

section (a), the Secretary is encouraged to cooperate, to the maximum extent practicable, with the relevant local governmental entities in assessing the reasons the levee described in subsection (a) is not accredited.

(c) Limitation

Nothing in this section—

(1) affects the responsibilities of a local government to operate and maintain its flood control infrastructure; or

(2) obligates the Secretary to expend additional Federal resources on levees owned and operated by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 115-270, title I, §1123, Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3779.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 211 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, referred to in subsec. (a), is section 211 of Pub. L. 106-541, which is set out as a note under section 6505 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018, and also as part of the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, and not as part of the National Levee Safety Act of 2007 which comprises this chapter.

“SECRETARY” DEFINED

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 102 of Pub. L. 115-270, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

CHAPTER 47—OCEAN EXPLORATION

SUBCHAPTER I—EXPLORATION

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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;

(4) develop and implement, in consultation with the National Science Foundation, a transparent, competitive process for merit-based peer-review and approval of proposals for activities to be conducted under this program, taking into consideration advice of the Board established under section 3405 of this title;

(5) enhance the technical capability of the United States marine science community by promoting the development of improved oceanographic research, communication, navigation, and data collection systems, as well as underwater platforms and sensor and autonomous vehicles; and

(6) establish an ocean exploration forum to encourage partnerships and promote communication among experts and other stakeholders in order to enhance the scientific and technical expertise and relevance of the national program.

(b) Donations

The Administrator may accept donations of property, data, and equipment to be applied for the purpose of exploring the oceans or increasing knowledge of the oceans.