356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996 by adding par. (4) and redesignating former pars. (4) to (7) as (5) to (8), respectively, was executed to subsec. (c) of this section, which is section 356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 107–171, § 2506(2), which directed amendment of subsection (d) of section 356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996 by adding par. (3), was executed to subsec. (d) of this section, which is section 356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

§ 5806. Administrative services and support

For each of fiscal years 1996 through 1998, the Secretary may provide, without reimbursement, personnel, facilities, and other administrative services of the Department to the Foundation.

(Pub. L. 104–127, title III, § 357, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1014.)

§ 5807. Audits and petition of Attorney General for equitable relief

(a) Audits

(1) In general

The accounts of the Foundation shall be audited in accordance with section 10101 of title 36, including an audit of lobbying and litigation activities carried out by the Foundation.

(2) Repealed. Pub. L. 105–225, § 6(b), Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1499

(b) Relief with respect to certain Foundation acts or failure to act

The Attorney General may petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for such equitable relief as may be necessary or appropriate, if the Foundation—

(1) engages in, or threatens to engage in, any act, practice, or policy that is inconsistent with this chapter; or

(2) refuses, fails, neglects, or threatens to refuse, fail, or neglect, to discharge the obligations of the Foundation under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 104–127, title III, § 358, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1014; Pub. L. 105–225, § 6(b), Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1499.)

CODIFICATION

''Section 10101 of title 36'' substituted in subsec. (a)(1) for ''Public Law 88–504 (36 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.)'' on authority of Pub. L. 105–225, § 5(b), Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1499, the first section of which enacted Title 36, Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 105–225 repealed par. (2) which amended section 1101(77) of former title 36.

§ 5808. Release from liability

(a) In general

The United States shall not be liable for any debt, default, act, or omission of the Foundation. The full faith and credit of the United States shall not extend to the Foundation.

(b) Statement

An obligation issued by the Foundation, and a document offering an obligation, shall include a prominent statement that the obligation is not directly or indirectly guaranteed, in whole or in part, by the United States (or an agency or instrumentality of the United States).

(Pub. L. 104–127, title III, § 359, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1014.)

§ 5809. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department to be made available to the Foundation $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 1999 to initially establish and carry out activities of the Foundation.

(Pub. L. 104–127, title III, § 360, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1014.)

CHAPTER 79—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MANAGEMENT

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§ 5901. "Secretary" defined

As used in this chapter, the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, except as otherwise specifically provided.

(Pub. L. 105–391, § 2, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original ''this Act'', meaning Pub. L. 105–391, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3497, known as the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 105–391, § 1(a), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3497, provided that: ''This Act [enacting this chapter and section 19*o* of this title, amending sections 1a–2, 1a–5, 1a–7, and 3 of this title, repealing section 17b–1 and subchapter IV of chapter 1 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 1, 1a–5, 20, 470h–3, and 5951 of this title] may be cited as the 'National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998'.''

Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 401, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3503, provided that: ''This title [enacting subchapter III of this chapter, amending sections 1a–7 and 3 of this title, repealing section 17b–1 and subchapter IV of chapter 1 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 20 of this title] may be cited as the 'National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998'.''

SUBCHAPTER I—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAREER DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND MANAGEMENT

§ 5911. Protection, interpretation, and research in National Park System

Recognizing the ever increasing societal pressures being placed upon America's unique natural and cultural resources contained in the National Park System, the Secretary shall continually improve the ability of the National Park Service to provide state-of-the-art management, protection, and interpretation of and research on the resources of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title I, § 101, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

§ 5912. National Park Service employee training

The Secretary shall develop a comprehensive training program for employees in all professional careers in the work force of the National Park Service for the purpose of assuring that the work force has available the best, up-to-date knowledge, skills and abilities with which to manage, interpret and protect the resources of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title I, § 102, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

§ 5913. Management development and training

Within 2 years after November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall develop a clear plan for management training and development, whereby career, professional National Park Service employees from any appropriate academic field may obtain sufficient training, experience, and advancement opportunity to enable those qualified to move into park management positions, including explicitly the position of superintendent of a unit of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title I, § 103, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3498.)

§ 5914. Park budgets and accountability

(a) Strategic and performance plans for each unit

Each unit of the National Park System shall prepare and make available to the public a 5-year strategic plan and an annual performance plan. Such plans shall reflect the National Park Service policies, goals, and outcomes represented in the Service-wide Strategic Plan, prepared pursuant to the provisions of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–62; 107 Stat. 285).

(b) Annual budget for each unit

As a part of the annual performance plan for a unit of the National Park System prepared pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, following receipt of the appropriation for the unit from the Operations of the National Park System account (but no later than January 1 of each year), the superintendent of the unit shall develop and make available to the public the budget for the current fiscal year for that unit. The budget shall include, at a minimum, funding allocations for resource preservation (including resource management), visitor services (including maintenance, interpretation, law enforcement, and search and rescue) and administration. The budget shall also include allocations into each of the above categories of all funds retained from fees collected for that year, including (but not limited to) special use permits, concession franchise fees, and recreation use and entrance fees.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title I, § 104, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 103–62, Aug. 3, 1993, 107 Stat. 285, which enacted sections 1115 to 1119, 9703, and 9704 of Title 31, Money and Finance, section 306 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and sections 2801 to 2805 of Title 39, Postal Service, amended section 1105 of Title 31, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1101 and 1115 of Title 31. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1993 Amendment note set out under section 1101 of Title 31 and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER II—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM RESOURCE INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT

§ 5931. Purposes

The purposes of this subchapter are—

(1) to more effectively achieve the mission of the National Park Service;

(2) to enhance management and protection of national park resources by providing clear authority and direction for the conduct of scientific study in the National Park System and to use the information gathered for management purposes;

(3) to ensure appropriate documentation of resource conditions in the National Park System;

(4) to encourage others to use the National Park System for study to the benefit of park

management as well as broader scientific value, where such study is consistent with sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title; and

(5) to encourage the publication and dissemination of information derived from studies in the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 201, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

§ 5932. Research mandate

The Secretary is authorized and directed to assure that management of units of the National Park System is enhanced by the availability and utilization of a broad program of the highest quality science and information.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 202, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3499.)

§ 5933. Cooperative agreements

(a) Cooperative study units

The Secretary is authorized and directed to enter into cooperative agreements with colleges and universities, including but not limited to land grant schools, in partnership with other Federal and State agencies, to establish cooperative study units to conduct multi-disciplinary research and develop integrated information products on the resources of the National Park System, or the larger region of which parks are a part.

(b) Report

Within one year of November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives on progress in the establishment of a comprehensive network of such college and university based cooperative study units as will provide full geographic and topical coverage for research on the resources contained in units of the National Park System and their larger regions.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 203, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

§ 5934. Inventory and monitoring program

The Secretary shall undertake a program of inventory and monitoring of National Park System resources to establish baseline information and to provide information on the long-term trends in the condition of National Park System resources. The monitoring program shall be developed in cooperation with other Federal monitoring and information collection efforts to ensure a cost-effective approach.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 204, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5935. Availability for scientific study

(a) In general

The Secretary may solicit, receive, and consider requests from Federal or non-Federal public or private agencies, organizations, individuals, or other entities for the use of any unit of the National Park System for purposes of scientific study.

(b) Criteria

A request for use of a unit of the National Park System under subsection (a) of this section may only be approved if the Secretary determines that the proposed study—

(1) is consistent with applicable laws and National Park Service management policies; and

(2) will be conducted in a manner as to pose no threat to park resources or public enjoyment derived from those resources.

(c) Fee waiver

The Secretary may waive any park admission or recreational use fee in order to facilitate the conduct of scientific study under this section.

(d) Negotiations

The Secretary may enter into negotiations with the research community and private industry for equitable, efficient benefits-sharing arrangements.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 205, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5936. Integration of study results into management decisions

The Secretary shall take such measures as are necessary to assure the full and proper utilization of the results of scientific study for park management decisions. In each case in which an action undertaken by the National Park Service may cause a significant adverse effect on a park resource, the administrative record shall reflect the manner in which unit resource studies have been considered. The trend in the condition of resources of the National Park System shall be a significant factor in the annual performance evaluation of each superintendent of a unit of the National Park System.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 206, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3500.)

§ 5937. Confidentiality of information

Information concerning the nature and specific location of a National Park System resource which is endangered, threatened, rare, or commercially valuable, of mineral or paleontological objects within units of the National Park System, or of objects of cultural patrimony within units of the National Park System, may be withheld from the public in response to a request under section 552 of title 5, unless the Secretary determines that—

(1) disclosure of the information would further the purposes of the unit of the National Park System in which the resource or object is located and would not create an unreasonable risk of harm, theft, or destruction of the resource or object, including individual organic or inorganic specimens; and

(2) disclosure is consistent with other applicable laws protecting the resource or object.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title II, § 207, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3501.)

SUBCHAPTER III—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT

§ 5951. Congressional findings and statement of policy

(a) Findings

In furtherance of sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title, which directs the Secretary to administer units of the National Park System in accordance with the fundamental purpose of conserving their scenery, wildlife, and natural and historic objects, and providing for their enjoyment in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations, the Congress hereby finds that the preservation and conservation of park resources and values requires that such public accommodations, facilities, and services as have to be provided within such units should be provided only under carefully controlled safeguards against unregulated and indiscriminate use, so that—

(1) visitation will not unduly impair these resources and values; and

(2) development of public accommodations, facilities, and services within such units can best be limited to locations that are consistent to the highest practicable degree with the preservation and conservation of the resources and values of such units.

(b) Policy

It is the policy of the Congress that the development of public accommodations, facilities, and services in units of the National Park System shall be limited to those accommodations, facilities, and services that—

(1) are necessary and appropriate for public use and enjoyment of the unit of the National Park System in which they are located; and

(2) are consistent to the highest practicable degree with the preservation and conservation of the resources and values of the unit.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 402, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3503.)

SHORT TITLE

For short title of this subchapter as the ''National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998'', see section 401 of Pub. L. 105–391, set out as a note under section 5901 of this title.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 419, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3517, provided that:

''(a) TREATMENT OF GLACIER BAY CONCESSION PERMITS PROSPECTUS.—Nothing contained in this title [see Short Title note set out under section 5901 of this title] shall authorize or require the Secretary to withdraw, revise, amend, modify, or reissue the February 19, 1998, Prospectus Under Which Concession Permits Will be Open for Competition for the Operation of Cruise Ship Services Within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve (in this section referred to as the '1998 Glacier Bay Prospectus'). The award of concession permits pursuant to the 1998 Glacier Bay Prospectus shall be under provisions of existing law at the time the 1998 Glacier Bay Prospectus was issued.

''(b) PREFERENTIAL RIGHT OF RENEWAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of this title, the Secretary, in awarding future Glacier Bay cruise ship concession permits covering cruise ship entries for which a preferential right of renewal existed prior to the effective date of this title [probably means the date of enactment of title IV of Pub. L. 105–391, which was approved Nov. 13, 1998], shall provide for such cruise ship entries a preferential right of renewal, as described in subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 403(7) [16 U.S.C. 5952(7)(C), (D)]. Any Glacier Bay concession permit awarded under the authority contained in this subsection shall expire by December 31, 2009.''

ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS CONSERVATION ACT

Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 415(c), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3516, provided that: ''Nothing in this title [see Short Title note set out under section 5901 of this title] amends, supersedes, or otherwise affects any provision of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) relating to revenue-producing visitor services.''

§ 5952. Award of concessions contracts

In furtherance of the findings and policy stated in section 5951 of this title, and except as provided by this subchapter or otherwise authorized by law, the Secretary shall utilize concessions contracts to authorize a person, corporation, or other entity to provide accommodations, facilities, and services to visitors to units of the National Park System. Such concessions contracts shall be awarded as follows:

(1) Competitive selection process

Except as otherwise provided in this section, all proposed concessions contracts shall be awarded by the Secretary to the person, corporation, or other entity submitting the best proposal, as determined by the Secretary through a competitive selection process. Such competitive process shall include simplified procedures for small, individually-owned, concessions contracts.

(2) Solicitation of proposals

Except as otherwise provided in this section, prior to awarding a new concessions contract (including renewals or extensions of existing concessions contracts) the Secretary shall publicly solicit proposals for the concessions contract and, in connection with such solicitation, the Secretary shall prepare a prospectus and shall publish notice of its availability at least once in local or national newspapers or trade publications, and/or the Commerce Business Daily, as appropriate, and shall make the prospectus available upon request to all interested parties.

(3) Prospectus

The prospectus shall include the following information:

(A) The minimum requirements for such contract as set forth in paragraph (4).

(B) The terms and conditions of any existing concessions contract relating to the services and facilities to be provided, including all fees and other forms of compensation provided to the United States by the concessioner.

(C) Other authorized facilities or services which may be provided in a proposal.

(D) Facilities and services to be provided by the Secretary to the concessioner, if any, including public access, utilities, and buildings.

(E) An estimate of the amount of compensation, if any, due an existing conces-

sioner from a new concessioner under the terms of a prior concessions contract.

(F) A statement as to the weight to be given to each selection factor identified in the prospectus and the relative importance of such factors in the selection process.

(G) Such other information related to the proposed concessions operation as is provided to the Secretary pursuant to a concessions contract or is otherwise available to the Secretary, as the Secretary determines is necessary to allow for the submission of competitive proposals.

(H) Where applicable, a description of a preferential right to the renewal of the proposed concessions contract held by an existing concessioner as set forth in paragraph (7).

(4) Minimum requirements

(A) No proposal shall be considered which fails to meet the minimum requirements as determined by the Secretary. Such minimum requirements shall include the following:

(i) The minimum acceptable franchise fee or other forms of consideration to the Government.

(ii) Any facilities, services, or capital investment required to be provided by the concessioner.

(iii) Measures necessary to ensure the protection, conservation, and preservation of resources of the unit of the National Park System.

(B) The Secretary shall reject any proposal, regardless of the franchise fee offered, if the Secretary determines that the person, corporation, or entity is not qualified, is not likely to provide satisfactory service, or that the proposal is not responsive to the objectives of protecting and preserving resources of the unit of the National Park System and of providing necessary and appropriate facilities and services to the public at reasonable rates.

(C) If all proposals submitted to the Secretary either fail to meet the minimum requirements or are rejected by the Secretary, the Secretary shall establish new minimum contract requirements and re-initiate the competitive selection process pursuant to this section.

(D) The Secretary may not execute a concessions contract which materially amends or does not incorporate the proposed terms and conditions of the concessions contract as set forth in the applicable prospectus. If proposed material amendments or changes are considered appropriate by the Secretary, the Secretary shall resolicit offers for the concessions contract incorporating such material amendments or changes.

(5) Selection of the best proposal

(A) In selecting the best proposal, the Secretary shall consider the following principal factors:

(i) The responsiveness of the proposal to the objectives of protecting, conserving, and preserving resources of the unit of the National Park System and of providing necessary and appropriate facilities and services to the public at reasonable rates.

(ii) The experience and related background of the person, corporation, or entity submitting the proposal, including the past performance and expertise of such person, corporation or entity in providing the same or similar facilities or services.

(iii) The financial capability of the person, corporation, or entity submitting the proposal.

(iv) The proposed franchise fee, except that consideration of revenue to the United States shall be subordinate to the objectives of protecting, conserving, and preserving resources of the unit of the National Park System and of providing necessary and appropriate facilities to the public at reasonable rates.

(B) The Secretary may also consider such secondary factors as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(C) In developing regulations to implement this subchapter, the Secretary shall consider the extent to which plans for employment of Indians (including Native Alaskans) and involvement of businesses owned by Indians, Indian tribes, or Native Alaskans in the operation of a concession, contracts[1] should be identified as a factor in the selection of a best proposal under this section.

(6) Congressional notification

The Secretary shall submit any proposed concessions contract with anticipated annual gross receipts in excess of $5,000,000 or a duration of more than 10 years to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate. The Secretary shall not award any such proposed contract until at least 60 days subsequent to the notification of both committees.

(7) Preferential right of renewal

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall not grant a concessioner a preferential right to renew a concessions contract, or any other form of preference to a concessions contract.

(B) The Secretary shall grant a preferential right of renewal to an existing concessioner with respect to proposed renewals of the categories of concessions contracts described by paragraph (8), subject to the requirements of that paragraph.

(C) As used in this subchapter, the term ''preferential right of renewal'' means that the Secretary, subject to a determination by the Secretary that the facilities or services authorized by a prior contract continue to be necessary and appropriate within the meaning of section 5951 of this title, shall allow a concessioner qualifying for a preferential right of renewal the opportunity to match the terms and conditions of any competing proposal which the Secretary determines to be the best proposal for a proposed new concessions contract which authorizes the continuation of the facilities and services provided by the concessioner under its prior contract.

[1] So in original. Probably should be ''concessions contract''.

(D) A concessioner which successfully exercises a preferential right of renewal in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter shall be entitled to award of the proposed new concessions contract to which such preference applies.

(8) Outfitter and guide services and small contracts

(A) The provisions of paragraph (7) shall apply only to the following:

(i) Subject to subparagraph (B), outfitting and guide concessions contracts.

(ii) Subject to subparagraph (C), concessions contracts with anticipated annual gross receipts under $500,000.

(B) For the purposes of this subchapter, an ''outfitting and guide concessions contract'' means a concessions contract which solely authorizes the provision of specialized backcountry outdoor recreation guide services which require the employment of specially trained and experienced guides to accompany park visitors in the backcountry so as to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for visitors who otherwise may not have the skills and equipment to engage in such activity. Outfitting and guide concessioners, where otherwise qualified, include concessioners which provide guided river running, hunting, fishing, horseback, camping, and mountaineering experiences. An outfitting and guide concessioner is entitled to a preferential right of renewal under this subchapter only if—

(i) the contract with the outfitting and guide concessioner does not grant the concessioner any interest, including any leasehold surrender interest or possessory interest, in capital improvements on lands owned by the United States within a unit of the National Park System, other than a capital improvement constructed by a concessioner pursuant to the terms of a concessions contract prior to November 13, 1998, or constructed or owned by a concessioner or his or her predecessor before the subject land was incorporated into the National Park System;

(ii) the Secretary determines that the concessioner has operated satisfactorily during the term of the contract (including any extension thereof); and

(iii) the concessioner has submitted a responsive proposal for a proposed new contract which satisfies the minimum requirements established by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (4).

(C) A concessioner that holds a concessions contract that the Secretary estimates will result in gross annual receipts of less than $500,000 if renewed shall be entitled to a preferential right of renewal under this subchapter if—

(i) the Secretary has determined that the concessioner has operated satisfactorily during the term of the contract (including any extension thereof); and

(ii) the concessioner has submitted a responsive proposal for a proposed new concessions contract which satisfies the minimum requirements established by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (4).

(9) New or additional services

The Secretary shall not grant a preferential right to a concessioner to provide new or additional services in a unit of the National Park System.

(10) Secretarial authority

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as limiting the authority of the Secretary to determine whether to issue a concessions contract or to establish its terms and conditions in furtherance of the policies expressed in this subchapter.

(11) Exceptions

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Secretary may award, without public solicitation, the following:

(A) A temporary concessions contract or an extension of an existing concessions contract for a term not to exceed 3 years in order to avoid interruption of services to the public at a unit of the National Park System, except that prior to making such an award, the Secretary shall take all reasonable and appropriate steps to consider alternatives to avoid such interruption.

(B) A concessions contract in extraordinary circumstances where compelling and equitable considerations require the award of a concessions contract to a particular party in the public interest. Such award of a concessions contract shall not be made by the Secretary until at least 30 days after publication in the Federal Register of notice of the Secretary's intention to do so and the reasons for such action, and submission of notice to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 403, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3504.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original ''this title'', meaning title IV of Pub. L. 105–391, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3503, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5901 of this title and Tables.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

§ 5953. Term of concessions contracts

A concessions contract entered into pursuant to this subchapter shall generally be awarded for a term of 10 years or less. However, the Secretary may award a contract for a term of up to 20 years if the Secretary determines that the contract terms and conditions, including the required construction of capital improvements, warrant a longer term.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 404, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3508; Pub. L. 106–176, title III, § 311, Mar. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 34.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106–176, which directed the substitution of ''contract terms and conditions,'' for ''conract terms and conditions,'', could not be executed because the words ''conract terms and conditions,'' did not appear.

§ 5954. Protection of concessioner investment

(a) Leasehold surrender interest under new concessions contracts

On or after November 13, 1998, a concessioner that constructs a capital improvement upon land owned by the United States within a unit of the National Park System pursuant to a concessions contract shall have a leasehold surrender interest in such capital improvement subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) A concessioner shall have a leasehold surrender interest in each capital improvement constructed by a concessioner under a concessions contract, consisting solely of a right to compensation for the capital improvement to the extent of the value of the concessioner's leasehold surrender interest in the capital improvement.

(2) A leasehold surrender interest—

(A) may be pledged as security for financing of a capital improvement or the acquisition of a concessions contract when approved by the Secretary pursuant to this subchapter;

(B) shall be transferred by the concessioner in connection with any transfer of the concessions contract and may be relinquished or waived by the concessioner; and

(C) shall not be extinguished by the expiration or other termination of a concessions contract and may not be taken for public use except on payment of just compensation.

(3) The value of a leasehold surrender interest in a capital improvement shall be an amount equal to the initial value (construction cost of the capital improvement), increased (or decreased) in the same percentage increase (or decrease) as the percentage increase (or decrease) in the Consumer Price Index, from the date of making the investment in the capital improvement by the concessioner to the date of payment of the value of the leasehold surrender interest, less depreciation of the capital improvement as evidenced by the condition and prospective serviceability in comparison with a new unit of like kind.

(4) Effective 9 years after November 13, 1998, the Secretary may provide, in any particular new concession contract the Secretary estimates will have a leasehold surrender interest of more than $10,000,000, that the value of any leasehold surrender interest in a capital improvement shall be based on either (A) a reduction on an annual basis, in equal portions, over the same number of years as the time period associated with the straight line depreciation of the initial value (construction cost of the capital improvement), as provided by applicable Federal income tax laws and regulations in effect on the day before November 13, 1998, or (B) such alternative formula that is consistent with the objectives of this subchapter. The Secretary may only use such an alternative formula if the Secretary determines, after scrutiny of the financial and other circumstances involved in this particular concession contract (including providing notice in the Federal Register and opportunity for comment), that such alternative formula is, compared to the standard method of determining value provided for in paragraph (3), necessary in order to provide a fair return to the Government and to foster competition for the new contract by providing a reasonable opportunity to make a profit under the new contract. If no responsive offers are received in response to a solicitation that includes such an alternative formula, the concession opportunity shall be resolicited with the leasehold surrender interest value as described in paragraph (3).

(5) Where a concessioner, pursuant to the terms of a concessions contract, makes a capital improvement to an existing capital improvement in which the concessioner has a leasehold surrender interest, the cost of such additional capital improvement shall be added to the then current value of the concessioner's leasehold surrender interest.

(b) Special rule for existing possessory interest

(1) A concessioner which has obtained a possessory interest as defined pursuant to Public Law 89–249 (commonly known as the National Park Service Concessions Policy Act; 16 U.S.C. 20 et seq.), as in effect on the day before November 13, 1998, under the terms of a concessions contract entered into before November 13, 1998, shall, upon the expiration or termination of such contract, be entitled to receive compensation for such possessory interest improvements in the amount and manner as described by such concessions contract. Where such a possessory interest is not described in the existing contract, compensation of possessory interest shall be determined in accordance with the laws in effect on the day before November 13, 1998.

(2) In the event such prior concessioner is awarded a new concessions contract after the effective date of this subchapter replacing an existing concessions contract, the existing concessioner shall, instead of directly receiving such possessory interest compensation, have a leasehold surrender interest in its existing possessory interest improvements under the terms of the new contract and shall carry over as the initial value of such leasehold surrender interest (instead of construction cost) an amount equal to the value of the existing possessory interest as of the termination date of the previous contract. In the event of a dispute between the concessioner and the Secretary as to the value of such possessory interest, the matter shall be resolved through binding arbitration.

(3) In the event that a new concessioner is awarded a concessions contract and is required to pay a prior concessioner for possessory interest in prior improvements, the new concessioner shall have a leasehold surrender interest in such prior improvements and the initial value in such leasehold surrender interest (instead of construction cost), shall be an amount equal to the value of the existing possessory interest as of the termination date of the previous contract.

(c) Transition to successor concessioner

Upon expiration or termination of a concessions contract entered into after the effective date of this subchapter, a concessioner shall be entitled under the terms of the concessions contract to receive from the United States or a successor concessioner the value of any leasehold surrender interest in a capital improvement as of the date of such expiration or termination. A successor concessioner shall have a leasehold surrender interest in such capital improvement under the terms of a new contract and the initial value of the leasehold surrender interest in such capital improvement (instead of construction cost) shall be the amount of money the new concessioner is required to pay the prior concessioner for its leasehold surrender interest under the terms of the prior concessions contract.

(d) Title to improvements

Title to any capital improvement constructed by a concessioner on lands owned by the United States in a unit of the National Park System shall be vested in the United States.

(e) Definitions

For purposes of this section:

(1) Consumer Price Index

The term ''Consumer Price Index'' means the ''Consumer Price Index—All Urban Consumers'' published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, unless such index is not published, in which case another regularly published cost-of-living index approximating the Consumer Price Index shall be utilized by the Secretary; and

(2) Capital improvement

The term ''capital improvement'' means a structure, fixture, or nonremovable equipment provided by a concessioner pursuant to the terms of a concessions contract and located on lands of the United States within a unit of the National Park System.

(f) Special reporting requirement

Not later than 7 years after November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives containing a complete analysis of the concession program as well as—

(1) an assessment of competition in the solicitation of prospectuses, fair and/or increased return to the Government, and improvement of concession facilities and infrastructure; and

(2) an assessment of any problems with the management and administration of the concession program that are a direct result of the implementation of the provisions of this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 405, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3508.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal income tax laws, referred to in subsec. (a)(4), are classified generally to Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

The National Park Service Concessions Policy Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is Pub. L. 89–249, Oct. 9, 1965, 79 Stat. 969, which was classified generally to subchapter IV (§ 20 et seq.) of chapter 1 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 415(a), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3515.

The effective date of this subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (b)(2) and (c), probably means the date of enactment of this subchapter, which was approved Nov. 13, 1998.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

DE NOVO REVIEW OF VALUE DETERMINATION DECISIONS BY UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

Pub. L. 110–161, div. F, title I, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2107, provided in part that: ''For fiscal year 2008 and hereafter, if the Secretary of the Interior, or either party to a value determination proceeding conducted under a National Park Service concession contract issued prior to November 13, 1998, considers that the value determination decision issued pursuant to the proceeding misinterprets or misapplies relevant contractual requirements or their underlying legal authority, the Secretary or either party may seek, within 180 days of any such decision, the de novo review of the value determination decision by the United States Court of Federal Claims. This court may make an order affirming, vacating, modifying or correcting the determination decision.''

§ 5955. Reasonableness of rates

(a) In general

Each concessions contract shall permit the concessioner to set reasonable and appropriate rates and charges for facilities, goods, and services provided to the public, subject to approval under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Approval by Secretary required

A concessioner's rates and charges to the public shall be subject to approval by the Secretary. The approval process utilized by the Secretary shall be as prompt and as unburdensome to the concessioner as possible and shall rely on market forces to establish reasonableness of rates and charges to the maximum extent practicable. The Secretary shall approve rates and charges that the Secretary determines to be reasonable and appropriate. Unless otherwise provided in the contract, the reasonableness and appropriateness of rates and charges shall be determined primarily by comparison with those rates and charges for facilities, goods, and services of comparable character under similar conditions, with due consideration to the following factors and other factors deemed relevant by the Secretary: length of season, peakloads, average percentage of occupancy, accessibility, availability and costs of labor and materials, and type of patronage. Such rates and charges may not exceed the market rates and charges for comparable facilities, goods, and services, after taking into account the factors referred to in the preceding sentence.

(c) Implementation of recommendations

Not later than 6 months after receiving recommendations from the Advisory Board established under section 5958(a) of this title regarding concessioner rates and charges to the public, the Secretary shall implement the recommenda-

tions or report to the Congress the reasons for not implementing the recommendations.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 406, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3510.)

§ 5956. Franchise fees

(a) In general

A concessions contract shall provide for payment to the government of a franchise fee or such other monetary consideration as determined by the Secretary, upon consideration of the probable value to the concessioner of the privileges granted by the particular contract involved. Such probable value shall be based upon a reasonable opportunity for net profit in relation to capital invested and the obligations of the contract. Consideration of revenue to the United States shall be subordinate to the objectives of protecting and preserving park areas and of providing necessary and appropriate services for visitors at reasonable rates.

(b) Amount of franchise fee

The amount of the franchise fee or other monetary consideration paid to the United States for the term of the concessions contract shall be specified in the concessions contract and may only be modified to reflect extraordinary unanticipated changes from the conditions anticipated as of the effective date of the contract. The Secretary shall include in concessions contracts with a term of more than 5 years a provision which allows reconsideration of the franchise fee at the request of the Secretary or the concessioner in the event of such extraordinary unanticipated changes. Such provision shall provide for binding arbitration in the event that the Secretary and the concessioner are unable to agree upon an adjustment to the franchise fee in these circumstances.

(c) Special account

All franchise fees (and other monetary consideration) paid to the United States pursuant to concessions contracts shall be deposited into a special account established in the Treasury of the United States. Twenty percent of the funds deposited in the special account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, to support activities throughout the National Park System regardless of the unit of the National Park System in which the funds were collected. The funds deposited into the special account shall remain available until expended.

(d) Subaccount for each unit

There shall be established within the special account required under subsection (c) of this section a subaccount for each unit of the National Park System. Each subaccount shall be credited with 80 percent of the franchise fees (and other monetary consideration) collected at a single unit of the National Park System under concessions contracts. The funds credited to the subaccount for a unit of the National Park System shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at the unit for visitor services and for purposes of funding high-priority and urgently necessary resource management programs and operations. The funds credited to a subaccount shall remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 407, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3511.)

§ 5957. Transfer of concessions contracts

(a) Approval of Secretary

No concessions contract or leasehold surrender interest may be transferred, assigned, sold, or otherwise conveyed or pledged by a concessioner without prior written notification to, and approval by, the Secretary.

(b) Conditions

The Secretary shall approve a transfer or conveyance described in subsection (a) of this section unless the Secretary finds that—

(1) the individual, corporation or entity seeking to acquire a concessions contract is not qualified or able to satisfy the terms and conditions of the concessions contract;

(2) such transfer or conveyance would have an adverse impact on (A) the protection, conservation, or preservation of the resources of the unit of the National Park System or (B) the provision of necessary and appropriate facilities and services to visitors at reasonable rates and charges; and

(3) the terms of such transfer or conveyance are likely, directly or indirectly, to reduce the concessioner's opportunity for a reasonable profit over the remaining term of the contract, adversely affect the quality of facilities and services provided by the concessioner, or result in a need for increased rates and charges to the public to maintain the quality of such facilities and services.

(c) Transfer terms

The terms and conditions of any contract under this section shall not be subject to modification or open to renegotiation by the Secretary because of a transfer or conveyance described in subsection (a) of this section, unless such transfer or conveyance would have an adverse impact as described in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of this section.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 408, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3512.)

§ 5958. National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board

(a) Establishment

There is hereby established a National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board (in this subchapter referred to as the ''Advisory Board'') whose purpose shall be to advise the Secretary and National Park Service on matters relating to management of concessions in the National Park System.

(b) Duties

(1) Advice

The Advisory Board shall advise on each of the following:

(A) Policies and procedures intended to assure that services and facilities provided by concessioners are necessary and appropriate, meet acceptable standards at reasonable

rates with a minimum of impact on park resources and values, and provide the concessioners with a reasonable opportunity to make a profit.

(B) Ways to make National Park Service concessions programs and procedures more cost effective, more process efficient, less burdensome, and timelier.

(2) Recommendations

The Advisory Board shall make recommendations to the Secretary regarding each of the following:

(A) National Park Service contracting with the private sector to conduct appropriate elements of concessions management and providing recommendations to make more efficient, less burdensome, and timelier the review or approval of concessioner rates and charges to the public.

(B) The nature and scope of products which qualify as Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian handicrafts within this[1] meaning of this subchapter.

(C) The allocation of concession fees.

The initial recommendations under subparagraph (A) relating to rates and charges shall be submitted to the Secretary not later than one year after the first meeting of the Board.

(3) Annual report

The Advisory Board, commencing with the first anniversary of its initial meeting, shall provide an annual report on its activities to the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate.

(c) Advisory Board membership

Members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed on a staggered basis by the Secretary for a term not to exceed 4 years and shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. The Advisory Board shall be comprised of not more than seven individuals appointed from among citizens of the United States not in the employment of the Federal Government and not in the employment of or having an interest in a National Park Service concession. Of the seven members of the Advisory Board—

(1) one member shall be privately employed in the hospitality industry and have both broad knowledge of hotel or food service management and experience in the parks and recreation concessions business;

(2) one member shall be privately employed in the tourism industry;

(3) one member shall be privately employed in the accounting industry;

(4) one member shall be privately employed in the outfitting and guide industry;

(5) one member shall be a State government employee with expertise in park concession management;

(6) one member shall be active in promotion of traditional arts and crafts; and

(7) one member shall be active in a nonprofit conservation organization involved in parks and recreation programs.

[1] So in original. Probably should be ''the''.

(d) Termination

The Advisory Board shall continue to exist until December 31, 2008. In all other respects, it shall be subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

(e) Service on Advisory Board

Service of an individual as a member of the Advisory Board shall not be considered as service or employment bringing such individual within the provisions of any Federal law relating to conflicts of interest or otherwise imposing restrictions, requirements, or penalties in relation to the employment of persons, the performance of services, or the payment or receipt of compensation in connection with claims, proceedings, or matters involving the United States. Service as a member of the Advisory Board shall not be considered service in an appointive or elective position in the Government for purposes of section 8344 of title 5 or other comparable provisions of Federal law.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 409, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3512.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92–463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, as amended, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Resources of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

§ 5959. Contracting for services

(a) Contracting authorized

(1) To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall contract with private entities to conduct or assist in those elements of the management of the National Park Service concessions program considered by the Secretary to be suitable for non-Federal performance. Such management elements include each of the following:

(A) Health and safety inspections.

(B) Quality control of concessions operations and facilities.

(C) Strategic capital planning for concessions facilities.

(D) Analysis of rates and charges to the public.

(2) The Secretary may also contract with private entities to assist the Secretary with each of the following:

(A) Preparation of the financial aspects of prospectuses for National Park Service concessions contracts.

(B) Development of guidelines for a national park system capital improvement and maintenance program for all concession occupied facilities.

(C) Making recommendations to the Director of the National Park Service regarding the conduct of annual audits of concession fee expenditures.

(b) Other management elements

The Secretary shall also consider, taking into account the recommendations of the Advisory

Board, contracting out other elements of the concessions management program, as appropriate.

(c) Condition

Nothing in this section shall diminish the governmental responsibilities and authority of the Secretary to administer concessions contracts and activities pursuant to this subchapter and sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title. The Secretary reserves the right to make the final decision or contract approval on contracting services dealing with the management of the National Park Service concessions program under this section.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 410, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3514.)

§ 5960. Multiple contracts within park

If multiple concessions contracts are awarded to authorize concessioners to provide the same or similar outfitting, guiding, river running, or other similar services at the same approximate location or resource within a specific national park, the Secretary shall establish a comparable franchise fee structure for all such same or similar contracts, except that the terms and conditions of any existing concessions contract shall not be subject to modification or open to renegotiation by the Secretary because of an award of a new contract at the same approximate location or resource.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 411, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3514.)

§ 5961. Special rule for transportation contracting services

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a service contract entered into by the Secretary for the provision solely of transportation services in a unit of the National Park System shall be no more than 10 years in length, including a base period of 5 years and annual extensions for an additional 5-year period based on satisfactory performance and approval by the Secretary.

(b) Obligation of funds

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to a service contract for the provision solely of transportation services at Zion National Park, the Secretary may obligate the expenditure of fees received in fiscal year 2002 under section 5981 of this title before the fees are received.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 412, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3515; Pub. L. 106–113, div. B, § 1000(a)(3) [title I, § 143], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A–171; Pub. L. 106–291, title I, § 139, Oct. 11, 2000, 114 Stat. 949; Pub. L. 107–63, title I, § 122, Nov. 5, 2001, 115 Stat. 440.)

AMENDMENTS

2001—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107–63 substituted ''2002'' for ''2001''.

2000—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106–291 substituted ''2001'' for ''2000''.

1999—Pub. L. 106–113 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

§ 5962. Use of nonmonetary consideration in concessions contracts

Section 1302 of title 40, relating to the leasing of buildings and properties of the United States, shall not apply to contracts awarded by the Secretary pursuant to this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 413, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3515.)

CODIFICATION

''Section 1302 of title 40'' substituted in text for ''Section 321 of the Act of June 30, 1932 (40 U.S.C. 303b)'' on authority of Pub. L. 107–217, § 5(c), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1303, the first section of which enacted Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works.

§ 5963. Recordkeeping requirements

(a) In general

Each concessioner shall keep such records as the Secretary may prescribe to enable the Secretary to determine that all terms of the concessions contract have been and are being faithfully performed, and the Secretary and any duly authorized representative of the Secretary shall, for the purpose of audit and examination, have access to such records and to other books, documents, and papers of the concessioner pertinent to the contract and all terms and conditions thereof.

(b) Access to records

The Comptroller General or any duly authorized representative of the Comptroller General shall, until the expiration of 5 calendar years after the close of the business year of each concessioner or subconcessioner, have access to and the right to examine any pertinent books, papers, documents and records of the concessioner or subconcessioner related to the contract or contracts involved.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 414, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3515.)

§ 5964. Promotion of sale of Indian, Alaska Native, Native Samoan, and Native Hawaiian handicrafts

(a) In general

Promoting the sale of authentic United States Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Samoan, and Native Hawaiian handicrafts relating to the cultural, historical, and geographic characteristics of units of the National Park System is encouraged, and the Secretary shall ensure that there is a continuing effort to enhance the handicraft trade where it exists and establish the trade in appropriate areas where such trade currently does not exist.

(b) Exemption from franchise fee

In furtherance of these purposes, the revenue derived from the sale of United States Indian, Alaska Native, Native Samoan, and Native Hawaiian handicrafts shall be exempt from any franchise fee payments under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 416, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3516.)

§ 5965. Regulations

As soon as practicable after the effective date of this subchapter, the Secretary shall promul-

gate regulations appropriate for its implementation. Among other matters, such regulations shall include appropriate provisions to ensure that concession services and facilities to be provided in a unit of the National Park System are not segmented or otherwise split into separate concessions contracts for the purposes of seeking to reduce anticipated annual gross receipts of a concessions contract below $500,000. The Secretary shall also promulgate regulations which further define the term ''United States Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian handicrafts'' for the purposes of this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 417, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3516.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The effective date of this subchapter, referred to in text, probably means the date of enactment of this subchapter, which was approved Nov. 13, 1998.

§ 5966. Commercial use authorizations

(a) In general

To the extent specified in this section, the Secretary, upon request, may authorize a private person, corporation, or other entity to provide services to visitors to units of the National Park System through a commercial use authorization. Such authorizations shall not be considered as concessions contracts pursuant to this subchapter nor shall other sections of this subchapter be applicable to such authorizations except where expressly so stated.

(b) Criteria for issuance of authorizations

(1) Required determinations

The authority of this section may be used only to authorize provision of services that the Secretary determines will have minimal impact on resources and values of the unit of the National Park System and are consistent with the purpose for which the unit was established and with all applicable management plans and park policies and regulations.

(2) Elements of authorization

The Secretary shall—

(A) require payment of a reasonable fee for issuance of an authorization under this section, such fees to remain available without further appropriation to be used, at a minimum, to recover associated management and administrative costs;

(B) require that the provision of services under such an authorization be accomplished in a manner consistent to the highest practicable degree with the preservation and conservation of park resources and values;

(C) take appropriate steps to limit the liability of the United States arising from the provision of services under such an authorization; and

(D) have no authority under this section to issue more authorizations than are consistent with the preservation and proper management of park resources and values, and shall establish such other conditions for issuance of such an authorization as the Secretary determines appropriate for the protection of visitors, provision of adequate and appropriate visitor services, and protection and proper management of the resources and values of the park.

(c) Limitations

Any authorization issued under this section shall be limited to—

(1) commercial operations with annual gross receipts of not more than $25,000 resulting from services originating and provided solely within a unit of the National Park System pursuant to such authorization;

(2) the incidental use of resources of the unit by commercial operations which provide services originating and terminating outside of the boundaries of the unit; or

(3) such uses by organized children's camps, outdoor clubs and nonprofit institutions (including back country use) and such other uses as the Secretary determines appropriate.

Nonprofit institutions are not required to obtain commercial use authorizations unless taxable income is derived by the institution from the authorized use.

(d) Prohibition on construction

An authorization issued under this section shall not provide for the construction of any structure, fixture, or improvement on federally-owned lands within the boundaries of a unit of the National Park System.

(e) Duration

The term of any authorization issued under this section shall not exceed 2 years. No preferential right of renewal or similar provisions for renewal shall be granted by the Secretary.

(f) Other contracts

A person, corporation, or other entity seeking or obtaining an authorization pursuant to this section shall not be precluded from also submitting proposals for concessions contracts.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title IV, § 418, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3516.)

SUBCHAPTER IV—FEES FOR USE OF NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

§ 5981. Fees

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, where the National Park Service or an entity under a service contract, cooperative agreement, or other contractual arrangement with the National Park Service provides transportation to all or a portion of any unit of the National Park System, the Secretary may impose a reasonable and appropriate charge to the public for the use of such transportation services in addition to any admission fee required to be paid. Collection of both the transportation and admission fees may occur at the transportation staging area or any other reasonably convenient location determined by the Secretary. The Secretary may enter into agreements with public or private entities, who qualify to the Secretary's satisfaction, to collect the transportation and admission fee. Such transportation fees collected as per this section shall be retained by the unit of the National Park System at which the transportation fee was collected and the

amount retained shall be expended only for costs associated with the transportation systems at the unit where the charge was imposed.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title V, § 501, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3518; Pub. L. 109–131, title I, § 102(b), Dec. 20, 2005, 119 Stat. 2568.)

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109–131 substituted ''service contract, cooperative agreement, or other contractual arrangement'' for ''service contract'' in first sentence.

§ 5982. Repealed. Pub. L. 108–447, div. J, title VIII, § 813(d)(1), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3391

Section, Pub. L. 105–391, title V, § 502, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3518, related to agreement by Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on apportionment of Golden Eagle Passport sales.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Dec. 19, 2006, see section 6812(d) of this title.

SUBCHAPTER V—NATIONAL PARK PASSPORT PROGRAM

§§ 5991 to 5995. Repealed. Pub. L. 108–447, div. J, title VIII, § 813(d)(2), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3391

Section 5991, Pub. L. 105–391, title VI, § 601, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3518, related to purposes of this subchapter.

Section 5992, Pub. L. 105–391, title VI, § 602, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3519, related to establishment of the national park passport program.

Section 5993, Pub. L. 105–391, title VI, § 603, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3519; Pub. L. 106–113, div. B, § 1000(a)(3) [title I, § 145], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A–171; Pub. L. 106–176, title III, § 306, Mar. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 33, related to administration of the national park passport program.

Section 5994, Pub. L. 105–391, title VI, § 604, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3519, related to foreign sales of Golden Eagle Passports.

Section 5995, Pub. L. 105–391, title VI, § 605, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3520, related to effect of the national park passport on other laws and programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Dec. 19, 2006, see section 6812(d) of this title.

SUBCHAPTER VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 6011. United States Park Police

(a) Appointment of task force

Not later than 60 days after November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall appoint a multidisciplinary task force to fully evaluate the shortfalls, needs, and requirements of law enforcement programs in the National Park Service, including a separate analysis for the United States Park Police, which shall include a review of facility repair, rehabilitation, equipment, and communication needs.

(b) Submission of report

Not later than one year after November 13, 1998, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources and Appropriations of the United States Senate and the Committees on Resources and Appropriations of the United States House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) the findings and recommendations of the task force;

(2) complete justifications for any recommendations made; and

(3) a complete description of any adverse impacts that would occur if any need identified in the report is not met.

(Pub. L. 105–391, title VIII, § 801, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3521.)

CHAPTER 80—NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

Sec.
6101. Findings.
6102. Purposes.
6103. Definitions.
6104. Financial assistance.
6105. Duties of the Secretary.
6106. Cooperation.
6107. Report to Congress.
6108. Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.
6109. Authorization of appropriations.

§ 6101. Findings

Congress finds that—

(1) of the nearly 800 bird species known to occur in the United States, approximately 500 migrate among countries, and the large majority of those species, the neotropical migrants, winter in Latin America and the Caribbean but breed in Canada and the United States;

(2) neotropical migratory bird species provide invaluable environmental, economic, recreational, and aesthetic benefits to the United States, as well as to the Western Hemisphere;

(3)(A) many neotropical migratory bird populations, once considered common, are in decline, and some have declined to the point that their long-term survival in the wild is in jeopardy; and

(B) the primary reason for the decline in the populations of those species is habitat loss and degradation (including pollution and contamination) across the species' range; and

(4)(A) because neotropical migratory birds range across numerous international borders each year, their conservation requires the commitment and effort of all countries along their migration routes; and

(B) although numerous initiatives exist to conserve migratory birds and their habitat, those initiatives can be significantly strengthened and enhanced by increased coordination.

(Pub. L. 106–247, § 2, July 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 593; Pub. L. 109–363, title III, § 302(a), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2075.)

AMENDMENTS

2006—Par. (1). Pub. L. 109–363 inserted ''but breed in Canada and the United States'' after ''the Caribbean''.

SHORT TITLE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109–363, title III, § 301, Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2075, provided that: ''This title [amending this section and sections 6102 to 6104 and 6106 to 6109 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 6106 and 6108 of this title] may be cited as the 'Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006'.''