

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §2804(e), substituted “2018” for “2008”.

1985—Pub. L. 99-198 substituted “2008” for “1985”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

CHAPTER 41—COOPERATIVE FORESTRY ASSISTANCE

| Sec. | |
|--------|---|
| 2101. | Findings, purpose, and policy. |
| 2101a. | State-wide assessment and strategies for forest resources. |
| 2102. | Rural forestry assistance. |
| 2103. | Repealed. |
| 2103a. | Forest Stewardship Program. |
| 2103b. | Repealed. |
| 2103c. | Forest Legacy Program. |
| 2103d. | Community forest and open space conservation program. |
| 2104. | Forest health protection. |
| 2104a. | Pest and Disease Revolving Loan Fund. |
| 2105. | Urban and community forestry assistance. |
| 2106. | Rural fire prevention and control. |
| 2106a. | Emergency reforestation assistance. |
| 2106b. | Use of money collected from States for fire suppression assistance. |
| 2106c. | Enhanced community fire protection. |
| 2107. | Financial, technical, and related assistance to States. |
| 2108. | Consolidation of payments. |
| 2109. | General provisions. |
| 2109a. | State and private forest landscape-scale restoration program. |
| 2109b. | Repealed. |
| 2110. | Statement of limitation. |
| 2111. | Other Federal programs. |
| 2112. | Repealed. |
| 2113. | Federal, State, and local coordination and cooperation. |
| 2113a. | Good neighbor authority. |
| 2114. | Administration. |

§ 2101. Findings, purpose, and policy

(a) Findings

Congress finds that—

(1) most of the productive forest land of the United States is in private, State, and local governmental ownership, and the capacity of the United States to produce renewable forest resources is significantly dependent on such non-Federal forest lands;

(2) adequate supplies of timber and other forest resources are essential to the United States, and adequate supplies are dependent on efficient methods for establishing, managing, and harvesting trees and processing, marketing, and using wood and wood products;

(3) nearly one-half of the wood supply of the United States comes from nonindustrial private timberlands and such percentage could rise with expanded assistance programs;

(4) managed forest lands provide habitats for fish and wildlife, as well as aesthetics, outdoor recreation opportunities, and other forest resources;

(5) the soil, water, and air quality of the United States can be maintained and improved through good stewardship of privately held forest resources;

(6) insects and diseases affecting trees occur and sometimes create emergency conditions on all land, whether Federal or non-Federal, and efforts to prevent and control such insects and diseases often require coordinated action by both Federal and non-Federal land managers;

(7) fires in rural areas threaten human lives, property, forests and other resources, and Federal-State cooperation in forest fire protection has proven effective and valuable;

(8) trees and forests are of great environmental and economic value to urban areas;

(9) managed forests contribute to improving the quality, quantity, and timing of water yields that are of broad benefit to society;

(10) over half the forest lands of the United States are in need of some type of conservation treatment;

(11) forest landowners are being faced with increased pressure to convert their forest land to development and other purposes;

(12) increased population pressures and user demands are being placed on private, as well as public, landholders to provide a wide variety of products and services, including fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetic quality, and recreational opportunities;

(13) stewardship of privately held forest resources requires a long-term commitment that can be fostered through local, State, and Federal governmental actions;

(14) the Department of Agriculture, through the coordinated efforts of its agencies with forestry responsibilities, cooperating with other Federal agencies, State foresters, and State political subdivisions, has the expertise and experience to assist private landowners in achieving individual goals and public benefits regarding forestry;

(15) the products and services resulting from nonindustrial private forest land stewardship provide income and employment that contribute to the economic health and diversity of rural communities;¹

(16) sustainable agroforestry systems and tree planting in semiarid lands can improve environmental quality and maintain farm yields and income; and¹

(18)² the same forest resource supply, protection, and management issues that exist in the United States are also present on an international scale, and the forest and rangeland renewable resources of the world are threatened by deforestation due to conversion to agriculture of lands better suited to other purposes, over-grazing, over-harvesting, and other causes which pose a direct adverse threat to people, the global environment, and the world economy.¹

(b) Purpose

It is the purpose of this chapter to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the “Secretary”), with respect to non-Federal forest lands in the United States, and forest lands in foreign countries, of the United States, to assist in—

¹ See 1990 Amendment note below.

² So in original. Probably should be “(17)”.