

losses of these valuable areas and to assure their management in the public interest for this and future generations.

**(b) Purpose**

It is the purpose of this chapter to promote, in concert with other Federal and State statutes and programs, the conservation of the wetlands of the Nation in order to maintain the public benefits they provide and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions with Canada, Mexico, Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and with various countries in the Western Hemisphere by—

(1) intensifying cooperative efforts among private interests and local, State, and Federal governments for the management and conservation of wetlands; and

(2) intensifying efforts to protect the wetlands of the Nation through acquisition in fee, easements or other interests and methods by local, State, and Federal governments and the private sector.

(Pub. L. 99-645, § 2, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3582.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 99-645, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3582, known as the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986. 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. 99-645, § 1, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3582, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter, amending sections 4601-8, 4601-9, 707, 715k-3, 715k-5, and 718b of this title, and enacting a provision set out in the table under section 668dd of this title] may be cited as the ‘Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986.’”

**§ 3902. Definitions**

For the purpose of this chapter:

(1) The term “Committees” means the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(2) The term “designated unit” means a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System designated by the Secretary under section 3911(a)(2)<sup>1</sup> of this title.

(3) 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.

(4) 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.

(5) The term “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.

(Pub. L. 99-645, § 3, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3583; Pub. L. 103-437, § 6(d)(41), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4585.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 3911 of this title, referred to in par. (2), was repealed by Pub. L. 108-447, div. J, title VIII, § 813(c), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3390.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Par. (1). Pub. L. 103-437 substituted “Natural Resources” for “Interior and Insular Affairs” after “Committee on”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

ABOLITION OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of House of Representatives abolished and its jurisdiction transferred by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995. Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Resources of House of Representatives in case of provisions relating to fisheries, wildlife, international fishing agreements, marine affairs (including coastal zone management) except for measures relating to oil and other pollution of navigable waters, or oceanography by section 1(b)(3) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress. Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

SUBCHAPTER II—REVENUES FOR REFUGE OPERATIONS AND THE MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

**§ 3911. Repealed. Pub. L. 108-447, div. J, title VIII, § 813(c), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3390**

Section, Pub. L. 99-645, title II, § 201, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3584, related to the sale of admission permits at certain units of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

**§ 3912. Transfers to Migratory Bird Conservation Fund**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount equal to the amount of all import duties collected on arms and ammunition, as specified in chapter 93 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, shall, beginning with the next fiscal year quarter after November 10, 1986, be paid quarterly into the migratory bird conservation fund<sup>1</sup> established under section 718d of this title.

(Pub. L. 99-645, title II, § 203, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3586; Pub. L. 100-418, title I, § 1214(f), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1156.)

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be capitalized.