

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Presidential Proclamation No. 5030, referred to in par. (4), is set out under section 1453 of Title 16, Conservation.

Presidential Proclamation Number 5928, referred to in par. (6), is set out under section 1331 of Title 43, Public Lands.

CHAPTER 49—INTEGRATED COASTAL AND OCEAN OBSERVATION SYSTEM

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§ 3601. Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are—

(1) to establish and sustain a national integrated System of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes observing systems, comprised of Federal and non-Federal components coordinated at the national level by the Council and at the regional level by a network of regional coastal observing systems, and that includes in situ, remote, and other coastal and ocean observation and modeling capabilities, technologies, data management systems, communication systems, and product development systems, and is designed to address regional and national needs for ocean and coastal information, to gather specific data on key ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes variables, and to ensure timely and sustained dissemination and availability of these data—

(A) to the public;

(B) to support national defense, search and rescue operations, marine commerce, navigation safety, weather, climate, and marine forecasting, energy siting and production, economic development, ecosystem-based marine, coastal, and Great Lakes resource management, public safety, and public outreach and education;

(C) to promote greater public awareness and stewardship of the Nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources and the general public welfare;

(D) to provide easy access to ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes data and promote data sharing between Federal and non-Federal sources and promote public data sharing;

(E) to enable advances in scientific understanding to support the sustainable use, conservation, management, and understanding of healthy ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources to ensure the Nation can respond to opportunities to enhance food, economic, and national security; and

(F) to monitor and model changes in the oceans and Great Lakes, including with respect to chemistry, harmful algal blooms, hypoxia, water levels, and other phenomena;

(2) to improve the Nation's capability to measure, track, observe, understand, and predict events related directly and indirectly to weather and climate, natural climate variability, and interactions between the oceanic and atmospheric environments, including the Great Lakes;

(3) to sustain, upgrade, and modernize the Nation's ocean and Great Lakes observing infrastructure to detect changes and ensure delivery of reliable and timely information; and

(4) to authorize activities—

(A) to promote basic and applied research to develop, test, and deploy innovations and improvements in coastal and ocean observation technologies, including advanced observing technologies such as unmanned maritime systems needed to address critical data gaps, modeling systems, other scientific and technological capabilities to improve the understanding of weather and climate, ocean-atmosphere dynamics, global climate change, and the physical, chemical, and biological dynamics of the ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes environments; and

(B) to conserve healthy and restore degraded coastal ecosystems.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, §12302, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1427; Pub. L. 116-271, title I, §101, Dec. 31, 2020, 134 Stat. 3331.)

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AMENDMENTS

2020—Pub. L. 116-271 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section set out the purposes of this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE OF 2020 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 116-271, §1(a), Dec. 31, 2020, 134 Stat. 3331, provided that: "This Act [enacting section 10371 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, amending this section, sections 3602 to 3604, 3606, 3607, 3610, 3611, and 3703 to 3706 of this title, and section 4057 of Title 42, repealing section 3608 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 3704 of this title] may be cited as the 'Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2020'."

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, §12301, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1427, provided that: "This subtitle [subtitle C (§§12301-12312) of title XII of Pub. L. 111-11, enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009'."

§ 3602. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Administrator

The term "Administrator" means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere in the Under Secretary's capacity as Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) Council

The term "Council" means the National Ocean Research Leadership Council established by section 8932 of title 10.

(3) Federal assets

The term "Federal assets" means all relevant non-classified civilian coastal and ocean