

(2) discharging any other duties prescribed by the WCPFC Convention.

**(d) State jurisdiction not affected**

Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to diminish or to increase the jurisdiction of any State in the territorial sea of the United States.

**(e) Application of regulations**

**(1) In general**

Regulations promulgated under section 6905(a) of this title shall apply within the boundaries of any State bordering on the Convention area if the Secretary has provided notice to such State, the State does not request an agency hearing, and the Secretary determines that the State—

(A) has not, within a reasonable period of time after the promulgation of regulations pursuant to this chapter, enacted laws or promulgated regulations that implement the recommendations of the Commission within the boundaries of such State; or

(B) has enacted laws or promulgated regulations that implement the recommendations of the commission within the boundaries of such State that—

(i) are less restrictive than<sup>2</sup> the regulations promulgated under section 6905(a) of this title; or

(ii) are not effectively enforced.

**(2) Determination by Secretary**

The regulations promulgated pursuant to section 6905(a) of this title shall apply until the Secretary determines that the State is effectively enforcing within its boundaries measures that are not less restrictive than the regulations promulgated under section 6905(a) of this title.

**(3) Hearing**

If a State requests a formal agency hearing, the Secretary shall not apply the regulations promulgated pursuant<sup>3</sup> section 6905(a) of this title within that State's boundaries unless the hearing record supports a determination under paragraph (1)(A) or (B).

**(f) Review of State laws and regulations**

To ensure that the purposes of subsection (e) are carried out, the Secretary shall undertake a continuing review of the laws and regulations of all States to which subsection (e) applies or may apply and the extent to which such laws and regulations are enforced.

(Pub. L. 109-479, title V, § 508, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3642.)

**§ 6908. Territorial participation**

The Secretary of State shall ensure participation in the Commission and its subsidiary bodies by American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands to the same extent provided to the territories of other nations.

(Pub. L. 109-479, title V, § 509, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3643.)

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Probably should be "than".

<sup>3</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by "to".

**§ 6909. Exclusive Economic Zone notification**

Masters of commercial fishing vessels of nations fishing for species under the management authority of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention that do not carry vessel monitoring systems capable of communicating with United States enforcement authorities shall, prior to, or as soon as reasonably possible after, entering and transiting the Exclusive Economic Zone seaward of Hawaii and of the Commonwealths, territories, and possessions of the United States in the Pacific Ocean area—

(1) notify the United States Coast Guard or the National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Law Enforcement in the appropriate region of the name, flag state, location, route, and destination of the vessel and of the circumstances under which it will enter United States waters;

(2) ensure that all fishing gear on board the vessel is stowed below deck or otherwise removed from the place where it is normally used for fishing and placed where it is not readily available for fishing; and

(3) where requested by an enforcement officer, proceed to a specified location so that a vessel inspection can be conducted.

(Pub. L. 109-479, title V, § 510, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3643.)

**§ 6909a. United States conservation, management, and enforcement objectives**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, in the course of negotiations, shall seek—

(1) to minimize any disadvantage to United States fishermen in relation to other members of the Commission;

(2) to maximize the opportunities for fishing vessels of the United States to harvest fish stocks on the high seas in the Convention area, recognizing that such harvests may be restricted if the Commission, based on the best available scientific information provided by the Scientific Committee, determines it is necessary to achieve the conservation objective set forth in Article 2 of the Convention;

(3) to prevent any requirement for the transfer to other nations or foreign entities of the fishing capacity, fishing capacity rights, or fishing vessels of the United States or its territories, unless any such requirement is voluntary and market-based; and

(4) to ensure that conservation and management measures take into consideration traditional fishing patterns of fishing vessels of the United States and the operating requirements of the fisheries covered by the Western and Central Pacific Convention.

(Pub. L. 109-479, title V, § 511, as added Pub. L. 114-327, title III, § 301(a)(2), Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1994.)

**Editorial Notes**

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 511 of Pub. L. 109-479 was renumbered section 512 and is classified to section 6910 of this title.