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SUBCHAPTER I—DEFINITIONS

§ 3801. Definitions

(a) For purposes of subchapters I through VIII:
(1) The term “agricultural commodity” means—

- (A) any agricultural commodity planted and produced in a State by annual tilling of the soil, including tilling by one-trip planters; or
(B) sugarcane planted and produced in a State.

(2) BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER.—The term “beginning farmer or rancher” has the meaning given the term in section 1991(a)(8) of title 7.

(3) CONSERVATION PLAN.—The term “conservation plan” means the document that—

- (A) applies to highly erodible cropland;
(B) describes the conservation system applicable to the highly erodible cropland and describes the decisions of the person with respect to location, land use, tillage systems, and conservation treatment measures and schedule; and
(C) is approved by the local soil conservation district, in consultation with the local committees established under section 590h(b)(5) of this title and the Secretary, or by the Secretary.

(4) CONSERVATION SYSTEM.—The term “conservation system” means a combination of 1 or more conservation measures or management practices that—

- (A) are based on local resource conditions, available conservation technology, and the standards and guidelines contained in the Natural Resources Conservation Service field office technical guides; and
(B) are designed to achieve, in a cost effective and technically practicable manner, a substantial reduction in soil erosion or a substantial improvement in soil conditions on a field or group of fields containing highly erodible cropland when compared to the level of erosion or soil conditions that existed before the application of the conservation measures and management practices.

(5) The term “conservation district” means any district or unit of State or local government formed under State or territorial law for the express purpose of developing and carrying out a local soil and water conservation program. Such district or unit of government may be referred to as a “conservation district”, “soil conservation district”, “soil and water conservation district”, “resource conservation district”, “natural resource district”, “land conservation committee”, or a similar name.

(6) The term “cost sharing payment” means a payment made by the Secretary to an owner or operator of a farm or ranch containing highly erodible cropland under the provisions of section 3834(b) of this title.

(7)(A) The term “converted wetland” means wetland that has been drained, dredged, filled, leveled, or otherwise manipulated (including any activity that results in impairing or reducing the flow, circulation, or reach of water) for the purpose or to have the effect of making the production of an agricultural commodity possible if—

- (i) such production would not have been possible but for such action; and
- (ii) before such action—
 - (I) such land was wetland; and
 - (II) such land was neither highly erodible land nor highly erodible cropland.

(B) Wetland shall not be considered converted wetland if production of an agricultural commodity on such land during a crop year—

- (i) is possible as a result of a natural condition, such as drought; and
- (ii) is not assisted by an action of the producer that destroys natural wetland characteristics.

(8) FARM.—The term “farm” means a farm that—

- (A) is under the general control of one operator;
- (B) has one or more owners;
- (C) consists of one or more tracts of land, whether or not contiguous;
- (D) is located within a county or region, as determined by the Secretary; and
- (E) may contain lands that are incidental to the production of perennial crops, including conserving uses, forestry, and livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

(9) FIELD.—The term “field” means a part of a farm that is separated from the balance of the farm by permanent boundaries such as fences, roads, permanent waterways, or other similar features. At the option of the owner or operator of the farm, croplines may also be used to delineate a field if farming practices make it probable that the croplines are not subject to change. Any highly erodible land on which an agricultural commodity is produced after December 23, 1985, and that is not exempt under section 3812 of this title, shall be considered as part of the field in which the land was included on December 23, 1985, unless the owner and Secretary agree to modification of the boundaries of the field to carry out this chapter.

(10) The term “highly erodible cropland” means highly erodible land that is in cropland use, as determined by the Secretary.

(11)(A) The term “highly erodible land” means land—

- (i) that is classified by the Soil Conservation Service as class IV, VI, VII, or VIII land under the land capability classification system in effect on December 23, 1985; or
- (ii) that has, or that if used to produce an agricultural commodity, would have an excessive average annual rate of erosion in relation to the soil loss tolerance level, as established by the Secretary, and as determined by the Secretary through application of factors from the universal soil loss equation and the wind erosion equation, including factors for climate, soil erodibility, and field slope.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the land capability class or rate of erosion for a field shall be that determined by the Secretary to be the predominant class or rate of erosion under regulations issued by the Secretary.

(C) EQUATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the universal soil loss equation and wind erosion equation used by the Department of Agriculture as of that date. The Secretary may not change the equations after that date except following notice and comment in a manner consistent with section 553 of title 5.

(12) The term “hydric soil” means soil that, in its undrained condition, is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during a growing season to develop an anaerobic condition that supports the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation.

(13) The term “hydrophytic vegetation” means a plant growing in—

- (A) water; or
- (B) a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen during a growing season as a result of excessive water content.

(14) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 5304(e) of title 25.

(15) The term “in-kind commodities” means commodities that are normally produced on land that is the subject of an agreement entered into under subchapter IV.

(16) INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT.—The term “integrated pest management” means a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks.

(17) LIVESTOCK.—The term “livestock” means all animals raised on farms, as determined by the Secretary.

(18) NONINDUSTRIAL PRIVATE FOREST LAND.—The term “nonindustrial private forest land” means rural land, as determined by the Secretary, that—

- (A) has existing tree cover or is suitable for growing trees; and
- (B) is owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, Indian tribe, or other private legal entity that has definitive decisionmaking authority over the land.

(19) PERSON AND LEGAL ENTITY.—For purposes of applying payment limitations under subchapter IV, the terms “person” and “legal entity” have the meanings given those terms in section 1308(a) of title 7.

(20) The term “rental payment” means a payment made by the Secretary to an owner or operator of a farm or ranch containing highly erodible cropland to compensate the owner or operator for retiring such land from crop production and placing such land in the conservation reserve in accordance with subchapter IV.

(21) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(22) The term “shelterbelt” means a vegetative barrier with a linear configuration com-

posed of trees, shrubs, and other approved perennial vegetation.

(23) **SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER.**—The term “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” has the meaning given the term in section 2279(e)(2)¹ of title 7.

(24) The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

(25) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The term “technical assistance” means technical expertise, information, and tools necessary for the conservation of natural resources on land active in agricultural, forestry, or related uses. The term includes the following:

(A) Technical services provided directly to farmers, ranchers, and other eligible entities, such as conservation planning, technical consultation, and assistance with design and implementation of conservation practices.

(B) Technical infrastructure, including activities, processes, tools, and agency functions needed to support delivery of technical services, such as technical standards, resource inventories, training, data, technology, monitoring, and effects analyses.

(26) The term “vegetative cover” means—

(A) perennial grasses, legumes, forbs, or shrubs with an expected life span of 5 or more years; or

(B) trees.

(27) The term “wetland”, except when such term is part of the term “converted wetland”, means land that—

(A) has a predominance of hydric soils;

(B) is inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions; and

(C) under normal circumstances does support a prevalence of such vegetation.

For purposes of this Act, and any other Act, this term shall not include lands in Alaska identified as having high potential for agricultural development which have a predominance of permafrost soils.

(b) The Secretary shall develop—

(1) criteria for the identification of hydric soils and hydrophytic vegetation; and

(2) lists of such soils and such vegetation.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1201, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1504; Pub. L. 99-349, title I, July 2, 1986, 100 Stat. 714; Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1421(a), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3572; Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §301(a)-(c), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 980, 981; Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2001, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1025; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2001, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1753; Pub. L. 113-79, title II, §2713(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 772.)

¹ See References in Text note below.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapters I through VIII, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original a reference to subtitles A through I, meaning subtitles A through I of title XII of Pub. L. 99-198. Subtitles A through E and G through I are classified generally to subchapters I through V and VI through VIII of this chapter. Subtitle F of title XII was repealed by Pub. L. 104-127. Section 3851 of this title, contained in subchapter V-A, is based on section 1252 of Pub. L. 99-198, which was directed to be added to the previously repealed subtitle F by Pub. L. 110-246. See Codification note set out under section 3851 of this title.

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a)(9), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 99-198, which enacted this chapter and former section 2005a of this title and amended sections 590g, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, sections 4207 and 4209 of Title 7, Agriculture, and provisions set out as a note under section 1981 of Title 7.

The date of enactment of this subparagraph, referred to in subsec. (a)(11)(C), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 104-127, which was approved Apr. 4, 1996.

Section 2279(e)(2) of title 7, referred to in subsec. (a)(23), was redesignated section 2279(a)(5) of title 7 by section 12301(b)(3), (5)(B) of Pub. L. 115-334.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(27), is Pub. L. 99-198, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1354, known as the Food Security Act of 1985. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1985 Amendment note set out under section 1281 of Title 7, Agriculture, and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-79 substituted “VIII” for “V” in introductory provisions.

2008—Subsec. (a)(2) to (27). Pub. L. 110-246, §2001, added pars. (2), (8), (14), (16) to (19), (23), and (25) and redesignated former pars. (2) to (18) as (3) to (7), (9) to (13), (15), (20) to (22), (24), (26), and (27), respectively.

1996—Subsec. (a)(2) to (6). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(a), added pars. (2) and (3) and redesignated former pars. (2) to (4) as (4) to (6), respectively. Former pars. (5) and (6) redesignated (7) and (8), respectively.

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(b), added par. (7) and struck out former par. (7) which read as follows: “The term ‘field’ means such term as is defined in section 718.2(b)(9) of title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as of January 1, 1985), except that any highly erodible land on which an agricultural commodity is produced after December 23, 1985, and that is not exempt under section 3812 of this title shall be considered as part of the field in which such land was included on December 23, 1985, unless the Secretary permits modification of the boundaries of the field to carry out subchapters I through V of this chapter.”

Pub. L. 104-127, §301(a)(1), redesignated par. (5) as (7). Former par. (7) redesignated (9).

Subsec. (a)(8). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(a)(1), redesignated par. (6) as (8). Former par. (8) redesignated (10).

Subsec. (a)(9). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(a)(1), redesignated par. (7) as (9). Former par. (9) redesignated (11).

Subsec. (a)(9)(C). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(c), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (a)(10) to (18). Pub. L. 104-127, §301(a)(1), redesignated pars. (8) to (16) as (10) to (18), respectively.

1990—Subsec. (a)(16). Pub. L. 101-624 substituted introductory provisions and subpars. (A) to (C) for “The term ‘wetland’, except when such term is part of the term ‘converted wetland’, means land that has a predominance of hydric soils and that is inundated or

saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.”

1986—Subsec. (a)(16). Pub. L. 99-349 inserted provision that for purposes of this Act, and any other Act, the term “wetland” shall not include lands in Alaska identified as having high potential for agricultural development which have a predominance of permafrost soils.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.

SHORT TITLE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-234, title III, §3001, June 15, 2006, 120 Stat. 474, provided that: “This title [amending section 3831 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act of 2006’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-7, div. N, title II, §201, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 538, provided that: “This title [amending sections 3832 and 3841 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XI, §1101], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-75, provided that: “This title [amending sections 3831 and 3832 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 3831 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Conservation of Farmable Wetland Act of 2000’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1401, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3568, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 1003a, 1010, 3824, 3830, 3835a, 3837 to 3837f, 3838 to 3838f, 3839 to 3839d, 3846, 3847, 3861, and 3862 of this title and sections 136i-1, 2814, 3130, 5401 to 5403, 5501 to 5506 and 5822 of Title 7, Agriculture, amending this section, sections 590p, 1002, 1003, 3459, 3461, 3811, 3812, 3821 to 3823, 3831, 3832, 3834, 3835, 3836, 3843, and 3845 of this title, and sections 136a, 136a-1, 136d, 136w-3, 3157, and 4202 of Title 7, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 2101 and 3831 of this title and sections 136a and 4201 of Title 7] may be cited as the ‘Conservation Program Improvements Act’.”

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2904, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1091, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2904, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1819, provided that:

“(a) **ISSUANCE.**—Except as otherwise provided in this title [see Tables for classification] or an amendment made by this title, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act [June 18, 2008], the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Commodity Credit Corporation, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement this title.

“(b) **APPLICABLE AUTHORITY.**—The promulgation of regulations under subsection (a) and administration of this title—

“(1) shall be carried out without regard to—

“(A) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Paperwork Reduction Act); and

“(B) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804) relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

“(2) may—

“(A) be promulgated with an opportunity for notice and comment; or

“(B) if determined to be appropriate by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Commodity Credit Corporation, as an interim rule effective on publication with an opportunity for notice and comment.

“(c) **CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULE-MAKING.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808(2) of title 5, United States Code.”

[Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical provisions. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.]

Pub. L. 107-171, title II, §2702, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 279, provided that:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided in this title [see Tables for classification] or an amendment made by this title, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002], the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Commodity Credit Corporation, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement this title.

“(b) **APPLICABLE AUTHORITY.**—The promulgation of regulations under subsection (a) and administration of this title—

“(1) shall—

“(A) be carried out without regard to chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Paperwork Reduction Act); and

“(B) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804) relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

“(2) may—

“(A) be promulgated with an opportunity for notice and comment; or

“(B) if determined to be appropriate by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Commodity Credit Corporation, as an interim rule effective on publication with an opportunity for notice and comment.

“(c) **CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULE-MAKING.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808(2) of title 5, United States Code.”

TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION OF CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 115-334, title II, §2504, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4584, provided that:

“(a) **INTERIM ADMINISTRATION.**—Subject to subsection (d), the Secretary [of Agriculture] shall use the applicable regulations in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2018], to the extent that the terms and conditions of those regulations are consistent with the amendments made by this title [see Tables for classification], to carry out the programs under laws as amended by this title, including—

“(1) the conservation reserve program under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.) (as amended by subtitle B);

“(2) the environmental quality incentives program under subchapter A of chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et seq.) (as added by section 2301(a)(1) and amended by subtitle C);

“(3) the conservation stewardship program under subchapter B of chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 [16 U.S.C. 3839aa-21 et seq.] (as added by subsections (a)(2) and (b) of section 2301 and amended by subtitle C); and

“(4) the agricultural conservation easement program established under subtitle H of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3865 et seq.) (as amended by subtitle F).

“(b) **REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**—Notwithstanding subsection (e) of section 1271E of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3871e) (as amended by section 2706), and subject to subsection (d),

for fiscal year 2019, the Secretary may use an availability of program funding announcement consistent with the amendments made by subtitle G [subtitle G (§§ 2701–2707) of title II of Pub. L. 115–334, amending sections 3871 to 3871f of this title] to carry out the regional conservation partnership program under subtitle I of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3871 et seq.) without issuing a regulation.

“(c) FUNDING.—The Secretary may only use funds authorized to be made available by this title or the amendments made by this title for the specific programs described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a) and subsection (b), in accordance with any restrictions on the use of those funds, for the purposes described in subsections (a) and (b).

“(d) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out subsections (a) and (b) shall terminate on September 30, 2019.

“(e) PERMANENT ADMINISTRATION.—Effective beginning on the termination date described in subsection (d), the Secretary shall carry out this title and the amendments made by this title in accordance with such final regulations as the Secretary considers necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title.”

Pub. L. 113–79, title II, § 2712, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 771, provided that:

“(a) APPLICABILITY.—This section is applicable to activities under—

“(1) the wetlands reserve program, the farmland protection program, and the farm viability program being merged into the agricultural conservation easement program under the amendment made by section 2301 [enacting sections 3865 to 3865d of this title and amending section 3844 of this title];

“(2) the wildlife habitat incentive program being merged into the environmental quality incentives program under the amendments made by subtitle C [subtitle C (§§ 2201–2208) of title II of Pub. L. 113–79, amending sections 3839aa to 3839aa–4, 3839aa–7, and 3839aa–8 of this title];

“(3) the agricultural water enhancement program, the Chesapeake Bay watershed program, the cooperative conservation partnership initiative, and the Great Lakes basin program being merged into the regional conservation partnership program under the amendment made by section 2401 [enacting sections 3871 to 3871f of this title]; and

“(4) the grassland reserve program being merged into the conservation reserve program under the amendments made by subtitle A [subtitle A (§§ 2001–2008) of title II of Pub. L. 113–79, amending sections 3831, 3831b, and 3832 to 3835 of this title and repealing section 3835a of this title] and into the agricultural conservation easement program under the amendment made by section 2301.

“(b) INTERIM ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to subsection (d), with respect to the implementation of the agricultural conservation easement program under subtitle H of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 [16 U.S.C. 3865 et seq.], as added by section 2301, the amendments to the environmental quality incentives program made by subtitle C, the regional conservation partnership program under subtitle I of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 [16 U.S.C. 3871 et seq.], as added by section 2401, and the amendments to the conservation reserve program made by subtitle A, the Secretary [of Agriculture] shall use the regulations in existence as of the day before the date of enactment of this Act [Feb. 7, 2014] that are applicable to the wetlands reserve program, the grassland reserve program, the farmland protection program, the farm viability program, the wildlife habitat incentive program, the agricultural water enhancement program, the Chesapeake Bay watershed program, the cooperative conservation partnership initiative, and the Great Lakes basin program repealed by this subtitle [subtitle H (§§ 2701–2713) of title II of Pub. L. 113–79, see Tables for classification], to the extent that the terms and conditions of such regulations are consistent with—

“(1) the provisions of the agricultural conservation easement program and the regional conservation partnership program; and

“(2) the amendments to the environmental quality incentives program and the conservation reserve program made by this title.

“(c) FUNDING.—The Secretary may only use funds authorized in this title [see Tables for classification] or in the amendments made by this title for the specific programs listed in subsection (b), including any restrictions on the use of those funds, for the purposes identified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b).

“(d) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out subsection (b) shall terminate on the date that is 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

“(e) PERMANENT ADMINISTRATION.—Effective beginning on the termination date described in subsection (d), the Secretary shall provide technical assistance, financial assistance, and easement enrollment in accordance with any final regulations that the Secretary considers necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title.”

CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS IN FISCAL YEAR 2008

Pub. L. 110–234, title II, § 2903(a), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1091, and Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title II, § 2903(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1819, provided that: “Except as otherwise provided by an amendment made by this title [see Tables for classification], the Secretary of Agriculture shall continue to carry out any program or activity covered by title XII of the Food Security Act (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.) until September 30, 2008, using the provisions of law applicable to the program or activity as they existed on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act [June 18, 2008] and using funds made available under such title for fiscal year 2008 for the program or activity.”

[Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 enacted identical provisions. Pub. L. 110–234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.]

REFORM AND ASSESSMENT OF CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 107–171, title II, § 2005, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 237, required the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan to coordinate land retirement and agricultural working land conservation programs that are administered by the Secretary to achieve the goals of eliminating redundancy, streamlining program delivery, and improving services provided to agricultural producers and to submit to Congress a report on this plan by Dec. 31, 2005.

CONSERVATION CORRIDOR DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Pub. L. 110–114, title V, § 5059, Nov. 8, 2007, 121 Stat. 1215, which authorized the Secretary of the Army to provide technical assistance to the Secretary of Agriculture for use in carrying out the Conservation Corridor Demonstration Program established under subtitle G of title II of Pub. L. 107–171, formerly set out below, was repealed by Pub. L. 115–334, title II, § 2811(b), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4602.

Pub. L. 107–171, title II, subtitle G, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 275, which related to a Conservation Corridor Demonstration Program to integrate agriculture and forestry conservation programs of the Department of Agriculture with State and local efforts to address farm conservation needs on the Delmarva Peninsula, was repealed by Pub. L. 115–334, title II, § 2811(a), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4602.

CRANBERRY ACREAGE RESERVE PROGRAM

Pub. L. 107–171, title X, § 10608, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 515, which authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program to purchase permanent easements in wetlands or buffer strips that were used or had a history of being used for the cultivation of cranberries and that were located in environmentally sensitive areas,

was repealed by Pub. L. 115-334, title II, §2812, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4602.

Executive Documents

TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

SUBCHAPTER II—HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND CONSERVATION

§ 3811. Program ineligibility

(a) In general

Except as provided in section 3812 of this title, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person who in any crop year produces an agricultural commodity on a field on which highly erodible land is predominant, or designates land on which highly erodible land is predominant to be set aside, diverted, devoted to conservation uses, or otherwise not cultivated under a program administered by the Secretary to reduce production of an agricultural commodity, as determined by the Secretary shall be ineligible for—

(1) as to any commodity produced during that crop year by such person—

(A) contract payments under a production flexibility contract, marketing assistance loans, and any type of price support or payment made available under the Agricultural Market Transition Act [7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.], the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), or any other Act;

(B) a farm storage facility loan made under section 4(h) of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714b(h));

(C) a disaster payment;

(D) a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) or any other provision of law administered by the Consolidated Farm Service Agency,¹ if the Secretary determines that the proceeds of such loan will be used for a purpose that will contribute to excessive erosion of highly erodible land; or

(E) any portion of the premium paid by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), on the condition that if a person is determined to have committed a violation under this subsection during a crop year, ineligibility under this subparagraph shall—

(i) only apply to reinsurance years subsequent to the date of final determination of a violation, including all administrative appeals; and

(ii) not apply to the existing reinsurance year or any reinsurance year prior to the date of final determination;

(2) a payment made under section 4 or 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714b or 714c) during such crop year for the storage of an agricultural com-

modity acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation; or

(3) during the crop year—

(A) a payment made pursuant to a contract entered into under the environmental quality incentives program under subpart A of part IV of subchapter IV;

(B) a payment under any other provision of subchapter IV;

(C) a payment under section 2201 or 2202 of this title; or

(D) a payment, loan, or other assistance under section 1003 or 1006a of this title.

(b) Highly erodible land

The Secretary shall have, and shall not delegate to any private person or entity, authority to determine whether a person has complied with this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1211, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1506; Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1411, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3569; Pub. L. 102-237, title II, §204(1), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1854; Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §311, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 982; Pub. L. 107-171, title II, §2002(a), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 233; Pub. L. 113-79, title II, §§2611(a)(1), 2713(b), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 762, 772; Pub. L. 115-334, title II, §2301(d)(1)(A), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4553.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Agricultural Market Transition Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(A), is title I of Pub. L. 104-127, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 896, which is classified principally to chapter 100 (§7201 et seq.) of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 7201 of Title 7 and Tables.

The Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(A), is act June 29, 1948, ch. 704, 62 Stat. 1070, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter II (§714 et seq.) of chapter 15 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 714 of Title 15 and Tables.

The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(D), is title III of Pub. L. 87-128, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 50 (§1921 et seq.) of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of Title 7 and Tables.

The Federal Crop Insurance Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(E), is subtitle A of title V of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, 52 Stat. 72, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§1501 et seq.) of chapter 36 of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1501 of Title 7 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a)(3)(A). Pub. L. 115-334 inserted “subpart A of” before “part IV”.

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-79, §2713(b), substituted “predominant” for “predominate” in two places in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1)(E). Pub. L. 113-79, §2611(a)(1), added subpar. (E).

2002—Pub. L. 107-171 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

1996—Pub. L. 104-127, §311(1), struck out “following December 23, 1985,” before “any person who” in introductory provisions.

Par. (1)(A). Pub. L. 104-127, §311(2)(A), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as fol-

¹ See Change of Name note below.