Public Law 93-626
93rd Congress, H. R. 5773
January 3, 1975

An Act

To establish the Canaveral National Seashore in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to preserve and protect the outstanding natural, scenic, scientific, ecologic, and historic values of certain lands, shoreline, and waters of the State of Florida, and to provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the same, there is hereby established the Canaveral National Seashore (hereinafter referred to as the "seashore"), as generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Canaveral National Seashore", dated August 1974 and numbered NS-CAN-40,000A. Such seashore shall comprise approximately sixty-seven thousand five hundred acres within the area more particularly described by a line beginning at the intersection of State Highway 3 and State Road 402, thence generally easterly following State Road 402 to a point one-half mile offshore in the Atlantic Ocean, thence northwesterly along a line which is at each point one-half mile distant from the high water mark to Bethune Beach, thence inland in a generally westerly direction through Turner Flats and Shipyard Canal, thence northwesterly to the Intracoastal Waterway, thence southerly along the Intracoastal Waterway to the boundary of the Kennedy Space Center, thence southwesterly to United States Highway 1, thence southerly along State Highway 3 to the point of beginning. The boundary map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District of Columbia. After advising the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress, in writing, at least sixty days prior to making any boundary revisions, the Secretary may from time to time make minor revisions in the boundaries of the seashore by publication of a revised map or other boundary description in the Federal Register: *Provided*, That the total acreage included within the boundaries shall not exceed that enumerated in this section.

Canaveral National Seashore, Fla. Establishment. 16 USC 459j.

88 STAT. 2121
88 STAT. 2122

Boundary revisions, publication in Federal Register.

Sec. 2. Within the boundaries of the seashore, the Secretary may acquire lands, waters, and interests therein by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, exchange, or transfer. Any property owned by the State of Florida or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired only by donation. It is the intent and purpose of this Act that the Secretary shall have sole authority to develop and improve those State owned lands donated now and in the future in accordance with the intent and purposes of this Act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any federally owned property within the boundaries of the seashore may, with the concurrence of the agency having custody thereof, be transferred without consideration to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and he may develop and administer such lands in a manner consistent with the purposes of this Act. In accepting lands transferred by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration pursuant to this Act, the Secretary shall enter into a written cooperative agreement with the Administrator to assure the use of such lands in a manner which is deemed consistent with the public safety and with the needs of the space and defense programs of the Nation: *Provided*, That no new construction or development shall be permitted within the seashore, except for the construction of such facilities as the Secretary deems

Land acquisition. 16 USC 459j-1.

Report to congressional committees.

necessary for the health and safety of the visiting public or for the proper administration of the seashore: *Provided further*, That after the date of the enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall submit to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Congress and to the Committee on Science and Astronautics of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences of the Senate a report of all land transfers made by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to the Department of the Interior under this Act.

88 STAT. 2122
88 STAT. 2123
16 USC 459j-2.

SEC. 3. (a) Except for property deemed necessary by the Secretary for visitor facilities, or for access to or administration of the seashore, any owner or owners of improved property on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary may, as a condition of such acquisition, retain for themselves and their successors or assigns a right of use and occupancy of the improved property for noncommercial residential purposes for a definite term not to exceed twenty-five years, or in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner, or the death of his spouse, whichever is the later. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated to the United States, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition less the fair market value on such date of the right retained by the owner.

(b) The Secretary may terminate a right of use and occupancy retained pursuant to this section upon his determination that such use and occupancy is being exercised in a manner not consistent with the purposes of this Act, and upon tender to the holder of the right of an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the right which remains unexpired on the date of termination.

"Improved property."

(c) The term "improved property", as used in this section shall mean a detached, noncommercial residential dwelling, the construction of which was begun before January 1, 1971 (hereafter referred to as "dwelling"), together with so much of the land on which the dwelling is situated, the said land being in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary shall designate to be reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use, together with any structures, necessary to the dwelling which are situated on the land so designated.

(d) Except as otherwise provided, the Secretary shall have the authority to use condemnation as a means of acquiring a clear and marketable title, free of any and all encumbrances.

Hunting, fishing, and trapping rights.
16 USC 459j-3.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall permit hunting, fishing, and trapping on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the boundaries of the seashore in accordance with the appropriate laws of the State of Florida and the United States to the extent applicable, except that he may designate zones where, and establish periods when, no hunting, fishing, or trapping shall be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, fish and wildlife management, public use and enjoyment, protection of the resource, or competing public use. Except in emergencies, any regulations prescribing any such restrictions shall be put into effect only after consultation with the appropriate State agency responsible for hunting, fishing, and trapping activities.

Administration.
16 USC 459j-4.

SEC. 5 (a) The seashore shall be administered, protected, and developed in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1, 2–4), as amended and supplemented, except that any other statutory authority available to the Secretary for the conservation management of natural resources may be utilized to the extent he finds such authority will further the purposes of the Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, lands and waters in the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge as described in subsection (c)(2) of this section which are part of the seashore shall be administered for refuge purposes through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, as amended (80 Stat. 926; 16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), except that the Secretary may utilize such additional authority as may be available to him for the conservation and management of wildlife and natural resources, the development of outdoor recreation opportunities, and interpretive education as he deems appropriate, consistent with the preservation of natural and wildlife values. 88 STAT. 2123 88 STAT. 2124

(c) The Secretary shall cause to be issued a well defined division of management authority between the National Park Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. It is the intent and purpose of this Act that such management authority, generally, shall be as follows:

(1) The National Park Service shall administer those lands and waters described as follows: beginning at the intersection of State Highway 3 and State Road 402; thence easterly along State Road 402 and continuing easterly in a straight line to a point one-half mile offshore in the Atlantic Ocean, following the southern boundary of the seashore created in section 1; thence northwesterly along the boundary of the seashore created in section 1, which line is at each point one-half mile distance from the high water mark, to Bethune Beach; thence inland in a generally westerly direction through Turner Flats and Shipyard Canal; thence northwesterly to the Intracoastal Waterway; thence southerly along the Intracoastal Waterway to the boundary of the Kennedy Space Center; then southwesterly to United States Highway 1; thence southerly along State Highway 3 to the northern boundary of H. M. Gomez Grant; thence easterly along the northern boundary of H. M. Gomez Grant and continuing easterly in a straight line to a point of intersection with the line between the marsh and the dunes; thence southerly along the line between the marsh and the dunes to a point approximately one-half mile north of the southern boundary of the seashore created in section 1; thence westerly in a straight line to connect with and to follow the Government Railroad to its intersection with State Highway 3; thence southerly along State Highway 3 to the point of beginning. The portion of land bounded by the northern boundary of the H. M. Gomez Grant is hereby transferred to the Secretary of the Interior and may be used for the purpose of establishing such facilities as are needed for the administration of the seashore, for the construction of the principal visitor center which shall be designated as the "Spessard L. Holland Visitor Center", and for a central access to the seashore: *Provided, however*, That the Secretary of the Interior, upon the request of the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall close this area or any part thereof to the public when necessary for space operations. In administering the shoreline and adjacent lands the Secretary shall retain such lands in their natural and primitive condition, shall prohibit vehicular traffic on the beach except for administrative purposes, and shall develop only those facilities which he deems essential for public health and safety.

Spessard L. Holland Visitor Center, designation.

(2) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall administer the remaining lands described in section 1 of the Act.

SEC. 6. (a) There is hereby established the Canaveral National Seashore Advisory Commission which shall consult and advise with the Secretary on all matters of planning, development, and operation of

Canaveral National Seashore Advisory Commission. Establishment. 16 USC 459j-5.

Termination.

the seashore and shall provide such other advice and assistance as may be useful in carrying out the purposes of this Act. The Commission shall terminate ten years after the date the seashore is established pursuant to this Act, unless extended by the Congress. The Commission shall be composed of five members who shall serve for terms of two years. Members shall be appointed by the Secretary, one of whom he shall designate as Chairman, in the following manner:

Membership.

(1) one member from each county in which the seashore is located, to be selected from recommendations made by the county commission in each county;

(2) two members representing the State of Florida who shall be selected from recommendations made by the Governor of Florida; and

(3) one member representing the general public.

(b) After the Secretary designates the member to be Chairman, the Commission may meet as often as necessary at the call of the Chairman or of the Secretary, or upon petition of a majority of the members of the Commission. Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(c) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, as such, but the Secretary may pay, upon vouchers signed by the Chairman, the expenses reasonably incurred by the Commission and its members in carrying out their responsibilities under this section.

Transfer of lands.
16 USC 459j-6.

SEC. 7. Upon enactment of this Act, those lands to be used for the administrative and visitor facilities described in section 5(c)(1) shall be transferred by this Act to the Secretary of the Interior and those portions of the John F. Kennedy Space Center falling within the boundaries of the seashore as defined in section 1 of this Act shall become a part of the seashore, and within ninety days thereafter, the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall grant to the Secretary for carrying out the intent and purpose of this Act such use of said portions as the Administrator determines is not inconsistent with public safety and the needs of the space and defense programs of the Nation. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any lands within the seashore which the Administrator determines to be excess to the needs of such agency shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for administration in accordance with the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That any portions of the John F. Kennedy Space Center within the seashore not transferred to the Secretary shall remain under the control and jurisdiction of the Administrator.

Report to President.
16 USC 459j-7.

SEC. 8. Within three years from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall review the area within the seashore and shall report to the President, in accordance with section 3 (c) and (d) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 891; 16 U.S.C. 1132 (c) and (d)), his recommendations as to the suitability or nonsuitability of any area within the seashore for preservation as wilderness, and any designation of any such areas as a wilderness shall be accomplished in accordance with said subsections of the Wilderness Act.

16 USC 459j-8.

SEC. 9. (a) There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, but not more than $7,941,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands. In order to avoid excessive costs resulting from delays in the acquisition program, the Secretary shall make every reasonable effort to promptly acquire the privately owned lands within the seashore. Until all such lands are acquired, he shall report, in writing on June 30 of each year to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress, the following information:

Reports to congressional committees.

(1) the amount of land acquired during the current fiscal year and the amount expended therefor;

(2) the amount of land remaining to be acquired; and

(3) the amount of land programed for acquisition in the ensuing fiscal year and the estimated cost thereof.

Seashore development plan, transmittal to congressional committees.

(b) For the development of essential public facilities there are authorized to be appropriated not more than $500,000. Within three years from the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and transmit to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress a final master plan for the full development of the seashore consistent with the preservation objectives of this Act, indicating:

(1) the facilities needed to accommodate the health, safety, and recreation needs of the visiting public;

(2) the location and estimated cost of all facilities; and

(3) the projected need for any additional facilities within the seashore.

Approved January 3, 1975.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 93-1497 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORT No. 93-1333 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 120 (1974):
Dec. 3, considered and passed House.
Dec. 12, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Dec. 17, House concurred in Senate amendments.