

shall be set so as to achieve a volume of region 6 net merchantable sawtimber under contract at the end of each fiscal year which does not exceed twelve billion three hundred million board feet: *Provided, however*, That such maximum annual sale volume shall not exceed five billion two hundred million board feet of net merchantable sawtimber. The sale of timber within region 6 shall be made in such a manner as not to result in discriminatory treatment as between different forests in the region.

(6)(A) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish final rules for the implementation of this subsection in the Federal Register within ninety days after October 16, 1984.

(B) Such final rules shall require purchasers to submit buy-out requests to the appropriate Secretary within ninety days after the publication of such rules.

(7)(A) For purposes only of determining a purchaser's buy-out limitation under paragraph (2) and net worth in connection with buy-out cost under paragraph (3), concerns which are affiliates as defined under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be treated as a single entity.

(B) Definition of affiliates: Concerns are affiliates of each other when either directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both. In determining whether or not affiliation exists, consideration shall be given to all appropriate factors, including, but not limited to, common ownership, common management, and contractual relationships.

(C) Definition of purchaser: For the purposes of this Act, a purchaser is the holder of a contract to purchase timber from the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior.

**(b) Extension of time for performance of contracts; covered contracts; damages for default**

(1) Timber contracts bid prior to January 1, 1982, not bought out pursuant to subsection (a) and included in the President's program of July 28, 1983, shall not be subject to any further extension of time for performance except as permitted under the President's program of July 28, 1983, as implemented by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, providing for the extension of certain timber sale contracts and requiring the phased harvesting of such extended contracts, which program is hereby ratified except as modified by paragraph (2).

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, timber contracts extended pursuant to the President's program of July 28, 1983, as implemented by the Secretary of Agriculture shall not be subject to inclusion of additional provisions for calculating damages for default.

**(c) Monitoring of bidding patterns on timber sale contracts; discouragement of bids; reporting requirements**

The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall monitor bidding patterns on timber sale contracts and take action to discourage bidding at such a rate as would indicate that the bidder, if awarded the contract, would be unable to perform the obligations as

required, or that the bid is otherwise for the purpose of speculation. Each Secretary shall include in the annual report to Congress information concerning actions taken under this subsection.

**(d) Cash down-payment and periodic payments for contracts; effective date**

Effective January 1, 1985, in any contract for the sale of timber from the National Forests, the Secretary of Agriculture shall require a cash down-payment at the time the contract is executed and periodic payments to be made over the remaining period of the contract.

(Pub. L. 98-478, § 2, Oct. 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 2213.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(4)(B), (7)(C), is Pub. L. 98-478, Oct. 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 2213, which enacted sections 539f, 618, and 619 of this title and provisions set out as a note under this section. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 98-478, § 1, Oct. 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 2213, provided: "That this Act [enacting this section and sections 539f and 619 of this title] may be cited as 'Federal Timber Contract Payment Modification Act'."

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF TIMBER SALES

Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(h) [title III, § 320], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-242, 1783-286, and Pub. L. 99-591, § 101(h) [title III, § 320], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-242, 3341-287, provided that: "To assure that National Forest and Bureau of Land Management timber included in sales defaulted by the purchaser, or returned under the Federal Timber Contract Payment Modification Act (Public Law 98-478) [see Short Title note above], is available for resale in a timely manner, such sales shall be subject only to one level of administrative appeal. This limitation shall not abridge the right of judicial review. Actions on such administrative appeals should be completed within 90 days of receipt of the notice of appeal. Sales that are reoffered shall be modified, including minor additions or deletions, as appropriate, to reduce adverse environmental impacts, pursuant to current land management plans and guidelines, and such modifications in themselves should not be construed to require the preparation of new or supplemental environmental assessments. This section shall not apply to any decision on the determination of damages due to the Government for defaulted or canceled contracts."

**§ 619. Emergency stumpage rate redeterminations in Alaska**

**(a) Application; applicable period**

Emergency stumpage rate redetermination shall be made upon the written application of the purchaser of National Forest timber in Alaska, bid after January 1, 1974, and rates established as a result thereof shall be effective for timber scaled during a period between January 1, 1981, and five years from October 16, 1984.

**(b) Competitive effect of modification of contracts**

In making the emergency rate redeterminations the Secretary may modify existing contract terms, including the amount of the bid

premium, in order to provide rates which will permit the holders of contracts bid after January 1, 1974, to be competitive with other purchasers of National Forest timber.

**(c) Excepted contracts**

The provisions of this section shall not apply to contracts held by the holders of 50-year timber sale contracts in Alaska.

(Pub. L. 98-478, §4, Oct. 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 2217.)

**§ 620. Findings and purposes**

**(a) Findings**

The Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Timber is essential to the United States.
- (2) Forests, forest resources, and the forest environment are exhaustible natural resources that require efficient and effective conservation efforts.
- (3) In the interest of conserving those resources, the United States has set aside millions of acres of otherwise harvestable timberlands in the western United States, representing well over 100,000,000,000 board feet of otherwise harvestable timber.
- (4) In recent years, administrative, statutory, or judicial action has been taken to set aside an increased amount of otherwise harvestable timberlands for conservation purposes.
- (5) In the next few months and years, additional amounts of otherwise harvestable timberlands may be set aside for conservation purposes, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.], the National Forest Management Act of 1976, or other expected statutory, administrative, and judicial actions.

(6) There is evidence of a shortfall in the supply of unprocessed timber in the western United States.

(7) There is reason to believe that any shortfall which may already exist may worsen unless action is taken.

(8) In conjunction with the broad conservation actions expected in the next few months and years, conservation action is necessary with respect to exports of unprocessed timber.

**(b) Purposes**

The purposes of sections 620 to 620j of this title are—

- (1) to promote the conservation of forest resources in conjunction with State and Federal resources management plans, and other actions or decisions, affecting the use of forest resources;
- (2) to take action essential for the acquisition and distribution of forest resources or products in short supply in the western United States;
- (3) to take action necessary, to meet the goals of Article XI 2.(a) of the GATT 1994 (as defined in section 3501(1)(B) of title 19), to ensure sufficient supplies of certain forest resources or products which are essential to the United States;
- (4) to continue and refine the existing Federal policy of restricting the export of unprocessed timber harvested from Federal lands in the western United States; and

(5) to effect measures aimed at meeting these objectives in conformity with the obligations of the United States under the WTO Agreement and the multilateral trade agreements (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (9) and (4), respectively, of section 3501 of title 19).

(Pub. L. 101-382, title IV, §488, Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 714; Pub. L. 106-36, title I, §1002(a)(1), June 25, 1999, 113 Stat. 132.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, referred to in subsec. (a)(5), is Pub. L. 93-205, Dec. 28, 1973, 87 Stat. 884, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 35 (§1531 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1531 of this title and Tables.

The National Forest Management Act of 1976, referred to in subsec. (a)(5), is Pub. L. 94-588, Oct. 22, 1976, 90 Stat. 2949, as amended, which enacted sections 472a, 521b, 1600, and 1611 to 1614 of this title, amended sections 500, 515, 516, 518, 576b, 581h, and 1601 to 1610 of this title, repealed sections 476, 513, and 514 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 476, 513, 528, 594-2, and 1600 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1976 Amendment note set out under section 1600 of this title and Tables.

Sections 620 to 620j of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this title”, meaning title IV of Pub. L. 101-382, Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 714, known as the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, which enacted sections 620 to 620j of this title and provisions set out as notes below. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 106-36, §1002(a)(1)(A), substituted “GATT 1994 (as defined in section 3501(1)(B) of title 19)” for “General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade”.

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 106-36, §1002(a)(1)(B), substituted “WTO Agreement and the multilateral trade agreements (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (9) and (4), respectively, of section 3501 of title 19)” for “General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 101-382, title IV, §494, Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 725, provided that: “Except as otherwise provided in this title, the provisions of this title [enacting this section and sections 620a to 620j of this title and provisions set out as a note below] take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 20, 1990].”

SHORT TITLE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-83, title VI, §601, Nov. 14, 1997, 111 Stat. 1617, provided that: “This title [amending sections 620b to 620f of this title] may be cited as the ‘Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1997.’”

SHORT TITLE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-45, §1, July 1, 1993, 107 Stat. 223, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 620c and 620d of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 620c of this title] may be cited as the ‘Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Amendments Act of 1993.’”

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 101-382, title IV, §487, Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 714, provided that: “This title [enacting this section