

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2009—Pub. L. 111-90 substituted “and Stewart L. Udall” for “Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy” in section catchline and in subsec. (a).

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-156, §9(a), substituted “The Trust Fund” for “The fund” and “5609(a)” for “5609”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-156, §9(b), substituted “Trust Fund” for “Fund” in two places.

**§ 5607. Expenditures and audit of Trust Fund****(a) In general**

The Foundation shall pay from the interest and earnings of the Trust Fund such sums as the Board determines are necessary and appropriate to enable the Foundation to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including a reasonable amount for official reception and representation expenses, as determined by the Board, not to exceed \$5,000 for a fiscal year.

**(b) Audit by Government Accountability Office**

The activities of the Foundation and the Center under this chapter may be audited by the Government Accountability Office under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States. Representatives of the Government Accountability Office shall have access to all books, accounts, records, reports filed and all other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the Foundation and the Center, pertaining to such federally assisted activities and necessary to facilitate the audit.

(Pub. L. 102-259, §9, Mar. 19, 1992, 106 Stat. 83; Pub. L. 105-156, §9(b), Feb. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 12; Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814; Pub. L. 111-90, §8, Nov. 3, 2009, 123 Stat. 2978.)

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## AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-90 inserted before period at end “, including a reasonable amount for official reception and representation expenses, as determined by the Board, not to exceed \$5,000 for a fiscal year”.

2004—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office” in heading and in two places in text.

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-156 substituted “Trust Fund” for “Fund”.

**§ 5607a. Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund****(a) Establishment**

There is established in the Treasury of the United States an Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund to be administered by the Foundation. The Fund shall consist of amounts appropriated to the Fund under section 5609(b) of this title and amounts paid into the Fund under section 5607b of this title.

**(b) Expenditures**

The Foundation shall expend from the Fund such sums as the Board determines are necessary to establish and operate the National Center, including such amounts as are necessary for salaries, administration, the provision of mediation and other services, and such other ex-

penses as the Board determines are necessary, including not to exceed \$1,000 annually for official reception and representation expenses.

**(c) Distinction from Trust Fund**

The Fund shall be maintained separately from the Trust Fund established under section 5606 of this title.

**(d) Investment of amounts****(1) In general**

The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not, in the judgment of the Secretary, required to meet current withdrawals.

**(2) Interest-bearing obligations**

Investments may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of the United States.

**(3) Acquisition of obligations**

For the purpose of investments under paragraph (1), obligations may be acquired—

- (A) on original issue at the issue price; or
- (B) by purchase of outstanding obligations at the market price.

**(4) Sale of obligations**

Any obligation acquired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury at the market price.

**(5) Credits to Fund**

The interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and form a part of the Fund.

(Pub. L. 102-259, §10, as added Pub. L. 105-156, §6(b), Feb. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 10; amended Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(h) [title V, §517(c)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-480, 2681-512; Pub. L. 116-94, div. P, title III, §306, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 3190.)

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## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 10 of Pub. L. 102-259 was renumbered section 12 and is classified to section 5608 of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-94 substituted “National Center” for “Institute”.

1998—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-277 inserted before period at end “, including not to exceed \$1,000 annually for official reception and representation expenses”.

**§ 5607b. Use of the National Center by Federal agency or other entity****(a) Authorization**

A Federal agency may use the Foundation and the National Center to provide assessment, mediation, collaboration, or other related services in connection with a dispute or conflict related to the environment, public lands, or natural resources, or with a Federal, State, or tribal process or procedure that may result in a dispute or conflict.

**(b) Payment****(1) In general**

A Federal agency may enter into a contract and expend funds to obtain the services of the National Center.