ORDER NO. 3374

Subject: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act

Sec. 1 Purpose. This Order establishes a Departmental task force to facilitate and prioritize the Department of the Interior’s (Department) timely implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (Dingell Act). It also clarifies Departmental roles and responsibilities to accomplish this goal.

Sec. 2 Background. The Department is entrusted with stewarding more than 500 million acres of our Nation’s Federal lands and resources for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. Activities that take place on these lands create economic prosperity and opportunity; provide for recreation, hunting, and fishing; and preserve some of our most treasured places. Proper conservation and stewardship of these national lands requires the Department to strike the right balance with the help of the Congress. Building on and in furtherance of this trust with the American people, Congress passed and the President signed the Dingell Act.

The Dingell Act is the first comprehensive legislation to address public lands management in a decade. It represents years of public debate over how and for what purpose Federal lands should be managed. Like the mission of the Department itself, the Dingell Act is wide-ranging and comprehensive. The Dingell Act has more than 100 individual provisions and is the result of Congress and the Trump Administration working together to execute the will of citizens who are most affected by Federal land use decisions. It codifies decades-old promises to local governments concerning how Federal land should be managed. It protects and preserves some of America’s most important cultural and natural historic sites, such as the Camp Nelson National Monument and the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument. It amends and creates new Federal authorities to assist the Department in managing endangered and invasive species. It will allow the Federal Government to better anticipate and respond to natural disasters.

Importantly, by designating areas for conservation, recreation, and off-road vehicles; providing free admission to public lands for children; and expanding access for hunting and target shooting, more people will be able to access and enjoy our public lands. The President, Congress, and the American people have spoken clearly—it is now the Department’s responsibility to implement this vision.
Sec. 3 Authority. This Order is issued under the authority of Section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended, and pursuant to the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9).

Sec. 4 John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act Task Force (Task Force). A task force on the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act is hereby established in the Department. The Associate Deputy Secretary shall serve as Chair and the Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget, Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Areas, and the Solicitor shall serve as members of the task force. The purpose of the Task Force is to ensure:

a. Timely and coordinated implementation of the Dingell Act throughout the Department;
b. Proper allocation of efforts and resources;
c. All timelines contained in the Dingell Act are met; and
d. Consistency among the various Bureaus and Offices within the Department.

Sec. 5 Responsibilities.

a. Dingell Act Review. Within 20 days of the date of this Order, the members of the Task Force will review the Dingell Act and submit a report to the Chair that will identify:

(1) Each provision - the Title, Section, and Subsection - each respecting organization will be responsible for implementing;
(2) The Bureau that will implement the provision;
(3) Whether additional action from other Bureaus or Departments is required to implement the provision; and
(4) Any timelines or reporting requirements established by the Dingell Act by which the Department must implement the provision.

b. Implementation Plan. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, members of the Task Force will submit an Implementation Plan for each actionable provision of the bill to the Chair. For each provision identified during the Dingell Act Review, the Implementation Plan will:

(1) Identify actionable steps, milestones, and planned schedule dates;
(2) Identify and align budget resources for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, FY2020, and FY2021;
(3) Describe whether additional resources are necessary to conclude implementation of the provision; and
(4) Designate staff responsible for the implementation of the provision.
c. Tracking database. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, members of the Task Force will establish a tracking database for the provisions identified in the Implementation Plan.

d. Accountability. Members of the Task Force will provide quarterly updates to the Chair of the Task Force.

Sec. 6 Implementation. The Associate Deputy Secretary is responsible for ensuring implementation of this Order. This responsibility may be delegated as appropriate.

Sec. 7 Expiration Date. This Order is effective immediately. It will remain in effect until its provisions are implemented and completed, or until it is amended, suspended, or revoked.

Date: MAR 27 2019

Acting Secretary of the Interior