

Recreation Act of 1978. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Pub. L. 111-11, which directed substitution of “shall” for “may” in first sentence, was executed by substituting “shall” for “may” the first time appearing, which was preceding “permit hunting and fishing”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-333 inserted at end “The Secretary shall permit the State of West Virginia to undertake fish stocking activities carried out by the State, in consultation with the Secretary, on waters within the boundaries of the national river. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction of the State of West Virginia with respect to fish and wildlife.”

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 108-108, title I, §150, Nov. 10, 2003, 117 Stat. 1281, provided that: “The National Park Service shall issue a special regulation concerning continued hunting at New River Gorge National River in compliance with the requirements of the Administrative Procedures [Procedure] Act [see Short Title note preceding section 551 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees], with opportunity for public comment, and shall also comply with the National Environmental Policy Act [of 1969] [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.] as appropriate. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the September 25, 2003 interim final rule authorizing continued hunting at New River Gorge National River shall be in effect until the final special regulation supercedes it.”

§ 460m-21. Project work prohibition; advisement to Secretary; report to Congress

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall not license the construction of any dam, water conduit, reservoir, powerhouse, transmission line, or other project works under the Federal Power Act (41 Stat. 1063) as amended (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), on or directly affecting the New River Gorge National River, and no department or agency of the United States shall assist by loan, grant, license, or otherwise in the construction of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established, as determined by the Secretary. Nothing contained in the foregoing sentence, however, shall preclude licensing of, or assistance to, developments below or above the New River Gorge National River or on any stream tributary thereto which will not invade the area or diminish the scenic, recreation, and fish and wildlife values present in the area on November 10, 1978. No department or agency of the United States shall recommend authorization of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established, as determined by the Secretary, or request appropriations to begin construction on any such project whether heretofore or hereafter authorized, without advising the Secretary in writing of its intention to do so at least sixty days in advance, and without specifically reporting to the Congress in writing at the time it makes its recommendation or request in what respect construction of such project would be in conflict with the purposes of this section and would effect¹ the national river and the values to be protected by it under this section.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “affect”.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1107, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3547.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Power Act (41 Stat. 1063) as amended (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), referred to in text, is act June 10, 1920, ch. 285, 41 Stat. 1063, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 12 (§791a et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 791a of this title and Tables.

§ 460m-22. General management plan; submission to Congressional committees

Within three years from November 10, 1978, the Secretary shall develop and transmit to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, a general management plan for the protection and development of the national river consistent with the purposes of this subchapter, indicating—

(1) measures for the preservation of the area's resources;

(2) indications of types and general intensities of development (including visitor circulation and transportation patterns, systems and modes) associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and anticipated costs;

(3) identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the unit; and

(4) indications of potential modifications to the external boundaries of the unit, and the reasons therefor.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1109, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3548.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives on Jan. 5, 1993, by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Third Congress.

§ 460m-23. Cooperation

The Secretary of the Army shall cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior concerning the water requirements of the national river. The Secretary of the Army shall provide for release of water from the Bluestone Lake project consistent with that project's purposes and activities in sufficient quantity and in such manner to facilitate protection of biological resources and recreational use of the national river.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1110, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3548.)

§ 460m-24. Class I or class II redesignation for clean air purposes

For the purposes of part C of the Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7470 et seq.], the State may redesignate the national river only as class I or class II.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1111, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3548.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Clean Air Act, referred to in text, is act July 14, 1955, ch. 360, as amended generally by Pub. L. 88-206,

Dec. 17, 1963, 77 Stat. 392, and later by Pub. L. 95-95, Aug. 7, 1977, 91 Stat. 685. The Clean Air Act was originally classified to chapter 15B (§1857 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. On enactment of Pub. L. 95-95, the Act was reclassified to chapter 85 (§7401 et seq.) of Title 42. Part C of the Clean Air Act is classified generally to part C (§7470 et seq.) of subchapter I of chapter 85 of Title 42. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 7401 of Title 42 and Tables.

§ 460m-25. Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for the purposes of this subchapter, but not to exceed \$20,000,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands, and not to exceed \$3,000,000 for development.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1112, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3548; Pub. L. 99-500, §101(h) [title I, §116(b)], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-242, 1783-266, and Pub. L. 99-591, §101(h) [title I, §116(b)], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-242, 3341-266; Pub. L. 99-590, title X, §1002, Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3340.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-591 is a corrected version of Pub. L. 99-500.

AMENDMENTS

1986—Pub. L. 99-500, Pub. L. 99-590, Pub. L. 99-591, amended section identically substituting “\$3,000,000” for “\$500,000”.

§ 460m-26. Cooperative agreements with State

In administering the national river, the Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the State of West Virginia, or any political subdivision thereof, for the rendering, on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis, of rescue, fire fighting, and law enforcement services and cooperative assistance by nearby law enforcement and fire preventive agencies.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1113, as added Pub. L. 100-534, title I, §102, Oct. 26, 1988, 102 Stat. 2700.)

§ 460m-27. Improvement of access at Cunard

(a) Development and improvement

The Secretary shall expeditiously acquire such lands, and undertake such developments and improvements, as may be necessary to provide for commercial and noncommercial access to the river near Cunard. No restriction shall be imposed on such access based on the time of day, except to the extent required to protect public health and safety.

(b) Interim measures

Pending completion of the developments and improvements referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary shall permit the motorized towing of whitewater rafts in the section of the national river between Thurmond and Cunard when the volume of flow in the river is less than three thousand cubic feet per second.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1114, as added Pub. L. 100-534, title I, §103, Oct. 26, 1988, 102 Stat. 2700.)

§ 460m-28. Flow management

(a) Findings

The Congress finds that adjustments of flows from Bluestone Lake project during periods of

low flow are necessary to respond to the congressional mandate contained in section 460m-23 of this title and that such adjustments could enhance the quality of the recreational experience in the segments of the river below the lake during those periods as well as protect the biological resources of the river.

(b) Report to Congress required

The Secretary of the Army, in conjunction with the Secretary of the Interior, shall conduct a study and prepare a report under this section. The report shall be submitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives not later than December 31, 1989. Before submission of the report to these Committees, a draft of the report shall be made available for public comment. The final report shall include the comments submitted by the Secretary of the Interior and the public, together with the response of the Secretary of the Army to those comments.

(c) Contents of study

The study under this section shall examine the feasibility of adjusting the timing of daily releases from Bluestone Lake project during periods when flows from the lake are less than three thousand cubic feet per second. The purpose of such adjustment shall be to improve recreation (including, but not limited to, fishing and white-water recreation) in the New River Gorge National River. Any such adjustments in the timing of flows which are proposed in such report shall be consistent with other project purposes and shall not have significant adverse effects on fishing or on any other form of recreation in Bluestone Lake or in any segment of the river below Bluestone Lake. The study shall assess the effects of such flow adjustments on the quality of recreation on the river in the segments of the river between Hinton and Thurmond and between Thurmond and the downstream boundary of the New River Gorge National River, taking into account the levels of recreational visitation in each of such segments.

(d) Test procedures

As part of the study under this section, the Secretary of the Army shall conduct test releases from Bluestone Lake project during twenty-four-hour periods during the summer of 1989 when flows are less than three thousand cubic feet per second from the project. All such adjustments shall conform to the criteria specified in subsection (c). The tests shall provide adjustments in the timing of daily flows from Bluestone Lake project which permit flows higher than the twenty-four-hour average to reach downstream recreational segments of the river during morning and afternoon hours. The tests shall develop specific data on the effects of flow adjustments on the speed of the current and on water surface levels in those segments. No test shall be conducted when flows from the lake are less than one thousand seven hundred cubic feet per second and no test shall reduce flows below that level.

(Pub. L. 95-625, title XI, §1115, as added Pub. L. 100-534, title I, §104, Oct. 26, 1988, 102 Stat. 2701.)