

(2) Inclusion

Each report under paragraph (1) shall include a report of the committee that describes the independent recommendations of the committee for the implementation of the levee safety initiative.

(b) National dam and levee safety program

Not later than 3 years after June 10, 2014, to the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary and the Administrator, in coordination with the committee, shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report that includes recommendations regarding the advisability and feasibility of, and potential approaches for, establishing a joint national dam and levee safety program.

(c) Alignment of Federal programs relating to levees

Not later than 2 years after December 16, 2016, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on opportunities for alignment of Federal programs to provide incentives to State, regional, tribal, and local governments and individuals and entities—

- (1) to promote shared responsibility for levee safety;
- (2) to encourage the development of strong State, regional, and tribal levee safety programs;
- (3) to better align the levee safety initiative with other Federal flood risk management programs; and
- (4) to promote increased levee safety through other Federal programs providing assistance to State, regional, tribal, and local governments.

(d) Liability for certain levee engineering projects

Not later than 1 year after December 16, 2016, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report that includes recommendations that identify and address any legal liability associated with levee engineering projects that prevent—

- (1) levee owners from obtaining needed levee engineering services; or
- (2) development and implementation of a State, regional, or tribal levee safety program.

(Pub. L. 110–114, title IX, § 9006, as added Pub. L. 113–121, title III, § 3016(e)(2), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1299; amended Pub. L. 114–322, title I, § 1130(d), Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1652.)

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 9006 of Pub. L. 110–114 was renumbered section 9008, and is classified to section 3305 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(1)(A), substituted “1 year after December 16, 2016” for “1 year after June 10, 2014” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1)(B). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(1)(B), substituted “State, regional, and tribal” for “State and tribal”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(2)(A), in introductory provisions, substituted “2 years after December 16,

2016” for “2 years after June 10, 2014” and “State, regional, tribal, and local” for “State, tribal, and local”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(2)(B), substituted “State, regional, and tribal” for “State and tribal”.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(2)(C), substituted “State, regional, tribal, and local” for “State and local”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(3)(A), substituted “1 year after December 16, 2016” for “1 year after June 10, 2014” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 114–322, § 1130(d)(3)(B), substituted “State, regional, or tribal” for “State or tribal”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**“SECRETARY” DEFINED**

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 2 of Pub. L. 110–114, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 3304. Limitations on statutory construction

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as—

- (1) creating any liability of the United States or its officers or employees for the recovery of damages caused by an action or failure to act; or
- (2) relieving an owner or operator of a levee of a legal duty, obligation, or liability incident to the ownership or operation of a levee.

(Pub. L. 110–114, title IX, § 9007, formerly § 9005, Nov. 8, 2007, 121 Stat. 1290; renumbered § 9007, Pub. L. 113–121, title III, § 3016(e)(1), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1293.)

§ 3305. Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary—

- (1) to carry out sections 3302, 3303a(c), 3303a(d), 3303a(e), and 3303a(f) of this title, \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023;
- (2) to carry out section 3303 of this title, \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023; and
- (3) to carry out section 3303a(h) of this title, \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.

(Pub. L. 110–114, title IX, § 9008, formerly § 9006, Nov. 8, 2007, 121 Stat. 1291; renumbered § 9008 and amended Pub. L. 113–121, title III, § 3016(e)(1), (f), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1293, 1300; Pub. L. 115–270, title I, § 1144(2), Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3785.)

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Pub. L. 115–270 substituted “2019 through 2023” for “2015 through 2019” in pars. (1) to (3).

2014—Pub. L. 113–121, § 3016(f)(2), substituted “Secretary” for “Secretary to carry out this chapter \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013.” and added pars. (1) to (3).

Pub. L. 113–121, § 3016(f)(1), which directed the substitution of “is” for “are”, could not be executed because “are” does not appear in text.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**“SECRETARY” DEFINED**

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 2 of Pub. L. 110–114, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 3306. Certain levee improvements**(a) In general**

Notwithstanding section 211 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (31 U.S.C. 6505 note), the Secretary, at the request of a local government, is authorized to provide technical services, on a reimbursable basis, to the local government to assess the reasons a federally constructed levee owned or operated by the local government is not accredited by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(b) Federal levees

In carrying out this section, in a case in which a levee owned and operated by the Secretary is hydraulically tied to a levee described in subsection (a), the Secretary is encouraged to cooperate, to the maximum extent practicable, with the relevant local governmental entities in assessing the reasons the levee described in subsection (a) is not accredited.

(c) Limitation

Nothing in this section—

(1) affects the responsibilities of a local government to operate and maintain its flood control infrastructure; or

(2) obligates the Secretary to expend additional Federal resources on levees owned and operated by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 115–270, title I, §1123, Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3779.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 211 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, referred to in subsec. (a), is section 211 of Pub. L. 106–541, which is set out as a note under section 6505 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018, and also as part of the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, and not as part of the National Levee Safety Act of 2007 which comprises this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

“SECRETARY” DEFINED

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 102 of Pub. L. 115–270, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

CHAPTER 47—OCEAN EXPLORATION

SUBCHAPTER I—EXPLORATION

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SUBCHAPTER I—EXPLORATION

§ 3401. Purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is to establish the national ocean exploration program and the national undersea research program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12001, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1417.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12101, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1419, provided that: “This part [part II (§§12101–12107) of subtitle A of title XII of Pub. L. 111–11, enacting subchapter II of this chapter] may be cited as the ‘NOAA Undersea Research Program Act of 2009.’”

§ 3402. Program established

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall, in consultation with the National Science Foundation and other appropriate Federal agencies, establish a coordinated national ocean exploration program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that promotes collaboration with other Federal ocean and undersea research and exploration programs. To the extent appropriate, the Administrator shall seek to facilitate coordination of data and information management systems, outreach and education programs to improve public understanding of ocean and coastal resources, and development and transfer of technologies to facilitate ocean and undersea research and exploration.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12002, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1417.)

§ 3403. Powers and duties of the Administrator**(a) In general**

In carrying out the program authorized by section 3402 of this title, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall—

(1) conduct interdisciplinary voyages or other scientific activities in conjunction with other Federal agencies or academic or educational institutions, to explore and survey little known areas of the marine environment, inventory, observe, and assess living and non-living marine resources, and report such findings;

(2) give priority attention to deep ocean regions, with a focus on deep water marine systems that hold potential for important scientific discoveries, such as hydrothermal vent communities and seamounts;

(3) conduct scientific voyages to locate, define, and document historic shipwrecks, submerged sites, and other ocean exploration activities that combine archaeology and oceanographic sciences;

(4) develop and implement, in consultation with the National Science Foundation, a