

(e) Separate approval

An Indian tribe may submit to the Secretary tribal regulations described in section 5614(b) of this title governing forest land management activities for review and approval under this subchapter if the Indian tribe does not submit or intend to submit an Indian trust asset management plan.

(f) Trust responsibility

Nothing in this subchapter enhances, diminishes, or otherwise affects the trust responsibility of the United States to Indian tribes or individual Indians.

(Pub. L. 114-178, title II, § 206, June 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 439.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), is Pub. L. 93-638, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203, which was classified principally to subchapter II (§ 450 et seq.) of chapter 14 of this title prior to editorial reclassification as chapter 46 (§ 5301 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER III—IMPROVING EFFICIENCY AND STREAMLINING PROCESSES

§ 5631. Purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is to ensure a more efficient and streamlined administration of duties of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to providing services and programs to Indians and Indian tribes, including the management of Indian trust resources.

(Pub. L. 114-178, title III, § 301, June 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 439.)

§ 5632. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) BIA

The term “BIA” means the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(2) Department

The term “Department” means the Department of the Interior.

(3) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) Under Secretary

The term “Under Secretary” means the Under Secretary for Indian Affairs established under section 5633(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 114-178, title III, § 302, June 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 439.)

§ 5633. Under Secretary for Indian Affairs**(a) Establishment of position**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may establish in the Department the position of Under Secretary for Indian Affairs, who shall report directly to the Secretary.

(b) Appointment**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Under Secretary shall be appointed by the

President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) Exception

The individual serving as the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs on June 22, 2016, may assume the position of Under Secretary without appointment under paragraph (1), if—

(A) that individual was appointed as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(B) not later than 180 days after June 22, 2016, the Secretary approves the assumption.

(c) Duties

In addition to any other duties directed by the Secretary, the Under Secretary shall—

(1) coordinate with the Special Trustee for American Indians to ensure an orderly transition of the functions of the Special Trustee to one or more appropriate agencies, offices, or bureaus within the Department, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) to the maximum extent practicable, supervise and coordinate activities and policies of the BIA with activities and policies of—

(A) the Bureau of Reclamation;

(B) the Bureau of Land Management;

(C) the Office of Natural Resources Revenue;

(D) the National Park Service; and

(E) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

(3) provide for regular consultation with Indians and Indian tribes that own interests in trust resources and trust fund accounts.

(d) Personnel provisions**(1) Appointments**

The Under Secretary may appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as the Under Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out any function transferred under this section.

(2) Requirements

Except as otherwise provided by law—

(A) any officer or employee described in paragraph (1) shall be appointed in accordance with the civil service laws;

(B) the compensation of such an officer or employee shall be fixed in accordance with title 5; and

(C) in appointing or otherwise hiring any employee, the Under Secretary shall give preference to Indians in accordance with section 5116 of this title.

(Pub. L. 114-178, title III, § 303, June 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 440.)

§ 5634. Office of Special Trustee for American Indians**(a) Information to Congress**

Notwithstanding sections 4042 and 4043 of this title, not later than 1 year after June 22, 2016, the Secretary shall prepare and, after consultation with Indian tribes and appropriate Indian organizations, submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives,