

(1) the status of implementation of any recommendations and strategies of the Committee and analysis of their effectiveness;

(2) a summary of the marine debris inventory to be maintained by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(3) a review of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration program authorized by section 1952 of this title, including projects funded and accomplishments relating to reduction and prevention of marine debris;

(4) a review of Coast Guard programs and accomplishments relating to marine debris removal, including enforcement and compliance with MARPOL requirements; and

(5) estimated Federal and non-Federal funding provided for marine debris and recommendations for priority funding needs.

(Pub. L. 109-449, § 5, formerly Pub. L. 100-220, title II, § 2203, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 104-324, title VIII, § 802(b), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3944; Pub. L. 109-449, § 5(a), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3337; renumbered Pub. L. 109-449, § 5, and amended Pub. L. 112-213, title VI, § 606(a)(1), (2), (b), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1578; Pub. L. 115-265, title I, § 104, Oct. 11, 2018, 132 Stat. 3744.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-532, Oct. 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 1052. Title V of the Act, popularly known as the National Coastal Monitoring Act, is classified generally to chapter 41 (§ 2801 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title V to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2801 of this title and Tables.

The Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), is Pub. L. 100-220, title II, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1987 Amendment note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, which is classified principally to chapter 33 (§ 1901 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Former section 1954(c)(2) of this title, which was transferred and redesignated as subsec. (e) of this section by Pub. L. 112-213, title VI, § 606(b)(1), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1578, was based on Pub. L. 109-449, § 5(c)(2), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3338.

Section was formerly section 2203 of Pub. L. 100-220 and was classified to section 1914 of this title.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5 of Pub. L. 109-449, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3337, which related to interagency coordination to address problems of marine debris, was classified to this section prior to repeal by Pub. L. 112-213, title VI, § 606(a)(1), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1578. Subsec. (a) of such prior section 5 of Pub. L. 109-449 amended section 2203 of Pub. L. 100-220, which was renumbered as a new section 5 of Pub. L. 109-449 by Pub. L. 112-213 and was transferred to this section.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b)(5) to (7). Pub. L. 115-265 added pars. (5) and (6) and redesignated former par. (5) as (7).

2012—Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 112-213, § 606(a)(2), substituted “the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and

Control Act of 1987” for “this Act” and inserted “of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987” after “section 2201”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 112-213, § 606(b)(2), in heading, substituted “Biennial progress reports” for “Annual progress reports” and in text, substituted “Biennially” for “Not later than 3 years after December 22, 2006, and biennially thereafter” and “Chairperson” for “chairperson”, inserted “Natural” before “Resources”, and struck out “Interagency” before “Committee, through” and before “Committee and”, redesignated subpars. (A) to (E) as pars. (1) to (5), respectively, and realigned margins.

Pub. L. 112-213, § 606(b)(1), transferred subsec. (c)(2) of former section 1954 of this title and redesignated it as subsec. (e) of this section. See Codification note above.

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-449, § 5(a)(1), added subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a). Text read as follows: “The Secretary of Commerce shall establish a Marine Debris Coordinating Committee.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-449, § 5(a)(2), inserted “public, interagency” before “forum”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “Not later than September 30, 1988, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the Congress a report on the effects of plastic materials on the marine environment. The report shall—

“(1) identify and quantify the harmful effects of plastic materials on the marine environment;

“(2) assess the specific effects of plastic materials on living marine resources in the marine environment;

“(3) identify the types and classes of plastic materials that pose the greatest potential hazard to living marine resources;

“(4) analyze, in consultation with the Director of the National Bureau of Standards, plastic materials which are claimed to be capable of reduction to environmentally benign submits under the action of normal environmental forces (including biological decomposition, photodegradation, and hydrolysis); and

“(5) recommend legislation which is necessary to prohibit, tax, or regulate sources of plastic materials that enter the marine environment.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

§ 1955. Federal information clearinghouse

The Administrator, in coordination with the Interagency Committee, shall—

(1) maintain a Federal information clearinghouse on marine debris that will be available to researchers and other interested persons to improve marine debris source identification, data sharing, and monitoring efforts through collaborative research and open sharing of data; and

(2) take the necessary steps to ensure the confidentiality of such information (especially proprietary information), for any information required by the Administrator to be submitted under this section.

(Pub. L. 109-449, § 6, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3338; Pub. L. 112-213, title VI, § 607, Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1578.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2012—Par. (2). Pub. L. 112-213 struck out “by the fishing industry” after “to be submitted”.

§ 1956. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Administrator

The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) Interagency Committee

The term “Interagency Committee” means the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee established under section 1954 of this title.

(3) Marine debris

The term “marine debris” means any persistent solid material that is manufactured or processed and directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally, disposed of or abandoned into the marine environment or the Great Lakes.

(4) MARPOL; Annex V; Convention

The terms “MARPOL”, “Annex V”, and “Convention” have the meaning given those terms under section 1901(a) of this title.

(5) Program

The term “Program” means the Marine Debris Program established under section 1952 of this title.

(6) Severe marine debris event

The term “severe marine debris event” means atypically large amounts of marine debris caused by a natural disaster, including a tsunami, flood, landslide, or hurricane, or other source.

(7) State

The term “State” means—

(A) any State of the United States that is impacted by marine debris within its seaward or Great Lakes boundaries;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; and

(D) any other territory or possession of the United States, or separate sovereign in free association with the United States, that is impacted by marine debris within its seaward boundaries.

(Pub. L. 109-449, § 7, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3338; Pub. L. 112-213, title VI, § 608, Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1578.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2012—Par. (2). Pub. L. 112-213, § 608(1), substituted “section 1954 of this title” for “section 1914 of this title”.

Par. (3). Pub. L. 112-213, § 608(2), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘United States exclusive economic zone’ means the zone established by Presidential Proclamation Numbered 5030, dated March 10,

1983, including the ocean waters of the areas referred to as ‘eastern special areas’ in article 3(1) of the Agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Maritime Boundary, signed June 1, 1990.”

Par. (5). Pub. L. 112-213, § 608(3)–(5), redesignated par. (7) as (5), struck out “Prevention and Removal” before “Program”, and struck out former par. (5). Prior to amendment, text of par. (5) read as follows: “The term ‘navigable waters’ means waters of the United States, including the territorial sea.”

Par. (6). Pub. L. 112-213, § 608(6), added par. (6) and struck out former par. (6). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘territorial sea’ means the waters of the United States referred to in Presidential Proclamation No. 5928, dated December 27, 1988.”

Pars. (7), (8). Pub. L. 112-213, § 608(7), redesignated par. (8) as (7). Former par. (7) redesignated (5).

§ 1957. Relationship to Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act

Nothing in this chapter supersedes, or limits the authority of the Secretary of the Interior under, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 109-449, § 8, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3339.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 109-449, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3333, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1951 of this title and Tables.

The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, referred to in text, is act Aug. 7, 1953, ch. 345, 67 Stat. 462, which is classified generally to subchapter III (§1331 et seq.) of chapter 29 of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of Title 43 and Tables.

§ 1958. Authorization of appropriations**(a) In general**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 for carrying out sections 1952, 1954, and 1955 of this title, of which not more than 7 percent is authorized for each fiscal year for administrative costs.

(b) Amounts authorized for Coast Guard

Of the amounts authorized for each fiscal year under section 2702(1)¹ of title 14, up to \$2,000,000 is authorized for the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating for use by the Commandant of the Coast Guard to carry out section 1953 of this title, of which not more than 5 percent is authorized for each fiscal year for administrative costs.

(Pub. L. 109-449, § 9, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3339; Pub. L. 115-265, title I, § 105, Oct. 11, 2018, 132 Stat. 3744; Pub. L. 116-224, title I, § 101(2), Dec. 18, 2020, 134 Stat. 1074.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2702 of title 14, referred to in subsec. (b), was redesignated section 4902 of title 14 by Pub. L. 115-282,

¹ See References in Text note below.