

ment, debris removal, and thinning of trees. The Secretary may enter into aforesaid agreements when he determines that the public interest will be benefited and that there exists a mutual interest other than monetary considerations. In such cooperative arrangements, the Secretary is authorized to advance or reimburse funds to co-operators from any Forest Service appropriation available for similar kinds of work or by furnishing or sharing materials, supplies, facilities, or equipment without regard to the provisions of section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31, relating to the advance of public moneys.

(Pub. L. 94-148, § 1, Dec. 12, 1975, 89 Stat. 804.)

CODIFICATION

“Section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31” substituted in text for “the Act of January 31, 1823 (Rev. Stat. 3648, as amended; 31 U.S.C. 529)” on authority of Pub. L. 97-258, § 4(b), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1067, the first section of which enacted Title 31, Money and Finance.

FOREST SERVICE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

Pub. L. 113-76, div. G, title IV, § 426, Jan. 17, 2014, 128 Stat. 344, provided that:

“(a) AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture may enter into an agreement under section 1 of Public Law 94-148 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1) with a Federal, tribal, State, or local government or a nonprofit entity for the following additional purposes:

“(1) To develop, produce, publish, distribute, or sell educational and interpretive materials and products.

“(2) To develop, conduct, or sell educational and interpretive programs and services.

“(3) To construct, maintain, or improve facilities not under the jurisdiction, custody, or control of the Administrator of General Services on or in the vicinity of National Forest System lands for the sale or distribution of educational and interpretive materials, products, programs, and services.

“(4) To operate facilities (including providing the services of Forest Service employees to staff facilities) in any public or private building or on land not under the jurisdiction, custody, or control of the Administrator of General Services for the sale or distribution of educational and interpretive materials, products, programs, and services, pertaining to National Forest System lands, private lands, and lands administered by other public entities.

“(5) To sell health and safety products, visitor convenience items, or other similar items (as determined by the Secretary) in facilities not under the jurisdiction, custody, or control of the Administrator of General Services on or in the vicinity of National Forest System lands.

“(6) To collect funds on behalf of cooperators from the sale of materials, products, programs, and services, as authorized by a preceding paragraph, when the collection of such funds is incidental to other duties of Forest Service employees.

“(b) TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF VOLUNTEERS.—The Forest Service may consider the value of services performed by persons who volunteer their services to the Forest Service and who are recruited, trained, and supported by a cooperator as an in-kind contribution of the cooperator for purposes of any cost sharing requirement under any Forest Service authority to enter into mutual benefit agreements.

“(c) DURATION.—The authority provided by subsections (a) and (b) expires September 30, 2019.”

[Pub. L. 116-260, div. G, title IV, § 427, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 1542, provided that: “Section 426 of division G of Public Law 113-76 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1 note) [set out above] shall be applied by substituting ‘September 30, 2021’ for ‘September 30, 2019’.”]

[Pub. L. 116-94, div. D, title IV, § 430, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2749, provided that: “Section 426 of division G of

Public Law 113-76 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1 note) [set out above] shall be applied by substituting ‘September 30, 2020’ for ‘September 30, 2019’.”]

MUTUAL BENEFIT OF AGREEMENTS TO FOREST SERVICE AND OTHER PARTIES

Pub. L. 108-7, div. F, title III, § 321, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 274, as amended by Pub. L. 109-54, title IV, § 426, Aug. 2, 2005, 119 Stat. 555; Pub. L. 110-161, div. F, title IV, § 417, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2149, provided that: “Until September 30, 2010, the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into an agreement under the first section of Public Law 94-148 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1) for a purpose described in such section includes the authority to use that legal instrument when the principal purpose of the resulting relationship is to the mutually significant benefit of the Forest Service and the other party or parties to the agreement, including nonprofit entities. An agreement entered into under this section shall not be subject to Public Law 95-224, Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (1977) [see section 6301 et seq. of Title 31, Money and Finance].”

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation act:

Pub. L. 107-63, title III, § 328, Nov. 5, 2001, 115 Stat. 470.

§ 565a-2. Federal employee status of cooperators

In any agreement authorized by section 565a-1 of this title, cooperators and their employees may perform cooperative work under supervision of the Forest Service in emergencies or otherwise as mutually agreed to, but shall not be deemed to be Federal employees other than for the purposes of chapter 171 of title 28 and chapter 81 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 94-148, § 2, Dec. 12, 1975, 89 Stat. 804.)

§ 565a-3. Agreements otherwise authorized by law

Nothing in sections 565a-1 to 565a-3 of this title shall be construed as limiting or modifying the authority of the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements otherwise authorized by law.

(Pub. L. 94-148, § 3, Dec. 12, 1975, 89 Stat. 804.)

§ 565b. Transfer of fire lookout towers and other improvements for fire control to States, political subdivisions or agencies; reversion

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, subject to such conditions as he may prescribe, to transfer, without reimbursement or at such prices and upon such terms as he may impose, to States and political subdivisions or agencies thereof fire lookout towers and other structures or improvements used by the Forest Service for fire prevention or suppression purposes, and the land used in connection therewith if such land is outside national forest boundaries, when they are no longer needed by the Forest Service for such purposes but are of value to the State or political subdivision or agency thereof in its fire protection system: *Provided*, That if any property so transferred is not put to use for the purpose for which it was transferred within two years from the date of transfer, or if, within fifteen years from the date of transfer, any such property should cease to be used for the purpose for which it was transferred for a period of two years, title thereto shall revert to and immediately revert in the United States.

(Pub. L. 85-464, § 5, June 20, 1958, 72 Stat. 217.)