

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Title I Congressional Declaration of National Environmental Policy

Title II Council on Environmental Quality

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended

(Pub. L. 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, January 1, 1970, as amended by Pub. L. 94-52, July 3, 1975, Pub. L. 94-83, August 9, 1975, and Pub. L. 97-258, § 4(b), Sept. 13, 1982)

An Act to establish a national policy for the environment, to provide for the establishment of a Council on Environmental Quality, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "National Environmental Policy Act of 1969."

Purpose

Sec. 2 [42 USC § 4321].

The purposes of this Act are: To declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.

TITLE I

CONGRESSIONAL DECLARATION OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Sec. 101 [42 USC § 4331].

(a) The Congress, recognizing the profound impact of man's activity on the interrelations of all components of the natural environment, particularly the profound influences of population growth, high-density urbanization, industrial expansion, resource exploitation, and new and expanding technological advances and recognizing further the critical importance of restoring and maintaining environmental quality to the overall welfare and development of man, declares that it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.

(b) In order to carry out the policy set forth in this Act, it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practicable means, consist with other essential considerations of national policy, to improve and coordinate Federal plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the Nation may --

1. fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
2. assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
3. attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
4. preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity, and variety of individual choice;
5. achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
6. enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

(c) The Congress recognizes that each person should enjoy a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

Sec. 102 [42 USC § 4332].

The Congress authorizes and directs that, to the fullest extent possible: (1) the policies, regulations, and public laws of the United States shall be interpreted and administered in accordance with the policies set forth in this Act, and (2) all agencies of the Federal Government shall --

(A) utilize a systematic, interdisciplinary approach which will insure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts in planning and in decisionmaking which may have an impact on man's environment;

(B) identify and develop methods and procedures, in consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality established by title II of this Act, which will insure that presently unquantified environmental amenities and values may be given appropriate consideration in decisionmaking along with economic and technical considerations;

(C) include in every recommendation or report on proposals for legislation and other major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, a detailed statement by the responsible official on --

- (i) the environmental impact of the proposed action,
- (ii) any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented,
- (iii) alternatives to the proposed action,

National Forest Management Act Of 1976

- Sec. 3. Reports on Fiber Potential, Wood Utilization by Mills, Wood Wastes and Wood Product Recycling
- Sec. 4. Reforestation
- Sec. 5. Renewable Resource Program
- *Sec. 6. NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM RESOURCE PLANNING*
- Sec. 7. National Participation
- Sec. 8. Transportation System
- Sec. 9. National Forest System
- Sec. 10. Renewable Resources
- Sec. 11, 13. Limitations on Timber Removal
- Sec. 14. Public Participation and Advisory Boards
- Sec. 15, 16. Regulations and Severability
- Sec. 12. Conforming Amendments to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974
- Sec. 13. Amendment to the Organic Act.
- Sec. 14. Timber Sales on National Forest System Lands
- Sec. 15. Validation of Timber Sales Contracts
- Sec. 16. Payments to States for Schools and Roads
- Sec. 17. Acquisition of National Forest System Lands
- Sec. 18. Amendment to the Knutson-Vandenberg Act
- Sec. 19. Amendment to the Act of June 12, 1960
- Sec. 20. Plan for Control of Dutch Elm Disease
- Sec. 21. Severability

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- Act of October 22, 1976 (P.O. 94-588, 90 Stat. 2949, as amended; 16 U.S.C.
 - 472A, 476, 500, 513-516, 518, 521b, 528(note), 576B, 594-2(note), 1600(note), 1601(note), 1600-1602, 1604, 1606, 1608-1614)

Sec. 1. This Act may be cited as the "National Forest Management Act of 1976". (16 U.S.C. 1600(note))

Findings

Sec. 2. The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (88 Stat. 476; 16 U.S.C. 1601-1610) is amended by redesignating sections 2 through 11 as sections 3 through 12, respectively; and by adding a new section 2 as follows:

Sec. 2. Findings.-The Congress finds that-

"(1) the management of the Nation's renewable resources is highly complex and the uses, demand for, and supply of the various resources are subject to change over time;

"(2) the public interest is served by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with other agencies, assessing the Nation's renewable resources, and developing and preparing a national renewable resource and program, which is periodically reviewed and updated;

"(3) to serve the national interest, the renewable resource program must be based on a comprehensive assessment of present and anticipated uses, demand for, and supply of renewable resources from the Nation's public and private forests and rangelands, through analysis of environmental and economic impacts, coordination of multiple use and sustained yield

opportunities as provided in the Multiple-Use, Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 (74 Stat. 215; 16 U.S.C. 528-531), and public participation in the development of the program;

"(4) the new knowledge derived from coordinated public and private research programs will promote a sound technical and ecological base for effective management, use, and protection of the Nation's renewable resources;

"(5) inasmuch as the majority of the Nation's forests and rangeland is under private, State, and local governmental management and the Nation's major capacity to produce goods and services is based on these nonfederally managed renewable resources, the Federal Government should be a catalyst to encourage and assist these owners in the efficient long-term use and improvement of these lands and their renewable resources consistent with the principles of sustained yield and multiple use;

"(6) the Forest Service, by virtue of its statutory authority for management of the National Forest System, research and cooperative programs, and its role as an agency in the Department of Agriculture, has both a responsibility and an opportunity to be a leader in assuring that the Nation maintains a natural resource conservation posture that will meet the requirements of our people in perpetuity; and

"(7) recycled timber product materials are as much a part of our renewable forest resources as are the trees from which they originally came, and in order to extend our timber and timber fiber resources and reduce pressures for timber production from Federal lands, the Forest Service should expand its research in the use of recycled and waste timber product materials, develop techniques for the substitution of these secondary materials for primary materials, and promote and encourage the use of recycled timber product materials." (16 U.S.C. 1600)

Reports On Fiber Potential, Wood Utilization By Mills, Wood Wastes And Wood Product Recycling

Sec. 3. Section 3 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as redesigned by section 2 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end thereof a new subsection © as follows:

© The Secretary shall report in the 1979 and subsequent Assessments on:

"(1) the additional fiber potential in the National Forest System including, but not restricted to, forest mortality, growth, salvage potential, potential increased forest products sales, economic constraints, alternate markets, contract considerations, and other multiple use considerations;

"(2) the potential for increased utilization of forest and wood product wastes in the National Forest Systems and on other lands, and of urban wood wastes and wood product recycling, including recommendations to the Congress for actions which would lead to increased utilization of material now being wasted both in the forests and in manufactured products; and

"(3) the milling and other wood fiber product fabrication facilities and their location in the United States, noting the public and private forested areas that supply such facilities, assessing the degree of utilization into product form of harvested trees by such facilities, and setting forth the technology appropriate to the facilities to improve utilization either individually or in aggregate units of harvest trees and to reduce wasted wood fibers. The Secretary shall set forth a program to encourage the adoption by these facilities of these technologies for improving wood fiber utilization.

"(d) In developing the reports required under subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary shall provide opportunity for public involvement and consult with other interested governmental departments and agencies." (16 U.S.C. 1601)

Reforestation

Sec. 4. Section 3 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as redesignated by section 2 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end thereof of new subsections (d) and (e) as follows:

"(d)(1) It is the policy of the Congress that all forested lands in the National Forest System shall be maintained in appropriate forest cover with species of trees, degree of stocking, rate of growth, and conditions of stand designed to secure the maximum benefits of multiple use sustained yield management in accordance with land management plans. Accordingly, the