

## Calendar No. 370

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION**S. 839****[Report No. 113–156]**

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 25, 2013

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

MAY 5, 2014

Reported by Mr. ROCKEFELLER, without amendment

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**A BILL**

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000,  
and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4       (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5       “Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2013”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Amendment of Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000.
- Sec. 3. Purposes.
- Sec. 4. National coral reef action strategy.
- Sec. 5. Coral reef conservation program.
- Sec. 6. Coral reef conservation fund.
- Sec. 7. Agreements; redesignations.
- Sec. 8. Emergency assistance.
- Sec. 9. National program.
- Sec. 10. Study of trade in corals.
- Sec. 11. International coral reef conservation activities.
- Sec. 12. Community-based planning grants.
- Sec. 13. Vessel grounding inventory.
- Sec. 14. Prohibited activities.
- Sec. 15. Destruction of coral reefs.
- Sec. 16. Enforcement.
- Sec. 17. Permits.
- Sec. 18. Regional, State, and territorial coordination.
- Sec. 19. Regulations.
- Sec. 20. Effectiveness and assessment report.
- Sec. 21. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 22. Judicial review.
- Sec. 23. Definitions.

3 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT**  
 4 **OF 2000.**

5 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
 6 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
 7 of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provi-  
 8 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
 9 section or other provision of the Coral Reef Conservation  
 10 Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.).

11 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

12 Section 202 (16 U.S.C. 6401) is amended to read as  
 13 follows:

1 **“SEC. 202. PURPOSES.**

2 “The purposes of this title are—

3 “(1) to preserve, sustain, and restore the condi-  
4 tion of coral reef ecosystems;

5 “(2) to promote the wise management and sus-  
6 tainable use of coral reef ecosystems to benefit local  
7 communities, the Nation, and the world;

8 “(3) to develop sound scientific information on  
9 the condition of coral reef ecosystems and the  
10 threats to such ecosystems;

11 “(4) to assist in the preservation of coral reef  
12 ecosystems by supporting conservation programs, in-  
13 cluding projects that involve affected local commu-  
14 nities and nongovernmental organizations;

15 “(5) to provide financial resources for those  
16 programs and projects;

17 “(6) to establish a formal mechanism for col-  
18 lecting and allocating monetary donations from the  
19 private sector to be used for coral reef conservation  
20 projects; and

21 “(7) to provide mechanisms to prevent and  
22 minimize damage to coral reefs.”.

23 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL CORAL REEF ACTION STRATEGY.**

24 Section 203 (16 U.S.C. 6402) is amended to read as  
25 follows:

1 **“SEC. 203. NATIONAL CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM ACTION**  
2 **STRATEGY.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after  
4 the date of the enactment of the Coral Reef Conservation  
5 Amendments Act of 2013, the Secretary shall submit to  
6 the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-  
7 portation and to the House of Representatives Committee  
8 on Natural Resources and publish in the Federal Register  
9 a national coral reef ecosystem action strategy, consistent  
10 with the purposes of this title. The Secretary shall periodi-  
11 cally review and revise the strategy as necessary. In devel-  
12 oping this strategy, the Secretary may consult the Coral  
13 Reef Task Force established under Executive Order 13089  
14 (June 11, 1998).

15 “(b) GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.—The action strategy  
16 shall include a statement of goals and objectives as well  
17 as an implementation plan, including a description of the  
18 funds obligated each fiscal year to advance coral reef con-  
19 servation. The action strategy and implementation plan  
20 shall include discussion of—

- 21 “(1) coastal uses and management, including  
22 land-based sources of pollution;  
23 “(2) climate change;  
24 “(3) water and air quality;  
25 “(4) mapping and information management;  
26 “(5) research, monitoring, and assessment;

1           “(6) international and regional issues;  
 2           “(7) outreach and education;  
 3           “(8) local strategies developed by the States or  
 4       Federal agencies, including regional fishery manage-  
 5       ment councils; and  
 6           “(9) conservation.”.

7   **SEC. 5. CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 204 (16 U.S.C. 6403) is  
 9   amended—

10           (1) by striking “Secretary, through the Admin-  
 11       istrator and” in subsection (a) and inserting “Sec-  
 12       retary,”;

13           (2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
 14       following:

15       “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—Any natural resource manage-  
 16       ment authority of a State or other government authority  
 17       with jurisdiction over coral reef ecosystems, or whose ac-  
 18       tivities directly or indirectly affect coral reef ecosystems,  
 19       or educational or nongovernmental institutions with dem-  
 20       onstrated expertise in the conservation of coral reef eco-  
 21       systems, may submit a coral conservation project proposal  
 22       to the Secretary under subsection (e).”;

23           (3) by striking “GEOGRAPHIC AND BIOLOGI-  
 24       CAL” in the heading for subsection (d) and inserting  
 25       “PROJECT”;

1 (4) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (d)  
 2 and inserting the following:

3 “(3) Remaining funds shall be awarded for—

4 “(A) projects (with priority given to com-  
 5 munity-based local action strategies) that ad-  
 6 dress emerging priorities or threats, including  
 7 international and territorial priorities, or  
 8 threats identified by the Secretary; and

9 “(B) other appropriate projects, as deter-  
 10 mined by the Secretary, including monitoring  
 11 and assessment, research, pollution reduction,  
 12 education, and technical support.”;

13 (5) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the  
 14 following:

15 “(g) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—The Secretary may  
 16 not approve a project proposal under this section unless  
 17 the project is consistent with the coral reef ecosystem ac-  
 18 tion strategy under section 203 and will enhance the con-  
 19 servation of coral reef ecosystems nationally or inter-  
 20 nationally by—

21 “(1) implementing coral conservation programs  
 22 which promote sustainable development and ensure  
 23 effective, long-term conservation of coral reef eco-  
 24 systems and biodiversity;

1           “(2) addressing the conflicts arising from the  
2           use of environments near coral reef ecosystems or  
3           from the use of corals, species associated with coral  
4           reef ecosystems, and coral products;

5           “(3) enhancing compliance with laws that pro-  
6           hibit or regulate the taking of coral products or spe-  
7           cies associated with coral reef ecosystems or regulate  
8           the use and management of coral reef ecosystems;

9           “(4) developing sound scientific information on  
10          the condition of coral reef ecosystems or the threats  
11          to such ecosystems and their biodiversity, including  
12          factors that cause coral disease, ocean acidification,  
13          and bleaching;

14          “(5) promoting and assisting the implementa-  
15          tion of cooperative coral reef ecosystem conservation  
16          projects that involve affected local communities, non-  
17          governmental organizations, or others in the private  
18          sector;

19          “(6) increasing public knowledge and awareness  
20          of coral reef ecosystems and issues regarding their  
21          long-term conservation, including how they function  
22          to protect coastal communities;

23          “(7) mapping the location, distribution, and  
24          biodiversity of coral reef ecosystems;

1 “(8) developing and implementing techniques to  
2 monitor and assess the status and condition of coral  
3 reef ecosystems and biodiversity;

4 “(9) developing and implementing cost-effective  
5 methods to restore degraded coral reef ecosystems  
6 and biodiversity;

7 “(10) responding to, or taking action to help  
8 mitigate the effects of, coral disease, ocean acidifica-  
9 tion, and bleaching events;

10 “(11) promoting activities designed to prevent  
11 or minimize damage to coral reef ecosystems, includ-  
12 ing the promotion of ecologically sound navigation  
13 and anchorages; or

14 “(12) promoting and assisting entities to work  
15 with local communities, and all appropriate govern-  
16 mental and nongovernmental organizations, to sup-  
17 port community-based planning and management  
18 initiatives for the protection of coral reef eco-  
19 systems.”; and

20 (6) by striking “coral reefs” in subsection (j)  
21 and inserting “coral reef ecosystems”.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsections (a),  
23 (b), (d), (e), (f), (h), (i), and (j) of section 204 (16 U.S.C.  
24 6403) are each amended by striking “Administrator” each  
25 place it appears and inserting “Secretary”.



1   **SEC. 6. CORAL REEF CONSERVATION FUND.**

2       Section 205 (16 U.S.C. 6404) is amended—

3           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
4       following:

5       “(a) FUND.—The Secretary may enter into agree-  
6       ments with nonprofit organizations promoting coral reef  
7       ecosystem conservation by authorizing such organizations  
8       to receive, hold, and administer funds received pursuant  
9       to this section. Such organizations shall invest, reinvest,  
10      and otherwise administer the funds and maintain such  
11      funds and any interest or revenues earned in a separate  
12      interest-bearing account (referred to in section 219(a) as  
13      the Fund) established by such organizations solely to sup-  
14      port partnerships between the public and private sectors  
15      that further the purposes of this title and are consistent  
16      with the national coral reef ecosystem action strategy  
17      under section 203.”;

18           (2) by striking “the grant program” in sub-  
19      section (c) and inserting “any grant program”; and

20           (3) by striking “Administrator” in subsections  
21      (c) and (d) and inserting “Secretary”.

22   **SEC. 7. AGREEMENTS; REDESIGNATIONS.**

23       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended—

24           (1) by redesignating section 206 (16 U.S.C.  
25      6405) as section 207;

1           (2) by redesignating section 207 (16 U.S.C.  
2       6406) as section 208;

3           (3) by redesignating section 208 (16 U.S.C.  
4       6407) as section 218;

5           (4) by redesignating section 209 (16 U.S.C.  
6       6408) as section 219;

7           (5) by redesignating section 210 (16 U.S.C.  
8       6409) as section 221; and

9           (6) by inserting after section 205 (16 U.S.C.  
10      6404) the following:

11   **“SEC. 206. AGREEMENTS.**

12       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may execute and  
13   perform such contracts, leases, grants, cooperative agree-  
14   ments, or other transactions as may be necessary to carry  
15   out the purposes of this title.

16       “(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—In addition to  
17   the general authority provided by subsection (a), the Sec-  
18   retary may enter into, extend, or renegotiate agreements  
19   with universities and research centers with national or re-  
20   gional coral reef research institutes to conduct ecological  
21   research and monitoring explicitly aimed at building ca-  
22   pacity for more effective resource management. Pursuant  
23   to any such agreements these institutes shall—

1           “(1) collaborate directly with governmental re-  
2           source management agencies, non-profit organiza-  
3           tions, and other research organizations;

4           “(2) build capacity within resource management  
5           agencies to establish research priorities, plan inter-  
6           disciplinary research projects, and make effective use  
7           of research results; and

8           “(3) conduct public education and awareness  
9           programs for policy makers, resource managers, and  
10          the general public on coral reef ecosystems, best  
11          practices for coral reef and ecosystem management  
12          and conservation, their value, and threats to their  
13          sustainability.

14          “(c) USE OF OTHER AGENCIES’ RESOURCES.—For  
15          purposes related to the conservation, preservation, protec-  
16          tion, restoration, or replacement of coral reefs or coral reef  
17          ecosystems and the enforcement of this title, the Secretary  
18          is authorized to use, with their consent and with or with-  
19          out reimbursement, the land, services, equipment, per-  
20          sonnel, and facilities of any Department, agency, or in-  
21          strumentality of the United States, or of any State, local  
22          government, tribal government, Territory or possession, or  
23          of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign gov-  
24          ernment or international organization.

25          “(d) AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE GRANT FUNDS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
2           graph (2), the Secretary may apply for, accept, and  
3           obligate research grant funding from any Federal  
4           source operating competitive grant programs where  
5           such funding furthers the purpose of this title.

6           “(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may not  
7           apply for, accept, or obligate any grant funding  
8           under paragraph (1) for which the granting agency  
9           lacks authority to grant funds to Federal agencies,  
10          or for any purpose or subject to conditions that are  
11          prohibited by law or regulation.

12          “(3) GRANT FUNDS.—Appropriated funds may  
13          be used to satisfy a requirement to match grant  
14          funds with recipient agency funds, except that no  
15          grant may be accepted that requires a commitment  
16          in advance of appropriations.

17          “(4) NOAA ACCOUNT.—Funds received from  
18          grants shall be deposited in the National Oceanic  
19          and Atmospheric Administration account for the  
20          purpose for which the grant was awarded.

21          “(e) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Under an agreement  
22          entered into pursuant to subsection (a), and subject to the  
23          availability of funds, the Secretary may transfer funds to,  
24          and may accept transfers of funds from, Federal agencies,  
25          instrumentalities and laboratories, State and local govern-

1 ments, Indian tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian  
 2 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25  
 3 U.S.C. 450b)), organizations and associations rep-  
 4 resenting Native Americans, native Hawaiians, and Native  
 5 Pacific Islanders, educational institutions, nonprofit orga-  
 6 nizations, commercial organizations, and other public and  
 7 private persons or entities, except that no more than 5  
 8 percent of funds appropriated to carry out this section  
 9 may be transferred. The 5 percent limitation shall not  
 10 apply to section 204 or section 210.”.

11 **SEC. 8. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.**

12 Section 207 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6405), as redesign-  
 13 nated by section 7 of this Act, is amended to read as fol-  
 14 lows:

15 **“SEC. 207. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.**

16 “The Secretary, in cooperation with the Federal  
 17 Emergency Management Agency, as appropriate, may pro-  
 18 vide assistance to any State, local, or territorial govern-  
 19 ment agency with jurisdiction over coral reef ecosystems  
 20 to address any unforeseen or disaster-related circumstance  
 21 pertaining to coral reef ecosystems.”.

22 **SEC. 9. NATIONAL PROGRAM.**

23 Section 208 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6406), as redesign-  
 24 nated by section 7 of this Act, is amended to read as fol-  
 25 lows:

1 **“SEC. 208. NATIONAL PROGRAM.**

2       “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-  
3 propriations, the Secretary may conduct activities, includ-  
4 ing with local, State, regional, or international programs  
5 and partners, as appropriate, to conserve coral reef eco-  
6 systems, that are consistent with this title, the National  
7 Marine Sanctuaries Act, the Coastal Zone Management  
8 Act of 1972, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation  
9 and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act of  
10 1973, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

11       “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Activities author-  
12 ized under subsection (a) include—

13               “(1) mapping, monitoring, assessment, restora-  
14 tion, socioeconomic and scientific research that ben-  
15 efit the understanding, sustainable use, biodiversity,  
16 and long-term conservation of coral reef ecosystems;

17               “(2) enhancing public awareness, education, un-  
18 derstanding, and appreciation of coral reef eco-  
19 systems;

20               “(3) removing, and providing assistance to  
21 States in removing, abandoned fishing gear, marine  
22 debris, and abandoned vessels from coral reef eco-  
23 systems to conserve living marine resources;

24               “(4) responding to incidents and events that  
25 threaten and damage coral reef ecosystems;

1           “(5) conservation and management of coral reef  
2       ecosystems;

3           “(6) centrally archiving, managing, and distrib-  
4       uting data sets and providing coral reef ecosystem  
5       assessments and services to the general public with  
6       local, regional, or international programs and part-  
7       ners; and

8           “(7) activities designed to prevent or minimize  
9       damage to coral reef ecosystems, including those ac-  
10      tivities described in section 212(b)(2) of this title.

11       “(c) DATA ARCHIVE, ACCESS, AND AVAILABILITY.—  
12   The Secretary, in coordination with similar efforts at other  
13   Departments and agencies shall provide for the long-term  
14   stewardship of environmental data, products, and informa-  
15   tion via data processing, storage, and archive facilities  
16   pursuant to this title. The Secretary may—

17           “(1) archive environmental data collected by  
18       Federal, State, local agencies, and tribal organiza-  
19       tions and federally funded research;

20           “(2) promote widespread availability and dis-  
21       semination of environmental data and information  
22       through full and open access and exchange to the  
23       greatest extent possible, including in electronic for-  
24       mat on the Internet;

1           “(3) develop standards, protocols, and proce-  
2           dures for sharing Federal data with State and local  
3           government programs and the private sector or aca-  
4           demia; and

5           “(4) develop metadata standards for coral reef  
6           ecosystems in accordance with Federal Geographic  
7           Data Committee guidelines.

8           “(d) EMERGENCY RESPONSE, STABILIZATION, AND  
9           RESTORATION.—

10           “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNT.—The Sec-  
11           retary shall establish an account (to be called the  
12           Emergency Response, Stabilization, and Restoration  
13           Account) in the Damage Assessment Restoration  
14           Revolving Fund established by the Department of  
15           Commerce Appropriations Act, 1991 (33 U.S.C.  
16           2706 note), for implementation of this subsection for  
17           emergency actions. Amounts appropriated for the  
18           Account under section 219, and funds authorized by  
19           sections 213(d)(1)(C)(ii) and 214(f)(3)(B), shall be  
20           deposited into the Account and made available for  
21           use by the Secretary as specified in sections 213 and  
22           214.

23           “(2) DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF CERTAIN  
24           FUNDS.—Any amounts received by the United  
25           States pursuant to sections 213(d)(1)(C)(ii) and



1       214(f)(3)(B) shall be deposited into the Emergency  
2       Response, Stabilization, and Restoration Account es-  
3       tablished under paragraph (1). The Secretary of  
4       Commerce may request the Secretary of the Treas-  
5       ury to invest such portion of the Damage Assess-  
6       ment Restoration Revolving Fund as is not, in the  
7       judgment of the Secretary of Commerce, required to  
8       meet the current needs of the fund. Such invest-  
9       ments shall be made by the Secretary of the Treas-  
10      ury in public debt securities, with maturities suitable  
11      to the needs of the fund, as determined by the Sec-  
12      retary of Commerce and bearing interest at rates de-  
13      termined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking  
14      into consideration current market yields on out-  
15      standing marketable obligations of the United States  
16      of comparable maturity. Interest earned by such in-  
17      vestments shall be available for use by the Secretary  
18      of Commerce without further appropriation and re-  
19      main available until expended.”.

20   **SEC. 10. STUDY OF TRADE IN CORALS.**

21       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce, in  
22      consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall con-  
23      duct a study on the economic, social, and environmental  
24      values and impacts of the United States market in corals  
25      and coral products.

1 (b) CONTENTS.—The study shall—

2 (1) assess the economic and other values of the  
3 United States market in coral and coral products,  
4 including import and export trade;

5 (2) identify primary coral species used in the  
6 coral and coral product trade and locations of wild  
7 harvest;

8 (3) assess the environmental impacts associated  
9 with wild harvest of coral;

10 (4) assess the effectiveness of current public  
11 and private programs aimed at promoting conserva-  
12 tion in the coral and coral product trade;

13 (5) identify economic and other incentives for  
14 coral reef conservation as part of the coral and coral  
15 product trade; and

16 (6) identify additional actions, if necessary, to  
17 ensure that the United States market in coral and  
18 coral products does not contribute to the degrada-  
19 tion of coral reef ecosystems.

20 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the  
21 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
22 to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
23 Transportation and the House of Representatives Com-  
24 mittee on Natural Resources a report of the study.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
 2 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
 3 out this section \$100,000 for fiscal year 2014.

4 **SEC. 11. INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION AC-**  
 5 **TIVITIES.**

6 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
 7 serting after section 208, as redesignated by section 7 of  
 8 this Act, the following:

9 **“SEC. 209. INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION**  
 10 **ACTIVITIES.**

11 “(a) INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION  
 12 ACTIVITIES.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry  
 14 out international coral reef conservation activities  
 15 consistent with the purposes of this title with respect  
 16 to coral reef ecosystems in waters outside the United  
 17 States jurisdiction. The Secretary shall develop and  
 18 implement an international coral reef ecosystem  
 19 strategy pursuant to subsection (b).

20 “(2) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this sub-  
 21 section, the Secretary shall consult with the Sec-  
 22 retary of State, the Administrator of the Agency for  
 23 International Development, the Secretary of the In-  
 24 terior, and other relevant Federal agencies, and rel-  
 25 evant United States stakeholders, and shall take into

1 account coral reef ecosystem conservation initiatives  
2 of other nations, international agreements, and  
3 intergovernmental and nongovernmental organiza-  
4 tions so as to provide effective cooperation and effi-  
5 ciencies in international coral reef conservation. The  
6 Secretary may consult with the Coral Reef Task  
7 Force in carrying out this subsection.

8 “(b) INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM  
9 STRATEGY.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
11 the date of enactment of the Coral Reef Conserva-  
12 tion Amendments Act of 2013, the Secretary shall  
13 submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
14 Science, and Transportation and the House of Rep-  
15 resentatives Committee on Natural Resources, and  
16 publish in the Federal Register, an international  
17 coral reef ecosystem strategy, consistent with the  
18 purposes of this title and the strategy required  
19 under section 203(a). The Secretary shall periodi-  
20 cally review and revise this strategy as necessary.

21 “(2) CONTENTS.—The strategy developed by  
22 the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall—

23 “(A) identify coral reef ecosystems  
24 throughout the world that are of high value for  
25 United States marine resources, that support

1 high-seas resources of importance to the United  
2 States such as fisheries, or that support other  
3 interests of the United States;

4 “(B) summarize existing activities by Fed-  
5 eral agencies and entities described in sub-  
6 section (a)(2) to address the conservation of  
7 coral reef ecosystems identified pursuant to  
8 subparagraph (A);

9 “(C) establish goals, objectives, and spe-  
10 cific targets for conservation of priority inter-  
11 national coral reef ecosystems;

12 “(D) describe appropriate activities to  
13 achieve the goals and targets for international  
14 coral reef conservation, in particular those that  
15 leverage activities already conducted under this  
16 title;

17 “(E) develop a plan to coordinate imple-  
18 mentation of the strategy with entities de-  
19 scribed in subsection (a)(2) in order to leverage  
20 current activities under this title and other con-  
21 servation efforts globally;

22 “(F) identify appropriate partnerships,  
23 grants, or other funding and technical assist-  
24 ance mechanisms to carry out the strategy; and

1                   “(G) develop criteria for prioritizing part-  
2                   nerships under subsection (c).

3           “(c) INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM  
4 PARTNERSHIPS.—

5                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-  
6                   lish an international coral reef ecosystem partner-  
7                   ship program to provide support, including funding  
8                   and technical assistance, for activities that imple-  
9                   ment the strategy developed pursuant to subsection  
10                  (b).

11                  “(2) MECHANISMS.—The Secretary shall pro-  
12                  vide such support through existing authorities, work-  
13                  ing in collaboration with the entities described in  
14                  subsection (a)(2).

15                  “(3) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may exe-  
16                  cute and perform such contracts, leases, grants, co-  
17                  operative agreements, or other transactions as may  
18                  be necessary to carry out the purposes of this sec-  
19                  tion.

20                  “(4) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—To implement this  
21                  section and subject to the availability of funds, the  
22                  Secretary may transfer funds to a foreign govern-  
23                  ment or international organization, and may accept  
24                  transfers of funds from such entities, except that no

1 more than 5 percent of funds appropriated to carry  
 2 out this section may be transferred.

3 “(5) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—The Secretary  
 4 may not approve a partnership proposal under this  
 5 section unless the partnership is consistent with the  
 6 international coral reef ecosystem strategy developed  
 7 pursuant to subsection (b), and meets the criteria  
 8 specified in that strategy.”.

9 **SEC. 12. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.**

10 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
 11 serting after section 209, as added by section 11 of this  
 12 Act, the following:

13 **“SEC. 210. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.**

14 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants  
 15 to entities that have received grants under section 204 to  
 16 provide additional funds to such entities to work with local  
 17 communities and through appropriate Federal and State  
 18 entities to prepare and implement plans for the increased  
 19 protection of coral reef areas identified by the community  
 20 and scientific experts as high priorities for focused atten-  
 21 tion. The plans shall—

22 “(1) support attainment of one or more of the  
 23 criteria described in section 204(g);

24 “(2) be developed at the community level;

25 “(3) utilize watershed-based approaches;

1           “(4) provide for coordination with Federal and  
2       State experts and managers; and

3           “(5) build upon local approaches, strategies, or  
4       models, including traditional or island-based re-  
5       source management concepts.

6       “(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The provisions of  
7       subsections (b), (d), (f), and (h) of section 204 apply to  
8       grants under subsection (a), except that, for the purpose  
9       of applying section 204(b)(1) to grants under this section,  
10      ‘75 percent’ shall be substituted for ‘50 percent’.”.

11      **SEC. 13. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.**

12       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
13      serting after section 210, as added by section 12 of this  
14      Act, the following:

15      **“SEC. 211. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.**

16       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may maintain an  
17      inventory of all vessel grounding incidents involving coral  
18      reefs, including a description of—

19           “(1) the impacts to affected coral reef eco-  
20       systems;

21           “(2) vessel and ownership information, if avail-  
22       able;

23           “(3) the estimated cost of removal, mitigation,  
24       or restoration;



1           “(4) the response action taken by the owner,  
2           the Secretary, the Commandant of the Coast Guard,  
3           or other Federal or State agency representatives;

4           “(5) the status of the response action, including  
5           the dates of vessel removal and mitigation or res-  
6           toration and any actions taken to prevent future  
7           grounding incidents; and

8           “(6) recommendations for additional naviga-  
9           tional aids or other mechanisms for preventing fu-  
10          ture grounding incidents.

11          “(b) IDENTIFICATION OF AT-RISK REEFS.—The Sec-  
12         retary may—

13                 “(1) use information from any inventory main-  
14                 tained under subsection (a) or any other available  
15                 information source to identify coral reef ecosystems  
16                 that have a high incidence of vessel impacts, includ-  
17                 ing groundings and anchor damage;

18                 “(2) identify appropriate measures, including  
19                 the acquisition and placement of aids to navigation,  
20                 moorings, designated anchorage areas, fixed anchors,  
21                 and other devices, to reduce the likelihood of such  
22                 impacts; and

23                 “(3) develop a strategy and timetable to imple-  
24                 ment such measures, including cooperative actions

1 with other government agencies and non-govern-  
 2 mental partners.”.

3 **SEC. 14. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.)  
 5 is amended by inserting after section 211, as added by  
 6 section 13 of this Act, the following:

7 **“SEC. 212. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND SCOPE OF PROHI-**  
 8 **BITIONS.**

9 “(a) PROVISIONS AS COMPLEMENTARY.—The provi-  
 10 sions of this section are in addition to, and shall not affect  
 11 the operation of, other Federal, State, or local laws or reg-  
 12 ulations providing protection to coral reef ecosystems.

13 “(b) DESTRUCTION, LOSS, TAKING, OR INJURY.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
 15 graph (2), it is unlawful for any person to destroy,  
 16 take, cause the loss of, or injure any coral reef or  
 17 any component thereof.

18 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The destruction, loss, tak-  
 19 ing, or injury of a coral reef or any component  
 20 thereof is not unlawful if it—

21 “(A) was caused by the use of fishing gear  
 22 used in a manner permitted under the Magnu-  
 23 son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Manage-  
 24 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) or other  
 25 Federal or State law;

1           “(B) was caused by an activity that is au-  
2           thorized or allowed by Federal or State law (in-  
3           cluding lawful discharges from vessels, such as  
4           graywater, cooling water, engine exhaust, bal-  
5           last water, or sewage from marine sanitation  
6           devices), unless the destruction, loss, or injury  
7           resulted from actions such as vessel groundings,  
8           vessel scrapings, anchor damage, excavation not  
9           authorized by Federal or State permit, or other  
10          similar activities;

11          “(C) was the necessary result of bona fide  
12          marine scientific research (including marine sci-  
13          entific research activities approved by Federal,  
14          State, or local permits), other than excessive  
15          sampling or collecting, or actions such as vessel  
16          groundings, vessel scrapings, anchor damage,  
17          excavation, or other similar activities;

18          “(D) was caused by a Federal Government  
19          agency—

20                 “(i) during—

21                         “(I) an emergency that posed an  
22                         unacceptable threat to human health  
23                         or safety or to the marine environ-  
24                         ment;

1 “(II) an emergency that posed a  
2 threat to national security; or

3 “(III) an activity necessary for  
4 law enforcement or search and rescue;  
5 and

6 “(ii) could not reasonably be avoided;  
7 or

8 “(E) was caused by an action taken by the  
9 master of the vessel in an emergency situation  
10 to ensure the safety of the vessel or to save a  
11 life at sea.

12 “(c) INTERFERENCE WITH ENFORCEMENT.—It is  
13 unlawful for any person to interfere with the enforcement  
14 of this title by—

15 “(1) refusing to permit any officer authorized  
16 to enforce this title to board a vessel (other than a  
17 vessel operated by the Department of Defense or  
18 United States Coast Guard) subject to such person’s  
19 control for the purposes of conducting any search or  
20 inspection in connection with the enforcement of this  
21 title;

22 “(2) resisting, opposing, impeding, intimidating,  
23 harassing, bribing, interfering with, or forcibly as-  
24 saulting any person authorized by the Secretary to  
25 implement this title or any such authorized officer in

1 the conduct of any search or inspection performed  
2 under this title; or

3 “(3) submitting false information to the Sec-  
4 retary or any officer authorized to enforce this title  
5 in connection with any search or inspection con-  
6 ducted under this title.

7 “(d) VIOLATIONS OF TITLE, PERMIT, OR REGULA-  
8 TION.—It is unlawful for any person to violate any provi-  
9 sion of this title, any permit issued pursuant to this title,  
10 or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this title.

11 “(e) POSSESSION AND DISTRIBUTION.—It is unlaw-  
12 ful for any person to possess, sell, deliver, carry, transport,  
13 or ship by any means any coral taken in violation of this  
14 title.”.

15 (b) EMERGENCY ACTION REGULATIONS.—The Sec-  
16 retary of Commerce shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding  
17 to prescribe the circumstances and conditions under which  
18 the exception in section 212(b)(2)(E) of the Coral Reef  
19 Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by subsection (a),  
20 applies and shall issue a final rule pursuant to that rule-  
21 making as soon as practicable but not later than 1 year  
22 after the date of enactment of this Act. Nothing in this  
23 subsection shall be construed to require the issuance of  
24 such regulations before the exception provided by that sec-  
25 tion is in effect.

1 **SEC. 15. DESTRUCTION OF CORAL REEFS.**

2       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
3       serting after section 212, as added by section 14 of this  
4       Act, the following:

5 **“SEC. 213. DESTRUCTION, LOSS, OR TAKING OF, OR INJURY**  
6 **TO, CORAL REEFS.**

7       “(a) LIABILITY.—

8               “(1) LIABILITY TO THE UNITED STATES.—Ex-  
9       cept as provided in subsection (f), all persons who  
10      engage in an activity that is prohibited under sub-  
11      sections (b) or (d) of section 212, or create an immi-  
12      nent risk thereof, are liable, jointly and severally, to  
13      the United States for an amount equal to the sum  
14      of—

15               “(A) response costs and damages resulting  
16      from the destruction, loss, taking, or injury, or  
17      imminent risk thereof, including damages re-  
18      sulting from the response actions;

19               “(B) costs of seizure, forfeiture, storage,  
20      and disposal arising from liability under this  
21      section; and

22               “(C) interest on that amount calculated in  
23      the manner described in section 1005 of the Oil  
24      Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705).

25       “(2) LIABILITY IN REM.—

1           “(A) Any vessel used in an activity that is  
2 prohibited under subsection (b) or (d) of section  
3 212, or creates an imminent risk thereof, shall  
4 be liable in rem to the United States for an  
5 amount equal to the sum of—

6           “(i) response costs and damages re-  
7 sulting from such destruction, loss, taking,  
8 or injury, or imminent risk thereof, includ-  
9 ing damages resulting from the response  
10 actions;

11           “(ii) costs of seizure, forfeiture, stor-  
12 age, and disposal arising from liability  
13 under this section; and

14           “(iii) interest on that amount cal-  
15 culated in the manner described in section  
16 1005 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33  
17 U.S.C. 2705).

18           “(B) The amount of liability shall con-  
19 stitute a maritime lien on the vessel and may  
20 be recovered in an action in rem in any district  
21 court of the United States that has jurisdiction  
22 over the vessel.

23           “(3) DEFENSES.—A person or vessel is not lia-  
24 ble under this subsection if that person or vessel es-  
25 tablishes that the destruction, loss, taking, or injury

1 was caused solely by an act of God, an act of war,  
 2 or an act or omission of a third party (other than  
 3 an employee or agent of the defendant or one whose  
 4 act or omission occurs in connection with a contrac-  
 5 tual relationship, existing directly or indirectly with  
 6 the defendant), and the person or master of the ves-  
 7 sel acted with due care.

8 “(4) NO LIMIT TO LIABILITY.—Nothing in sec-  
 9 tions 30501 through 30512 or section 30706 of title  
 10 46, United States Code, shall limit liability to any  
 11 person under this title.

12 “(b) RESPONSE ACTIONS AND DAMAGE ASSESS-  
 13 MENT.—

14 “(1) RESPONSE ACTIONS.—The Secretary may  
 15 undertake or authorize all necessary actions to pre-  
 16 vent or minimize the destruction, loss, or taking of,  
 17 or injury to, coral reefs, or components thereof, or  
 18 to minimize the risk or imminent risk of such de-  
 19 struction, loss, taking, or injury.

20 “(2) DAMAGE ASSESSMENT.—

21 “(A) The Secretary shall assess damages  
 22 (as defined in section 221(8)) to coral reefs and  
 23 shall consult with State officials regarding re-  
 24 sponse and damage assessment actions under-  
 25 taken for coral reefs within State waters.



1           “(B) There shall be no double recovery  
 2           under this chapter for coral reef damages, in-  
 3           cluding the cost of damage assessment, for the  
 4           same incident.

5           “(c) COMMENCEMENT OF CIVIL ACTION FOR RE-  
 6           SPONSE COSTS AND DAMAGES.—

7           “(1) COMMENCEMENT.—The Attorney General,  
 8           upon the request of the Secretary, may commence a  
 9           civil action against any person or vessel that may be  
 10          liable under subsection (a) of this section for re-  
 11          sponse costs, seizure, forfeiture, storage, or disposal  
 12          costs, and damages, and interest on that amount  
 13          calculated in the manner described in section 1005  
 14          of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705).  
 15          The Secretary, acting as trustee for coral reefs for  
 16          the United States, shall submit a request for such  
 17          an action to the Attorney General whenever a person  
 18          or vessel may be liable for such costs or damages.

19          “(2) VENUE IN CIVIL ACTIONS.—A civil action  
 20          under this title may be brought in the United States  
 21          district court for any district in which—

22                 “(A) the defendant is located, resides, or is  
 23                 doing business, in the case of an action against  
 24                 a person;

1           “(B) the vessel is located, in the case of an  
2           action against a vessel;

3           “(C) the destruction, loss, or taking of, or  
4           injury to a coral reef, or component thereof, oc-  
5           curred or in which there is an imminent risk of  
6           such destruction, loss, taking, or injury; or

7           “(D) where some or all of the coral reef or  
8           component thereof that is the subject of the ac-  
9           tion is not within the territory covered by any  
10          United States district court, such action may be  
11          brought either in the United States district  
12          court for the district closest to the location  
13          where the destruction, loss, taking, injury, or  
14          risk of injury occurred, or in the United States  
15          District Court for the District of Columbia.

16          “(d) USE OF RECOVERED AMOUNTS.—

17               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any costs, including re-  
18               sponse costs and damages recovered by the Sec-  
19               retary under this section shall—

20               “(A) be deposited into an account or ac-  
21               counts in the Damage Assessment Restoration  
22               Revolving Fund established by the Department  
23               of Commerce Appropriations Act, 1991 (33  
24               U.S.C. 2706 note), or the Natural Resource  
25               Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund es-

1           tablished by the Department of the Interior and  
2           Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1992 (43  
3           U.S.C. 1474b), as appropriate given the loca-  
4           tion of the violation;

5           “(B) be available for use by the Secretary  
6           without further appropriation and remain avail-  
7           able until expended; and

8           “(C) be for use, as the Secretary considers  
9           appropriate—

10           “(i) to reimburse the Secretary or any  
11           other Federal or State agency that con-  
12           ducted activities under subsection (a) or  
13           (b) of this section for costs incurred in  
14           conducting the activity;

15           “(ii) to be transferred to the Emer-  
16           gency Response, Stabilization, and Res-  
17           toration Account established under section  
18           208(d) to reimburse that account for  
19           amounts used for authorized emergency ac-  
20           tions; and

21           “(iii) after reimbursement of such  
22           costs, to restore, replace, or acquire the  
23           equivalent of any coral reefs, or compo-  
24           nents thereof, including the reasonable  
25           costs of monitoring, or to minimize or pre-

1                   vent threats of equivalent injury to, or de-  
2                   struction of coral reefs, or components  
3                   thereof.

4                   “(2) RESTORATION CONSIDERATIONS.—In de-  
5                   velopment of restoration alternatives under para-  
6                   graph (1)(C), the Secretary shall consider State and  
7                   territorial preferences and, if appropriate, shall  
8                   prioritize restoration projects with geographic and  
9                   ecological linkages to the injured resources.

10                  “(e) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—An action for re-  
11                  sponse costs or damages under subsection (c) shall be  
12                  barred unless the complaint is filed not later than 3 years  
13                  after the date on which the Secretary completes a damage  
14                  assessment and restoration plan for the coral reefs, or  
15                  components thereof, to which the action relates.

16                  “(f) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES.—In the  
17                  event of threatened or actual destruction of, loss of, taking  
18                  of, or injury to a coral reef or component thereof resulting  
19                  from an incident caused by a component of any Depart-  
20                  ment or agency of the United States Government, the cog-  
21                  nizant Department or agency shall satisfy its obligations  
22                  under this section by promptly, in coordination with the  
23                  Secretary, taking appropriate actions to respond to and  
24                  mitigate the harm and restoring or replacing the coral reef

1 or components thereof and reimbursing the Secretary for  
2 all assessment costs.

3 “(g) UNIFORMED SERVICE OFFICERS AND EMPLOY-  
4 EES.—No officer or employee of a uniformed service (as  
5 defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code)  
6 shall be held liable under this section, either in such offi-  
7 cer’s or employee’s personal or official capacity, for any  
8 violation of section 212 occurring during the performance  
9 of the officer’s or employee’s official governmental duties.

10 “(h) CONTRACT EMPLOYEES.—No contract employee  
11 of a uniformed service (as defined in section 101 of title  
12 10, United States Code), serving as vessel master or crew  
13 member, shall be liable under this section for any violation  
14 of section 212 if that contract employee—

15 “(1) is acting as a contract employee of a uni-  
16 formed service under the terms of an operating con-  
17 tract for a vessel owned by a uniformed service, or  
18 a time charter for pre-positioned vessels, special mis-  
19 sion vessels, or vessels exclusively transporting mili-  
20 tary supplies and materials; and

21 “(2) is engaged in an action or actions over  
22 which such employee has been given no discretion  
23 (such as, anchoring or mooring at one or more des-  
24 ignated anchorages or buoys, or executing specific  
25 operational elements of a special mission activity), as

1       determined by the uniformed service controlling the  
2       contract.”.

3   **SEC. 16. ENFORCEMENT.**

4       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
5       serting after section 213, as added by section 15 of this  
6       Act, the following:

7   **“SEC. 214. ENFORCEMENT.**

8       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct en-  
9       forcement activities to carry out this title.

10      “(b) POWERS OF AUTHORIZED OFFICERS.—

11          “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who is author-  
12       ized to enforce this title may—

13              “(A) board, search, inspect, and seize any  
14       vessel or other conveyance suspected of being  
15       used to violate this title, any regulation promul-  
16       gated under this title, or any permit issued  
17       under this title, and any equipment, stores, and  
18       cargo of such vessel, except that such authority  
19       shall not exist with respect to vessels owned or  
20       time chartered by a uniformed service (as de-  
21       fined in section 101 of title 10, United States  
22       Code) as warships or naval auxiliaries;

23              “(B) seize wherever found any component  
24       of coral reef taken or retained in violation of

1           this title, any regulation promulgated under  
2           this title, or any permit issued under this title;

3           “(C) seize any evidence of a violation of  
4           this title, any regulation promulgated under  
5           this title, or any permit issued under this title;

6           “(D) execute any warrant or other process  
7           issued by any court of competent jurisdiction;

8           “(E) exercise any other lawful authority;  
9           and

10          “(F) arrest any person, if there is reason-  
11          able cause to believe that such person has com-  
12          mitted an act prohibited by section 212.

13          “(2) NAVAL AUXILIARY DEFINED.—In this sub-  
14          section, the term ‘naval auxiliary’ means a vessel,  
15          other than a warship, that is owned by or under the  
16          exclusive control of a uniformed service and used at  
17          the time of the destruction, taking, loss or injury for  
18          government, non-commercial service, including com-  
19          bat logistics force vessels, pre-positioned vessels, spe-  
20          cial mission vessels, or vessels exclusively used to  
21          transport military supplies and materials.

22          “(c) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT AND PERMIT SANC-  
23          TIONS.—

24          “(1) CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY.—Any  
25          person subject to the jurisdiction of the United

1 States who violates this title or any regulation pro-  
2 mulgated or permit issued hereunder, shall be liable  
3 to the United States for a civil administrative pen-  
4 alty of not more than \$200,000 for each such viola-  
5 tion, to be assessed by the Secretary. Each day of  
6 a continuing violation shall constitute a separate vio-  
7 lation. In determining the amount of civil adminis-  
8 trative penalty, the Secretary shall take into account  
9 the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the  
10 prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the  
11 violator, the degree of culpability, and any history of  
12 prior violations, and such other matters as justice  
13 may require. In assessing such penalty, the Sec-  
14 retary may also consider information related to the  
15 ability of the violator to pay.

16 “(2) PERMIT SANCTIONS.—For any person sub-  
17 ject to the jurisdiction of the United States who has  
18 been issued or has applied for a permit under this  
19 title, and who violates this title or any regulation or  
20 permit issued under this title, the Secretary may  
21 deny, suspend, amend, or revoke in whole or in part  
22 any such permit. For any person who has failed to  
23 pay or defaulted on a payment agreement of any  
24 civil penalty or criminal fine or liability assessed  
25 pursuant to any natural resource law administered



1 by the Secretary, the Secretary may deny, suspend,  
2 amend or revoke in whole or in part any permit  
3 issued or applied for under this title.

4 “(3) IMPOSITION OF CIVIL JUDICIAL PEN-  
5 ALTIES.—Any person who violates any provision of  
6 this title, any regulation promulgated or permit  
7 issued thereunder, shall be subject to a civil judicial  
8 penalty not to exceed \$250,000 for each such viola-  
9 tion. Each day of a continuing violation shall con-  
10 stitute a separate violation. The Attorney General,  
11 upon the request of the Secretary, may commence a  
12 civil action in an appropriate district court of the  
13 United States, and such court shall have jurisdiction  
14 to award civil penalties and such other relief as jus-  
15 tice may require. In determining the amount of a  
16 civil penalty, the court shall take into account the  
17 nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the  
18 prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the  
19 violator, the degree of culpability, any history of  
20 prior violations, and such other matters as justice  
21 may require. In imposing such penalty, the district  
22 court may also consider information related to the  
23 ability of the violator to pay.

24 “(4) NOTICE.—No penalty or permit sanction  
25 shall be assessed under this subsection until after

1 the person charged has been given notice and an op-  
2 portunity for a hearing.

3 “(5) IN REM JURISDICTION.—A vessel used in  
4 violating this title, any regulation promulgated under  
5 this title, or any permit issued under this title, shall  
6 be liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed for  
7 such violation. Such penalty shall constitute a mari-  
8 time lien on the vessel and may be recovered in an  
9 action in rem in the district court of the United  
10 States having jurisdiction over the vessel.

11 “(6) COLLECTION OF PENALTIES.—If any per-  
12 son fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty  
13 under this section after it has become a final and  
14 unappealable order, or after the appropriate court  
15 has entered final judgment in favor of the Secretary,  
16 the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney  
17 General, who shall recover the amount assessed in  
18 any appropriate district court of the United States  
19 (plus interest at current prevailing rates from the  
20 date of the final order). In such action, the validity  
21 and appropriateness of the final order imposing the  
22 civil penalty shall not be subject to review. Any per-  
23 son who fails to pay, on a timely basis, the amount  
24 of an assessment of a civil penalty shall be required  
25 to pay, in addition to such amount and interest, at-

1        torney’s fees and costs for collection proceedings and  
2        a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter  
3        during which such failure to pay persists. Such non-  
4        payment penalty shall be in an amount equal to 20  
5        percent of the aggregate amount of such person’s  
6        penalties and nonpayment penalties that are unpaid  
7        as of the beginning of such quarter.

8            “(7) COMPROMISE OR OTHER ACTION BY SEC-  
9        RETARY.—The Secretary may compromise, modify,  
10       or remit, with or without conditions, any civil admin-  
11       istrative penalty or permit sanction which is or may  
12       be imposed under this section and that has not been  
13       referred to the Attorney General for further enforce-  
14       ment action.

15           “(8) JURISDICTION.—The several district  
16       courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction  
17       over any actions brought by the United States aris-  
18       ing under this section. For the purpose of this sec-  
19       tion, American Samoa shall be included within the  
20       judicial district of the District Court of the United  
21       States for the District of Hawaii. Each violation  
22       shall be a separate offense and the offense shall be  
23       deemed to have been committed not only in the dis-  
24       trict where the violation first occurred, but also in  
25       any other district as authorized by law.

1 “(d) FORFEITURE.—

2 “(1) CRIMINAL FORFEITURE.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A person who is con-  
4 victed of an offense in violation of this title  
5 shall forfeit to the United States—

6 “(i) any property, real or personal,  
7 constituting or traceable to the gross pro-  
8 ceeds taken, obtained, or retained, in con-  
9 nection with or as a result of the offense,  
10 including, without limitation, any coral reef  
11 or coral reef component (or the fair market  
12 value thereof); and

13 “(ii) any property, real or personal,  
14 used or intended to be used, in any man-  
15 ner, to commit or facilitate the commission  
16 of the offense, including, without limita-  
17 tion, any vessel (including the vessel’s  
18 equipment, stores, catch and cargo), vehi-  
19 cle, aircraft, or other means of transpor-  
20 tation.

21 “(B) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Pursuant  
22 to section 2461(c) of title 28, United States  
23 Code, the provisions of section 413 of the Con-  
24 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853) other

1           than subsection (d) thereof shall apply to crimi-  
2           nal forfeitures under this section.

3           “(2) CIVIL FORFEITURE.—The property set  
4           forth below shall be subject to forfeiture to the  
5           United States in accordance with the provisions of  
6           chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code, and no  
7           property right shall exist in it:

8                   “(A) Any property, real or personal, con-  
9                   stituting or traceable to the gross proceeds  
10                  taken, obtained, or retained, in connection with  
11                  or as a result of a violation of this title, includ-  
12                  ing, without limitation, any coral reef or coral  
13                  reef component (or the fair market value there-  
14                  of).

15                  “(B) Any property, real or personal, used  
16                  or intended to be used, in any manner, to com-  
17                  mit or facilitate the commission of a violation of  
18                  this title, including, without limitation, any ves-  
19                  sel (including the vessel’s equipment, stores,  
20                  catch and cargo), vehicle, aircraft, or other  
21                  means of transportation.

22           “(3) APPLICATION OF THE CUSTOMS LAWS.—  
23           All provisions of law relating to seizure, summary  
24           judgment, and judicial forfeiture and condemnation  
25           for violation of the customs laws, the disposition of

1 the property forfeited or condemned or the proceeds  
2 from the sale thereof, the remission or mitigation of  
3 such forfeitures, and the compromise of claims shall  
4 apply to seizures and forfeitures incurred, or alleged  
5 to have been incurred, under the provisions of this  
6 title, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with  
7 the provisions hereof. For seizures and forfeitures of  
8 property under this section by the Secretary, such  
9 duties as are imposed upon the customs officer or  
10 any other person with respect to the seizure and for-  
11 feiture of property under the customs law may be  
12 performed by such officers as are designated by the  
13 Secretary or, upon request of the Secretary, by any  
14 other agency that has authority to manage and dis-  
15 pose of seized property.

16 “(4) PRESUMPTION.—For the purposes of this  
17 section there is a rebuttable presumption that all  
18 coral reefs, or components thereof, found on board  
19 a vessel that is used or seized in connection with a  
20 violation of this title or of any regulation promul-  
21 gated under this title were taken, obtained, or re-  
22 tained in violation of this title or of a regulation pro-  
23 mulgated under this title.

24 “(e) PAYMENT OF STORAGE, CARE, AND OTHER  
25 COSTS.—Any person assessed a civil penalty for a viola-

tion of this title or of any regulation promulgated under this title and any claimant in a forfeiture action brought for such a violation, shall be liable for the reasonable costs incurred by the Secretary in storage, care, and maintenance of any property seized in connection with the violation.

“(f) EXPENDITURES.—

“(1) Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, or section 311 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861), amounts received by the United States as civil penalties under subsection (c) of this section, forfeitures of property under subsection (d) of this section, and costs imposed under subsection (e) of this section, shall—

“(A) be placed into an account;

“(B) be available for use by the Secretary without further appropriation; and

“(C) remain available until expended.

“(2) Amounts received under this section for forfeitures under subsection (d) and costs imposed under subsection (e) shall be used to pay the reasonable and necessary costs incurred by the Secretary to provide temporary storage, care, maintenance, and disposal of any property seized in connection

1 with a violation of this title or any regulation pro-  
2 mulgated under this title.

3 “(3) Amounts received under this section as  
4 civil penalties under subsection (c) of this section  
5 and any amounts remaining after the operation of  
6 paragraph (2) of this subsection shall—

7 “(A) be used to stabilize, restore, or other-  
8 wise manage the coral reef with respect to  
9 which the violation occurred that resulted in the  
10 penalty or forfeiture;

11 “(B) be transferred to the Emergency Re-  
12 sponse, Stabilization, and Restoration Account  
13 established under section 208(d) or an account  
14 described in section 213(d)(1) of this title, to  
15 reimburse such account for amounts used for  
16 authorized emergency actions;

17 “(C) be used to conduct monitoring and  
18 enforcement activities;

19 “(D) be used to conduct research on tech-  
20 niques to stabilize and restore coral reefs;

21 “(E) be used to conduct activities that pre-  
22 vent or reduce the likelihood of future damage  
23 to coral reefs;

24 “(F) be used to stabilize, restore or other-  
25 wise manage any other coral reef; or



1           “(G) be used to pay a reward to any per-  
2           son who furnishes information leading to an as-  
3           sessment of a civil penalty, or to a forfeiture of  
4           property, for a violation of this title or any reg-  
5           ulation promulgated under this title.

6           “(g) CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT.—

7           “(1) Any person (other than a foreign govern-  
8           ment or any entity of such government) who know-  
9           ingly commits any act prohibited by section 212(c)  
10          of this title shall be imprisoned for not more than  
11          5 years and shall be fined not more than \$500,000  
12          for individuals or \$1,000,000 for an organization;  
13          except that if in the commission of any such offense  
14          the individual uses a dangerous weapon, engages in  
15          conduct that causes bodily injury to any officer au-  
16          thorized to enforce the provisions of this title, or  
17          places any such officer in fear of imminent bodily in-  
18          jury, the maximum term of imprisonment is not  
19          more than 10 years.

20          “(2) Any person (other than a foreign govern-  
21          ment or any entity of such government) who know-  
22          ingly violates subsection (b), (d), or (e) of section  
23          212 shall be fined under title 18, United States  
24          Code, or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both.

1           “(3) Any person (other than a foreign govern-  
2           ment or any entity of such government) who violates  
3           subsection (b), (d), or (e) of section 212, and who,  
4           in the exercise of due care should know that such  
5           person’s conduct violates subsection (b), (d), or (e)  
6           of section 212, shall be fined under title 18, United  
7           States Code, or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or  
8           both.

9           “(4) The several district courts of the United  
10          States shall have jurisdiction over any actions  
11          brought by the United States arising under this sub-  
12          section. For the purpose of this subsection, Amer-  
13          ican Samoa shall be included within the judicial dis-  
14          trict of the District Court of the United States for  
15          the District of Hawaii. Each violation shall be a sep-  
16          arate offense and the offense shall be deemed to  
17          have been committed not only in the district where  
18          the violation first occurred, but also in any other  
19          district as authorized by law. Any offenses not com-  
20          mitted in any district are subject to the venue provi-  
21          sions of section 3238 of title 18, United States  
22          Code.

23          “(h) SUBPOENAS.—In the case of any investigation  
24          or hearing under this section or any other natural resource  
25          statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmos-

1 pheric Administration which is determined on the record  
2 in accordance with the procedures provided for under sec-  
3 tion 554 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary may  
4 issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of wit-  
5 nesses and the production of relevant papers, books, elec-  
6 tronic files, and documents, and may administer oaths.

7 “(i) COAST GUARD AUTHORITY NOT LIMITED.—  
8 Nothing in this section shall be considered to limit the au-  
9 thority of the Coast Guard to enforce this or any other  
10 Federal law under section 89 of title 14, United States  
11 Code.

12 “(j) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—

13 “(1) If the Secretary determines that there is  
14 an imminent risk of destruction, loss, taking, or in-  
15 jury to a coral reef, or that there has been actual  
16 destruction, loss, taking, or injury to, a coral reef  
17 which may give rise to liability under section 213 of  
18 this title, the Attorney General, upon request of the  
19 Secretary, shall seek to obtain such relief as may be  
20 necessary to abate such risk or actual destruction,  
21 loss, taking, or injury, or to restore or replace the  
22 coral reef, or both. The district courts of the United  
23 States shall have jurisdiction in such a case to order  
24 such relief as the public interest and the equities of  
25 the case may require.

1           “(2) Upon the request of the Secretary, the At-  
 2           torney General may seek to enjoin any person who  
 3           is alleged to be in violation of any provision of this  
 4           title, or any regulation or permit issued under this  
 5           title, and the district courts shall have jurisdiction to  
 6           grant such relief.

7           “(k) AREA OF APPLICATION AND ENFORCE-  
 8 ABILITY.—The area of application and enforceability of  
 9 this title includes the internal waters of the United States,  
 10 the territorial sea of the United States, as described in  
 11 Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988,  
 12 the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States as de-  
 13 scribed in Presidential Proclamation 5030 of March 10,  
 14 1983, and the continental shelf, consistent with inter-  
 15 national law.

16          “(l) NATIONWIDE SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In any ac-  
 17 tion by the United States under this title, process may  
 18 be served in any district where the defendant is found,  
 19 resides, transacts business, or has appointed an agent for  
 20 the service of process, and for civil cases may also be  
 21 served in a place not within the United States in accord-  
 22 ance with rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

23          “(m) VENUE IN CIVIL ACTIONS.—A civil action  
 24 under this title may be brought in the United States dis-  
 25 trict court for any district in which—

1           “(1) the defendant is located, resides, or is  
2           doing business, in the case of an action against a  
3           person;

4           “(2) the vessel is located, in the case of an ac-  
5           tion against a vessel;

6           “(3) the destruction of, loss of, or injury to a  
7           coral reef, or component thereof, occurred or in  
8           which there is an imminent risk of such destruction,  
9           loss, or injury; or

10          “(4) where some or all of the coral reef or com-  
11          ponent thereof that is the subject of the action is not  
12          within the territory covered by any United States  
13          district court, such action may be brought either in  
14          the United States district court for the district clos-  
15          est to the location where the destruction, loss, in-  
16          jury, or risk of injury occurred, or in the United  
17          States District Court for the District of Columbia.

18          “(n) UNIFORMED SERVICE OFFICERS AND EMPLOY-  
19          EES.—No officer or employee of a uniformed service (as  
20          defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code)  
21          shall be held liable under this section, either in such offi-  
22          cer’s or employee’s personal or official capacity, for any  
23          violation of section 212 occurring during the performance  
24          of the officer’s or employee’s official governmental duties.

1       “(o) CONTRACT EMPLOYEES.—No contract employee  
 2 of a uniformed service (as so defined), serving as vessel  
 3 master or crew member, shall be liable under this section  
 4 for any violation of section 212 if that contract em-  
 5 ployee—

6               “(1) is acting as a contract employee of a uni-  
 7 formed service under the terms of an operating con-  
 8 tract for a vessel owned by a uniformed service, or  
 9 a time charter for pre-positioned vessels, special mis-  
 10 sion vessels, or vessels exclusively transporting mili-  
 11 tary supplies and materials; and

12              “(2) is engaged in an action or actions over  
 13 which such employee has been given no discretion  
 14 (e.g., anchoring or mooring at one or more des-  
 15 ignated anchorages or buoys, or executing specific  
 16 operational elements of a special mission activity), as  
 17 determined by the uniformed service controlling the  
 18 contract.”.

19 **SEC. 17. PERMITS.**

20       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
 21 serting after section 214, as added by section 16 of this  
 22 Act, the following:

23 **“SEC. 215. PERMITS.**

24       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may allow for the  
 25 conduct of—

1 “(1) bona fide research, and

2 “(2) activities that would otherwise be prohib-  
3 ited by this title or regulations issued thereunder,  
4 through issuance of coral reef conservation permits in ac-  
5 cordance with regulations issued under this title.

6 “(b) LIMITATION OF NON-RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—

7 The Secretary may not issue a permit for activities other  
8 than for bona fide research unless the Secretary finds—

9 “(1) the activity proposed to be conducted is  
10 compatible with one or more of the purposes in sec-  
11 tion 202 of this title;

12 “(2) the activity conforms to the provisions of  
13 all other laws and regulations applicable to the area  
14 for which such permit is to be issued; and

15 “(3) there is no practicable alternative to con-  
16 ducting the activity in a manner that destroys,  
17 causes the loss of, or injures any coral reef or any  
18 component thereof.

19 “(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may  
20 place any terms and conditions on a permit issued under  
21 this section that the Secretary deems reasonable.

22 “(d) FEES.—

23 “(1) ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION.—Subject  
24 to regulations issued under this title, the Secretary

1       may assess and collect fees as specified in this sub-  
2       section.

3               “(2) AMOUNT.—Any fee assessed shall be equal  
4       to the sum of—

5               “(A) all costs incurred, or expected to be  
6       incurred, by the Secretary in processing the  
7       permit application, including indirect costs; and

8               “(B) if the permit is approved, all costs in-  
9       curred, or expected to be incurred, by the Sec-  
10      retary as a direct result of the conduct of the  
11      activity for which the permit is issued, including  
12      costs of monitoring the conduct of the activity  
13      and educating the public about the activity and  
14      coral reef resources related to the activity.

15              “(3) USE OF FEES.—Amounts collected by the  
16      Secretary in the form of fees under this section shall  
17      be collected and available for use only to the extent  
18      provided in advance in appropriations Acts and may  
19      be used by the Secretary for issuing and admin-  
20      istering permits under this section.

21              “(4) WAIVER OR REDUCTION OF FEES.—For  
22      any fee assessed under paragraph (2), the Secretary  
23      may—

24              “(A) accept in-kind contributions in lieu of  
25      a fee; or



1 “(B) waive or reduce the fee.

2 “(e) FISHING.—Nothing in this section shall be con-  
3 sidered to require a person to obtain a permit under this  
4 section for the conduct of any fishing activities not prohib-  
5 ited by this title or regulations issued thereunder.”.

6 **SEC. 18. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDINA-**  
7 **TION.**

8 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
9 serting after section 215, as added by section 17 of this  
10 Act, the following:

11 **“SEC. 216. REGIONAL, STATE, AND TERRITORIAL COORDI-**  
12 **NATION.**

13 “(a) REGIONAL COORDINATION.—The Secretary and  
14 other Federal members of the Coral Reef Task Force shall  
15 work in coordination and collaboration with other Federal  
16 agencies, States, and United States territorial govern-  
17 ments to implement the strategies developed under section  
18 203, including regional and local strategies, to address  
19 multiple threats to coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems.

20 “(b) RESPONSE AND RESTORATION ACTIVITIES.—  
21 The Secretary shall enter into written agreements with  
22 each State in which coral reefs are located regarding the  
23 manner in which response and restoration activities will  
24 be conducted within the affected State’s waters. Nothing  
25 in this subsection shall be construed to limit Federal re-

1 sponse and restoration activity authority before any such  
2 agreement is final.

3 “(c) COOPERATIVE ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENTS.—  
4 All cooperative enforcement agreements in effect at the  
5 date of enactment of the Coral Reef Conservation Amend-  
6 ments Act of 2013, between the Secretary and States af-  
7 fected by this title shall be updated to include enforcement  
8 of this title where appropriate.”.

9 **SEC. 19. REGULATIONS.**

10 The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
11 serting after section 216, as added by section 18, the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 **“SEC. 217. REGULATIONS.**

14 “The Secretary may issue such regulations as are  
15 necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of  
16 this title. This title and any regulations promulgated  
17 under this title shall be applied in accordance with inter-  
18 national law. No restrictions shall apply to or be enforced  
19 against a person who is not a citizen, national, or resident  
20 alien of the United States (including foreign flag vessels)  
21 unless in accordance with international law.”.

22 **SEC. 20. EFFECTIVENESS AND ASSESSMENT REPORT.**

23 Section 218 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6407), as redesign-  
24 nated by section 7 of this Act, is amended to read as fol-  
25 lows:

1 **“SEC. 218. EFFECTIVENESS AND ASSESSMENT REPORT.**

2 “(a) EFFECTIVENESS REPORT.—Not later than  
3 March 1, 2013, and every 3 years thereafter, the Secretary  
4 shall submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
5 Science, and Transportation and the House of Represent-  
6 atives Committee on Natural Resources a report describ-  
7 ing all activities undertaken to implement the strategies,  
8 including—

9 “(1) a description of the funds obligated by  
10 each participating Federal agency to advance coral  
11 reef conservation during each of the 3 fiscal years  
12 next preceding the fiscal year in which the report is  
13 submitted;

14 “(2) a description of Federal interagency and  
15 cooperative efforts with States and United States  
16 territories to prevent or address overharvesting,  
17 coastal runoff, or other anthropogenic impacts on  
18 coral reefs, including projects undertaken with the  
19 Department of the Interior, Department of Agri-  
20 culture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and  
21 the United States Army Corps of Engineers;

22 “(3) a summary of the information contained in  
23 the vessel grounding inventory established under sec-  
24 tion 211, including additional authorization or fund-  
25 ing, needed for response and removal of such vessels;  
26 and

1           “(4) a description of Federal disaster response  
2           actions taken pursuant to the National Response  
3           Plan to address damage to coral reefs and coral reef  
4           ecosystems.

5           “(b) ASSESSMENT REPORT.—Not later than March  
6           1, 2016, and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary will  
7           submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,  
8           and Transportation and the House of Representatives  
9           Committee on Natural Resources an assessment of the  
10          conditions of U.S. coral reefs, accomplishments under this  
11          title, and the effectiveness of management actions to ad-  
12          dress threats to coral reefs.”.

13   **SEC. 21. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14          Section 219 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6408), as redesignig-  
15          nated by section 7 of this Act, is amended—

16               (1) by striking “\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal  
17               years 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004,” in subsection  
18               (a) and inserting “\$34,000,000 for fiscal year 2013,  
19               \$36,000,000 for fiscal year 2014, \$38,000,000 for  
20               fiscal year 2015, and \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal  
21               years 2016 through 2017, of which no less than 24  
22               percent per year (for each of fiscal years 2013  
23               through 2017) shall be used for the grant program  
24               under section 204, no less than 6 percent shall be  
25               used for Fishery Management Councils, and up to

1       10 percent per year shall be used for the Fund es-  
2       tablished under section 205(a),”;

3           (2) by striking “\$1,000,000” in subsection (b)  
4       and inserting “\$2,000,000”;

5           (3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
6       following:

7       “(c) COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.—  
8       There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary  
9       to carry out section 210 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal  
10      years 2013 through 2017, to remain available until ex-  
11     pended.”; and

12          (4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the  
13      following:

14      “(d) INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF CONSERVATION  
15     PROGRAM.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the  
16     Secretary to carry out section 209 \$8,000,000 for each  
17     of fiscal years 2013 through 2017, to remain available  
18     until expended.”.

19     **SEC. 22. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

20       The Act (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended by in-  
21     serting after section 219, as redesignated by section 7 of  
22     this Act, the following:

1 **“SEC. 220. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 5, United  
3 States Code, is not applicable to any action taken by the  
4 Secretary under this title, except that—

5 “(1) review of any final agency action of the  
6 Secretary taken pursuant to sections 214(c)(1) and  
7 214(c)(2) may be had only by the filing of a com-  
8 plaint by an interested person in the United States  
9 District Court for the appropriate district; any such  
10 complaint shall be filed not later than 30 days after  
11 the date such final agency action is taken; and

12 “(2) review of any final agency action of the  
13 Secretary taken pursuant to section 215 may be had  
14 by the filing of a petition for review by an interested  
15 person in the Circuit Court of Appeals of the United  
16 States for the Federal judicial district in which such  
17 person resides or transact business which is directly  
18 affected by the action taken; such petition shall be  
19 filed not later than 120 days after the date such  
20 final agency action is taken.

21 “(b) NO REVIEW IN ENFORCEMENT PRO-  
22 CEEDINGS.—Final agency action with respect to which re-  
23 view could have been obtained under subsection (a)(2)  
24 shall not be subject to judicial review in any civil or crimi-  
25 nal proceeding for enforcement.

1       “(c) COST OF LITIGATION.—In any judicial pro-  
 2       ceeding under subsection (a), the court may award costs  
 3       of litigation (including reasonable attorney and expert wit-  
 4       ness fees) to any prevailing party whenever it determines  
 5       that such award is appropriate.”.

6       **SEC. 23. DEFINITIONS.**

7       Section 221 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6409), as redesign-  
 8       nated by section 7 of this Act, is amended to read as fol-  
 9       lows:

10      **“SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.**

11      “In this title:

12           “(1) BIODIVERSITY.—The term ‘biodiversity’  
 13           means the variability among living organisms from  
 14           all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine,  
 15           and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological  
 16           complexes of which they are part, including diversity  
 17           within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

18           “(2) BONA FIDE RESEARCH.—The term ‘bona  
 19           fide research’ means scientific research on corals,  
 20           the results of which are likely—

21                   “(A) to be eligible for publication in a re-  
 22                   ferred scientific journal;

23                   “(B) to contribute to the basic knowledge  
 24                   of coral biology or ecology; or

1                   “(C) to identify, evaluate, or resolve con-  
2                   servation problems.

3                   “(3) CORAL.—The term ‘coral’ means species  
4                   of the phylum Cnidaria, including—

5                   “(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia  
6                   (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals),  
7                   Gorgonacea (horny corals), Stolonifera  
8                   (organpipe corals and others), Alcyonacea (soft  
9                   corals), and Helioporacea (blue coral) of the  
10                  class Anthozoa; and

11                  “(B) all species of the families Milleporidea  
12                  (fire corals) and Stylasteridae (stylasterid  
13                  hydrocorals) of the class Hydrozoa.

14                  “(4) CORAL REEF.—The term ‘coral reef’  
15                  means limestone structures composed in whole or in  
16                  part of living corals, as described in paragraph (3),  
17                  their skeletal remains, or both, and including other  
18                  corals, associated sessile invertebrates and plants,  
19                  and associated seagrasses.

20                  “(5) CORAL REEF COMPONENT.—The term  
21                  ‘coral reef component’ means any part of a coral  
22                  reef, including individual living or dead corals, asso-  
23                  ciated sessile invertebrates and plants, and any adja-  
24                  cent or associated seagrasses.



1           “(6) CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM.—The term  
 2           ‘coral reef ecosystem’ means the system of coral  
 3           reefs and geographically associated species, habitats,  
 4           and environment, including any adjacent or associ-  
 5           ated mangroves and seagrass habitats, and the proc-  
 6           esses that control its dynamics.

7           “(7) CORAL PRODUCTS.—The term ‘coral prod-  
 8           ucts’ means any living or dead specimens, parts, or  
 9           derivatives, or any product containing specimens,  
 10          parts, or derivatives, of any species referred to in  
 11          paragraph (3).

12          “(8) DAMAGES.—The term ‘damages’ in-  
 13          cludes—

14               “(A) compensation for—

15                   “(i) the cost of replacing, restoring, or  
 16                   acquiring the equivalent of the coral reef,  
 17                   or component thereof; and

18                   “(ii) the lost services of, or the value  
 19                   of the lost use of, the coral reef or compo-  
 20                   nent thereof, or the cost of activities to  
 21                   minimize or prevent threats of, equivalent  
 22                   injury to, or destruction of coral reefs or  
 23                   components thereof, pending restoration or  
 24                   replacement or the acquisition of an equiv-  
 25                   alent coral reef or component thereof;

1           “(B) the reasonable cost of damage assess-  
2           ments under section 213;

3           “(C) the reasonable costs incurred by the  
4           Secretary in implementing section 208(d);

5           “(D) the reasonable cost of monitoring ap-  
6           propriate to the injured, restored, or replaced  
7           resources;

8           “(E) the reasonable cost of curation, con-  
9           servation and loss of contextual information of  
10          any coral encrusted archaeological, historical,  
11          and cultural resource;

12          “(F) the cost of legal actions under section  
13          213, undertaken by the United States, associ-  
14          ated with the destruction, loss of, taking of, or  
15          injury to, a coral reef or component thereof, in-  
16          cluding the costs of attorney time and expert  
17          witness fees; and

18          “(G) the indirect costs associated with the  
19          costs listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F)  
20          of this paragraph.

21          “(9) EMERGENCY ACTIONS.—The term ‘emer-  
22          gency actions’ means all necessary actions to prevent  
23          or minimize the additional destruction, loss of, tak-  
24          ing of, or injury to, coral reefs or components there-

1 of, or to minimize the risk of such additional de-  
2 struction, loss, taking, or injury.

3 “(10) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term  
4 ‘Exclusive Economic Zone’ means the waters of the  
5 Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States under  
6 Presidential Proclamation 5030, dated March 10,  
7 1983.

8 “(11) PERSON.—The term ‘person’ means any  
9 individual, private or public corporation, partnership,  
10 trust, institution, association, or any other public or  
11 private entity, whether foreign or domestic, private  
12 person or entity, or any officer, employee, agent, De-  
13 partment, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal  
14 Government, of any State or local unit of govern-  
15 ment, or of any foreign government.

16 “(12) RESPONSE COSTS.—The term ‘response  
17 costs’ means the costs of actions taken or authorized  
18 by the Secretary to minimize destruction, loss of,  
19 taking of, or injury to, a coral reef, or component  
20 thereof, or to minimize the imminent risks of such  
21 destruction, loss, taking, or injury, including costs  
22 related to seizure, forfeiture, storage, or disposal  
23 arising from liability under section 213.

24 “(13) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’  
25 means—

“(A) for purposes of sections 201 through 211, sections 218 through 220 (except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B)), and the other paragraphs of this section, the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

“(B) for purposes of sections 212 through 217, and section 220—

“(i) the Secretary of the Interior for any coral reef or component thereof located in (I) the National Wildlife Refuge System, (II) the National Park System, and (III) the waters surrounding Wake Island under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, as set forth in Executive Order 11048 (27 Fed. Reg. 8851 (September 4, 1962)); or

“(ii) the Secretary of Commerce for any coral reef or component thereof located in any area not described in clause (i).

“(14) SERVICE.—The term ‘service’ means functions, ecological or otherwise, performed by a coral reef or component thereof.

1           “(15) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means any  
2       State of the United States that contains a coral reef  
3       ecosystem within its seaward boundaries, American  
4       Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puer-  
5       to Rico, and the Virgin Islands, and any other terri-  
6       tory or possession of the United States, or separate  
7       sovereign in free association with the United States,  
8       that contains a coral reef ecosystem within its sea-  
9       ward boundaries.

10          “(16) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term ‘Terri-  
11       torial Sea’ means the waters of the Territorial Sea  
12       of the United States under Presidential Proclama-  
13       tion 5928, dated December 27, 1988.”.

Calendar No. 370

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2D Session

**S. 839**

[Report No. 113-156]

**A BILL**

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of  
2000, and for other purposes.

MAY 5, 2014

Reported without amendment