

youth have gained an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's environment and heritage equal to one full academic year of study, it is accordingly the purpose of this subchapter to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps and thereby further the development and maintenance of the natural resources by America's youth, and in so doing to prepare them for the ultimate responsibility of maintaining and managing these resources for the American people.

(Pub. L. 91-378, title I, §101, formerly §1, Aug. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 794; Pub. L. 92-597, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1319; Pub. L. 93-408, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1066; renumbered title I, §101, and amended Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §105(1)-(3), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 848.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Pub. L. 103-82, §105(2), substituted “subchapter” for “chapter”.

1974—Pub. L. 93-408 substantially reenacted existing provisions and added finding that the Youth Conservation Corps program be expanded and made permanent in view of the success of the pilot program.

1972—Pub. L. 92-597 substituted “areas of the United States” for “areas administered by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §123, Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 867, provided that: “This title [see Tables for classification], and the amendments made by this title, shall take effect on October 1, 1993.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2005 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-154, §1, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2890, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 1730 of this title and amending sections 1722 to 1726 and 1729 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Public Lands Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005’.”

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 91-378, title I, Aug. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 794, which enacted this subchapter, is popularly known as the “Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970”.

Pub. L. 91-378, title II, §201, as added by Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §105(6), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 848, provided that: “This title [enacting subchapter II of this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Public Lands Corps Act of 1993’.”

§ 1702. Establishment

(a) Age of participants

To carry out the purposes of this subchapter, there is established in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture a Youth Conservation Corps (hereinafter in this subchapter referred to as the “Corps”). The Corps shall consist of young men and women who are permanent residents of the United States, its territories, possessions, trust territories, or Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who have attained age fifteen but have not attained age nineteen, and whom the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture may employ without regard to the civil service or classification laws, rules, or regulations, for the purpose of developing, preserving, or maintaining the lands and waters of the United States.

(b) Equal employment opportunity and employment; term

The Corps shall be open to youth from all parts of the country of both sexes and youth of

all social, economic, and racial classifications with all Corps members receiving compensation consistent with work accomplished, and with no person being employed as a member of the Corps for a term in excess of ninety days during any single year.

(Pub. L. 91-378, title I, §102, formerly §2, Aug. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 795; Pub. L. 92-597, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1319; Pub. L. 93-408, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1066; renumbered title I, §102, and amended Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §105(1)-(4), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 848.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-82, §105(2), (4), substituted “subchapter” for “chapter” and inserted “in this subchapter” after “(hereinafter)”.

1974—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 93-408 extended eligibility to permanent residents of Puerto Rico, removed the restriction that employment be in the summer months only, and substituted “waters of the United States” for “waters of the United States under his jurisdiction”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 93-408 substituted “from all parts of the country of both sexes and youth of all social, economic, and racial classifications with all Corps members receiving compensation consistent with work accomplished, and with” for “of both sexes and youth of all social, economic, and racial classifications, with”.

1972—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92-597 substituted “established in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture a Youth Conservation” and “under his jurisdiction” for “hereby established in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture a three-year pilot program designated as the Youth Conservation” and “under the jurisdiction of the appropriate Secretary” respectively, and extended eligibility to permanent residents of trust territories.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-82 effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 123 of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

§ 1703. Duties and functions of Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture

(a) Programs and projects; conditions of employment; regulations; use of facilities by educational institutions

In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) determine the areas under their administrative jurisdictions which are appropriate for carrying out the programs using employees of the Corps;

(2) determine with other Federal agencies the areas under the administrative jurisdiction of these agencies which are appropriate for carrying out programs using members of the Corps, and determine and select appropriate work and education programs and projects for participation by members of the Corps;

(3) determine the rates of pay, hours, and other conditions of employment in the Corps, except that all members of the Corps shall not be deemed to be Federal employees other than for the purpose of chapter 171 of title 28, and chapter 81 of title 5.¹

(4) provide for such transportation, lodging, subsistence, and other services and equipment

¹ So in original. The period probably should be a semicolon.

as they may deem necessary or appropriate for the needs of members of the Corps in their duties;

(5) promulgate regulation² to insure the safety, health, and welfare of the Corps members; and

(6) provide to the extent possible, that permanent or semipermanent facilities used as Corps camps be made available to local schools, school districts, State junior colleges and universities, and other education institutions for use as environmental/ecological education camps during periods of nonuse by the Corps program.

Costs for operations maintenance, and staffing of Corps camp facilities during periods of use by non-Corps programs as well as any liability for personal injury or property damage stemming from such use shall be the responsibility of the entity or organization using the facility and shall not be a responsibility of the Secretaries or the Corps.

(b) Use of unoccupied Federal facilities and equipment

Existing but unoccupied Federal facilities and surplus or unused equipment (or both), of all types including military facilities and equipment, shall be utilized for the purposes of the Corps, where appropriate and with the approval of the Federal agency involved. To minimize transportation costs, Corps members shall be employed on conservation projects as near to their places of residence as is feasible.

(c) Contracts for the operation of projects

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may contract with any public agency or organization or any private nonprofit agency or organization which has been in existence for at least five years for the operation of any Youth Conservation Corps project.

(Pub. L. 91-378, title I, §103, formerly §3, Aug. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 795; Pub. L. 92-597, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1319; Pub. L. 93-408, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1067; reenumbered title I, §103, and amended Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §105(1)-(3), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 848.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-82, §105(2), substituted “subchapter” for “chapter” in introductory provisions.

1974—Pub. L. 93-408 reenacted existing provisions with minor changes.

1972—Pub. L. 92-597 substantially reenacted existing provisions and inserted provisions requiring the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to determine and select appropriate work and education programs and projects for participation by members of the Corps and to provide that permanent or semipermanent facilities used as Corps camps be made available to local schools, school districts, and such other institutions for use as environmental education camps during periods of nonuse by the Corps program, that the costs of operation, maintenance, and staffing of Corps camp facilities during periods of use by non-Corps programs and liabilities arising from such use shall be the responsibility of the organization using the facility and, struck out provisions requiring preparation and submission to the President of a report not later than Aug. 13, 1971, for transmittal to the Congress

²So in original. Probably should be “regulations”.

for review and appropriate action, and that the provisions of Title II of the Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 shall not apply to appointments made to the Corps, to temporary supervisory personnel, or to temporary program support staff.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-82 effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 123 of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

§ 1704. Grants to States

(a) Projects for preservation of non-Federal public lands and waters; “States” defined

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly establish a program under which grants shall be made to States to assist them in meeting the cost of projects for the employment of young men and women to develop, preserve, and maintain non-Federal public lands and waters within the States. For purposes of this section, the term “States” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and American Samoa.

(b) Application requirements for grants; approval by Secretaries

(1) No grant may be made under this section unless an application therefor has been submitted to, and approved by, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. Such application shall be in such form, and submitted in such manner, as the Secretaries shall jointly by regulation prescribe, and shall contain—

(A) assurances satisfactory to the Secretaries that individuals employed under the project for which the application is submitted shall (i) have attained the age of fifteen but not attained the age of nineteen, (ii) be permanent residents of the United States or its territories, possessions, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, (iii) be employed without regard to the personnel laws, rules, and regulations applicable to full-time employees of the applicant, (iv) be employed for a period of not more than ninety days in any calendar year, and (v) be employed without regard to their sex or social, economic, or racial classification; and

(B) such other information as the Secretaries may jointly by regulation prescribe.

(2) The Secretaries may approve applications which they determine (A) to meet the requirements of paragraph (1), and (B) are for projects which will further the development, preservation, or maintenance of non-Federal public lands or waters within the jurisdiction of the applicant.

(c) Limitation on the amount of grant

(1) The amount of any grant under this section shall be determined jointly by the Secretaries, except that no grant for any project may exceed 80 per centum of the cost (as determined by the Secretaries) of such project.

(2) Payments under grants under this section may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and at such intervals and on such conditions as the Secretaries find necessary.