

make loans to economically disadvantaged rural communities for the purposes of securing technical assistance and services to aid in the development and implementation of action plans, including planning for—

(1) improving existing facilities in the community that may generate employment or revenue;

(2) expanding existing infrastructure, facilities, and services to capitalize on opportunities to diversify economies now dependent on National Forest System land resources; and

(3) supporting the development of new industries or commercial ventures unrelated to National Forest System land resources.

(b) Interest rates

The interest rates on a loan made pursuant to this section shall be as determined by the Secretary, but not in excess of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the maturity of such loan, plus not to exceed 1 percent, as determined by the Secretary, and rounded to the nearest one-eighth of 1 percent.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, §2378, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4048; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(3) [title III, §345(f)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-204.)

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (a)(2), (3). Pub. L. 106-113 substituted “National Forest System land resources” for “national forest resources”.

§ 6617. Authorization of appropriations and spending authority

(a) Authorization of appropriations

Except as provided in subsection (b), there are authorized to be appropriated—

(1) an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the sum of—

(A) the sums received by the Secretary from sales of timber and other products of the forests; and

(B) user fees paid in connection with the use of forest lands; and

(2) such additional sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

(b) Limitation on authorization

Subsection (a) shall not in any way affect payments to the States pursuant to section 500 of title 16.

(c) Spending authority

Any spending authority (as defined in section 651 of title 2) provided in this subchapter shall be effective for any fiscal year only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in appropriation Acts.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, §2379, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4049.)

CHAPTER 96—GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

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| Sec. 6701. | Global Climate Change Program. |
| 6702. | Study of global climate change, agriculture, and forestry. |

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| Sec. 6703. | Repealed. |
| 6704. | Office of International Forestry. |
| 6705. | Line item. |
| 6706. | Institutes of Tropical Forestry. |
| 6707. | Urban forestry demonstration projects. |
| 6708. | Repealed. |
| 6709. | Interagency cooperation to maximize biomass growth. |
| 6710. | Authorization of appropriations. |
| 6711. | Carbon cycle research. |

§ 6701. Global Climate Change Program

(a) Establishment

For the purpose of having within the Department of Agriculture a focal point for coordinating all issues of climate change, the Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall establish a Global Climate Change Program (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Program”). The Secretary shall designate a director of the Program who shall be responsible to the Secretary for carrying out the duties specified in subsections (b) and (c).

(b) General duties

The Director shall—

(1) coordinate policy analysis, long range planning, research, and response strategies relating to climate change issues;

(2) provide liaison with other Federal agencies, through the Office of Science and Technology Policy, regarding issues of climate change;

(3) inform the Department of scientific developments and policy issues relating to the effects of climate change on agriculture and forestry, including broader issues that affect the impact of climate change on the farms and forests of the United States;

(4) recommend to the Secretary alternative courses of action with which to respond to such scientific developments and policy issues; and

(5) ensure that recognition of the potential for climate change is fully integrated into the research, planning, and decision-making processes of the Department.

(c) Specific responsibilities

The Director shall—

(1) coordinate the global climate change studies required by section 6702 of this title;

(2) provide, through such other agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, competitive grants for research in climatology relating to the potential impact of climate change on agriculture;

(3) coordinate the participation of the Department in interagency climate-related activities;

(4) consult with the National Academy of Sciences and private, academic, State, and local groups with respect to climate research and related activities;

(5) represent the Department to the Office of Science and Technology Policy and coordinate the activities of the Department in response to requirements of this chapter;

(6) represent the Department on the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change; and