

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 114-322, § 1130(d)(3)(A), substituted “1 year after December 16, 2016” for “1 year after June 10, 2014” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 114-322, § 1130(d)(3)(B), substituted “State, regional, or tribal” for “State or tribal”.

“SECRETARY” DEFINED

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 2 of Pub. L. 110-114, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

**§ 3304. Limitations on statutory construction**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as—

- (1) creating any liability of the United States or its officers or employees for the recovery of damages caused by an action or failure to act; or
- (2) relieving an owner or operator of a levee of a legal duty, obligation, or liability incident to the ownership or operation of a levee.

(Pub. L. 110-114, title IX, § 9007, formerly § 9005, Nov. 8, 2007, 121 Stat. 1290; renumbered § 9007, Pub. L. 113-121, title III, § 3016(e)(1), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1293.)

**§ 3305. Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary—

- (1) to carry out sections 3302, 3303a(c), 3303a(d), 3303a(e), and 3303a(f) of this title, \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019;
- (2) to carry out section 3303 of this title, \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019; and
- (3) to carry out section 3303a(h) of this title, \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019.

(Pub. L. 110-114, title IX, § 9008, formerly § 9006, Nov. 8, 2007, 121 Stat. 1291; renumbered § 9008 and amended Pub. L. 113-121, title III, § 3016(e)(1), (f), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1293, 1300.)

AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-121, § 3016(f)(2), substituted “Secretary—” for “Secretary to carry out this chapter \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013.” and added pars. (1) to (3).

Pub. L. 113-121, § 3016(f)(1), which directed the substitution of “is” for “are”, could not be executed because “are” does not appear in text.

“SECRETARY” DEFINED

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 2 of Pub. L. 110-114, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

**CHAPTER 47—OCEAN EXPLORATION**

SUBCHAPTER I—EXPLORATION

Sec.	
3401.	Purpose.
3402.	Program established.
3403.	Powers and duties of the Administrator.
3404.	Ocean exploration and undersea research technology and infrastructure task force.
3405.	Ocean Exploration Advisory Board.
3406.	Authorization of appropriations.

SUBCHAPTER II—NOAA UNDERSEA RESEARCH PROGRAM

3421.	Program established.
-------	----------------------

Sec.	
3422.	Powers of program Director.
3423.	Administrative structure.
3424.	Research, exploration, education, and technology programs.
3425.	Competitiveness.
3426.	Authorization of appropriations.

SUBCHAPTER I—EXPLORATION

**§ 3401. Purpose**

The purpose of this subchapter is to establish the national ocean exploration program and the national undersea research program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12001, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1417.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12101, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1419, provided that: “This part [part II (§§ 12101–12107) of subtitle A of title XII of Pub. L. 111-11, enacting subchapter II of this chapter] may be cited as the ‘NOAA Undersea Research Program Act of 2009’.”

**§ 3402. Program established**

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall, in consultation with the National Science Foundation and other appropriate Federal agencies, establish a coordinated national ocean exploration program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that promotes collaboration with other Federal ocean and undersea research and exploration programs. To the extent appropriate, the Administrator shall seek to facilitate coordination of data and information management systems, outreach and education programs to improve public understanding of ocean and coastal resources, and development and transfer of technologies to facilitate ocean and undersea research and exploration.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12002, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1417.)

**§ 3403. Powers and duties of the Administrator**

**(a) In general**

In carrying out the program authorized by section 3402 of this title, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall—

- (1) conduct interdisciplinary voyages or other scientific activities in conjunction with other Federal agencies or academic or educational institutions, to explore and survey little known areas of the marine environment, inventory, observe, and assess living and non-living marine resources, and report such findings;
- (2) give priority attention to deep ocean regions, with a focus on deep water marine systems that hold potential for important scientific discoveries, such as hydrothermal vent communities and seamounts;
- (3) conduct scientific voyages to locate, define, and document historic shipwrecks, submerged sites, and other ocean exploration activities that combine archaeology and oceanographic sciences;