

**§ 3643. Savings provision**

This chapter shall not be interpreted or applied so as to affect or modify rights established in existing Indian treaties and other existing Federal laws, including the Order entered in Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Indian Nation v. Baldrige, Civil No. 80-342 (WD WASH.). This section shall not be interpreted or applied so as to affect or modify any rights or obligations of the United States pursuant to the Treaty.

(Pub. L. 99-5, §14, Mar. 15, 1985, 99 Stat. 15.)

**§ 3644. Restriction on spending authority**

New spending authority or authority to enter into contracts provided in this chapter shall be effective only to such extent, or in such amounts, as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

(Pub. L. 99-5, §15, Mar. 15, 1985, 99 Stat. 15.)

**CHAPTER 57—NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION**

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**§ 3701. Establishment and purposes of Foundation**

**(a) Establishment**

There is established the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (hereinafter in this chapter referred to as the "Foundation"). The Foundation is a charitable and nonprofit corporation and is not an agency or establishment of the United States.

**(b) Purposes**

The purposes of the Foundation are—

(1) to encourage, accept, and administer private gifts of property for the benefit of, or in connection with, the activities and services of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(2) to undertake and conduct such other activities as will further the conservation and management of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources of the United States, and its territories and possessions, for present and future generations of Americans; and

(3) to participate with, and otherwise assist, foreign governments, entities, and individuals in undertaking and conducting activities that will further the conservation and management of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources of other countries.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §2, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 107; Pub. L. 100-240, §1(a), Jan. 11, 1988, 101 Stat. 1785; Pub. L. 103-232, title I, §102, Apr. 11, 1994, 108 Stat. 336.)

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-232 inserted before semicolon at end "and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration".

1988—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 100-240 added par. (3).

SHORT TITLE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Section 101 of title I of Pub. L. 103-232 provided that: "This title [amending this section and sections 3702 and 3709 of this title and enacting provisions listed in a table of National Environmental Centers set out under section 668dd of this title and provisions set out as notes under section 3702 of this title] may be cited as the 'National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Improvement Act of 1994'."

SHORT TITLE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-593, title I, §110(a), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2959, provided that: "This section [amending sections 3702 and 3709 of this title] may be cited as the 'National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act Amendments of 1990'."

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 98-244 provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act'."

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 3703, 3706, 3743 of this title.

**§ 3702. Board of Directors of Foundation**

**(a) Establishment and membership**

The Foundation shall have a governing Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the "Board"), which shall consist of 15 Directors, each of whom shall be a United States citizen and—

(1) six of whom must be knowledgeable or experienced in fish and wildlife conservation; and

(2) 4 of whom must be educated and experienced in the principles of fish and wildlife management.

The membership of the Board, to the extent practicable, shall represent diverse points of view relating to fish and wildlife conservation. The Director of the United States Fish and

Wildlife Service shall be an ex officio nonvoting member of the Board. Appointment to the Board shall not constitute employment by, or the holding of an office of, the United States for the purposes of any Federal law.

**(b) Appointment and terms**

By December 31, 1984, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the "Secretary") shall appoint the Directors of the Board. The Directors shall be appointed for terms of six years; except that the Secretary, in making the initial appointments to the Board, shall appoint three Directors to a term of two years, three Directors to a term of four years, and three Directors to a term of six years. A vacancy on the Board shall be filled within sixty days of said vacancy in the manner in which the original appointment was made. No individual may serve more than two consecutive terms as a Director. The Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere before appointing any Director of the Board.

**(c) Chairman**

The Chairman shall be elected by the Board from its members for a two-year term.

**(d) Quorum**

A majority of the current membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**(e) Meetings**

The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman at least once a year. If a Director misses three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, that individual may be removed from the Board and that vacancy filled in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

**(f) Reimbursement of expenses**

Members of the Board shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary traveling and subsistence expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties of the Foundation.

**(g) General powers**

(1) The Board may complete the organization of the Foundation by—

(A) appointing officers and employees;

(B) adopting a constitution and bylaws consistent with the purposes of the Foundation and the provisions of this chapter; and

(C) undertaking of other such acts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The following limitations apply with respect to the appointment of officers and employees of the Foundation:

(A) Officers and employees may not be appointed until the Foundation has sufficient funds to pay them for their service. Officers and employees of the Foundation shall be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(B) The first officer or employee appointed by the Board shall be the Secretary of the

Board who (i) shall serve, at the direction of the Board, as its chief operating officer, and (ii) shall be knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to fish and wildlife conservation.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §3, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 107; Pub. L. 101-593, title I, §110(b), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2959; Pub. L. 103-232, title I, §103(a)(1), (b), Apr. 11, 1994, 108 Stat. 336.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Provisions of title 5 governing appointments in competitive service, referred to in subsec. (g)(2)(A), are classified to section 3301 et seq. of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-232, §103(b), substituted "15 Directors" for "nine Directors" in introductory provisions and "4" for "three" in par. (2).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-232, §103(a)(1), inserted at end "The Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere before appointing any Director of the Board."

1990—Subsec. (g)(2)(A). Pub. L. 101-593 struck out "except that no individual so appointed may receive pay in excess of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for grade GS-18 of the General Schedule" after "General Schedule pay rates".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Section 103(a)(2) of Pub. L. 103-232 provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to appointments of Directors of the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation made after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 11, 1994]."

INITIAL TERMS OF SIX NEW DIRECTORS

Section 103(c) of Pub. L. 103-232 provided that: "Of the Directors on the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation first appointed pursuant to the amendment made by subsection (b)(1) [amending this section], notwithstanding the second sentence of section 3(b) of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3702(b))—

"(1) 2 shall be appointed to a term of 2 years;

"(2) 2 shall be appointed to a term of 4 years; and

"(3) 2 shall be appointed to a term of 6 years;

as specified by the Secretary of the Interior at the time of appointment."

COMPLETION OF APPOINTMENTS

Section 103(d) of Pub. L. 103-232 provided that: "The Secretary of the Interior shall appoint the additional members of the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation authorized by the amendment made by subsection (a) [(b)] [amending this section], by not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 11, 1994]."

AUTHORITY OF BOARD NOT AFFECTED

Section 103(e) of Pub. L. 103-232 provided that: "The authority of the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to take any action otherwise authorized by law shall not be affected by reason of the Secretary of the Interior not having completed the appointment of Directors of the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation pursuant to the amendment made by subsection (b)(1) [amending this section]."

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 3704, 4403 of this title.

**§ 3703. Rights and obligations of Foundation**

**(a) In general**

The Foundation—

- (1) shall have perpetual succession;
- (2) may conduct business throughout the several States, territories, and possessions of the United States and abroad;
- (3) shall have its principal offices in the District of Columbia; and
- (4) shall at all times maintain a designated agent authorized to accept service of process for the Foundation.

The serving of notice to, or service of process upon, the agent required under paragraph (4), or mailed to the business address of such agent, shall be deemed as service upon or notice to the Foundation.

**(b) Seal**

The Foundation shall have an official seal selected by the Board which shall be judicially noticed.

**(c) Powers**

To carry out its purposes under section 3701 of this title, the Foundation shall have, in addition to the powers otherwise given it under this chapter, the usual powers of a corporation acting as a trustee in the District of Columbia, including the power—

- (1) to accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer and use any gift, devise, or bequest, either absolutely or in trust, of real or personal property or any income therefrom or other interest therein;
- (2) to acquire by purchase or exchange any real or personal property or interest therein, subject to subsection (e) of this section;
- (3) unless otherwise required by the instrument of transfer, to sell, donate, lease, invest, reinvest, retain or otherwise dispose of any property or income therefrom;
- (4) to borrow money and issue bonds, debentures, or other debt instruments;
- (5) to sue and be sued, and complain and defend itself in any court of competent jurisdiction, except that the Directors of the Board shall not be personally liable, except for gross negligence;
- (6) to enter into contracts or other arrangements with public agencies and private organizations and persons and to make such payments as may be necessary to carry out its function; and
- (7) to do any and all acts necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the Foundation.

For purposes of this chapter, an interest in real property shall be treated as including, among other things, easements or other rights for preservation, conservation, protection, or enhancement by and for the public of natural, scenic, historic, scientific, educational, inspirational, or recreational resources. A gift, devise, or bequest may be accepted by the Foundation even though it is encumbered, restricted, or subject to beneficial interests of private persons if any current or future interest therein is for the benefit of the Foundation.

**(d) Certain lands, waters, and interests not subject to condemnation**

No lands or waters, or interests therein, that are owned by the Foundation and are deter-

mined by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, as the case may be, to be valuable for purposes of fish and wildlife conservation or management shall be subject to condemnation by any State or political subdivision, or any agent or instrumentality thereof.

**(e) Acquisition, management, and disposal of real property**

(1) The Foundation may only use Federal funds for the acquisition of interests in real property if—

(A) the interest is a long-term property interest, and

(B) the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the "Director") consents to the acquisition in writing.

(2) The Foundation shall convey to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion within the National Wildlife Refuge System any real property acquired by the Foundation in whole or in part with Federal funds if the Director, within one year after the date on which the property was acquired by the Foundation, requests the conveyance in writing.

(3)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Foundation may—

(i) convey to another person any real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal funds and not conveyed under paragraph (2); and

(ii) grant or otherwise provide Federal funds to another person for purposes of assisting that person to acquire real property in whole or in part with such funds.

(B) The Foundation may only make a conveyance or provide Federal funds under subparagraph (A) if—

(i) the conveyance or provision is subject to terms and conditions that will ensure that the real property will be administered for the long-term conservation and management of fish and wildlife and in a manner that will provide for appropriate public access and use; and

(ii) the Director finds that conveyance or provision of Federal funds meets the requirements of clause (i) and consents to it in writing.

(4) All real property acquired by the Foundation in whole or in part with Federal funds and held by it shall be administered for the conservation and management of fish and wildlife and in a manner that will provide for appropriate public access and use.

(5) The Foundation shall convey at not less than fair-market value any real property acquired by it in whole or in part with Federal funds if the Foundation and the Director determine, in writing, that—

(A) the land is no longer valuable for the purposes of fish and wildlife conservation or management, and

(B) the purposes of the Foundation would be better served by the use of the Federal funds for other authorized activities of the Foundation.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §4, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 108; Pub. L. 100-240, §§1(b), 2(a), (b)(1), Jan. 11, 1988, 101 Stat. 1785, 1786.)

## AMENDMENTS

1988—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 100-240, §1(b), inserted “and abroad” after “United States”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 100-240, §2(b), inserted “, subject to subsection (e) of this section” after “therein”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-240, §2(a), added subsec. (e).

DRAW DOWN OF FEDERAL FUNDS; EXEMPTION FROM  
AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

Pub. L. 102-440, title III, §304, Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2235, provided that: “Beginning in fiscal year 1993 and hereafter, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation may continue to draw down Federal funds when matching requirements have been met: *Provided*, That interest earned by the Foundation and its subgrantees on funds drawn down to date, but not immediately disbursed, shall be used to fund all activities as approved by the Board of Directors: *Provided further*, That the Foundation’s subgrantees shall be exempt from the audit reporting and compliance requirements of OMB Circular A-133, for all grants of \$100,000 or less. The Foundation shall amend its grant contracts to ensure that its subgrantees are advised and certify that they will comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations imposed on individuals or organizations receiving Federal funds.”

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 3706 of this title.

**§ 3704. Administrative services and support****(a) Provision of services**

The Secretary may provide personnel, facilities, and other administrative services to the Foundation, including reimbursement of expenses under section 3702 of this title, not to exceed then current Federal Government per diem rates, for a period of up to five years from March 26, 1984.

**(b) Reimbursement**

The Foundation may reimburse the Secretary for any administrative service provided under subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary shall deposit any reimbursement received under this subsection into the Treasury to the credit of the appropriations then current and chargeable for the cost of providing such services.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to continue to provide facilities, and necessary support services for such facilities, to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation after March 26, 1989, on a space available, reimbursable cost basis.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §5, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 109; Pub. L. 100-240, §3, Jan. 11, 1988, 101 Stat. 1786; Pub. L. 100-653, title IX, §903, Nov. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 3834.)

## AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-653 inserted provision at end authorizing Secretary of the Interior to continue to provide facilities and necessary support services to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation after Mar. 26, 1989, on space available, reimbursable cost basis.

Pub. L. 100-240 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and struck out “, and may accept reimbursement therefor, to be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the appropriations then current and chargeable for the cost of providing such services” after “March 26, 1984”, and added subsec. (b).

**§ 3705. Volunteer status**

The Secretary may accept, without regard to the civil service classification laws, rules, or regulations, the services of the Foundation, the Board, and the officers and employees of the Board, without compensation from the Department of the Interior, as volunteers in the performance of the functions authorized herein, in the manner provided for under section 742f(c) of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §6, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 109.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The civil service classification laws, referred to in text, are set forth in chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

**§ 3706. Audits, report requirements, and petition of Attorney General for equitable relief****(a) Audits**

For purposes of the Act entitled “An Act for audit of accounts of private corporations established under Federal law”, approved August 30, 1964 (Public Law 88-504, 36 U.S.C. 1101-1103), the Foundation shall be treated as a private corporation established under Federal law.

**(b) Report**

The Foundation shall, as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year, transmit to Congress a report of its proceedings and activities during such year, including a full and complete statement of its receipts, expenditures, and investments; and a description of all acquisition and disposal of real property that is subject to section 3703(e) of this title.

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

If the Foundation—

(1) engages in, or threatens to engage in, any act, practice, or policy that is inconsistent with its purposes set forth in section 3701(b) of this title; or

(2) refuses, fails, or neglects to discharge its obligations under this chapter, or threatens to do so;

the Attorney General of the United States may petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for such equitable relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

(Pub. L. 98-244, §7, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 110; Pub. L. 100-240, §2(b)(2), Jan. 11, 1988, 101 Stat. 1786.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Act entitled “An Act for audit of accounts of private corporations established under Federal law”, approved August 30, 1964 (Public Law 88-504, 36 U.S.C. 1101-1103), referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 88-504, Aug. 30, 1964, 78 Stat. 635, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 42 (§1101 et seq.) of Title 36, Patriotic Societies and Observances. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-240 inserted “; and a description of all acquisition and disposal of real property that is subject to section 3703(e) of this title” before period at end.

**§ 3707. United States release from liability**

The United States shall not be liable for any debts, defaults, acts, or omissions of the Foundation nor shall the full faith and credit of the United States extend to any obligation of the Foundation.

(Pub. L. 98-244, § 8, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 110.)

**§ 3708. Reservation of right to amend or repeal chapter**

The Congress expressly reserves the right to repeal or amend this chapter at any time.

(Pub. L. 98-244, § 9, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 110.)

**§ 3709. Authorization of appropriations****(a) Authorization**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998.

**(b) Use of amounts appropriated**

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), amounts appropriated under this section shall be made available to the Foundation for use for matching, in whole or in part, contributions (whether in currency, services, or property) made to the Foundation by private persons and State and local government agencies.

(2) No Federal funds authorized under this section shall be used by the Foundation for administrative expenses of the Foundation, including for salaries, travel and transportation expenses, and other overhead expenses.

**(c) Additional authorization**

The amounts authorized to be appropriated under this section are in addition to any amounts provided or available to the Foundation under any other Federal law.

(Pub. L. 98-244, § 10, Mar. 26, 1984, 98 Stat. 110; Pub. L. 100-240, § 4, Jan. 11, 1988, 101 Stat. 1786; Pub. L. 101-593, title I, § 110(c), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2960; Pub. L. 103-232, title I, § 104, Apr. 11, 1994, 108 Stat. 337.)

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-232, § 104(a)(1), substituted “\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998” for “not to exceed \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 1991, not to exceed \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1992, and not to exceed \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 1993”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-232, § 104(b), substituted “paragraph (2)” for “paragraphs (2) and (3)”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-232, § 104(a)(2), added subsec. (c).

1990—Pub. L. 101-593 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior for each of fiscal years 1988 through 1993, inclusive, not to exceed \$5,000,000 to be made available to the Foundation—

“(1) to match partially or wholly the amount or value of contributions (whether in currency, services, or property) made to the Foundation by private persons and State and local government agencies; and

“(2) to provide administrative services under section 3704 of this title.”

1988—Pub. L. 100-240 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “For the ten-year period beginning on October 1, 1984, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior not to exceed \$1,000,000 to be made available to the Foundation—

“(1) to match, on a one-for-one basis, private contributions made to the Foundation; and

“(2) to provide administrative services under section 3704 of this title.”

**CHAPTER 57A—PARTNERSHIPS FOR WILDLIFE**

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(f) Eligibility of designated State agencies.

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**§ 3741. Findings**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Three-fourths of all American children and adults participate in wildlife-related recreational activities other than hunting, fishing and trapping.

(2) In 1985, Americans spent over \$14 billion on non-consumptive wildlife-related recreation.

(3) The United States and Canada are inhabited by approximately two thousand six hundred vertebrate species of native fish and wildlife, which have provided food, clothing, and other essentials to a rapidly expanding human population.

(4) Over 80 percent of vertebrate fish and wildlife species in North America are not harvested for human use.

(5) The continued well-being of this once-abundant fish and wildlife resource, and even the very existence of many species, is in peril.

(6) In 1967, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service reported that forty-five common migratory bird species, which are not hunted, had exhibited significant declines in abundance, and that thirteen of these species have experienced widespread, systematic declines of 46.9 percent during a twenty-year study period.

(7) There have been nationwide declines in frogs and other amphibians.

(8) Over two hundred and seventy-five of vertebrate fish and wildlife species in the United States are now officially classified as threatened or endangered by the Federal Government.

(9) During the past decade, fish and wildlife species, including invertebrates, were added to the rapidly growing list of threatened and endangered species in North America at the average rate of over one per month.

(10) Currently, eighty-two species of invertebrates in the United States are listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.], and another nine hundred and fifty-one United States invertebrate species are candidates for listing under that Act.

(11) Proper management of fish and wildlife, before species become threatened or endan-