

**§ 5304. Rhinoceros and tiger conservation assistance**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary, subject to the availability of appropriations and in consultation with the Administrator, shall use amounts in the Fund to provide financial assistance for projects for the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers.

**(b) Project proposal**

A country whose activities directly or indirectly affect rhinoceros or tiger populations, the CITES Secretariat, or any other person may submit to the Secretary a project proposal under this section. Each proposal shall—

- (1) name the individual responsible for conducting the project;
- (2) state the purposes of the project succinctly;
- (3) describe the qualifications of the individuals who will conduct the project;
- (4) estimate the funds and time required to complete the project;
- (5) provide evidence of support of the project by appropriate governmental entities of countries in which the project will be conducted, if the Secretary determines that the support is required for the success of the project; and
- (6) provide any other information the Secretary considers to be necessary for evaluating the eligibility of the project for funding under this chapter.

**(c) Project review and approval**

Within 30 days of receiving a final project proposal, the Secretary shall provide a copy of the proposal to the Administrator. The Secretary shall review each final project proposal to determine if it meets the criteria set forth in subsection (d). Not later than 6 months after receiving a final project proposal, and subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary, after consulting with the Administrator, shall approve or disapprove the proposal and provide written notification to the person who submitted the proposal and to the Administrator.

**(d) Criteria for approval**

The Secretary may approve a project under this section if the project will enhance programs for conservation of rhinoceros or tigers by assisting efforts to—

- (1) implement conservation programs;
- (2) enhance compliance with provisions of CITES and laws of the United States or a foreign country that prohibit or regulate the taking or trade of rhinoceros or tigers or the use of rhinoceros or tiger habitat; or
- (3) develop sound scientific information on that species' habitat condition and carrying capacity, total numbers and population trends, or annual reproduction and mortality.

**(e) Project sustainability**

To the maximum extent practical, in determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give consideration to projects which will enhance sustainable conservation programs to ensure effective long-term conservation of rhinoceros and tigers.

**(f) Project reporting**

Each person that receives assistance under this section for a project shall provide periodic reports, as the Secretary considers necessary, to the Secretary and the Administrator. Each report shall include all information requested by the Secretary, after consulting with the Administrator, for evaluating the progress and success of the project.

(Pub. L. 103-391, §5, Oct. 22, 1994, 108 Stat. 4095; Pub. L. 107-112, §5, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 2098; Pub. L. 110-132, §3(a), Dec. 6, 2007, 121 Stat. 1360.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-132 substituted “and to the Administrator” for “, to the Administrator, and to each country within which the project is to be conducted” in third sentence.

2002—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 107-112 amended heading and text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “To the maximum extent practical, the Secretary should give consideration to projects which will enhance sustainable development programs to ensure effective, long-term conservation of rhinoceros and tigers.”

**§ 5305. Acceptance and use of donations**

The Secretary may accept and use donations to provide assistance under section 5304 of this title. Amounts received by the Secretary in the form of donations shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit into the Fund.

(Pub. L. 103-391, §6, Oct. 22, 1994, 108 Stat. 4096; Pub. L. 107-112, §6(a)(2), Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 2098.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-112 redesignated heading and text of subsec. (d) as entire section and struck out former section catchline and headings and text of subsecs. (a) to (c). Prior to amendment, text of subsecs. (a) to (c) related to establishment in the Treasury of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, consisting of amounts deposited by the Secretary of the Treasury from donations and appropriated funds, to be used to provide assistance under section 5304 of this title, with not more than three percent of appropriated funds per fiscal year used to administer the Fund.

**§ 5305a. Prohibition on sale, importation, or exportation of products labeled or advertised as rhinoceros or tiger products**

**(a) Prohibition**

A person shall not sell, import, or export, or attempt to sell, import, or export, any product, item, or substance intended for human consumption or application containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, any substance derived from any species of rhinoceros or tiger.

**(b) Penalties**

**(1) Criminal penalty**

A person engaged in business as an importer, exporter, or distributor that knowingly violates subsection (a) shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

**(2) Civil penalties****(A) In general**

A person that knowingly violates subsection (a), and a person engaged in business as an importer, exporter, or distributor that violates subsection (a), may be assessed a civil penalty by the Secretary of not more than \$12,000 for each violation.

**(B) Manner of assessment and collection**

A civil penalty under this paragraph shall be assessed, and may be collected, in the manner in which a civil penalty under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.] may be assessed and collected under section 11(a) of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1540(a)).

**(c) Products, items, and substances**

Any product, item, or substance sold, imported, or exported, or attempted to be sold, imported, or exported, in violation of this section or any regulation issued under this section shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture to the United States.

**(d) Regulations**

After consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the United States Trade Representative, the Secretary shall issue such regulations as are appropriate to carry out this section.

**(e) Enforcement**

The Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall enforce this section in the manner in which the Secretaries carry out enforcement activities under section 11(e) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1540(e)).

**(f) Use of penalty amounts**

Amounts received as penalties, fines, or forfeiture of property under this section shall be used in accordance with section 3375(d) of this title.

(Pub. L. 103-391, §7, as added Pub. L. 105-312, title IV, §405(2), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2960.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, referred to in subsec. (b)(2)(B), 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.

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7 of Pub. L. 103-391 was renumbered section 10 and is classified to section 5306 of this title.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections

468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

**§ 5305b. Educational outreach program****(a) In general**

Not later than 180 days after October 30, 1998, the Secretary shall develop and implement an educational outreach program in the United States for the conservation of rhinoceros and tiger species.

**(b) Guidelines**

The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register guidelines for the program.

**(c) Contents**

Under the program, the Secretary shall publish and disseminate information regarding—

(1) laws protecting rhinoceros and tiger species, in particular laws prohibiting trade in products containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, their parts;

(2) use of traditional medicines that contain parts or products of rhinoceros and tiger species, health risks associated with their use, and available alternatives to the medicines; and

(3) the status of rhinoceros and tiger species and the reasons for protecting the species.

(Pub. L. 103-391, §8, as added Pub. L. 105-312, title IV, §406, Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2961.)

**§ 5305c. Advisory group****(a) In general**

To assist in carrying out this chapter, the Secretary may convene an advisory group consisting of individuals representing public and private organizations actively involved in the conservation of rhinoceros and tiger species.

**(b) Public participation****(1) Meetings**

The Advisory Group<sup>1</sup> shall—

(A) ensure that each meeting of the advisory group is open to the public; and

(B) provide, at each meeting, an opportunity for interested persons to present oral or written statements concerning items on the agenda.

**(2) Notice**

The Secretary shall provide to the public timely notice of each meeting of the advisory group.

**(3) Minutes**

Minutes of each meeting of the advisory group shall be kept by the Secretary and shall be made available to the public.

**(c) Exemption from Federal Advisory Committee Act**

The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the advisory group.

(Pub. L. 103-391, §9, as added Pub. L. 107-112, §4, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 2097.)

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should not be capitalized.