

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1950—Act Apr. 24, 1950, inserted proviso to provide medical care for temporary employees.

§ 557a. Field season contracts; authority to make prior to appropriation

The Secretary of Agriculture is hereafter authorized, in connection with the administration of the national forests, to enter into contracts for the procurement of services, materials, and supplies for the ensuing fiscal year, prior to the passage of an appropriation therefor: *Provided*, That such contracts shall aliquot the cost for such service by fiscal years and shall not be binding on the United States as to that part for the ensuing year unless and until an appropriation applicable to the payment thereof is made: *And provided further*, That all such contracts shall by their terms provide that the obligation of the United States is contingent upon the passage of an applicable appropriation and that no payment thereunder will be made until such appropriation becomes available for expenditure.

(June 30, 1932, ch. 331, 47 Stat. 473.)

§ 557b. Omitted**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Section, act June 16, 1955, ch. 147, title II, §202, 69 Stat. 156, which related to employment of aliens in the Forest Service, was enacted as part of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1956, and was not repeated in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1957 (approved June 13, 1956, ch. 380, 70 Stat. 257), or subsequent appropriation acts.

§ 558. Repealed. Pub. L. 89-554, § 8(a), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 642

Section, act Mar. 4, 1913, ch. 145, §1[part], 37 Stat. 843, related to leaves of absence to employees of Forest Service in Alaska.

§ 558a. Volunteers in the National Forests Program

The Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) is authorized to recruit, train, and accept without regard to the civil service¹ classification laws, rules, or regulations the services of individuals without compensation as volunteers for or in aid of interpretive functions, visitor services, conservation measures and development, or other activities in and related to areas administered by the Secretary through the Forest Service. In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consider referrals of prospective volunteers made by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

(Pub. L. 92-300, §1, May 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 147; Pub. L. 103-82, title IV, §405(d), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 921.)

¹ So in original. The word “and” probably should appear after “civil service”.

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1993—Pub. L. 103-82 substituted “the Corporation for National and Community Service” for “ACTION”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-82 effective Apr. 4, 1994, see section 406(b) of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as a note under section 8332 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 92-300, §5, May 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 147, provided that: “This Act [enacting this section and sections 558b to 558d of this title] may be cited as the ‘Volunteers in the National Forests Act of 1972.’”

§ 558b. Incidental expenses of program volunteers

The Secretary is authorized to provide for incidental expenses, such as transportation, uniforms, lodging, and subsistence.

(Pub. L. 92-300, §2, May 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 147.)

§ 558c. Employment status of volunteers**(a) Federal employee status**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, a volunteer shall not be deemed a Federal employee and shall not be subject to the provisions of law relating to Federal employment, including those relating to hours of work, rates of compensation, leave, unemployment compensation, and Federal employee benefits.

(b) Tort claims

For the purpose of the tort claim provisions of title 28, a volunteer under sections 558a to 558d of this title shall be considered a Federal employee.

(c) Civil employees

For the purposes of subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, relating to compensation to Federal employees for work injuries, volunteers under sections 558a to 558d of this title shall be deemed civil employees of the United States within the meaning of the term “employee” as defined in section 8101 of title 5, and the provisions of that subchapter shall apply.

(d) Compensation for losses and damages

For the purposes of claims relating to damage to, or loss of, personal property of a volunteer incident to volunteer service, a volunteer under sections 558a to 558d of this title shall be considered a Federal employee, and the provisions of section 3721 of title 31 shall apply.

(e) Volunteers recruited and supervised by co-operators

For the purposes of subsections (b), (c), and (d), the term “volunteer” includes a person providing volunteer services to the Secretary who—

(1) is recruited, trained, and supported by a cooperator under a mutual benefit agreement with the Secretary; and

(2) performs such volunteer services under the supervision of the cooperator as directed by the Secretary in the mutual benefit agreement, including direction that specifies—