

(A) to streamline the process of collecting covered data in accordance with the protocol established under subsection (c)(1); and

(B) to maintain transparency of such process and the database established under subsection (f).

(2) Sharing information

The Administrator shall establish a process for sharing among participants information relevant to collecting and using covered data for—

- (A) academic research;
- (B) private sector use;
- (C) public outreach; and
- (D) such other purposes as the Administrator considers appropriate.

(3) Consultation

In carrying out paragraphs (1) and (2), the Administrator shall consult with the following:

- (A) The Commanding General of the Corps of Engineers.
- (B) The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (C) The Commandant of the Coast Guard.
- (D) The Director of the United States Geological Survey.
- (E) The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology.
- (F) The Director of the National Science Foundation.
- (G) The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
- (H) Such public, private, and academic sector entities as the Administrator considers appropriate for purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section.

(f) Establishment of Coastal Wind and Water Event Database

(1) In general

Not later than 1 year after July 6, 2012, the Administrator shall establish a database for the collection and compilation of covered data—

- (A) to support the protocol established under subsection (c)(1); and
- (B) for the purposes listed in subsection (e)(2).

(2) Designation

The database established under paragraph (1) shall be known as the “Coastal Wind and Water Event Database”.

(g) Comptroller General study

Not later than 1 year after July 6, 2012, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

- (1) complete an audit of Federal efforts to collect covered data for purposes of the Consumer Option for an Alternative System to Allocate Losses Act of 2012, which audit shall—
 - (A) examine duplicated Federal efforts to collect covered data; and
 - (B) determine the cost effectiveness of such efforts; and
- (2) submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the¹ Com-

merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to the audit completed under paragraph (1).

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12312, as added Pub. L. 112–141, div. F, title II, §100252, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 969.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Consumer Option for an Alternative System to Allocate Losses Act of 2012, referred to in subsec. (g)(1), is subtitle B (§§100251–100253) of title II of div. F of Pub. L. 112–141, which enacted this section, section 4057 of Title 42, the Public Health and Welfare, and provisions set out as a note under section 4001 of Title 42. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2012 Amendment note set out under section 4001 of Title 42 and Tables.

CHAPTER 50—FEDERAL OCEAN ACIDIFICATION RESEARCH AND MONITORING

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§ 3701. Purposes

(a) Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are to provide for—

- (1) development and coordination of a comprehensive interagency plan to—
 - (A) monitor and conduct research on the processes and consequences of ocean acidification on marine organisms and ecosystems; and
 - (B) establish an interagency research and monitoring program on ocean acidification;
- (2) establishment of an ocean acidification program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- (3) assessment and consideration of regional and national ecosystem and socioeconomic impacts of increased ocean acidification; and
- (4) research adaptation strategies and techniques for effectively conserving marine ecosystems as they cope with increased ocean acidification.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12402, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1436.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12401, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1436, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle D (§§12401–12409) of title XII of Pub. L. 111–11, enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009’ or the ‘FOARAM Act’.”

§ 3702. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Ocean acidification

The term “ocean acidification” means the decrease in pH of the Earth’s oceans and

¹So in original. Probably should be followed by “Committee on”.

changes in ocean chemistry caused by chemical inputs from the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide.

(2) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(3) Subcommittee

The term “Subcommittee” means the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12403, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1437.)

§ 3703. Interagency Subcommittee

(a) Designation

(1) In general

The Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council shall coordinate Federal activities on ocean acidification and establish an interagency working group.

(2) Membership

The interagency working group on ocean acidification shall be comprised of senior representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Geological Survey, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and such other Federal agencies as appropriate.

(3) Chairman

The interagency working group shall be chaired by the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) Duties

The Subcommittee shall—

(1) develop the strategic research and monitoring plan to guide Federal research on ocean acidification required under section 3704 of this title and oversee the implementation of the plan;

(2) oversee the development of—

(A) an assessment of the potential impacts of ocean acidification on marine organisms and marine ecosystems; and

(B) adaptation and mitigation strategies to conserve marine organisms and ecosystems exposed to ocean acidification;

(3) facilitate communication and outreach opportunities with nongovernmental organizations and members of the stakeholder community with interests in marine resources;

(4) coordinate the United States Federal research and monitoring program with research and monitoring programs and scientists from other nations; and

(5) establish or designate an Ocean Acidification Information Exchange to make information on ocean acidification developed through or utilized by the interagency ocean acidification program accessible through electronic

means, including information which would be useful to policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders in mitigating or adapting to the impacts of ocean acidification.

(c) Reports to Congress

(1) Initial report

Not later than 1 year after March 30, 2009, the Subcommittee shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives that—

(A) includes a summary of federally funded ocean acidification research and monitoring activities, including the budget for each of these activities; and

(B) describes the progress in developing the plan required under section 3704 of this title.

(2) Biennial report

Not later than 2 years after the delivery of the initial report under paragraph (1) and every 2 years thereafter, the Subcommittee shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives that includes—

(A) a summary of federally funded ocean acidification research and monitoring activities, including the budget for each of these activities; and

(B) an analysis of the progress made toward achieving the goals and priorities for the interagency research plan developed by the Subcommittee under section 3704 of this title.

(3) Strategic research plan

Not later than 2 years after March 30, 2009, the Subcommittee shall transmit the strategic research plan developed under section 3704 of this title to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives. A revised plan shall be submitted at least once every 5 years thereafter.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12404, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1437.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

§ 3704. Strategic research plan

(a) In general

Not later than 2 years after March 30, 2009, the Subcommittee shall develop a strategic plan for Federal research and monitoring on ocean acidification that will provide for an assessment of the impacts of ocean acidification on marine organisms and marine ecosystems and the devel-