

Public Law 109–54  
109th Congress

An Act

Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Aug. 2, 2005

[H.R. 2361]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, namely:

Department of  
the Interior,  
Environment,  
and Related  
Agencies  
Appropriations  
Act, 2006.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to Public Law 96–487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), \$860,791,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$1,250,000 is for high priority projects, to be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps; and of which \$3,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2006 subject to a match by at least an equal amount by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for cost-shared projects supporting conservation of Bureau lands; and such funds shall be advanced to the Foundation as a lump sum grant without regard to when expenses are incurred.

In addition, \$32,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program; to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from annual mining claim fees so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$860,791,000, and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.

SEC. 439. (a) ACROSS-THE-BOARD RESCISSIONS.—There is hereby rescinded an amount equal to 0.476 percent of the budget authority provided for fiscal year 2006 for any discretionary appropriation in titles I through IV of this Act.

(b) PROPORTIONATE APPLICATION.—Any rescission made by subsection (a) shall be applied proportionately—

(1) to each discretionary account and each item of budget authority described in subsection (a); and

(2) within each such account and item, to each program, project, and activity (with programs, projects, and activities as delineated in the appropriation Act or accompanying reports for the relevant fiscal year covering such account or item, or for accounts and items not included in appropriation Acts, as delineated in the most recently submitted President’s budget).

(c) INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIM SETTLEMENTS.—Under the heading “Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians”, the across-the-board rescission in this section, and any subsequent across-the-board rescission for fiscal year 2006, shall apply only to the first dollar amount in the paragraph and the distribution of the rescission shall be at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior who shall submit a report on such distribution and the rationale therefor to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Applicability.  
Reports.

## TITLE V—FOREST SERVICE FACILITY REALIGNMENT AND ENHANCEMENT

Forest Service  
Facility  
Realignment and  
Enhancement  
Act of 2005.  
16 USC 580d  
note.

### SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act of 2005”.

### SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.

16 USC 580d  
note.

In this title:

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE SITE.—The term “administrative site” means—

(A) any facility or improvement, including curtilage, that was acquired or is used specifically for purposes of administration of the National Forest System;

(B) any Federal land associated with a facility or improvement described in subparagraph (A) that was acquired or is used specifically for purposes of administration of Forest Service activities and underlies or abuts the facility or improvement; or

(C) not more than 10 isolated, undeveloped parcels per fiscal year of not more than 40 acres each that were acquired or used for purposes of administration of Forest Service activities, but are not being so utilized, such as vacant lots outside of the proclaimed boundary of a unit of the National Forest System.

(2) FACILITY OR IMPROVEMENT.—The term “facility or improvement” includes—

- (A) a forest headquarters;
- (B) a ranger station;
- (C) a research station or laboratory;
- (D) a dwelling;

- (E) a warehouse;
- (F) a scaling station;
- (G) a fire-retardant mixing station;
- (H) a fire-lookout station;
- (I) a guard station;
- (J) a storage facility;
- (K) a telecommunication facility; and
- (L) other administrative installations for conducting Forest Service activities.

(3) **MARKET ANALYSIS.**—The term “market analysis” means the identification and study of the real estate market for a particular economic good or service.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

16 USC 580d  
note.

**SEC. 503. AUTHORIZATION FOR CONVEYANCE OF FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE SITES.**

(a) **CONVEYANCES AUTHORIZED.**—In the manner provided by this title, the Secretary may convey an administrative site, or an interest in an administrative site, that is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

(b) **MEANS OF CONVEYANCE.**—The conveyance of an administrative site under this title may be made—

- (1) by sale;
- (2) by lease;
- (3) by exchange;
- (4) by a combination of sale and exchange; or
- (5) by such other means as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) **SIZE OF CONVEYANCE.**—An administrative site or compound of administrative sites disposed of in a single conveyance under this title may not exceed 40 acres.

(d) **CERTAIN LANDS EXCLUDED.**—The following Federal land may not be conveyed under this title:

(1) Any land within a unit of the National Forest System that is exclusively designated for natural area or recreational purposes.

(2) Any land included within the National Wilderness Preservation System, the Wild and Scenic River System, or a National Monument.

(3) Any land that the Secretary determines—

(A) is needed for resource management purposes or to provide access to other land or water;

(B) is surrounded by National Forest System land or other publicly owned land, if conveyance would not be in the public interest due to the creation of a non-Federal inholding that would preclude the efficient management of the surrounding land; or

(C) would be in the public interest to retain.

(e) **CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATIONS.**—

(1) **NOTICE OF ANTICIPATED USE OF AUTHORITY.**—As part of the annual budget justification documents provided to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Secretary shall include—

(A) a list of the anticipated conveyances to be made, including the anticipated revenue that may be obtained,

using the authority provided by this title or other conveyance authorities available to the Secretary;

(B) a discussion of the intended purposes of any new revenue obtained using this authority or other conveyance authorities available to the Secretary, and a list of any individual projects that exceed \$500,000; and

(C) a presentation of accomplishments of previous years using this authority or other conveyance authorities available to the Secretary.

(2) NOTICE OF CHANGES TO CONVEYANCE LIST.—If the Secretary proposes to convey an administrative site under this title or using other conveyance authorities available to the Secretary and the administrative site is not included on a list provided under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall submit to the congressional committees specified in paragraph (3) written notice of the proposed conveyance, including the anticipated revenue that may be obtained from the conveyance.

(3) NOTICE OF USE OF AUTHORITY.—At least once a year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing a description of all conveyances of National Forest System land made by the Secretary under this title or other conveyance authorities during the period covered by the report.

Deadline.  
Reports.

(f) DURATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Secretary to initiate the conveyance of an administrative site under this title expires on September 30, 2008.

Expiration date.

(g) REPEAL OF PILOT CONVEYANCE AUTHORITY.—Effective September 30, 2006, section 329 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (16 U.S.C. 580d note; Public Law 107–63), is repealed. Notwithstanding the repeal of such section, the Secretary may complete the conveyance under such section of any administrative site whose conveyance was initiated under such section before that date.

Effective date.

#### SEC. 504. CONVEYANCE REQUIREMENTS.

16 USC 580d  
note.

(a) CONFIGURATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SITES.—

(1) CONFIGURATION.—To facilitate the conveyance of an administrative site under this title, the Secretary may configure the administrative site—

(A) to maximize the marketability of the administrative site; and

(B) to achieve management objectives.

(2) SEPARATE TREATMENT OF FACILITY OR IMPROVEMENT.—A facility or improvement on an administrative site to be conveyed under this title may be severed from the land and disposed of in a separate conveyance.

(3) RESERVATION OF INTERESTS.—In conveying an administrative site under this title, the Secretary may reserve such right, title, and interest in and to the administrative site as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—

(1) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—A person or entity acquiring an administrative site under this title shall provide

to the Secretary consideration in an amount that is at least equal to the market value of the administrative site.

(2) FORM OF CONSIDERATION.—

(A) SALE.—Consideration for an administrative site conveyed by sale under this title shall be paid in cash on conveyance of the administrative site.

(B) EXCHANGE.—If the administrative site is conveyed by exchange, the consideration shall be provided in the form of a conveyance to the Secretary of land or improvements that are equal in market value to the conveyed administrative site. If the market values are not equal, the market values may be equalized by—

(i) the Secretary making a cash payment to the person or entity acquiring the administrative site; or

(ii) the person or entity acquiring the administrative site making a cash equalization payment to the Secretary.

(c) DETERMINATION OF MARKET VALUE.—The Secretary shall determine the market value of an administrative site to be conveyed under this title or of non-Federal land or improvements to be provided as consideration in exchange for an administrative site—

(1) by conducting an appraisal that is performed in accordance with—

(A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions, established in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.); and

(B) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice; or

(2) by competitive sale.

(d) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—

(1) FEDERAL PROPERTY DISPOSAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, shall not apply to the conveyance of an administrative site under this title.

(2) LAND EXCHANGES.—Section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1716) shall not apply to the conveyance of an administrative site under this title carried out by means of an exchange or combination of sale and exchange.

(3) LEAD-BASED PAINT AND ASBESTOS ABATEMENT.—Notwithstanding any provision of law relating to the mitigation or abatement of lead-based paint or asbestos-containing building materials, the Secretary is not required to mitigate or abate lead-based paint or asbestos-containing building materials with respect to an administrative site to be conveyed under this title. However, if the administrative site has lead-based paint or asbestos-containing building materials, the Secretary shall—

(A) provide notice to the person or entity acquiring the administrative site of the presence of the lead-based paint or asbestos-containing building material; and

(B) obtain written assurance from the person or entity acquiring the administrative site that the person or entity will comply with applicable Federal, State, and local laws relating to the management of the lead-based paint and asbestos-containing building materials.

Notice.

(4) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall apply to the conveyance of administrative sites under this title, except that, in any environmental review or analysis required under such Act for the conveyance of an administrative site under this title, the Secretary is only required to—

Applicability.

(A) analyze the most reasonably foreseeable use of the administrative site, as determined through a market analysis;

(B) determine whether or not to reserve any right, title, or interest in the administrative site under subsection (a)(3); and

(C) evaluate the alternative of not conveying the administrative site, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

(e) REJECTION OF OFFERS.—The Secretary shall reject any offer made for the acquisition of an administrative site under this title if the Secretary determines that the offer is—

(1) not adequate to cover the market value of the administrative site; or

(2) not otherwise in the public interest.

(f) CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC NOTICE.—As appropriate, the Secretary is encouraged to work with the Administrator of the General Services Administration with respect to the conveyance of administrative sites under this title. Before making an administrative site available for conveyance under this title, the Secretary shall consult with local governmental officials of the community in which the administrative site is located and provide public notice of the proposed conveyance.

**SEC. 505. DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS RECEIVED FROM ADMINISTRATIVE SITE CONVEYANCES.**

16 USC 580d note.

(a) DEPOSIT.—The Secretary shall deposit in the fund established under Public Law 90–171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16 U.S.C. 484a) all of the proceeds from the conveyance of an administrative site under this title.

(b) USE.—Amounts deposited under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary, until expended and without further appropriation, to pay any necessary and incidental costs incurred by the Secretary in connection with—

(1) the acquisition, improvement, maintenance, reconstruction, or construction of a facility or improvement for the National Forest System; and

(2) the conveyance of administrative sites under this title, including costs described in subsection (c).

(c) BROKERAGE SERVICES.—The Secretary may use the proceeds from the conveyance of an administrative site under this title to pay reasonable commissions or fees for brokerage services obtained in connection with the conveyance if the Secretary determines that the services are in the public interest. The Secretary shall provide public notice of any brokerage services contract entered into in connection with a conveyance under this title.

**TITLE VI—VETERANS HEALTH CARE**

SEC. 601. From any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs an additional amount for “Medical Services” of