

(g) Coordination

In carrying out this section, the Administrator may coordinate with other Federal agencies.

(h) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, from amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this chapter, \$3,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2030.

(Pub. L. 117-316, §12, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4413.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (h), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 117-316, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4406, known as the Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 9701 of this title and Tables.

§ 9708. Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure**(a) Establishment**

There is established a committee, to be known as the “Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure” (in this section referred to as the “Water Policy Committee”).

(b) Membership

The Water Policy Committee shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) The Administrator.
- (2) The Secretary of the Interior.
- (3) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
- (4) The Secretary of Agriculture.
- (5) The Secretary of Commerce.
- (6) The Secretary of Energy.
- (7) The Secretary of the Army.
- (8) The heads of such other agencies as the co-chairs consider appropriate.

(c) Co-chairs

The Water Policy Committee shall be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Interior and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) Meetings

The Water Policy Committee shall meet not less frequently than 6 times each year, at the call of the co-chairs.

(e) General purpose and duties

The Water Policy Committee shall ensure that agencies and departments across the Federal Government that engage in water-related matters, including water storage and supplies, water quality and restoration activities, water infrastructure, transportation on United States rivers and inland waterways, and water forecasting, work together where such agencies and departments have joint or overlapping responsibilities to—

- (1) improve interagency coordination among Federal agencies and departments on water resource management and water infrastructure issues;

(2) coordinate existing water-related Federal task forces, working groups, and other formal cross-agency initiatives, as appropriate;

(3) prioritize managing the water resources of the United States and promoting resilience of the water-related infrastructure of the United States, including—

- (A) increasing water storage, water supply reliability, and drought resiliency;
- (B) improving water quality, source water protection, and nutrient management;
- (C) promoting restoration activities;
- (D) improving water systems, including with respect to drinking water, desalination, water reuse, wastewater, and flood control; and
- (E) improving water data management, research, modeling, and forecasting;

(4) improve interagency coordination of data management, access, modeling, and visualization with respect to water-related matters;

(5) promote integrated planning for Federal investments in water-related infrastructure to enhance coordination and protect taxpayer investment; and

(6) support workforce development and efforts to recruit, train, and retain professionals to operate and maintain essential drinking water, wastewater, flood control, hydropower, water delivery, and water storage facilities in the United States.

(f) Cross-agency priority research needs

Not later than 1 year after December 27, 2022, the Water Policy Committee shall develop and submit to Congress a list of research needs that includes needs for cross-agency research and coordination.

(Pub. L. 117-316, §13, Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4414.)

§ 9709. National Weather Service hydrologic research fellowship program**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Assistant Administrator

The term “Assistant Administrator” means the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) Decision support services

The term “decision support services” means information, including data and refined products, that supports water resources-related decision-making processes.

(3) Institution of higher education

The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 1001 of title 20.

(4) NOAA line offices

The term “NOAA line offices” means the following offices of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:

- (A) The National Ocean Service.
- (B) The National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service.
- (C) The National Marine Fisheries Service.
- (D) The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.