

TITLE 16 - CONSERVATION  
CHAPTER 1 - NATIONAL PARKS, MILITARY PARKS, MONUMENTS, AND  
SEASHORES  
SUBCHAPTER LXIII - NATIONAL SEASHORE RECREATIONAL AREAS

Sec. 459c. Point Reyes National Seashore; purposes; authorization for establishment

-STATUTE-

In order to save and preserve, for purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to take appropriate action in the public interest toward the establishment of the national seashore set forth in section 459c-1 of this title.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 1, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 538.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-1. Description of area

-STATUTE-

(a) Boundary map; availability; publication in Federal Register

The Point Reyes National Seashore shall consist of the lands, waters, and submerged lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Point Reyes National Seashore", numbered 612-80,008-E and dated May 1978, plus those areas depicted on the map entitled "Point Reyes and GGNRA Amendments, dated October 25, 1979".

The map referred to in this section shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District of Columbia. After advising the Committee on Natural Resources of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate in writing, the Secretary may make minor revisions of the boundaries of the Point Reyes National Seashore when necessary by publication of a revised drawing or other boundary description in the Federal Register.

(b) Bear Valley Ranch right-of-way

The area referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall also include a right-of-way to the aforesaid tract in the general vicinity of the northwesterly portion of the property known as "Bear Valley Ranch", to be selected by the Secretary, of not more than four hundred feet in width, together with such adjoining lands as would be deprived of access by reason of the acquisition of such right-of-way.

**-SOURCE-**

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 2, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 538; Pub. L. 89-666, Sec. 1(a), Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 919; Pub. L. 93-550, title II, Sec. 201, Dec. 26, 1974, 88 Stat. 1744; Pub. L. 95-625, title III, Sec. 318(a), Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3486; Pub. L. 96-199, title I, Sec. 101(a)(1), Mar. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 67; Pub. L. 103-437, Sec. 6(d)(16), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4584.)

**AMENDMENTS**

1994 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-437 substituted “Natural Resources” for “Interior and Insular Affairs” after “Committee on”.

1980 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-199 inserted “, plus those areas depicted on the map entitled 'Point Reyes and GGNRA Amendments, dated October 25, 1979' “ after “dated May 1978”.

1978 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-625 substituted as a description of the area the lands generally depicted on Boundary Map numbered 612-80,008-E and dated May 1978 for prior such depiction on Boundary Map numbered 612-80,008-B, and dated August 1974; included submerged lands in the description; made the map specifically available in the Washington, District of Columbia, Office; and authorized minor revisions of boundaries and publication thereof in the Federal Register after advising Congressional committees.

1974 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 93-550 substituted as a boundary description Boundary Map No. 612-80,008-B, and dated August 1974, on file in the office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, for a boundary map designated NS-PR-7001, dated June 1, 1960, on file with the Director of the National Park Service, Washington, D.C., and all measurements relating thereto.

1966 - Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 89-666 inserted “to the aforesaid tract in the general vicinity of the northwesterly portion of the property known as 'Bear Valley Ranch' “ after “right-of-way”, struck out “from the intersection of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard and Haggerty Gulch” after “aforesaid tract” and included such adjoining lands as would be deprived of access by reason of the right-of-way.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Resources of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress.

**SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS**

This section is referred to in sections 459c, 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

## Sec. 459c-2. Acquisition of property

### -STATUTE-

(a) Authority of Secretary; manner and place; concurrence of State owner; transfer from Federal agency to administrative jurisdiction of Secretary; liability of United States under contracts contingent on appropriations

The Secretary is authorized to acquire, and it is the intent of Congress that he shall acquire as rapidly as appropriated funds become available for this purpose or as such acquisition can be accomplished by donation or with donated funds or by transfer, exchange, or otherwise the lands, waters, and other property, and improvements thereon and any interest therein, within the areas described in section 459c-1 of this title or which lie within the boundaries of the seashore as established under section 459c-4 of this title (hereinafter referred to as "such area"). Any property, or interest therein, owned by a State or political subdivision thereof may be acquired only with the concurrence of such owner. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal property located within such area may, with the concurrence of the agency having custody thereof, be transferred without consideration to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for use by him in carrying out the provisions of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title. In exercising his authority to acquire property in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Secretary may enter into contracts requiring the expenditure, when appropriated, of funds authorized by section 459c-7 of this title, but the liability of the United States under any such contract shall be contingent on the appropriation of funds sufficient to fulfill the obligations thereby incurred.

(b) Payment for acquisition; fair market value

The Secretary is authorized to pay for any acquisitions which he makes by purchase under sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title their fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, who may in his discretion base his determination on an independent appraisal obtained by him.

(c) Exchange of property; cash equalization payments

In exercising his authority to acquire property by exchange, the Secretary may accept title to any non-Federal property located within such area and convey to the grantor of such property any federally owned property under the jurisdiction of the Secretary within California and adjacent States, notwithstanding any other provision of law. The properties so exchanged shall be approximately equal in fair market value, provided that the Secretary may accept cash from or pay cash to the grantor in such an exchange in order to equalize the values of the properties exchanged.

### -SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 3, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 539; Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 2(a), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90.)

### AMENDMENTS

1970 - Pub. L. 91-223 substituted introductory "The" for "Except as provided in section 459c-3 of this title, the".

### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-3. Repealed. Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 2(b), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90

Section, Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 4, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 540, provided conditions for exercise of eminent domain within pastoral zone and defined “ranching and dairying purposes”.

Sec. 459c-4. Point Reyes National Seashore

-STATUTE-

(a) Establishment; notice in Federal Register

As soon as practicable after September 13, 1962, and following the acquisition by the Secretary of an acreage in the area described in section 459c-1 of this title, that is in the opinion of the Secretary efficiently administrable to carry out the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, the Secretary shall establish Point Reyes National Seashore by the publication of notice thereof in the Federal Register.

(b) Distribution of notice and map

Such notice referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall contain a detailed description of the boundaries of the seashore which shall encompass an area as nearly as practicable identical to the area described in section 459c-1 of this title. The Secretary shall forthwith after the date of publication of such notice in the Federal Register (1) send a copy of such notice, together with a map showing such boundaries, by registered or certified mail to the Governor of the State and to the governing body of each of the political subdivisions involved; (2) cause a copy of such notice and map to be published in one or more newspapers which circulate in each of the localities; and (3) cause a certified copy of such notice, a copy of such map, and a copy of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title to be recorded at the registry of deeds for the county involved.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 4, formerly Sec. 5, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 540; renumbered Sec. 4, Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 2(c), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90.)

AMENDED DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARIES OF POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE;

PUBLICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER

Pub. L. 93-550, title II, Sec. 202, Dec. 26, 1974, 88 Stat. 1744, provided that: “The Secretary of the Interior shall, as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this title (Dec. 26, 1974), publish an amended description of the boundaries of the Point Reyes National Seashore in the Federal Register, and thereafter he shall take such action with regard to such amended description and the map referred to in section 201 of this title (amending section 459c-1 of this title) as is required in the second sentence of subsection (b) of section 4 of the act of September 13, 1962, as amended (subsec. (b) of this section).”

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-5. Owner's reservation of right of use and occupancy for fixed term of years or life

-STATUTE-

(a) Election of term; fair market value; termination; notification; lease of Federal lands: restrictive covenants, offer to prior owner or leaseholder

Except for property which the Secretary specifically determines is needed for interpretive or resources management purposes of the seashore, the owner of improved property or of agricultural property on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary under sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title may, as a condition of such acquisition, retain for himself and his or her heirs and assigns a right of use and occupancy for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or, in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner or the death of his or her spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved. Unless the property is wholly or partly donated to the United States, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of acquisition minus the fair market value on that date of the right retained by the owner. A right retained pursuant to this section shall be subject to termination by the Secretary upon his or her determination that it is being exercised in a manner inconsistent with the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, and it shall terminate by operation of law upon the Secretary's notifying the holder of the right of such determination and tendering to him or her an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the right which remains unexpired. Where appropriate in the discretion of the Secretary, he or she may lease federally owned land (or any interest therein) which has been acquired by the Secretary under sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, and which was agricultural land prior to its acquisition. Such lease shall be subject to such restrictive covenants as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title. Any land to be leased by the Secretary under this section shall be offered first for such lease to the person who owned such land or was a leaseholder thereon immediately before its acquisition by the United States.

(b) "Improved and agricultural property" defined

As used in sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, the term "improved property" shall mean a private noncommercial dwelling, including the land on which it is situated, whose construction was begun before September 1, 1959, or, in the case of areas added by action of the Ninety-fifth Congress, May 1, 1978 or, in the case of areas added by action of the Ninety-sixth Congress, May 1, 1979, and structures accessory thereto (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as "dwelling"), together with such amount and locus of the property adjoining and in the same ownership as such dwelling as the Secretary designates to be reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of such dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use and occupancy. In making such designation the Secretary shall take into account the manner of noncommercial residential use and occupancy in which the dwelling and such adjoining property has usually been enjoyed by its owner or occupant. The term "agricultural property" as used in sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title means lands which were in regular use for, or were being converted to agricultural, ranching, or dairying purposes as of May 1, 1978 or, in the case of areas added by action of the Ninety-sixth Congress, May 1, 1979, together with residential and other structures related to the above uses of the property that were in existence or under construction as of May 1, 1978.

(c) Payment deferral; scheduling; interest rate

In acquiring those lands authorized by the Ninety-fifth Congress for the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, the Secretary may, when agreed upon by the landowner involved, defer payment or schedule payments over a period of ten years and pay interest on the unpaid balance at a rate not exceeding that paid by the Treasury of the United States for borrowing purposes.

(d) Lands donated by State of California

The Secretary is authorized to accept and manage in accordance with sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, any lands and improvements within or adjacent to the seashore which are donated by the State of California or its political subdivisions. He is directed to accept any such lands offered for donation which comprise the Tomales Bay State Park, or lie between said park and Fish Hatchery Creek. The boundaries of the seashore shall be changed to include any such donated lands.

(e) Fee or admission charge prohibited

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no fee or admission charge may be levied for admission of the general public to the seashore.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 5, formerly Sec. 6, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 541; renumbered Sec. 5, Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 2(c), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90; amended Pub. L. 95-625, title III, Sec. 318(b)-(d), Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3487; Pub. L. 96-199, title I, Sec. 101(a)(2)-(4), Mar. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 67.)

AMENDMENTS

1980 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-199, Sec. 101(a)(2), substituted "Except for property which the Secretary specifically determines is needed for interpretive or resources management purposes of the seashore, the" for "The" in first sentence.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-199, Sec. 101(a)(3), inserted "or, in the case of areas inserted by action of the Ninety-sixth Congress, May 1, 1979," after "May 1, 1978" and "that were in existence or under construction as of May 1, 1978" after "related to the above uses of the property".

Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 96-199, Sec. 101(a)(4), added subsecs. (d) and (e).

1978 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-625, Sec. 318(b), extended provision to agricultural property; provided for: retention rights of heirs and assigns, retention rights for term of twenty-five years or for term ending with death of owner or spouse, whichever was later, as elected by owner, which provision previously authorized retention for term of fifty years, termination of right of retention and notice thereof, and for lease of federally owned lands, subject to restrictive covenants, with first offer to prior owner or leaseholder; and included clause relating to donation of property to the United States.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-625, Sec. 318(c), defined "improved property" to include private dwelling, the construction of which was begun, in the case of areas added by action of the Ninety-fifth Congress, October 1, 1978, and included definition of "agricultural property".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-625, Sec. 318(d), added subsec. (c).

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-6. Administration of property

-STATUTE-

(a) Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment

Except as otherwise provided in sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, the property acquired by the Secretary under such sections shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area, subject to the provisions of sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title, as amended and supplemented, and in accordance with other laws of general application relating to the national park system as defined by sections 1b to 1d of this title, except that authority otherwise available to the Secretary for the conservation and management of natural resources may be utilized to the extent he finds such authority will further the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title.

(b) Hunting and fishing regulations

The Secretary may permit hunting and fishing on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the seashore in such areas and under such regulations as he may prescribe during open seasons prescribed by applicable local, State, and Federal law. The Secretary shall consult with officials of the State of California and any political subdivision thereof who have jurisdiction of hunting and fishing prior to the issuance of any such regulations, and the Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with such officials regarding such hunting and fishing as he may deem desirable.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 6, formerly Sec. 7, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 541; renumbered Sec. 6, Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 2(c), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90; amended Pub. L. 94-544, Sec. 4(a), Oct. 18, 1976, 90 Stat. 2515; Pub. L. 94-567, Sec. 7(a), Oct. 20, 1976, 90 Stat. 2695.)

AMENDMENTS

1976 - Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94-544 and Pub. L. 94-567 made substantially identical amendments by inserting provision which directed the Secretary to administer the property acquired in such a manner so as to provide recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities consistent with the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the environment.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-6a. The Clem Miller Environmental Education Center; designation

-STATUTE-

The Secretary shall designate the principal environmental education center within the seashore as "The Clem Miller Environmental Education Center", in commemoration of the

vision and leadership which the late Representative Clem Miller gave to the creation and protection of Point Reyes National Seashore.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 7, as added Pub. L. 94-544, Sec. 4(b), Oct. 18, 1976, 90 Stat. 2515, and Pub. L. 94-567, Sec. 7(b), Oct. 20, 1976, 90 Stat. 2695.)

CODIFICATION

Section 7(b) of Pub. L. 94-567 enacted this section as did section 4(b) of Pub. L. 94-544.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-6b. Cooperation with utilities district; land use and occupancy; terms and conditions

-STATUTE-

The Secretary shall cooperate with the Bolinas Public Utilities District to protect and enhance the watershed values within the seashore. The Secretary may, at his or her discretion, permit the use and occupancy of lands added to the seashore by action of the Ninety-fifth Congress by the utilities district for water supply purposes, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems are consistent with the purposes of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title.

-SOURCE-

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 8, as added Pub. L. 95-625, title III, Sec. 318(e), Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3487.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-7 of this title.

Sec. 459c-7. Authorization of appropriations; restriction on use of land

-STATUTE-

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 459c to 459c-7 of this title, except that no more than \$57,500,000 shall be appropriated for the acquisition of land and waters and improvements thereon, and interests therein, and incidental costs relating thereto, in accordance with the provisions of such sections: Provided, That no freehold, leasehold, or lesser interest in any lands hereafter acquired within the boundaries of the Point Reyes National Seashore shall be conveyed for residential or commercial purposes except for public accommodations, facilities, and services provided pursuant to sections 20 to 20g and 462(h) of this title. In addition to the sums heretofore authorized by this section, there is further authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for the acquisition of lands or interests therein.



**-SOURCE-**

(Pub. L. 87-657, Sec. 9, formerly Sec. 8, Sept. 13, 1962, 76 Stat. 541; Pub. L. 89-666, Sec. 1(b), Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 919; renumbered Sec. 7 and amended Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 1, 2(c), Apr. 3, 1970, 84 Stat. 90; renumbered Sec. 8, Pub. L. 94-544, Sec. 4(b), Oct. 18, 1976, 90 Stat. 2515; renumbered Sec. 8, Pub. L. 94-567, Sec. 7(b), Oct. 20, 1976, 90 Stat. 2695; renumbered Sec. 9, Pub. L. 95-625, title III, Sec. 318(e), Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3487; amended Pub. L. 95-625, title III, Sec. 318(f), as added Pub. L. 96-199, title I, Sec. 101(a)(5), Mar. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 67.)

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

Sums “heretofore” authorized by this section, referred to in text, means sums authorized by this section prior to the enactment on Mar. 5, 1980, of Pub. L. 96-199, which added the authorization for a \$5,000,000 appropriation for the acquisition of lands or interest in lands.

**CODIFICATION**

Section 7(b) of Pub. L. 94-567 made the identical change in the credit as did section 4(b) of Pub. L. 94-544.

**AMENDMENTS**

1980 - Pub. L. 96-199 inserted provisions authorizing an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the acquisition of lands or interests therein.

1970 - Pub. L. 91-223, Sec. 1, substituted “\$57,500,000” for “\$19,135,000”, restricted conveyances of any interest in any lands acquired after April 3, 1970, only for public accommodations, facilities, and services under provisions for concessions in areas administered by National Park Service.

1966 - Pub. L. 89-666 substituted “\$19,135,000” for “\$14,000,000”.

**SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS**

This section is referred to in sections 459c-2, 459c-4, 459c-5, 459c-6, 459c-6b of this title.