

mitigation bank does not occur in order to satisfy any condition for permitting military activity under a Federal, State, or local permitting or review process.

(g) CONSIDERATION.—In fixing the consideration for the conveyance of real property under this section, or in determining the amount of any reduction of the amount to be paid for the release of a covenant under subsection (d), the Secretary concerned shall take into consideration any benefit that has accrued or may accrue to the United States from the use of such property for the conservation of natural resources.

(h) RELATION TO OTHER CONVEYANCE AUTHORITIES.—(1) The Secretary concerned may not make a conveyance under this section of any real property to be disposed of under a base closure law in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements and conditions of the base closure law.

(2) In the case of real property on Guam, the Secretary concerned may not make a conveyance under this section unless the Government of Guam has been first afforded the opportunity to acquire the real property as authorized by section 1 of Public Law 106-504 (114 Stat. 2309).

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate committees of Congress” has the meaning given such term in section 2801 of this title.

(2) The term “Secretary concerned” means the Secretary of a military department.

(3) The term “State” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

(Added Pub. L. 107-314, div. B, title XXVIII, §2812(a)(1), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2707; amended Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1056(a)(1), (b), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3438, 3439; Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title X, §1071(a)(22), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2399; Pub. L. 111-383, div. B, title XXVIII, §2803(a), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4458; Pub. L. 115-91, div. B, title XXVIII, §2811(h), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1849.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1 of Public Law 106-504 (114 Stat. 2309), referred to in subsec. (h)(2), is set out as a note under section 521 of Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works.

#### AMENDMENTS

2017—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 115-91 added subsec. (e) and struck out former subsec. (e). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Secretary concerned may not approve of the reconveyance of real property under subsection (c) or grant the release of a covenant under subsection (d) until the Secretary notifies the appropriate committees of Congress of the proposed reconveyance or release and a period of 21 days elapses from the date the notification is received by the committees or, if earlier, a period of 14 days has elapsed from the date on which a copy of the notification is provided in an electronic medium pursuant to section 480 of this title.”

2011—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111-383 inserted before period at end “or, if earlier, a period of 14 days has elapsed from the date on which a copy of the notification is provided in an electronic medium pursuant to section 480 of this title”.

2006—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-364 substituted “Revisory” for “Revisionary” in heading.

Subsec. (i)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 109-163 struck out par. (2), which defined “base closure law”, redesignated pars. (3) and (4) as (2) and (3), respectively, and, in par. (3), substituted “Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa” for “and the territories and possessions of the United States”.

#### § 2694b. Participation in wetland mitigation banks

(a) AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE.—The Secretary of a military department, and the Secretary of Defense with respect to matters concerning a Defense Agency, when engaged in an authorized activity that may or will result in the destruction of, or an adverse impact to, a wetland, may make payments to a wetland mitigation banking program or “in-lieu-fee” mitigation sponsor approved in accordance with the Federal Guidance for the Establishment, Use and Operation of Mitigation Banks (60 Fed. Reg. 58605; November 28, 1995) or the Federal Guidance on the Use of In-Lieu-Fee Arrangements for Compensatory Mitigation Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (65 Fed. Reg. 66913; November 7, 2000), or any successor administrative guidance or regulation.

(b) ALTERNATIVE TO CREATION OF WETLAND.—Participation in a wetland mitigation banking program or consolidated user site under subsection (a) shall be in lieu of mitigating wetland impacts through the creation of a wetland on Federal property.

(c) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—Payments made under subsection (a) to a wetland mitigation banking program or consolidated user site may be treated as eligible project costs for military construction.

(Added Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title III, §314(a)(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1430.)

#### § 2694c. Participation in conservation banking programs

(a) AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE.—Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary concerned, when engaged or proposing to engage in an activity described in subsection (b) that may or will result in an adverse impact to one or more species protected (or pending protection) under any applicable provision of law, or habitat for such species, may make payments to a conservation banking program or “in-lieu-fee” mitigation sponsor approved in accordance with—

(1) the Federal Guidance for the Establishment, Use and Operation of Mitigation Banks (60 Fed. Reg. 58605; November 28, 1995);

(2) the Guidance for the Establishment, Use, and Operation of Conservation Banks (68 Fed. Reg. 24753; May 2, 2003);

(3) the Federal Guidance on the Use of In-Lieu-Fee Arrangements for Compensatory Mitigation Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (65 Fed. Reg. 66915; November 7, 2000); or

(4) any successor or related administrative guidance or regulation.

(b) COVERED ACTIVITIES.—Payments to a conservation banking program or “in-lieu-fee” mitigation sponsor under subsection (a) may be