), means Sept. 3, 1964, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 88-577, which enacted chapter 23 of this title.

The effective date of this subchapter, referred to in subsec. (b), means Dec. 31, 1975, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 94-199.

Subsection 3(b) of this Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is subsec. 3(b) of Pub. L. 94-199, which is set out as a note under section 1274 of this title.

**§ 460gg-2. Federal power and water resources projects**

**(a) Licenses by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, or any authorization heretofore given pursuant to law, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may not license the construction of any dam, water conduit, reservoir, powerhouse, transmission line, or other project work under the Federal Power Act (41 Stat. 1063), as amended (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), within the recreation area: *Provided*, That the provisions of the Federal Power Act (41 Stat. 1063) shall continue to apply to any project (as defined in such Act), and all of the facilities and improvements required or used in connection with the operation and maintenance of said project, in existence within the recreation area which project is already constructed or under construction on December 31, 1975.

**(b) Assistance detrimental to protected waters**

No department or agency of the United States may assist by loan, grant, license, or otherwise the construction of any water resource facility within the recreation area which the Secretary determines would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the waters of the area are protected.