§722. Acquisition of lands and water

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire, by purchase, gift, or lease, such areas of land, or of land and water, situated between Rock Island, Illinois, and Wabasha, Minnesota, on either side of or upon islands in the Mississippi River which are not used for agricultural purposes, as he determines suitable for the purposes of this chapter, and any such area when acquired shall become a part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (referred to in this chapter as the "refuge").

(June 7, 1924, ch. 346, §§2, 3, 43 Stat. 650; June 18, 1934, ch. 602, 48 Stat. 1015; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §4(f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433; Pub. L. 105–312, title II, §202(b), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2957.)

CODIFICATION

Section is a combination provision, the latter portion beginning with the words "and any such area," being from section 3, and the remainder of the section from section 2 of act June 7, 1924.

Amendments

1998—Pub. L. 105-312, which directed the amendment of section 2 of the Upper Mississippi River Wild Life and Fish Refuge Act by substituting "National Wildlife" for "Wild Life", was executed to the part of this section based on section 3 of the act, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. See Codification note above.

1934—Act June 18, 1934, struck out "which are subject to overflow by such river" after "Mississippi River".

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Reorg. Plan No. II of 1939, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, transferred functions of Secretary of Agriculture relating to conservation of wildlife, game, and migratory birds to Secretary of the Interior.

LAND CONVEYANCE, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE AND FISH REFUGE

Pub. L. 105-312, title II, §202(a), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2957, provided that: "In accordance with section 4(a)(5) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd(a)(5)), there are transferred to the Corps of Engineers, without reimbursement, approximately 37.36 acres of land of the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge in the State of Minnesota, as designated on the map entitled 'Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge lands transferred to Corps of Engineers', dated January 1998, and available, with accompanying legal descriptions of the land, for inspection in appropriate offices of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service."

ADDITIONAL LANDS

Act June 13, 1944, ch. 243, 58 Stat. 274, provided for the acquisition of certain tracts of land situated in Wabasha County, Minnesota.

§723. Purposes of refuge; regulations by Secretary of the Interior

The refuge shall be established and maintained (a) as a refuge and breeding place for migratory birds included in the terms of the convention between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds, concluded August 16, 1916, and (b) to such extent as the Secretary of the Interior may by regulations prescribe, as a refuge and breeding place for other wild birds, game animals, fur-bearing animals, and for the conservation of wild flowers and aquatic plants, and (c) to such extent as the Secretary of the Interior may by regulations prescribe as a refuge and breeding place for fish and other aquatic animal life.

(June 7, 1924, ch. 346, §3, 43 Stat. 650; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §4(e), (f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Reorg. Plan No. III of 1940, §3, eff. June 30, 1940, 5 F.R. 2108, 54 Stat. 1232, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, consolidated Bureau of Fisheries and Bureau of Biological Survey into one agency in Department of the Interior to be known as Fish and Wildlife Service.

Reorg. Plan No. II of 1939, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, transferred Bureau of Fisheries in Department of Commerce and its functions to Department of the Interior; transferred functions of Secretary of Commerce relating to protection of fur-bearing animals to Secretary of the Interior; and transferred functions of Secretary of Agriculture relating to conservation of wildlife, game, and migratory birds to Secretary of the Interior.

§724. Consent of States to acquisition; existing rights-of-way, easements, etc.

(a) No such area shall be acquired by the Secretary of the Interior until the legislature of each State in which is situated any part of the areas to be acquired under this chapter has consented to the acquisition of such part by the United States for the purposes of this chapter, and, except in the case of a lease, no payment shall be made by the United States for any such area until title thereto is satisfactory to the Attorney General and is vested in the United States.

(b) The existence of a right of way, easement, or other reservation or exception in respect of such area shall not be a bar to its acquisition (1) if the Secretary of the Interior determines that any such reservation or exception will in no manner interfere with the use of the area for the purposes of this chapter, or (2) if in the deed or other conveyance it is stipulated that any reservation or exception in respect of such area, in favor of the person from whom the United States receives title, shall be subject to regulations prescribed under authority of this chapter.

(June 7, 1924, ch. 346, §4, 43 Stat. 650; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §4(f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Transfer of functions of Secretary of Agriculture to Secretary of the Interior by Reorg. Plan No. II of 1939, see Transfer of Functions note set out under section 723 of this title.

§725. Regulations, etc., by Secretary of the Interior

Except where it is specifically provided otherwise, the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe such regulations, exercise such functions, and perform such duties as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(June 7, 1924, ch. 346, §5, 43 Stat. 651; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §4(e), (f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433.)