

**CHAPTER 11—REGULATION OF LANDING, CURING, AND SALE OF SPONGES TAKEN FROM GULF OF MEXICO AND STRAITS OF FLORIDA**

- Sec.  
781. Taking or catching, in waters of Gulf or Straits of Florida, commercial sponges of less than prescribed size, and landing or possession of same.  
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**§ 781. Taking or catching, in waters of Gulf or Straits of Florida, commercial sponges of less than prescribed size, and landing or possession of same**

It is unlawful for any citizen of the United States, or person owing duty of obedience to the laws of the United States, or any boat or vessel of the United States, or person belonging to or on any such boat or vessel, to take or catch, by any means or method, in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico or the Straits of Florida outside of State territorial limits, any commercial sponges measuring when wet less than five inches in their maximum diameter, or for any person or vessel to land, deliver, cure, offer for sale, or have in possession at any port or place in the United States, or on any boat or vessel of the United States, any such commercial sponges.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 1, 38 Stat. 692.)

**§ 782. Sponges of less than prescribed size; possession prima facie evidence**

The presence of sponges of a diameter of less than five inches on any vessel or boat of the United States engaged in sponging in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico or the Straits of Florida outside of State territorial limits, or the possession of any sponges of less than the said diameter sold or delivered by such vessels, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of the provisions of this chapter.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 2, 38 Stat. 692.)

**§ 783. Punishment for violations of law; liability of vessels**

Every person, partnership, or association guilty of a violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be liable to a fine of not more than \$500, and in addition such fine shall be a lien against the vessel or boat on which the offense is committed, and said vessel or boat shall be seized and proceeded against by process of libel in any court having jurisdiction of the offense.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 3, 38 Stat. 692.)

**FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE**

Admiralty and maritime rules of practice (which included libel procedures) were superseded, and civil and admiralty procedures in United States district courts were unified, effective July 1, 1966, see rule 1 and Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime

Claims, Title 28, Appendix, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Forfeitures and seizures—

Jurisdiction, see sections 1333, 1355, and 1356 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

Proceedings, see section 2461 of Title 28.

**§ 784. Jurisdiction of prosecutions**

Any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be prosecuted in the district court of the United States of the district wherein the offender is found or into which he is first brought.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 4, 38 Stat. 692.)

**§ 785. Enforcement of law prohibiting taking of sponges of specified sizes; employment of Coast Guard vessels and Customs Service employees**

The Secretary of Commerce shall enforce the provisions of this chapter, and he is authorized to empower such officers and employees of the Department of Commerce as he may designate, or such officers and employees of other departments as may be detailed for the purpose, to make arrests and seize vessels and sponges, and upon his request the Secretary of the Treasury may employ the vessels of the Coast Guard or the employees of the Customs Service to that end.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 5, 38 Stat. 692; Jan. 28, 1915, ch. 20, § 1, 38 Stat. 800; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, § 4(e), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1431; Aug. 4, 1949, ch. 393, §§ 1, 20, 63 Stat. 495, 561; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 4, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090.)

**TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

“Secretary of Commerce” and “Department of Commerce” substituted in text for “Secretary of the Interior” and “Department of the Interior” in view of: creation of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Department of Commerce and Office of Administrator of such Administration; abolition of Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in Department of the Interior and Office of Director of such Bureau; transfers of functions, including functions formerly vested by law in Secretary of the Interior or Department of the Interior which were administered through Bureau of Commercial Fisheries or were primarily related to such Bureau, exclusive of certain enumerated functions with respect to Great Lakes fishery research, Missouri River Reservoir research, Gulf Breeze Biological Laboratory, and Trans-Alaska pipeline investigations; and transfer of marine sport fish program of Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife by Reorg. Plan No. 4 of 1970, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out in the Appendix to Title 5.

“Coast Guard” substituted in text for “Revenue Cutter Service” on authority of act Jan. 28, 1915, which combined Revenue Cutter Service and Life-Saving Service to form Coast Guard. That act was repealed by section 20 of act Aug. 4, 1949, section 1 of which reestablished Coast Guard by enacting Title 14, Coast Guard.

Coast Guard transferred to Department of Transportation and all functions, powers, and duties, relating to

Coast Guard, of Secretary of the Treasury and of other offices and officers of Department of the Treasury transferred to Secretary of Transportation by section 6(b)(1) of Pub. L. 89-670, Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 938. See section 108 of Title 49, Transportation.

Functions of all officers of Department of the Treasury, and functions of all agencies and employees of such Department, transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Treasury, with power vested in him to authorize their performance or performance of any of his functions, by any of such officers, agencies, and employees, by Reorg. Plan No. 26 of 1950, §§1, 2, eff. July 31, 1950, 15 F.R. 4935, 64 Stat. 1280, 1281, set out in the Appendix to Title 5. Customs Service, referred to in this section, is a service under Department of the Treasury, and Coast Guard, also referred to in this section, was generally a service under such Department, but such Plan excepted, from transfer, functions of Coast Guard, and of Commandant thereof, when Coast Guard was operating as a part of the Navy under sections 1 and 3 of Title 14, Coast Guard.

Reorg. Plan No. III of 1940, §3, eff. June 30, 1940, 5 F.R. 2108, 54 Stat. 1232, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, consolidated Bureau of Fisheries and Bureau of Biological Survey with their respective functions into one agency in Department of the Interior to be known as Fish and Wildlife Service, and provided that functions of the consolidated agency shall be administered under direction and supervision of Secretary of the Interior.

Reorg. Plan No. II of 1930, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, transferred Bureau of Fisheries in Department of Commerce and its functions to Department of the Interior, to be administered under direction and supervision of Secretary of the Interior.

**CHAPTER 12—FEDERAL REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POWER**

**SUBCHAPTER I—REGULATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF WATER POWER AND RESOURCES**

- Sec.
- 791. Repealed.
- 791a. Short title.
- 792. Federal Power Commission; creation; number; appointment; term; qualifications; vacancies; quorum; chairman; salary; place of holding sessions.
- 793. Appointment of officers and employees of Commission; duties, and salaries; detail of officers and employees from other departments; expenditures authorized.
- 793a to 795. Repealed or Omitted.
- 796. Definitions.
- 797. General powers of Commission.
  - (a) Investigations and data.
  - (b) Statements as to investment of licenses in projects; access to projects, maps, etc.
  - (c) Cooperation with executive departments; information and aid furnished Commission.
  - (d) Publication of information, etc.; reports to Congress.
  - (e) Issue of licenses for construction, etc., of dams, conduits, reservoirs, etc.
  - (f) Preliminary permits; notice of application.
  - (g) Investigation of occupancy for developing power; orders.
- 797a. Congressional authorization for permits, licenses, leases, or authorizations for dams, conduits, reservoirs, etc., within national parks or monuments.
- 797b. Duty to keep Congress fully and currently informed.
- 797c. Dams in National Park System units.
- 797d. Third party contracting by FERC.

- Sec.
  - (a) Environmental impact statements.
  - (b) Environmental assessments.
  - (c) Effective date.
- 798. Purpose and scope of preliminary permits; transfer and cancellation.
- 799. License; duration, conditions, revocation, alteration, or surrender.
- 800. Issuance of preliminary permits or licenses.
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  - (b) Development of water resources by United States; reports.
  - (c) Assumption of project by United States after expiration of license.
- 801. Transfer of license; obligations of transferee.
- 802. Information to accompany application for license; landowner notification.
- 803. Conditions of license generally.
  - (a) Modification of plans; factors considered to secure adaptability of project; recommendations for proposed terms and conditions.
  - (b) Alterations in project works.
  - (c) Maintenance and repair of project works; liability of licensee for damages.
  - (d) Amortization reserves.
  - (e) Annual charges payable by licensees; maximum rates; application; review and report to Congress.
  - (f) Reimbursement by licensee of other licensees, etc.
  - (g) Conditions in discretion of commission.
  - (h) Monopolistic combinations; prevention or minimization of anti-competitive conduct; action by Commission regarding license and operation and maintenance of project.
  - (i) Waiver of conditions.
  - (j) Fish and wildlife protection, mitigation and enhancement; consideration of recommendations; findings.
- 804. Project works affecting navigable waters; requirements insertable in license.
- 805. Participation by Government in costs of locks, etc.
- 806. Time limit for construction of project works; extension of time; termination or revocation of licenses for delay.
- 807. Right of Government to take over project works.
  - (a) Compensation; condemnation by Federal or State Government.
  - (b) Relicensing proceedings; Federal agency recommendations of take over by Government; stay of orders for new licenses; termination of stay; notice to Congress.
- 808. New licenses and renewals.
  - (a) Relicensing procedures; terms and conditions; issuance to applicant with proposal best adapted to serve public interest; factors considered.
  - (b) Notification of intention regarding renewal; public availability of documents; notice to public and Federal agencies; identification of Federal or Indian lands included; additional information required.
  - (c) Time of filing application; consultation and participation in studies with fish and wildlife agencies; notice to applicants; adjustment of time periods.
  - (d) Adequacy of transmission facilities; provision of services to successor by existing licensee; tariff; final order; modification, extension or termination of order.