

(2) consult with the Secretary on the preparation of the general management plan for the historical park;

(3) develop cooperative agreements with property owners, preservation groups, educational groups, the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, universities, and tourism groups, and other groups to further the purposes of this subchapter; and

(4) identify appropriate entities, such as a non-profit corporation, that could be established to assume the responsibilities of the Commission following its termination.

**(d) Powers of Commission**

In furtherance of the purposes of this subchapter, the Commission is authorized to—

(1) procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent that is authorized by section 3109(b) of title 5, but at rates determined by the Commission to be reasonable;

(2) accept the services of personnel detailed from the State of Louisiana or any political subdivision thereof, and may reimburse the State or political subdivision for such services;

(3) upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties;

(4) appoint and fix the compensation of such staff as may be necessary to carry out its duties. Staff shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates;

(5) enter into cooperative agreements with public or private individuals or entities for research, historic preservation, and education purposes;

(6) make grants to assist in the preparation of studies that identify, preserve, and plan for the management of the heritage area;

(7) notwithstanding any other provision of law, seek and accept donations of funds or services from individuals, foundations, or other public or private entities and expend the same for the purposes of providing services and programs in furtherance of the purposes of this subchapter;

(8) assist others in developing educational, informational, and interpretive programs and facilities;

(9) hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission may consider appropriate; and

(10) use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments or agencies of the United States.

**(e) Compensation**

Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service on the Commission. While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members shall be allowed

travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5.

**(f) Chairman**

The Commission shall elect a chairman from among its members. The term of the chairman shall be for 3 years.

**(g) Terms**

The terms of Commission members shall be for 3 years. Any member of the Commission appointed by the Secretary for a 3-year term may serve after expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the predecessor was appointed.

**(h) Annual reports**

The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Secretary identifying its expenses and any income, the entities to which any grants or technical assistance were made during the year for which the report is made, and actions that are planned for the following year.

(Pub. L. 103-449, title IV, §402, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4761.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original "titles II and III of this Act" and was translated as reading "titles III and IV of this Act" meaning titles III and IV of Pub. L. 103-449, which are classified generally to this subchapter, to reflect the probable intent of Congress in view of similar references in subsecs. (c) and (d) of this section. Title II of Pub. L. 103-449, known as the Weir Farm National Historic Site Expansion Act of 1994, amended provisions listed in a table of National Historic Sites set out under section 320101 of Title 54, National Park Service and Related Programs.

**§ 410ccc-23. Preparation of plan**

**(a) In general**

Within 3 years after the Commission conducts its first meeting, it shall prepare and submit a heritage area management plan to the Governor of the State of Louisiana. The Governor shall, if the Governor approves the plan, submit it to the Secretary for review and approval. The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to the Commission in the preparation and implementation of the plan, in concert with actions by the National Park Service to prepare a general management plan for the historical park. The plan shall consider local government plans and shall present a unified heritage preservation and education plan for the heritage area. The plan shall include, but not be limited to—

(1) an inventory of important properties and cultural landscapes that should be preserved, managed, developed, and maintained because of their cultural, natural, and public use significance;

(2) an analysis of current land uses within the area and how they affect the goals of preservation and public use of the heritage area;

(3) an interpretive plan to address the cultural and natural history of the area, and actions to enhance visitor use. This element of the plan shall be undertaken in consultation with the National Park Service and visitor use plans for the historical park;

(4) recommendations for coordinating actions by local, State, and Federal governments within the heritage area, to further the purposes of this subchapter; and

(5) an implementation program for the plan including desired actions by State and local governments and other involved groups and entities.

**(b) Approval of plan**

The Secretary shall approve or disapprove the plan within 90 days after receipt of the plan from the Commission. The Commission shall notify the Secretary of the status of approval by the Governor of Louisiana when the plan is submitted for review and approval. In determining whether or not to approve the plan the Secretary shall consider—

(1) whether the Commission has afforded adequate opportunity, including public meetings and hearings, for public and governmental involvement in the preparation of the plan; and

(2) whether reasonable assurances have been received from the State and local governments that the plan is supported and that the implementation program is feasible.

**(c) Disapproval of plan**

If the Secretary disapproves the plan, he shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons for disapproval, and shall provide recommendations and assistance in the revision plan. Following completion of any revisions to the plan, the Commission shall resubmit the plan to the Governor of Louisiana for approval, and to the Secretary, who shall approve or disapprove the plan within 90 days after the date that the plan is revised.

(Pub. L. 103-449, title IV, §403, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4763.)

**§ 410ccc-24. Termination of Heritage Area Commission**

**(a) Termination**

The Commission shall terminate on the day occurring 10 years after the first official meeting of the Commission.

**(b) Extension**

The Commission may petition to be extended for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the day referred to in subsection (a), provided the Commission determines a critical need to fulfill the purposes of this subchapter; and the Commission obtains approval from the Secretary, in consultation with the Governor of Louisiana.

**(c) Heritage area management following termination of Commission**

The national heritage area status for the Cane River region shall continue following the termination of the Commission. The management plan, and partnerships and agreements subject

to the plan shall guide the future management of the heritage area. The Commission, prior to its termination, shall recommend to the Governor of the State of Louisiana and the Secretary, appropriate entities, including the potential for a nonprofit corporation, to assume the responsibilities of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 103-449, title IV, §404, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4764.)

**§ 410ccc-25. Duties of other Federal agencies**

Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the heritage area shall—

(1) consult with the Secretary and the Commission with respect to implementation of their proposed actions; and

(2) to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the Commission to minimize potential impacts on the resources of the heritage area.

(Pub. L. 103-449, title IV, §405, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4764.)

**§ 410ccc-26. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 103-449, title IV, §406, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4765.)

SUBCHAPTER LIX-BB—NEW BEDFORD WHALING NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

**§ 410ddd. New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park**

**(a) Findings and purposes**

**(1) Findings**

The Congress finds that—

(A) the New Bedford National Historic Landmark District and associated historic sites as described in subsection (c)(2), including the Schooner Ernestina, are National Historic Landmarks and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as historic sites associated with the history of whaling in the United States;

(B) the city of New Bedford was the 19th century capital of the world's whaling industry and retains significant architectural features, archival materials, and museum collections illustrative of this period;

(C) New Bedford's historic resources provide unique opportunities for illustrating and interpreting the whaling industry's contribution to the economic, social, and environmental history of the United States and provide opportunities for public use and enjoyment; and<sup>1</sup>

(D) during the nineteenth century, over two thousand whaling voyages sailed out of New Bedford to the Arctic region of Alaska, and joined Alaska Natives from Barrow, Alaska and other areas in the Arctic region in subsistence whaling activities; and

(E) the National Park System presently contains no sites commemorating whaling and its contribution to American history.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The word "and" probably should not appear.