

**As Passed by the House**

**126th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2005-2006**

**Am. Sub. H. B. No. 443**

**Representatives Uecker, Aslanides, McGregor, J., Setzer, Book, Carmichael,  
Combs, Flowers, Seitz**

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**A B I L L**

To amend sections 123.04, 303.14, 307.37, 519.14, 1  
1501.011, 1501.02, 1501.07, 1501.23, 1501.32, 2  
1502.01, 1502.03, 1502.12, 1504.02, 1506.04, 3  
1507.01, 1510.04, 1511.021, 1513.01, 1513.02, 4  
1513.07, 1513.071, 1513.08, 1513.13, 1513.16, 5  
1513.17, 1513.18, 1513.181, 1513.29, 1513.30, 6  
1513.37, 1514.01, 1514.03, 1514.04, 1514.05, 7  
1514.06, 1514.09, 1514.11, 1514.99, 1515.10, 8  
1515.211, 1517.02, 1517.10, 1517.11, 1520.02, 9  
1520.03, 1520.05, 1520.07, 1521.01, 1521.04, 10  
1521.05, 1521.06, 1521.061, 1521.062, 1521.064, 11  
1521.13, 1521.14, 1521.18, 1521.19, 1521.99, 12  
1531.01, 1531.02, 1531.04, 1531.06, 1531.10, 13  
1531.20, 1531.27, 1531.99, 1533.07, 1533.08, 14  
1533.09, 1533.10, 1533.11, 1533.12, 1533.131, 15  
1533.171, 1533.42, 1533.632, 1533.68, 1533.86, 16  
1533.882, 1533.99, 1541.03, 1541.05, 1541.40, 17  
1547.05, 1547.08, 1547.51, 1547.54, 1547.541, 18  
1547.99, 1548.02, 1567.35, 4115.04, and 5749.02; 19  
to enact sections 303.141, 519.141, 1501.45, 20  
1513.075, 1513.081, 1513.171, 1513.182, 1513.371, 21  
1514.011, 1514.051, 1514.40 to 1514.47, 1514.50, 22  
1515.093, 1548.031, 1548.032, 1561.011, 1563.01, 23  
1565.01, 1567.01, 1571.011, 2305.041, 5577.081, 24

and 5749.11; and to repeal sections 1502.11, 25  
1513.10, 1521.08, and 1533.78 of the Revised Code 26  
to revise the statutes governing the Department of 27  
Natural Resources; to make changes to the law 28  
governing coal mining, including increasing the 29  
severance tax on coal and revising the 30  
distribution of revenue from that tax; to make 31  
changes to the law governing the mining of 32  
industrial minerals, including revising zoning 33  
provisions related to such mining; and to make 34  
other changes. 35

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 123.04, 303.14, 307.37, 519.14, 36  
1501.011, 1501.02, 1501.07, 1501.23, 1501.32, 1502.01, 1502.03, 37  
1502.12, 1504.02, 1506.04, 1507.01, 1510.04, 1511.021, 1513.01, 38  
1513.02, 1513.07, 1513.071, 1513.08, 1513.13, 1513.16, 1513.17, 39  
1513.18, 1513.181, 1513.29, 1513.30, 1513.37, 1514.01, 1514.03, 40  
1514.04, 1514.05, 1514.06, 1514.09, 1514.11, 1514.99, 1515.10, 41  
1515.211, 1517.02, 1517.10, 1517.11, 1520.02, 1520.03, 1520.05, 42  
1520.07, 1521.01, 1521.04, 1521.05, 1521.06, 1521.061, 1521.062, 43  
1521.064, 1521.13, 1521.14, 1521.18, 1521.19, 1521.99, 1531.01, 44  
1531.02, 1531.04, 1531.06, 1531.10, 1531.20, 1531.27, 1531.99, 45  
1533.07, 1533.08, 1533.09, 1533.10, 1533.11, 1533.12, 1533.131, 46  
1533.171, 1533.42, 1533.632, 1533.68, 1533.86, 1533.882, 1533.99, 47  
1541.03, 1541.05, 1541.40, 1547.05, 1547.08, 1547.51, 1547.54, 48  
1547.541, 1547.99, 1548.02, 1567.35, 4115.04, and 5749.02 be 49  
amended and sections 303.141, 519.141, 1501.45, 1513.075, 50  
1513.081, 1513.171, 1513.182, 1513.371, 1514.011, 1514.051, 51  
1514.40, 1514.41, 1514.42, 1514.43, 1514.44, 1514.45, 1514.46, 52  
1514.47, 1514.50, 1515.093, 1548.031, 1548.032, 1561.011, 1563.01, 53

1565.01, 1567.01, 1571.011, 2305.041, 5577.081, and 5749.11 of the 54  
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 55

**Sec. 123.04.** The director of administrative services shall be 56  
appointed superintendent of public works and shall have the care 57  
and control of the public works of the state ~~except as provided in~~ 58  
~~section 1521.08 of the Revised Code~~ and shall protect, maintain, 59  
and keep them in repair. 60

Subject to the approval of the governor, the director may 61  
purchase on behalf of the state such real or personal property, 62  
rights, or privileges as are necessary, in the director's 63  
judgment, to acquire in the maintenance of the public works or 64  
their improvement. 65

Any instrument by which the state or an agency of the state 66  
acquires real property pursuant to this section shall identify the 67  
agency of the state that has the use and benefit of the real 68  
property as specified in section 5301.012 of the Revised Code. 69

**Sec. 303.14.** The county board of zoning appeals may: 70

(A) Hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is 71  
error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made 72  
by an administrative official in the enforcement of sections 73  
303.01 to 303.25 of the Revised Code, or of any resolution adopted 74  
pursuant thereto; 75

(B) Authorize upon appeal, in specific cases, such variance 76  
from the terms of the zoning resolution as will not be contrary to 77  
the public interest, where, owing to special conditions, a literal 78  
enforcement of the resolution will result in unnecessary hardship, 79  
and so that the spirit of the resolution shall be observed and 80  
substantial justice done; 81

(C) Grant conditional zoning certificates for the use of 82

land, buildings, or other structures if such certificates for  
specific uses are provided for in the zoning resolution+. If the  
board considers conditional zoning certificates for activities  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the  
Revised Code or activities that are related to making finished  
aggregate products, the board shall proceed in accordance with  
section 303.141. of the Revised Code.

(D) Revoke an authorized variance or conditional zoning  
certificate granted for the extraction of minerals, if any  
condition of the variance or certificate is violated.

The board shall notify the holder of the variance or  
certificate by certified mail of its intent to revoke the variance  
or certificate under division (D) of this section and of ~~his~~ the  
holder's right to a hearing before the board within thirty days of  
the mailing of the notice if ~~he~~ the holder so requests. If the  
holder requests a hearing, the board shall set a time and place  
for the hearing and notify the holder. At the hearing, the holder  
may appear in person, by ~~his~~ attorney, or by other representative,  
or ~~he~~ the holder may present ~~his~~ the holder's position in writing.  
~~He~~ The holder may present evidence and examine witnesses appearing  
for or against ~~him~~ the holder. If no hearing is requested, the  
board may revoke the variance or certificate without a hearing.  
The authority to revoke a variance or certificate is in addition  
to any other means of zoning enforcement provided by law.

In exercising the above-mentioned powers, ~~such~~ the board may,  
in conformity with such sections, reverse or affirm, wholly or  
partly, or modify the order, requirement, decision, or  
determination appealed from and may make such order, requirement,  
decision, or determination as ought to be made, and to that end  
has all powers of the officer from whom the appeal is taken.

**Sec. 303.141.** (A) If a county board of zoning appeals

considers conditional zoning certificates for activities that are 114  
permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code or 115  
activities that are related to making finished aggregate products, 116  
the board shall not consider or base its determination on matters 117  
that are regulated by any federal, state, or local agency. 118  
However, the board may require as a condition of the approval of a 119  
conditional zoning certificate for such an activity compliance 120  
with any general standards contained in the zoning resolution that 121  
apply to all conditional uses that are provided for in the zoning 122  
resolution and, except as provided in division (C) of this 123  
section, may require any specified measure, including, but not 124  
limited to, one or more of the following: 125

(1) Inspections of nearby structures and water wells to 126  
determine structural integrity and water levels; 127

(2) Compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws 128  
and regulations; 129

(3) Identification of specific roads in accordance with 130  
division (B) of this section to be used as the primary means of 131  
ingress to and egress from the proposed activity; 132

(4) Compliance with reasonable noise abatement measures; 133

(5) Compliance with reasonable dust abatement measures; 134

(6) Establishment of setbacks, berms, and buffers for the 135  
proposed activity; 136

(7) Establishment of a complaint procedure; 137

(8) Any other measure reasonably related to public health and 138  
safety. 139

(B)(1) For purposes of this section and section 519.141 of 140  
the Revised Code, and prior to the submission of an application 141  
for a conditional zoning certificate, an applicant shall send 142  
written notice to the county engineer of the applicant's intent to 143

apply for a conditional zoning certificate. Not later than 144  
fourteen days after receipt of the written notice, the county 145  
engineer shall establish the time, date, and location of a meeting 146  
with the applicant and send written notice of the time, date, and 147  
location of the meeting to the applicant and to the fiscal officer 148  
of each township in which the proposed activity is to be located 149  
or expanded. At the meeting, the applicant shall explain the 150  
proposed location of the activity or expansion of an existing 151  
activity, the anticipated amount of aggregate material to be 152  
shipped by truck from the activity, and the anticipated primary 153  
market areas for the finished aggregate products leaving the 154  
activity. 155

Not later than thirty days after the meeting with the 156  
applicant, the county engineer shall submit a written 157  
recommendation of specific roads to be used as the primary means 158  
of ingress to and egress from the proposed activity to the board 159  
of county commissioners. In making the recommendation, the county 160  
engineer shall consider all of the following: 161

(a) The ability of each road to handle the anticipated 162  
recurring loads resulting from trucks entering and leaving the 163  
proposed activity; 164

(b) The present condition of each road; 165

(c) The amount of residential development that exists along 166  
each road; 167

(d) The most direct route from the proposed activity to a 168  
state highway unless another route is more capable of 169  
accommodating the anticipated recurring loads and will result in 170  
fewer conflicts with existing residential development. 171

(2) At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of 172  
county commissioners after receipt of a written recommendation 173  
under division (B)(1) of this section, the board shall adopt the 174

recommendation or adopt the recommendation with modifications. If 175  
the board adopts the recommendation with modifications, the board 176  
shall base the modifications only on the criteria established in 177  
divisions (B)(1)(a) to (d) of this section. The board may adopt 178  
the recommendation with modifications only by a unanimous vote. 179  
The board shall send written notice of the adoption of the 180  
recommendation or the recommendation with modifications to the 181  
county board of zoning appeals. 182

(3) For purposes of this section and section 519.141 of the 183  
Revised Code, a decision of a board of county commissioners under 184  
division (B)(2) of this section is final ten days after the board 185  
adopts the recommendation or the recommendation with modifications 186  
unless the applicant or an affected board of township trustees 187  
submits written notice of appeal within ten days after the board's 188  
action. If the board of county commissioners receives a timely 189  
written notice of appeal, the board shall conduct an appeal 190  
hearing concerning its decision not later than fourteen days after 191  
receipt of the notice. If the board of county commissioners 192  
receives more than one timely written notice of appeal, the board 193  
may conduct one appeal hearing concerning all of the notices of 194  
appeal. 195

For purposes of an appeal hearing that is held under this 196  
division, the applicant or a board of township trustees that 197  
submitted written notice of appeal may present testimony for the 198  
board of county commissioners to consider concerning its decision 199  
under division (B)(2) of this section. At the hearing, the 200  
applicant or the board of township trustees may be represented by 201  
an attorney. A witness at the hearing shall testify under oath or 202  
affirmation, which any member of the board of county commissioners 203  
may administer. A witness at the hearing shall be subject to 204  
cross-examination. 205

Not later than fourteen days after the hearing, the board of 206

county commissioners shall affirm its decision under division 207  
(B)(2) of this section or, based on the testimony at the hearing, 208  
modify its decision. The board shall send written notice of its 209  
decision to the applicant, any board of township trustees that 210  
submitted written notice of appeal, and the county board of zoning 211  
appeals. 212

A decision of a board of county commissioners under this 213  
division is final unless vacated or modified upon judicial review. 214

(4) An applicant or a board of township trustees that 215  
submitted written notice of appeal under division (B)(3) of this 216  
section may appeal a decision of a board of county commissioners 217  
under that division to the court of common pleas of the county in 218  
which the activity is proposed to be located or expanded pursuant 219  
to section 2506.01 of the Revised Code. 220

(C) When granting a conditional zoning certificate, a county 221  
board of zoning appeals shall not require the identification of 222  
specific roads, as otherwise authorized in division (A)(3) of this 223  
section, and the identification of specific roads in accordance 224  
with division (B) of this section shall not apply, for any of the 225  
following: 226

(1) The transfer of unfinished aggregate material between 227  
facilities that are under the control of the same owner or 228  
operator; 229

(2) The loading or unloading of finished aggregate product 230  
within a ten-mile radius of a surface mining operation; 231

(3) The expansion of an existing surface mining operation 232  
when the specific road that is used as the primary means of 233  
ingress to and egress from the operation will be the same road 234  
that is used for that purpose after the expansion of the facility. 235

(D) The identification of specific roads in accordance with 236



division (B) of this section to be used as the primary means of 237  
ingress to and egress from a proposed activity becomes effective 238  
only upon the granting of a conditional zoning certificate. 239

(E) As used in this section, "surface mining operation" has 240  
the same meaning as in section 1514.01 of the Revised Code. 241

**Sec. 307.37.** (A) As used in division (B)(3) of this section, 242  
"proposed new construction" means a proposal to erect, construct, 243  
repair, alter, redevelop, or maintain a single-family, two-family, 244  
or three-family dwelling or any structure that is regulated by the 245  
Ohio building code. 246

(B)(1)(a) The board of county commissioners may adopt local 247  
residential building regulations governing residential buildings 248  
as defined in section 3781.06 of the Revised Code, to be enforced 249  
within the unincorporated area of the county or within districts 250  
the board establishes in any part of the unincorporated area. No 251  
local residential building regulation shall differ from the state 252  
residential building code the board of building standards 253  
establishes pursuant to Chapter 3781. of the Revised Code unless 254  
the regulation addresses subject matter not addressed by the state 255  
residential building code or is adopted pursuant to section 256  
3781.01 of the Revised Code. 257

(b) The board of county commissioners may, by resolution, 258  
adopt, administer, and enforce within the unincorporated area of 259  
the county, or within districts the board establishes in the 260  
unincorporated area, an existing structures code pertaining to the 261  
repair and continued maintenance of structures and the premises of 262  
those structures provided that the existing structures code 263  
governs subject matter not addressed by, and is not in conflict 264  
with, the state residential building code adopted pursuant to 265  
Chapter 3781. of the Revised Code. The board may adopt by 266  
incorporation by reference a model or standard code prepared and 267

promulgated by the state, any agency of this state, or any private  
organization that publishes a recognized or standard existing  
structures code.

(c) The board shall assign the duties of administering and  
enforcing any local residential building regulations or existing  
structures code to a county officer or employee who is trained and  
qualified for those duties and shall establish by resolution the  
minimum qualifications necessary to perform those duties.

(2) The board may adopt regulations for participation in the  
national flood insurance program ~~established in the "Flood  
Disaster Protection Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 975, 42 U.S.C.A. 4002,~~  
as amended, defined in section 1521.01 of the Revised Code and  
regulations ~~adopted~~ for the purposes of section 1506.04 or 1506.07  
of the Revised Code governing the prohibition, location, erection,  
construction, redevelopment, or floodproofing of new buildings or  
structures, substantial improvements to existing buildings or  
structures, or other development in unincorporated territory  
within flood hazard areas identified under the "Flood Disaster  
Protection Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 975, 42 U.S.C.A. 4002, as  
amended, or within Lake Erie coastal erosion areas identified  
under section 1506.06 of the Revised Code, including, but not  
limited to, residential, commercial, institutional, or industrial  
buildings or structures or other permanent structures, as defined  
in section 1506.01 of the Revised Code. Rules adopted under  
division (B)(2) of this section shall not conflict with the state  
residential and nonresidential building codes adopted pursuant to  
section 3781.10 of the Revised Code.

(3)(a) A board may adopt regulations that provide for a  
review of the specific effects of a proposed new construction on  
existing surface or subsurface drainage. The regulations may  
require reasonable drainage mitigation and reasonable alteration  
of a proposed new construction before a building permit is issued

in order to prevent or correct any adverse effects that the  
proposed new construction may have on existing surface or  
subsurface drainage. The regulations shall not be inconsistent  
with, more stringent than, or broader in scope than standards  
adopted by the natural resource conservation service in the United  
States department of agriculture concerning drainage or rules  
adopted by the environmental protection agency for reducing,  
controlling, or mitigating storm water runoff from construction  
sites, where applicable. The regulations shall allow a person who  
is registered under Chapter 4703. or 4733. of the Revised Code to  
prepare and submit relevant plans and other documents for review,  
provided that the person is authorized to prepare the plans and  
other documents pursuant to the person's registration.

(b) If regulations are adopted under division (B)(3) of this  
section, the board shall specify in the regulations a procedure  
for the review of the specific effects of a proposed new  
construction on existing surface or subsurface drainage. The  
procedure shall include at a minimum all of the following:

(i) A meeting at which the proposed new construction shall be  
examined for those specific effects. The meeting shall be held  
within thirty days after an application for a building permit is  
filed or a review is requested unless the applicant agrees in  
writing to extend that time period or to postpone the meeting to  
another date, time, or place. The meeting shall be scheduled  
within five days after an application for a building permit is  
filed or a review is requested.

(ii) Written notice of the date, time, and place of that  
meeting, sent by regular mail to the applicant. The written notice  
shall be mailed at least seven days before the scheduled meeting  
date.

(iii) Completion of the review by the board of county

commissioners not later than thirty days after the application for 331  
a building permit is filed or a review is requested unless the 332  
applicant has agreed in writing to extend that time period or 333  
postpone the meeting to a later time, in which case the review 334  
shall be completed not later than two days after the date of the 335  
meeting. A complete review shall include the issuance of any order 336  
of the board of county commissioners regarding necessary 337  
reasonable drainage mitigation and necessary reasonable 338  
alterations to the proposed new construction to prevent or correct 339  
any adverse effects on existing surface or subsurface drainage so 340  
long as those alterations comply with the state residential and 341  
nonresidential building codes adopted pursuant to section 3781.10 342  
of the Revised Code. If the review is not completed within the 343  
thirty-day period or an extended or postponed period that the 344  
applicant has agreed to, the proposed new construction shall be 345  
deemed to have no adverse effects on existing surface or 346  
subsurface drainage, and those effects shall not be a valid basis 347  
for the denial of a building permit. 348

(iv) A written statement, provided to the applicant at the 349  
meeting or in an order for alterations to a proposed new 350  
construction, informing the applicant of the right to seek 351  
appellate review of the denial of a building permit under division 352  
(B)(3)(b)(iii) of this section by filing a petition in accordance 353  
with Chapter 2506. of the Revised Code. 354

(c) The regulations may authorize the board, after obtaining 355  
the advice of the county engineer, to enter into an agreement with 356  
the county engineer or another qualified person or entity to carry 357  
out any necessary inspections and make evaluations about what, if 358  
any, alterations are necessary to prevent or correct any adverse 359  
effects that a proposed new construction may have on existing 360  
surface or subsurface drainage. 361

(d) Regulations adopted pursuant to division (B)(3) of this 362

section shall not apply to any property that a platting authority 363  
has approved under section 711.05, 711.09, or 711.10 of the 364  
Revised Code and shall not govern the same subject matter as the 365  
state residential or nonresidential building codes adopted 366  
pursuant to section 3781.10 of the Revised Code. 367

(e) As used in division (B)(3) of this section, "subsurface 368  
drainage" does not include a household sewage treatment system as 369  
defined in section 3709.091 of the Revised Code. 370

(C)(1) Any regulation, code, or amendment may be adopted 371  
under this section only after a public hearing at not fewer than 372  
two regular or special sessions of the board. The board shall 373  
cause notice of any public hearing to be published in a newspaper 374  
of general circulation in the county once a week for the two 375  
consecutive weeks immediately preceding the hearing, except that 376  
if the board posts the hearing notice on the board's internet site 377  
on the world wide web, the board need publish only one notice of 378  
the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation if that 379  
newspaper notice includes the board's internet site and a 380  
statement that the notice is also posted on the internet site. Any 381  
notice of a public hearing shall include the time, date, and place 382  
of the hearing. 383

(2) Any proposed regulation, code, or amendment shall be made 384  
available to the public at the board office. The regulations or 385  
amendments shall take effect on the thirty-first day following the 386  
date of their adoption. 387

(D)(1) No person shall violate any regulation, code, or 388  
amendment the board adopts under sections 307.37 to 307.40 of the 389  
Revised Code. 390

(2) Each day during which an illegal location, erection, 391  
construction, floodproofing, repair, alteration, development, 392  
redevelopment, or maintenance continues may be considered a 393

separate offense. 394

(E) Regulations or amendments the board adopts pursuant to 395  
this section, with the exception of an existing structures code, 396  
do not affect buildings or structures that exist or on which 397  
construction has begun on or before the date the board adopts the 398  
regulation or amendment. 399

(F)(1) The board may create a building department and employ 400  
the personnel it determines necessary to administer and enforce 401  
any local residential building regulations or existing structures 402  
code the board adopts pursuant to this section. The building 403  
department may enforce the state residential and nonresidential 404  
building codes adopted pursuant to Chapter 3781. of the Revised 405  
Code if the building department is certified pursuant to section 406  
3781.10 of the Revised Code to enforce those codes. 407

(2) The board may direct the building department, upon 408  
certification, to exercise enforcement authority and to accept and 409  
approve plans pursuant to sections 3781.03 and 3791.04 of the 410  
Revised Code for the class of building for which the department 411  
and personnel are certified. 412

**Sec. 519.14.** The township board of zoning appeals may: 413

(A) Hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is 414  
error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made 415  
by an administrative official in the enforcement of sections 416  
519.02 to 519.25 of the Revised Code, or of any resolution adopted 417  
pursuant thereto; 418

(B) Authorize, upon appeal, in specific cases, such variance 419  
from the terms of the zoning resolution as will not be contrary to 420  
the public interest, where, owing to special conditions, a literal 421  
enforcement of the resolution will result in unnecessary hardship, 422  
and so that the spirit of the resolution shall be observed and 423

substantial justice done;

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(C) Grant conditional zoning certificates for the use of  
land, buildings, or other structures if such certificates for  
specific uses are provided for in the zoning resolution. If the  
board considers conditional zoning certificates for activities  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the  
Revised Code or activities that are related to making finished  
aggregate products, the board shall proceed in accordance with  
section 519.141 of the Revised Code.

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(D) Revoke an authorized variance or conditional zoning  
certificate granted for the extraction of minerals, if any  
condition of the variance or certificate is violated.

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The board shall notify the holder of the variance or  
certificate by certified mail of its intent to revoke the variance  
or certificate under division (D) of this section and of ~~his~~ the  
holder's right to a hearing before the board, within thirty days  
of the mailing of the notice, if ~~he~~ the holder so requests. If the  
holder requests a hearing, the board shall set a time and place  
for the hearing and notify the holder. At the hearing, the holder  
may appear in person, by ~~his~~ the holder's attorney, or by other  
representative, or ~~he~~ the holder may present ~~his~~ the holder's  
position in writing. ~~He~~ The holder may present evidence and  
examine witnesses appearing for or against ~~him~~ the holder. If no  
hearing is requested, the board may revoke the variance or  
certificate without a hearing. The authority to revoke a variance  
or certificate is in addition to any other means of zoning  
enforcement provided by law.

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In exercising the above-mentioned powers, ~~such~~ the board may,  
in conformity with such sections, reverse or affirm, wholly or  
partly, or may modify the order, requirement, decision, or  
determination appealed from, and may make such order, requirement,

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decision, or determination as ought to be made, and to that end 455  
has all powers of the officer from whom the appeal is taken. 456

Sec. 519.141. (A) If a township board of zoning appeals 457  
considers conditional zoning certificates for activities that are 458  
permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code or 459  
activities that are related to making finished aggregate products, 460  
the board shall not consider or base its determination on matters 461  
that are regulated by any federal, state, or local agency. 462  
However, the board may require as a condition of the approval of a 463  
conditional zoning certificate for such an activity compliance 464  
with any general standards contained in the zoning resolution that 465  
apply to all conditional uses that are provided for in the zoning 466  
resolution and, except as provided in division (C) of this 467  
section, may require any specified measure, including, but not 468  
limited to, one or more of the following: 469

(1) Inspections of nearby structures and water wells to 470  
determine structural integrity and water levels; 471

(2) Compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws 472  
and regulations; 473

(3) Identification of specific roads in accordance with 474  
division (B) of section 303.141 of the Revised Code to be used as 475  
the primary means of ingress to and egress from the proposed 476  
activity; 477

(4) Compliance with reasonable noise abatement measures; 478

(5) Compliance with reasonable dust abatement measures; 479

(6) Establishment of setbacks, berms, and buffers for the 480  
proposed activity; 481

(7) Establishment of a complaint procedure; 482

(8) Any other measure reasonably related to public health and 483  
safety. 484



(B)(1) Prior to the submission of an application for a conditional zoning certificate, an applicant, in accordance with division (B) of section 303.141 of the Revised Code, shall send written notice to the county engineer of the applicant's intent to apply for a conditional zoning certificate. The county engineer and the applicable board of county commissioners shall proceed in accordance with divisions (B)(1) to (3) of section 303.141 of the Revised Code. As provided in division (B)(3) of that section, the applicant or an affected board of township trustees may submit written notice of appeal regarding a decision of the board of county commissioners under division (B)(2) of that section.

(2) An applicant or a board of township trustees that submitted written notice of appeal under division (B)(3) of section 303.141 of the Revised Code may appeal a decision of a board of county commissioners under that division to the court of common pleas of the county in which the activity is proposed to be located or expanded pursuant to section 2506.01 of the Revised Code.

(C) When granting a conditional zoning certificate, a township board of zoning appeals shall not require the identification of specific roads, as otherwise authorized in division (A)(3) of section 303.141 of the Revised Code, and the identification of specific roads in accordance with division (B) of that section shall not apply, for any of the following:

(1) The transfer of unfinished aggregate material between facilities that are under the control of the same owner or operator;

(2) The loading or unloading of finished aggregate product within a ten-mile radius of a surface mining operation;

(3) The expansion of an existing surface mining operation when the specific road that is used as the primary means of

ingress to and egress from the operation will be the same road 516  
that is used for that purpose after the expansion of the facility. 517

(D) The identification of specific roads in accordance with 518  
this section and division (B) of section 303.141 of the Revised 519  
Code to be used as the primary means of ingress to and egress from 520  
a proposed activity becomes effective only upon the granting of a 521  
conditional zoning certificate. 522

(E) As used in this section, "surface mining operation" has 523  
the same meaning as in section 1514.01 of the Revised Code. 524

**Sec. 1501.011.** (A) The department of natural resources has 525  
the following powers in addition to its other powers: to prepare, 526  
or contract to be prepared, surveys, general and detailed plans, 527  
specifications, bills of materials, and estimates of cost for, to 528  
enter into contracts for, and to supervise the performance of 529  
labor, the furnishing of materials, or the construction, repair, 530  
or maintenance of any projects, improvements, or buildings, on 531  
lands and waters under the control of the department, as may be 532  
authorized by legislative appropriations or any other funds 533  
available therefor. 534

(B) Except in cases of extreme public exigency or emergency 535  
as provided in division (E) of this section, the director of 536  
natural resources shall publish notice in a newspaper of general 537  
circulation in the county region where the contract activity for 538  
which bids are submitted is to be let occur and in any other 539  
newspapers that the director determines are appropriate, at least 540  
once each week for four consecutive weeks, the last publication to 541  
be at least eight days preceding the day for opening bids, seeking 542  
proposals on each contract for the performance of labor, the 543  
furnishing of materials, or the construction, repair, or 544  
maintenance of projects, improvements, or buildings, as necessary 545  
for compliance with provisions of the act to make appropriations 546

for capital improvements or the act to make general 547  
appropriations, and ~~he~~ the director may also advertise in such 548  
trade journals as will afford adequate information to the public 549  
of the terms of the contract and the nature of the work to be 550  
performed, together with the time of the letting and place and 551  
manner of receiving proposals, and the places where plans and 552  
specifications are on file. A proposal is invalid and shall not be 553  
considered by the department unless the form for proposals 554  
specified by the department is used without change, alteration, or 555  
addition. 556

(C) Each bidder for a contract for the performance of labor, 557  
the furnishing of materials, or the maintenance, construction, 558  
demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of an 559  
improvement shall meet the requirements of section 153.54 of the 560  
Revised Code. The director may require each bidder to furnish ~~him~~ 561  
under oath, upon such printed forms as ~~he~~ the director may 562  
prescribe, detailed information with respect to ~~his~~ the bidder's 563  
financial resources, equipment, past performance record, 564  
organization personnel, and experience, together with such other 565  
information as the director considers necessary. 566

(D) The director shall award the contract to the lowest 567  
responsive and responsible bidder in accordance with section 9.312 568  
of the Revised Code. The award shall be made within a reasonable 569  
time after the date on which the bids were opened, and the 570  
successful bidder shall enter into a contract within ten days from 571  
the date ~~he~~ the successful bidder is notified that ~~he~~ the contract 572  
has been awarded ~~the contract~~, or within any longer period ~~which~~ 573  
that the director considers necessary. ~~When an exigency occurs, or~~ 574  
~~there is immediate danger of such occurrence, which would~~ 575  
~~materially impair the construction or completion of any project,~~ 576  
~~improvement, or building, the director may make necessary plan and~~ 577  
~~specification change orders.~~ Nothing in this section shall 578

preclude the rejection of any bid the acceptance of which is not 579  
in the best interests of the state. No contract shall be entered 580  
into until the bureau of workers' compensation has certified that 581  
the corporation, partnership, or person awarded the contract has 582  
complied with Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code and until, if the 583  
bidder awarded the contract is a foreign corporation, the 584  
secretary of state has certified that ~~such~~ the corporation is 585  
authorized to do business in this state, and until, if the bidder 586  
so awarded the contract is a person or partnership nonresident of 587  
this state, ~~such~~ the person or partnership has filed with the 588  
secretary of state a power of attorney designating the secretary 589  
of state as its agency for the purpose of accepting service of 590  
process. 591

~~The director may enter~~ (E) With respect to the director's 592  
entering into a contract without advertising for and receiving 593  
~~bids~~ for the performance of labor, the furnishing of materials, or 594  
the construction, repair, or maintenance of any projects, 595  
improvements, or buildings on lands and waters under the control 596  
of the department, both of the following apply: 597

(1) The director is not required to advertise for and receive 598  
bids if the total estimated cost of ~~which~~ the contract is less 599  
than ~~ten~~ twenty-five thousand dollars. 600

(2) The director is not required to advertise for bids, 601  
regardless of the cost of the contract, if the contract involves 602  
an exigency that concerns the public health, safety, or welfare or 603  
addresses an emergency situation in which timeliness is crucial in 604  
preventing the cost of the contract from increasing significantly. 605  
Regarding such a contract, the director may solicit bids by 606  
sending a letter to a minimum of three contractors in the region 607  
where the contract is to be let or by any other means that the 608  
director considers appropriate. 609

(F) The director may insert in any contract awarded under 610

this section a clause providing for value engineering change proposals, under which a contractor who has been awarded a contract may propose a change in the plans and specifications of the project that saves the department time or money on the project without impairing any of the essential functions and characteristics of the project such as service life, reliability, economy of operation, ease of maintenance, safety, and necessary standardized features. If the director adopts the value engineering proposal, the savings from the proposal shall be divided between the department and the contractor according to guidelines established by the director, provided that the contractor shall receive at least fifty per cent of the savings from the proposal. The adoption of a value engineering proposal does not invalidate the award of the contract or require the director to rebid the project.

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(G) When in the opinion of the department the work under any contract made under this section or any law of the state is neglected by the contractor, the work completed is deficient in quality or materials, or ~~such~~ the work is not prosecuted with the diligence and force specified or intended in the contract, the department may ~~make requisition upon~~ require the contractor ~~for~~ such additional specific force or materials to be brought into the work under such contract or to remove improper materials from the grounds as in their judgment the contract and its faithful fulfillment requires. ~~Not less than five days' notice in writing of such action shall be served upon the contractor or his agent in charge of the work to provide, at no additional expense to the department, any additional labor and materials that are necessary to complete the improvements at the level of quality and within the time of performance specified in the contract. Procedures concerning such a requirement together with its format shall be specified in the contract.~~ If the contractor fails to comply with

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~~such requisition the requirement within fifteen days the period~~ 643  
~~specified in the contract, the department may employ upon take~~ 644  
~~action to complete the work the additional force, or supply the~~ 645  
~~special materials or such part of either as it considers proper,~~ 646  
~~and may remove improper materials from the grounds through other~~ 647  
~~means, up to and including termination of the contract.~~ 648

(H) When an exigency occurs or there is immediate danger of 649  
an exigency that would materially impair the successful bidding, 650  
construction, or completion of a project, improvement, or 651  
building, the director may revise related plans and specifications 652  
as necessary to address the exigency through the issuance of an 653  
addendum prior to the opening of bids or, in accordance with 654  
procedures established in section 153.62 of the Revised Code, 655  
through the issuance of a change order after the contract has been 656  
awarded. 657

**Sec. 1501.02.** The director of natural resources may enter 658  
into cooperative or contractual arrangements with the United 659  
States or any agency or department thereof, other states, other 660  
departments and subdivisions of this state, or any other person or 661  
body politic for the accomplishment of the purposes for which the 662  
department of natural resources was created. The director shall 663  
cooperate with, and not infringe upon the rights of, other state 664  
departments, divisions, boards, commissions, and agencies, 665  
political subdivisions, and other public officials and public and 666  
private agencies in the conduct of conservation plans and other 667  
matters in which the interests of the department of natural 668  
resources and the other departments and agencies overlap. 669

The director, by mutual agreement, may utilize the facilities 670  
and staffs of state-supported educational institutions in order to 671  
promote the conservation and development of the natural resources 672  
of the state. 673

All funds made available by the United States for the 674  
exclusive use of any division shall be expended only by that 675  
division and only for the purposes for which the funds were 676  
appropriated. In accepting any such funds for the acquisition of 677  
lands or interests in them to be used for open-space purposes 678  
including park, recreational, historical, or scenic purposes, or 679  
for conservation of land or other natural resources, the director 680  
may agree on behalf of the state that lands or interests in them 681  
acquired in part with those funds shall not be converted to other 682  
uses except pursuant to further agreement between the director and 683  
the United States. 684

The director shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 685  
119. of the Revised Code establishing guidelines for entering into 686  
and may enter into a cooperative or contractual arrangement with 687  
any individual, agency, organization, or business entity to assist 688  
the department in funding a program or project of the department, 689  
its divisions, or its offices, through securing, without 690  
limitation, donations, sponsorships, marketing, advertising, and 691  
licensing arrangements. State moneys appropriated to the 692  
department shall continue to be used as authorized and shall not 693  
be redirected to any other purpose as a result of financial 694  
savings resulting from the department's entering into the 695  
cooperative or contractual arrangement. 696

The director may enter into a mutual aid compact with the 697  
chief law enforcement officer of any federal agency, state agency, 698  
county, township, municipal corporation, or other political 699  
subdivision or with the superintendent of the state highway patrol 700  
to enable forest officers, preserve officers, park officers, and 701  
state watercraft officers and the law enforcement officers of the 702  
respective federal or state agencies or political subdivisions or 703  
the state highway patrol to assist each other in the provision of 704  
police services within each other's jurisdiction. 705

Sec. 1501.07. The department of natural resources through the 706  
division of parks and recreation may plan, supervise, acquire, 707  
construct, enlarge, improve, erect, equip, and furnish public 708  
service facilities such as inns, lodges, hotels, ~~cabins~~ cottages, 709  
camping sites, scenic trails, picnic sites, restaurants, 710  
commissaries, golf courses, boating and bathing facilities, and 711  
other similar facilities in state parks reasonably necessary and 712  
useful in promoting the public use of state parks under its 713  
control and may purchase lands or interests in lands in the name 714  
of the state necessary for ~~such~~ those purposes. 715

The chief of the division of parks and recreation shall 716  
administer state parks, establish rules, fix fees and charges for 717  
admission to parks and for the use of public service facilities 718  
therein, establish rentals for the lease of lands or interests 719  
therein within a state park the chief is authorized by law to 720  
lease, and exercise all powers of the chief, in conformity with 721  
all covenants of the director of natural resources in or with 722  
respect to state park revenue bonds and trust agreements securing 723  
such bonds and all terms, provisions, and conditions of such bonds 724  
and trust agreements. In the administration of state parks with 725  
respect to which state park revenue bonds are issued and 726  
outstanding, or any part of the moneys received from fees and 727  
charges for admission to or the use of facilities, from rentals 728  
for the lease of lands or interests or facilities therein, or for 729  
the lease of public service facilities are pledged for any such 730  
bonds, the chief shall exercise the powers and perform the duties 731  
of the chief subject to the control and approval of the director. 732  
The acquisition of such lands or interests therein and facilities 733  
shall be planned with regard to the needs of the people of the 734  
state and with regard to the purposes and uses of such state parks 735  
and, except for facilities constructed in consideration of a lease 736  
under section 1501.012 of the Revised Code, shall be paid for from 737



the state park fund created in section 1541.22 of the Revised Code 738  
or from the proceeds of the sale of bonds issued under sections 739  
1501.12 to 1501.15 of the Revised Code. Sections 125.81 and 153.04 740  
of the Revised Code, insofar as they require a certification by 741  
the chief of the division of capital planning and improvement, do 742  
not apply to the acquisition of lands or interests therein and 743  
public service facilities to be paid for from the proceeds of 744  
bonds issued under sections 1501.12 to 1501.15 of the Revised 745  
Code. 746

As used in sections 1501.07 to 1501.14 of the Revised Code, 747  
state parks are all of the following: 748

(A) State reservoirs described and identified in section 749  
1541.06 of the Revised Code; 750

(B) All lands or interests therein ~~which~~ that are denominated 751  
as state parks ~~in division (B) of section 1531.12 and~~ in section 752  
1541.083 of the Revised Code; 753

(C) All lands or interests therein of the state identified as 754  
administered by the division of parks and recreation in the 755  
"inventory of state owned lands administered by department of 756  
natural resources as of June 1, 1963," as recorded in the journal 757  
of the director, which inventory was prepared by the real estate 758  
section of the department and is supported by maps on file in the 759  
division of real estate and land management; 760

(D) All lands or interests in lands of the state hereafter 761  
designated as state parks in the journal of the director with the 762  
approval of the recreation and resources council. 763

All such state parks shall be exclusively under the control 764  
and administration of the division of parks and recreation. With 765  
the approval of the council, the director by order may remove from 766  
the classification as state parks any of the lands or interests 767  
therein so classified by divisions (C) and (D) of this section, 768

subject to the limitations, provisions, and conditions in any 769  
order authorizing state park revenue bonds or in any trust 770  
agreement securing such bonds. Lands or interests therein so 771  
removed shall be transferred to other divisions of the department 772  
for administration or may be sold as provided by law. Proceeds of 773  
any sale shall be used or transferred as provided in the order 774  
authorizing state park revenue bonds or in the trust agreement 775  
and, if no such provision is made, shall be transferred to the 776  
state park fund. State parks do not include any lands or interest 777  
in lands of the state administered jointly by two or more 778  
divisions of the department. The designation of lands as state 779  
parks under divisions (A) to (D) of this section shall be 780  
conclusive, and those lands shall be under the control of and 781  
administered by the division of parks and recreation. No order or 782  
proceeding designating lands as state parks or park purchase areas 783  
shall be subject to any appeal or review by any officer, board, 784  
commission, or court. 785

**Sec. 1501.23.** The department of natural resources may utilize 786  
the services of volunteers to implement clean-up and 787  
beautification programs or any other programs that accomplish any 788  
of the purposes of the department. The director of natural 789  
resources shall approve all volunteer programs and may recruit, 790  
train, and supervise the services of community volunteers or 791  
volunteer groups for volunteer programs. In accordance with state 792  
guidelines, the director may reimburse volunteers for necessary 793  
and appropriate expenses, such as travel expenses, that they incur 794  
in the course of their volunteer service to the department. The 795  
director may designate volunteers in a volunteer program as state 796  
employees for the purpose of motor vehicle accident liability 797  
insurance under section 9.83 of the Revised Code, for the purpose 798  
of immunity under section 9.86 of the Revised Code, and for the 799  
purpose of indemnification from liability incurred in the 800

performance of their duties under section 9.87 of the Revised Code. 801  
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**Sec. 1501.32.** (A) No person shall divert more than one 803  
hundred thousand gallons per day of any waters of the state out of 804  
the Lake Erie or Ohio river drainage basins to another basin 805  
without having a permit to do so issued by the director of natural 806  
resources. An application for such a permit shall be filed with 807  
the director upon such forms as ~~he~~ the director prescribes. The 808  
application shall state the quantity of water to be diverted, the 809  
purpose of the diversion, the life of the project for which the 810  
water is to be diverted, and such other information as the 811  
director may require by rule. Each application shall be 812  
accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of one thousand dollars, which 813  
shall be credited to the water management fund, which is hereby 814  
created. 815

(B) The director shall not approve a permit application filed 816  
under this section if ~~he~~ the director determines that any of the 817  
following ~~apply~~ applies: 818

(1) During the life of the project for which the water is to 819  
be diverted, some or all of the water to be diverted will be 820  
needed for use within the basin~~+~~. 821

(2) The proposed diversion would endanger the public health, 822  
safety, or welfare~~+~~. 823

(3) The applicant has not demonstrated that the proposed 824  
diversion is a reasonable and beneficial use and is necessary to 825  
serve the applicant's present and future needs~~+~~. 826

(4) The applicant has not demonstrated that reasonable 827  
efforts have been made to develop and conserve water resources in 828  
the importing basin and that further development of those 829  
resources would engender overriding, adverse economic, social, or 830

environmental impacts+u 831

(5) The proposed diversion is inconsistent with regional or 832  
state water resources plans+u 833

(6) The proposed diversion, alone or in combination with 834  
other diversions and water losses, will have a significant adverse 835  
impact on in-stream uses or on economic or ecological aspects of 836  
water levels. 837

The director may hold public hearings upon any application 838  
for a permit. 839

(C) Whenever the director receives an application under this 840  
section to divert water out of the Lake Erie drainage basin, ~~he~~ 841  
the director shall notify the governors and premiers of the other 842  
great lakes states and provinces, the appropriate water management 843  
agencies of those states and provinces, and, when appropriate, the 844  
international joint commission and shall solicit their comments 845  
and concerns regarding the application. In the event of an 846  
objection to the proposed diversion, the director shall consult 847  
with the affected great lakes states and provinces to consider the 848  
issues involved and seek mutually agreeable recommendations. 849  
Before rendering a decision on the permit application, the 850  
director shall consider the concerns, comments, and 851  
recommendations of the other great lakes states and provinces and 852  
the international joint commission, and, in accordance with 853  
section 1109 of the "Water Resources Development Act of 1986," 100 854  
Stat. 4230, 42 U.S.C.A. 1962d-20, the director shall not approve a 855  
permit application for any diversion to which that section 856  
pertains unless that diversion is approved by the governor of each 857  
great lakes state as defined in section 1109(c) of that act. 858

(D) The director shall determine the period for which each 859  
permit approved under this section will be valid and specify the 860  
expiration date, but in no case shall a permit be valid beyond the 861

life of the project as stated in the application. 862

The director shall establish rules providing for the transfer 863  
of permits. A permit may be transferred on the conditions that the 864  
quantity of water diverted not be increased and that the purpose 865  
of the diversion not be changed. 866

(E)(1) Within a time established by rule, the director shall 867  
do one of the following: 868

(a) Notify the applicant that an application ~~he~~ the applicant 869  
filed under this section is approved or denied and, if denied, the 870  
reason for denial; 871

(b) Notify the applicant of any modification necessary to 872  
qualify the application for approval. 873

(2) Any person who receives notice of a denial or 874  
modification under division (E)(1) of this section is entitled to 875  
a hearing under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code if the person 876  
sends a written request for a hearing to the director within 877  
thirty days after the date on which the notice is mailed or 878  
otherwise provided to the applicant. 879

(F) The director shall revoke a permit under this section 880  
without a prior hearing if ~~he~~ the director determines that the 881  
quantity of water being diverted exceeds the quantity stated in 882  
the permit application. 883

The director may suspend a permit if ~~he~~ the director 884  
determines that the continued diversion of water will endanger the 885  
public health, safety, or welfare. Before suspending a permit, the 886  
director shall make a reasonable attempt to notify the permittee 887  
that ~~he~~ the director intends to suspend the permit. If the attempt 888  
fails, notification shall be given as soon as practicable 889  
following the suspension. Within five days after the suspension, 890  
the director shall provide the permittee an opportunity to be 891

heard and to present evidence that the continued diversion of 892  
water will not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare. 893

If the director determines before the expiration date of a 894  
suspended permit that the diversion of water can be resumed 895  
without danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, ~~he~~ the 896  
director shall, upon request of the permittee, reinstate the 897  
permit. 898

(G) Any six or more residents of this state may petition the 899  
director for an investigation of a withdrawal of water resources 900  
that they allege is in violation of a permit issued under this 901  
section. 902

The petition shall identify the permittee and detail the 903  
reasons why the petitioners believe that grounds exist for the 904  
revocation or suspension of the permit under this section. 905

Upon receipt of the petition, the director shall send a copy 906  
to the permittee and, within sixty days, make a determination 907  
whether grounds exist for revocation or suspension of the permit 908  
under this section. 909

(H) Each permittee shall submit to the director an annual 910  
report containing such information as the director may require by 911  
rule. 912

(I) The director shall issue a permit under division (A) of 913  
this section to any person who lawfully diverted more than one 914  
hundred thousand gallons per day of any waters of the state out of 915  
the Ohio river drainage basin during the calendar year ending 916  
October 14, 1984. A person who is eligible for a permit under this 917  
division shall file an application under division (A) of this 918  
section not later than one hundred eighty days after the effective 919  
date of this amendment. 920

A person who applies for a permit under this division need 921  
not pay the application fee that is otherwise required under 922

division (A) of this section. In addition, divisions (B) to (H) of 923  
this section and rules adopted under section 1501.31 of the 924  
Revised Code do not apply to an application that is filed or a 925  
permit that is issued under this division. 926

**Sec. 1501.45.** (A) As used in this section: 927

(1) "Forfeiture laws" means provisions that are established 928  
in Title XXIX of the Revised Code and that govern the forfeiture 929  
and disposition of certain property that is seized pursuant to a 930  
law enforcement investigation. 931

(2) "Law enforcement division" means the division of 932  
forestry, the division of natural areas and preserves, the 933  
division of wildlife, the division of parks and recreation, or the 934  
division of watercraft in the department of natural resources. 935

(3) "Law enforcement fund" means a fund created in this 936  
section. 937

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this section and 938  
notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code that is not in 939  
Title XV of the Revised Code to the contrary, the forfeiture laws 940  
apply to a law enforcement division that substantially conducts an 941  
investigation that results in the ordered forfeiture of property 942  
and also apply to the involved forfeiture of property, and the law 943  
enforcement division shall comply with those forfeiture laws. 944  
Accordingly, the portion of the forfeiture laws that authorizes 945  
certain proceeds from forfeited property to be distributed to the 946  
law enforcement agency that substantially conducted the 947  
investigation that resulted in the seizure of the subsequently 948  
forfeited property apply to the law enforcement divisions. If a 949  
law enforcement division is eligible to receive such proceeds, the 950  
proceeds shall be deposited into the state treasury to the credit 951  
of the applicable law enforcement fund. 952

(C) There are hereby created in the state treasury the 953  
division of forestry law enforcement fund, the division of natural 954  
areas and preserves law enforcement fund, the division of wildlife 955  
law enforcement fund, the division of parks and recreation law 956  
enforcement fund, and the division of watercraft law enforcement 957  
fund. The funds shall consist of proceeds from forfeited property 958  
that are deposited in accordance with this section. The funds 959  
shall be used by the applicable law enforcement division for law 960  
enforcement purposes specified in the forfeiture laws; however, a 961  
law enforcement division shall not use such funds to pay the 962  
salaries of its employees or to provide for any other remuneration 963  
of personnel. 964

(D) If the forfeiture laws conflict with any provisions that 965  
govern forfeitures and that are established in another section of 966  
Title XV of the Revised Code, the provisions established in the 967  
other section of Title XV apply. 968

**Sec. 1502.01.** As used in this chapter: 969

(A) "Litter" means garbage, trash, waste, rubbish, ashes, 970  
cans, bottles, wire, paper, cartons, boxes, automobile parts, 971  
furniture, glass, or anything else of an unsightly or unsanitary 972  
nature thrown, dropped, discarded, placed, or deposited by a 973  
person on public property, on private property not owned by the 974  
person, or in or on waters of the state unless one of the 975  
following applies: 976

(1) The person has been directed to do so by a public 977  
official as part of a litter collection drive; 978

(2) The person has thrown, dropped, discarded, placed, or 979  
deposited the material in a receptacle in a manner that prevented 980  
its being carried away by the elements; 981

(3) The person has been issued a permit or license covering 982



the material pursuant to Chapter 3734. or 6111. of the Revised Code. 983  
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(B) "Recycling" means the process of collecting, sorting, cleansing, treating, and reconstituting waste or other discarded materials for the purpose of recovering and reusing the materials. 985  
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(C) "Agency of the state" includes, but is not limited to, an "agency" subject to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and a "state university or college" as defined in section 3345.12 of the Revised Code. 988  
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(D) "~~Waste~~ Source reduction" means activities that decrease the initial production of waste materials at their point of origin. 992  
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(E) "Enterprise" means a business with its principal place of business in this state and that proposes to engage in research and development or recycling in this state. 995  
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(F) "Research and development" means inquiry, experimentation, or demonstration to advance basic scientific or technical knowledge or the application, adaptation, or use of existing or newly discovered scientific or technical knowledge regarding recycling, ~~waste~~ source reduction, or litter prevention. 998  
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(G) "Recyclables" means waste materials that are collected, separated, or processed and used as raw materials or products. 1003  
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(H) "Recycling market development" means activities that stimulate the demand for recycled products, provide for a consistent supply of recyclables to meet the needs of recycling industries, or both. 1005  
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(I) "Solid waste management districts" means solid waste management districts established under Chapter 343. of the Revised Code. 1009  
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(J) "Synthetic rubber" means produced or extended rubber and 1012

products made from a synthetic rubber base material originating 1013  
from petrochemical feedstocks, including scrap tires, tire molds, 1014  
automobile engine belts, brake pads and hoses, weather stripping, 1015  
fittings, electrical insulation, and other molded objects and 1016  
parts. 1017

**Sec. 1502.03.** (A) The chief of the division of recycling and 1018  
litter prevention shall establish and implement statewide ~~waste~~ 1019  
source reduction, recycling, recycling market development, and 1020  
litter prevention programs that include all of the following: 1021

(1) The assessment of waste generation within the state and 1022  
implementation of ~~waste~~ source reduction practices; 1023

(2) The implementation of recycling and recycling market 1024  
development activities and projects, including all of the 1025  
following: 1026

(a) Collection of recyclables; 1027

(b) Separation of recyclables; 1028

(c) Processing of recyclables; 1029

(d) Facilitation and encouragement of the use of recyclables 1030  
and products made with recyclables; 1031

(e) Education and training concerning recycling and products 1032  
manufactured with recyclables; 1033

(f) Public awareness campaigns to promote recycling; 1034

(g) Other activities and projects that promote recycling and 1035  
recycling market development. 1036

(3) Litter prevention assistance to enforce antilitter laws, 1037  
educate the public, and stimulate collection and containment of 1038  
litter; 1039

(4) Research and development regarding ~~waste~~ source 1040

reduction, recycling, and litter prevention, including, without 1041  
limitation, research and development regarding materials or 1042  
products manufactured with recyclables. 1043

(B) The chief, with the approval of the director of natural 1044  
resources, may enter into contracts or other agreements and may 1045  
execute any instruments necessary or incidental to the discharge 1046  
of the chief's responsibilities under this chapter. 1047

**Sec. 1502.12.** (A) There is hereby created in the state 1048  
treasury the scrap tire grant fund, consisting of moneys 1049  
transferred to the fund under section 3734.82 of the Revised Code. 1050  
The chief of the division of recycling and litter prevention, with 1051  
the approval of the director of natural resources, may make grants 1052  
from the fund for the purpose of supporting market development 1053  
activities for scrap tires and synthetic rubber from tire 1054  
manufacturing processes and tire recycling processes. The grants 1055  
may be awarded to individuals, businesses, and entities certified 1056  
under division (A) of section 1502.04 of the Revised Code. 1057

(B) Projects and activities that are eligible for grants 1058  
under this section shall be evaluated for funding using, at a 1059  
minimum, the following criteria: 1060

(1) The degree to which a proposed project contributes to the 1061  
increased use of scrap tires generated in this state; 1062

(2) The degree of local financial support for a proposed 1063  
project; 1064

(3) The technical merit and quality of a proposed project. 1065

**Sec. 1504.02.** (A) The division of real estate and land 1066  
management shall do all of the following: 1067

(1) Except as otherwise provided in the Revised Code, 1068  
coordinate and conduct all real estate functions for the 1069

department of natural resources, including at least acquisitions 1070  
by purchase, lease, gift, devise, bequest, appropriation, or 1071  
otherwise; grants through sales, leases, exchanges, easements, and 1072  
licenses; inventories of land; and other related general 1073  
management duties; 1074

(2) Assist the department and its divisions by providing 1075  
department-wide planning, including at least master planning, 1076  
comprehensive planning, capital improvements planning, and special 1077  
purpose planning such as trails coordination and planning under 1078  
section 1519.03 of the Revised Code; 1079

(3) On behalf of the director of natural resources, 1080  
administer the coastal management program established under 1081  
sections 1506.01 to 1506.03 and 1506.05 to 1506.09 of the Revised 1082  
Code and consult with and provide coordination among state 1083  
agencies, political subdivisions, the United States and agencies 1084  
of it, and interstate, regional, and areawide agencies to assist 1085  
the director in executing the director's duties and 1086  
responsibilities under that program and to assist the department 1087  
as the lead agency for the development and implementation of the 1088  
program; 1089

(4) On behalf of the director, administer sections 1506.10 1090  
and 1506.11 and sections 1506.31 to 1506.36 of the Revised Code; 1091

(5) Cooperate with the United States and agencies of it and 1092  
with political subdivisions in administering federal recreation 1093  
moneys under the "Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965," 1094  
78 Stat. 897, 16 U.S.C.A. 4601-8, as amended; prepare and 1095  
distribute the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan; 1096  
and administer the state recreational vehicle fund created in 1097  
section 4519.11 of the Revised Code; 1098

(6)(a) Support the geographic information system needs for 1099  
the department as requested by the director, which shall include, 1100

but not be limited to, all of the following: 1101

(i) Assisting in the training and education of department 1102  
resource managers, administrators, and other staff in the 1103  
application and use of geographic information system technology; 1104

(ii) Providing technical support to the department in the 1105  
design, preparation of data, and use of appropriate geographic 1106  
information system applications in order to help solve resource 1107  
related problems and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency 1108  
of department delivered services; 1109

(iii) Creating, maintaining, and documenting spatial digital 1110  
data bases for the division and for other divisions as assigned by 1111  
the director. 1112

(b) Provide information to and otherwise assist government 1113  
officials, planners, and resource managers in understanding land 1114  
use planning and resource management; 1115

(c) Provide continuing assistance to local government 1116  
officials and others in natural resource digital data base 1117  
development and in applying and utilizing the geographic 1118  
information system for land use planning, current agricultural use 1119  
value assessment, development reviews, coastal management, and 1120  
other resource management activities; 1121

(d) Coordinate and administer the remote sensing needs of the 1122  
department, including the collection and analysis of aerial 1123  
photography, satellite data, and other data pertaining to land, 1124  
water, and other resources of the state; 1125

(e) Prepare and publish maps and digital data relating to the 1126  
state's land use and land cover over time on a local, regional, 1127  
and statewide basis; 1128

(f) Locate and distribute hard copy maps, digital data, 1129  
aerial photography, and other resource data and information to 1130

government agencies and the public. 1131

(7) Prepare special studies and execute any other duties, 1132  
functions, and responsibilities requested by the director. 1133

(B) The division may do any of the following: 1134

(1) Coordinate such environmental matters concerning the 1135  
department and the state as are necessary to comply with the 1136  
"National Environmental Policy Act of 1969," 83 Stat. 852, 42 1137  
U.S.C.A. 4321, as amended, the "Intergovernmental Cooperation Act 1138  
of 1968," 82 Stat. 1098, 31 U.S.C.A. 6506, and the "Federal Water 1139  
Pollution Control Act," 91 Stat. 1566 (1977), 33 U.S.C.A. 1251, as 1140  
amended, and regulations adopted under those acts; 1141

(2) ~~On behalf of the director, administer Chapter 1520. of~~ 1142  
~~the Revised Code, except divisions (B) to (F) of section 1520.03~~ 1143  
~~of the Revised Code, division (A) of section 1520.04 of the~~ 1144  
~~Revised Code as it pertains to those divisions, and section~~ 1145  
~~1520.05 of the Revised Code~~ With the approval of the director, 1146  
coordinate and administer compensatory mitigation grant programs 1147  
and other programs for streams and wetlands as approved in 1148  
accordance with certifications and permits issued under sections 1149  
401 and 404 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act", 91 Stat. 1150  
1566(1977), 33 U.S.C.A. 1251, as amended, by the environmental 1151  
protection agency and the United States army corps of engineers; 1152

(3) Administer any state or federally funded grant program 1153  
that is related to natural resources and recreation as considered 1154  
necessary by the director. 1155

**Sec. 1506.04.** (A) No later than ~~six months after the~~ 1156  
~~effective date of this section~~ September 15, 1989, each county or 1157  
municipal corporation within whose jurisdiction is a coastal flood 1158  
hazard area shall either participate in and remain in compliance 1159  
with the national flood insurance program ~~established in the~~ 1160

~~"Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 975, 42 U.S.C.A.~~ 1161  
~~4002, as amended,~~ or shall adopt resolutions or ordinances 1162  
governing the coastal flood hazard area that meet or exceed the 1163  
standards required for participation in the regular phase of the 1164  
national flood insurance program. 1165

(B) If the director of natural resources determines at any 1166  
time that a county or municipal corporation that is participating 1167  
in the national flood insurance program ~~as described in division~~ 1168  
~~(A) of this section~~ or has adopted resolutions or ordinances under 1169  
~~that~~ division (A) of this section is not in compliance with that 1170  
program or those resolutions or ordinances, as applicable, ~~he~~ the 1171  
director shall so notify the legislative authority of the county 1172  
or municipal corporation and shall also notify the legislative 1173  
authority that it may respond to ~~his~~ the determination in 1174  
accordance with the procedure for doing so established by rules 1175  
adopted under section 1506.02 of the Revised Code. If after 1176  
considering the legislative authority's response the director 1177  
determines that the county or municipal corporation is still not 1178  
in compliance with the national flood insurance program or 1179  
resolutions or ordinances adopted under division (A) of this 1180  
section, as applicable, ~~he~~ the director may request the attorney 1181  
general in writing to, and the attorney general shall, bring an 1182  
action for appropriate relief in a court of competent jurisdiction 1183  
against the county or municipal corporation. 1184

(C) The attorney general, upon the written request of the 1185  
director, shall bring an action for appropriate relief in a court 1186  
of competent jurisdiction against any development that meets both 1187  
of the following criteria: 1188

(1) Is located in a county or municipal corporation that is 1189  
not in compliance with division (A) of this section; 1190

(2) Is not in compliance with the standards of the national 1191  
flood insurance program ~~established in the "Flood Disaster~~ 1192

~~Protection Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 975, 42 U.S.C.A. 4002, as~~ 1193  
~~amended.~~ 1194

~~As used in this division, "development" means any artificial~~ 1195  
~~change to improved or unimproved real estate, including, without~~ 1196  
~~limitation, the construction of buildings and other structures and~~ 1197  
~~mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, and~~ 1198  
~~drilling operations.~~ 1199

(D) This section does not apply to any permits or approvals 1200  
issued by any state agency prior to the effective date of rules 1201  
adopted under section 1506.02 of the Revised Code for the 1202  
implementation of this section. 1203

(E) As used in this section, "national flood insurance 1204  
program" and "development" have the same meanings as in section 1205  
1521.01 of the Revised Code. 1206

**Sec. 1507.01.** There is hereby created in the department of 1207  
natural resources the division of engineering to be administered 1208  
by the chief engineer of the department, who shall be a 1209  
professional engineer registered under Chapter 4733. or a 1210  
professional architect certified under Chapter 4703. of the 1211  
Revised Code. The chief engineer shall do all of the following: 1212

(A) Administer this chapter; 1213

(B) Provide engineering, architectural, land surveying, and 1214  
related administrative and maintenance support services to the 1215  
other divisions in the department; 1216

(C) Upon request of the director of natural resources, 1217  
implement the department's capital improvement program and 1218  
facility maintenance projects, including all associated 1219  
engineering, architectural, design, contracting, surveying, 1220  
inspection, and management responsibilities and requirements; 1221

(D) With the approval of the director, act as contracting 1222



officer in departmental engineering, architectural, surveying, and 1223  
construction matters regarding capital improvements except for 1224  
those matters otherwise specifically provided for in law; 1225

(E) Provide engineering support for the coastal management 1226  
program established under Chapter 1506. of the Revised Code; 1227

(F) Coordinate the department's roadway maintenance program 1228  
with the department of transportation pursuant to section 5511.05 1229  
of the Revised Code and maintain the roadway inventory of the 1230  
department of natural resources; 1231

(G) Coordinate the department's projects, programs, policies, 1232  
procedures, and activities with the United States army corps of 1233  
engineers; 1234

(H) Subject to the approval of the director, employ 1235  
professional and technical assistants and such other employees as 1236  
are necessary for the performance of the activities required or 1237  
authorized under this chapter, other work of the division, and any 1238  
other work agreed to under working agreements or contractual 1239  
arrangements; prescribe their duties; and fix their compensation 1240  
in accordance with such schedules as are provided by law for the 1241  
compensation of state employees. 1242

**Sec. 1510.04.** (A) Independent producers in this state may 1243  
present the technical advisory council with a petition signed by 1244  
the lesser of one hundred or ten per cent of all such producers 1245  
requesting that the council hold a referendum in accordance with 1246  
section 1510.05 of the Revised Code to establish a marketing 1247  
program for oil and natural gas or to amend an existing program. 1248

(B) At the time of presentation of the petition to the 1249  
council under division (A) of this section, the petitioners also 1250  
shall present the proposed program or amendment, which shall 1251  
include all of the following: 1252

(1) The rate of assessment to be made on the production of 1253  
oil and natural gas in this state, which shall not exceed ~~one-cent~~ 1254  
five cents per each gross barrel of oil and ~~one-tenth of~~ one cent 1255  
per thousand cubic feet of natural gas; 1256

(2) Terms, conditions, limitations, and other qualifications 1257  
for assessment; 1258

(3) Procedures to refund the assessment. 1259

(C) Before making a decision under this division to approve 1260  
or disapprove a proposed program or amendment, the council shall 1261  
publish in at least two appropriate periodicals designated by the 1262  
council a notice that the program or amendment has been proposed 1263  
and informing interested persons of the procedures for submitting 1264  
comments regarding the proposal. After publishing the notice, the 1265  
council shall provide interested persons with a copy of the 1266  
proposed program or amendment and an opportunity to comment on the 1267  
proposed program or amendment for thirty days after the 1268  
publication of the notice. The petitioners may make changes to the 1269  
proposed program or amendment based upon the comments received. 1270  
The council may make technical changes to the proposal to ensure 1271  
compliance with this chapter. Subsequent to any changes made by 1272  
the petitioners or any technical changes made by the council to a 1273  
proposed program or amendment, the council may approve or 1274  
disapprove the proposed program or amendment. 1275

(D) If the council approves the proposed program or 1276  
amendment, with any changes made under division (C) of this 1277  
section, the council shall hold a referendum in accordance with 1278  
section 1510.05 of the Revised Code to establish a marketing 1279  
program for oil and natural gas or to amend an existing program. 1280

**Sec. 1511.021.** (A) Any person who owns or operates 1281  
agricultural land or a concentrated animal feeding operation may 1282

develop and operate under an operation and management plan 1283  
approved by the chief of the division of soil and water 1284  
conservation under section 1511.02 of the Revised Code or by the 1285  
supervisors of the local soil and water conservation district 1286  
under section 1515.08 of the Revised Code. 1287

(B) Any person who wishes to make a complaint regarding 1288  
nuisances involving agricultural pollution may do so ~~only orally~~ 1289  
or by submitting a written, signed, and dated complaint to the 1290  
chief or to the chief's designee. After receiving an oral 1291  
complaint, the chief or the chief's designee may cause an 1292  
investigation to be conducted to determine whether agricultural 1293  
pollution has occurred or is imminent. After receiving a written, 1294  
signed, and dated complaint, the chief or the chief's designee 1295  
shall cause such an investigation to be conducted. 1296

(C) In a private civil action for nuisances involving 1297  
agricultural pollution, it is an affirmative defense if the person 1298  
owning, operating, or otherwise responsible for agricultural land 1299  
or a concentrated animal feeding operation is operating under and 1300  
in substantial compliance with an approved operation and 1301  
management plan developed under division (A) of this section, with 1302  
an operation and management plan developed by the chief under 1303  
section 1511.02 of the Revised Code or by the supervisors of the 1304  
local soil and water conservation district under section 1515.08 1305  
of the Revised Code, or with an operation and management plan 1306  
required by an order issued by the chief under division (G) of 1307  
section 1511.02 of the Revised Code. Nothing in this section is in 1308  
derogation of the authority granted to the chief in division (E) 1309  
of section 1511.02 and in section 1511.07 of the Revised Code. 1310

**Sec. 1513.01.** As used in this chapter: 1311

(A) "Approximate original contour" means that surface 1312

configuration achieved by backfilling and grading of a mined area 1313  
so that the reclaimed area, including any terracing or access 1314  
roads, closely resembles the general surface configuration of the 1315  
land prior to mining and blends into and complements the drainage 1316  
pattern of the surrounding terrain, with all highwalls and spoil 1317  
piles eliminated; water impoundments may be permitted where the 1318  
chief of the division of mineral resources management determines 1319  
that they are in compliance with division (A)(8) of section 1320  
1513.16 of the Revised Code. 1321

(B) "Coal mining and reclamation operations" means coal 1322  
mining operations and all activities necessary and incident to the 1323  
reclamation of such operations. 1324

(C) "Degrees" means inclination from the horizontal. 1325

(D) "Deposition of sediment" means placing or causing to be 1326  
placed in any waters of the state, in stream beds on or off the 1327  
land described in an application for a coal mining permit, or upon 1328  
other lands any organic or inorganic matter that settles or is 1329  
capable of settling to the bottom of the waters and onto the beds 1330  
or lands. 1331

(E) "Imminent danger to the health and safety of the public" 1332  
means the existence of any condition or practice or violation of a 1333  
permit or other requirement of this chapter or rule adopted 1334  
thereunder in a coal mining and reclamation operation, which 1335  
condition, practice, or violation could reasonably be expected to 1336  
cause substantial physical harm to persons outside the permit area 1337  
before the condition, practice, or violation can be abated. A 1338  
reasonable expectation of death or serious injury before abatement 1339  
exists if a rational person subjected to the same conditions or 1340  
practices giving rise to the peril would not expose oneself to the 1341  
danger during the time necessary for abatement. 1342

(F) "Lands eligible for remining" means those lands that 1343

otherwise would be eligible for expenditures under division (C)(1) 1344  
of section 1513.37 of the Revised Code. 1345

(G) "Mountain top removal" means a coal mining operation that 1346  
will remove an entire coal seam or seams running through the upper 1347  
fraction of a mountain, ridge, or hill by removing all of the 1348  
overburden and creating a level plateau with no highwalls 1349  
remaining instead of restoring to approximate original contour, 1350  
and is capable of supporting postmining uses in accordance with 1351  
the requirements established by the chief. 1352

(H) "Operation" or "coal mining operation" means: 1353

(1) Activities conducted on the surface of lands in 1354  
connection with a coal mine, the removal of coal from coal refuse 1355  
piles, and surface impacts incident to an underground coal mine. 1356  
Such activities include excavation for the purpose of obtaining 1357  
coal, including such common methods as contour, strip, auger, 1358  
mountaintop removal, box cut, open pit, and area mining; the use 1359  
of explosives and blasting; in situ distillation or retorting; 1360  
leaching or other chemical or physical processing; and the 1361  
cleaning, concentrating, or other processing or preparation of 1362  
coal. Such activities also include the loading of coal at or near 1363  
the mine site. Such activities do not include any of the 1364  
following: 1365

(a) The extraction of coal incidental to the extraction of 1366  
other minerals if the weight of coal extracted is less than 1367  
one-sixth the total weight of minerals removed, including coal; 1368

(b) The extraction of coal as an incidental part of federal, 1369  
state, or local highway or other government-financed construction 1370  
when approved by the chief; 1371

(c) Coal exploration subject to section 1513.072 of the 1372  
Revised Code. 1373

(2) The areas upon which such activities occur or where such activities disturb the natural land surface. Such areas include any adjacent land the use of which is incidental to any such activities, all lands affected by the construction of new roads or the improvement or use of existing roads to gain access to the site of such activities, and for hauling, and excavation, workings, impoundments, dams, ventilation shafts, entryways, refuse banks, dumps, stockpiles, overburden piles, spoil banks, culm banks, holes or depressions, repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas, and other areas upon which are sited structures, facilities, or other property or materials on the surface, resulting from or incident to such activities. Separation by a stream, roadway, or utility easement does not preclude two or more contiguous tracts of land from being considered contiguous.

(I) "Operator" means any person conducting a coal mining operation.

(J) "Overburden" means all of the earth and other materials, except topsoil, covering a natural deposit of coal, and also means such earth and other materials after removal from their natural state in the process of coal mining.

(K) "Permit" means a permit to conduct coal mining and reclamation operations issued by the chief pursuant to section 1513.07 or 1513.074 of the Revised Code.

(L) "Permit area" means the area of land to be affected indicated on the approved map submitted by the operator with the application required by section 1513.07 or 1513.074 of the Revised Code.

(M) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the Revised Code and also includes any political subdivision, instrumentality, or agency of this state or the United States.

(N) "Pollution" means placing any sediments, solids, or 1405  
waterborne mining related wastes, including, but not limited to, 1406  
acids, metallic cations, or their salts, in excess of amounts 1407  
prescribed by the chief into any waters of the state or affecting 1408  
the properties of any waters of the state in a manner that renders 1409  
those waters harmful or inimical to the public health, or to 1410  
animal or aquatic life, or to the use of the waters for domestic 1411  
water supply, industrial or agricultural purposes, or recreation. 1412

(O) "Prime farmland" has the same meaning as that previously 1413  
prescribed by the secretary of the United States department of 1414  
agriculture as published in the federal register on August 23, 1415  
1977, or subsequent revisions thereof, on the basis of such 1416  
factors as moisture availability, temperature regime, chemical 1417  
balance, permeability, surface layer composition, susceptibility 1418  
to flooding, and erosion characteristics and that historically has 1419  
been used for intensive agricultural purposes, and as published in 1420  
the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter. 1421

(P) "Reclamation" means backfilling, grading, resoiling, 1422  
planting, and other work that has the effect of restoring an area 1423  
of land affected by coal mining so that it may be used for forest 1424  
growth, grazing, agricultural, recreational, and wildlife purpose, 1425  
or some other useful purpose of equal or greater value than 1426  
existed prior to any mining. 1427

(Q) "Spoil bank" means a deposit of removed overburden. 1428

(R) "Steep slope" means any slope above twenty degrees or 1429  
such lesser slope as may be defined by the chief after considering 1430  
soil, climate, and other characteristics of a region. 1431

(S) "Strip mining" means those coal mining and reclamation 1432  
operations incident to the extraction of coal from the earth by 1433  
removing the materials over a coal seam, before recovering the 1434  
coal, by auger coal mining, or by recovery of coal from a deposit 1435

that is not in its original geologic location. 1436

(T) "Unwarranted failure to comply" means the failure of a 1437  
permittee to prevent the occurrence of any violation of any 1438  
requirement of this chapter due to indifference, lack of 1439  
diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any 1440  
violation of the permit or this chapter due to indifference, lack 1441  
of diligence, or lack of reasonable care. 1442

(U) "Waters of the state" means all streams, lakes, ponds, 1443  
marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation 1444  
systems, drainage systems, and other bodies or accumulations of 1445  
water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, regardless 1446  
of the depth of the strata in which underground water is located, 1447  
that are situated wholly or partly within, or border upon, this 1448  
state, or are within its jurisdiction. 1449

(V) "Public roadway" means a road that is all of the 1450  
following: 1451

(1) Designated as a public road in the jurisdiction within 1452  
which it is located; 1453

(2) Constructed in a manner consistent with other public 1454  
roads within the jurisdiction within which it is located; 1455

(3) Regularly maintained with public funds; 1456

(4) Subject to and available for substantial use by the 1457  
public. 1458

(W) "Performance security" means a form of financial 1459  
assurance, including, without limitation, a surety bond issued by 1460  
a surety licensed to do business in this state; an annuity; cash; 1461  
a negotiable certificate of deposit; an irrevocable letter of 1462  
credit that automatically renews; a negotiable bond of the United 1463  
States, this state, or a municipal corporation in this state; a 1464  
trust fund of which the state is named a conditional beneficiary; 1465



or other form of financial guarantee or financial assurance that 1466  
is acceptable to the chief. 1467

**Sec. 1513.02.** (A) The division of mineral resources 1468  
management shall administer, enforce, and implement this chapter. 1469  
The chief of the division of mineral resources management shall do 1470  
all of the following: 1471

(1) Adopt, amend, and rescind rules: 1472

(a) To administer and enforce this chapter; 1473

(b) To implement the requirements of this chapter for the 1474  
reclamation of lands affected by coal mining, including such rules 1475  
governing mining practices and procedures, segregation and 1476  
placement of soil and topsoil, backfilling, grading, terracing, 1477  
resoiling, soil conditioning and reconditioning, planting, 1478  
establishment of drainage patterns, construction of impoundments, 1479  
and the construction, maintenance, and disposition of haul roads, 1480  
ditches, and dikes, as may be necessary or desirable, under 1481  
varying conditions of slope, drainage, physical and chemical 1482  
characteristics of soil and overburden, erodability of materials, 1483  
season, growth characteristics of plants, and other factors 1484  
affecting coal mining and reclamation, to facilitate the return of 1485  
the land to a condition required by this chapter; to prevent 1486  
pollution or substantial diminution of waters of the state, 1487  
substantial erosion, substantial deposition of sediment, 1488  
landslides, accumulation and discharge of acid water, and 1489  
flooding, both during mining and reclamation and thereafter; to 1490  
restore the recharge capacity of the mined area to approximate 1491  
premining conditions; and to ensure full compliance with all 1492  
requirements of this chapter relating to reclamation, and the 1493  
attainment of those objectives in the interest of the public 1494  
health, safety, and welfare to which these reclamation 1495  
requirements are directed; 1496

(c) To meet the requirements of the "Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 445, 30 U.S.C. 1201.	1497 1498
(2) Issue orders to enforce this chapter and rules adopted under it;	1499 1500
(3) Adopt rules for the internal management of the division that do not affect private rights;	1501 1502
(4) Adopt programs, rules, and procedures designed to assist the coal operator in this state with the permitting process and complying with the environmental standards of this chapter. Upon request of the applicant for a permit, the chief shall make a determination of the probable hydrologic consequences required in division (B) <del>(2)</del> <u>(1)</u> (k) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code within sixty days after a permit has been submitted to the division for those applications requesting the chief to perform the study. The chief shall perform the chemical analysis of test borings or core samplings for operators who have a total annual production of coal at all locations that does not exceed one hundred thousand tons.	1503 1504 1505 1506 1507 1508 1509 1510 1511 1512 1513 1514
(5) Adopt programs, rules, and procedures designed to ensure that reclamation is performed on operations for which the performance <del>bond</del> <u>security</u> has been forfeited pursuant to section 1513.16 of the Revised Code;	1515 1516 1517 1518
(6) Receive, administer, and expend moneys obtained from the United States department of the interior and other federal agencies to implement the state's permanent coal regulatory program;	1519 1520 1521 1522
(7)(a) Regulate the beneficial use of coal combustion byproducts at coal mining and reclamation operations and abandoned mine lands that are regulated under this chapter and rules adopted under it. The beneficial use of coal combustion byproducts at such coal mining and reclamation operations and abandoned mine lands is	1523 1524 1525 1526 1527

subject to all applicable performance standards and requirements 1528  
established under this chapter and rules adopted under it, 1529  
including, without limitation, standards and requirements 1530  
established under section 1513.16 of the Revised Code and rules 1531  
adopted pursuant to it. 1532

The beneficial use of coal combustion byproducts that is 1533  
authorized at coal mining and reclamation operations and abandoned 1534  
mine lands that are regulated under this chapter and rules adopted 1535  
under it is not subject to the following provisions of Chapters 1536  
3734. and 6111. of the Revised Code and rules adopted under those 1537  
provisions: 1538

(i) Permit and license requirements for solid waste 1539  
facilities established under sections 3734.02 and 3734.05 of the 1540  
Revised Code; 1541

(ii) The prohibition against the open dumping of solid wastes 1542  
established in section 3734.03 of the Revised Code; 1543

(iii) Solid waste generation and disposal fees established 1544  
under sections 3734.57 to 3734.574 of the Revised Code; 1545

(iv) Permit to install and plan approval requirements 1546  
established under sections 6111.03, 6111.44, and 6111.45 of the 1547  
Revised Code. 1548

Nothing in division (A)(7) of this section shall be construed 1549  
to limit any other requirements that are applicable to the 1550  
beneficial use of coal combustion byproducts and that are 1551  
established under Chapter 3704., 3714., 3734., or 6111. of the 1552  
Revised Code or under local or federal laws, including, without 1553  
limitation, requirements governing air pollution control permits, 1554  
hazardous waste, national pollutant discharge elimination system 1555  
permits, and section 401 water quality certifications. 1556

(b) As used in division (A)(7) of this section: 1557

(i) "Coal combustion byproducts" means fly ash, bottom ash, 1558  
coal slag, flue gas desulphurization and fluidized bed combustion 1559  
byproducts, air or water pollution control residues from the 1560  
operation of a coal-fired electric or steam generation facility, 1561  
and any material from a clean coal technology demonstration 1562  
project or other innovative process at a coal-fired electric or 1563  
steam generation facility. 1564

(ii) "Beneficial use" means the use of coal combustion 1565  
byproducts in a manner that is not equivalent to the establishment 1566  
of a disposal system or a solid waste disposal facility and that 1567  
is unlikely to affect human health or safety or the environment 1568  
adversely or to degrade the existing quality of the land, air, or 1569  
water. "Beneficial use" includes, without limitation, land 1570  
application uses for agronomic value; land reclamation uses; and 1571  
discrete, controlled uses for structural fill, pavement aggregate, 1572  
pipe bedding aggregate, mine sealing, alternative drainage or 1573  
capping material, and pilot demonstration projects. 1574

(iii) "Structural fill" means the discrete, controlled use of 1575  
a coal combustion byproduct as a substitute for a conventional 1576  
aggregate, raw material, or soil under or immediately adjacent to 1577  
a building or structure. "Structural fill" does not include uses 1578  
that involve general filling or grading operations or valley 1579  
fills. 1580

(iv) "Pavement aggregate" means the discrete, controlled use 1581  
of a coal combustion byproduct as a subbase material or drainage 1582  
layer under or immediately adjacent to a paved road or a paved 1583  
parking lot where the coal combustion byproduct is a substitute 1584  
for a conventional aggregate, raw material, or soil. 1585

(v) "Pipe bedding aggregate" means the discrete, controlled 1586  
use of a coal combustion byproduct as a substitute for a 1587  
conventional aggregate, raw material, or soil under, around, or 1588

immediately adjacent to a water, sewer, or other pipeline. 1589

(vi) "Coal-fired electric or steam generation facility" 1590  
includes any boiler that is fired with coal or with coal in 1591  
combination with petroleum coke, oil, natural gas, or any other 1592  
fossil fuel. 1593

(vii) "Solid waste disposal facility" means a facility for 1594  
the disposal of solid wastes as provided in Chapter 3734. of the 1595  
Revised Code and rules adopted under it. 1596

(viii) "Disposal system" has the same meaning as in section 1597  
6111.01 of the Revised Code. 1598

(8) Establish programs and adopt rules and procedures 1599  
governing terms, limitations, and conditions for the use of diesel 1600  
equipment in an underground coal mine. 1601

(B) The chief, by rule, may designate as unsuitable for coal 1602  
mining natural areas maintained on the registry of natural areas 1603  
of the department of natural resources pursuant to Chapter 1517. 1604  
of the Revised Code, wild, scenic, or recreational river areas 1605  
designated pursuant to that chapter, publicly owned or dedicated 1606  
parks, and other areas of unique and irreplaceable natural beauty 1607  
or condition, or areas within specified distances of a public 1608  
road, occupied dwelling, public building, school, church, 1609  
community, or institutional building, public park, or cemetery. 1610  
Such a designation may include land adjacent to the perimeters of 1611  
those areas that may be necessary to protect their integrity. 1612

(C)(1) The adoption, amendment, and rescission of rules under 1613  
divisions (A)(1), (4), (5), and (8), (B), and (J) of this 1614  
section are subject to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. 1615

(2) The issuance of orders under division (A)(2) of this 1616  
section and appeals therefrom are not governed by or subject to 1617  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, but are governed by this 1618

chapter.

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(D)(1) When the chief or an authorized representative of the  
chief determines that any condition or practice exists or that any  
permittee is in violation of any requirement of this chapter or  
any permit condition required by this chapter, which condition,  
practice, or violation creates an imminent danger to the health or  
safety of the public or is causing, or can reasonably be expected  
to cause, significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air,  
or water resources, the chief or the authorized representative  
immediately shall order the cessation of coal mining and  
reclamation operations or the portion thereof relevant to the  
condition, practice, or violation. The cessation order shall  
remain in effect until the chief or the authorized representative  
determines that the condition, practice, or violation has been  
abated or until the order is modified, vacated, or terminated by  
the chief or the authorized representative pursuant to division  
(D)(4) of this section or by the reclamation commission pursuant  
to section 1513.13 of the Revised Code. When the chief or the  
authorized representative finds that the ordered cessation of coal  
mining and reclamation operations or any portion thereof will not  
completely abate the imminent danger to the health or safety of  
the public or the significant, imminent environmental harm to  
land, air, or water resources, the chief or the authorized  
representative, in addition to the cessation order, shall order  
the operator to take whatever steps the chief or the authorized  
representative considers necessary to abate the imminent danger or  
the significant environmental harm.

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(2) When the chief or an authorized representative of the  
chief determines that any person is in violation of any  
requirement of this chapter or any permit condition required by  
this chapter, but the violation does not create an imminent danger  
to the health or safety of the public or cannot reasonably be

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expected to cause significant, imminent environmental harm to 1651  
land, air, or water resources, the chief or the authorized 1652  
representative shall issue a notice of violation to the person or 1653  
the person's agent fixing a reasonable time for the abatement of 1654  
the violation, provided that the time afforded a person to abate 1655  
the violation shall not exceed the time limitations prescribed by 1656  
the secretary of the interior in 30 C.F.R. Part 843 for an 1657  
approvable state regulatory program under the "Surface Mining 1658  
Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 445, 30 U.S.C. 1659  
1201. 1660

If, upon expiration of the period of time as originally fixed 1661  
or subsequently extended for good cause shown and upon the written 1662  
finding of the chief or the authorized representative, the chief 1663  
or the authorized representative finds that the violation has not 1664  
been abated, the chief or the authorized representative 1665  
immediately shall order the cessation of coal mining and 1666  
reclamation operations or the portion thereof relevant to the 1667  
violation. The cessation order shall remain in effect until the 1668  
chief or the authorized representative determines that the 1669  
violation has been abated or until the order is modified, vacated, 1670  
or terminated by the chief or the authorized representative 1671  
pursuant to division (D)(4) of this section or by the reclamation 1672  
commission pursuant to section 1513.13 of the Revised Code. In a 1673  
cessation order issued under division (D)(2) of this section, the 1674  
chief or the authorized representative shall prescribe the steps 1675  
necessary to abate the violation in the most expeditious manner 1676  
possible. 1677

(3) When in the judgment of the chief or an authorized 1678  
representative of the chief a pattern of violations of any 1679  
requirements of this chapter or any permit conditions required by 1680  
this chapter exists or has existed and the violations are caused 1681  
by the unwarranted failure of the permittee to comply with any 1682

requirements of this chapter or any permit conditions or are 1683  
willfully caused by the permittee, the chief or the authorized 1684  
representative immediately shall issue an order to the permittee 1685  
to show cause why the permit should not be suspended or revoked. 1686  
If a hearing is requested, the chief shall inform all interested 1687  
parties of the time and place of the hearing and conduct the 1688  
hearing pursuant to division (D) of section 1513.13 of the Revised 1689  
Code. Upon the permittee's failure to show cause why the permit 1690  
should not be suspended or revoked, the chief or the authorized 1691  
representative immediately shall suspend or revoke the permit. 1692

(4) Notices of violation and orders issued pursuant to this 1693  
section shall set forth with reasonable specificity the nature of 1694  
the violation and the remedial action required, the period of time 1695  
established for abatement, and a reasonable description of the 1696  
portion of the coal mining and reclamation operation to which the 1697  
notice or order applies. Each notice or order issued under this 1698  
section shall be given promptly to the alleged violator or the 1699  
agent of the alleged violator by the chief or an authorized 1700  
representative of the chief who issues the notice or order. 1701  
Notices and orders shall be in writing and shall be signed by the 1702  
chief or the authorized representative and may be modified, 1703  
vacated, or terminated by the chief or the authorized 1704  
representative. Any notice or order issued pursuant to this 1705  
section that requires cessation of mining by the operator shall 1706  
expire within thirty days after actual notice to the operator 1707  
unless a public hearing pursuant to section 1513.13 of the Revised 1708  
Code is held at the site or within such reasonable proximity to 1709  
the site that any viewings of the site can be conducted during the 1710  
course of the public hearing. 1711

(E)(1) A person who violates a permit condition or any other 1712  
provision of this chapter may be assessed a civil penalty by the 1713  
chief, except that if the violation leads to the issuance of a 1714



cessation order under division (D) of this section, the civil 1715  
penalty shall be assessed for each day until the person initiates 1716  
the necessary corrective steps. The penalty shall not exceed five 1717  
thousand dollars for each violation. Each day of continuing 1718  
violation may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of 1719  
penalty assessments. In determining the amount of the penalty, 1720  
consideration shall be given to the person's history of previous 1721  
violation at the particular coal mining operation; the seriousness 1722  
of the violation, including any irreparable harm to the 1723  
environment and any hazard to the health or safety of the public; 1724  
whether the person was negligent; and the demonstrated diligence 1725  
of the person charged in attempting to achieve rapid compliance 1726  
after notification of the violation. 1727

(2) A civil penalty shall be assessed by the chief only after 1728  
the person charged with a violation under division (E)(1) of this 1729  
section has been given an opportunity for a public hearing. If a 1730  
person charged with such a violation fails to avail oneself of the 1731  
opportunity for a public hearing, a civil penalty shall be 1732  
assessed by the chief after the chief has determined that a 1733  
violation did occur, and the amount of the penalty that is 1734  
warranted, and has issued an order requiring that the penalty be 1735  
paid. 1736

(3) Upon the issuance of a notice or order charging that a 1737  
violation of this chapter has occurred, the chief shall inform the 1738  
operator within thirty days of the proposed amount of the penalty 1739  
and provide opportunity for an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to 1740  
section 1513.13 of the Revised Code. The person charged with the 1741  
penalty then shall have thirty days to pay the proposed penalty in 1742  
full or, if the person wishes to contest either the amount of the 1743  
penalty or the fact of the violation, file a petition for review 1744  
of the proposed assessment with the secretary of the reclamation 1745  
commission pursuant to section 1513.13 of the Revised Code. If, 1746

after the hearing, the commission affirms or modifies the proposed  
amount of the penalty, the person charged with the penalty then  
shall have thirty days after receipt of the written decision to  
pay the amount in full or file an appeal with the court of appeals  
in accordance with section 1513.14 of the Revised Code. At the  
time the petition for review of the proposed assessment is filed  
with the secretary, the person shall forward the amount of the  
penalty to the secretary for placement in the reclamation penalty  
fund, which is hereby created. The fund shall be in the custody of  
the treasurer of state, but shall not be a part of the state  
treasury. Pursuant to administrative or judicial review of the  
penalty, the secretary, within thirty days, shall remit the  
appropriate amount of the penalty to the person, with interest, if  
it is determined that no violation occurred or that the amount of  
the penalty should be reduced, and the secretary shall forward the  
balance of the penalty or, if the penalty was not reduced, the  
entire amount of the penalty, with interest, to the chief for  
deposit in the ~~coal mining administration and reclamation reserve~~  
forfeiture fund created in section ~~1513.181~~ 1513.18 of the Revised  
Code. Failure to forward the money to the secretary within thirty  
days after the chief informs the operator of the proposed amount  
of the penalty shall result in a waiver of all legal rights to  
contest the violation or the amount of the penalty. Within fifteen  
days after being informed of the penalty, the person charged with  
the penalty may request in writing an informal assessment  
conference to review the amount of the penalty. The conference  
shall be presided over by the chief or an individual appointed by  
the chief other than the inspector that issued the notice of  
violation or order upon which the penalty is based. The chief  
shall adopt rules governing procedures to be followed in informal  
conferences. Time allowed for payment of the penalty or appeal to  
the commission shall be tolled while the penalty is being reviewed  
in an informal conference.

(4) An operator who fails to correct a violation for which a notice of violation or order has been issued under division (D) of this section within the period permitted for its correction shall be assessed a civil penalty of not less than seven hundred fifty dollars for each day during which the failure or violation continues. However, a civil penalty shall not be assessed under division (E)(4) of this section if the commission orders the suspension of the abatement requirement after determining, based upon the findings of an expedited hearing held under section 1513.13 of the Revised Code at the request of the operator, that the operator will suffer irreparable loss or damage from the application of the abatement requirement or if the court orders suspension of the abatement requirement pursuant to review proceedings held under section 1513.14 of the Revised Code at the request of the operator.

(F) The chief may enter into a cooperative agreement with the secretary of the interior to provide for state regulation of coal mining and reclamation operations on federal lands within the state.

(G) The chief may prohibit augering if necessary to maximize the utilization, recoverability, or conservation of the solid fuel resources or to protect against adverse water quality impacts.

(H) The chief shall transmit copies of all schedules submitted under section 1513.07 of the Revised Code pertaining to violations of air or water quality laws and rules adopted and orders issued under those laws in connection with coal mining operations to the director of environmental protection for verification.

(I) For the purposes of sections 1513.18, 1513.24, 1513.37, and 1514.06 of the Revised Code, the chief triennially shall determine the average wage rate for companies performing

reclamation work for the division under those sections by 1811  
averaging the wage rate paid by all companies performing such 1812  
reclamation work during the three years immediately preceding the 1813  
determination. However, in making the initial determination under 1814  
this division, the chief shall average the wage rate paid by all 1815  
companies performing such reclamation work during the ten years 1816  
immediately preceding October 29, 1995. 1817

(J) If this state becomes covered by a state programmatic 1818  
general permit issued by the United States army corps of engineers 1819  
for the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of 1820  
the United States by operations that conduct surface and 1821  
underground coal mining and reclamation operations and the 1822  
restoration of abandoned mine lands, the chief may establish 1823  
programs and adopt rules and procedures designed to implement the 1824  
terms, limitations, and conditions of the permit. The purpose of 1825  
the programs, rules, and procedures shall be to enable the state 1826  
to reduce or eliminate duplicative state and federal project 1827  
evaluation, simplify the regulatory approval process, provide 1828  
environmental protection for aquatic resources that is equivalent 1829  
to federal protection, and satisfy the requirements of the United 1830  
States army corps of engineers regulatory program under which the 1831  
permit is issued and that is established under section 404 of the 1832  
"Federal Water Pollution Control Act," 86 Stat. 48 (1972), 33 1833  
U.S.C. 1344, as amended by the "Clean Water Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 1834  
1600, 33 U.S.C. 1344; section 10 of the "Rivers and Harbors Act of 1835  
1899," 30 Stat. 1151, 33 U.S.C. 403; and section 103 of the 1836  
"Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972," 86 1837  
Stat. 1055, 33 U.S.C. 1413. 1838

**Sec. 1513.07.** (A)(1) No operator shall conduct a coal mining 1839  
operation without a permit for the operation issued by the chief 1840  
of the division of mineral resources management. 1841

(2) All permits issued pursuant to this chapter shall be 1842  
issued for a term not to exceed five years, except that, if the 1843  
applicant demonstrates that a specified longer term is reasonably 1844  
needed to allow the applicant to obtain necessary financing for 1845  
equipment and the opening of the operation and if the application 1846  
is full and complete for the specified longer term, the chief may 1847  
grant a permit for the longer term. A successor in interest to a 1848  
permittee who applies for a new permit within thirty days after 1849  
succeeding to the interest and who is able to obtain the ~~bond~~ 1850  
~~coverage~~ performance security of the original permittee may 1851  
continue coal mining and reclamation operations according to the 1852  
approved mining and reclamation plan of the original permittee 1853  
until the successor's application is granted or denied. 1854

(3) A permit shall terminate if the permittee has not 1855  
commenced the coal mining operations covered by the permit within 1856  
three years after the issuance of the permit, except that the 1857  
chief may grant reasonable extensions of the time upon a showing 1858  
that the extensions are necessary by reason of litigation 1859  
precluding the commencement or threatening substantial economic 1860  
loss to the permittee or by reason of conditions beyond the 1861  
control and without the fault or negligence of the permittee, and 1862  
except that with respect to coal to be mined for use in a 1863  
synthetic fuel facility or specified major electric generating 1864  
facility, the permittee shall be deemed to have commenced coal 1865  
mining operations at the time construction of the synthetic fuel 1866  
or generating facility is initiated. 1867

(4)(a) Any permit issued pursuant to this chapter shall carry 1868  
with it the right of successive renewal upon expiration with 1869  
respect to areas within the boundaries of the permit. The holders 1870  
of the permit may apply for renewal and the renewal shall be 1871  
issued unless the chief determines by written findings, subsequent 1872  
to fulfillment of the public notice requirements of this section 1873

and section 1513.071 of the Revised Code through demonstrations by 1874  
opponents of renewal or otherwise, that one or more of the 1875  
following circumstances exists: 1876

(i) The terms and conditions of the existing permit are not 1877  
being satisfactorily met. 1878

(ii) The present coal mining and reclamation operation is not 1879  
in compliance with the environmental protection standards of this 1880  
chapter. 1881

(iii) The renewal requested substantially jeopardizes the 1882  
operator's continuing responsibilities on existing permit areas. 1883

(iv) The applicant has not provided evidence that the 1884  
performance ~~bond~~ security in effect for the operation will 1885  
continue in effect for any renewal requested in the application. 1886

(v) Any additional, revised, or updated information required 1887  
by the chief has not been provided. Prior to the approval of any 1888  
renewal of a permit, the chief shall provide notice to the 1889  
appropriate public authorities as prescribed by rule of the chief. 1890

(b) If an application for renewal of a valid permit includes 1891  
a proposal to extend the mining operation beyond the boundaries 1892  
authorized in the existing permit, the portion of the application 1893  
for renewal of a valid permit that addresses any new land areas 1894  
shall be subject to the full standards applicable to new 1895  
applications under this chapter. 1896

(c) A permit renewal shall be for a term not to exceed the 1897  
period of the original permit established by this chapter. 1898  
Application for permit renewal shall be made at least one hundred 1899  
twenty days prior to the expiration of the valid permit. 1900

(5) A permit issued pursuant to this chapter does not 1901  
eliminate the requirements for obtaining a permit to install or 1902  
modify a disposal system or any part thereof or to discharge 1903

sewage, industrial waste, or other wastes into the waters of the state in accordance with Chapter 6111. of the Revised Code.

~~(B)(1) Each application for a coal mining and reclamation permit or renewal of such a permit shall be accompanied by a permit or renewal fee in an amount equal to the product of seventy five dollars multiplied by the number of acres, estimated in the application, that will comprise the area of land to be affected within the permit or renewal period by the coal mining operation for which the permit or renewal is requested.~~

~~(2)~~ The permit application shall be submitted in a manner satisfactory to the chief and shall contain, among other things, all of the following:

(a) The names and addresses of all of the following:

(i) The permit applicant;

(ii) Every legal owner of record of the property, surface and mineral, to be mined;

(iii) The holders of record of any leasehold interest in the property;

(iv) Any purchaser of record of the property under a real estate contract;

(v) The operator if different from the applicant;

(vi) If any of these are business entities other than a single proprietor, the names and addresses of the principals, officers, and statutory agent for service of process.

(b) The names and addresses of the owners of record of all surface and subsurface areas adjacent to any part of the permit area;

(c) A statement of any current or previous coal mining permits in the United States held by the applicant, the permit

identification, and any pending applications; 1933

(d) If the applicant is a partnership, corporation, 1934  
association, or other business entity, the following where 1935  
applicable: the names and addresses of every officer, partner, 1936  
director, or person performing a function similar to a director, 1937  
of the applicant, the name and address of any person owning, of 1938  
record, ten per cent or more of any class of voting stock of the 1939  
applicant, a list of all names under which the applicant, partner, 1940  
or principal shareholder previously operated a coal mining 1941  
operation within the United States within the five-year period 1942  
preceding the date of submission of the application, and a list of 1943  
the person or persons primarily responsible for ensuring that the 1944  
applicant complies with the requirements of this chapter and rules 1945  
adopted pursuant thereto while mining and reclaiming under the 1946  
permit; 1947

(e) A statement of whether the applicant, any subsidiary, 1948  
affiliate, or persons controlled by or under common control with 1949  
the applicant, any partner if the applicant is a partnership, any 1950  
officer, principal shareholder, or director if the applicant is a 1951  
corporation, or any other person who has a right to control or in 1952  
fact controls the management of the applicant or the selection of 1953  
officers, directors, or managers of the applicant: 1954

(i) Has ever held a federal or state coal mining permit that 1955  
in the five-year period prior to the date of submission of the 1956  
application has been suspended or revoked or has had a coal mining 1957  
bond, performance security, or similar security deposited in lieu 1958  
of bond forfeited and, if so, a brief explanation of the facts 1959  
involved; 1960

(ii) Has been an officer, partner, director, principal 1961  
shareholder, or person having the right to control or has in fact 1962  
controlled the management of or the selection of officers, 1963



directors, or managers of a business entity that has had a coal 1964  
mining or surface mining permit that in the five-year period prior 1965  
to the date of submission of the application has been suspended or 1966  
revoked or has had a coal mining or surface mining bond, 1967  
performance security, or similar security deposited in lieu of 1968  
bond forfeited and, if so, a brief explanation of the facts 1969  
involved. 1970

(f) A copy of the applicant's advertisement to be published 1971  
in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the 1972  
proposed site at least once a week for four successive weeks, 1973  
which shall include the ownership of the proposed mine, a 1974  
description of the exact location and boundaries of the proposed 1975  
site sufficient to make the proposed operation readily 1976  
identifiable by local residents, and the location where the 1977  
application is available for public inspection; 1978

(g) A description of the type and method of coal mining 1979  
operation that exists or is proposed, the engineering techniques 1980  
proposed or used, and the equipment used or proposed to be used; 1981

(h) The anticipated or actual starting and termination dates 1982  
of each phase of the mining operation and number of acres of land 1983  
to be affected; 1984

(i) An accurate map or plan, to an appropriate scale, clearly 1985  
showing the land to be affected and the land upon which the 1986  
applicant has the legal right to enter and commence coal mining 1987  
operations, copies of those documents upon which is based the 1988  
applicant's legal right to enter and commence coal mining 1989  
operations, and a statement whether that right is the subject of 1990  
pending litigation. This chapter does not authorize the chief to 1991  
adjudicate property title disputes. 1992

(j) The name of the watershed and location of the surface 1993  
stream or tributary into which drainage from the operation will be 1994

discharged; 1995

(k) A determination of the probable hydrologic consequences 1996  
of the mining and reclamation operations, both on and off the mine 1997  
site, with respect to the hydrologic regime, providing information 1998  
on the quantity and quality of water in surface and ground water 1999  
systems including the dissolved and suspended solids under 2000  
seasonal flow conditions and the collection of sufficient data for 2001  
the mine site and surrounding areas so that an assessment can be 2002  
made by the chief of the probable cumulative impacts of all 2003  
anticipated mining in the area upon the hydrology of the area and 2004  
particularly upon water availability, but this determination shall 2005  
not be required until hydrologic information of the general area 2006  
prior to mining is made available from an appropriate federal or 2007  
state agency; however, the permit shall not be approved until the 2008  
information is available and is incorporated into the application; 2009

(l) When requested by the chief, the climatological factors 2010  
that are peculiar to the locality of the land to be affected, 2011  
including the average seasonal precipitation, the average 2012  
direction and velocity of prevailing winds, and the seasonal 2013  
temperature ranges; 2014

(m) Accurate maps prepared by or under the direction of and 2015  
certified by a qualified registered professional engineer, 2016  
registered surveyor, or licensed landscape architect to an 2017  
appropriate scale clearly showing all types of information set 2018  
forth on topographical maps of the United States geological survey 2019  
of a scale of not more than four hundred feet to the inch, 2020  
including all artificial features and significant known 2021  
archeological sites. The map, among other things specified by the 2022  
chief, shall show all boundaries of the land to be affected, the 2023  
boundary lines and names of present owners of record of all 2024  
surface areas abutting the permit area, and the location of all 2025  
buildings within one thousand feet of the permit area. 2026

(n)(i) Cross-section maps or plans of the land to be affected 2027  
including the actual area to be mined, prepared by or under the 2028  
direction of and certified by a qualified registered professional 2029  
engineer or certified professional geologist with assistance from 2030  
experts in related fields such as hydrology, hydrogeology, 2031  
geology, and landscape architecture, showing pertinent elevations 2032  
and locations of test borings or core samplings and depicting the 2033  
following information: the nature and depth of the various strata 2034  
of overburden; the nature and thickness of any coal or rider seam 2035  
above the coal seam to be mined; the nature of the stratum 2036  
immediately beneath the coal seam to be mined; all mineral crop 2037  
lines and the strike and dip of the coal to be mined within the 2038  
area to be affected; existing or previous coal mining limits; the 2039  
location and extent of known workings of any underground mines, 2040  
including mine openings to the surface; the location of spoil, 2041  
waste, or refuse areas and topsoil preservation areas; the 2042  
location of all impoundments for waste or erosion control; any 2043  
settling or water treatment facility; constructed or natural 2044  
drainways and the location of any discharges to any surface body 2045  
of water on the land to be affected or adjacent thereto; profiles 2046  
at appropriate cross sections of the anticipated final surface 2047  
configuration that will be achieved pursuant to the operator's 2048  
proposed reclamation plan; the location of subsurface water, if 2049  
encountered; the location and quality of aquifers; and the 2050  
estimated elevation of the water table. Registered surveyors shall 2051  
be allowed to perform all plans, maps, and certifications under 2052  
this chapter as they are authorized under Chapter 4733. of the 2053  
Revised Code. 2054

(ii) A statement of the quality and locations of subsurface 2055  
water. The chief shall provide by rule the number of locations to 2056  
be sampled, frequency of collection, and parameters to be analyzed 2057  
to obtain the statement required. 2058

(o) A statement of the results of test borings or core samplings from the permit area, including logs of the drill holes, the thickness of the coal seam found, an analysis of the chemical properties of the coal, the sulfur content of any coal seam, chemical analysis of potentially acid or toxic forming sections of the overburden, and chemical analysis of the stratum lying immediately underneath the coal to be mined, except that this division may be waived by the chief with respect to the specific application by a written determination that its requirements are unnecessary~~+~~. If the test borings or core samplings from the permit area indicate the existence of potentially acid forming or toxic forming quantities of sulfur in the coal or overburden to be disturbed by mining, the application also shall include a statement of the acid generating potential and the acid neutralizing potential of the rock strata to be disturbed as calculated in accordance with section 1513.075 of the Revised Code.

(p) For those lands in the permit application that a reconnaissance inspection suggests may be prime farmlands, a soil survey shall be made or obtained according to standards established by the secretary of the United States department of agriculture in order to confirm the exact location of the prime farmlands, if any;

(q) A certificate issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in this state certifying that the applicant has a public liability insurance policy in force for the coal mining and reclamation operations for which the permit is sought or evidence that the applicant has satisfied other state self-insurance requirements. The policy shall provide for personal injury and property damage protection in an amount adequate to compensate any persons damaged as a result of coal mining and reclamation operations, including the use of explosives, and entitled to

compensation under the applicable provisions of state law. The  
policy shall be maintained in effect during the term of the permit  
or any renewal, including the length of all reclamation  
operations. The insurance company shall give prompt notice to the  
permittee and the chief if the public liability insurance policy  
lapses for any reason including the nonpayment of insurance  
premiums. Upon the lapse of the policy, the chief may suspend the  
permit and all other outstanding permits until proper insurance  
coverage is obtained.

(r) The business telephone number of the applicant;

(s) If the applicant seeks an authorization under division  
(E)(7) of this section to conduct coal mining and reclamation  
operations on areas to be covered by the permit that were affected  
by coal mining operations before August 3, 1977, that have  
resulted in continuing water pollution from or on the previously  
mined areas, such additional information pertaining to those  
previously mined areas as may be required by the chief, including,  
without limitation, maps, plans, cross sections, data necessary to  
determine existing water quality from or on those areas with  
respect to pH, iron, and manganese, and a pollution abatement plan  
that may improve water quality from or on those areas with respect  
to pH, iron, and manganese.

~~(3)~~(2) Information pertaining to coal seams, test borings,  
core samplings, or soil samples as required by this section shall  
be made available by the chief to any person with an interest that  
is or may be adversely affected, except that information that  
pertains only to the analysis of the chemical and physical  
properties of the coal, excluding information regarding mineral or  
elemental content that is potentially toxic in the environment,  
shall be kept confidential and not made a matter of public record.

~~(4)~~(3)(a) If the chief finds that the probable total annual

production at all locations of any operator will not exceed three 2122  
hundred thousand tons, the following activities, upon the written 2123  
request of the operator in connection with a permit application, 2124  
shall be performed by a qualified public or private laboratory or 2125  
another public or private qualified entity designated by the 2126  
chief, and the cost of the activities shall be assumed by the 2127  
chief, provided that sufficient moneys for such assistance are 2128  
available: 2129

(i) The determination of probable hydrologic consequences 2130  
required under division (B)~~(2)~~(1)(k) of this section; 2131

(ii) The development of cross-section maps and plans required 2132  
under division (B)~~(2)~~(1)(n)(i) of this section; 2133

(iii) The geologic drilling and statement of results of test 2134  
borings and core samplings required under division (B)~~(2)~~(1)(o) of 2135  
this section; 2136

(iv) The collection of archaeological information required 2137  
under division (B)~~(2)~~(1)(m) of this section and any other 2138  
archaeological and historical information required by the chief, 2139  
and the preparation of plans necessitated thereby; 2140

(v) Pre-blast surveys required under division (E) of section 2141  
1513.161 of the Revised Code; 2142

(vi) The collection of site-specific resource information and 2143  
production of protection and enhancement plans for fish and 2144  
wildlife habitats and other environmental values required by the 2145  
chief under this chapter. 2146

(b) A coal operator that has received assistance under 2147  
division (B)~~(4)~~(3)(a) of this section shall reimburse the chief 2148  
for the cost of the services rendered if the chief finds that the 2149  
operator's actual and attributed annual production of coal for all 2150  
locations exceeds three hundred thousand tons during the twelve 2151  
months immediately following the date on which the operator was 2152

issued a coal mining and reclamation permit. 2153

~~(5)~~(4) Each applicant for a permit shall submit to the chief 2154  
as part of the permit application a reclamation plan that meets 2155  
the requirements of this chapter. 2156

~~(6)~~(5) Each applicant for a coal mining and reclamation 2157  
permit shall file a copy of the application for a permit, 2158  
excluding that information pertaining to the coal seam itself, for 2159  
public inspection with the county recorder or an appropriate 2160  
public office approved by the chief in the county where the mining 2161  
is proposed to occur. 2162

~~(7)~~(6) Each applicant for a coal mining and reclamation 2163  
permit shall submit to the chief as part of the permit application 2164  
a blasting plan that describes the procedures and standards by 2165  
which the operator will comply with section 1513.161 of the 2166  
Revised Code. 2167

(C) Each reclamation plan submitted as part of a permit 2168  
application shall include, in the detail necessary to demonstrate 2169  
that reclamation required by this chapter can be accomplished, a 2170  
statement of: 2171

(1) The identification of the lands subject to coal mining 2172  
operations over the estimated life of those operations and the 2173  
size, sequence, and timing of the subareas for which it is 2174  
anticipated that individual permits for mining will be sought; 2175

(2) The condition of the land to be covered by the permit 2176  
prior to any mining including all of the following: 2177

(a) The uses existing at the time of the application and, if 2178  
the land has a history of previous mining, the uses that preceded 2179  
any mining; 2180

(b) The capability of the land prior to any mining to support 2181  
a variety of uses, giving consideration to soil and foundation 2182

characteristics, topography, and vegetative cover and, if	2183
applicable, a soil survey prepared pursuant to division	2184
(B) <del>(2)</del> <u>(1)</u> (p) of this section;	2185
(c) The productivity of the land prior to mining, including	2186
appropriate classification as prime farmlands as well as the	2187
average yield of food, fiber, forage, or wood products obtained	2188
from the land under high levels of management.	2189
(3) The use that is proposed to be made of the land following	2190
reclamation, including information regarding the utility and	2191
capacity of the reclaimed land to support a variety of alternative	2192
uses, the relationship of the proposed use to existing land use	2193
policies and plans, and the comments of any owner of the land and	2194
state and local governments or agencies thereof that would have to	2195
initiate, implement, approve, or authorize the proposed use of the	2196
land following reclamation;	2197
(4) A detailed description of how the proposed postmining	2198
land use is to be achieved and the necessary support activities	2199
that may be needed to achieve the proposed land use;	2200
(5) The engineering techniques proposed to be used in mining	2201
and reclamation and a description of the major equipment; a plan	2202
for the control of surface water drainage and of water	2203
accumulation; a plan, where appropriate, for backfilling, soil	2204
stabilization, and compacting, grading, and appropriate	2205
revegetation; a plan for soil reconstruction, replacement, and	2206
stabilization, pursuant to the performance standards in section	2207
1513.16 of the Revised Code, for those food, forage, and forest	2208
lands identified in that section; and an estimate of the cost per	2209
acre of the reclamation, including a statement as to how the	2210
permittee plans to comply with each of the requirements set out in	2211
section 1513.16 of the Revised Code;	2212
(6) A description of the means by which the utilization and	2213



conservation of the solid fuel resource being recovered will be	2214
maximized so that re-affecting the land in the future can be	2215
minimized;	2216
(7) A detailed estimated timetable for the accomplishment of	2217
each major step in the reclamation plan;	2218
(8) A description of the degree to which the coal mining and	2219
reclamation operations are consistent with surface owner plans and	2220
applicable state and local land use plans and programs;	2221
(9) The steps to be taken to comply with applicable air and	2222
water quality laws and regulations and any applicable health and	2223
safety standards;	2224
(10) A description of the degree to which the reclamation	2225
plan is consistent with local physical, environmental, and	2226
climatological conditions;	2227
(11) A description of all lands, interests in lands, or	2228
options on such interests held by the applicant or pending bids on	2229
interests in lands by the applicant, which lands are contiguous to	2230
the area to be covered by the permit;	2231
(12) The results of test borings that the applicant has made	2232
at the area to be covered by the permit, or other equivalent	2233
information and data in a form satisfactory to the chief,	2234
including the location of subsurface water, and an analysis of the	2235
chemical properties, including acid forming properties of the	2236
mineral and overburden; except that information that pertains only	2237
to the analysis of the chemical and physical properties of the	2238
coal, excluding information regarding mineral or elemental	2239
contents that are potentially toxic in the environment, shall be	2240
kept confidential and not made a matter of public record;	2241
(13) A detailed description of the measures to be taken	2242
during the mining and reclamation process to ensure the protection	2243

of all of the following: 2244

(a) The quality of surface and ground water systems, both on- 2245  
and off-site, from adverse effects of the mining and reclamation 2246  
process; 2247

(b) The rights of present users to such water; 2248

(c) The quantity of surface and ground water systems, both 2249  
on- and off-site, from adverse effects of the mining and 2250  
reclamation process or, where such protection of quantity cannot 2251  
be assured, provision of alternative sources of water. 2252

(14) Any other requirements the chief prescribes by rule. 2253

(D)(1) Any information required by division (C) of this 2254  
section that is not on public file pursuant to this chapter shall 2255  
be held in confidence by the chief. 2256

(2) With regard to requests for an exemption from the 2257  
requirements of this chapter for coal extraction incidental to the 2258  
extraction of other minerals, as described in division (H)(1)(a) 2259  
of section 1513.01 of the Revised Code, confidential information 2260  
includes and is limited to information concerning trade secrets or 2261  
privileged commercial or financial information relating to the 2262  
competitive rights of the persons intending to conduct the 2263  
extraction of minerals. 2264

(E)(1) Upon the basis of a complete mining application and 2265  
reclamation plan or a revision or renewal thereof, as required by 2266  
this chapter, and information obtained as a result of public 2267  
notification and public hearing, if any, as provided by section 2268  
1513.071 of the Revised Code, the chief shall grant, require 2269  
modification of, or deny the application for a permit in a 2270  
reasonable time set by the chief and notify the applicant in 2271  
writing. The applicant for a permit or revision of a permit has 2272  
the burden of establishing that the application is in compliance 2273

with all the requirements of this chapter. Within ten days after 2274  
the granting of a permit, the chief shall notify the boards of 2275  
township trustees and county commissioners, the mayor, and the 2276  
legislative authority in the township, county, and municipal 2277  
corporation in which the area of land to be affected is located 2278  
that a permit has been issued and shall describe the location of 2279  
the land. However, failure of the chief to notify the local 2280  
officials shall not affect the status of the permit. 2281

(2) No permit application or application for revision of an 2282  
existing permit shall be approved unless the application 2283  
affirmatively demonstrates and the chief finds in writing on the 2284  
basis of the information set forth in the application or from 2285  
information otherwise available, which shall be documented in the 2286  
approval and made available to the applicant, all of the 2287  
following: 2288

(a) The application is accurate and complete and all the 2289  
requirements of this chapter have been complied with. 2290

(b) The applicant has demonstrated that the reclamation 2291  
required by this chapter can be accomplished under the reclamation 2292  
plan contained in the application. 2293

(c)(i) Assessment of the probable cumulative impact of all 2294  
anticipated mining in the general and adjacent area on the 2295  
hydrologic balance specified in division (B)~~(2)~~(1)(k) of this 2296  
section has been made by the chief, and the proposed operation has 2297  
been designed to prevent material damage to hydrologic balance 2298  
outside the permit area. 2299

(ii) There shall be an ongoing process conducted by the chief 2300  
in cooperation with other state and federal agencies to review all 2301  
assessments of probable cumulative impact of coal mining in light 2302  
of post-mining data and any other hydrologic information as it 2303  
becomes available to determine if the assessments were realistic. 2304

The chief shall take appropriate action as indicated in the review process. 2305  
2306

(d) The area proposed to be mined is not included within an area designated unsuitable for coal mining pursuant to section 1513.073 of the Revised Code or is not within an area under study for such designation in an administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to division (A)(3)(c) or (B) of section 1513.073 of the Revised Code unless in an area as to which an administrative proceeding has commenced pursuant to division (A)(3)(c) or (B) of section 1513.073 of the Revised Code, the operator making the permit application demonstrates that, prior to January 1, 1977, the operator made substantial legal and financial commitments in relation to the operation for which a permit is sought. 2307  
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(e) In cases where the private mineral estate has been severed from the private surface estate, the applicant has submitted to the chief one of the following: 2318  
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(i) The written consent of the surface owner to the extraction of coal by strip mining methods; 2321  
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(ii) A conveyance that expressly grants or reserves the right to extract the coal by strip mining methods; 2323  
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(iii) If the conveyance does not expressly grant the right to extract coal by strip mining methods, the surface-subsurface legal relationship shall be determined under the law of this state. This chapter does not authorize the chief to adjudicate property rights disputes. 2325  
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(3)(a) The applicant shall file with the permit application a schedule listing all notices of violations of any law, rule, or regulation of the United States or of any department or agency thereof or of any state pertaining to air or water environmental protection incurred by the applicant in connection with any coal mining operation during the three-year period prior to the date of 2330  
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application. The schedule also shall indicate the final resolution 2336  
of such a notice of violation. Upon receipt of an application, the 2337  
chief shall provide a schedule listing all notices of violations 2338  
of this chapter pertaining to air or water environmental 2339  
protection incurred by the applicant during the three-year period 2340  
prior to receipt of the application and the final resolution of 2341  
all such notices of violation. The chief shall provide this 2342  
schedule to the applicant for filing by the applicant with the 2343  
application filed for public review, as required by division 2344  
(B)~~(6)~~(5) of this section. When the schedule or other information 2345  
available to the chief indicates that any coal mining operation 2346  
owned or controlled by the applicant is currently in violation of 2347  
such laws, the permit shall not be issued until the applicant 2348  
submits proof that the violation has been corrected or is in the 2349  
process of being corrected to the satisfaction of the regulatory 2350  
authority, department, or agency that has jurisdiction over the 2351  
violation and that any civil penalties owed to the state for a 2352  
violation and not the subject of an appeal have been paid. No 2353  
permit shall be issued to an applicant after a finding by the 2354  
chief that the applicant or the operator specified in the 2355  
application controls or has controlled mining operations with a 2356  
demonstrated pattern of willful violations of this chapter of a 2357  
nature and duration to result in irreparable damage to the 2358  
environment as to indicate an intent not to comply with or a 2359  
disregard of this chapter. 2360

(b) For the purposes of division (E)(3)(a) of this section, 2361  
any violation resulting from an unanticipated event or condition 2362  
at a surface coal mining operation on lands eligible for remining 2363  
under a permit held by the person submitting an application for a 2364  
coal mining permit under this section shall not prevent issuance 2365  
of that permit. As used in this division, "unanticipated event or 2366  
condition" means an event or condition encountered in a remining 2367

operation that was not contemplated by the applicable surface coal 2368  
mining and reclamation permit. 2369

(4)(a) In addition to finding the application in compliance 2370  
with division (E)(2) of this section, if the area proposed to be 2371  
mined contains prime farmland as determined pursuant to division 2372  
(B)~~(2)~~(1)(p) of this section, the chief, after consultation with 2373  
the secretary of the United States department of agriculture and 2374  
pursuant to regulations issued by the secretary of the interior 2375  
with the concurrence of the secretary of agriculture, may grant a 2376  
permit to mine on prime farmland if the chief finds in writing 2377  
that the operator has the technological capability to restore the 2378  
mined area, within a reasonable time, to equivalent or higher 2379  
levels of yield as nonmined prime farmland in the surrounding area 2380  
under equivalent levels of management and can meet the soil 2381  
reconstruction standards in section 1513.16 of the Revised Code. 2382

(b) Division (E)(4)(a) of this section does not apply to a 2383  
permit issued prior to August 3, 1977, or revisions or renewals 2384  
thereof. 2385

(5) The chief shall issue an order denying a permit after 2386  
finding that the applicant has misrepresented or omitted any 2387  
material fact in the application for the permit. 2388

(6) The chief may issue an order denying a permit after 2389  
finding that the applicant, any partner, if the applicant is a 2390  
partnership, any officer, principal shareholder, or director, if 2391  
the applicant is a corporation, or any other person who has a 2392  
right to control or in fact controls the management of the 2393  
applicant or the selection of officers, directors, or managers of 2394  
the applicant has been a sole proprietor or partner, officer, 2395  
director, principal shareholder, or person having the right to 2396  
control or has in fact controlled the management of or the 2397  
selection of officers, directors, or managers of a business entity 2398

that ever has had a coal mining license or permit issued by this 2399  
or any other state or the United States suspended or revoked, ever 2400  
has forfeited a coal or surface mining bond, performance security, 2401  
or similar security deposited in lieu of bond in this or any other 2402  
state or with the United States, or ever has substantially or 2403  
materially failed to comply with this chapter. 2404

(7) When issuing a permit under this section, the chief may 2405  
authorize an applicant to conduct coal mining and reclamation 2406  
operations on areas to be covered by the permit that were affected 2407  
by coal mining operations before August 3, 1977, that have 2408  
resulted in continuing water pollution from or on the previously 2409  
mined areas for the purpose of potentially reducing the pollution 2410  
loadings of pH, iron, and manganese from discharges from or on the 2411  
previously mined areas. Following the chief's authorization to 2412  
conduct such operations on those areas, the areas shall be 2413  
designated as pollution abatement areas for the purposes of this 2414  
chapter. 2415

The chief shall not grant an authorization under division 2416  
(E)(7) of this section to conduct coal mining and reclamation 2417  
operations on any such previously mined areas unless the applicant 2418  
demonstrates to the chief's satisfaction that all of the following 2419  
conditions are met: 2420

(a) The applicant's pollution abatement plan for mining and 2421  
reclaiming the previously mined areas represents the best 2422  
available technology economically achievable. 2423

(b) Implementation of the plan will potentially reduce 2424  
pollutant loadings of pH, iron, and manganese resulting from 2425  
discharges of surface waters or ground water from or on the 2426  
previously mined areas within the permit area. 2427

(c) Implementation of the plan will not cause any additional 2428  
degradation of surface water quality off the permit area with 2429

respect to pH, iron, and manganese+   2430

(d) Implementation of the plan will not cause any additional 2431  
degradation of ground water+   2432

(e) The plan meets the requirements governing mining and 2433  
reclamation of such previously mined pollution abatement areas 2434  
established by the chief in rules adopted under section 1513.02 of 2435  
the Revised Code+   2436

(f) Neither the applicant; any partner, if the applicant is a 2437  
partnership; any officer, principal shareholder, or director, if 2438  
the applicant is a corporation; any other person who has a right 2439  
to control or in fact controls the management of the applicant or 2440  
the selection of officers, directors, or managers of the 2441  
applicant; nor any contractor or subcontractor of the applicant, 2442  
has any of the following: 2443

(i) Responsibility or liability under this chapter or rules 2444  
adopted under it as an operator for treating the discharges of 2445  
water pollutants from or on the previously mined areas for which 2446  
the authorization is sought; 2447

(ii) Any responsibility or liability under this chapter or 2448  
rules adopted under it for reclaiming the previously mined areas 2449  
for which the authorization is sought; 2450

(iii) During the eighteen months prior to submitting the 2451  
permit application requesting an authorization under division 2452  
(E)(7) of this section, had a coal mining and reclamation permit 2453  
suspended or revoked under division (D)(3) of section 1513.02 of 2454  
the Revised Code for violating this chapter or Chapter 6111. of 2455  
the Revised Code or rules adopted under them with respect to water 2456  
quality, effluent limitations, or surface or ground water 2457  
monitoring; 2458

(iv) Ever forfeited a coal or surface mining bond   2459



performance security, or similar security deposited in lieu of a 2460  
bond in this or any other state or with the United States. 2461

(8) In the case of the issuance of a permit that involves a 2462  
conflict of results obtained under section 1513.075 of the Revised 2463  
Code between the various methods of calculating potential acidity 2464  
and neutralization potential for purposes of assessing the 2465  
potential for acid mine drainage to occur at a mine site, the 2466  
permit shall include provisions for monitoring and record keeping 2467  
to identify the creation of unanticipated acid water at the mine 2468  
site. If the monitoring detects the creation of acid water at the 2469  
site, the permit shall impose on the permittee additional 2470  
requirements regarding mining practices and site reclamation to 2471  
prevent the discharge of acid mine drainage from the mine site. 2472

(F)(1) During the term of the permit, the permittee may 2473  
submit an application for a revision of the permit, together with 2474  
a revised reclamation plan, to the chief. 2475

(2) An application for a revision of a permit shall not be 2476  
approved unless the chief finds that reclamation required by this 2477  
chapter can be accomplished under the revised reclamation plan. 2478  
The revision shall be approved or disapproved within ninety days 2479  
after receipt of a complete revision application. The chief shall 2480  
establish, by rule, criteria for determining the extent to which 2481  
all permit application information requirements and procedures, 2482  
including notice and hearings, shall apply to the revision 2483  
request, except that any revisions that propose significant 2484  
alterations in the reclamation plan, at a minimum, shall be 2485  
subject to notice and hearing requirements. 2486

(3) Any extensions to the area covered by the permit except 2487  
incidental boundary revisions shall be made by application for a 2488  
permit. 2489

(G) No transfer, assignment, or sale of the rights granted 2490

under a permit issued pursuant to this chapter shall be made 2491  
without the written approval of the chief. 2492

(H) The chief, within a time limit prescribed in the chief's 2493  
rules, shall review outstanding permits and may require reasonable 2494  
revision or modification of a permit. A revision or modification 2495  
shall be based upon a written finding and subject to notice and 2496  
hearing requirements established by rule of the chief. 2497

(I)(1) If an informal conference has been held pursuant to 2498  
section 1513.071 of the Revised Code, the chief shall issue and 2499  
furnish the applicant for a permit, persons who participated in 2500  
the informal conference, and persons who filed written objections 2501  
pursuant to division (B) of section 1513.071 of the Revised Code, 2502  
with the written finding of the chief granting or denying the 2503  
permit in whole or in part and stating the reasons therefor within 2504  
sixty days of the conference. 2505

(2) If there has been no informal conference held pursuant to 2506  
section 1513.071 of the Revised Code, the chief shall notify the 2507  
applicant for a permit within a reasonable time as provided by 2508  
rule of the chief, taking into account the time needed for proper 2509  
investigation of the site, the complexity of the permit 2510  
application, whether or not a written objection to the application 2511  
has been filed, and whether the application has been approved or 2512  
disapproved in whole or in part. 2513

(3) If the application is approved, the permit shall be 2514  
issued. If the application is disapproved, specific reasons 2515  
therefor shall be set forth in the notification. Within thirty 2516  
days after the applicant is notified of the final decision of the 2517  
chief on the permit application, the applicant or any person with 2518  
an interest that is or may be adversely affected may appeal the 2519  
decision to the reclamation commission pursuant to section 1513.13 2520  
of the Revised Code. 2521

(4) Any applicant or any person with an interest that is or  
may be adversely affected who has participated in the  
administrative proceedings as an objector and is aggrieved by the  
decision of the reclamation commission, or if the commission fails  
to act within the time limits specified in this chapter, may  
appeal in accordance with section 1513.14 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 1513.071.** (A) Simultaneously with the filing of an  
application for a permit or significant revision of an existing  
permit under section 1513.07 of the Revised Code, the applicant  
shall submit to the chief of the division of mineral resources  
management a copy of ~~his~~ the applicant's advertisement of the  
ownership, precise location, and boundaries of the land to be  
affected. At the time of submission, the advertisement shall be  
placed by the applicant in a newspaper of general circulation in  
the locality of the proposed coal mine at least once a week for  
four consecutive weeks. The chief shall notify, in each county or  
part of a county in which a proposed area to be permitted is  
located, the board of county commissioners, the board of township  
trustees, the legislative authorities of municipal corporations,  
private water companies, regional councils of governments, and the  
boards of directors of conservancy districts informing them of the  
operator's intention to conduct a coal mining operation on a  
particularly described tract of land and indicating the permit  
application number and where a copy of the proposed mining and  
reclamation plan may be inspected. The chief shall also notify the  
planning commissions with jurisdiction over all or part of the  
area to be permitted. These agencies, authorities, or companies  
may submit written comments on the application with respect to the  
effects of the proposed operation on the environment that are  
within their area of responsibility in quadruplicate to the chief  
within thirty days after notification by the chief of receipt of  
the application. The chief shall immediately transmit these

comments to the applicant and make them available to the public at 2554  
the same locations at which the mining application is available 2555  
for inspection. 2556

(B) A person having an interest that is or may be adversely 2557  
affected or the officer or head of any federal, state, or local 2558  
governmental agency or authority may file written objections to 2559  
the proposed initial or revised application for a coal mining and 2560  
reclamation permit with the chief within thirty days after the 2561  
last publication of the notice required by division (A) of this 2562  
section. The objections shall immediately be transmitted to the 2563  
applicant by the chief and shall be made available to the public. 2564  
If written objections are filed and an informal conference 2565  
requested, the chief or ~~his~~ the chief's representative shall then 2566  
hold an informal conference on the application for a permit within 2567  
a reasonable time in the county where the largest area of the area 2568  
to be permitted is located. The date, time, and location of the 2569  
informal conference shall be advertised by the chief in a 2570  
newspaper of general circulation in the locality at least two 2571  
weeks prior to the scheduled conference date. The chief may 2572  
arrange with the applicant, upon request by any objecting party, 2573  
access to the proposed mining area for the purpose of gathering 2574  
information relevant to the proceeding. An electronic or 2575  
stenographic record shall be made of the conference proceeding 2576  
unless waived by all parties. The record shall be maintained and 2577  
shall be accessible to the parties until final release of the 2578  
applicant's performance ~~and~~ security. If all parties requesting 2579  
the informal conference stipulate agreement prior to the requested 2580  
informal conference and withdraw their request, the informal 2581  
conference need not be held. 2582

**Sec. 1513.075.** (A) As used in this section: 2583

(1) "Potential acidity" means a laboratory measurement of the 2584

amount of acidity that could be produced by material in a rock strata proposed to be disturbed by mining and that is expressed by a numeral indicating the number of tons of that acidity that would be present in one thousand tons of disturbed overburden.

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(2) "Neutralization potential" means a laboratory measurement of the alkalinity of a rock strata expressed as the amount of acidity that would be neutralized by material proposed to be disturbed by mining and that is expressed by a numeral indicating the number of tons of that alkalinity that would be present in one thousand tons of disturbed overburden.

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(3) "Test borings or core samplings" refer to test borings or core samplings performed on rock strata in an area proposed to be covered by a permit for a coal mining operation, the results of which must be stated in the permit application in accordance with division (B)(1)(o) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code.

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(B) For purposes of the determination of the chief of the division of mineral resources management regarding whether to approve an application for a permit for a coal mining operation based on criteria established in divisions (E)(2)(a) and (c) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code and related performance standards established in division (A)(10) of section 1513.16 of the Revised Code, the potential acidity and the neutralization potential of the rock strata that would be disturbed under the permit may be calculated in accordance with this section.

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(C) The measurement of potential acidity may be based on laboratory analyses of the sulfur content of the coal and overburden to be disturbed by mining. If the results of test borings or core samplings include laboratory analyses of the pyritic form of sulfur, the applicant may base the calculation of the potential acidity for the area on the pyritic sulfur content of the coal and overburden to be disturbed by mining rather than

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on the total sulfur content.

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(D) The tons of rock in the area represented by each core hole resulting from test boring or core sampling may be estimated and used to calculate the tons of potential acidity and tons of neutralization potential for each rock stratum. The sum of those values across the proposed permit area may be used to calculate the site's overall neutralization potential and potential acidity.

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(E) The proposed permit area may not be considered to have the potential to create acid or other toxic mine drainage if either of the following applies:

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(1) The numeral that indicates the site's overall neutralization potential divided by the numeral that indicates the site's overall potential acidity results in a quotient that is equal to or greater than two.

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(2) The numeral that indicates the neutralization potential subtracted from the numeral that indicates the potential acidity results in a remainder that is equal to or less than either of the following:

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(a) Negative five in the case that the total sulfur content of rock strata is used to calculate potential acidity;

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(b) Negative ten in the case that the pyritic sulfur content of rock strata is used to calculate potential acidity.

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**Sec. 1513.08.** (A) After a coal mining and reclamation permit application has been approved, but before the permit is issued, the applicant shall file with the chief of the division of mineral resources management, on a form prescribed and furnished by the chief, ~~a bond for performance payable, as appropriate, to the state and conditioned upon faithful performance of all the requirements of this chapter and the permit~~ the performance security required under this section. ~~The bond~~

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(B) Using the information contained in the permit 2646  
application; the requirements contained in the approved permit and 2647  
reclamation plan; and, after considering the topography, geology, 2648  
hydrology, and revegetation potential of the area of the approved 2649  
permit, the probable difficulty of reclamation; the chief shall be 2650  
in the amount of twenty five hundred dollars times the number of 2651  
acres of land upon which the operator states in the application 2652  
for a permit the operator will initiate and conduct coal mining 2653  
and determine the estimated cost of reclamation operations within 2654  
under the initial term of the permit if the reclamation has to be 2655  
performed by the division of mineral resources management in the 2656  
event of forfeiture of the performance security by the applicant. 2657  
The minimum amount of a bond shall be ten thousand dollars. The 2658  
bond The chief shall send written notice of the amount of the 2659  
estimated cost of reclamation by certified mail to the applicant. 2660  
The applicant shall send written notice to the chief indicating 2661  
the method by which the applicant will provide the performance 2662  
security pursuant to division (C) of this section. 2663

(C) The applicant shall provide the performance security in 2664  
an amount using one of the following: 2665

(1) If the applicant elects to provide performance security 2666  
without reliance on the reclamation forfeiture fund created in 2667  
section 1513.18 of the Revised Code, the amount of the estimated 2668  
cost of reclamation as determined by the chief under division (B) 2669  
of this section for the increments of land on which the operator 2670  
will conduct a coal mining and reclamation operation under the 2671  
initial term of the permit as indicated in the application; 2672

(2) If the applicant elects to provide performance security 2673  
together with reliance on the reclamation forfeiture fund through 2674  
payment of the additional tax on the severance of coal that is 2675  
levied under division (A)(8) of section 5749.02 of the Revised 2676  
Code, an amount of twenty-five hundred dollars per acre of land on 2677

which the operator will conduct coal mining and reclamation under 2678  
the initial term of the permit as indicated in the application. 2679  
However, in order to be eligible to provide performance security 2680  
in accordance with division (C)(2) of this section, an applicant 2681  
shall have held a permit issued under this chapter for any coal 2682  
mining and reclamation operation for a period of not less than 2683  
five years. In the event of forfeiture of performance security 2684  
that was provided in accordance with division (C)(2) of this 2685  
section, the difference between the amount of that performance 2686  
security and the estimated cost of reclamation as determined by 2687  
the chief under division (B) of this section shall be obtained 2688  
from money in the reclamation forfeiture fund as needed to 2689  
complete the reclamation. 2690

The performance security provided under division (C) of this 2691  
section for the entire area to be mined under one permit issued 2692  
under this chapter shall not be less than ten thousand dollars. 2693

The performance security shall cover areas of land affected 2694  
by mining within or immediately adjacent to the permitted area, so 2695  
long as the total number of acres does not exceed the number of 2696  
acres ~~bonded~~ for which the performance security is provided. 2697  
However, the authority for ~~bond~~ the performance security to cover 2698  
areas of land immediately adjacent to the permitted area does not 2699  
authorize a permittee to mine areas outside an approved permit 2700  
area. As succeeding increments of coal mining and reclamation 2701  
operations are to be initiated and conducted within the permit 2702  
area, the permittee shall file with the chief ~~an additional bond~~ 2703  
~~or bonds~~ performance security to cover the increments in 2704  
accordance with this section. ~~In the event of forfeiture of a~~ 2705  
~~bond, if the bond is insufficient to complete the reclamation, the~~ 2706  
~~chief shall complete the reclamation in accordance with section~~ 2707  
~~1513.18 of the Revised Code using funds from the reclamation~~ 2708  
~~forfeiture fund created in that section~~ If a permittee intends to 2709



mine areas outside the approved permit area, the permittee shall 2710  
provide additional performance security in accordance with this 2711  
section to cover the areas to be mined. 2712

~~(B) Liability~~ An applicant shall provide performance security 2713  
in accordance with division (C)(1) of this section in the full 2714  
amount of the estimated cost of reclamation as determined by the 2715  
chief for a permitted coal preparation plant or coal refuse 2716  
disposal area that is not located within a permitted area of a 2717  
mine. A permittee shall provide the performance security not later 2718  
than one year after the effective date of this amendment for a 2719  
permitted coal preparation plant or coal refuse disposal area that 2720  
is in existence on the effective date of this amendment and that 2721  
is not located within a permitted area of a mine. 2722

(D) A permittee's liability under the performance security 2723  
shall be limited to the obligations established under the permit, 2724  
which include completion of the reclamation plan in order to make 2725  
the land capable of supporting the postmining land use that was 2726  
approved in the permit. The period of liability under the ~~bond~~ 2727  
performance security shall be for the duration of the coal mining 2728  
and reclamation operation and for a period coincident with the 2729  
operator's responsibility for revegetation requirements under 2730  
section 1513.16 of the Revised Code. ~~The bond~~ 2731

(E) The amount of the estimated cost of reclamation 2732  
determined under division (B) of this section and the amount of a 2733  
permittee's performance security provided in accordance with 2734  
division (C)(1) of this section may be adjusted by the chief as 2735  
the land that is affected by mining increases or decreases or if 2736  
the cost of reclamation increases or decreases. If the performance 2737  
security was provided in accordance with division (C)(2) of this 2738  
section and the chief has issued a cessation order under division 2739  
(D)(2) of section 1513.02 of the Revised Code for failure to abate 2740  
a violation of the contemporaneous reclamation requirement under 2741

division (A)(15) of section 1513.16 of the Revised Code, the chief  
may require the permittee to increase the amount of performance  
security from twenty-five hundred dollars per acre of land to five  
thousand dollars per acre of land.

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The chief shall notify the permittee, each surety, and any  
person who has a property interest in the performance security and  
who has requested to be notified of any proposed adjustment to the  
performance security. The permittee may request an informal  
conference with the chief concerning the proposed adjustment, and  
the chief shall provide such an informal conference.

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If the chief increases the amount of performance security  
under this division, the permittee shall provide additional  
performance security in an amount determined by the chief. If the  
chief decreases the amount of performance security under this  
division, the chief shall determine the amount of the reduction of  
the performance security and send written notice of the amount of  
reduction to the permittee. The permittee may reduce the amount of  
the performance security in the amount determined by the chief.

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(F) A permittee may request a reduction in the amount of the  
performance security by submitting to the chief documentation  
proving that the amount of the performance security provided by  
the permittee exceeds the estimated cost of reclamation if the  
reclamation would have to be performed by the division in the  
event of forfeiture of the performance security. The chief shall  
examine the documentation and determine whether the permittee's  
performance security exceeds the estimated cost of reclamation. If  
the chief determines that the performance security exceeds that  
estimated cost, the chief shall determine the amount of the  
reduction of the performance security and send written notice of  
the amount to the permittee. The permittee may reduce the amount  
of the performance security in the amount determined by the chief.  
Adjustments in the amount of performance security under this

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division shall not be considered release of performance security 2774  
and are not subject to section 1513.16 of the Revised Code. 2775

(G) If the performance security is a bond, it shall be 2776  
executed by the operator and a corporate surety licensed to do 2777  
business in this state, ~~except that the operator may elect to~~ 2778  
~~deposit. If the performance security is a cash, negotiable bonds~~ 2779  
~~of the United States or this state, deposit~~ or negotiable 2780  
certificates of deposit of ~~any a~~ bank or savings and loan 2781  
association ~~organized or transacting business in the United~~ 2782  
~~States, the bank or savings and loan association shall be licensed~~ 2783  
and operating in this state. The cash deposit or market value of 2784  
the securities shall be equal to or greater than the amount of the 2785  
~~bond~~ performance security required for the ~~bonded area~~ under this 2786  
section. The chief shall review any documents pertaining to the 2787  
performance security and approve or disapprove the documents. The 2788  
chief shall notify the applicant of the chief's determination. 2789

~~(C) The~~ (H) If the performance security is a bond, the chief 2790  
may accept the bond of the applicant itself without separate 2791  
surety when the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the 2792  
chief the existence of a suitable agent to receive service of 2793  
process and a history of financial solvency and continuous 2794  
operation sufficient for authorization to self-insure or bond the 2795  
amount. 2796

~~(D) Cash or securities so deposited shall be deposited upon~~ 2797  
~~the same terms as the terms upon which surety bonds may be~~ 2798  
~~deposited. The securities shall be security for the repayment of~~ 2799  
~~the negotiable certificate of deposit.~~ 2800

~~(E) The amount of the bond or deposit required and the terms~~ 2801  
~~of each acceptance of the applicant's bond shall be adjusted by~~ 2802  
~~the chief from time to time as affected land acreages are~~ 2803  
~~increased or decreased~~ (I) Performance security provided under 2804

this section may be held in trust, provided that the state is the 2805  
conditional beneficiary of the trust and the custodian of the 2806  
performance security held in trust is a bank, trust company, or 2807  
other financial institution that is licensed and operating in this 2808  
state. The chief shall review the trust document and approve or 2809  
disapprove the document. The chief shall notify the applicant of 2810  
the chief's determination. 2811

(J) If a surety, bank, savings and loan association, trust 2812  
company, or other financial institution that holds the performance 2813  
security required under this section becomes insolvent, the 2814  
permittee shall notify the chief of the insolvency, and the chief 2815  
shall order the permittee to submit a plan for replacement 2816  
performance security within thirty days after receipt of notice 2817  
from the chief. If the permittee provided performance security in 2818  
accordance with division (C)(1) of this section, the permittee 2819  
shall provide the replacement performance security within ninety 2820  
days after receipt of notice from the chief. If the permittee 2821  
provided performance security in accordance with division (C)(2) 2822  
of this section, the permittee shall provide the replacement 2823  
performance security within one year after receipt of notice from 2824  
the chief, and, for a period of one year after the permittee's 2825  
receipt of notice from the chief or until the permittee provides 2826  
the replacement performance security, whichever occurs first, 2827  
money in the reclamation forfeiture fund shall be the permittee's 2828  
replacement performance security in an amount not to exceed the 2829  
estimated cost of reclamation as determined by the chief. 2830

(K) A permittee's responsibility for repairing material 2831  
damage and replacement of water supply resulting from subsidence 2832  
may be satisfied by liability insurance required under this 2833  
chapter in lieu of the permittee's performance security if the 2834  
liability insurance policy contains terms and conditions that 2835  
specifically provide coverage for repairing material damage and 2836

replacement of water supply resulting from subsidence. 2837

(L) If the performance security provided in accordance with 2838  
this section exceeds the estimated cost of reclamation, the chief 2839  
may authorize the amount of the performance security that exceeds 2840  
the estimated cost of reclamation together with any interest or 2841  
other earnings on the performance security to be paid to the 2842  
permittee. 2843

**Sec. 1513.081.** (A) If an operator becomes insolvent, the 2844  
division of mineral resources management shall have a priority 2845  
lien in front of all other interested creditors against the assets 2846  
of that operator for the amount of any reclamation that is 2847  
required as a result of the operator's mining activities. The 2848  
chief of the division of mineral resources management shall file a 2849  
statement in the office of the county recorder of each county in 2850  
which the mined land lies of the estimated cost to reclaim the 2851  
land. The estimated cost to reclaim the land shall include the 2852  
direct and indirect costs of the development, design, 2853  
construction, management, and administration of the reclamation. 2854  
The statement shall constitute a lien on the assets of the 2855  
operator as of the date of the filing. The lien shall continue in 2856  
force so long as any portion of the lien remains unpaid or until 2857  
the chief issues a certificate of release of the lien. If the 2858  
chief issues a certificate of release of the lien, the chief shall 2859  
file the certificate of release in the office of each applicable 2860  
county recorder. 2861

(B) The chief promptly shall issue a certificate of release 2862  
of a lien under any of the following circumstances: 2863

(1) Upon the repayment in full of the money that is necessary 2864  
to complete the reclamation; 2865

(2) Upon the transfer of an existing permit that includes the 2866

areas of the operation for which reclamation was not completed to 2867  
a different operator; 2868

(3) Any other circumstance that the chief determines to be in 2869  
the best interests of the state. 2870

(C) The chief may modify the amount of a lien under this 2871  
section. If the chief modifies a lien, the chief shall file a 2872  
statement in the office of the county recorder of each applicable 2873  
county of the new amount of the lien. 2874

(D) The chief may authorize an agent to hold a certificate of 2875  
release in escrow for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty 2876  
days for the purpose of facilitating the transfer of unreclaimed 2877  
mine land. 2878

(E) All money from the collection of liens under this section 2879  
shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the 2880  
reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the 2881  
Revised Code. 2882

**Sec. 1513.13.** (A)(1) Any person having an interest that is or 2883  
may be adversely affected by a notice of violation, order, or 2884  
decision of the chief of the division of mineral resources 2885  
management, other than a show cause order or an order that adopts 2886  
a rule, or by any modification, vacation, or termination of such a 2887  
notice, order, or decision, may appeal by filing a notice of 2888  
appeal with the reclamation commission for review of the notice, 2889  
order, or decision within thirty days after the notice, order, or 2890  
decision is served upon the person or within thirty days after its 2891  
modification, vacation, or termination and by filing a copy of the 2892  
notice of appeal with the chief within three days after filing the 2893  
notice of appeal with the commission. The notice of appeal shall 2894  
contain a copy of the notice of violation, order, or decision 2895  
complained of and the grounds upon which the appeal is based. The 2896

commission has exclusive original jurisdiction to hear and decide 2897  
such appeals. The filing of a notice of appeal under division 2898  
(A)(1) of this section does not operate as a stay of any order, 2899  
notice of violation, or decision of the chief. 2900

(2) The permittee, the chief, and other interested persons 2901  
shall be given written notice of the time and place of the hearing 2902  
at least five days prior thereto. The hearing shall be of record. 2903

(3) Any person authorized under this section to appeal to the 2904  
commission may request an informal review by the chief or the 2905  
chief's designee by filing a written request with the chief within 2906  
thirty days after a notice, order, decision, modification, 2907  
vacation, or termination is served upon the person. Filing of the 2908  
written request shall toll the time for appeal before the 2909  
commission, but shall not operate as a stay of any order, notice 2910  
of violation, or decision of the chief. The chief's determination 2911  
of an informal review is appealable to the commission under this 2912  
section. 2913

(B) The commission shall affirm the notice of violation, 2914  
order, or decision of the chief unless the commission determines 2915  
that it is arbitrary, capricious, or otherwise inconsistent with 2916  
law; in that case the commission may modify the notice of 2917  
violation, order, or decision or vacate it and remand it to the 2918  
chief for further proceedings that the commission may direct. 2919

The commission shall conduct hearings and render decisions in 2920  
a timely fashion, except that all of the following apply: 2921

(1) When the appeal concerns an order for the cessation of 2922  
coal mining and reclamation operations issued pursuant to division 2923  
(D)(1) or (2) of section 1513.02 of the Revised Code, the 2924  
commission shall issue its written decision within thirty days 2925  
after the receipt of the appeal unless temporary relief has been 2926  
granted by the chairperson pursuant to division (C) of this 2927

section. 2928

(2) When the appeal concerns an application for a permit 2929  
under division (I) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code, the 2930  
commission shall hold a hearing within thirty days after receipt 2931  
of the notice of appeal and issue its decision within thirty days 2932  
after the hearing. 2933

(3) When the appeal concerns a decision of the chief 2934  
regarding release of ~~bond~~ a performance security under division 2935  
(F) of section 1513.16 of the Revised Code, the commission shall 2936  
hold a hearing within thirty days after receipt of the notice of 2937  
appeal and issue its decision within sixty days after the hearing. 2938

(4) When the appeal concerns a decision of the chief 2939  
regarding the location of a well in a coal bearing township under 2940  
section 1509.08 of the Revised Code, the commission shall hold a 2941  
hearing and issue its decision within thirty days after receipt of 2942  
the notice of appeal. 2943

(C) The chairperson of the commission, under conditions the 2944  
chairperson prescribes, may grant temporary relief the chairperson 2945  
considers appropriate pending final determination of an appeal if 2946  
all of the following conditions are met: 2947

(1) All parties to the appeal have been notified and given an 2948  
opportunity for a hearing to be held in the locality of the 2949  
subject site on the request for temporary relief and the 2950  
opportunity to be heard on the request. 2951

(2) The person requesting relief shows that there is a 2952  
substantial likelihood that the person will prevail on the merits. 2953

(3) The relief will not adversely affect public health or 2954  
safety or cause significant imminent environmental harm to land, 2955  
air, or water resources. 2956

The chairperson shall issue a decision expeditiously, except 2957



that when the applicant requests relief from an order for the  
cessation of coal mining and reclamation operations issued  
pursuant to division (D)(1) or (2) of section 1513.02 of the  
Revised Code, the decision shall be issued within five days after  
its receipt.

Any party to an appeal filed with the commission who is  
aggrieved or adversely affected by a decision of the chairperson  
to grant or deny temporary relief under this section may appeal  
that decision to the commission. The commission may confine its  
review to the record developed at the hearing before the  
chairperson.

The appeal shall be filed with the commission within thirty  
days after the chairperson issues the decision on the request for  
temporary relief. The commission shall issue a decision as  
expeditiously as possible, except that when the appellant requests  
relief from an order for the cessation of coal mining and  
reclamation operations issued pursuant to division (D)(1) or (2)  
of section 1513.02 of the Revised Code, the decision of the  
commission shall be issued within five days after receipt of the  
notice of appeal.

The commission shall affirm the decision of the chairperson  
granting or denying temporary relief unless it determines that the  
decision is arbitrary, capricious, or otherwise inconsistent with  
law.

(D) Following the issuance of an order to show cause as to  
why a permit should not be suspended or revoked pursuant to  
division (D)(3) of section 1513.02 of the Revised Code, the chief  
or a representative of the chief shall hold a public adjudicatory  
hearing after giving written notice of the time, place, and date  
thereof. The hearing shall be of record.

Within sixty days following the public hearing, the chief

shall issue and furnish to the permittee and all other parties to  
the hearing a written decision, and the reasons therefor,  
concerning suspension or revocation of the permit. If the chief  
revokes the permit, the permittee immediately shall cease coal  
mining operations on the permit area and shall complete  
reclamation within a period specified by the chief, or the chief  
shall declare as forfeited the performance ~~bonds~~ security for the  
operation.

(E)(1) Whenever an enforcement order or permit decision is  
appealed under this section or any action is filed under division  
(B) of section 1513.15 or 1513.39 of the Revised Code, at the  
request of a prevailing party, a sum equal to the aggregate amount  
of all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, as  
determined to have been necessary and reasonably incurred by the  
prevailing party for or in connection with participation in the  
enforcement proceedings before the commission, the court under  
section 1513.15 of the Revised Code, or the chief under section  
1513.39 of the Revised Code, may be awarded, as considered proper,  
in accordance with divisions (E)(1)(a) to (c) of this section. In  
no event shall attorney's fees awarded under this section exceed,  
for the kind and quality of services, the prevailing market rates  
at the time the services were furnished under division (A) of this  
section. A party may be entitled to costs and expenses related  
solely to the preparation, defense, and appeal of a petition for  
costs and expenses, provided that the costs and expenses are  
limited and proportionate to costs and expenses otherwise allowed  
under division (E) of this section.

(a) A party, other than the permittee or the division of  
mineral resources management, shall file a petition, if any, for  
an award of costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, with  
the chief, who shall review the petition. If the chief finds that  
the party, other than the permittee or the division, prevailed in

whole or in part, made a substantial contribution to a full and  
fair determination of the issues, and made a contribution separate  
and distinct from the contribution made by any other party, the  
chief may award to that party the party's costs and expenses,  
including attorney's fees that were necessary and reasonably  
incurred by the petitioning party for, or in connection with,  
participation in the proceeding before the commission.

(b) If a permittee who made a request under division (E)(1)  
of this section demonstrates that a party other than a permittee  
who initiated an appeal under this section or participated in such  
an appeal initiated or participated in the appeal in bad faith and  
for the purpose of harassing or embarrassing the permittee, the  
permittee may file a petition with the chief. The chief may award  
to the permittee the costs and expenses reasonably incurred by the  
permittee in connection with participation in the appeal and  
assess those costs and expenses against the party who initiated  
the appeal.

(c) The division may file, with the commission, a request for  
an award to the division of the costs and expenses reasonably  
incurred by the division in connection with an appeal initiated  
under this section. The commission may assess those costs and  
expenses against the party who initiated the appeal if the  
division demonstrates that the party initiated or participated in  
the appeal in bad faith and for the purpose of harassing or  
embarrassing the division.

(2) Whenever an order issued under this section or as a  
result of any administrative proceeding under this chapter is the  
subject of judicial review, at the request of any party, a sum  
equal to the aggregate amount of all costs and expenses, including  
attorney's fees, as determined by the court to have been necessary  
and reasonably incurred by the party for or in connection with  
participation in the proceedings, may be awarded to either party,

in accordance with division (E)(1) of this section, as the court, 3053  
on the basis of judicial review, considers proper. 3054

**Sec. 1513.16.** (A) Any permit issued under this chapter to 3055  
conduct coal mining operations shall require that the operations 3056  
meet all applicable performance standards of this chapter and such 3057  
other requirements as the chief of the division of mineral 3058  
resources management shall adopt by rule. General performance 3059  
standards shall apply to all coal mining and reclamation 3060  
operations and shall require the operator at a minimum to do all 3061  
of the following: 3062

(1) Conduct coal mining operations so as to maximize the 3063  
utilization and conservation of the solid fuel resource being 3064  
recovered so that re-affecting the land in the future through coal 3065  
mining can be minimized; 3066

(2) Restore the land affected to a condition capable of 3067  
supporting the uses that it was capable of supporting prior to any 3068  
mining, or higher or better uses of which there is reasonable 3069  
likelihood, so long as the uses do not present any actual or 3070  
probable hazard to public health or safety or pose any actual or 3071  
probable threat of diminution or pollution of the waters of the 3072  
state, and the permit applicants' declared proposed land uses 3073  
following reclamation are not considered to be impractical or 3074  
unreasonable, to be inconsistent with applicable land use policies 3075  
and plans, to involve unreasonable delay in implementation, or to 3076  
violate federal, state, or local law; 3077

(3) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, with 3078  
respect to all coal mining operations, backfill, compact where 3079  
advisable to ensure stability or to prevent leaching of toxic 3080  
materials, and grade in order to restore the approximate original 3081  
contour of the land with all highwalls, spoil piles, and 3082  
depressions eliminated unless small depressions are needed in 3083

order to retain moisture to assist revegetation or as otherwise 3084  
authorized pursuant to this chapter, provided that if the operator 3085  
demonstrates that due to volumetric expansion the amount of 3086  
overburden and the spoil and waste materials removed in the course 3087  
of the mining operation are more than sufficient to restore the 3088  
approximate original contour, the operator shall backfill, grade, 3089  
and compact the excess overburden and other spoil and waste 3090  
materials to attain the lowest grade, but not more than the angle 3091  
of repose, and to cover all acid-forming and other toxic materials 3092  
in order to achieve an ecologically sound land use compatible with 3093  
the surrounding region in accordance with the approved mining 3094  
plan. The overburden or spoil shall be shaped and graded in such a 3095  
way as to prevent slides, erosion, and water pollution and shall 3096  
be revegetated in accordance with this chapter. 3097

(4) Stabilize and protect all surface areas, including spoil 3098  
piles affected by the coal mining and reclamation operation, to 3099  
control erosion and attendant air and water pollution effectively; 3100

(5) Remove the topsoil from the land in a separate layer, 3101  
replace it on the backfill area, or, if not utilized immediately, 3102  
segregate it in a separate pile from the spoil, and when the 3103  
topsoil is not replaced on a backfill area within a time short 3104  
enough to avoid deterioration of the topsoil, maintain a 3105  
successful cover by quick-growing plants or other means thereafter 3106  
so that the topsoil is preserved from wind and water erosion, 3107  
remains free of any contamination by acid or other toxic material, 3108  
and is in a usable condition for sustaining vegetation when 3109  
restored during reclamation. If the topsoil is of insufficient 3110  
quantity or of poor quality for sustaining vegetation or if other 3111  
strata can be shown to be more suitable for vegetation 3112  
requirements, the operator shall remove, segregate, and preserve 3113  
in a like manner such other strata as are best able to support 3114  
vegetation. 3115

(6) Restore the topsoil or the best available subsoil that is 3116  
best able to support vegetation; 3117

(7) For all prime farmlands as identified in division 3118  
(B)~~(2)~~(1)(p) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code to be mined 3119  
and reclaimed, perform soil removal, storage, replacement, and 3120  
reconstruction in accordance with specifications established by 3121  
the secretary of the United States department of agriculture under 3122  
the "Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 3123  
445, 30 U.S.C.A. 1201. The operator, at a minimum, shall be 3124  
required to do all of the following: 3125

(a) Segregate the A horizon of the natural soil, except where 3126  
it can be shown that other available soil materials will create a 3127  
final soil having a greater productive capacity, and, if not 3128  
utilized immediately, stockpile this material separately from the 3129  
spoil and provide needed protection from wind and water erosion or 3130  
contamination by acid or other toxic material; 3131

(b) Segregate the B horizon of the natural soil, or 3132  
underlying C horizons or other strata, or a combination of such 3133  
horizons or other strata that are shown to be both texturally and 3134  
chemically suitable for plant growth and that can be shown to be 3135  
equally or more favorable for plant growth than the B horizon, in 3136  
sufficient quantities to create in the regraded final soil a root 3137  
zone of comparable depth and quality to that which existed in the 3138  
natural soil, and, if not utilized immediately, stockpile this 3139  
material separately from the spoil and provide needed protection 3140  
from wind and water erosion or contamination by acid or other 3141  
toxic material; 3142

(c) Replace and regrade the root zone material described in 3143  
division (A)(7)(b) of this section with proper compaction and 3144  
uniform depth over the regraded spoil material; 3145

(d) Redistribute and grade in a uniform manner the surface 3146

soil horizon described in division (A)(7)(a) of this section. 3147

(8) Create, if authorized in the approved mining and 3148  
reclamation plan and permit, permanent impoundments of water on 3149  
mining sites as part of reclamation activities only when it is 3150  
adequately demonstrated by the operator that all of the following 3151  
conditions will be met: 3152

(a) The size of the impoundment is adequate for its intended 3153  
purposes. 3154

(b) The impoundment dam construction will be so designed as 3155  
to achieve necessary stability with an adequate margin of safety 3156  
compatible with that of structures constructed under the 3157  
"Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act," 68 Stat. 666 3158  
(1954), 16 U.S.C. 1001, as amended. 3159

(c) The quality of impounded water will be suitable on a 3160  
permanent basis for its intended use and discharges from the 3161  
impoundment will not degrade the water quality below water quality 3162  
standards established pursuant to applicable federal and state law 3163  
in the receiving stream. 3164

(d) The level of water will be reasonably stable. 3165

(e) Final grading will provide adequate safety and access for 3166  
proposed water users. 3167

(f) The water impoundments will not result in the diminution 3168  
of the quality or quantity of water utilized by adjacent or 3169  
surrounding landowners for agricultural, industrial, recreational, 3170  
or domestic uses. 3171

(9) Conduct any augering operation associated with strip 3172  
mining in a manner to maximize recoverability of mineral reserves 3173  
remaining after the operation and reclamation are complete and 3174  
seal all auger holes with an impervious and noncombustible 3175  
material in order to prevent drainage, except where the chief 3176

determines that the resulting impoundment of water in such auger  
holes may create a hazard to the environment or the public health  
or safety. The chief may prohibit augering if necessary to  
maximize the utilization, recoverability, or conservation of the  
solid fuel resources or to protect against adverse water quality  
impacts.

(10) Minimize the disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic  
balance at the mine site and in associated offsite areas and to  
the quality and quantity of water in surface and ground water  
systems both during and after coal mining operations and during  
reclamation by doing all of the following:

(a) Avoiding acid or other toxic mine drainage by such  
measures as, but not limited to:

(i) Preventing or removing water from contact with toxic  
producing deposits;

(ii) Treating drainage to reduce toxic content that adversely  
affects downstream water upon being released to water courses in  
accordance with rules adopted by the chief in accordance with  
section 1513.02 of the Revised Code;

(iii) Casing, sealing, or otherwise managing boreholes,  
shafts, and wells, and keeping acid or other toxic drainage from  
entering ground and surface waters.

(b)(i) Conducting coal mining operations so as to prevent, to  
the extent possible using the best technology currently available,  
additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or  
runoff outside the permit area, but in no event shall  
contributions be in excess of requirements set by applicable state  
or federal laws;

(ii) Constructing any siltation structures pursuant to  
division (A)(10)(b)(i) of this section prior to commencement of



coal mining operations. The structures shall be certified by 3207  
persons approved by the chief to be constructed as designed and as 3208  
approved in the reclamation plan. 3209

(c) Cleaning out and removing temporary or large settling 3210  
ponds or other siltation structures from drainways after disturbed 3211  
areas are revegetated and stabilized, and depositing the silt and 3212  
debris at a site and in a manner approved by the chief; 3213

(d) Restoring recharge capacity of the mined area to 3214  
approximate premining conditions; 3215

(e) Avoiding channel deepening or enlargement in operations 3216  
requiring the discharge of water from mines; 3217

(f) Such other actions as the chief may prescribe. 3218

(11) With respect to surface disposal of mine wastes, 3219  
tailings, coal processing wastes, and other wastes in areas other 3220  
than the mine working areas or excavations, stabilize all waste 3221  
piles in designated areas through construction in compacted 3222  
layers, including the use of noncombustible and impervious 3223  
materials if necessary, and ensure that the final contour of the 3224  
waste pile will be compatible with natural surroundings and that 3225  
the site can and will be stabilized and revegetated according to 3226  
this chapter; 3227

(12) Refrain from coal mining within five hundred feet of 3228  
active and abandoned underground mines in order to prevent 3229  
breakthroughs and to protect the health or safety of miners. The 3230  
chief shall permit an operator to mine near, through, or partially 3231  
through an abandoned underground mine or closer than five hundred 3232  
feet to an active underground mine if both of the following 3233  
conditions are met: 3234

(a) The nature, timing, and sequencing of the approximate 3235  
coincidence of specific strip mine activities with specific 3236

underground mine activities are approved by the chief+1. 3237

(b) The operations will result in improved resource recovery, 3238  
abatement of water pollution, or elimination of hazards to the 3239  
health and safety of the public. 3240

(13) Design, locate, construct, operate, maintain, enlarge, 3241  
modify, and remove or abandon, in accordance with the standards 3242  
and criteria developed pursuant to rules adopted by the chief, all 3243  
existing and new coal mine waste piles consisting of mine wastes, 3244  
tailings, coal processing wastes, or other liquid and solid 3245  
wastes, and used either temporarily or permanently as dams or 3246  
embankments; 3247

(14) Ensure that all debris, acid-forming materials, toxic 3248  
materials, or materials constituting a fire hazard are treated or 3249  
buried and compacted or otherwise disposed of in a manner designed 3250  
to prevent contamination of ground or surface waters and that 3251  
contingency plans are developed to prevent sustained combustion; 3252

(15) Ensure that all reclamation efforts proceed in an 3253  
environmentally sound manner and as contemporaneously as 3254  
practicable with the coal mining operations, except that where the 3255  
applicant proposes to combine strip mining operations with 3256  
underground mining operations to ensure maximum practical recovery 3257  
of the mineral resources, the chief may grant a variance for 3258  
specific areas within the reclamation plan from the requirement 3259  
that reclamation efforts proceed as contemporaneously as 3260  
practicable to permit underground mining operations prior to 3261  
reclamation if: 3262

(a) The chief finds in writing that: 3263

(i) The applicant has presented, as part of the permit 3264  
application, specific, feasible plans for the proposed underground 3265  
mining operations. 3266

(ii) The proposed underground mining operations are necessary 3267  
or desirable to ensure maximum practical recovery of the mineral 3268  
resource and will avoid multiple disturbance of the surface. 3269

(iii) The applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated that the 3270  
plan for the underground mining operations conforms to 3271  
requirements for underground mining in this state and that permits 3272  
necessary for the underground mining operations have been issued 3273  
by the appropriate authority. 3274

(iv) The areas proposed for the variance have been shown by 3275  
the applicant to be necessary for the implementing of the proposed 3276  
underground mining operations. 3277

(v) No substantial adverse environmental damage, either 3278  
on-site or off-site, will result from the delay in completion of 3279  
reclamation as required by this chapter. 3280

(vi) Provisions for the off-site storage of spoil will comply 3281  
with division (A)(21) of this section. 3282

(b) The chief has adopted specific rules to govern the 3283  
granting of such variances in accordance with this division and 3284  
has imposed such additional requirements as the chief considers 3285  
necessary. 3286

(c) Variances granted under this division shall be reviewed 3287  
by the chief not more than three years from the date of issuance 3288  
of the permit. 3289

(d) Liability under the ~~bond~~ performance security filed by 3290  
the applicant with the chief pursuant to section 1513.08 of the 3291  
Revised Code shall be for the duration of the underground mining 3292  
operations and until the requirements of this section and section 3293  
1513.08 of the Revised Code have been fully complied with. 3294

(16) Ensure that the construction, maintenance, and 3295  
postmining conditions of access roads into and across the site of 3296

operations will control or prevent erosion and siltation, 3297  
pollution of water, and damage to fish or wildlife or their 3298  
habitat, or to public or private property; 3299

(17) Refrain from the construction of roads or other access 3300  
ways up a stream bed or drainage channel or in such proximity to 3301  
the channel as to seriously alter the normal flow of water; 3302

(18) Establish, on the regraded areas and all other lands 3303  
affected, a diverse, effective, and permanent vegetative cover of 3304  
the same seasonal variety native to the area of land to be 3305  
affected and capable of self-regeneration and plant succession at 3306  
least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the 3307  
area, except that introduced species may be used in the 3308  
revegetation process where desirable and necessary to achieve the 3309  
approved postmining land use plan; 3310

(19)(a) Assume the responsibility for successful 3311  
revegetation, as required by division (A)(18) of this section, for 3312  
a period of five full years after the last year of augmented 3313  
seeding, fertilizing, irrigation, or other work in order to ensure 3314  
compliance with that division, except that when the chief approves 3315  
a long-term intensive agricultural postmining land use, the 3316  
applicable five-year period of responsibility for revegetation 3317  
shall commence at the date of initial planting for that long-term 3318  
intensive agricultural postmining land use, and except that when 3319  
the chief issues a written finding approving a long-term intensive 3320  
agricultural postmining land use as part of the mining and 3321  
reclamation plan, the chief may grant an exception to division 3322  
(A)(18) of this section; 3323

(b) On lands eligible for remining, assume the responsibility 3324  
for successful revegetation, as required by division (A)(18) of 3325  
this section, for a period of two full years after the last year 3326  
of augmented seeding, fertilizing, irrigation, or other work in 3327

order to ensure compliance with that division. 3328

(20) Protect off-site areas from slides or damage occurring 3329  
during the coal mining and reclamation operations and not deposit 3330  
spoil material or locate any part of the operations or waste 3331  
accumulations outside the permit area; 3332

(21) Place all excess spoil material resulting from coal 3333  
mining and reclamation operations in such a manner that all of the 3334  
following apply: 3335

(a) Spoil is transported and placed in a controlled manner in 3336  
position for concurrent compaction and in such a way as to ensure 3337  
mass stability and to prevent mass movement. 3338

(b) The areas of disposal are within the ~~banded~~ permit areas 3339  
for which performance security has been provided. All organic 3340  
matter shall be removed immediately prior to spoil placement 3341  
except in the zoned concept method. 3342

(c) Appropriate surface and internal drainage systems and 3343  
diversion ditches are used so as to prevent spoil erosion and mass 3344  
movement. 3345

(d) The disposal area does not contain springs, natural 3346  
watercourses, or wet weather seeps unless lateral drains are 3347  
constructed from the wet areas to the main underdrains in such a 3348  
manner that filtration of the water into the spoil pile will be 3349  
prevented unless the zoned concept method is used. 3350

(e) If placed on a slope, the spoil is placed upon the most 3351  
moderate slope among those slopes upon which, in the judgment of 3352  
the chief, the spoil could be placed in compliance with all the 3353  
requirements of this chapter and is placed, where possible, upon, 3354  
or above, a natural terrace, bench, or berm if that placement 3355  
provides additional stability and prevents mass movement. 3356

(f) Where the toe of the spoil rests on a downslope, a rock 3357

toe buttress of sufficient size to prevent mass movement is 3358  
constructed. 3359

(g) The final configuration is compatible with the natural 3360  
drainage pattern and surroundings and suitable for intended uses. 3361

(h) Design of the spoil disposal area is certified by a 3362  
qualified registered professional engineer in conformance with 3363  
professional standards. 3364

(i) All other provisions of this chapter are met. 3365

(22) Meet such other criteria as are necessary to achieve 3366  
reclamation in accordance with the purpose of this chapter, taking 3367  
into consideration the physical, climatological, and other 3368  
characteristics of the site; 3369

(23) To the extent possible, using the best technology 3370  
currently available, minimize disturbances and adverse impacts of 3371  
the operation on fish, wildlife, and related environmental values, 3372  
and achieve enhancement of such resources where practicable; 3373

(24) Provide for an undisturbed natural barrier beginning at 3374  
the elevation of the lowest coal seam to be mined and extending 3375  
from the outslope for such distance as the chief shall determine 3376  
to be retained in place as a barrier to slides and erosion. 3377

(B)(1) The chief may permit mining operations for the 3378  
purposes set forth in division (B)(3) of this section. 3379

(2) When an applicant meets the requirements of divisions 3380  
(B)(3) and (4) of this section, a permit without regard to the 3381  
requirement to restore to approximate original contour known as 3382  
mountain top removal set forth in divisions (A)(3) or (C)(2) and 3383  
(3) of this section may be granted for the mining of coal where 3384  
the mining operation will remove an entire coal seam or seams 3385  
running through the upper fraction of a mountain, ridge, or hill, 3386  
except as provided in division (B)(4)(a) of this section, by 3387

removing all of the overburden and creating a level plateau or a  
gently rolling contour with no highwalls remaining, and capable of  
supporting postmining uses in accordance with this division.

(3) In cases where an industrial, commercial, agricultural,  
residential, or public facility use, including recreational  
facilities, is proposed for the postmining use of the affected  
land, the chief may grant a permit for a mining operation of the  
nature described in division (B)(2) of this section when all of  
the following apply:

(a) After consultation with the appropriate land use planning  
agencies, if any, the proposed postmining land use is considered  
to constitute an equal or better economic or public use of the  
affected land, as compared with premining use.

(b) The applicant presents specific plans for the proposed  
postmining land use and appropriate assurances that the use will  
be all of the following:

(i) Compatible with adjacent land uses;

(ii) Obtainable according to data regarding expected need and  
market;

(iii) Assured of investment in necessary public facilities;

(iv) Supported by commitments from public agencies where  
appropriate;

(v) Practicable with respect to private financial capability  
for completion of the proposed use;

(vi) Planned pursuant to a schedule attached to the  
reclamation plan so as to integrate the mining operation and  
reclamation with the postmining land use;

(vii) Designed by a registered engineer in conformity with  
professional standards established to ensure the stability,  
drainage, and configuration necessary for the intended use of the

site. 3418

(c) The proposed use is consistent with adjacent land uses 3419  
and existing state and local land use plans and programs. 3420

(d) The chief provides the governing body of the unit of 3421  
general-purpose local government in which the land is located, and 3422  
any state or federal agency that the chief, in the chief's 3423  
discretion, determines to have an interest in the proposed use, an 3424  
opportunity of not more than sixty days to review and comment on 3425  
the proposed use. 3426

(e) All other requirements of this chapter will be met. 3427

(4) In granting a permit pursuant to this division, the chief 3428  
shall require that each of the following is met: 3429

(a) The toe of the lowest coal seam and the overburden 3430  
associated with it are retained in place as a barrier to slides 3431  
and erosion. 3432

(b) The reclaimed area is stable. 3433

(c) The resulting plateau or rolling contour drains inward 3434  
from the outslopes except at specified points. 3435

(d) No damage will be done to natural watercourses. 3436

(e) Spoil will be placed on the mountaintop bench as is 3437  
necessary to achieve the planned postmining land use, except that 3438  
all excess spoil material not retained on the mountaintop bench 3439  
shall be placed in accordance with division (A)(21) of this 3440  
section. 3441

(f) Stability of the spoil retained on the mountaintop bench 3442  
is ensured and the other requirements of this chapter are met. 3443

(5) The chief shall adopt specific rules to govern the 3444  
granting of permits in accordance with divisions (B)(1) to (4) of 3445  
this section and may impose such additional requirements as the 3446



chief considers necessary. 3447

(6) All permits granted under divisions (B)(1) to (4) of this 3448  
section shall be reviewed not more than three years from the date 3449  
of issuance of the permit unless the applicant affirmatively 3450  
demonstrates that the proposed development is proceeding in 3451  
accordance with the terms of the approved schedule and reclamation 3452  
plan. 3453

(C) All of the following performance standards apply to 3454  
steep-slope coal mining and are in addition to those general 3455  
performance standards required by this section, except that this 3456  
division does not apply to those situations in which an operator 3457  
is mining on flat or gently rolling terrain on which an occasional 3458  
steep slope is encountered through which the mining operation is 3459  
to proceed, leaving a plain or predominantly flat area, or where 3460  
an operator is in compliance with division (B) of this section: 3461

(1) The operator shall ensure that when performing coal 3462  
mining on steep slopes, no debris, abandoned or disabled 3463  
equipment, spoil material, or waste mineral matter is placed on 3464  
the downslope below the bench or mining cut. Spoil material in 3465  
excess of that required for the reconstruction of the approximate 3466  
original contour under division (A)(3) or (C)(2) of this section 3467  
shall be permanently stored pursuant to division (A)(21) of this 3468  
section. 3469

(2) The operator shall complete backfilling with spoil 3470  
material to cover completely the highwall and return the site to 3471  
the approximate original contour, which material will maintain 3472  
stability following mining and reclamation. 3473

(3) The operator shall not disturb land above the top of the 3474  
highwall unless the chief finds that the disturbance will 3475  
facilitate compliance with the environmental protection standards 3476  
of this section, except that any such disturbance involving land 3477

above the highwall shall be limited to that amount of land 3478  
necessary to facilitate compliance. 3479

(D)(1) The chief may permit variances for the purposes set 3480  
forth in division (D)(3) of this section, provided that the 3481  
watershed control of the area is improved and that complete 3482  
backfilling with spoil material shall be required to cover 3483  
completely the highwall, which material will maintain stability 3484  
following mining and reclamation. 3485

(2) Where an applicant meets the requirements of divisions 3486  
(D)(3) and (4) of this section, a variance from the requirement to 3487  
restore to approximate original contour set forth in division 3488  
(C)(2) of this section may be granted for the mining of coal when 3489  
the owner of the surface knowingly requests in writing, as a part 3490  
of the permit application, that such a variance be granted so as 3491  
to render the land, after reclamation, suitable for an industrial, 3492  
commercial, residential, or public use, including recreational 3493  
facilities, in accordance with divisions (D)(3) and (4) of this 3494  
section. 3495

(3) A variance pursuant to division (D)(2) of this section 3496  
may be granted if: 3497

(a) After consultation with the appropriate land use planning 3498  
agencies, if any, the potential use of the affected land is 3499  
considered to constitute an equal or better economic or public 3500  
use. 3501

(b) The postmining land condition is designed and certified 3502  
by a registered professional engineer in conformity with 3503  
professional standards established to ensure the stability, 3504  
drainage, and configuration necessary for the intended use of the 3505  
site. 3506

(c) After approval of the appropriate state environmental 3507  
agencies, the watershed of the affected land is considered to be 3508

improved. 3509

(4) In granting a variance pursuant to division (D) of this 3510  
section, the chief shall require that only such amount of spoil 3511  
will be placed off the mine bench as is necessary to achieve the 3512  
planned postmining land use, ensure stability of the spoil 3513  
retained on the bench, and meet all other requirements of this 3514  
chapter. All spoil placement off the mine bench shall comply with 3515  
division (A)(21) of this section. 3516

(5) The chief shall adopt specific rules to govern the 3517  
granting of variances under division (D) of this section and may 3518  
impose such additional requirements as the chief considers 3519  
necessary. 3520

(6) All variances granted under division (D) of this section 3521  
shall be reviewed not more than three years from the date of 3522  
issuance of the permit unless the permittee affirmatively 3523  
demonstrates that the proposed development is proceeding in 3524  
accordance with the terms of the reclamation plan. 3525

(E) The chief shall establish standards and criteria 3526  
regulating the design, location, construction, operation, 3527  
maintenance, enlargement, modification, removal, and abandonment 3528  
of new and existing coal mine waste piles referred to in division 3529  
(A)(13) of this section and division (A)(5) of section 1513.35 of 3530  
the Revised Code. The standards and criteria shall conform to the 3531  
standards and criteria used by the chief of the United States army 3532  
corps of engineers to ensure that flood control structures are 3533  
safe and effectively perform their intended function. In addition 3534  
to engineering and other technical specifications, the standards 3535  
and criteria developed pursuant to this division shall include 3536  
provisions for review and approval of plans and specifications 3537  
prior to construction, enlargement, modification, removal, or 3538  
abandonment; performance of periodic inspections during 3539

construction; issuance of certificates of approval upon completion 3540  
of construction; performance of periodic safety inspections; and 3541  
issuance of notices for required remedial or maintenance work. 3542

(F)(1) The permittee may file a request with the chief for 3543  
release of a part of a performance ~~bond or deposit~~ security under 3544  
division (F)(3) of this section. Within thirty days after any 3545  
request for ~~bond or deposit~~ performance security release under 3546  
this section has been filed with the chief, the operator shall 3547  
submit a copy of an advertisement placed at least once a week for 3548  
four successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the 3549  
locality of the coal mining operation. The advertisement shall be 3550  
considered part of any ~~bond~~ performance security release 3551  
application and shall contain a notification of the precise 3552  
location of the land affected, the number of acres, the permit 3553  
number and the date approved, the amount of the ~~bond~~ performance 3554  
security filed and the portion sought to be released, the type and 3555  
appropriate dates of reclamation work performed, and a description 3556  
of the results achieved as they relate to the operator's approved 3557  
reclamation plan and, if applicable, the operator's pollution 3558  
abatement plan. In addition, as part of any ~~bond~~ performance 3559  
security release application, the applicant shall submit copies of 3560  
the letters sent to adjoining property owners, local governmental 3561  
bodies, planning agencies, and sewage and water treatment 3562  
authorities or water companies in the locality in which the coal 3563  
mining and reclamation activities took place, notifying them of 3564  
the applicant's intention to seek release from the ~~bond~~ 3565  
performance security. 3566

(2) Upon receipt of a copy of the advertisement and request 3567  
for release of a ~~bond or deposit~~ performance security under 3568  
division (F)(3)(c) of this section, the chief, within thirty days, 3569  
shall conduct an inspection and evaluation of the reclamation work 3570  
involved. The evaluation shall consider, among other things, the 3571

degree of difficulty to complete any remaining reclamation, 3572  
whether pollution of surface and subsurface water is occurring, 3573  
the probability of continuation or future occurrence of the 3574  
pollution, and the estimated cost of abating the pollution. The 3575  
chief shall notify the permittee in writing of the decision to 3576  
release or not to release all or part of the performance ~~bond or~~ 3577  
~~deposit~~ security within sixty days after the filing of the request 3578  
if no public hearing is held pursuant to division (F)(6) of this 3579  
section or, if there has been a public hearing held pursuant to 3580  
division (F)(6) of this section, within thirty days thereafter. 3581

(3) The chief may release the ~~bond or deposit~~ performance 3582  
security if the reclamation covered by the ~~bond or deposit~~ 3583  
performance security or portion thereof has been accomplished as 3584  
required by this chapter and rules adopted under it according to 3585  
the following schedule: 3586

(a) When the operator completes the backfilling, regrading, 3587  
and drainage control of a ~~bonded~~ an area for which performance 3588  
security has been provided in accordance with the approved 3589  
reclamation plan, and, if the area covered by the ~~bond or deposit~~ 3590  
performance security is one for which an authorization was made 3591  
under division (E)(7) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code, the 3592  
operator has complied with the approved pollution abatement plan 3593  
and all additional requirements established by the chief in rules 3594  
adopted under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code governing coal 3595  
mining and reclamation operations on pollution abatement areas, 3596  
the chief shall grant a release of fifty per cent of the ~~bond or~~ 3597  
~~deposit~~ performance security for the applicable permit area. 3598

(b) After resoiling and revegetation have been established on 3599  
the regraded mined lands in accordance with the approved 3600  
reclamation plan, the chief shall grant a release in an amount not 3601  
exceeding thirty-five per cent of the original ~~bond or deposit~~ 3602  
performance security for all or part of the affected area under 3603

the permit. When determining the amount of ~~bond~~ performance 3604  
security to be released after successful revegetation has been 3605  
established, the chief shall retain that amount of ~~bond~~ 3606  
performance security for the revegetated area that would be 3607  
sufficient for a third party to cover the cost of reestablishing 3608  
revegetation for the period specified for operator responsibility 3609  
in this section for reestablishing revegetation. No part of the 3610  
~~bond or deposit~~ performance security shall be released under this 3611  
division so long as the lands to which the release would be 3612  
applicable are contributing suspended solids to streamflow or 3613  
runoff outside the permit area in excess of the requirements of 3614  
this section or until soil productivity for prime farmlands has 3615  
returned to equivalent levels of yield as nonmined land of the 3616  
same soil type in the surrounding area under equivalent management 3617  
practices as determined from the soil survey performed pursuant to 3618  
section 1513.07 of the Revised Code. If the area covered by the 3619  
~~bond or deposit~~ performance security is one for which an 3620  
authorization was made under division (E)(7) of section 1513.07 of 3621  
the Revised Code, no part of the ~~bond or deposit~~ performance 3622  
security shall be released under this division until the operator 3623  
has complied with the approved pollution abatement plan and all 3624  
additional requirements established by the chief in rules adopted 3625  
under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code governing coal mining 3626  
and reclamation operations on pollution abatement areas. Where a 3627  
silt dam is to be retained as a permanent impoundment pursuant to 3628  
division (A)(10) of this section, the portion of ~~bond~~ performance 3629  
security may be released under this division so long as provisions 3630  
for sound future maintenance by the operator or the landowner have 3631  
been made with the chief. 3632

(c) When the operator has completed successfully all coal 3633  
mining and reclamation activities, including, if applicable, all 3634  
additional requirements established in the pollution abatement 3635  
plan approved under division (E)(7) of section 1513.07 of the 3636

Revised Code and all additional requirements established by the  
chief in rules adopted under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code  
governing coal mining and reclamation operations on pollution  
abatement areas, the chief shall release all or any of the  
remaining portion of the ~~bond or deposit~~ performance security for  
all or part of the affected area under a permit, but not before  
the expiration of the period specified for operator responsibility  
in this section, except that the chief may adopt rules for a  
variance to the operator period of responsibility considering  
vegetation success and probability of continued growth and consent  
of the landowner, provided that no ~~bond~~ performance security shall  
be fully released until all reclamation requirements of this  
chapter are fully met.

(4) If the chief disapproves the application for release of  
the ~~bond or deposit~~ performance security or portion thereof, the  
chief shall notify the permittee, in writing, stating the reasons  
for disapproval and recommending corrective actions necessary to  
secure the release, and allowing the opportunity for a public  
adjudicatory hearing.

(5) When any application for total or partial ~~bond~~  
performance security release is filed with the chief under this  
section, the chief shall notify the municipal corporation in which  
the coal mining operation is located by certified mail at least  
thirty days prior to the release of all or a portion of the ~~bond~~  
performance security.

(6) A person with a valid legal interest that might be  
adversely affected by release of a ~~bond~~ performance security under  
this section or the responsible officer or head of any federal,  
state, or local government agency that has jurisdiction by law or  
special expertise with respect to any environmental, social, or  
economic impact involved in the operation or is authorized to  
develop and enforce environmental standards with respect to such

operations may file written objections to the proposed release 3669  
from the ~~bond~~ performance security with the chief within thirty 3670  
days after the last publication of the notice required by division 3671  
(F)(1) of this section. If written objections are filed and an 3672  
informal conference is requested, the chief shall inform all 3673  
interested parties of the time and place of the conference. The 3674  
date, time, and location of the informal conference shall be 3675  
advertised by the chief in a newspaper of general circulation in 3676  
the locality of the coal mining operation proposed for ~~bond~~ 3677  
performance security release for at least once a week for two 3678  
consecutive weeks. The informal conference shall be held in the 3679  
locality of the coal mining operation proposed for ~~bond~~ 3680  
performance security release or in Franklin county, at the option 3681  
of the objector, within thirty days after the request for the 3682  
conference. An electronic or stenographic record shall be made of 3683  
the conference proceeding unless waived by all parties. The record 3684  
shall be maintained and shall be accessible to the parties until 3685  
final release of the performance ~~bond~~ security at issue. In the 3686  
event all parties requesting the informal conference stipulate 3687  
agreement prior to the requested informal conference and withdraw 3688  
their request, the informal conference need not be held. 3689

(7) If an informal conference has been held pursuant to 3690  
division (F)(6) of this section, the chief shall issue and furnish 3691  
the applicant and persons who participated in the conference with 3692  
the written decision regarding the release within sixty days after 3693  
the conference. Within thirty days after notification of the final 3694  
decision of the chief regarding the ~~bond~~ performance security 3695  
release, the applicant or any person with an interest that is or 3696  
may be adversely affected by the decision may appeal the decision 3697  
to the reclamation commission pursuant to section 1513.13 of the 3698  
Revised Code. 3699

(8)(a) Except as provided in division (F)(8)(c) of this 3700



section, if the chief determines that a permittee is responsible 3701  
for mine drainage that requires water treatment after reclamation 3702  
is completed under the terms of the permit or that a permittee 3703  
must provide an alternative water supply after reclamation is 3704  
completed under the terms of the permit, the permittee shall 3705  
provide alternative financial security in an amount determined by 3706  
the chief prior to the release of the remaining portion of 3707  
performance security under division (F)(3)(c) of this section. The 3708  
alternative financial security shall be in an amount that is equal 3709  
to or greater than the present value of the estimated cost over 3710  
time to develop and implement mine drainage plans and provide 3711  
water treatment or in an amount that is necessary to provide and 3712  
maintain an alternative water supply, as applicable. The 3713  
alternative financial security shall include a contract, trust, or 3714  
other agreement or mechanism that is enforceable under law to 3715  
provide long-term water treatment or a long-term alternative water 3716  
supply, or both. 3717

(b) The chief shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 3718  
119. of the Revised Code that are necessary for the administration 3719  
of division (F)(8)(a) of this section. 3720

(c) Division (F)(8)(a) of this section does not apply while 3721  
the chief's determination of a permittee's responsibility under 3722  
that division is the subject of a good faith administrative or 3723  
judicial appeal contesting the validity of the determination. If 3724  
after completion of the appeal there is an enforceable 3725  
administrative or judicial decision affirming or modifying the 3726  
chief's determination, the permittee shall provide the alternative 3727  
financial security in an amount established in the administrative 3728  
or judicial decision. 3729

(9) Final release of the performance security in accordance 3730  
with division (F)(3)(c) of this section terminates the 3731  
jurisdiction of the chief under this chapter over the reclaimed 3732

site of a surface coal mining and reclamation operation or 3733  
applicable portion of an operation. However, the chief shall 3734  
reassert jurisdiction over such a site if the release was based on 3735  
fraud, collusion, or misrepresentation of a material fact and the 3736  
chief, in writing, demonstrates evidence of the fraud, collusion, 3737  
or misrepresentation. Any person with an interest that is or may 3738  
be adversely affected by the chief's determination may appeal the 3739  
determination to the reclamation commission in accordance with 3740  
section 1513.13 of the Revised Code. 3741

(G) The chief shall adopt rules governing the criteria for 3742  
forfeiture of ~~bond~~ performance security, the method of determining 3743  
the forfeited amount, and the procedures to be followed in the 3744  
event of forfeiture. Cash received as the result of such 3745  
forfeiture is the property of the state. 3746

**Sec. 1513.17.** (A) No person shall: 3747

(1) Engage in coal mining or conduct a coal mining operation 3748  
without a permit issued by the chief of the division of mineral 3749  
resources management; 3750

(2) Knowingly violate a condition or exceed the limits of a 3751  
permit; 3752

(3) Knowingly fail to comply with an order of the chief 3753  
issued under this chapter; 3754

(4) Knowingly violate any provision of this chapter not 3755  
specifically mentioned in this section; 3756

(5) Knowingly make any false statement, representation, or 3757  
certification or knowingly fail to make any statement, 3758  
representation, or certification in any application, record, 3759  
report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained 3760  
under this chapter or under a final order or decision issued by 3761  
the chief; 3762

(6) Knowingly prevent, hinder, delay, or otherwise obstruct 3763  
the operator from completing backfilling, grading, resoiling, 3764  
establishing successful vegetation, and meeting all other 3765  
reclamation requirements of this chapter prior to the final 3766  
release of the operator's ~~bond~~ performance security. 3767

(B) Division (A)(1) of this section imposes strict criminal 3768  
liability. 3769

**Sec. 1513.171.** (A) For the purpose of claiming a credit under 3770  
section 5749.11 of the Revised Code, an operator with a valid 3771  
permit issued under section 1513.07 of the Revised Code may submit 3772  
an application to the chief of the division of mineral resources 3773  
management to perform reclamation on land or water resources that 3774  
are not within the area of the applicant's permit and that have 3775  
been adversely affected by past coal mining for which the 3776  
performance security was forfeited. The chief shall provide the 3777  
application form. The application shall include all of the 3778  
following: 3779

(1) The operator's name, address, and telephone number; 3780

(2) The valid permit number of the operator; 3781

(3) An identification of the area or areas to be reclaimed; 3782

(4) An identification of the owner of the land; 3783

(5) A reclamation plan that describes the work to be done to 3784  
reclaim the land or water resources. The plan shall include a 3785  
description of how the plan is consistent with local physical, 3786  
environmental, and climatological conditions and the measures to 3787  
be taken during the reclamation to ensure the protection of water 3788  
systems. 3789

(6) An estimate of the total cost of the reclamation; 3790

(7) An estimate of the timetables for accomplishing the 3791

reclamation; 3792

(8) Any other requirements that the chief prescribes by rule. 3793

The chief shall approve, disapprove, or approve with 3794  
modifications the application concerning the proposed reclamation 3795  
work. If the chief approves the application, the applicant may 3796  
commence reclamation in accordance with the timetables included in 3797  
the application. Upon the completion of the reclamation to the 3798  
satisfaction of the chief, the chief shall issue a numbered 3799  
reclamation tax credit certificate showing the amount of the 3800  
credit and the identity of the recipient. Prior to the close of 3801  
the fiscal quarter in which the tax credit certificate is issued, 3802  
the chief shall certify to the tax commissioner the amount of the 3803  
credit and the identity of the recipient. 3804

(B) The chief shall determine the amount of the credit in 3805  
accordance with this section and rules adopted under it. The 3806  
amount of the credit shall be equal to the cost that the division 3807  
of mineral resources management would have expended from the 3808  
reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the 3809  
Revised Code to complete the reclamation. 3810

(C) The chief shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 3811  
119. of the Revised Code that are necessary to administer this 3812  
section. The rules shall establish all of the following: 3813

(1) A procedure that the chief shall use to determine the 3814  
amount of the credit issued under this section; 3815

(2) A procedure by which the chief may obtain consent of the 3816  
owners of land or water resources to allow reclamation work for 3817  
purposes of this section; 3818

(3) A procedure for delivery of notice to the owners of land 3819  
or water resources on which the reclamation work is to be 3820  
performed. The rules shall require the notice to include the date 3821

on which the reclamation work is scheduled to begin.

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**Sec. 1513.18.** (A) All money that becomes the property of the state under division (G) of section 1513.16 of the Revised Code shall be deposited in the reclamation forfeiture fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury. Disbursements from the fund shall be made by the chief of the division of mineral resources management for the purpose of reclaiming areas of land affected by coal mining under a coal mining and reclamation permit issued on or after September 1, 1981, on which an operator has defaulted.

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(B) The fund also shall consist of ~~any moneys transferred to it under this division from the unreclaimed lands fund created in section 1513.30~~ all money from the collection of liens under section 1513.081 of the Revised Code, any moneys transferred to it under section 1513.181 of the Revised Code from the coal mining and reclamation reserve fund created in that section, finer collected under division (E) of section 1513.02 and section 1513.99 of the Revised Code, fines collected for a violation of section 2921.31 of the Revised Code that, prior to July 1, 1996, would have been a violation of division (G) of section 1513.17 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to that date, and moneys collected and credited to it pursuant to section 5749.02 of the Revised Code. Disbursements from the fund shall be made by the chief in accordance with division (D) of this section for the purpose of reclaiming areas that an operator has affected by mining and failed to reclaim under a coal mining and reclamation permit issued under this chapter or under a surface mining permit issued under Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code. ~~The chief's priority for management of the fund, including the selection of projects and transfer of moneys, shall be to ensure that sufficient moneys are available for the reclamation of areas affected by mining under a coal mining and reclamation permit.~~

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The chief may expend moneys from the fund to pay necessary administrative costs, including engineering and design services, incurred by the division of mineral resources management in reclaiming these areas. The chief also may expend moneys from the fund to pay necessary administrative costs of the reclamation forfeiture fund advisory board created in section 1513.182 of the Revised Code as authorized by the board under that section. Expenditures from the fund to pay such administrative costs need not be made under contract.

~~As moneys are spent from the fund, the director of budget and management, upon the certification of the chief, shall transfer additional moneys from the unreclaimed lands fund created in section 1513.30 of the Revised Code that the chief requests, provided that the director shall not transfer more than one million dollars from the unreclaimed lands fund to the reclamation forfeiture fund during any fiscal year.~~

(C) Except when paying necessary administrative costs authorized by division (B) of this section, expenditures from the fund shall be made under contracts entered into by the chief, with the approval of the director of natural resources, in accordance with procedures established by the chief, by rules adopted in accordance with section 1513.02 of the Revised Code. The chief may reclaim the land in the same manner as set forth in sections 1513.21 to 1513.24 of the Revised Code. Each contract awarded by the chief shall be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in accordance with section 9.312 of the Revised Code, after sealed bids are received, opened, and published at the time and place fixed by the chief. The chief shall publish notice of the time and place at which bids will be received, opened, and published, at least once and at least ten days before the date of the opening of the bids, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the area of land to be

reclaimed under the contract is located. If, after advertising, no  
bids are received at the time and place fixed for receiving them,  
the chief may advertise again for bids, or, if the chief considers  
the public interest will best be served, the chief may enter into  
a contract for the reclamation of the area of land without further  
advertisement for bids. The chief may reject any or all bids  
received and again publish notice of the time and place at which  
bids for contracts will be received, opened, and published. The  
chief, with the approval of the director, may enter into a  
contract with the landowner, a coal mine operator or surface mine  
operator mining under a current, valid permit issued under this  
chapter or Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code, or a contractor  
hired by the surety or trustee, if the performance security is  
held in trust, to complete reclamation to carry out reclamation on  
land affected by coal mining on which an operator has defaulted  
without advertising for bids.

~~(D) If the amount of (1) The chief shall expend money  
credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund from the forfeiture of  
the ~~bond~~ performance security applicable to ~~the~~ an area of land ~~is~~  
not sufficient to pay the cost of doing all of the reclamation  
work on land that the operator should have done, but failed to do  
under a coal mining and reclamation permit, the chief may expend  
from the moneys credited to the fund under section 5749.02 of the  
Revised Code or transferred to the fund under division (B) of this  
section or under section 1513.181 of the Revised Code the amount  
of money necessary to complete to pay for the cost of the  
reclamation work to the standards required by this chapter of the  
land.~~

(2) If the performance security for the area of land was  
provided under division (C)(1) of section 1513.08 of the Revised  
Code, the chief shall use the money from the forfeited performance  
security to complete the reclamation that the operator failed to

do under the operator's applicable coal mining and reclamation permit issued under this chapter. 3917  
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(3) If the performance security for the area of land was provided under division (C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code, the chief shall use the money from the forfeited performance security to complete the reclamation that the operator failed to do under the operator's applicable coal mining and reclamation permit issued under this chapter. If the money credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund from the forfeiture of the performance security provided under division (C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code is not sufficient to complete the reclamation, the chief shall notify the reclamation forfeiture fund advisory board of the amount of the insufficiency. The chief may expend money credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund under section 5749.02 of the Revised Code or transferred to the fund under section 1513.181 of the Revised Code to complete the reclamation. The chief shall not expend money from the fund in an amount that exceeds the difference between the amount of the performance security provided under division (C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code and the estimated cost of reclamation as determined by the chief under divisions (B) and (E) of that section. 3919  
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(4) Money from the reclamation forfeiture fund shall not be used for reclamation of land or water resources affected by material damage from subsidence, mine drainage that requires extended water treatment after reclamation is completed under the terms of the permit, or coal preparation plants or coal refuse disposal areas not located within a permitted area of a mine if performance security for the area of land was provided under division (C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code. 3938  
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(E) The chief shall keep a detailed accounting of the expenditures from the reclamation forfeiture fund to complete reclamation of the land and, upon completion of the reclamation, 3946  
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shall certify the expenditures to the attorney general. Upon the  
chief's certification of the expenditures from the reclamation  
forfeiture fund, the attorney general shall bring an action for  
that amount of money. The operator is liable for that expense in  
addition to any other liabilities imposed by law. Moneys so  
recovered shall be credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund.  
The chief shall not postpone the reclamation because of any action  
brought by the attorney general under this division. Prior to  
completing reclamation, the chief may collect through the attorney  
general any additional amount that the chief believes will be  
necessary for reclamation in excess of the forfeited ~~bond~~  
performance security amount applicable to the land that the  
operator should have, but failed to, reclaim.

(F) ~~If~~ Except as otherwise provided in division (H) of this  
section, if any part of the moneys in the reclamation forfeiture  
fund remains in the fund after the chief has caused the area of  
land to be reclaimed and has paid all the reclamation costs and  
expenses, the chief may expend those moneys to complete other  
reclamation work performed under this section on forfeiture areas  
affected under a coal mining and reclamation permit issued on or  
after September 1, 1981.

(G) The chief shall require every contractor performing  
reclamation work pursuant to this section to pay workers at the  
greater of their regular rate of pay, as established by contract,  
agreement, or prior custom or practice, or the average wage rate  
paid in this state for the same or similar work as determined by  
the chief under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code.

(H) All investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to  
the fund and shall be used only for the reclamation of land for  
which performance security was provided under division (C)(2) of  
section 1513.08 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 1513.181.** There is hereby created in the state treasury 3980  
the coal mining administration and reclamation reserve fund. The 3981  
fund shall be used for the administration and enforcement of this 3982  
chapter. The chief of the division of mineral resources management 3983  
may transfer not more than one million dollars annually from the 3984  
fund to the reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 3985  
of the Revised Code to complete reclamation of lands affected by 3986  
coal mining under a permit issued under this chapter, ~~or by~~ 3987  
~~surface mining under a surface mining permit issued under Chapter~~ 3988  
~~1514. of the Revised Code,~~ that the operator failed to reclaim and 3989  
for which the operator's ~~bond~~ performance security is insufficient 3990  
to complete the reclamation. Within ten days before or after the 3991  
beginning of each calendar quarter, the chief may certify to the 3992  
director of budget and management the amount of money needed to 3993  
perform such reclamation during the quarter for transfer from the 3994  
coal mining administration and reclamation reserve fund to the 3995  
reclamation forfeiture fund. 3996

~~Fines collected under division (E) of section 1513.02 and 3997  
section 1513.99 of the Revised Code, and fines collected for a 3998  
violation of section 2921.31 of the Revised Code that, prior to 3999  
July 1, 1996, would have been a violation of division (G) of 4000  
section 1513.17 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to that 4001  
date, shall be paid into the coal mining administration and 4002  
reclamation reserve fund.~~ 4003

If the director of natural resources determines it to be 4004  
necessary, the director may request the controlling board to 4005  
transfer an amount of money from the coal mining administration 4006  
and reclamation reserve fund to the unreclaimed lands fund created 4007  
in section 1513.30 of the Revised Code. 4008

**Sec. 1513.182.** (A) There is hereby created the reclamation 4009

forfeiture fund advisory board consisting of the director of 4010  
natural resources, the director of insurance, and seven members 4011  
appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the 4012  
senate. Of the governor's appointments, one shall be a certified 4013  
public accountant, one shall be a registered professional engineer 4014  
with experience in reclamation of mined land, two shall represent 4015  
agriculture, agronomy, or forestry, one shall be a representative 4016  
of operators of coal mining operations that have valid permits 4017  
issued under this chapter and that have provided performance 4018  
security under division (C)(1) of section 1513.08 of the Revised 4019  
Code, one shall be a representative of operators of coal mining 4020  
operations that have valid permits issued under this chapter and 4021  
that have provided performance security under division (C)(2) of 4022  
section 1513.08 of the Revised Code, and one shall be a 4023  
representative of the public. 4024

Of the original members appointed by the governor, two shall 4025  
serve an initial term of two years, three an initial term of three 4026  
years, and two an initial term of four years. Thereafter, terms of 4027  
appointed members shall be for four years, with each term ending 4028  
on the same date as the original date of appointment. An appointed 4029  
member shall hold office from the date of appointment until the 4030  
end of the term for which the member was appointed. Vacancies 4031  
shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments. A 4032  
member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the 4033  
expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was 4034  
appointed shall hold office for the remainder of that term. A 4035  
member shall continue in office subsequent to the expiration date 4036  
of the member's term until the member's successor takes office or 4037  
until a period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first. 4038  
The governor may remove an appointed member of the board for 4039  
misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malfeasance. 4040

The directors of natural resources and insurance shall not 4041

receive compensation for serving on the board, but shall be 4042  
reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the 4043  
performance of their duties as members of the board. The members 4044  
appointed by the governor shall receive per diem compensation 4045  
fixed pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised 4046  
Code and reimbursement for the actual and necessary expenses 4047  
incurred in the performance of their duties. 4048

(B) The board annually shall elect from among its members a 4049  
chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary to record the 4050  
board's meetings. 4051

(C) The board shall hold meetings as often as necessary as 4052  
the chairperson or a majority of the members determines. 4053

(D) The board shall establish procedures for conducting 4054  
meetings and for the election of its chairperson, 4055  
vice-chairperson, and secretary. 4056

(E) The board shall do all of the following: 4057

(1) Review the deposits into and expenditures from the 4058  
reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the 4059  
Revised Code; 4060

(2) Retain periodically a qualified actuary to perform an 4061  
actuarial study of the reclamation forfeiture fund; 4062

(3) Based on an actuarial study and as determined necessary 4063  
by the board, adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the 4064  
Revised Code to adjust the rate of the tax levied under division 4065  
(A)(8) of section 5749.02 of the Revised Code and the balance of 4066  
the reclamation forfeiture fund that pertains to that rate; 4067

(4) Evaluate any rules, procedures, and methods for 4068  
estimating the cost of reclamation for purposes of determining the 4069  
amount of performance security that is required under section 4070  
1513.08 of the Revised Code; the collection of forfeited 4071

performance security; payments to the reclamation forfeiture fund; 4072  
reclamation of sites for which operators have forfeited the 4073  
performance security; and the compliance of operators with their 4074  
reclamation plans; 4075

(5) Provide a forum for discussion of issues related to the 4076  
reclamation forfeiture fund and the performance security that is 4077  
required under section 1513.08 of the Revised Code; 4078

(6) Submit a report biennially to the governor that describes 4079  
the financial status of the reclamation forfeiture fund and the 4080  
adequacy of the amount of money in the fund to accomplish the 4081  
purposes of the fund and that may discuss any matter related to 4082  
the performance security that is required under section 1513.08 of 4083  
the Revised Code; 4084

(7) Make recommendations to the governor, if necessary, of 4085  
alternative methods of providing money for or using money in the 4086  
reclamation forfeiture fund and issues related to the reclamation 4087  
of land or water resources that have been adversely affected by 4088  
past coal mining for which the performance security was forfeited; 4089

(8) Adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the 4090  
Revised Code that are necessary to administer this section. 4091

**Sec. 1513.29.** There is hereby created the council on 4092  
unreclaimed strip mined lands. Its members are the chief of the 4093  
division of mineral resources management, four persons appointed 4094  
by the director of natural resources, two members of the house of 4095  
representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of 4096  
representatives, one member of the house of representatives 4097  
appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives, 4098  
two members of the senate appointed by the president of the 4099  
senate, and one member of the senate appointed by the minority 4100  
leader of the senate. 4101

Members who are members of the general assembly shall serve 4102  
terms of four years or until their legislative terms end, 4103  
whichever is sooner. Members appointed by the director shall serve 4104  
terms of four years, except that the terms of the first four 4105  
members shall be for two and four years, as designated by the 4106  
director. Any vacancy in the office of a member of the council 4107  
shall be filled by the appointing authority for the unexpired term 4108  
of the member whose office will be vacant. The appointing 4109  
authority may at any time remove a member of the council for 4110  
misfeasance, nonfeasance, malfeasance, or conflict of interest in 4111  
office. 4112

The council shall hold ~~at least four regular quarterly~~ 4113  
~~meetings each year. Special meetings may be held as necessary~~ at 4114  
the call of the chairperson or a majority of the members. The 4115  
council shall annually elect from among its members a chairperson, 4116  
a vice-chairperson, and a secretary to keep a record of its 4117  
proceedings. 4118

The council shall gather information, study, and make 4119  
recommendations concerning the number of acres, location, 4120  
ownership, condition, environmental damage resulting from the 4121  
condition, cost of acquiring, reclaiming, and possible future uses 4122  
and value of eroded lands within the state, including land 4123  
affected by strip mining for which no cash is held in the ~~strip~~ 4124  
~~mining~~ reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of 4125  
the Revised Code. 4126

The council may employ such staff and hire such consultants 4127  
as necessary to perform its duties. Members appointed by the 4128  
director and, notwithstanding section 101.26 of the Revised Code, 4129  
members who are members of the general assembly, when engaged in 4130  
their official duties as members of the council, shall be 4131  
compensated on a per diem basis in accordance with division (J) of 4132  
section 124.15 of the Revised Code. Members shall be reimbursed 4133

for their necessary expenses. Expenses incurred by the council and 4134  
compensation provided under this section shall be paid by the 4135  
chief ~~of the division of mineral resources management~~ from the 4136  
unreclaimed lands fund created in section 1513.30 of the Revised 4137  
Code. 4138

The council shall report its findings and recommendations to 4139  
the governor and the general assembly not later than January 1, 4140  
1974, and biennially thereafter. 4141

**Sec. 1513.30.** There is hereby created in the state treasury 4142  
the unreclaimed lands fund, to be administered by the chief of the 4143  
division of mineral resources management and used for the purpose 4144  
of reclaiming land, public or private, affected by mining, or 4145  
controlling mine drainage, for which no cash is held in the 4146  
reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the 4147  
Revised Code or the surface mining fund created in section 1514.06 4148  
of the Revised Code and also for the purpose of paying the 4149  
expenses and compensation of the council on unreclaimed strip 4150  
mined lands as required by section 1513.29 of the Revised Code. 4151

In order to direct expenditures from the unreclaimed lands 4152  
fund toward reclamation projects that fulfill priority needs and 4153  
provide the greatest public benefits, the chief periodically shall 4154  
submit to the council project proposals to be financed from the 4155  
unreclaimed lands fund, together with benefit and cost data and 4156  
other pertinent information. For the purpose of selecting project 4157  
areas and determining the boundaries of project areas, the council 4158  
shall consider the feasibility, cost, and public benefits of 4159  
reclaiming the areas, their potential for being mined, the 4160  
availability of federal or other financial assistance for 4161  
reclamation, and the geographic distribution of project areas to 4162  
ensure fair distribution among affected areas. 4163

The council shall give priority to areas where there is 4164

little or no likelihood of mining within the foreseeable future, 4165  
reclamation is feasible at reasonable cost with available funds, 4166  
and either of the following applies: 4167

(A) The pollution of the waters of the state and damage to 4168  
adjacent property are most severe and widespread. 4169

(B) Reclamation will make possible public uses for soil, 4170  
water, forest, or wildlife conservation or public recreation 4171  
purposes, will facilitate orderly commercial or industrial site 4172  
development, or will facilitate the use or improve the enjoyment 4173  
of nearby public conservation or recreation lands. 4174

~~At least two weeks before any meeting of the council on 4175  
unreclaimed strip mined lands at which the chief will submit a 4176  
project proposal, a project area will be selected, or the 4177  
boundaries of a project area will be determined, the chief shall 4178  
mail notice by first class mail to the board of county 4179  
commissioners of the county and the board of township trustees of 4180  
the township in which the proposed project lies and the chief 4181  
executive and the legislative authority of each municipal 4182  
corporation within the proposed project area. The chief also shall 4183  
give reasonable notice to the news media in the county where the 4184  
proposed project lies. 4185~~

Expenditures from the unreclaimed lands fund for reclamation 4186  
projects may be made only for projects that are within the 4187  
boundaries of project areas approved by the council, and 4188  
expenditures for a particular project may not exceed any 4189  
applicable limits set by the council. Expenditures from the 4190  
unreclaimed lands fund shall be made by the chief, with the 4191  
approval of the director of natural resources. 4192

~~The controlling board may transfer excess funds from the oil 4193  
and gas well fund created in section 1509.02 of the Revised Code, 4194  
after recommendation by the council on unreclaimed strip mined 4195~~



~~lands, to meet deficiencies in the unreclaimed lands fund.~~ 4196

The chief may expend an amount not to exceed twenty per cent 4197  
of the moneys credited annually by the treasurer of state to the 4198  
unreclaimed lands fund for the purpose of administering the fund. 4199

The chief may engage in cooperative projects under this 4200  
section with any agency of the United States, appropriate state 4201  
agencies, or state universities or colleges as defined in section 4202  
3345.27 of the Revised Code and may transfer money from the fund, 4203  
with the approval of the council, to other appropriate state 4204  
agencies or to state universities or colleges in order to carry 4205  
out the reclamation activities authorized by this section. 4206

If the director of natural resources determines it to be 4207  
necessary, the director may request the controlling board to 4208  
transfer an amount of money from the fund to the coal mining 4209  
administration and reclamation reserve fund created in section 4210  
1513.181 of the Revised Code. 4211

**Sec. 1513.37.** (A) There is hereby created in the state 4212  
treasury the abandoned mine reclamation fund, which shall be 4213  
administered by the chief of the division of mineral resources 4214  
management. The fund shall consist of grants from the secretary of 4215  
the interior from the federal abandoned mine reclamation fund 4216  
established by Title IV of the "Surface Mining Control and 4217  
Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 445, 30 U.S.C.A. 1201, 4218  
regulations adopted under it, and amendments to the act and 4219  
regulations. Expenditures from the abandoned mine reclamation fund 4220  
shall be made by the chief for the following purposes: 4221

(1) Reclamation and restoration of land and water resources 4222  
adversely affected by past coal mining, including, but not limited 4223  
to, reclamation and restoration of abandoned strip mine areas, 4224  
abandoned coal processing areas, and abandoned coal refuse 4225

disposal areas; sealing and filling of abandoned deep mine entries	4226
and voids; planting of land adversely affected by past coal	4227
mining; prevention of erosion and sedimentation; prevention,	4228
abatement, treatment, and control of water pollution created by	4229
coal mine drainage, including restoration of streambeds and	4230
construction and operation of water treatment plants; prevention,	4231
abatement, and control of burning coal refuse disposal areas and	4232
burning coal in situ; and prevention, abatement, and control of	4233
coal mine subsidence;	4234
(2) Acquisition and filling of voids and sealing of tunnels,	4235
shafts, and entryways of noncoal lands;	4236
(3) Acquisition of land as provided for in this section;	4237
(4) Administrative expenses incurred in accomplishing the	4238
purposes of this section;	4239
(5) All other necessary expenses to accomplish the purposes	4240
of this section.	4241
(B) Expenditures of moneys from the fund on land and water	4242
eligible pursuant to division (C) of this section shall reflect	4243
the following priorities in the order stated:	4244
(1) The protection of public health, safety, general welfare,	4245
and property from extreme danger of adverse effects of coal mining	4246
practices;	4247
(2) The protection of public health, safety, and general	4248
welfare from adverse effects of coal mining practices;	4249
(3) The restoration of land and water resources and the	4250
environment previously degraded by adverse effects of coal mining	4251
practices, including measures for the conservation and development	4252
of soil and water (excluding channelization), woodland, fish and	4253
wildlife, recreation resources, and agricultural productivity;	4254
(4) Research and demonstration projects relating to the	4255

development of coal mining reclamation and water quality control	4256
program methods and techniques;	4257
(5) The protection, repair, replacement, construction, or	4258
enhancement of public facilities such as utilities, roads,	4259
recreation facilities, and conservation facilities adversely	4260
affected by coal mining practices;	4261
(6) The development of publicly owned land adversely affected	4262
by coal mining practices, including land acquired as provided in	4263
this section for recreation and historic purposes, conservation	4264
and reclamation purposes, and open space benefits.	4265
(C)(1) Lands and water eligible for reclamation or drainage	4266
abatement expenditures under this section are those that were	4267
mined for coal or were affected by such mining, wastebanks, coal	4268
processing, or other coal mining processes and that meet one of	4269
the following criteria:	4270
(a) Are lands that were abandoned or left in an inadequate	4271
reclamation status prior to August 3, 1977, and for which there is	4272
no continuing reclamation responsibility under state or federal	4273
laws;	4274
(b) Are lands for which the chief finds that surface coal	4275
mining operations occurred at any time between August 4, 1977, and	4276
August 16, 1982, and that any moneys for reclamation or abatement	4277
that are available pursuant to a bond, <u>performance security</u> , or	4278
other form of financial guarantee or from any other source are not	4279
sufficient to provide for adequate reclamation or abatement at the	4280
site;	4281
(c) Are lands for which the chief finds that surface coal	4282
mining operations occurred at any time between August 4, 1977, and	4283
November 5, 1990, that the surety of the mining operator became	4284
insolvent during that time, and that, as of November 5, 1990, any	4285
moneys immediately available from proceedings relating to that	4286

insolvency or from any financial guarantee or other source are not 4287  
sufficient to provide for adequate reclamation or abatement at the 4288  
site. 4289

(2) In determining which sites to reclaim pursuant to 4290  
divisions (C)(1)(b) and (c) of this section, the chief shall 4291  
follow the priorities stated in divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this 4292  
section and shall ensure that priority is given to those sites 4293  
that are in the immediate vicinity of a residential area or that 4294  
have an adverse economic impact on a local community. 4295

(3) Surface coal mining operations on lands eligible for 4296  
remining shall not affect the eligibility of those lands for 4297  
reclamation and restoration under this section after the release 4298  
of the bond, performance security, or other form of financial 4299  
guarantee for any such operation as provided under division (F) of 4300  
section 1513.16 of the Revised Code. If the bond, performance 4301  
security, or other form of financial guarantee for a surface coal 4302  
mining operation on lands eligible for remining is forfeited, 4303  
moneys available under this section may be used if the amount of 4304  
the bond, performance security, or other form of financial 4305  
guarantee is not sufficient to provide for adequate reclamation or 4306  
abatement, except that if conditions warrant, the chief 4307  
immediately shall exercise the authority granted under division 4308  
(L) of this section. 4309

(D) The chief may submit to the secretary of the interior a 4310  
state reclamation plan and annual projects to carry out the 4311  
purposes of this section. 4312

(1) The reclamation plan generally shall identify the areas 4313  
to be reclaimed, the purposes for which the reclamation is 4314  
proposed, the relationship of the lands to be reclaimed and the 4315  
proposed reclamation to surrounding areas, the specific criteria 4316  
for ranking and identifying projects to be funded, and the legal 4317

authority and programmatic capability to perform the work in 4318  
accordance with this section. 4319

(2) On an annual basis, the chief may submit to the secretary 4320  
an application for support of the abandoned mine reclamation fund 4321  
and implementation of specific reclamation projects. The annual 4322  
requests shall include such information as may be requested by the 4323  
secretary. 4324

Before submitting an annual application to the secretary, the 4325  
chief first shall submit it to the council on unreclaimed strip 4326  
mined lands for review and approval by the council. The chief 4327  
shall not submit such an application to the secretary until it has 4328  
been approved by the council. The chief shall submit applications 4329  
for administrative costs, imminent hazards, or emergency projects 4330  
to the council for review. 4331

(3) The costs for each proposed project under this section 4332  
shall include actual construction costs, actual operation and 4333  
maintenance costs of permanent facilities, planning and 4334  
engineering costs, construction inspection costs, and other 4335  
necessary administrative expenses. 4336

(4) Before making any expenditure of funds from the fund to 4337  
implement any specific reclamation project under this section, the 4338  
chief first shall submit to the council a project proposal and any 4339  
other pertinent information regarding the project requested by the 4340  
council for review and approval of the specific project by the 4341  
council. 4342

(5) The chief may submit annual and other reports required by 4343  
the secretary when funds are provided by the secretary under Title 4344  
IV of the "Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 4345  
Stat. 445, 30 U.S.C.A. 1201, regulations adopted under it, and 4346  
amendments to the act and regulations. 4347

(E)(1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the acid 4348

mine drainage abatement and treatment fund, which shall be 4349  
administered by the chief. The fund shall consist of grants from 4350  
the secretary of the interior from the federal abandoned mine 4351  
reclamation fund pursuant to section 402(g)(6) of Title IV of the 4352  
"Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 4353  
445, 30 U.S.C.A. 1201. All investment earnings of the fund shall 4354  
be credited to the fund. 4355

(2) The chief shall make expenditures from the fund, in 4356  
consultation with the United States department of agriculture, 4357  
soil conservation service, to implement acid mine drainage 4358  
abatement and treatment plans approved by the secretary. The plans 4359  
shall provide for the comprehensive abatement of the causes and 4360  
treatment of the effects of acid mine drainage within qualified 4361  
hydrologic units affected by coal mining practices and shall 4362  
include at least all of the following: 4363

(a) An identification of the qualified hydrologic unit. As 4364  
used in division (E) of this section, "qualified hydrologic unit" 4365  
means a hydrologic unit that meets all of the following criteria: 4366

(i) The water quality in the unit has been significantly 4367  
affected by acid mine drainage from coal mining practices in a 4368  
manner that has an adverse impact on biological resources. 4369

(ii) The unit contains lands and waters that meet the 4370  
eligibility requirements established under division (C) of this 4371  
section and any of the priorities established in divisions (B)(1) 4372  
to (3) of this section. 4373

(iii) The unit contains lands and waters that are proposed to 4374  
be the subject of expenditures from the reclamation forfeiture 4375  
fund created in section 1513.18 of the Revised Code or the 4376  
unreclaimed lands fund created in section 1513.30 of the Revised 4377  
Code. 4378

(b) The extent to which acid mine drainage is affecting the 4379

water quality and biological resources within the hydrologic unit;	4380
(c) An identification of the sources of acid mine drainage within the hydrologic unit;	4381 4382
(d) An identification of individual projects and the measures proposed to be undertaken to abate and treat the causes or effects of acid mine drainage within the hydrologic unit;	4383 4384 4385
(e) The cost of undertaking the proposed abatement and treatment measures;	4386 4387
(f) An identification of existing and proposed sources of funding for those measures;	4388 4389
(g) An analysis of the cost-effectiveness and environmental benefits of abatement and treatment measures.	4390 4391
(3) The chief may make grants of moneys from the acid mine drainage abatement and treatment fund to watershed groups for conducting projects to accomplish the purposes of this section. A grant may be made in an amount equal to not more than fifty per cent of each of the following:	4392 4393 4394 4395 4396
(a) Reasonable and necessary expenses for the collection and analysis of data sufficient to do either or both of the following:	4397 4398
(i) Identify a watershed as a qualified hydrologic unit;	4399
(ii) Monitor the quality of water in a qualified hydrologic unit before, during, and at any time after completion of the project by the watershed group.	4400 4401 4402
(b) Engineering design costs and construction costs involved in the project, provided that the project is conducted in a qualified hydrologic unit and the chief considers the project to be a priority.	4403 4404 4405 4406
A watershed group that wishes to obtain a grant under division (E)(3) of this section shall submit an application to the	4407 4408

chief on forms provided by the division of mineral resources 4409  
management, together with detailed estimates and timetables for 4410  
accomplishing the stated goals of the project and any other 4411  
information that the chief requires. 4412

For the purposes of establishing priorities for awarding 4413  
grants under division (E)(3) of this section, the chief shall 4414  
consider each project's feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and 4415  
environmental benefit, together with the availability of matching 4416  
funding, including in-kind services, for the project. 4417

The chief shall enter into a contract for funding with each 4418  
applicant awarded a grant to ensure that the moneys granted are 4419  
used for the purposes of this section and that the work that the 4420  
project involves is done properly. The contract is not subject to 4421  
division (B) of section 127.16 of the Revised Code. The final 4422  
payment of grant moneys shall not be made until the chief inspects 4423  
and approves the completed project. 4424

The chief shall require each applicant awarded a grant under 4425  
this section who conducts a project involving construction work to 4426  
pay workers at the greater of their regular rate of pay, as 4427  
established by contract, agreement, or prior custom or practice, 4428  
or the average wage rate paid in this state for the same or 4429  
similar work performed in the same or a similar locality by 4430  
private companies doing similar work on similar projects. 4431

As used in division (E)(3) of this section, "watershed group" 4432  
means a charitable organization as defined in section 1716.01 of 4433  
the Revised Code that has been established for the purpose of 4434  
conducting reclamation of land and waters adversely affected by 4435  
coal mining practices and specifically for conducting acid mine 4436  
drainage abatement. 4437

(F)(1) If the chief makes a finding of fact that land or 4438  
water resources have been adversely affected by past coal mining 4439



practices; the adverse effects are at a stage where, in the public  
interest, action to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent  
the adverse effects should be taken; the owners of the land or  
water resources where entry must be made to restore, reclaim,  
abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past coal mining  
practices are not known or are not readily available; or the  
owners will not give permission for the state, political  
subdivisions, or their agents, employees, or contractors to enter  
upon the property to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent  
the adverse effects of past coal mining practices; then, upon  
giving notice by mail to the owners, if known, or, if not known,  
by posting notice upon the premises and advertising once in a  
newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation or  
county in which the land lies, the chief or the chief's agents,  
employees, or contractors may enter upon the property adversely  
affected by past coal mining practices and any other property to  
have access to the property to do all things necessary or  
expedient to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the  
adverse effects. The entry shall be construed as an exercise of  
the police power for the protection of the public health, safety,  
and general welfare and shall not be construed as an act of  
condemnation of property nor of trespass on it. The moneys  
expended for the work and the benefits accruing to any such  
premises so entered upon shall be chargeable against the land and  
shall mitigate or offset any claim in or any action brought by any  
owner of any interest in the premises for any alleged damages by  
virtue of the entry, but this provision is not intended to create  
new rights of action or eliminate existing immunities.

(2) The chief or the chief's authorized representatives may  
enter upon any property for the purpose of conducting studies or  
exploratory work to determine the existence of adverse effects of  
past coal mining practices and to determine the feasibility of

restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of 4472  
such adverse effects. The entry shall be construed as an exercise 4473  
of the police power for the protection of the public health, 4474  
safety, and general welfare and shall not be construed as an act 4475  
of condemnation of property nor trespass on it. 4476

(3) The chief may acquire any land by purchase, donation, or 4477  
condemnation that is adversely affected by past coal mining 4478  
practices if the chief determines that acquisition of the land is 4479  
necessary to successful reclamation and that all of the following 4480  
apply: 4481

(a) The acquired land, after restoration, reclamation, 4482  
abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past 4483  
coal mining practices, will serve recreation and historic 4484  
purposes, serve conservation and reclamation purposes, or provide 4485  
open space benefits. 4486

(b) Permanent facilities such as a treatment plant or a 4487  
relocated stream channel will be constructed on the land for the 4488  
restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the 4489  
adverse effects of past coal mining practices. 4490

(c) Acquisition of coal refuse disposal sites and all coal 4491  
refuse thereon will serve the purposes of this section or public 4492  
ownership is desirable to meet emergency situations and prevent 4493  
recurrences of the adverse effects of past coal mining practices. 4494

(4)(a) Title to all lands acquired pursuant to this section 4495  
shall be in the name of the state. The price paid for land 4496  
acquired under this section shall reflect the market value of the 4497  
land as adversely affected by past coal mining practices. 4498

(b) The chief may receive grants on a matching basis from the 4499  
secretary of the interior for the purpose of carrying out this 4500  
section. 4501

(5)(a) Where land acquired pursuant to this section is 4502  
considered to be suitable for industrial, commercial, residential, 4503  
or recreational development, the chief may sell the land by public 4504  
sale under a system of competitive bidding at not less than fair 4505  
market value and under other requirements imposed by rule to 4506  
ensure that the lands are put to proper use consistent with local 4507  
and state land use plans, if any, as determined by the chief. 4508

(b) The chief, when requested, and after appropriate public 4509  
notice, shall hold a public meeting in the county, counties, or 4510  
other appropriate political subdivisions of the state in which 4511  
lands acquired pursuant to this section are located. The meetings 4512  
shall be held at a time that shall afford local citizens and 4513  
governments the maximum opportunity to participate in the decision 4514  
concerning the use or disposition of the lands after restoration, 4515  
reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse 4516  
effects of past coal mining practices. 4517

(6) In addition to the authority to acquire land under 4518  
division (F)(3) of this section, the chief may use money in the 4519  
fund to acquire land by purchase, donation, or condemnation, and 4520  
to reclaim and transfer acquired land to a political subdivision, 4521  
or to any person, if the chief determines that it is an integral 4522  
and necessary element of an economically feasible plan for the 4523  
construction or rehabilitation of housing for persons disabled as 4524  
the result of employment in the mines or work incidental to that 4525  
employment, persons displaced by acquisition of land pursuant to 4526  
this section, persons dislocated as the result of adverse effects 4527  
of coal mining practices that constitute an emergency as provided 4528  
in the "Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 4529  
Stat. 466, 30 U.S.C.A. 1240, or amendments to it, or persons 4530  
dislocated as the result of natural disasters or catastrophic 4531  
failures from any cause. Such activities shall be accomplished 4532  
under such terms and conditions as the chief requires, which may 4533

include transfers of land with or without monetary consideration, 4534  
except that to the extent that the consideration is below the fair 4535  
market value of the land transferred, no portion of the difference 4536  
between the fair market value and the consideration shall accrue 4537  
as a profit to those persons. No part of the funds provided under 4538  
this section may be used to pay the actual construction costs of 4539  
housing. The chief may carry out the purposes of division (F)(6) 4540  
of this section directly or by making grants and commitments for 4541  
grants and may advance money under such terms and conditions as 4542  
the chief may require to any agency or instrumentality of the 4543  
state or any public body or nonprofit organization designated by 4544  
the chief. 4545

(G)(1) Within six months after the completion of projects to 4546  
restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent adverse effects of 4547  
past coal mining practices on privately owned land, the chief 4548  
shall itemize the moneys so expended and may file a statement of 4549  
the expenditures in the office of the county recorder of the 4550  
county in which the land lies, together with a notarized appraisal 4551  
by an independent appraiser of the value of the land before the 4552  
restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of 4553  
adverse effects of past coal mining practices if the moneys so 4554  
expended result in a significant increase in property value. The 4555  
statement shall constitute a lien upon the land as of the date of 4556  
the expenditures of the moneys and shall have priority as a lien 4557  
second only to the lien of real property taxes imposed upon the 4558  
land. The lien shall not exceed the amount determined by the 4559  
appraisal to be the increase in the fair market value of the land 4560  
as a result of the restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, 4561  
or prevention of the adverse effects of past coal mining 4562  
practices. No lien shall be filed under division (G) of this 4563  
section against the property of any person who owned the surface 4564  
prior to May 2, 1977, and did not consent to, participate in, or 4565

exercise control over the mining operation that necessitated the 4566  
reclamation performed. 4567

(2) The landowner may petition, within sixty days after the 4568  
filing of the lien, to determine the increase in the fair market 4569  
value of the land as a result of the restoration, reclamation, 4570  
abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past 4571  
coal mining practices. The amount reported to be the increase in 4572  
value of the premises shall constitute the amount of the lien and 4573  
shall be recorded with the statement provided in this section. Any 4574  
party aggrieved by the decision may appeal as provided by state 4575  
law. 4576

(3) The lien provided in division (G) of this section shall 4577  
be recorded and indexed, under the name of the state and the 4578  
landowner, in a lien index in the office of the county recorder of 4579  
the county in which the land lies. The county recorder shall 4580  
impose no charge for the recording or indexing of the lien. If the 4581  
land is registered, the county recorder shall make a notation and 4582  
enter a memorial of the lien upon the page of the register in 4583  
which the last certificate of title to the land is registered, 4584  
stating the name of the claimant, amount claimed, volume and page 4585  
of the record where recorded, and exact time the memorial was 4586  
entered. 4587

(4) The lien shall continue in force so long as any portion 4588  
of the amount of the lien remains unpaid. If the lien remains 4589  
unpaid at the time of conveyance of the land on which the lien was 4590  
placed, the conveyance may be set aside. Upon repayment in full of 4591  
the moneys expended under this section, the chief promptly shall 4592  
issue a certificate of release of the lien. Upon presentation of 4593  
the certificate of release, the county recorder of the county in 4594  
which the lien is recorded shall record the lien as having been 4595  
discharged. 4596

(5) A lien imposed under this section shall be foreclosed 4597  
upon the substantial failure of a landowner to pay any portion of 4598  
the amount of the lien. Before foreclosing any lien under this 4599  
section, the chief shall make a written demand upon the landowner 4600  
for payment. If the landowner does not pay the amount due within 4601  
sixty days, the chief shall refer the matter to the attorney 4602  
general, who shall institute a civil action to foreclose the lien. 4603

(H)(1) The chief may fill voids, seal abandoned tunnels, 4604  
shafts, and entryways, and reclaim surface impacts of underground 4605  
or strip mines that the chief determines could endanger life and 4606  
property, constitute a hazard to the public health and safety, or 4607  
degrade the environment. 4608

(2) In those instances where mine waste piles are being 4609  
reworked for conservation purposes, the incremental costs of 4610  
disposing of the wastes from those operations by filling voids and 4611  
sealing tunnels may be eligible for funding, provided that the 4612  
disposal of these wastes meets the purposes of this section. 4613

(3) The chief may acquire by purchase, donation, easement, or 4614  
otherwise such interest in land as the chief determines necessary 4615  
to carry out division (H) of this section. 4616

(I) The chief shall report annually to the secretary of the 4617  
interior on operations under the fund and include recommendations 4618  
as to its future uses. 4619

(J)(1) The chief may engage in any work and do all things 4620  
necessary or expedient, including the adoption of rules, to 4621  
implement and administer this section. 4622

(2) The chief may engage in cooperative projects under this 4623  
section with any agency of the United States, any other state, or 4624  
their governmental agencies or with any state university or 4625  
college as defined in section 3345.27 of the Revised Code. The 4626  
cooperative projects are not subject to division (B) of section 4627

127.16 of the Revised Code. 4628

(3) The chief may request the attorney general to initiate in 4629  
any court of competent jurisdiction an action in equity for an 4630  
injunction to restrain any interference with the exercise of the 4631  
right to enter or to conduct any work provided in this section, 4632  
which remedy is in addition to any other remedy available under 4633  
this section. 4634

(4) The chief may construct or operate a plant or plants for 4635  
the control and treatment of water pollution resulting from mine 4636  
drainage. The extent of this control and treatment may be 4637  
dependent upon the ultimate use of the water. Division (J)(4) of 4638  
this section does not repeal or supersede any portion of the 4639  
"Federal Water Pollution Control Act," 70 Stat. 498 (1965), 33 4640  
U.S.C.A. 1151, as amended, and no control or treatment under 4641  
division (J)(4) of this section, in any way, shall be less than 4642  
that required by that act. The construction of a plant or plants 4643  
may include major interceptors and other facilities appurtenant to 4644  
the plant. 4645

(5) The chief may transfer money from the abandoned mine 4646  
reclamation fund and the acid mine drainage abatement and 4647  
treatment fund to other appropriate state agencies or to state 4648  
universities or colleges in order to carry out the reclamation 4649  
activities authorized by this section. 4650

(K) The chief may contract for any part of work to be 4651  
performed under this section, with or without advertising for 4652  
bids, if the chief determines that a condition exists that could 4653  
reasonably be expected to cause substantial physical harm to 4654  
persons, property, or the environment and to which persons or 4655  
improvements on real property are currently exposed. 4656

The chief shall require every contractor performing 4657  
reclamation work under this section to pay its workers at the 4658

greater of their regular rate of pay, as established by contract, 4659  
agreement, or prior custom or practice, or the average wage rate 4660  
paid in this state for the same or similar work as determined by 4661  
the chief under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code. 4662

(L)(1) The chief may contract for the emergency restoration, 4663  
reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of adverse effects 4664  
of mining practices on eligible lands if the chief determines that 4665  
an emergency exists constituting a danger to the public health, 4666  
safety, or welfare and that no other person or agency will act 4667  
expeditiously to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent 4668  
those adverse effects. The chief may enter into a contract for 4669  
emergency work under division (L) of this section without 4670  
advertising for bids. Any such contract or any purchase of 4671  
materials for emergency work under division (L) of this section is 4672  
not subject to division (B) of section 127.16 of the Revised Code. 4673

(2) The chief or the chief's agents, employees, or 4674  
contractors may enter on any land where such an emergency exists, 4675  
and on other land in order to have access to that land, in order 4676  
to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse 4677  
effects of mining practices and to do all things necessary or 4678  
expedient to protect the public health, safety, or welfare. Such 4679  
an entry shall be construed as an exercise of the police power and 4680  
shall not be construed as an act of condemnation of property or of 4681  
trespass. The moneys expended for the work and the benefits 4682  
accruing to any premises so entered upon shall be chargeable 4683  
against the land and shall mitigate or offset any claim in or any 4684  
action brought by any owner of any interest in the premises for 4685  
any alleged damages by virtue of the entry. This provision is not 4686  
intended to create new rights of action or eliminate existing 4687  
immunities. 4688

**Sec. 1513.371.** There is hereby created in the state treasury 4689



the mined land set aside fund consisting of grants made by the 4690  
United States secretary of the interior from the federal abandoned 4691  
mine reclamation fund pursuant to section 402 of the "Surface 4692  
Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 445, 30 4693  
U.S.C. 1232. The chief of the division of mineral resources 4694  
management shall administer the fund. Money in the fund shall be 4695  
used solely for the purposes specified in divisions (B)(1) to (4) 4696  
of section 1513.37 of the Revised Code. All investment earnings of 4697  
the fund shall be credited to the fund. 4698

**Sec. 1514.01.** As used in this chapter: 4699

(A) "Surface mining" means all or any part of a process 4700  
followed in the production of minerals from the earth or from the 4701  
surface of the land by surface excavation methods, such as open 4702  
pit mining, dredging, placering, or quarrying, and includes the 4703  
removal of overburden for the purpose of determining the location, 4704  
quantity, or quality of mineral deposits, and the incidental 4705  
removal of coal at a rate less than one-sixth the total weight of 4706  
minerals and coal removed during the year, but does not include: 4707  
test or exploration boring; mining operations carried out beneath 4708  
the surface by means of shafts, tunnels, or similar mine openings; 4709  
the extraction of minerals, other than coal, by a landowner for 4710  
the landowner's own noncommercial use where such material is 4711  
extracted and used in an unprocessed form on the same tract of 4712  
land; the extraction of minerals, other than coal, from borrow 4713  
pits for highway construction purposes, provided that the 4714  
extraction is performed under a bond, a contract, and 4715  
specifications that substantially provide for and require 4716  
reclamation practices consistent with the requirements of this 4717  
chapter; the removal of minerals incidental to construction work, 4718  
provided that the owner or person having control of the land upon 4719  
which the construction occurs, the contractor, or the construction 4720

firm possesses a valid building permit; the removal of minerals to 4721  
a depth of not more than five feet, measured from the highest 4722  
original surface elevation of the area to be excavated, where not 4723  
more than one acre of land is excavated during twelve successive 4724  
calendar months; routine dredging of a watercourse for purely 4725  
navigational or flood control purposes during which materials are 4726  
removed for noncommercial purposes; or the extraction or movement 4727  
of soil or minerals within a solid waste facility, as defined in 4728  
section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, that is a sanitary landfill 4729  
when the soil or minerals are used exclusively for the 4730  
construction, operation, closure, and post-closure care of the 4731  
facility or for maintenance activities at the facility. 4732

(B) "Minerals" means sand, gravel, clay, shale, gypsum, 4733  
halite, limestone, dolomite, sandstone, other stone, metalliferous 4734  
or nonmetalliferous ore, or other material or substance of 4735  
commercial value excavated in a solid state from natural deposits 4736  
on or in the earth, but does not include coal or peat. 4737

(C) "Overburden" means all of the earth and other materials 4738  
that cover a natural deposit of minerals and also means such earth 4739  
and other materials after removal from their natural state in the 4740  
process of surface mining. 4741

(D) "Spoil bank" means a pile of removed overburden. 4742

(E) "Area of land affected" means the area of land that has 4743  
been excavated, or upon which a spoil bank exists, or both. 4744

(F)(1) "Operation" or "surface mining operation" means all of 4745  
the premises, facilities, and equipment used in the process of 4746  
removing minerals, or minerals and incidental coal, by surface 4747  
mining from a mining area in the creation of which mining area 4748  
overburden or minerals, or minerals and incidental coal, are 4749  
disturbed or removed, such surface mining area being located upon 4750  
a single tract of land or upon two or more contiguous tracts of 4751

land. Separation by a stream or roadway shall not preclude the  
tracts from being considered contiguous.

(2) When the context indicates, "operation" or "in-stream  
mining operation" means all of the premises, facilities, and  
equipment used in the process of removing minerals by in-stream  
mining from a mining area.

(G) "Operator" means any person engaged in surface mining who  
removes minerals, or minerals and incidental coal, from the earth  
by surface mining or who removes overburden for the purpose of  
determining the location, quality, or quantity of a mineral  
deposit. "Operator" also means any person engaged in in-stream  
mining who removes minerals from the bottom of the channel of a  
watercourse by in-stream mining.

(H) "Performance bond" means the surety bond required to be  
filed under section 1514.04 of the Revised Code and includes cash,  
an irrevocable letter of credit, and negotiable certificates of  
deposit authorized to be deposited in lieu of the surety bond  
under that section.

(I) "Dewatering" means the withdrawal of ground water from an  
aquifer or saturated zone that may result in the lowering of the  
water level within the aquifer or saturated zone or a decline of  
the potentiometric surface within that aquifer or saturated zone.

(J) "Ground water" means all water occurring in an aquifer.

(K) "Cone of depression" means a depression or low point in  
the water table or potentiometric surface of a body of ground  
water that develops around a location from which ground water is  
being withdrawn.

(L) "High water mark" means the line on the shore that is  
established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical  
characteristics such as a natural line impressed on the bank;

shelving; changes in the character of soil; destruction of 4782  
terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or 4783  
other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the 4784  
surrounding area. 4785

(M) "In-stream mining" means all or any part of a process 4786  
followed in the production of minerals from the bottom of the 4787  
channel of a watercourse that drains a surface area of more than 4788  
one hundred square miles. "In-stream mining" may be accomplished 4789  
by using any technique or by using surface excavation methods, 4790  
such as open pit mining, dredging, placering, or quarrying, and 4791  
includes the removal of overburden for the purpose of determining 4792  
the location, quantity, or quality of mineral deposits. "In-stream 4793  
mining" does not include either of the following: 4794

(1) Routine dredging for purely navigational or flood control 4795  
purposes during which materials are removed for noncommercial 4796  
purposes; 4797

(2) The extraction of minerals, other than coal, by a 4798  
landowner for the landowner's own noncommercial use when the 4799  
material is extracted and used in an unprocessed form on the same 4800  
tract of land. 4801

For purposes of division (M) of this section, the number of 4802  
square miles of surface area that a watercourse drains shall be 4803  
determined by consulting the "gazetteer of Ohio streams," which is 4804  
a portion of the Ohio water plan inventory published in 1960 by 4805  
the division of water in the department of natural resources, or 4806  
its successor, if any. 4807

(N) In provisions concerning in-stream mining, when the 4808  
context is appropriate, "land" is deemed to include an area of a 4809  
watercourse. 4810

(O) "Watercourse" means any naturally occurring perennial or 4811  
intermittent stream, river, or creek flowing within a defined 4812

stream bed and banks.

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(P) "Certified mine foreperson" means the person whom the operator of a surface mining operation places in charge of the conditions and practices at the mine, who is responsible for conducting workplace examinations under 30 C.F.R. part 56, as amended, and who has passed an examination for the position administered by the division of mineral resources management.

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Sec. 1514.011. The division of mineral resources management has authority over all surface mining operations located in the state and shall exercise that authority as provided in this chapter.

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**Sec. 1514.03.** Within thirty days after each anniversary date of issuance of a surface or in-stream mining permit, the operator shall file with the chief of the division of mineral resources management an annual report, on a form prescribed and furnished by the chief, that, for the period covered by the report, shall state the amount of and identify the types of minerals and coal, if any coal, produced and shall state the number of acres affected and the number of acres estimated to be affected during the next year of operation. An annual report is not required to be filed if a final report is filed in lieu thereof.

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Each annual report for a surface mining operation shall include a progress map indicating the location of areas of land affected during the period of the report and the location of the area of land estimated to be affected during the next year. The map shall be prepared in accordance with division (A)(11) or (12) of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code, as appropriate, except that a map prepared in accordance with division (A)(12) of that section may be certified by the operator or authorized agent of the operator in lieu of certification by a professional engineer

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or surveyor registered under Chapter 4733. of the Revised Code. 4844  
However, the chief may require that an annual progress map or a 4845  
final map be prepared by a registered professional engineer or 4846  
registered surveyor if the chief has reason to believe that the 4847  
operator exceeded the boundaries of the permit area or, if the 4848  
operator filed the map required under division (A)(11) of section 4849  
1514.02 of the Revised Code, that the operator extracted ten 4850  
thousand tons or more of minerals during the period covered by the 4851  
report. 4852

Each annual report for an in-stream mining operation shall 4853  
include a statement of the total tonnage removed by in-stream 4854  
mining for each month and of the surface acreage and depth of 4855  
material removed by in-stream mining and shall include a map that 4856  
identifies the area affected by the in-stream mining, soundings 4857  
that depict the cross-sectional views of the channel bottom of the 4858  
watercourse, and water elevations for the watercourse. 4859

Each annual report shall be accompanied by a filing fee in 4860  
the amount of five hundred dollars, except in the case of an 4861  
annual report filed by a small operator or an in-stream mining 4862  
operator. A small operator, which is a surface mine operator who 4863  
intends to extract fewer than ten thousand tons of minerals and no 4864  
coal during the next year of operation under the permit, or an 4865  
in-stream mining operator shall include a filing fee in the amount 4866  
of two hundred fifty dollars with each annual report. The annual 4867  
report of any operator also shall be accompanied by an acreage fee 4868  
in the amount of seventy-five dollars multiplied by the number of 4869  
acres estimated in the report to be affected during the next year 4870  
of operation under the permit. The acreage fee shall be adjusted 4871  
by subtracting a credit of seventy-five dollars per excess acre 4872  
paid for the preceding year if the acreage paid for the preceding 4873  
year exceeds the acreage actually affected or by adding an 4874  
additional amount of seventy-five dollars per excess acre affected 4875

if the acreage actually affected exceeds the acreage paid for the 4876  
preceding year. 4877

With each annual report the operator shall file a performance 4878  
bond in the amount, unless otherwise provided by rule, of ~~one~~ 4879  
~~thousand~~ five hundred dollars multiplied by the number of acres 4880  
estimated to be affected during the next year of operation under 4881  
the permit for which no performance bond previously was filed. 4882  
Unless otherwise provided by rule, the bond shall be adjusted by 4883  
subtracting a credit of ~~one thousand~~ five hundred dollars per 4884  
excess acre for which bond was filed for the preceding year if the 4885  
acreage for which the bond was filed for the preceding year 4886  
exceeds the acreage actually affected, or by adding an amount of 4887  
~~one thousand~~ five hundred dollars per excess acre affected if the 4888  
acreage actually affected exceeds the acreage for which bond was 4889  
filed for the preceding year. 4890

Within thirty days after the expiration of the surface or 4891  
in-stream mining permit, or completion or abandonment of the 4892  
operation, whichever occurs earlier, the operator shall submit a 4893  
final report containing the same information required in an annual 4894  
report, but covering the time from the last annual report to the 4895  
expiration of the permit, or completion or abandonment of the 4896  
operation, whichever occurs earlier. 4897

Each final report shall include a map indicating the location 4898  
of the area of land affected during the period of the report and 4899  
the location of the total area of land affected under the permit. 4900  
The map shall be prepared in accordance with division (A)(11) or 4901  
(12) of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code, as appropriate. 4902

In the case of a final report for an in-stream mining 4903  
operation, the map also shall include the information required 4904  
under division (A)(18) of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code. 4905

If the final report and certified map, as verified by the 4906

chief, show that the number of acres affected under the permit is  
larger than the number of acres for which the operator has paid an  
acreage fee or filed a performance bond, upon notification by the  
chief, the operator shall pay an additional acreage fee in the  
amount of seventy-five dollars multiplied by the difference  
between the number of acres affected under the permit and the  
number of acres for which the operator has paid an acreage fee and  
shall file an additional performance bond in the amount, unless  
otherwise provided by rule, of ~~one thousand~~ five hundred dollars  
multiplied by the difference between the number of acres affected  
under the permit and the number of acres for which the operator  
has filed bond.

If the final report and certified map, as verified by the  
chief, show that the number of acres affected under the permit is  
smaller than the number of acres for which the operator has filed  
a performance bond, the chief shall order release of the excess  
bond. However, the chief shall retain a performance bond in a  
minimum amount of ten thousand dollars irrespective of the number  
of acres affected under the permit. The release of the excess bond  
shall be in an amount, unless otherwise provided by rule, equal to  
~~one thousand~~ five hundred dollars multiplied by the difference  
between the number of acres affected under the permit and the  
number of acres for which the operator has filed bond.

The fees collected pursuant to this section and section  
1514.02 of the Revised Code shall be deposited with the treasurer  
of state to the credit of the surface mining fund created under  
section 1514.06 of the Revised Code.

If upon inspection the chief finds that any filing fee,  
acreage fee, performance bond, or part thereof is not paid when  
due or is paid on the basis of false or substantially inaccurate  
reports, the chief may request the attorney general to recover the  
unpaid amounts that are due the state, and the attorney general



shall commence appropriate legal proceedings to recover the unpaid 4939  
amounts. 4940

**Sec. 1514.04.** (A) Upon receipt of notification from the chief 4941  
of the division of mineral resources management of the chief's 4942  
intent to issue an order granting a surface or in-stream mining 4943  
permit to the applicant, the applicant shall file a surety bond, 4944  
cash, an irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of deposit 4945  
in the amount, unless otherwise provided by rule, of ten thousand 4946  
dollars ~~plus one thousand~~. If the amount of land to be affected is 4947  
more than twenty acres, the applicant also shall file a surety 4948  
bond, cash, an irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of 4949  
deposit in the amount of five hundred dollars per acre of land to 4950  
be affected that exceeds twenty acres. Upon receipt of 4951  
notification from the chief of the chief's intent to issue an 4952  
order granting an amendment to a surface or in-stream mining 4953  
permit, the applicant shall file a surety bond, cash, an 4954  
irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of deposit in the 4955  
amount, ~~unless otherwise provided by rule, of one thousand dollars~~ 4956  
~~per acre of land to be affected~~ required in this division. 4957

In the case of a surface mining permit, the bond shall be 4958  
filed ~~for~~ based on the number of acres estimated to be affected 4959  
during the first year of operation under the permit. In the case 4960  
of an amendment to a surface mining permit, the bond shall be 4961  
filed ~~for~~ based on the number of acres estimated to be affected 4962  
during the balance of the period until the next anniversary date 4963  
of the permit. 4964

In the case of an in-stream mining permit, the bond shall be 4965  
filed ~~for~~ based on the number of acres of land within the limits 4966  
of the in-stream mining permit for the entire permit period. In 4967  
the case of an amendment to an in-stream mining permit, the bond 4968  
shall be filed ~~for~~ based on the number of any additional acres of 4969

land to be affected within the limits of the in-stream mining 4970  
permit. 4971

(B) A surety bond filed pursuant to this section and sections 4972  
1514.02 and 1514.03 of the Revised Code shall be upon the form 4973  
that the chief prescribes and provides and shall be signed by the 4974  
operator as principal and by a surety company authorized to 4975  
transact business in the state as surety. The bond shall be 4976  
payable to the state and shall be conditioned upon the faithful 4977  
performance by the operator of all things to be done and performed 4978  
by the operator as provided in this chapter and the rules and 4979  
orders of the chief adopted or issued pursuant thereto. 4980

The operator may deposit with the chief, in lieu of a surety 4981  
bond, cash in an amount equal to the surety bond as prescribed in 4982  
this section, an irrevocable letter of credit or negotiable 4983  
certificates of deposit issued by any bank organized or 4984  
transacting business in this state, or an irrevocable letter of 4985  
credit or certificates of deposit issued by any savings and loan 4986  
association as defined in section 1151.01 of the Revised Code, 4987  
having a cash value equal to or greater than the amount of the 4988  
surety bond as prescribed in this section. Cash or certificates of 4989  
deposit shall be deposited upon the same terms as the terms upon 4990  
which surety bonds may be deposited. If one or more certificates 4991  
of deposit are deposited with the chief in lieu of a surety bond, 4992  
the chief shall require the bank or savings and loan association 4993  
that issued any such certificate to pledge securities of a cash 4994  
value equal to the amount of the certificate, or certificates, 4995  
that is in excess of the amount insured by the federal deposit 4996  
insurance corporation. The securities shall be security for the 4997  
repayment of the certificate of deposit. 4998

(C) Immediately upon a deposit of cash, a letter of credit, 4999  
or certificates with the chief, the chief shall deliver it to the 5000  
treasurer of state who shall hold it in trust for the purposes for 5001

which it has been deposited. The treasurer of state shall be 5002  
responsible for the safekeeping of such deposits. An operator 5003  
making a deposit of cash, a letter of credit, or certificates of 5004  
deposit may withdraw and receive from the treasurer of state, on 5005  
the written order of the chief, all or any part of the cash, 5006  
letter of credit, or certificates in the possession of the 5007  
treasurer of state, upon depositing with the treasurer of state 5008  
cash, an irrevocable letter of credit, or negotiable certificates 5009  
of deposit issued by any bank organized or transacting business in 5010  
this state, or an irrevocable letter of credit or certificates of 5011  
deposit issued by any savings and loan association, equal in value 5012  
to the value of the cash, letter of credit, or certificates 5013  
withdrawn. An operator may demand and receive from the treasurer 5014  
of state all interest or other income from any certificates as it 5015  
becomes due. If certificates deposited with and in the possession 5016  
of the treasurer of state mature or are called for payment by the 5017  
issuer thereof, the treasurer of state, at the request of the 5018  
operator who deposited them, shall convert the proceeds of the 5019  
redemption or payment of the certificates into such other 5020  
negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any bank organized or 5021  
transacting business in this state, such other certificates of 5022  
deposit issued by any savings and loan association, or cash, as 5023  
may be designated by the operator. 5024

(D) A governmental agency, as defined in division (A) of 5025  
section 1514.022 of the Revised Code, or a board or commission 5026  
that derives its authority from a governmental agency shall not 5027  
require a surface or in-stream mining operator to file a surety 5028  
bond or any other form of financial assurance for the reclamation 5029  
of land to be affected by a surface or in-stream mining operation 5030  
authorized under this chapter. 5031

**Sec. 1514.05.** (A) At any time within the period allowed an 5032  
operator by section 1514.02 of the Revised Code to reclaim an area 5033

of land affected by surface or in-stream mining, the operator may 5034  
file a request, on a form provided by the chief of the division of 5035  
mineral resources management, for inspection of the area of land 5036  
upon which ~~a phase of the reclamation, other than any required~~ 5037  
~~planting,~~ is completed. ~~For purposes of inspections and subsequent~~ 5038  
~~releases of performance bonds or cash, irrevocable letters of~~ 5039  
~~credit, or certificates of deposit deposited in lieu of bonds~~ 5040  
~~under this section, reclamation shall be considered to occur in~~ 5041  
~~two phases. The first phase involves grading, contouring,~~ 5042  
~~terracing, resoiling, and initial planting. The second phase~~ 5043  
~~involves the establishment of vegetative cover together with the~~ 5044  
~~maintenance and the completion of all reclamation required under~~ 5045  
~~this chapter or rules adopted under it. The~~ 5046

A request ~~for inspection at the completion of a phase of~~ 5047  
~~reclamation~~ shall include all of the following: 5048

(1) The location of the area and number of acres; 5049

(2) The permit number; 5050

(3) ~~The amount of performance bond on deposit at the time of~~ 5051  
~~the request to ensure reclamation of the area;~~ 5052

~~(4)~~ A map showing the location of the acres reclaimed, 5053  
prepared and certified in accordance with division (A)(11) or (12) 5054  
of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code, as appropriate. In the 5055  
case of an in-stream mining operation, the map also shall include 5056  
the information required under division (A)(18) of section 1514.02 5057  
of the Revised Code. 5058

~~In addition, a request for inspection of the second phase of~~ 5059  
~~reclamation shall include a description of the type and date of~~ 5060  
~~any required planting and a statement regarding the degree of~~ 5061  
~~success of the growth.~~ 5062

~~(B)~~ The chief shall make an inspection and evaluation of the 5063

reclamation of the area of land for which a the request was 5064  
submitted within ninety days after receipt of the request or, if 5065  
the operator fails to complete the reclamation or file the request 5066  
as required, as soon as the chief learns of the default. 5067  
Thereupon, if the chief approves ~~the first phase of the~~ 5068  
reclamation, other than any required planting, as meeting the 5069  
requirements of this chapter, rules adopted thereunder, any orders 5070  
issued during the mining or reclamation, and the specifications of 5071  
the plan for mining and reclaiming, the chief shall issue an order 5072  
to the operator and the operator's surety releasing them from 5073  
liability for ~~the applicable percentage specified in this division~~ 5074  
one-half of the total amount of their surety bond on deposit to 5075  
ensure reclamation for the area upon which reclamation is 5076  
completed. If ~~the chief approves the second phase of the~~ 5077  
~~reclamation, the chief shall order release of the remaining~~ 5078  
~~performance bond, after completing the inspection and evaluation,~~ 5079  
~~in the same manner as in the case of approval of the first phase~~ 5080  
~~of reclamation, and the treasurer of state shall proceed as in~~ 5081  
~~that case.~~ 5082

~~On approval of the first phase of reclamation, the chief~~ 5083  
~~shall release seventy five per cent of the amount of the surety~~ 5084  
~~bond on deposit. On approval of the second phase of reclamation,~~ 5085  
~~the chief shall release the remaining amount of the surety bond~~ 5086  
~~that originally was on deposit.~~ 5087

~~If~~ the operator has deposited cash, an irrevocable letter of 5088  
credit, or certificates of deposit in lieu of a surety bond to 5089  
ensure reclamation, the chief shall issue an order to the operator 5090  
releasing one-half of the amount so held ~~in the same manner and in~~ 5091  
~~the same percentages that apply to the release of a surety bond~~ 5092  
and promptly shall transmit a certified copy of the order to the 5093  
treasurer of state. Upon presentation of the order to the 5094  
treasurer of state by the operator to whom it was issued, or by 5095

the operator's authorized agent, the treasurer of state shall 5096  
deliver to the operator or the operator's authorized agent the 5097  
cash, irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of deposit 5098  
designated in the order. 5099

~~(C)~~ If the chief does not approve ~~a phase of~~ the reclamation, 5100  
other than any required planting, the chief shall notify the 5101  
operator by certified mail. The notice shall be an order stating 5102  
the reasons for unacceptability, ordering further actions to be 5103  
taken, and setting a time limit for compliance. If the operator 5104  
does not comply with the order within the time limit specified, 5105  
the chief may order an extension of time for compliance after 5106  
determining that the operator's noncompliance is for good cause, 5107  
resulting from developments partially or wholly beyond the 5108  
operator's control. If the operator complies within the time limit 5109  
or the extension of time granted for compliance, the chief shall 5110  
order release of the performance bond in the same manner as in the 5111  
case of approval of reclamation, other than any required planting, 5112  
by the chief, and the treasurer of state shall proceed as in that 5113  
case. If the operator does not comply within the time limit and 5114  
the chief does not order an extension, or if the chief orders an 5115  
extension of time and the operator does not comply within the 5116  
extension of time granted for compliance, the chief shall issue 5117  
another order declaring that the operator has failed to reclaim 5118  
and, if the operator's permit has not already expired or been 5119  
revoked, revoking the operator's permit. The chief shall thereupon 5120  
proceed under division ~~(D)~~(C) of this section. 5121

~~(D)~~(B) At any time within the period allowed an operator by 5122  
section 1514.02 of the Revised Code to reclaim an area affected by 5123  
surface mining, the operator may file a request, on a form 5124  
provided by the chief, for inspection of the area of land on which 5125  
all reclamation, including the successful establishment of any 5126  
required planting, is completed. The request shall include all of 5127

the following: 5128

(1) The location of the area and number of acres; 5129

(2) The permit number; 5130

(3) The type and date of any required planting of vegetative cover and the degree of success of growth; 5131  
5132

(4) A map showing the location of the acres reclaimed, prepared and certified in accordance with division (A)(11) or (12) of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code, as appropriate. In the case of an in-stream mining operation, the map also shall include the information required under division (A)(18) of section 1514.02 of the Revised Code. 5133  
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The chief shall make an inspection and evaluation of the reclamation of the area of land for which the request was submitted within ninety days after receipt of the request or, if the operator fails to complete the reclamation or file the request as required, as soon as the chief learns of the default. Thereupon, if the chief finds that the reclamation meets the requirements of this chapter, rules adopted under it, any orders issued during the mining and reclamation, and the specifications of the plan for mining and reclaiming and decides to release any remaining performance bond on deposit to ensure reclamation of the area on which reclamation is completed, within ten days of completing the inspection and evaluation, the chief shall order release of the remaining performance bond in the same manner as in the case of approval of reclamation other than required planting, and the treasurer of state shall proceed as in that case. 5139  
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If the chief does not approve the reclamation performed by the operator, the chief shall notify the operator by certified mail within ninety days of the filing of the application for inspection or of the date when the chief learns of the default. The notice shall be an order stating the reasons for 5154  
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unacceptability, ordering further actions to be taken, and setting 5159  
a time limit for compliance. If the operator does not comply with 5160  
the order within the time limit specified, the chief may order an 5161  
extension of time for compliance after determining that the 5162  
operator's noncompliance is for good cause, resulting from 5163  
developments partially or wholly beyond the operator's control. If 5164  
the operator complies within the time limit or the extension of 5165  
time granted for compliance, the chief shall order release of the 5166  
remaining performance bond in the same manner as in the case of 5167  
approval of reclamation by the chief, and the treasurer of state 5168  
shall proceed as in that case. If the operator does not comply 5169  
within the time limit and the chief does not order an extension, 5170  
or if the chief orders an extension of time and the operator does 5171  
not comply within the extension of time granted for compliance, 5172  
the chief shall issue another order declaring that the operator 5173  
has failed to reclaim and, if the operator's permit has not 5174  
already expired or been revoked, revoking the operator's permit. 5175  
The chief then shall proceed under division (C) of this section. 5176

(C) Upon issuing an order under division ~~(C)~~(A) or (B) of 5177  
this section declaring that the operator has failed to reclaim, 5178  
the chief shall ~~retain all or part of the performance bond on~~ 5179  
~~deposit for reclamation of the affected surface or in-stream mine~~ 5180  
~~site. The~~ make a finding as to the number and location of the 5181  
acres of land that the operator has failed to reclaim in the 5182  
manner required by this chapter. The chief shall order the release 5183  
of the performance bond in the amount of five hundred dollars per 5184  
acre for those acres that the chief finds to have been reclaimed 5185  
in the manner required by this chapter. The release shall be 5186  
ordered in the same manner as in the case of other approval of 5187  
reclamation by the chief, and the treasurer of state shall proceed 5188  
as in that case. If the operator has on deposit cash, an 5189  
irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of deposit to ensure 5190



reclamation of the area of the land affected, the chief at the 5191  
same time shall issue an order declaring that the remaining cash, 5192  
irrevocable letter of credit, or certificates of deposit, ~~if any,~~ 5193  
are the property of the state and are available for use by the 5194  
chief in performing reclamation of the area and shall proceed in 5195  
accordance with section 1514.06 of the Revised Code. 5196

If the operator has on deposit a surety bond to ensure 5197  
reclamation of the area of land affected, the chief shall notify 5198  
the surety in writing of the operator's default and shall request 5199  
the surety to perform the surety's obligation and that of the 5200  
operator. The surety, within ten days after receipt of the notice, 5201  
shall notify the chief as to whether it intends to perform those 5202  
obligations. 5203

If the surety chooses to perform, it shall arrange for work 5204  
to begin within thirty days of the day on which it notifies the 5205  
chief of its decision. If the surety completes the work as 5206  
required by this chapter, the chief shall issue an order to the 5207  
surety releasing the surety from liability under the bond in the 5208  
same manner as if the surety were an operator proceeding under 5209  
this section. If, after the surety begins the work, the chief 5210  
determines that the surety is not carrying the work forward with 5211  
reasonable progress, or that it is improperly performing the work, 5212  
or that it has abandoned the work or otherwise failed to perform 5213  
its obligation and that of the operator, the chief shall issue an 5214  
order terminating the right of the surety to perform the work and 5215  
demanding payment of the amount due as required by this chapter. 5216

If the surety chooses not to perform and so notifies the 5217  
chief, does not respond to the chief's notice within ten days of 5218  
receipt thereof, or fails to begin work within thirty days of the 5219  
day it timely notifies the chief of its decision to perform its 5220  
obligation and that of the operator, the chief shall issue an 5221  
order terminating the right of the surety to perform the work and 5222

demanding payment of the amount due, as required by this chapter. 5223

Upon receipt of an order of the chief demanding payment of 5224  
the amount due, the surety immediately shall deposit with the 5225  
chief cash in the full amount due under the order for deposit with 5226  
the treasurer of state. If the surety fails to make an immediate 5227  
deposit, the chief shall certify it to the attorney general for 5228  
collection. When the chief has issued an order terminating the 5229  
right of the surety and has the cash on deposit, the cash is the 5230  
property of the state and is available for use by the chief, who 5231  
shall proceed in accordance with section 1514.06 of the Revised 5232  
Code. 5233

Sec. 1514.051. (A) If an operator or a partner or officer of 5234  
the operator forfeits a performance bond, the division of mineral 5235  
resources management shall have a priority lien in front of all 5236  
other interested creditors against the assets of that operator for 5237  
the amount that is needed to perform any reclamation that is 5238  
required as a result of the operator's mining activities. The 5239  
chief of the division of mineral resources management shall file a 5240  
statement in the office of the county recorder of each county in 5241  
which the mined land lies of the estimated costs to reclaim the 5242  
land. Estimated costs shall include direct and indirect costs of 5243  
the development, design, construction, management, and 5244  
administration of the reclamation. The statement shall constitute 5245  
a lien on the assets of the operator as of the date of the filing. 5246  
The lien shall continue in force so long as any portion of the 5247  
lien remains unpaid or until the chief issues a certificate of 5248  
release of the lien. If the chief issues a certificate of release 5249  
of the lien, the chief shall file a certificate of release in the 5250  
office of each applicable county recorder. 5251

(B) The chief promptly shall issue a certificate of release 5252  
under any of the following circumstances: 5253

(1) Upon the repayment in full of the money that is necessary 5254  
to complete the reclamation; 5255

(2) Upon the transfer of an existing permit that includes the 5256  
areas of the surface mine for which reclamation was not completed 5257  
from the operator that forfeited the performance bond to a new 5258  
operator; 5259

(3) Any other circumstance that the chief determines to be in 5260  
the best interests of the state. 5261

(C) The chief may modify the amount of a lien under this 5262  
section. If the chief modifies a lien, the chief shall file a 5263  
statement in the office of the county recorder of each applicable 5264  
county of the new amount of the lien. 5265

(D) The chief may authorize a closing agent to hold a 5266  
certificate of release in escrow for a period not to exceed one 5267  
hundred eighty days for the purpose of facilitating the transfer 5268  
of unreclaimed mine land. 5269

(E) All money from the collection of liens under this section 5270  
shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the 5271  
surface mining fund created in section 1514.06 of the Revised 5272  
Code. 5273

**Sec. 1514.06.** (A) There is hereby created in the state 5274  
treasury the surface mining fund. ~~All cash~~ consisting of all money 5275  
that becomes the property of the state pursuant to ~~section~~ 5276  
sections 1514.05 and 1514.051 of the Revised Code ~~shall be~~ 5277  
deposited in the fund, and expenditures, money credited to the 5278  
fund under divisions (C)(1) and (2) of section 1514.071, and other 5279  
money specified in section 1514.11 of the Revised Code. All 5280  
investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. 5281  
Expenditures from the fund shall be made by the chief of the 5282  
division of mineral resources management ~~only~~ for the purpose of 5283

reclaiming areas of land affected by surface or in-stream mining 5284  
~~operations on which an~~ under a permit issued under this chapter 5285  
~~that the operator has defaulted~~ failed to reclaim and for other 5286  
purposes specified in section 1514.11 of the Revised Code. 5287

(B) Expenditures of moneys from the fund, except as otherwise 5288  
provided by this section, shall be made pursuant to contracts 5289  
entered into by the chief with persons who agree to furnish all of 5290  
the materials, equipment, work, and labor, as specified and 5291  
provided in the contracts, for the prices stipulated therein. With 5292  
the approval of the director of natural resources, the chief may 5293  
reclaim the land in the same manner as the chief required of the 5294  
operator who ~~defaulted~~ failed to reclaim the land. Each contract 5295  
awarded by the chief shall be awarded to the lowest responsive and 5296  
responsible bidder, in accordance with section 9.312 of the 5297  
Revised Code, after sealed bids are received, opened, and 5298  
published at the time and place fixed by the chief. The chief 5299  
shall publish notice of the time and place at which bids will be 5300  
received, opened, and published, at least once at least ten days 5301  
before the date of the opening of the bids, in a newspaper of 5302  
general circulation in the county in which the area of land to be 5303  
reclaimed under the contract is located. If, after so advertising 5304  
for bids, no bids are received by the chief at the time and place 5305  
fixed for receiving them, the chief may advertise again for bids, 5306  
or, if the chief considers the public interest will be best 5307  
served, the chief may enter into a contract for the reclamation of 5308  
the area of land without further advertisement for bids. The chief 5309  
may reject any or all bids received and again publish notice of 5310  
the time and place at which bids for contracts will be received, 5311  
opened, and published. 5312

(C) With the approval of the director, the chief, without 5313  
advertising for bids, may enter into a contract with the 5314  
landowner, a surface or in-stream mine operator or coal mine 5315

operator mining under a current, valid permit issued under this 5316  
chapter or Chapter 1513. of the Revised Code, or a contractor 5317  
hired by a surety to complete reclamation, to carry out 5318  
reclamation on land affected by surface or in-stream mining 5319  
operations ~~on which~~ that an operator has ~~defaulted~~ failed to 5320  
reclaim. 5321

(D) With the approval of the director, the chief may carry 5322  
out all or part of the reclamation work on land affected by 5323  
surface or in-stream mining operations ~~on which~~ that the operator 5324  
has ~~defaulted~~ failed to reclaim using the employees and equipment 5325  
of any division of the department of natural resources. 5326

(E) The chief shall require every contractor performing 5327  
reclamation work under this section to pay workers at the greater 5328  
of their regular rate of pay, as established by contract, 5329  
agreement, or prior custom or practice, or the average wage rate 5330  
paid in this state for the same or similar work, as determined by 5331  
the chief under section 1513.02 of the Revised Code. 5332

(F) Each contract entered into by the chief under this 5333  
section shall provide only for the reclamation of land affected by 5334  
the surface or in-stream mining operation or operations of one 5335  
operator and not reclaimed by the operator as required by this 5336  
chapter. If there is money in the fund derived from the 5337  
performance bond deposited with the chief by one operator to 5338  
ensure the reclamation of two or more areas of land affected by 5339  
the surface or in-stream mining operation or operations of one 5340  
operator and not reclaimed by the operator as required by this 5341  
chapter, the chief may award a single contract for the reclamation 5342  
of all such areas of land. 5343

(G) The cost of the reclamation work done under this section 5344  
on each area of land affected by surface or in-stream mining 5345  
operations ~~on which~~ that an operator has ~~defaulted~~ failed to 5346

reclaim shall be paid out of the money in the fund derived from 5347  
the performance bond that was deposited with the chief to ensure 5348  
the reclamation of that area of land. If the amount of money is 5349  
not sufficient to pay the cost of doing all of the reclamation 5350  
work on the area of land that the operator should have done, but 5351  
failed to do, the chief may expend from the reclamation forfeiture 5352  
fund created in section 1513.18 of the Revised Code or the surface 5353  
mining fund created in this section the amount of money needed to 5354  
complete reclamation to the standards required by this chapter. 5355  
The operator is liable for that expense in addition to any other 5356  
liabilities imposed by law. At the request of the chief, the 5357  
attorney general shall bring an action against the operator for 5358  
the amount of the expenditures from either fund. Moneys so 5359  
recovered shall be deposited in the state treasury to the 5360  
appropriate credit of the fund from which the expenditures were 5361  
made. 5362

(H) If any part of the money in the surface mining fund 5363  
remains in the fund after the chief has caused the area of land to 5364  
be reclaimed and has paid all the reclamation costs and expenses, 5365  
or if any money remains because the area of land has been 5366  
repermitted under this chapter or reclaimed by a person other than 5367  
the chief, the chief may expend the remaining money to complete 5368  
other reclamation work performed under this section. The chief 5369  
shall prepare an annual report that summarizes the money credited 5370  
to the fund and expenditures made from the fund and post the 5371  
report on the division of mineral resources management's web site. 5372

**Sec. 1514.09.** The reclamation commission established pursuant 5373  
to section 1513.05 of the Revised Code shall serve as the 5374  
reclamation commission pursuant to this chapter. However, whenever 5375  
the commission is considering any appeal pertaining to surface or 5376  
in-stream mining, as distinguished from coal strip mining, the 5377  
member representing the coal strip mine operators shall be 5378

replaced by a person who, by reason of the person's previous 5379  
vocation, employment, or affiliations, can be classed as a 5380  
representative of surface or in-stream mine operators, as 5381  
applicable. The appointment of that person shall be made in 5382  
accordance with section 1513.05 of the Revised Code, and the 5383  
person's term shall be concurrent with that of the representative 5384  
of the coal strip mine operators. 5385

No party to an appeal brought under this section shall be 5386  
eligible for an award of attorney's fees, costs, or expenses from 5387  
the commission or any court. 5388

Notwithstanding section 1513.13 of the Revised Code, an 5389  
operator may appeal the determination of the chief of the division 5390  
of mineral resources management that is made under division (D) of 5391  
section 1514.43 of the Revised Code within ten days after the 5392  
operator receives a copy of the determination. 5393

Notwithstanding section 1513.14 of the Revised Code, appeals 5394  
from an order of the commission pertaining to surface or in-stream 5395  
mining may be taken to the court of common pleas of the county in 5396  
which the operation is located, or to the court of common pleas of 5397  
Franklin county. 5398

**Sec. 1514.11.** In addition to the purposes authorized in 5399  
section 1514.06 of the Revised Code, the chief of the division of 5400  
mineral resources management may use moneys in the surface mining 5401  
fund created under that section for the administration and 5402  
enforcement of this chapter, for the reclamation of land affected 5403  
by surface or in-stream mining under a permit issued under this 5404  
chapter that the operator failed to reclaim and for which the 5405  
performance bond filed by the operator is insufficient to complete 5406  
the reclamation, and for the reclamation of land affected by 5407  
surface or in-stream mining that was abandoned and left 5408  
unreclaimed and for which no permit was issued or bond filed under 5409

this chapter. Also, the chief may use the portion of the surface 5410  
mining fund that consists of moneys collected from the severance 5411  
taxes levied under section 5749.02 of the Revised Code for ~~the~~ 5412  
mine safety and first aid ~~classes provided under division (C) of~~ 5413  
~~section 1561.26 of the Revised Code~~ training. For purposes of this 5414  
section, the chief shall expend moneys in the fund in accordance 5415  
with the procedures and requirements established in section 5416  
1514.06 of the Revised Code and may enter into contracts and 5417  
perform work in accordance with that section. 5418

Fees collected under sections 1514.02 and 1514.03 of the 5419  
Revised Code, one-half of the moneys collected from the severance 5420  
taxes levied under divisions (A)(3) and (4) of section 5749.02 of 5421  
the Revised Code, and all of the moneys collected from the 5422  
severance tax levied under division (A)(7) of section 5749.02 of 5423  
the Revised Code shall be credited to the fund in accordance with 5424  
those sections. Notwithstanding any section of the Revised Code 5425  
relating to the distribution or crediting of fines for violations 5426  
of the Revised Code, all fines imposed under section 1514.99 of 5427  
the Revised Code shall be credited to the fund. 5428

Sec. 1514.40. In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised 5429  
Code, the chief of the division of mineral resources management, 5430  
in consultation with a statewide association that represents the 5431  
surface mining industry, shall adopt rules that do all of the 5432  
following: 5433

(A) For the purpose of establishing safety standards 5434  
governing surface mining operations, incorporate by reference 30 5435  
C.F.R. parts 46, 47, 50, 56, 58, and 62, as amended; 5436

(B) Establish criteria, standards, and procedures governing 5437  
safety performance evaluations conducted under section 1514.45 of 5438  
the Revised Code, including requirements for the notification of 5439  
operators and the identification of authorized representatives of 5440



miners at surface mining operations for purposes of inspections 5441  
conducted under sections 1541.41 to 1541.47 of the Revised Code; 5442

(C) Establish requirements governing the reporting and 5443  
investigation of accidents at surface mining operations. In 5444  
adopting the rules, the chief shall establish requirements that 5445  
minimize duplication with any reporting and investigations of 5446  
accidents that are conducted by the mine safety and health 5447  
administration in the United States department of labor. 5448

(D) Establish the time, place, and frequency of mine safety 5449  
training conducted under section 1514.06 of the Revised Code and a 5450  
fee, if any, for the purpose of that section. The amount of the 5451  
fee shall not exceed the costs of conducting the training that is 5452  
required under that section. 5453

(E) Establish the minimum qualifications necessary to take 5454  
the examination that is required for certification of certified 5455  
mine forepersons under division (B) of section 1514.47 of the 5456  
Revised Code and requirements, fees, and procedures governing the 5457  
taking of the examination; 5458

(F) Establish requirements and fees governing the renewal of 5459  
certificates under division (C) of that section; 5460

(G) Establish requirements and procedures for the approval of 5461  
training plans submitted under division (E) of that section for 5462  
the use of qualified persons to conduct examinations of surface 5463  
mining operations in lieu of certified mine forepersons and 5464  
minimum qualifications of those persons. The rules shall include 5465  
requirements governing training frequency and curriculum that must 5466  
be provided for qualified persons under such plans and shall 5467  
establish related reporting and record keeping requirements. 5468

As used in sections 1514.41 to 1514.47 of the Revised Code, 5469  
"rule" means a rule adopted under this section unless the context 5470  
indicates otherwise. 5471

Sec. 1514.41. (A) If a surface mining operation is not 5472  
inspected by the mine safety and health administration in the 5473  
United States department of labor, the chief of the division of 5474  
mineral resources management annually shall conduct a minimum of 5475  
two inspections of the operation. 5476

(B) If a surface mining operation is identified through a 5477  
safety performance evaluation conducted under section 1514.45 of 5478  
the Revised Code and rules as having lost-time accidents in an 5479  
amount greater than the national average, the chief shall conduct 5480  
a minimum of two inspections of the operation for one year 5481  
following the identification. 5482

(C) If a fatality of a miner occurs at a surface mining 5483  
operation as a result of an unsafe condition or a practice at the 5484  
operation, the chief shall conduct a minimum of one inspection 5485  
every three months at the operation for two years following the 5486  
fatality. 5487

(D) If a life-threatening injury of a miner occurs at a 5488  
surface mining operation as a result of an unsafe condition or a 5489  
practice at the operation, the chief shall conduct a minimum of 5490  
one inspection every three months at the operation for one year 5491  
following the injury. 5492

Sec. 1514.42. The chief of the division of mineral resources 5493  
management shall conduct a safety audit at a surface mining 5494  
operation if the operator of the operation has requested the 5495  
division of mineral resources management to conduct mine safety 5496  
training. The chief shall conduct additional safety audits at any 5497  
surface mining operation if requested by the operator of the 5498  
operation. If the chief conducts a safety audit, the operator 5499  
shall ensure that the chief has a copy of the training plan that 5500  
is required by 30 C.F.R. part 46, as amended, at the time of the 5501

audit. 5502

After completion of an audit, the chief shall prepare a 5503  
report that describes the general conditions of the surface mining 5504  
operation, lists any hazardous conditions at the operation, lists 5505  
any violations of the safety standards established in rules, and 5506  
describes the nature and extent of any hazardous condition or 5507  
violation found and the corresponding remedy for each hazardous 5508  
condition or violation. The chief shall provide two copies of the 5509  
report to the operator of the operation. The operator shall post 5510  
one copy of the report at the operation for review by the 5511  
employees of the operation. 5512

**Sec. 1514.43.** (A) The chief of the division of mineral 5513  
resources management shall enforce the safety standards 5514  
established in rules when conducting inspections under section 5515  
1514.41 of the Revised Code. 5516

(B) Except as otherwise provided in section 1514.44 of the 5517  
Revised Code or pursuant to a safety audit conducted under section 5518  
1514.42 of the Revised Code, if during an inspection the chief 5519  
finds a violation of a safety standard, the chief shall require 5520  
the operator to comply with the standard that is being violated 5521  
within a reasonable period of time. If the chief finds a violation 5522  
of a safety standard, the chief shall return to the surface mining 5523  
operation after a reasonable period of time to determine if the 5524  
operator has complied with the standard that was being violated. 5525  
If the operator has failed to comply with the standard, the chief 5526  
shall take appropriate action to obtain compliance if necessary. 5527

(C) Except as otherwise provided in section 1514.44 of the 5528  
Revised Code or pursuant to a safety audit conducted under section 5529  
1514.42 of the Revised Code, after completion of an inspection of 5530  
a surface mining operation, the chief shall prepare a report that 5531

describes the general conditions of the surface mining operation, 5532  
lists any hazardous conditions at the operation, lists any 5533  
violations of the safety standards established in rules, and 5534  
describes the nature and extent of any hazardous condition or 5535  
violation found and the corresponding remedy for each hazardous 5536  
condition or violation. The chief shall provide two copies of the 5537  
report to the operator of the operation. The operator shall post 5538  
one copy of the report at the operation for review by the 5539  
employees of the operation. 5540

(D) Except pursuant to a safety audit conducted under section 5541  
1514.42 of the Revised Code, not later than ten days after receipt 5542  
of a report under this section, the operator may submit a written 5543  
request to the chief for a meeting with the chief to review the 5544  
findings contained in the report. Upon receipt of a request, the 5545  
chief shall review the report and schedule a meeting with the 5546  
operator. Within a reasonable period of time after the meeting, 5547  
the chief shall make a written determination concerning the 5548  
findings contained in the report and provide one copy of the 5549  
determination to the operator of the surface mining operation and 5550  
one copy of the determination to an authorized representative of 5551  
the miners at the operation. If the chief makes a determination 5552  
that affirms the findings contained in the report, the chief's 5553  
determination constitutes an order for purposes of this chapter 5554  
and rules adopted under it. 5555

(E) An operator shall not appeal the contents of a report 5556  
prepared under division (C) of this section. However, an operator 5557  
may appeal a determination of the chief made under division (D) of 5558  
this section. 5559

(F) No operator shall violate or fail to comply with an order 5560  
issued pursuant to this section. 5561

**Sec. 1514.44.** If during an inspection conducted under section 5562

1514.41 of the Revised Code or a safety audit conducted under 5563  
section 1514.42 of the Revised Code, the chief of the division of 5564  
mineral resources management finds a condition or practice at a 5565  
surface mining operation that could reasonably be expected to 5566  
cause the death of or imminent serious physical harm to an 5567  
employee of the operation, the chief immediately shall issue 5568  
orders to safeguard the employees, notify the operator of the 5569  
condition or practice, and require the operator to abate the 5570  
condition or practice within a reasonable period of time. In all 5571  
such situations, the chief may require the operation to cease in 5572  
the area in which the condition or practice is occurring or may 5573  
require the entire operation to cease, if necessary, until the 5574  
condition or practice that could reasonably be expected to cause 5575  
death or serious physical harm is eliminated. 5576

The chief shall complete a report that describes the 5577  
condition or practice and the action taken to eliminate it. The 5578  
chief shall provide two copies of the report to the operator of 5579  
the operation. The operator shall post one copy of the report at 5580  
the operation for review by the employees of the operation. 5581

**Sec. 1514.45.** The chief of the division of mineral resources 5582  
management annually shall conduct a safety performance evaluation 5583  
of all surface mining operations in the state in accordance with 5584  
rules. The operator of a surface mining operation shall provide to 5585  
the chief a copy of the notification of legal identity required 5586  
under 30 C.F.R. part 41, as amended, at the same time that the 5587  
notice is filed with the mine safety and health administration in 5588  
the United States department of labor. 5589

**Sec. 1514.46.** If the operator of a surface mining operation 5590  
requests the division of mineral resources management to conduct 5591  
mine safety training, the chief of the division of mineral 5592

resources management shall conduct mine safety training for the 5593  
employees of that operator. For persons who are not employed by a 5594  
holder of a surface mining permit issued under this chapter and 5595  
who seek the training, the chief may charge a fee in an amount 5596  
established in rules for conducting it. The safety training shall 5597  
be conducted in accordance with rules and shall emphasize the 5598  
standards adopted in rules and include any other content that the 5599  
chief determines is beneficial. Any fees collected under this 5600  
section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of 5601  
the surface mining fund created in section 1514.06 of the Revised 5602  
Code. 5603

Sec. 1514.47. (A) The operator of a surface mining operation 5604  
shall employ a certified mine foreperson or a person who is 5605  
qualified in accordance with this section and rules to conduct 5606  
examinations of surface mining operations for purposes of 30 5607  
C.F.R. part 56, as amended. 5608

(B) The chief of the division of mineral resources management 5609  
shall conduct examinations for the position of certified mine 5610  
foreperson in accordance with rules. In order to be eligible for 5611  
examination as a certified mine foreperson, an applicant shall 5612  
file with the chief an affidavit establishing the applicant's 5613  
qualifications to take the examination. The chief shall grade 5614  
examinations and issue certificates. 5615

(C) A certificate issued under this section shall expire five 5616  
years after the date of issuance. A certificate may be renewed, 5617  
provided that the applicant verifies that all required training 5618  
pursuant to 30 C.F.R. part 46, as amended, has been completed and 5619  
any other requirements for renewal have been satisfied. 5620

(D) If a certificate issued under this section is suspended, 5621  
the certificate shall not be renewed until the suspension period 5622

expires and the person whose certificate is suspended successfully 5623  
completes all actions required by the chief. If an applicant's 5624  
license, certificate, or similar authority that is issued by 5625  
another state to perform specified mining duties is suspended or 5626  
revoked by that state, the applicant shall be ineligible for 5627  
examination for or renewal of a certificate in this state during 5628  
that period of suspension or revocation. A certificate that has 5629  
been revoked shall not be renewed. 5630

If a person who has been certified by the chief under this 5631  
section purposely violates this chapter, the chief may suspend or 5632  
revoke the certificate after an investigation and hearing 5633  
conducted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code are 5634  
completed. 5635

(E) In lieu of employing a certified mine foreperson, the 5636  
operator of a surface mining operation may submit to the chief a 5637  
detailed training plan under which persons who qualify under the 5638  
plan may conduct and document examinations at the surface mining 5639  
operation for purposes of 30 C.F.R. part 56, as amended. The chief 5640  
shall review the plan and determine if the plan complies with the 5641  
requirements established in rules. The chief shall approve or deny 5642  
the plan and notify in writing the operator who submitted the plan 5643  
of the chief's decision. 5644

**Sec. 1514.50.** (A) The chief of the division of mineral 5645  
resources management or an authorized employee of the division of 5646  
mineral resources management may enter on lands to make 5647  
inspections in accordance with this chapter and rules adopted 5648  
under it when necessary in the discharge of the duties specified 5649  
in this chapter and the rules. No person shall prevent or hinder 5650  
the chief or an authorized employee of the division in the 5651  
performance of those duties. 5652

(B) For purposes of performing reclamation of land affected 5653

by surface mining operations on which the holder of a permit 5654  
issued under this chapter has defaulted or otherwise failed to 5655  
timely conduct the reclamation required by section 1514.05 of the 5656  
Revised Code, the chief may enter on the land and perform 5657  
reclamation that the chief determines is necessary to protect 5658  
public health or safety or the environment. In order to perform 5659  
the reclamation, the chief may enter on adjoining land or other 5660  
land that is necessary to access the land on which the surface 5661  
mining occurred and on which the reclamation is to be performed. 5662  
The chief shall provide reasonable advance notice to the owner of 5663  
any land to be entered for the purpose of access for reclamation 5664  
under this chapter. The division shall return the land that was 5665  
used to access the former surface mining operation to the same or 5666  
an improved grade, topography, and condition that existed prior to 5667  
its use by the division. 5668

(C) When conducting investigations pursuant to section 5669  
1514.13 of the Revised Code, the chief or an authorized employee 5670  
of the division may enter on lands to conduct water supply 5671  
surveys, measure ground water levels and collect data when 5672  
necessary to define the cone of depression, or perform other 5673  
duties for the purposes of that section. 5674

**Sec. 1514.99.** (A) Whoever violates division (A)(1) or (2) of 5675  
section 1514.10 of the Revised Code may be fined not more than 5676  
five thousand dollars plus not more than one thousand dollars per 5677  
acre of land affected, and is responsible for achieving 5678  
reclamation of the land as required pursuant to this chapter. 5679

(B) Whoever violates division (B) of section 1514.10 of the 5680  
Revised Code may be fined not more than one thousand dollars per 5681  
acre of land affected that is not under permit, and is responsible 5682  
for achieving reclamation of the land as required pursuant to this 5683  
chapter. 5684



(C) Whoever violates division (C) of section 1514.10 of the Revised Code may be fined not less than one hundred nor more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

(D) Whoever violates division (D), (E), (F), or (G) of section 1514.10 of the Revised Code may be fined not less than one hundred nor more than one thousand dollars for a first offense. For each subsequent offense, on one or more permits held by such persons, such person may be fined not less than two hundred nor more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned not more than six months, or both. The permit of any person convicted of a third offense may be revoked by the court at the time of that conviction, and the court at that time may further order that no permit or amendment to a permit may be issued to that person under this chapter for a period of five years from the date of the conviction. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit or affect the authority of the chief of the division of mineral resources management granted by this chapter.

(E) Whoever violates an order of the chief of the division of mineral resources management issued under this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

Sec. 1515.093. The supervisors of a soil and water conservation district may hold one or more credit cards on behalf of the district and may authorize any supervisor or employee of the district to use such a credit card to pay for expenses related to the purposes of the district. The supervisors shall pay the debt incurred as a result of the use of such a credit card from money accepted by the supervisors as authorized under division (E) of section 1515.08 of the Revised Code or from the special fund established for the district under section 1515.10 of the Revised Code.

The misuse of a credit card held on behalf of a soil and water conservation district is a violation of section 2913.21 of the Revised Code. In addition, a supervisor or employee of a district who makes unauthorized use of such a credit card may be held personally liable to the district for the unauthorized use. This section does not limit any other liability of a supervisor or employee of a district for the unauthorized use of such a credit card. 5716  
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A supervisor or employee of a soil and water conservation district who is authorized to use a credit card that is held on behalf of the district and who suspects the loss, theft, or possibility of another person's unauthorized use of the credit card immediately shall notify the supervisors in writing of the suspected loss, theft, or possible unauthorized use. 5724  
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**Sec. 1515.10.** The board of county commissioners of each county in which there is a soil and water conservation district may levy a tax within the ten-mill limitation and may appropriate money from the proceeds of ~~such the~~ levy or from the general fund of the county, ~~which.~~ The money shall be held in a special fund for the credit of the district, to be expended for the purposes prescribed in ~~section~~ sections 1515.09 and 1515.093 of the Revised Code, for construction and maintenance of improvements by the district, and for other expenses incurred in carrying out the program of the district upon the written order of the fiscal agent for the district after authorization by a majority of the supervisors of the district. 5730  
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**Sec. 1515.211.** (A) A board of county commissioners that approves construction of a proposed improvement or the board's designee shall prepare a schedule of estimated assessments on property within the area that is to be benefited by the 5742  
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improvement. In preparing the schedule, the board or its designee 5746  
shall use information concerning the proposed improvement that 5747  
must be submitted to the board by the supervisors of a soil and 5748  
water conservation district. The information includes plans for 5749  
the proposed improvement, including surveys, maps, and 5750  
specifications, together with schedules of damages, cost 5751  
estimates, and any related reports that the supervisors or their 5752  
designee prepared. 5753

The schedule of estimated assessments that must be prepared 5754  
shall include the name and address of each owner of land believed 5755  
to be benefited by the proposed improvement together with a 5756  
description of the land. The names and descriptions shall be 5757  
obtained from the tax duplicates of the county. The board or its 5758  
designee shall enter in the schedule the amount of each estimated 5759  
assessment, which shall be determined using considerations 5760  
established in section 1515.24 of the Revised Code. In no case 5761  
shall an assessment be less than twenty-five dollars for each 5762  
parcel of land, except in the case of a multi-parcel lot, in which 5763  
case the board may charge a minimum of twenty-five dollars with 5764  
respect to all of the parcels comprising the multi-parcel lot. In 5765  
addition, the board may charge an assessment of less than 5766  
twenty-five dollars if the board determines that a lower amount is 5767  
appropriate, provided that the lower amount includes the cost of 5768  
preparing and mailing the notice required under division (D)(1) of 5769  
section 1515.24 of the Revised Code. The total of the estimated 5770  
assessments, including the total estimated assessments allocated 5771  
to public corporations and the state, shall equal the estimated 5772  
cost of the proposed improvement. The board shall use the schedule 5773  
of estimated assessments for purposes of levying final assessments 5774  
under section 1515.24 of the Revised Code. 5775

(B) As used in this section, "multi-parcel lot" means a site 5776  
on which a dwelling is located and that comprises two or more 5777

contiguous parcels of land.

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**Sec. 1517.02.** There is hereby created in the department of natural resources the division of natural areas and preserves, which shall be administered by the chief of natural areas and preserves. The chief shall take an oath of office and shall file in the office of the secretary of state a bond signed by the chief and by a surety approved by the governor for a sum fixed pursuant to section 121.11 of the Revised Code.

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The chief shall administer a system of nature preserves and wild, scenic, and recreational river areas. The chief shall establish a system of nature preserves through acquisition and dedication of natural areas of state or national significance, which shall include, but not be limited to, areas that represent characteristic examples of Ohio's natural landscape types and its natural vegetation and geological history. The chief shall encourage landowners to dedicate areas of unusual significance as nature preserves, and shall establish and maintain a registry of natural areas of unusual significance.

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The chief may supervise, operate, protect, and maintain wild, scenic, and recreational river areas, as designated by the director of natural resources. The chief may cooperate with federal agencies administering any federal program concerning wild, scenic, or recreational river areas.

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The chief shall do the following:

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(A) Formulate policies and plans for the acquisition, use, management, and protection of nature preserves;

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(B) Formulate policies for the selection of areas suitable for registration;

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(C) Formulate policies for the dedication of areas as nature preserves;

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(D) Prepare and maintain surveys and inventories of natural areas ~~and habitats of,~~ rare and endangered species of plants and animals~~;~~, and other unique natural features. The information shall be stored in the Ohio natural heritage database, established pursuant to this division, and may be made available to any individual or private or public agency for research, educational, environmental, land management, or other similar purposes that are not detrimental to the conservation of a species or feature. Information regarding sensitive site locations of species that are listed pursuant to section 1518.01 of the Revised Code and of unique natural features that are included in the Ohio natural heritage database is not subject to section 149.43 of the Revised Code if the chief determines that the release of the information could be detrimental to the conservation of a species or unique natural feature.

(E) Adopt rules for the use, visitation, and protection of nature preserves, natural areas owned or managed through easement, license, or lease by the department and administered by the division, and lands owned or managed through easement, license, or lease by the department and administered by the division that are within or adjacent to any wild, scenic, or recreational river area, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code;

(F) Provide facilities and improvements within the state system of nature preserves that are necessary for their visitation, use, restoration, and protection and do not impair their natural character;

(G) Provide interpretive programs and publish and disseminate information pertaining to nature preserves and natural areas for their visitation and use;

(H) Conduct and grant permits to qualified persons for the conduct of scientific research and investigations within nature

preserves;	5839
(I) Establish an appropriate system for marking nature	5840
preserves;	5841
(J) Publish and submit to the governor and the general	5842
assembly a biennial report of the status and condition of each	5843
nature preserve, activities conducted within each preserve, and	5844
plans and recommendations for natural area preservation.	5845
<b>Sec. 1517.10.</b> (A) As used in this section, "felony" has the	5846
same meaning as in section 109.511 of the Revised Code.	5847
(B)(1) Any person selected by the chief of the division of	5848
natural areas and preserves for custodial or patrol service on the	5849
lands and waters operated or administered by the division shall be	5850
employed in conformity with the law applicable to the classified	5851
civil service of the state. Subject to division (C) of this	5852
section, the chief may designate that person as a preserve	5853
officer. A preserve officer, in any nature preserve, in any	5854
natural area owned or managed through easement, license, or lease	5855
by the department of natural resources and administered by the	5856
division, and on lands owned or managed through easement, license,	5857
or lease by the department and administered by the division that	5858
are within or adjacent to any wild, scenic, or recreational river	5859
area established under this chapter and along any trail	5860
established under Chapter 1519. of the Revised Code, has the	5861
authority specified under section 2935.03 of the Revised Code for	5862
peace officers of the department of natural resources to keep the	5863
peace, to enforce all laws and rules governing those lands and	5864
waters, and to make arrests for violation of those laws and rules,	5865
provided that the authority shall be exercised on lands or waters	5866
administered by another division of the department only pursuant	5867
to an agreement with the chief of that division or to a request	5868
for assistance by an enforcement officer of that division in an	5869

emergency. A preserve officer, in or along any watercourse within, 5870  
abutting, or upstream from the boundary of any area administered 5871  
by the department, has the authority to enforce section 3767.32 of 5872  
the Revised Code and any other laws prohibiting the dumping of 5873  
refuse into or along waters and to make arrests for violation of 5874  
those laws. The jurisdiction of a preserve officer shall be 5875  
concurrent with that of the peace officers of the county, 5876  
township, or municipal corporation in which the violation occurs. 5877

The governor, upon the recommendation of the chief, shall 5878  
issue to each preserve officer a commission indicating authority 5879  
to make arrests as provided in this section. 5880

The chief shall furnish a suitable badge to each commissioned 5881  
preserve officer as evidence of the preserve officer's authority. 5882

(2) If any person employed under this section is designated 5883  
by the chief to act as an agent of the state in the collection of 5884  
money resulting from the sale of licenses, fees of any nature, or 5885  
other money belonging to the state, the chief shall require a 5886  
surety bond from the person in an amount not less than one 5887  
thousand dollars. 5888

(3) A preserve officer may render assistance to a state or 5889  
local law enforcement officer at the request of the officer or in 5890  
the event of an emergency. Preserve officers serving outside the 5891  
division of natural areas and preserves under this section or 5892  
serving under the terms of a mutual aid compact authorized under 5893  
section 1501.02 of the Revised Code shall be considered as 5894  
performing services within their regular employment for the 5895  
purposes of compensation, pension or indemnity fund rights, 5896  
workers' compensation, and other rights or benefits to which they 5897  
may be entitled as incidents of their regular employment. 5898

Preserve officers serving outside the division of natural 5899  
areas and preserves under this section or under the terms of a 5900

mutual aid compact retain personal immunity from civil liability 5901  
as specified in section 9.86 of the Revised Code and shall not be 5902  
considered an employee of a political subdivision for purposes of 5903  
Chapter 2744. of the Revised Code. A political subdivision that 5904  
uses preserve officers under this section or under the terms of a 5905  
mutual aid compact authorized under section 1501.02 of the Revised 5906  
Code is not subject to civil liability under Chapter 2744. of the 5907  
Revised Code as a result of any action or omission of any preserve 5908  
officer acting under this section or under a mutual aid compact. 5909

(C)(1) The chief of the division of natural areas and 5910  
preserves shall not designate a person as a preserve officer 5911  
pursuant to division (B)(1) of this section on a permanent basis, 5912  
on a temporary basis, for a probationary term, or on other than a 5913  
permanent basis if the person previously has been convicted of or 5914  
has pleaded guilty to a felony. 5915

(2)(a) The chief of the division of natural areas and 5916  
preserves shall terminate the employment as a preserve officer of 5917  
a person designated as a preserve officer under division (B)(1) of 5918  
this section if that person does either of the following: 5919

(i) Pleads guilty to a felony; 5920

(ii) Pleads guilty to a misdemeanor pursuant to a negotiated 5921  
plea agreement as provided in division (D) of section 2929.43 of 5922  
the Revised Code in which the preserve officer agrees to surrender 5923  
the certificate awarded to the preserve officer under section 5924  
109.77 of the Revised Code. 5925

(b) The chief shall suspend from employment as a preserve 5926  
officer a person designated as a preserve officer under division 5927  
(B)(1) of this section if that person is convicted, after trial, 5928  
of a felony. If the preserve officer files an appeal from that 5929  
conviction and the conviction is upheld by the highest court to 5930  
which the appeal is taken or if the preserve officer does not file 5931



a timely appeal, the chief shall terminate the employment of that  
preserve officer. If the preserve officer files an appeal that  
results in the preserve officer's acquittal of the felony or  
conviction of a misdemeanor, or in the dismissal of the felony  
charge against the preserve officer, the chief shall reinstate  
that preserve officer. A preserve officer who is reinstated under  
division (C)(2)(b) of this section shall not receive any back pay  
unless that preserve officer's conviction of the felony was  
reversed on appeal, or the felony charge was dismissed, because  
the court found insufficient evidence to convict the preserve  
officer of the felony.

(3) Division (C) of this section does not apply regarding an  
offense that was committed prior to January 1, 1997.

(4) The suspension from employment, or the termination of the  
employment, of a preserve officer under division (C)(2) of this  
section shall be in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised  
Code.

**Sec. 1517.11.** There is hereby created in the state treasury  
the natural areas and preserves fund, which shall consist of  
moneys transferred into it under section 5747.113 of the Revised  
Code and of contributions made directly to it. Any person may  
contribute directly to the fund in addition to or independently of  
the income tax refund contribution system established in that  
section.

Moneys in the fund shall be disbursed pursuant to vouchers  
approved by the director of natural resources for use by the  
division of natural areas and preserves solely for the following  
purposes:

(A) The acquisition of new or expanded natural areas, nature  
preserves, and wild, scenic, and recreational river areas;

(B) Facility development in natural areas, nature preserves, 5962  
and wild, scenic, and recreational river areas; 5963

(C) Special projects, including, but not limited to, 5964  
biological inventories, research grants, and the production of 5965  
interpretive material related to natural areas, nature preserves, 5966  
and wild, scenic, and recreational river areas; 5967

(D) Routine maintenance for health and safety purposes. 5968

Moneys appropriated from the fund shall not be used to fund 5969  
salaries of permanent employees, or administrative costs, ~~or~~ 5970  
~~routine maintenance.~~ 5971

All investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the 5972  
fund. 5973

**Sec. 1520.02.** (A) The director of natural resources has 5974  
exclusive authority to administer, manage, and establish policies 5975  
governing canal lands. 5976

(B)(1) ~~Except as provided in division (C) of this section,~~ 5977  
~~the~~ The director may sell, lease, exchange, give, or grant all or 5978  
part of the state's interest in any canal lands in accordance with 5979  
section 1501.01 of the Revised Code. The director may stipulate 5980  
that an appraisal or survey need not be conducted for, and may 5981  
establish any terms or conditions that the director determines 5982  
appropriate for, any such conveyance. 5983

(2) With regard to canal lands, the chief of the division of 5984  
water, with the approval of the director, may sell, lease, or 5985  
transfer minerals or mineral rights when the chief ~~and, with the~~ 5986  
approval of the director ~~determine,~~ determines that the sale, 5987  
lease, or transfer is in the best interest of the state. 5988  
Consideration for minerals and mineral rights shall be by rental 5989  
or on a royalty basis as prescribed by the chief, with the 5990  
approval of the director, and payable as prescribed by contract. 5991

Moneys collected under division (B)(2) of this section shall be 5992  
paid into the state treasury to the credit of the canal lands fund 5993  
created in section 1520.05 of the Revised Code. 5994

~~(C)(1) Not later than one year after July 1, 1989, the 5995  
director of transportation and the director of the Ohio historical 5996  
society shall identify all canal lands that are or may be of use 5997  
to any program operated by the department of transportation or the 5998  
Ohio historical society, respectively, and shall notify the 5999  
director of natural resources of those lands. The director of 6000  
natural resources may transfer any canal lands so identified to 6001  
the exclusive care, custody, and control of the department of 6002  
transportation or the Ohio historical society, as applicable, by 6003  
means of a departmental transfer not later than six months after 6004  
receiving notification under division (C)(1) of this section. 6005~~

~~(2) The director of natural resources may transfer to the 6006  
Ohio historical society any equipment, maps, and records used on 6007  
or related to canal lands that are of historical interest and that 6008  
are not needed by the director to administer this chapter. 6009~~

(D) If the director of natural resources determines that any 6010  
canal lands are a necessary part of a county's drainage or ditch 6011  
system and are not needed for any purpose of the department of 6012  
natural resources, the director may sell, grant, or otherwise 6013  
convey those canal lands to that county in accordance with 6014  
division (B) of this section. The board of county commissioners 6015  
shall accept the transfer of canal lands. 6016

(E) Notwithstanding any other section of the Revised Code, 6017  
the county auditor shall transfer any canal lands conveyed under 6018  
this section, and the county recorder shall record the deed for 6019  
those lands in accordance with section 317.12 of the Revised Code. 6020  
~~This division does not apply to canal lands transferred under 6021  
division (C)(1) of this section. 6022~~

Sec. 1520.03. (A) The director of natural resources may 6023  
appropriate real property in accordance with Chapter 163. of the 6024  
Revised Code for the purpose of administering this chapter. 6025

(B)(1) The director shall operate and maintain all canals and 6026  
canal reservoirs owned by the state except those canals that are 6027  
operated by the Ohio historical society on July 1, 1989. 6028

(2) On behalf of the director, the division of water shall 6029  
have the care and control of all canals and canal reservoirs owned 6030  
by the state, the water in them, and canal lands and shall 6031  
protect, operate, and maintain them and keep them in repair. The 6032  
chief of the division of water may remove obstructions from or on 6033  
them and shall make any alterations or changes in or to them and 6034  
construct any feeders, dikes, reservoirs, dams, locks, or other 6035  
works, devices, or improvements in or on them that are necessary 6036  
in the discharge of the chief's duties. 6037

In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the 6038  
chief may adopt, amend, and rescind rules that are necessary for 6039  
the administration of this division. 6040

(C) The director may sell or lease water from any canal or 6041  
canal reservoir that the director operates and maintains only to 6042  
the extent that the water is in excess of the quantity that is 6043  
required for navigation, recreation, and wildlife purposes. The 6044  
director may adopt, amend, and rescind rules in accordance with 6045  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code necessary to administer this 6046  
division. 6047

The withdrawal of water from any canal or canal reservoir for 6048  
domestic use is exempt from this division. However, the director 6049  
may require water conservation measures for water that is 6050  
withdrawn from any canal or canal reservoir for domestic use 6051  
during drought conditions or other emergencies declared by the 6052

governor.

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(D) No person shall take or divert water from any canal or canal reservoir operated and maintained by the director except in accordance with division (C) of this section.

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(E) At the request of the director, the attorney general may commence a civil action for civil penalties and injunctions, in a court of common pleas, against any person who has violated or is violating division (D) of this section. The court of common pleas in which an action for injunctive relief is filed has jurisdiction to and shall grant preliminary and permanent injunctive relief upon a showing that the person against whom the action is brought has violated or is violating that division.

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Upon a finding of a violation, the court shall assess a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars for each day of each violation if the violator is an individual who took or diverted the water in question for residential or agricultural use. The court shall assess a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each day of each violation if the violator is any other person who took or diverted the water in question for industrial or commercial use excluding agricultural use. Moneys from civil penalties assessed under this division shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the canal lands fund created in section 1520.05 of the Revised Code.

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Any action under this division is a civil action, governed by the rules of civil procedure and other rules of practice and procedure applicable to civil actions.

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(F) As used in this section, "person" means any agency of this state, any political subdivision of this state or of the United States, or any legal entity defined as a person under section 1.59 of the Revised Code.

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**Sec. 1520.05.** There is hereby created in the state treasury 6083  
the canal lands fund, which shall be composed of all moneys 6084  
received by the director of natural resources under sections 6085  
1520.02 and 1520.03 of the Revised Code, all civil penalties 6086  
assessed under section 1520.03 of the Revised Code, and any moneys 6087  
appropriated to it. The fund shall be administered by the 6088  
director, who shall spend moneys in the fund for the purposes of 6089  
administering and enforcing this chapter ~~and section 1521.08 of~~ 6090  
~~the Revised Code.~~ The director may spend any surplus moneys in the 6091  
fund, as determined by ~~him~~ the director, for any other programs 6092  
operated by the department of natural resources. 6093

**Sec. 1520.07.** (A) The director of natural resources may give 6094  
away or sell timber that has fallen on or been removed for 6095  
maintenance reasons from canal lands. 6096

(B) The director may give away or sell the spoils of a 6097  
dredging operation conducted by the department of natural 6098  
resources in waters under the control and management of the 6099  
~~division of water~~ department. Prior to giving away or selling any 6100  
spoils under this division, the director shall notify the director 6101  
of environmental protection of ~~his~~ that intent so that the 6102  
director of environmental protection may determine whether the 6103  
spoils constitute solid wastes or hazardous waste, as those terms 6104  
are defined in section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, that shall be 6105  
disposed of in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code. 6106  
If the director of environmental protection does not notify the 6107  
director of natural resources within thirty days after receiving 6108  
notice of the gift or sale that the spoils shall be disposed of in 6109  
accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, the director of 6110  
natural resources may proceed with the gift or sale. 6111

(C) Proceeds from the sale of timber or dredge spoils under 6112

this section shall be deposited into the state treasury to the  
credit of the canal lands fund created in section 1520.05 of the  
Revised Code.

**Sec. 1521.01.** As used in sections 1521.01 to 1521.05, 1521.13  
to 1521.18, and 1521.20 to 1521.30 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Consumptive use," "diversion," "Lake Erie drainage  
basin," "other great lakes states and provinces," "water  
resources," and "waters of the state" have the same meanings as in  
section 1501.30 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Well" means any excavation, regardless of design or  
method of construction, created for any of the following purposes:

(1) Removing ground water from or recharging water into an  
aquifer, excluding subsurface drainage systems installed to  
enhance agricultural crop production or urban or suburban  
landscape management or to control seepage in dams, dikes, and  
levees;

(2) Determining the quantity, quality, level, or movement of  
ground water in or the stratigraphy of an aquifer, excluding  
borings for instrumentation in dams, dikes, levees, or highway  
embankments;

(3) Removing or exchanging heat from ground water, excluding  
horizontal trenches that are installed for water source heat pump  
systems.

(C) "Aquifer" means a consolidated or unconsolidated geologic  
formation or series of formations that are hydraulically  
interconnected and that have the ability to receive, store, or  
transmit water.

(D) "Ground water" means all water occurring in an aquifer.

(E) "Ground water stress area" means a definable geographic

area in which ground water quantity is being affected by human activity or natural forces to the extent that continuous availability of supply is jeopardized by withdrawals.

(F) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the Revised Code and also includes the United States, the state, any political subdivision of the state, and any department, division, board, commission, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

(G) "State agency" or "agency of the state" has the same meaning as "agency" in section 111.15 of the Revised Code.

(H) "Development" means any artificial change to improved or unimproved real estate, including the construction of buildings and other structures, any substantial improvement of a structure, ~~and~~ mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavating, and drilling operations, and storage of equipment or materials.

(I) "Floodplain" means the area adjoining any river, stream, watercourse, or lake that has been or may be covered by flood water.

(J) "Floodplain management" means the implementation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage, including the collection and dissemination of flood information, construction of flood control works, nonstructural flood damage reduction techniques, and adoption of rules, ordinances, or resolutions governing development in floodplains.

(K) "One-hundred-year flood" means a flood having a one per cent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

(L) "One-hundred-year floodplain" means that portion of a floodplain inundated by a one-hundred-year flood.

(M) "Structure" means a walled and roofed building, including, without limitation, gas or liquid storage tanks, mobile



homes, and manufactured homes.

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(N) "Substantial improvement" means any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty per cent of the market value of the structure before the start of construction of the improvement. "Substantial improvement" includes repairs to structures that have incurred substantial damage regardless of the actual repair work performed. "Substantial improvement" does not include either of the following:

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(1) Any project for the improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications that have been identified by the state or local code enforcement official having jurisdiction and that are the minimum necessary to ensure safe living conditions;

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(2) Any alteration of an historic structure designated or listed pursuant to federal or state law, provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued listing or designation as an historic structure.

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(O) "Shore structure" includes, but is not limited to: beaches; groins; revetments; bulkheads; seawalls; breakwaters; certain dikes designated by the chief of the division of water; piers; docks; jetties; wharves; marinas; boat ramps; any associated fill or debris used as part of the construction of shore structures that may affect shore erosion, wave action, or inundation; and fill or debris placed along or near the shore, including bluffs, banks, or beach ridges, for the purpose of stabilizing slopes.

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(P) "Substantial damage" means damage of any origin that is sustained by a structure if the cost of restoring the structure to its condition prior to the damage would equal or exceed fifty per cent of the market value of the structure before the damage

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(O) "National flood insurance program" means the national 6204  
flood insurance program established in the "National Flood 6205  
Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C. 4001, as amended, 6206  
and regulations adopted under it. 6207

(R) "Conservancy district" means a conservancy district 6208  
established under Chapter 6101. of the Revised Code. 6209

~~(Q)~~(S) "Park board" means the board of park commissioners of 6210  
a park district created under Chapter 1545. of the Revised Code. 6211

~~(R)~~(T) "Erosion control structure" means anything that is 6212  
designed primarily to reduce or control erosion of the shore along 6213  
or near lake erie, including, but not limited to, revetments, 6214  
seawalls, bulkheads, certain breakwaters designated by the chief, 6215  
and similar structures. "Erosion control structure" does not 6216  
include wharves, piers, docks, marinas, boat ramps, and other 6217  
similar structures. 6218

**Sec. 1521.04.** The chief of the division of water, with the 6219  
approval of the director of natural resources, may make loans and 6220  
grants from the water management fund created in section 1501.32 6221  
of the Revised Code to governmental agencies for water management, 6222  
water supply improvements, and planning and may administer grants 6223  
from the federal government and from other public or private 6224  
sources for carrying out those functions and for the performance 6225  
of any acts that may be required by the United States or by any 6226  
agency or department thereof as a condition for the participation 6227  
by any governmental agency in any federal financial or technical 6228  
assistance program. Direct and indirect costs of administration 6229  
may be paid from the ~~water management~~ fund. 6230

The chief may use the water management fund for the purposes 6231  
of administering the water diversion and consumptive use permit 6232

programs established in sections 1501.30 to 1501.35 of the Revised 6233  
Code; to perform watershed and water resources studies for the 6234  
purposes of water management planning; and to acquire, construct, 6235  
reconstruct, improve, equip, maintain, operate, and dispose of 6236  
water management improvements. The chief may fix, alter, charge, 6237  
and collect rates, fees, rentals, and other charges to be paid 6238  
into the ~~water management~~ fund by governmental agencies and 6239  
persons who are supplied with water by facilities constructed or 6240  
operated by the department of natural resources in order to 6241  
amortize and defray the cost of the construction, maintenance, and 6242  
operation of those facilities. 6243

**Sec. 1521.05.** (A) As used in this section: 6244

(1) "Construct" or "construction" includes drilling, boring, 6245  
digging, deepening, altering, and logging. 6246

(2) "Altering" means changing the configuration of a well, 6247  
including, without limitation, deepening a well, extending or 6248  
replacing any portion of the inside or outside casing or wall of a 6249  
well that extends below ground level, plugging a portion of a well 6250  
back to a certain depth, and reaming out a well to enlarge its 6251  
original diameter. 6252

(3) "Logging" means describing the lithology, grain size, 6253  
color, and texture of the formations encountered during the 6254  
drilling, boring, digging, deepening, or altering of a well. 6255

(4) "Grouting" means neat cement; bentonite products in 6256  
slurry, granular, or pelletized form, excluding drilling mud or 6257  
fluids; or any combination of neat cement and bentonite products 6258  
that is placed within a well to seal the annular space or to seal 6259  
an abandoned well and that is impervious to and capable of 6260  
preventing the movement of water. 6261

(5) "Abandoned well" means a well whose use has been 6262

permanently discontinued and that poses potential health and 6263  
safety hazards or that has the potential to transmit surface 6264  
contaminants into the aquifer in which the well has been 6265  
constructed. 6266

(6) "Sealing" means the complete filling of an abandoned well 6267  
with grouting or other approved materials in order to permanently 6268  
prevent the vertical movement of water in the well and thus 6269  
prevent the contamination of ground water or the intermixing of 6270  
water between aquifers. 6271

(B) Any person that constructs a well shall keep a careful 6272  
and accurate log of the construction of the well. The log shall 6273  
show all of the following: 6274

(1) The character, including, without limitation, the 6275  
lithology, color, texture, and grain size, the name, if known, and 6276  
the depth of all formations passed through or encountered; 6277

(2) The depths at which water is encountered; 6278

(3) The static water level of the completed well; 6279

(4) A copy of the record of all pumping tests and analyses 6280  
related to those tests, if any; 6281

(5) Construction details, including lengths, diameters, and 6282  
thicknesses of casing and screening and the volume, type of 6283  
material, and method of introducing gravel packing and grouting 6284  
into the well; 6285

(6) The type of pumping equipment installed, if any; 6286

(7) The name of the owner of the well, the address of the 6287  
location where the well was constructed, and ~~a description of the~~ 6288  
~~location of either the property where~~ state plane coordinates or 6289  
the latitude and longitude of the well was constructed; 6290

(8) The signature of the individual who constructed the well 6291  
and filed the well log; 6292

(9) Any other information required by the chief of the 6293  
division of water. 6294

The log shall be furnished to the division of water within 6295  
thirty days after the completion of construction of the well on 6296  
forms prescribed and prepared by the division. The log shall be 6297  
kept on file by the division. 6298

(C) Any person that seals a well shall keep a careful and 6299  
accurate report of the sealing of the well. The sealing report 6300  
shall show all of the following: 6301

(1) The name of the owner of the well, the address of the 6302  
location where the well was constructed, and either the state 6303  
plane coordinates or the latitude and longitude of the well; 6304

(2) The depth of the well, the size and length of its casing, 6305  
and the static water level of the well; 6306

(3) The sealing procedures, including the volume and type of 6307  
sealing material or materials and the method and depth of 6308  
placement of each material; 6309

(4) The date on which the sealing was performed; 6310

(5) The signature of the individual who sealed the well and 6311  
filed the sealing report; 6312

(6) Any other information required by the chief. 6313

The sealing report shall be furnished to the division within 6314  
thirty days after the completion of the sealing of the well on 6315  
forms prescribed and prepared by the division. 6316

(D) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the 6317  
chief may adopt, amend, and rescind rules requiring other persons 6318  
that are involved in the construction or subsequent development of 6319  
a well to submit well logs under ~~this~~ division (B) of this section 6320  
containing any or all of the information specified in divisions 6321  
(B)(1) to (9) of this section and ~~requiring any person that seals~~ 6322

an abandoned well to submit a well sealing report under this 6323  
division containing any or all of the information specified in 6324  
those divisions and any specifying additional information 6325  
specified in the rules to be included in sealing reports required 6326  
under division (C) of this section. 6327

~~(C)~~(E)(1) No person shall fail to keep and submit a well log 6328  
or a sealing report as required by this section. 6329

(2) No person shall make a false statement in any well log or 6330  
sealing report required to be kept and submitted under this 6331  
section. Violation of division ~~(C)~~(E)(2) of this section is 6332  
falsification under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code. 6333

~~(D)~~(F) For the purposes of prosecution of a violation of 6334  
division ~~(C)~~(E)(1) of this section, a prima-facie case is 6335  
established when the division obtains either of the following: 6336

(1) A certified copy of a permit for a private water system 6337  
issued in accordance with rules adopted under section 3701.344 of 6338  
the Revised Code, or a certified copy of the invoice or a canceled 6339  
check from the owner of a well indicating the construction or 6340  
sealing services performed; 6341

(2) A certified copy of any permit issued under Chapter 3734. 6342  
or 6111. of the Revised Code or plan approval granted under 6343  
Chapter 6109. of the Revised Code for any activity that includes 6344  
the construction or sealing of a well as applicable. 6345

**Sec. 1521.06.** (A) No dam may be constructed for the purpose 6346  
of storing, conserving, or retarding water, or for any other 6347  
purpose, nor shall any ~~dike or~~ levee be constructed for the 6348  
purpose of diverting or retaining flood water, unless the person 6349  
or governmental agency desiring the construction has a 6350  
construction permit for the dam, ~~dike,~~ or levee issued by the 6351  
chief of the division of water. 6352

A construction permit is not required under this section for: 6353

(1) A dam that is or will be less than ten feet in height and 6354  
that has or will have a storage capacity of not more than fifty 6355  
acre-feet at the elevation of the top of the dam, as determined by 6356  
the chief. For the purposes of this section, the height of a dam 6357  
shall be measured from the natural stream bed or lowest ground 6358  
elevation at the downstream or outside limit of the dam to the 6359  
elevation of the top of the dam. 6360

(2) A dam, regardless of height, that has or will have a 6361  
storage capacity of not more than fifteen acre-feet at the 6362  
elevation of the top of the dam, as determined by the chief; 6363

(3) A dam, regardless of storage capacity, that is or will be 6364  
six feet or less in height, as determined by the chief; 6365

(4) A dam, ~~dike~~, or levee that belongs to a class exempted by 6366  
the chief; 6367

(5) The repair, maintenance, improvement, alteration, or 6368  
removal of a dam, ~~dike~~, or levee that is subject to section 6369  
1521.062 of the Revised Code, unless the construction constitutes 6370  
an enlargement or reconstruction of the structure as determined by 6371  
the chief; 6372

(6) A dam or impoundment constructed under Chapter 1513. of 6373  
the Revised Code. 6374

(B) Before a construction permit may be issued, three copies 6375  
of the plans and specifications, including a detailed cost 6376  
estimate, for the proposed construction, prepared by a registered 6377  
professional engineer, together with the filing fee specified by 6378  
this section and the bond or other security required by section 6379  
1521.061 of the Revised Code, shall be filed with the chief. The 6380  
detailed estimate of the cost shall include all costs associated 6381  
with the construction of the dam, ~~dike~~, or levee, including 6382

supervision and inspection of the construction by a registered 6383  
professional engineer. The filing fee shall be based on the 6384  
detailed cost estimate for the proposed construction as filed with 6385  
and approved by the chief, and shall be determined by the 6386  
following schedule unless otherwise provided by rules adopted 6387  
under this section: 6388

(1) For the first one hundred thousand dollars of estimated 6389  
cost, a fee of four per cent; 6390

(2) For the next four hundred thousand dollars of estimated 6391  
cost, a fee of three per cent; 6392

(3) For the next five hundred thousand dollars of estimated 6393  
cost, a fee of two per cent; 6394

(4) For all costs in excess of one million dollars, a fee of 6395  
one-half of one per cent. 6396

In no case shall the filing fee be less than one thousand 6397  
dollars or more than one hundred thousand dollars. If the actual 6398  
cost exceeds the estimated cost by more than fifteen per cent, an 6399  
additional filing fee shall be required equal to the fee 6400  
determined by the preceding schedule less the original filing fee. 6401  
All fees collected pursuant to this section, and all fines 6402  
collected pursuant to section 1521.99 of the Revised Code, shall 6403  
be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the dam safety 6404  
fund, which is hereby created. Expenditures from the fund shall be 6405  
made by the chief for the purpose of administering this section 6406  
and sections 1521.061 and 1521.062 of the Revised Code. 6407

(C) The chief shall, within thirty days from the date of the 6408  
receipt of the application, fee, and bond or other security, issue 6409  
or deny a construction permit for the construction or may issue a 6410  
construction permit conditioned upon the making of such changes in 6411  
the plans and specifications for the construction as the chief 6412  
considers advisable if the chief determines that the construction 6413



of the proposed dam,~~dike~~, or levee, in accordance with the plans 6414  
and specifications filed, would endanger life, health, or 6415  
property. 6416

(D) The chief may deny a construction permit after finding 6417  
that a dam,~~dike~~, or levee built in accordance with the plans and 6418  
specifications would endanger life, health, or property, because 6419  
of improper or inadequate design, or for such other reasons as the 6420  
chief may determine. 6421

In the event the chief denies a permit for the construction 6422  
of the dam,~~dike~~, or levee, or issues a permit conditioned upon a 6423  
making of changes in the plans or specifications for the 6424  
construction, the chief shall state the reasons therefor and so 6425  
notify, in writing, the person or governmental agency making the 6426  
application for a permit. If the permit is denied, the chief shall 6427  
return the bond or other security to the person or governmental 6428  
agency making application for the permit. 6429

The decision of the chief conditioning or denying a 6430  
construction permit is subject to appeal as provided in Chapter 6431  
119. of the Revised Code. A dam,~~dike~~, or levee built 6432  
substantially at variance from the plans and specifications upon 6433  
which a construction permit was issued is in violation of this 6434  
section. The chief may at any time inspect any dam,~~dike~~, or 6435  
levee, or site upon which any dam,~~dike~~, or levee is to be 6436  
constructed, in order to determine whether it complies with this 6437  
section. 6438

(E) A registered professional engineer shall inspect the 6439  
construction for which the permit was issued during all phases of 6440  
construction and shall furnish to the chief such regular reports 6441  
of the engineer's inspections as the chief may require. When the 6442  
chief finds that construction has been fully completed in 6443  
accordance with the terms of the permit and the plans and 6444

specifications approved by the chief, the chief shall approve the  
construction. When one year has elapsed after approval of the  
completed construction, and the chief finds that within this  
period no fact has become apparent to indicate that the  
construction was not performed in accordance with the terms of the  
permit and the plans and specifications approved by the chief, or  
that the construction as performed would endanger life, health, or  
property, the chief shall release the bond or other security. No  
bond or other security shall be released until one year after  
final approval by the chief, unless the dam, ~~dike~~, or levee has  
been modified so that it will not retain water and has been  
approved as nonhazardous after determination by the chief that the  
dam, ~~dike~~, or levee as modified will not endanger life, health, or  
property.

(F) When inspections required by this section are not being  
performed, the chief shall notify the person or governmental  
agency to which the permit has been issued that inspections are  
not being performed by the registered professional engineer and  
that the chief will inspect the remainder of the construction.  
Thereafter, the chief shall inspect the construction and the cost  
of inspection shall be charged against the owner. Failure of the  
registered professional engineer to submit required inspection  
reports shall be deemed notice that the engineer's inspections are  
not being performed.

(G) The chief may order construction to cease on any dam, ~~dike~~,  
~~dike~~, or levee that is being built in violation of this section,  
and may prohibit the retention of water behind any dam, ~~dike~~, or  
levee that has been built in violation of this section. The  
attorney general, upon written request of the chief, may bring an  
action for an injunction against any person who violates this  
section or to enforce an order or prohibition of the chief made  
pursuant to this section.

(H) The chief may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. 6477  
of the Revised Code, for the design and construction of dams, 6478  
~~dikes~~, and levees for which a construction permit is required by 6479  
this section or for which periodic inspection is required by 6480  
section 1521.062 of the Revised Code, for establishing a filing 6481  
fee schedule in lieu of the schedule established under division 6482  
(B) of this section, for deposit and forfeiture of bonds and other 6483  
securities required by section 1521.061 of the Revised Code, for 6484  
the periodic inspection, operation, repair, improvement, 6485  
alteration, or removal of all dams, ~~dikes~~, and levees, as 6486  
specified in section 1521.062 of the Revised Code, and for 6487  
establishing classes of dams, ~~dikes~~, or levees that are exempt 6488  
from the requirements of ~~sections 1521.06~~ this section and section 6489  
1521.062 of the Revised Code as being of a size, purpose, or 6490  
situation that does not present a substantial hazard to life, 6491  
health, or property. The chief may, by rule, limit the period 6492  
during which a construction permit issued under this section is 6493  
valid. The rules may allow for the extension of the period during 6494  
which a permit is valid upon written request, provided that the 6495  
written request includes a revised construction cost estimate, and 6496  
may require the payment of an additional filing fee for the 6497  
requested extension. If a construction permit expires without an 6498  
extension before construction is completed, the person or agency 6499  
shall apply for a new permit, and shall not continue construction 6500  
until the new permit is issued. 6501

**Sec. 1521.061.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, 6502  
a construction permit shall not be issued under section 1521.06 of 6503  
the Revised Code unless the person or governmental agency applying 6504  
for the permit executes and files a surety bond conditioned on 6505  
completion of the dam, ~~dike~~, or levee in accordance with the terms 6506  
of the permit and the plans and specifications approved by the 6507  
chief of the division of water, in an amount equal to fifty per 6508

cent of the estimated cost of the project. 6509

If a permittee requests an extension of the time period 6510  
during which a construction permit is valid in accordance with 6511  
rules adopted under section 1521.06 of the Revised Code, the chief 6512  
shall determine whether the revised construction cost estimate 6513  
provided with the request exceeds the original construction cost 6514  
estimate that was filed with the chief by more than twenty-five 6515  
per cent. If the revised construction cost estimate exceeds the 6516  
original construction cost estimate by more than twenty-five per 6517  
cent, the chief may require an additional surety bond to be filed 6518  
so that the total amount of the surety bonds equals at least fifty 6519  
per cent of the revised construction cost estimate. 6520

The chief shall not approve any bond until it is personally 6521  
signed and acknowledged by both principal and surety, or as to 6522  
either by ~~his~~ the attorney in fact thereof, with a certified copy 6523  
of the power of attorney attached. The chief shall not approve the 6524  
bond unless there is attached a certificate of the superintendent 6525  
of insurance that the company is authorized to transact a fidelity 6526  
and surety business in this state. 6527

All bonds shall be given in a form prescribed by the chief 6528  
and shall run to the state as obligee. 6529

The applicant may deposit, in lieu of a bond, cash in an 6530  
amount equal to the amount of the bond or United States government 6531  
securities or negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any 6532  
bank organized or transacting business in this state having a par 6533  
value equal to or greater than the amount of the bond. Such cash 6534  
or securities shall be deposited upon the same terms as bonds. If 6535  
one or more certificates of deposit are deposited in lieu of a 6536  
bond, the chief shall require the bank ~~which~~ that issued any such 6537  
certificate to pledge securities of the aggregate market value 6538  
equal to the amount of the certificate ~~which~~ that is in excess of 6539  
the amount insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation. 6540

The securities to be pledged shall be those designated as eligible 6541  
under section 135.18 of the Revised Code. The securities shall be 6542  
security for the repayment of the certificate of deposit. 6543

Immediately upon a deposit of cash, securities, or 6544  
certificates of deposit, the chief shall deliver them to the 6545  
treasurer of state, who shall hold them in trust for the purposes 6546  
for which they have been deposited. The treasurer of state is 6547  
responsible for the safekeeping of such deposits. An applicant 6548  
making a deposit of cash, securities, or certificates of deposit 6549  
may withdraw and receive from the treasurer of state, on the 6550  
written order of the chief, all or any portion of the cash, 6551  
securities, or certificates of deposit, upon depositing with the 6552  
treasurer of state cash, other United States government 6553  
securities, or negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any 6554  
bank organized or transacting business in this state equal in par 6555  
value to the par value of the cash, securities, or certificates of 6556  
deposit withdrawn. An applicant may demand and receive from the 6557  
treasurer of state all interest or other income from any such 6558  
securities or certificates as it becomes due. If securities so 6559  
deposited with and in the possession of the treasurer of state 6560  
mature or are called for payment by the issuer thereof, the 6561  
treasurer of state, at the request of the applicant who deposited 6562  
them, shall convert the proceeds of the redemption or payment of 6563  
the securities into such other United States government 6564  
securities, negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any bank 6565  
organized or transacting business in this state, or cash as the 6566  
applicant designates. 6567

When the chief finds that a person or governmental agency has 6568  
failed to comply with the conditions of ~~his~~ the person's or 6569  
agency's bond, ~~he~~ the chief shall make a finding of that fact and 6570  
declare the bond, cash, securities, or certificates of deposit 6571  
forfeited in the amount set by rule of the chief. The chief shall 6572

thereupon certify the total forfeiture to the attorney general, 6573  
who shall proceed to collect that amount. 6574

In lieu of total forfeiture, the surety, at its option, may 6575  
cause the dam, ~~dike~~, or levee to be completed as required by 6576  
section 1521.06 of the Revised Code and rules of the chief, or 6577  
otherwise rendered nonhazardous, or pay to the treasurer of state 6578  
the cost thereof. 6579

All moneys collected on account of forfeitures of bonds, 6580  
cash, securities, and certificates of deposit under this section 6581  
shall be credited to the dam safety fund created in section 6582  
1521.06 of the Revised Code. The chief shall make expenditures 6583  
from the fund to complete dams, ~~dikes~~, and levees for which bonds 6584  
have been forfeited or to otherwise render them nonhazardous. 6585

Expenditures from the fund for those purposes shall be made 6586  
pursuant to contracts entered into by the chief with persons who 6587  
agree to furnish all of the materials, equipment, work, and labor 6588  
as specified and provided in the contract. 6589

A surety bond shall not be required for a permit for a dam, ~~dike~~, 6590  
~~dike~~, or levee that is to be designed and constructed by an agency 6591  
of the United States government, if the agency files with the 6592  
chief written assurance of the agency's financial responsibility 6593  
for the structure during the one-year period following the chief's 6594  
approval of the completed construction provided for under division 6595  
(E) of section 1521.06 of the Revised Code. 6596

**Sec. 1521.062.** (A) All dams, ~~dikes~~, and levees constructed in 6597  
this state and not exempted by this section or by the chief of the 6598  
division of water under section 1521.06 of the Revised Code shall 6599  
be inspected periodically by the chief, except for classes of dams 6600  
that, in accordance with rules adopted under this section, are 6601  
required to be inspected by registered professional engineers who 6602  
have been approved for that purpose by the chief. The inspection 6603

shall ensure that continued operation and use of the dam,~~dike~~, or 6604  
levee does not constitute a hazard to life, health, or property. 6605  
Periodic inspections shall not be required of the following 6606  
structures: 6607

(1) A dam that is less than ten feet in height and has a 6608  
storage capacity of not more than fifty acre-feet at the elevation 6609  
of the top of the dam, as determined by the chief. For the 6610  
purposes of this section, the height of a dam shall be measured 6611  
from the natural stream bed or lowest ground elevation at the 6612  
downstream or outside limit of the dam to the elevation of the top 6613  
of the dam. 6614

(2) A dam, regardless of height, that has a storage capacity 6615  
of not more than fifteen acre-feet at the elevation of the top of 6616  
the dam, as determined by the chief; 6617

(3) A dam, regardless of storage capacity, that is six feet 6618  
or less in height, as determined by the chief; 6619

(4) A dam,~~dike~~, or levee belonging to a class exempted by 6620  
the chief; 6621

(5) A dam,~~dike~~, or levee that has been exempted in 6622  
accordance with rules adopted under section 1521.064 of the 6623  
Revised Code. 6624

(B) In accordance with rules adopted under this section, the 6625  
owner of a dam that is in a class of dams that is designated in 6626  
the rules for inspection by registered professional engineers 6627  
shall obtain the services of a registered professional engineer 6628  
who has been approved by the chief to conduct the periodic 6629  
inspection of dams pursuant to schedules and other standards and 6630  
procedures established in the rules. The registered professional 6631  
engineer shall prepare a report of the inspection in accordance 6632  
with the rules and provide the inspection report to the dam owner 6633  
who shall submit it to the chief. A dam that is designated under 6634

the rules for inspection by a registered professional engineer, 6635  
but that is not inspected within a five-year period may be 6636  
inspected by the chief at the owner's expense. 6637

(C) Intervals between periodic inspections shall be 6638  
determined by the chief, but shall not exceed five years. 6639

(D) In the case of a dam, ~~dike~~, or levee that the chief 6640  
inspects, the chief shall furnish a report of the inspection to 6641  
the owner of the dam, ~~dike~~, or levee. With regard to a dam, ~~dike~~, 6642  
or levee that has been inspected, either by the chief or by a 6643  
registered professional engineer, and that is the subject of an 6644  
inspection report prepared or received by the chief, the chief 6645  
shall inform the owner of any required repairs, maintenance, 6646  
investigations, and other remedial and operational measures. The 6647  
chief shall order the owner to perform such repairs, maintenance, 6648  
investigations, or other remedial or operational measures as the 6649  
chief considers necessary to safeguard life, health, or property. 6650  
The order shall permit the owner a reasonable time in which to 6651  
perform the needed repairs, maintenance, investigations, or other 6652  
remedial measures, and the cost thereof shall be borne by the 6653  
owner. All orders of the chief are subject to appeal as provided 6654  
in Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The attorney general, upon 6655  
written request of the chief, may bring an action for an 6656  
injunction against any person who violates this section or to 6657  
enforce an order of the chief made pursuant to this section. 6658

(E) The owner of a dam, ~~dike~~, or levee shall monitor, 6659  
maintain, and operate the structure and its appurtenances safely 6660  
in accordance with state rules, terms and conditions of permits, 6661  
orders, and other requirements issued pursuant to this section or 6662  
section 1521.06 of the Revised Code. The owner shall fully and 6663  
promptly notify the division of water and other responsible 6664  
authorities of any condition that threatens the safety of the 6665  
structure and shall take all necessary actions to safeguard life, 6666



health, and property. 6667

(F) Before commencing the repair, improvement, alteration, or 6668  
removal of a dam,~~dike~~, or levee, the owner shall file an 6669  
application including plans, specifications, and other required 6670  
information with the division and shall secure written approval of 6671  
the application by the chief. Emergency actions by the owner 6672  
required to safeguard life, health, or property are exempt from 6673  
this requirement. The chief may, by rule, define maintenance, 6674  
repairs, or other remedial measures of a routine nature that are 6675  
exempt from this requirement. 6676

(G) The chief may remove or correct, at the expense of the 6677  
owner, any unsafe structures found to be constructed or maintained 6678  
in violation of this section or section 1521.06 of the Revised 6679  
Code. In the case of an owner other than a governmental agency, 6680  
the cost of removal or correction of any unsafe structure, 6681  
together with a description of the property on which the unsafe 6682  
structure is located, shall be certified by the chief to the 6683  
county auditor and placed by the county auditor upon the tax 6684  
duplicate. This cost is a lien upon the lands from the date of 6685  
entry and shall be collected as other taxes and returned to the 6686  
division. In the case of an owner that is a governmental agency, 6687  
the cost of removal or correction of any unsafe structure shall be 6688  
recoverable from the owner by appropriate action in a court of 6689  
competent jurisdiction. 6690

(H) If the condition of any dam,~~dike~~, or levee is found, in 6691  
the judgment of the chief, to be so dangerous to the safety of 6692  
life, health, or property as not to permit time for the issuance 6693  
and enforcement of an order relative to repair, maintenance, or 6694  
operation, the chief shall employ any of the following remedial 6695  
means necessary to protect life, health, and property: 6696

(1) Lower the water level of the lake or reservoir by 6697  
releasing water; 6698

(2) Completely drain the lake or reservoir; 6699

(3) Take such other measures or actions as the chief 6700  
considers necessary to safeguard life, health, and property. 6701

The chief shall continue in full charge and control of the 6702  
dam, ~~dike~~, or levee until the structure is rendered safe. The cost 6703  
of the remedy shall be recoverable from the owner of the structure 6704  
by appropriate action in a court of competent jurisdiction. 6705

(I) The chief may accept and expend gifts, bequests, and 6706  
grants from the United States government or from any other public 6707  
or private source and may contract with the United States 6708  
government or any other agency or entity for the purpose of 6709  
carrying out the dam safety functions set forth in this section 6710  
and section 1521.06 of the Revised Code. 6711

(J) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the 6712  
chief ~~shall~~ may adopt, and may amend or rescind, rules that do all 6713  
of the following: 6714

(1) Designate classes of dams for which dam owners must 6715  
obtain the services of a registered professional engineer to 6716  
periodically inspect the dams and to prepare reports of the 6717  
inspections for submittal to the chief; 6718

(2) Establish standards in accordance with which the chief 6719  
must approve or disapprove registered professional engineers to 6720  
inspect dams together with procedures governing the approval 6721  
process; 6722

(3) Establish schedules, standards, and procedures governing 6723  
periodic inspections and standards and procedures governing the 6724  
preparation and submittal of inspection reports; 6725

(4) Establish provisions regarding the enforcement of this 6726  
section and rules adopted under it. 6727

(K) The owner of a dam or levee shall notify the chief in 6728

writing of a change in ownership of the dam or levee prior to the 6729  
exchange of the property. 6730

**Sec. 1521.064.** The chief of the division of water, in 6731  
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt, and 6732  
may amend and rescind, rules establishing a program under which 6733  
dams, ~~dikes,~~ and levees may be exempted from inspections under 6734  
section 1521.062 of the Revised Code if the continued operation 6735  
and use of, and any rupturing of or other structural damage to, 6736  
the dams, ~~dikes,~~ and levees will not constitute a hazard to life, 6737  
health, or property. The rules shall establish, without 6738  
limitation, all of the following: 6739

(A) A procedure by which the owner of such a dam, ~~dike,~~ or 6740  
levee may apply for an exemption under this section; 6741

(B) The standards that a dam, ~~dike,~~ or levee shall meet in 6742  
order to be exempted under this section; 6743

(C) A procedure by which the chief shall periodically review 6744  
the status of a dam, ~~dike,~~ or levee that has been exempted under 6745  
this section to determine if the exemption should be rescinded; 6746

(D) A requirement that the owner of any dam, ~~dike,~~ or levee 6747  
exempted under this section shall agree, in writing, to accept 6748  
liability for any injury, death, or loss to persons or property 6749  
caused by the rupturing of or other structural damage to the dam, 6750  
~~dike,~~ or levee. 6751

**Sec. 1521.13.** (A) Development in one-hundred-year floodplain 6752  
areas shall be protected to at least the one-hundred-year flood 6753  
level, and flood water conveyance shall be maintained, at a 6754  
minimum, in accordance with standards established under the 6755  
national flood insurance program. This division does not preclude 6756  
a state agency or political subdivision from establishing flood 6757  
protection standards that are more restrictive than this division. 6758

(B) Prior to the expenditure of money for or the construction of buildings, structures, roads, bridges, or other facilities in locations that may be subject to flooding or flood damage, all state agencies and political subdivisions shall notify and consult with the division of water and shall furnish information that the division reasonably requires in order to avoid the uneconomic, hazardous, or unnecessary use of floodplains in connection with such facilities.

(C) The chief of the division of water shall do all of the following:

(1) Coordinate the floodplain management activities of state agencies and political subdivisions with the floodplain management activities of the United States, including the national flood insurance program ~~established in the "National Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as amended, and regulations adopted under that act;~~

(2) Collect, prepare, and maintain technical data and information on floods and floodplain management and make the data and information available to the public, state agencies, political subdivisions, and agencies of the United States;

(3) Cooperate and enter into agreements with persons for the preparation of studies and reports on floods and floodplain management;

(4) Assist any county, municipal corporation, or state agency in developing comprehensive floodplain management programs;

(5) Provide technical assistance to any county, municipal corporation, or state agency through engineering assistance, data collection, preparation of model laws, training, and other activities relating to floodplain management;

(6) For the purpose of reducing damages and the threat to

life, health, and property in the event of a flood, cooperate with  
state agencies, political subdivisions, and the United States in  
the development of flood warning systems, evacuation plans, and  
flood emergency preparedness plans;

(7) Upon request, assist the emergency management agency  
established by section 5502.22 of the Revised Code in the  
preparation of flood hazard mitigation reports required as a  
condition for receiving federal disaster aid under the "Disaster  
Relief Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 143, 42 U.S.C.A. 5121, as amended,  
~~"The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance  
Act of 1994," Pub. L. No. 93-288, as amended,~~ and regulations  
adopted under ~~those acts~~ it;

(8) Adopt, and may amend or rescind, rules in accordance with  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for the administration,  
implementation, and enforcement of this section and sections  
1521.14 and 1521.18 of the Revised Code;

(9) Establish, by rule, technical standards for the  
delineation and mapping of floodplains and for the conduct of  
engineering studies to determine the vertical and horizontal  
limits of floodplains and for the assessment of development  
impacts on flood heights and flood conveyance. The standards  
established in rules adopted under this division shall be  
consistent with and no more stringent than the analogous standards  
established under the national flood insurance program ~~adopted  
pursuant to the "National Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat.  
572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as amended.~~

(10) ~~Establish, by rule, flood damage reduction standards  
governing development within one hundred year floodplains other  
than development subject to the rules adopted under division  
(A)(11) of this section. The standards shall include provisions to  
ensure that structures are protected at least to the one hundred~~

~~year flood level and that any increase in the one hundred year  
flood level will not exceed one foot as determined by engineering  
studies conducted in accordance with the technical standards  
established in rules adopted under division (A)(9) of this  
section. The standards adopted under this division shall be no  
more stringent than the minimum floodplain management criteria of  
the national flood insurance program adopted under the "National  
Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as  
amended.~~

~~(11) Establish, by rule, minimum flood damage reduction  
standards governing development undertaken by state agencies  
within one hundred year floodplains. The standards shall include  
provisions to ensure that structures are protected at least to the  
one hundred year flood level and that any increase in the one  
hundred year flood level will not exceed one foot as determined by  
engineering studies conducted in accordance with the technical  
standards established in rules adopted under division (A)(9) of  
this section. The standards adopted under this division shall be  
consistent with and no less stringent than the minimum floodplain  
management criteria of the national flood insurance program  
adopted under the "National Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat.  
572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as amended.~~

~~(12) On behalf of the director of natural resources,  
administer section 1506.04 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(B) Rules adopted under division (A)(10) of this section and  
standards established under those rules apply only to developments  
for which a demonstration of compliance is required under division  
(C)(1) of section 1521.14 of the Revised Code~~

In addition to the duties imposed in divisions (C)(1) to (10)  
of this section, and with respect to existing publicly owned  
facilities that have suffered flood damage or that may be subject  
to flood damage, the chief may conspicuously mark past and

probable flood heights in order to assist in creating public 6852  
awareness of and knowledge about flood hazards. 6853

(D)(1) Development that is funded, financed, undertaken, or 6854  
preempted by state agencies shall comply with division (A) of this 6855  
section and with rules adopted under division (C)(9) of this 6856  
section. 6857

(2) State agencies shall apply floodproofing measures in 6858  
order to reduce potential additional flood damage of existing 6859  
publicly owned facilities that have suffered flood damage. 6860

(3) Before awarding funding or financing or granting a 6861  
license, permit, or other authorization for a development that is 6862  
or is to be located within a one-hundred-year floodplain, a state 6863  
agency shall require the applicant to demonstrate to the 6864  
satisfaction of the agency that the development will comply with 6865  
division (A) of this section, rules adopted under division (C)(9) 6866  
of this section, and any applicable local floodplain management 6867  
resolution or ordinance. 6868

(4) Prior to the disbursement of any state disaster 6869  
assistance money in connection with any incident of flooding to or 6870  
within a county or municipal corporation that is not listed by the 6871  
chief as being in compliance under division (D)(1) of section 6872  
1521.18 of the Revised Code, a state agency that has authority to 6873  
disburse such money shall require the county or municipal 6874  
corporation to establish or reestablish compliance as provided in 6875  
that division. 6876

(E)(1) Subject to section 1521.18 of the Revised Code, a 6877  
county or a municipal corporation may do all of the following: 6878

(a) Adopt floodplain maps that reflect the best available 6879  
data and that indicate the areas to be regulated under a 6880  
floodplain management resolution or ordinance, as applicable; 6881

(b) Develop and adopt a floodplain management resolution or ordinance, as applicable; 6882  
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(c) Adopt floodplain management standards that exceed the standards that are established under the national flood insurance program. 6884  
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(2) A county or municipal corporation shall examine and apply, where economically feasible, floodproofing measures in order to reduce potential additional flood damage of existing publicly owned facilities that have suffered flood damage. 6887  
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(3) A county that adopts a floodplain management resolution shall do so in accordance with the procedures established in section 307.37 of the Revised Code. The county may enforce the resolution by issuing stop work orders, seeking injunctive relief, or pursuing other civil actions that the county considers necessary to ensure compliance with the resolution. In addition, failure to comply with the floodplain management resolution constitutes a violation of division (D) of section 307.37 of the Revised Code. 6891  
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(4) No action challenging the validity of a floodplain management resolution adopted by a county or a floodplain management ordinance adopted by a municipal corporation, or an amendment to such a resolution or ordinance, because of a procedural error in the adoption of the resolution, ordinance, or amendment shall be brought more than two years after the adoption of the resolution, ordinance, or amendment. 6900  
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~~**Sec. 1521.14.** (A) All state agencies and political subdivisions, prior to the expenditure of funds for or the construction of buildings, structures, roads, bridges, or other facilities in locations that may be subject to flooding or flood damage, shall notify and consult with the division of water and~~ 6907  
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~~shall furnish such information as the division may reasonably  
require in order to avoid the uneconomic, hazardous, or  
unnecessary use of floodplains in connection with such facilities.~~

~~(B) With respect to existing publicly owned facilities that  
have suffered flood damage or that may be subject to flood damage,  
the chief of the division of water may conspicuously mark past and  
probable flood heights so as to assist in creating public  
awareness of and knowledge about flood hazards. Wherever  
economically feasible, state agencies and political subdivisions  
responsible for existing publicly owned facilities shall apply  
floodproofing measures in order to reduce potential flood damage.~~

~~(C)(1) Any state agency that funds or finances developments  
or that has regulatory jurisdiction that preempts the authority of  
political subdivisions to regulate development as necessary to  
establish participation in the national flood insurance program  
under the "National Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42  
U.S.C.A. 4001, as amended, before awarding funding or financing or  
granting a license, permit, or other authorization for a  
development that is or is to be located within a one hundred year  
floodplain, shall require the applicant therefor to demonstrate to  
the satisfaction of the agency that the development will comply  
with the flood damage reduction standards established in rules  
adopted under division (A)(10) of section 1521.13 of the Revised  
Code.~~

~~(2) Any state agency that undertakes any development that is  
or is to be located within a one hundred year floodplain shall  
ensure that the development complies with the minimum flood damage  
reduction standards established in rules adopted under division  
(A)(11) of section 1521.13 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(3) Prior to the disbursement of any state disaster  
assistance funds in connection with any incident of flooding to or  
within a municipal corporation or county that is not listed by the~~

~~chief as being in compliance under division (D)(1) of section 1521.18 of the Revised Code, each state agency having the authority to disburse such funds shall require the municipal corporation or county to establish or reestablish compliance as provided in that division.~~ 6944  
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~~(D) All state agencies shall comply with this section, rules adopted under section 1521.13 of the Revised Code, and any applicable local floodplain management ordinance or resolution. Upon the written request of the director of natural resources, the attorney general may shall bring a civil an action for injunctive appropriate relief, in the a court of common pleas of Franklin county, competent jurisdiction against any state agency that violates this section, rules adopted under section 1521.13 of the Revised Code, or any applicable local floodplain management ordinance or resolution. In the action, the court may enter an order that restrains, prevents, or abates any conduct, or abates any development undertaken by a state agency, in violation of this section, rules adopted under section 1521.13 of the Revised Code, or any applicable local floodplain management ordinance or resolution development that is not in compliance with the standards of the national flood insurance program and that is one of the following:~~ 6949  
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~~(A) Located in a county or municipal corporation that is not listed by the chief of the division of water as being in compliance under division (D)(1) of section 1521.18 of the Revised Code;~~ 6966  
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~~(B) Funded, financed, undertaken, or preempted by a state agency.~~ 6970  
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**Sec. 1521.18.** (A) For the purposes of this section, a one\_hundred\_year floodplain is limited to an area identified as a one\_hundred\_year floodplain in accordance with the "National Flood 6972  
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Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as 6975  
amended. 6976

(B) Each municipal corporation or county that has within its 6977  
boundaries a one\_hundred\_year floodplain and that adopts a 6978  
floodplain management ordinance or resolution or any amendments to 6979  
such an ordinance or resolution on or after April 11, 1991, after 6980  
adopting the ordinance, resolution, or amendments and before 6981  
submitting the ordinance, resolution, or amendments to the federal 6982  
emergency management agency for final approval for compliance with 6983  
applicable standards adopted under the "National Flood Insurance 6984  
Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as amended, shall 6985  
submit the ordinance, resolution, or amendments to the chief of 6986  
the division of water for ~~his~~ the chief's review for compliance 6987  
with those standards. Within forty-five days after receiving any 6988  
such ordinance, resolution, or amendments, the chief shall 6989  
complete ~~his~~ the review and notify the municipal corporation or 6990  
county as to whether the ordinance, resolution, or amendments 6991  
comply with those standards. If the chief finds that the 6992  
ordinance, resolution, or amendments comply with those standards, 6993  
~~he~~ the chief shall forward it or them to the federal emergency 6994  
management agency for final approval. 6995

(C)(1) If the chief determines that a county or municipal 6996  
corporation that has adopted a floodplain management resolution or 6997  
ordinance fails to administer or enforce the resolution or 6998  
ordinance, the chief shall send a written notice by certified mail 6999  
to the board of county commissioners of the county or the chief 7000  
executive officer of the municipal corporation stating the nature 7001  
of the noncompliance. 7002

(2) In order to maintain its compliance status in accordance 7003  
with division (D) of this section, a county or municipal 7004  
corporation that has received a notice of noncompliance under 7005  
division (C)(1) of this section may submit information to the 7006

chief not later than thirty days after receiving the notice that  
demonstrates compliance or indicates the actions that the county  
or municipal corporation is taking to administer or enforce the  
resolution or ordinance. The chief shall review the information  
and shall issue a final determination by certified mail to the  
county or municipal corporation of the compliance or noncompliance  
status of the county or municipal corporation. If the chief issues  
a final determination of noncompliance, ~~he~~ the chief shall send a  
copy of that determination to the federal emergency management  
agency concurrently with mailing the notice to the municipal  
corporation or county.

(D)(1) A county or municipal corporation is considered to be  
in compliance for the purposes of this section if either of the  
following applies:

(a) The county or municipal corporation has adopted a  
floodplain management resolution or ordinance that the chief has  
determined complies with applicable standards adopted under the  
"National Flood Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A.  
4001, as amended, and is adequately administering and enforcing it  
as determined under division (C) of this section.

(b) The county or municipal corporation is participating in  
the national flood insurance program ~~under the "National Flood  
Insurance Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 572, 42 U.S.C.A. 4001, as  
amended,~~ and has not received a notice of noncompliance under  
division (B) or (C) of this section.

(2) The chief shall maintain a list of all counties and  
municipal corporations that have one-hundred-year floodplains  
within their boundaries. The list shall indicate whether each such  
county or municipal corporation is in compliance or noncompliance  
as provided in division (D)(1) of this section and whether each  
such county or municipal corporation is participating in the

national flood insurance program. The chief shall provide a copy 7038  
of the list to the general assembly and all state agencies 7039  
annually and shall notify the general assembly and the agencies of 7040  
any changes at least quarterly. 7041

(E) Any county or municipal corporation that is adversely 7042  
affected by any determination of the chief under this section may 7043  
appeal it in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code not 7044  
later than thirty days after the final determination. 7045

**Sec. 1521.19.** (A) There is hereby created the Ohio water 7046  
resources council consisting of the directors of agriculture, 7047  
development, environmental protection, health, natural resources, 7048  
transportation, and the Ohio public works commission, the 7049  
chairperson of the public utilities commission of Ohio, the 7050  
executive ~~directors~~ director of ~~the state and local government~~ 7051  
~~commission of Ohio and~~ the Ohio water development authority, and 7052  
an executive assistant in the office of the governor appointed by 7053  
the governor. The governor shall appoint one of the members of the 7054  
council to serve as its chairperson. The council may adopt bylaws 7055  
that are necessary for the implementation of this section. The 7056  
council shall provide a forum for policy development, 7057  
collaboration and coordination among state agencies, and strategic 7058  
direction with respect to state water resource programs. The 7059  
council shall be assisted in its functions by a state agency 7060  
coordinating group and an advisory group as provided in this 7061  
section. 7062

(B) The state agency coordinating group shall consist of the 7063  
executive director of the Ohio Lake Erie commission and a member 7064  
or members from each state agency, commission, and authority 7065  
represented on the council, to be appointed by the applicable 7066  
director, chairperson, or executive director. However, the 7067  
environmental protection agency shall be represented on the group 7068

by the chiefs of the divisions within that agency having 7069  
responsibility for surface water programs and drinking and ground 7070  
water programs, and the department of natural resources shall be 7071  
represented on the group by the chief of the division of water and 7072  
the chief of the division of soil and water conservation. The 7073  
chairperson of the council shall appoint a leader of the state 7074  
agency coordinating group. The group shall provide assistance to 7075  
and perform duties on behalf of the council as directed by the 7076  
council. 7077

(C) The advisory group shall consist of not more than ~~twenty~~ 7078  
twenty-four members, each representing an organization or entity 7079  
with an interest in water resource issues. The council shall 7080  
appoint the members of the advisory group. Of the initial 7081  
appointments, not more than ten members shall be appointed for 7082  
one-year terms, and not more than ten members shall be appointed 7083  
for two-year terms. Of the four initial appointments made after 7084  
the effective date of this amendment, two of the members shall be 7085  
appointed for one-year terms, and two of the members shall be 7086  
appointed for two-year terms. Thereafter, all advisory group 7087  
members shall serve two-year terms. Members may be reappointed. 7088  
Each member shall hold office from the date of the member's 7089  
appointment until the end of the member's term. A member shall 7090  
continue in office subsequent to the expiration date of the 7091  
member's term until the member's successor takes office or until a 7092  
period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first. The 7093  
council may remove a member for misfeasance, nonfeasance, or 7094  
malfeasance in office. The council shall appoint members to fill 7095  
any vacancies on the group. A member appointed to fill a vacancy 7096  
shall hold office for the remainder of the term for which that 7097  
member was appointed. 7098

The chairperson of the council shall appoint a chairperson of 7099  
the advisory group. The advisory group shall advise the council on 7100

water resources issues addressed by the council.

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(D) There is hereby created in the state treasury the Ohio water resources council fund. The department of natural resources shall serve as the fiscal agent for the fund. The departments of agriculture, development, environmental protection, health, natural resources, and transportation shall transfer moneys to the fund in equal amounts via intrastate transfer voucher. The public utilities commission of Ohio, Ohio public works commission, ~~state and local government commission of Ohio~~, and Ohio water development authority may transfer moneys to the fund. If a voluntary transfer of moneys is made to the fund, the portion that is required to be transferred by the departments of agriculture, development, environmental protection, health, natural resources, and transportation may be equally reduced. Moneys in the fund shall be used to pay the operating expenses of the Ohio water resources council, including those specified in division (E) of this section.

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(E) The Ohio water resources council may hire staff to support its activities. The council may enter into contracts and agreements with federal agencies, state agencies, political subdivisions, and private entities to assist in accomplishing its objectives. Advisory group members shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to section 126.31 of the Revised Code and any applicable rules pertaining to travel reimbursement adopted by the office of budget and management.

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**Sec. 1521.99.** (A) Whoever violates division ~~(C)~~(E)(1) of section 1521.05 or division (E)(1) of section 1521.16 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

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(B) Whoever violates section 1521.06 or 1521.062 of the Revised Code shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor

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more than one thousand dollars for each offense. Each day of 7132  
violation constitutes a separate offense. 7133

(C) Whoever violates sections 1521.20 to 1521.30 of the 7134  
Revised Code shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor 7135  
more than one thousand dollars for each offense. Each day of 7136  
violation constitutes a separate offense. 7137

**Sec. 1531.01.** As used in this chapter and Chapter 1533. of 7138  
the Revised Code: 7139

(A) "Person" means ~~individual, company, partnership,~~ 7140  
~~corporation, municipal corporation, association, or any~~ 7141  
~~combination of individuals, or any employee, agent, or officer~~ 7142  
~~thereof~~ a person as defined in section 1.59 of the Revised Code or 7143  
a company; an employee, agent, or officer of such a person or 7144  
company; a combination of individuals; the state; a political 7145  
subdivision of the state; an interstate body created by a compact; 7146  
or the federal government or a department, agency, or 7147  
instrumentality of it. 7148

(B) "Resident" means any individual who has resided in this 7149  
state for not less than six months next preceding the date of 7150  
making application for a license. 7151

(C) "Nonresident" means any individual who does not qualify 7152  
as a resident. 7153

(D) "Division rule" or "rule" means any rule adopted by the 7154  
chief of the division of wildlife under section 1531.10 of the 7155  
Revised Code unless the context indicates otherwise. 7156

(E) "Closed season" means that period of time during which 7157  
the taking of wild animals protected by this chapter and Chapter 7158  
1533. of the Revised Code is prohibited. 7159

(F) "Open season" means that period of time during which the 7160  
taking of wild animals protected by this chapter and Chapter 1533. 7161



of the Revised Code is permitted. 7162

(G) "Take or taking" includes pursuing, shooting, hunting, 7163  
killing, trapping, angling, fishing with a trotline, or netting 7164  
any clam, mussel, crayfish, aquatic insect, fish, frog, turtle, 7165  
wild bird, or wild quadruped, and any lesser act, such as 7166  
wounding, or placing, setting, drawing, or using any other device 7167  
for killing or capturing any wild animal, whether it results in 7168  
killing or capturing the animal or not. "Take or taking" includes 7169  
every attempt to kill or capture and every act of assistance to 7170  
any other person in killing or capturing or attempting to kill or 7171  
capture a wild animal. 7172

(H) "Possession" means both actual and constructive 7173  
possession and any control of things referred to. 7174

(I) "Bag limit" means the number, measurement, or weight of 7175  
any kind of crayfish, aquatic insects, fish, frogs, turtles, wild 7176  
birds, and wild quadrupeds permitted to be taken. 7177

(J) "Transport and transportation" means carrying or moving 7178  
or causing to be carried or moved. 7179

(K) "Sell and sale" means barter, exchange, or offer or 7180  
expose for sale. 7181

(L) "Whole to include part" means that every provision 7182  
relating to any wild animal protected by this chapter and Chapter 7183  
1533. of the Revised Code applies to any part of the wild animal 7184  
with the same effect as it applies to the whole. 7185

(M) "Angling" means fishing with not more than two hand 7186  
lines, not more than two units of rod and line, or a combination 7187  
of not more than one hand line and one rod and line, either in 7188  
hand or under control at any time while fishing. The hand line or 7189  
rod and line shall have attached to it not more than three baited 7190  
hooks, not more than three artificial fly rod lures, or one 7191

artificial bait casting lure equipped with not more than three	7192
sets of three hooks each.	7193
(N) "Trotline" means a device for catching fish that consists	7194
of a line having suspended from it, at frequent intervals,	7195
vertical lines with hooks attached.	7196
(O) "Fish" means a cold-blooded vertebrate having fins.	7197
(P) "Measurement of fish" means length from the end of the	7198
nose to the longest tip or end of the tail.	7199
(Q) "Wild birds" includes game birds and nongame birds.	7200
(R) "Game" includes game birds, game quadrupeds, and	7201
fur-bearing animals.	7202
(S) "Game birds" includes mourning doves, ringneck pheasants,	7203
bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, pinnated	7204
grouse, wild turkey, Hungarian partridge, Chukar partridge,	7205
woodcocks, black-breasted plover, golden plover, Wilson's snipe or	7206
jacksnipe, greater and lesser yellowlegs, rail, coots, gallinules,	7207
duck, geese, brant, and crows.	7208
(T) "Nongame birds" includes all other wild birds not	7209
included and defined as game birds <u>or migratory game birds</u> .	7210
(U) "Wild quadrupeds" includes game quadrupeds and	7211
fur-bearing animals.	7212
(V) "Game quadrupeds" includes cottontail rabbits, gray	7213
squirrels, black squirrels, fox squirrels, red squirrels, flying	7214
squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs or woodchucks, white-tailed deer,	7215
wild boar, and black bears.	7216
(W) "Fur-bearing animals" includes minks, weasels, raccoons,	7217
skunks, opossums, muskrats, fox, beavers, badgers, otters,	7218
coyotes, and bobcats.	7219
(X) "Wild animals" includes mollusks, crustaceans, aquatic	7220

insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, wild birds, wild quadrupeds, 7221  
and all other wild mammals, but does not include domestic deer. 7222

(Y) "Hunting" means pursuing, shooting, killing, following 7223  
after or on the trail of, lying in wait for, shooting at, or 7224  
wounding wild birds or wild quadrupeds while employing any device 7225  
commonly used to kill or wound wild birds or wild quadrupeds 7226  
whether or not the acts result in killing or wounding. "Hunting" 7227  
includes every attempt to kill or wound and every act of 7228  
assistance to any other person in killing or wounding or 7229  
attempting to kill or wound wild birds or wild quadrupeds. 7230

(Z) "Trapping" means securing or attempting to secure 7231  
possession of a wild bird or wild quadruped by means of setting, 7232  
placing, drawing, or using any device that is designed to close 7233  
upon, hold fast, confine, or otherwise capture a wild bird or wild 7234  
quadruped whether or not the means results in capture. "Trapping" 7235  
includes every act of assistance to any other person in capturing 7236  
wild birds or wild quadrupeds by means of the device whether or 7237  
not the means results in capture. 7238

(AA) "Muskrat spear" means any device used in spearing 7239  
muskrats. 7240

(BB) "Channels and passages" means those narrow bodies of 7241  
water lying between islands or between an island and the mainland 7242  
in Lake Erie. 7243

(CC) "Island" means a rock or land elevation above the waters 7244  
of Lake Erie having an area of five or more acres above water. 7245

(DD) "Reef" means an elevation of rock, either broken or in 7246  
place, or gravel shown by the latest United States chart to be 7247  
above the common level of the surrounding bottom of the lake, 7248  
other than the rock bottom, or in place forming the base or 7249  
foundation rock of an island or mainland and sloping from the 7250  
shore of it. "Reef" also means all elevations shown by that chart 7251

to be above the common level of the sloping base or foundation 7252  
rock of an island or mainland, whether running from the shore of 7253  
an island or parallel with the contour of the shore of an island 7254  
or in any other way and whether formed by rock, broken or in 7255  
place, or from gravel. 7256

(EE) "Fur farm" means any area used exclusively for raising 7257  
fur-bearing animals or in addition thereto used for hunting game, 7258  
the boundaries of which are plainly marked as such. 7259

(FF) "Waters" includes any lake, pond, reservoir, stream, 7260  
channel, lagoon, or other body of water, or any part thereof, 7261  
whether natural or artificial. 7262

(GG) "Crib" or "car" refers to that particular compartment of 7263  
the net from which the fish are taken when the net is lifted. 7264

(HH) "Commercial fish" means those species of fish permitted 7265  
to be taken, possessed, bought, or sold unless otherwise 7266  
restricted by the Revised Code or division rule and are alewife 7267  
(*Alosa pseudoharengus*), American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), bowfin 7268  
(*Amia calva*), burbot (*Lota lota*), carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), 7269  
smallmouth buffalo (*Ictiobus bubalus*), bigmouth buffalo (*Ictiobus* 7270  
*cyprinellus*), black bullhead (*Ictalurus melas*), yellow bullhead 7271  
(*Ictalurus natalis*), brown bullhead (*Ictalurus nebulosus*), channel 7272  
catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), flathead catfish (*Pylodictis* 7273  
*olivaris*), whitefish (*Coregonus* sp.), cisco (*Coregonus* sp.), 7274  
freshwater drum or sheepshead (*Aplodinotus grunniens*), gar 7275  
(*Lepisosteus* sp.), gizzard shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*), goldfish 7276  
(*Carassius auratus*), lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*), mooneye 7277  
(*Hiodon tergisus*), quillback (*Carpiodes cyprinus*), smelt 7278  
(*Allosmerus elongatus*, *Hypomesus* sp., *Osmerus* sp., *Spirinchus* 7279  
sp.), sturgeon (*Acipenser* sp., *Scaphirhynchus* sp.), sucker other 7280  
than buffalo and quillback (*Carpiodes* sp., *Catostomus* sp., 7281  
*Hypentelium* sp., *Minytrema* sp., *Moxostoma* sp.), white bass (*Morone* 7282

chrysops), white perch (*Roccus americanus*), and yellow perch  
(*Perca flavescens*). When the common name of a fish is used in this  
chapter or Chapter 1533. of the Revised Code, it refers to the  
fish designated by the scientific name in this definition.

(II) "Fishing" means taking or attempting to take fish by any  
method, and all other acts such as placing, setting, drawing, or  
using any device commonly used to take fish whether resulting in a  
taking or not.

(JJ) "Fillet" means the pieces of flesh taken or cut from  
both sides of a fish, joined to form one piece of flesh.

(KK) "Part fillet" means a piece of flesh taken or cut from  
one side of a fish.

(LL) "Round" when used in describing fish means with head and  
tail intact.

(MM) "Migrate" means the transit or movement of fish to or  
from one place to another as a result of natural forces or  
instinct and includes, but is not limited to, movement of fish  
induced or caused by changes in the water flow.

(NN) "Spreader bar" means a brail or rigid bar placed across  
the entire width of the back, at the top and bottom of the cars in  
all trap, crib, and fyke nets for the purpose of keeping the  
meshes hanging squarely while the nets are fishing.

(OO) "Fishing guide" means any person who, for consideration  
or hire, operates a boat, rents, leases, or otherwise furnishes  
angling devices, ice fishing shanties or shelters of any kind, or  
other fishing equipment, and accompanies, guides, directs, or  
assists any other person in order for the other person to engage  
in fishing.

(PP) "Net" means fishing devices with meshes composed of  
twine or synthetic material and includes, but is not limited to,

trap nets, fyke nets, crib nets, carp aprons, dip nets, and 7313  
seines, except minnow seines and minnow dip nets. 7314

(QQ) "Commercial fishing gear" means seines, trap nets, fyke 7315  
nets, dip nets, carp aprons, trotlines, other similar gear, and 7316  
any boat used in conjunction with that gear, but does not include 7317  
gill nets. 7318

(RR) "Native wildlife" means any species of the animal 7319  
kingdom indigenous to this state. 7320

(SS) "Gill net" means a single section of fabric or netting 7321  
seamed to a float line at the top and a lead line at the bottom, 7322  
which is designed to entangle fish in the net openings as they 7323  
swim into it. 7324

(TT) "Tag fishing tournament" means a contest in which a 7325  
participant pays a fee, or gives other valuable consideration, for 7326  
a chance to win a prize by virtue of catching a tagged or 7327  
otherwise specifically marked fish within a limited period of 7328  
time. 7329

(UU) "Tenant" means an individual who resides on land for 7330  
which the individual pays rent and whose annual income is 7331  
primarily derived from agricultural production conducted on that 7332  
land, as "agricultural production" is defined in section 929.01 of 7333  
the Revised Code. 7334

(VV) "Nonnative wildlife" means any wild animal not 7335  
indigenous to this state, but does not include domestic deer. 7336

(WW) "Reptiles" includes common musk turtle (*sternotherus* 7337  
*odoratus*), common snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina* 7338  
*serpentina*), spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), eastern box turtle 7339  
(*Terrapene carolina carolina*), Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea* 7340  
*blandingii*), common map turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), ouachita 7341  
map turtle (*Graptemys pseudogeographica ouachitensis*), midland 7342

painted turtle ( <i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i> ), red-eared slider	7343
( <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i> ), eastern spiny softshell turtle	7344
( <i>Apalone spinifera spinifera</i> ), midland smooth softshell turtle	7345
( <i>Apalone mutica mutica</i> ), northern fence lizard ( <i>Sceloporus</i>	7346
<i>undulatus hyacinthinus</i> ), ground skink ( <i>Scincella lateralis</i> ),	7347
five-lined skink ( <i>Eumeces fasciatus</i> ), broadhead skink ( <i>Eumeces</i>	7348
<i>laticeps</i> ), northern coal skink ( <i>Eumeces anthracinus anthracinus</i> ),	7349
European wall lizard ( <i>Podarcis muralis</i> ), queen snake ( <i>Regina</i>	7350
<i>septemvittata</i> ), Kirtland's snake ( <i>Clonophis kirtlandii</i> ), northern	7351
water snake ( <i>Nerodia sipedon sipedon</i> ), Lake Erie watersnake	7352
( <i>Nerodia sipedon insularum</i> ), copperbelly water snake ( <i>Nerodia</i>	7353
<i>erythrogaster neglecta</i> ), northern brown snake ( <i>Storeria dekayi</i>	7354
<i>dekayi</i> ), midland brown snake ( <i>Storeria dekayi wrightorum</i> ),	7355
northern redbelly snake ( <i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i>	7356
<i>occipitomaculata</i> ), eastern garter snake ( <i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	7357
<i>sirtalis</i> ), eastern plains garter snake ( <i>Thamnophis radix radix</i> ),	7358
Butler's garter snake ( <i>Thamnophis butleri</i> ), shorthead garter snake	7359
( <i>Thamnophis brachystoma</i> ), eastern ribbon snake ( <i>Thamnophis</i>	7360
<i>sauritus sauritus</i> ), northern ribbon snake ( <i>Thamnophis sauritus</i>	7361
<i>septentrionalis</i> ), eastern hognose snake ( <i>Heterodon platirhinos</i> ),	7362
eastern smooth earth snake ( <i>Virginia valeriae valeriae</i> ), northern	7363
ringneck snake ( <i>Diadophis punctatus edwardsii</i> ), midwest worm snake	7364
( <i>Carphophis amoenus helenae</i> ), eastern worm snake ( <i>Carphophis</i>	7365
<i>amoenus amoenus</i> ), black racer ( <i>Coluber constrictor constrictor</i> ),	7366
blue racer ( <i>Coluber constrictor foxii</i> ), rough green snake	7367
( <i>opheodrys aestivus</i> ), smooth green snake ( <i>opheodrys vernalis</i>	7368
<i>vernalis</i> ), black rat snake ( <i>Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta</i> ), eastern fox	7369
snake ( <i>Elaphe vulpina gloydi</i> ), black kingsnake ( <i>Lampropeltis</i>	7370
<i>getula nigra</i> ), eastern milk snake ( <i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>	7371
<i>triangulum</i> ), northern copperhead ( <i>Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen</i> ),	7372
eastern massasauga ( <i>Sistrurus catenatus catenatus</i> ), and timber	7373
rattlesnake ( <i>Crotalus horridus horridus</i> ).	7374

(XX) "Amphibians" includes eastern hellbender ( <i>Cryptobranchus</i>	7375
<i>alleganiensis alleganiensis</i> ), mudpuppy ( <i>Necturus maculosus</i>	7376
<i>maculosus</i> ), red-spotted newt ( <i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>	7377
<i>viridescens</i> ), Jefferson salamander ( <i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i> ),	7378
spotted salamander ( <i>Ambystoma maculatum</i> ), blue-spotted salamander	7379
( <i>Ambystoma laterale</i> ), smallmouth salamander ( <i>Ambystoma texanum</i> ),	7380
streamside salamander ( <i>Ambystoma barbouri</i> ), marbled salamander	7381
( <i>Ambystoma opacum</i> ), eastern tiger salamander ( <i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>	7382
<i>tigrinum</i> ), northern dusky salamander ( <i>Desmognathus fuscus fuscus</i> ),	7383
mountain dusky salamander ( <i>Desmognathus ochrophaeus</i> ), redback	7384
salamander ( <i>Plethodon cinereus</i> ), ravine salamander ( <i>Plethodon</i>	7385
<i>richmondi</i> ), northern slimy salamander ( <i>Plethodon glutinosus</i> ),	7386
Wehrle's salamander ( <i>Plethodon wehrlei</i> ), four-toed salamander	7387
( <i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i> ), Kentucky spring salamander ( <i>Gyrinophilus</i>	7388
<i>porphyriticus duryi</i> ), northern spring salamander ( <i>Gyrinophilus</i>	7389
<i>porphyriticus porphyriticus</i> ), mud salamander ( <i>Pseudotriton</i>	7390
<i>montanus</i> ), northern red salamander ( <i>Pseudotriton ruber ruber</i> ),	7391
green salamander ( <i>Aneides aeneus</i> ), northern two-lined salamander	7392
( <i>Eurycea bislineata</i> ), longtail salamander ( <i>Eurycea longicauda</i>	7393
<i>longicauda</i> ), cave salamander ( <i>Eurycea lucifuga</i> ), southern	7394
two-lined salamander ( <i>Eurycea cirrigera</i> ), Fowler's toad ( <i>Bufo</i>	7395
<i>woodhousii fowleri</i> ), American toad ( <i>Bufo americanus</i> ), eastern	7396
spadefoot ( <i>Scaphiopus holbrookii</i> ), Blanchard's cricket frog ( <i>Acris</i>	7397
<i>crepitans blanchardi</i> ), northern spring peeper ( <i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>	7398
<i>crucifer</i> ), gray treefrog ( <i>Hyla versicolor</i> ), Cope's gray treefrog	7399
( <i>Hyla chrysoscelis</i> ), western chorus frog ( <i>Pseudacris triseriata</i>	7400
<i>triseriata</i> ), mountain chorus frog ( <i>Pseudacris brachyphona</i> ),	7401
bullfrog ( <i>Rana catesbeiana</i> ), green frog ( <i>Rana clamitans melanota</i> ),	7402
northern leopard frog ( <i>Rana pipiens</i> ), pickerel frog ( <i>Rana</i>	7403
<i>palustris</i> ), southern leopard frog ( <i>Rana utricularia</i> ), and wood	7404
frog ( <i>Rana sylvatica</i> ).	7405
(YY) "Deer" means white-tailed deer ( <i>Odocoileus</i>	7406



virginianus). 7407

(ZZ) "Domestic deer" means nonnative deer that have been 7408  
legally acquired or their offspring and that are held in private 7409  
ownership for primarily agricultural purposes. 7410

(AAA) "Migratory game bird" includes waterfowl (Anatidae); 7411  
doves (Columbidae); cranes (Gruidae); cormorants 7412  
(Phalacrocoracidea); rails, coots, and gallinules (Rallidae); and 7413  
woodcock and snipe (Scolopacidae). 7414

(BBB) "Accompany" means to go along with another person while 7415  
staying within a distance from the person that enables 7416  
uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communication. 7417

**Sec. 1531.02.** The ownership of and the title to all wild 7418  
animals in this state, not legally confined or held by private 7419  
ownership legally acquired, is in the state, which holds such 7420  
title in trust for the benefit of all the people. Individual 7421  
possession shall be obtained only in accordance with the Revised 7422  
Code or division rules. No person at any time of the year shall 7423  
take in any manner or possess any number or quantity of wild 7424  
animals, except wild animals that the Revised Code or division 7425  
rules permit to be taken, hunted, killed, or had in possession, 7426  
and only at the time and place and in the manner that the Revised 7427  
Code or division rules prescribe. No person shall buy, sell, or 7428  
offer any part of wild animals for sale, or transport any part of 7429  
wild animals, except as permitted by the Revised Code or division 7430  
rules. No person shall possess or transport a wild animal that has 7431  
been taken or possessed unlawfully outside the state. 7432

A person doing anything prohibited or neglecting to do 7433  
anything required by this chapter or Chapter 1533. of the Revised 7434  
Code or contrary to any division rule violates this section. A 7435  
person who counsels, aids, shields, or harbors an offender under 7436

~~such those~~ chapters or any division rule, or who knowingly shares 7437  
in the proceeds of such a violation, or receives or possesses any 7438  
wild animal in violation of the Revised Code or division rule, 7439  
violates this section. ~~No person shall use a rifle, at any time,~~ 7440  
~~in taking migratory game birds.~~ 7441

**Sec. 1531.04.** The division of wildlife, at the direction of 7442  
the chief of the division, shall do all of the following: 7443

(A) Plan, develop, and institute programs and policies based 7444  
on the best available information, including biological 7445  
information derived from professionally accepted practices in 7446  
wildlife and fisheries management, with the approval of the 7447  
director of natural resources; 7448

(B) Have and take the general care, protection, and 7449  
supervision of the wildlife in the state parks known as Lake St. 7450  
Marys, The Portage Lakes, Lake Loramie, Indian Lake, Buckeye Lake, 7451  
Guilford Lake, such part of Pymatuning reservoir as lies in this 7452  
state, and all other state parks and lands owned by the state or 7453  
in which it is interested or may acquire or become interested, 7454  
except lands and lakes the care and supervision of which are 7455  
vested in some other officer, body, board, association, or 7456  
organization; 7457

(C) Enforce by proper legal action or proceeding the laws of 7458  
the state and division rules for the protection, preservation, 7459  
propagation, and management of wild animals and sanctuaries and 7460  
refuges for the propagation of those wild animals, and adopt and 7461  
carry into effect such measures as it considers necessary in the 7462  
performance of its duties; 7463

(D) Promote, educate, and inform the citizens of the state 7464  
about conservation and the values of fishing, hunting, and 7465  
trapping, with the approval of the director. 7466

Sec. 1531.06. (A) The chief of the division of wildlife, with 7467  
the approval of the director of natural resources, may acquire by 7468  
gift, lease, purchase, or otherwise lands or surface rights upon 7469  
lands and waters or surface rights upon waters for wild animals, 7470  
fish or game management, preservation, propagation, and 7471  
protection, outdoor and nature activities, public fishing and 7472  
hunting grounds, and flora and fauna preservation. The chief, with 7473  
the approval of the director, may receive by grant, devise, 7474  
bequest, donation, or assignment evidences of indebtedness, the 7475  
proceeds of which are to be used for the purchase of such lands or 7476  
surface rights upon lands and waters or surface rights upon 7477  
waters. 7478

(B)(1) The chief shall adopt rules for the protection of 7479  
state-owned or leased lands and waters and property under the 7480  
~~division's~~ control of the division of wildlife against wrongful 7481  
use or occupancy that will ensure the carrying out of the intent 7482  
of this section, protect those lands, waters, and property from 7483  
depredations, and preserve them from molestation, spoilation, 7484  
destruction, or any improper use or occupancy thereof, including 7485  
rules with respect to recreational activities and for the 7486  
government and use of such lands, waters, and property. 7487

(2) The chief may adopt rules benefiting wild animals, fish 7488  
or game management, preservation, propagation, and protection, 7489  
outdoor and nature activities, public fishing and hunting grounds, 7490  
and flora and fauna preservation, and regulating the taking and 7491  
possession of wild animals on any lands or waters owned or leased 7492  
or under the division's supervision and control and, for a 7493  
specified period of years, may prohibit or recall the taking and 7494  
possession of any wild animal on any portion of such lands or 7495  
waters. The division clearly shall define and mark the boundaries 7496  
of the lands and waters owned or leased or under its supervision 7497

and control upon which the taking of any wild animal is 7498  
prohibited. 7499

(C) The chief, with the approval of the director, may acquire 7500  
by gift, lease, or purchase land for the purpose of establishing 7501  
state fish hatcheries and game farms and may erect on it buildings 7502  
or structures that are necessary. 7503

The title to or lease of such lands and waters shall be taken 7504  
by the chief in the name of the state. The lease or purchase price 7505  
of all such lands and waters may be paid from hunting and trapping 7506  
and fishing licenses and any other funds. 7507

(D) To provide more public recreation, stream and lake 7508  
agreements for public fishing only may be obtained under rules 7509  
adopted by the chief. 7510

(E) The chief, with the approval of the director, may 7511  
establish user fees for the use of special public facilities or 7512  
participation in special activities on lands and waters 7513  
administered by the division. The special facilities and 7514  
activities may include hunting or fishing on special designated 7515  
public lands and waters intensively managed or stocked with 7516  
artificially propagated game birds or fish, field trial 7517  
facilities, wildlife nature centers, firearm ranges, boat mooring 7518  
facilities, camping sites, and other similar special facilities 7519  
and activities. The chief shall determine whether the user fees 7520  
are refundable and shall ensure that that information is provided 7521  
at the time the user fees are paid. 7522

(F) The chief, with the approval of the director, may enter 7523  
into lease agreements for rental of concessions or other special 7524  
projects situated on state-owned or leased lands or waters or 7525  
other property under the division's control. The chief shall set 7526  
and collect the fees for concession rentals or other special 7527  
projects; regulate through contracts between the division and 7528

concessionaires the sale of tangible objects at concessions or 7529  
other special projects; and keep a record of all such fee payments 7530  
showing the amount received, from whom received, and for what 7531  
purpose the fee was collected. 7532

(G) The chief may sell or donate conservation-related items 7533  
or items that promote wildlife conservation, including, but not 7534  
limited to, stamps, pins, badges, books, bulletins, maps, 7535  
publications, calendars, and any other educational article or 7536  
artifact pertaining to wild animals; sell confiscated or forfeited 7537  
items; and sell surplus structures and equipment, and timber or 7538  
crops from lands owned, administered, leased, or controlled by the 7539  
division. 7540

(H) The chief may sell, lease, or transfer minerals or 7541  
mineral rights, with the approval of the director, when the chief 7542  
and the director determine it to be in the best interest of the 7543  
state. Upon approval of the director, the chief may make, execute, 7544  
and deliver contracts, including leases, to mine, drill, or 7545  
excavate iron ore, stone, coal, petroleum, gas, salt, and other 7546  
minerals upon and under lands owned by the state and administered 7547  
by the division to any person who complies with the terms of such 7548  
a contract. No such contract shall be valid for more than fifty 7549  
years from its effective date. Consideration for minerals and 7550  
mineral rights shall be by rental or royalty basis as prescribed 7551  
by the chief and payable as prescribed by contract. Moneys 7552  
collected under this division shall be paid into the state 7553  
treasury to the credit of the wildlife habitat fund created in 7554  
section 1531.33 of the Revised Code. Contracts entered into under 7555  
this division also may provide for consideration for minerals or 7556  
mineral rights in the form of acquisition of lands as provided 7557  
under divisions (A) and (C) of this section. 7558

(I) All moneys received under divisions (E), (F), and (G) of 7559  
this section shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit 7560

of a fund that shall be used for the purposes outlined in section 7561  
1533.15 of the Revised Code and for the management of other wild 7562  
animals for their ecological and nonconsumptive recreational value 7563  
or benefit. 7564

(J) The chief, with the approval of the director, may barter 7565  
or sell wild animals to other states, state or federal agencies, 7566  
and conservation or zoological organizations. Moneys received from 7567  
the sale of wild animals shall be deposited into the wild animal 7568  
fund created in section 1531.34 of the Revised Code. 7569

(K) The chief shall adopt rules establishing standards and 7570  
guidelines for the administration of contraceptive chemicals to 7571  
noncaptive wild animals. The rules may specify chemical delivery 7572  
methods and devices and monitoring requirements. 7573

The chief shall establish criteria for the issuance of and 7574  
shall issue permits for the administration of contraceptive 7575  
chemicals to noncaptive wild animals. No person shall administer 7576  
contraceptive chemicals to noncaptive wild animals without a 7577  
permit issued by the chief. 7578

(L) All fees set by the chief under this section shall be 7579  
approved by the wildlife council. 7580

(M) Information contained in the wildlife diversity database 7581  
that is established pursuant to division (B)(2) of this section 7582  
and section 1531.25 of the Revised Code may be made available to 7583  
any individual or public or private agency for research, 7584  
educational, environmental, land management, or other similar 7585  
purposes that are not detrimental to the conservation of a species 7586  
or feature. Information regarding sensitive site locations of 7587  
species that are listed pursuant to section 1531.25 of the Revised 7588  
Code and of features that are included in the wildlife diversity 7589  
database is not subject to section 149.43 of the Revised Code if 7590  
the chief determines that the release of the information could be 7591

detrimental to the conservation of a species or feature.

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**Sec. 1531.10.** In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the chief of the division of wildlife shall adopt, and may amend and rescind, rules that are necessary for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and Chapter 1533. of the Revised Code. Each such rule ~~shall be filed with the clerk of the court of common pleas of each county where the rule is effective and shall be given such additional~~ publicity by advertising or otherwise as the chief considers necessary or expedient. As long as a rule of the division of wildlife remains in effect, a copy of it shall be included and printed in any authorized compilation of the division lawbook. All such rules shall be under the seal of the division and shall bear the signature, or a facsimile thereof, of the chief.

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**Sec. 1531.20.** Any motor vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, or boat used in the unlawful taking or transporting of wild animals, and any net, seine, trap, ferret, gun, or other device used in the unlawful taking of wild animals, is a public nuisance. Each wildlife officer, or other officer with like authority, shall seize and safely keep such property and the illegal results of its use, and unless otherwise ordered by the chief of the division of wildlife shall ~~institute~~ initiate, within ~~five~~ thirty days, proceedings in a proper court of the county for its forfeiture. A writ of replevin shall not lie to take the property from the officer's custody or from the custody or jurisdiction of the court in which the proceeding is ~~instituted~~ initiated, nor shall the proceeding affect a criminal prosecution for the unlawful use or possession of the property.

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An action for the forfeiture of any such property shall be ~~commenced~~ initiated by the filing of an affidavit describing the

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property seized and stating the unlawful use made of it, the time 7622  
and place of seizure, and the name of the person owning or using 7623  
it at the time of seizure. If the name is unknown, that fact shall 7624  
be stated. Upon the filing of the affidavit, the court shall issue 7625  
a summons setting forth the facts stated in the affidavit and 7626  
fixing a time and place for the hearing of the complaint. A copy 7627  
of the summons shall be served on the owner or person using the 7628  
property at the time of its seizure, if the owner or user is 7629  
known, or by leaving a copy thereof at the owner's or user's usual 7630  
residence or place of business in the county, at least three days 7631  
before the time fixed for the hearing of the complaint. If the 7632  
owner or user is unknown or a nonresident of the county or cannot 7633  
be found therein, a copy of the summons shall be posted at a 7634  
suitable place nearest the place of seizure, but if the owner's or 7635  
user's address is known, a copy of the summons shall be mailed to 7636  
the owner or user at least three days before the time fixed for 7637  
the hearing of the complaint. On the date fixed for the hearing, 7638  
the officer making the service shall make a return of the time and 7639  
manner of making the service. Upon the proper cause shown, the 7640  
court may postpone the hearing. 7641

If A proceeding for the forfeiture of seized property that is 7642  
initiated under this section shall not progress to actual 7643  
forfeiture of the seized property unless so ordered by the court. 7644  
The court may order the actual forfeiture of the seized property 7645  
as part of the sentence that it imposes if the owner or person 7646  
unlawfully using the property at the time of its seizure is 7647  
arrested convicted, pleads guilty, and or confesses that the 7648  
property at the time of its seizure was being used by the owner or 7649  
user in violation of law or division rule, ~~no proceeding of~~ 7650  
~~forfeiture shall be instituted, but the court in imposing sentence~~ 7651  
~~shall order the.~~ Forfeited property ~~so seized forfeited to~~ shall 7652  
be the property of the state, to be disposed of ~~thereafter~~ as the 7653  
chief of the division of wildlife directs. 7654



~~Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, a proceeding of forfeiture shall not be instituted under this section unless the owner of the property or the person unlawfully using the property is convicted of a violation of law or division rule.~~

**Sec. 1531.27.** The chief of the division of wildlife shall pay to the treasurers of the several counties wherein lands owned by the state and administered by the division are located an annual amount determined in the following manner: in each such county one per cent of the total value of such lands exclusive of improvements, as shown on the auditor's records of taxable value of real property existing at the time when the state acquired the tract or tracts comprising the lands.

The payments shall be made from funds accruing to the division ~~from the sale of hunting or fishing licenses and~~ from fines, penalties, restitution, and forfeitures deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the wildlife fund created in section 1531.17 of the Revised Code. The allocation of amounts to be paid from those sources shall be determined by the director of natural resources.

The payments to the treasurers of the several counties shall be credited to the fund for school purposes within the school districts wherein the lands are located.

**Sec. 1531.99.** (A) Whoever violates section 1531.02 of the Revised Code, or any division rule, other than a rule adopted under section 1531.25 of the Revised Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(B) Whoever violates section 1531.02 of the Revised Code concerning the taking or possession of deer or violates division (K) of section 1531.06 or section 1531.07 or 1531.29 of the

Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree on a 7685  
first offense; on each subsequent offense, that person is guilty 7686  
of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 7687

(C) Whoever violates section 1531.25 of the Revised Code is 7688  
guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 7689

(D) Whoever violates section 1531.02 of the Revised Code 7690  
concerning the buying, selling, or offering for sale of any wild 7691  
animals or parts of wild animals, the minimum value of which 7692  
animals or parts, in the aggregate, is ~~more than~~ one thousand 7693  
dollars or more as established under section 1531.201 of the 7694  
Revised Code, is guilty of a felony of the fifth degree. 7695

(E) A court that imposes sentence for a violation of any 7696  
section of this chapter governing the holding, taking, buying, 7697  
selling, or possession of wild animals, including, without 7698  
limitation, section 1531.11 of the Revised Code, shall require the 7699  
person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to the offense, in 7700  
addition to any fine, term of imprisonment, seizure, and 7701  
forfeiture imposed, to make restitution for the minimum value of 7702  
the wild animal illegally held, taken, bought, sold, or possessed 7703  
as established under section 1531.201 of the Revised Code. An 7704  
officer who collects moneys paid as restitution under this section 7705  
shall pay those moneys to the treasurer of state who shall deposit 7706  
them in the state treasury to the credit of the wildlife fund 7707  
established under section 1531.17 of the Revised Code. 7708

**Sec. 1533.07.** No person shall catch, kill, injure, pursue, or 7709  
have in the person's possession, either dead or alive, or 7710  
purchase, expose for sale, transport, or ship to a point within or 7711  
without the state, or receive or deliver for transportation any 7712  
bird other than a game bird, or have in the person's possession 7713  
any part of the plumage, skin, or body of any bird other than a 7714  
game bird, except as permitted in Chapter 1531. and this chapter 7715

of the Revised Code, or disturb or destroy the eggs, nest, or 7716  
young of such a bird. 7717

This section does not prohibit the lawful taking, killing, 7718  
pursuing, or possession of any game bird during the open season 7719  
for the bird. ~~Hawks or owls causing damage to domestic animals or~~ 7720  
~~fowl may be killed by the owner of the domestic animal or fowl~~ 7721  
~~while the damage is occurring.~~ Bald or golden eagles and ospreys 7722  
shall not be killed or possessed at any time, except that eagles 7723  
or ospreys may be possessed for educational purposes by 7724  
governmental or municipal zoological parks, museums, and 7725  
scientific or educational institutions. European starlings, 7726  
English sparrows, and common pigeons, other than homing pigeons, 7727  
may be killed at any time and their nests or eggs may be 7728  
destroyed, at any time. Blackbirds may be killed at any time when 7729  
doing damage to grain or other property or when they become a 7730  
nuisance. 7731

Each bird or any part thereof taken or had in possession 7732  
contrary to this section constitutes a separate offense. 7733

**Sec. 1533.08.** Except as otherwise provided by division rule, 7734  
any person desiring to collect or possess wild animals that are 7735  
protected by law or their nests or eggs for scientific study, 7736  
school instruction, other educational uses, or rehabilitation 7737  
shall make an annual application to the chief of the division of 7738  
wildlife for a wild animal ~~collecting~~ permit on a form furnished 7739  
by the chief. Each applicant for a wild animal ~~collecting~~ permit, 7740  
other than an applicant desiring to rehabilitate wild animals, 7741  
shall pay an annual fee of twenty-five dollars for each permit. No 7742  
fee shall be charged to an applicant desiring to rehabilitate wild 7743  
animals. ~~When it appears that the application is made in good~~ 7744  
~~faith, the~~ The chief ~~shall~~ may issue to the applicant a permit to 7745  
take, possess, and transport at any time and in ~~any~~ a manner that 7746

is acceptable to the chief specimens of wild animals protected by 7747  
law or their nests and eggs for scientific study, school 7748  
instruction, other educational uses, or rehabilitation and under 7749  
any additional rules recommended by the wildlife council. Upon the 7750  
receipt of a permit, the holder may take, possess, and transport 7751  
those wild animals in accordance with the permit. 7752

Each holder of a permit engaged in collecting or who 7753  
possesses such wild animals shall carry the permit at all times 7754  
and shall exhibit it upon demand to any ~~wildlife officer,~~ 7755  
~~constable, sheriff, deputy sheriff, or police~~ peace officer, as 7756  
defined in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code, or to the owner or 7757  
person in lawful control of the land upon which the permit holder 7758  
is collecting, ~~or to any other person~~ possesses the wild animals. 7759  
Failure to so carry or exhibit the permit constitutes an offense 7760  
under this section. 7761

Each permit holder shall keep a daily record of all specimens 7762  
collected or possessed under the permit and the disposition of the 7763  
specimens and shall exhibit the daily record to any official of 7764  
the division upon demand. 7765

Each permit shall remain in effect for one year from the date 7766  
of issuance unless it is revoked sooner by the chief. 7767

All moneys received as fees for the issuance of a wild animal 7768  
collecting permit shall be transmitted to the director of natural 7769  
resources to be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the 7770  
fund created by section 1533.15 of the Revised Code. 7771

**Sec. 1533.09.** Before the ~~first~~ fifteenth day of ~~February~~ 7772  
~~March~~ of each year, each wild animal ~~collecting~~ permit holder 7773  
shall file with the division of wildlife a written report of ~~his~~ 7774  
the permit holder's operations under the permit and the 7775  
disposition of the specimens collected or possessed during the 7776  
preceding calendar year on report blanks furnished by the chief of 7777

the division. Failure to file a report shall cause the permit to 7778  
be forfeited as of the ~~first~~ fifteenth day of ~~February~~ March. 7779  
Permits are not transferable. No permit holder or person 7780  
collecting or possessing wild animals under authority of such a 7781  
permit shall take, possess, or transport the wild animals for any 7782  
purpose not specified in the permit. 7783

Conviction of a violation of this section, failure to carry a 7784  
permit and exhibit it to any person requesting to see it as 7785  
provided in section 1533.08 of the Revised Code, or the violation 7786  
of any other law concerning wild animals constitutes a revocation 7787  
and forfeiture of the permit involved. The former permit holder 7788  
shall not be entitled to another permit for a period of one year 7789  
from the date of the conviction. 7790

**Sec. 1533.10.** Except as provided in this section or division 7791  
(A)(2) of section 1533.12 of the Revised Code, no person shall 7792  
hunt any wild bird or wild quadruped without a hunting license. 7793  
Each day that any person hunts within the state without procuring 7794  
such a license constitutes a separate offense. Except as otherwise 7795  
provided in this section, every applicant for a hunting license 7796  
who is a resident of the state and eighteen years of age or more 7797  
shall procure a resident hunting license or an apprentice resident 7798  
hunting license, the fee for which shall be eighteen dollars<sup>7</sup> 7799  
unless the rules adopted under division (B) of section 1533.12 of 7800  
the Revised Code provide for issuance of a resident hunting 7801  
license to the applicant free of charge. Except as provided in 7802  
rules adopted under division (B)(2) of that section, each 7803  
applicant who is a resident of this state and who at the time of 7804  
application is sixty-six years of age or older shall procure a 7805  
special senior hunting license, the fee for which shall be 7806  
one-half of the regular hunting license fee. Every applicant who 7807  
is under the age of eighteen years shall procure a special youth 7808  
hunting license or an apprentice youth hunting license, the fee 7809

for which shall be one-half of the regular hunting license fee. 7810  
The owner of lands in the state and the owner's children of any 7811  
age and grandchildren under eighteen years of age may hunt on the 7812  
lands without a hunting license. The tenant and children of the 7813  
tenant, residing on lands in the state, may hunt on them without a 7814  
hunting license. Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(1) 7815  
of section 1533.12 of the Revised Code, every applicant for a 7816  
hunting license who is a nonresident of the state and who is 7817  
eighteen years of age or older shall procure a nonresident hunting 7818  
license or an apprentice nonresident hunting license, the fee for 7819  
which shall be one hundred twenty-four dollars, unless the 7820  
applicant is a resident of a state that is a party to an agreement 7821  
under section 1533.91 of the Revised Code, in which case the fee 7822  
shall be eighteen dollars. Apprentice resident hunting licenses, 7823  
apprentice youth hunting licenses, and apprentice nonresident 7824  
hunting licenses are subject to the requirements established under 7825  
section 1533.102 of the Revised Code and rules adopted pursuant to 7826  
it. 7827

The chief of the division of wildlife may issue a small game 7828  
hunting license expiring three days from the effective date of the 7829  
license to a nonresident of the state, the fee for which shall be 7830  
thirty-nine dollars. No person shall take or possess deer, wild 7831  
turkeys, fur-bearing animals, ducks, geese, brant, or any nongame 7832  
animal while possessing only a small game hunting license. A small 7833  
game hunting license or an apprentice nonresident hunting license 7834  
does not authorize the taking or possessing of ducks, geese, or 7835  
brant without having obtained, in addition to the small game 7836  
hunting license or the apprentice nonresident hunting license, a 7837  
wetlands habitat stamp as provided in section 1533.112 of the 7838  
Revised Code. A small game hunting license or an apprentice 7839  
nonresident hunting license does not authorize the taking or 7840  
possessing of deer, wild turkeys, or fur-bearing animals. A 7841  
nonresident of the state who wishes to take or possess deer, wild 7842

turkeys, or fur-bearing animals in this state shall procure, 7843  
respectively, a ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit as provided in 7844  
section 1533.11 of the Revised Code or a fur taker permit as 7845  
provided in section 1533.111 of the Revised Code in addition to a 7846  
nonresident hunting license, an apprentice nonresident hunting 7847  
license, a special youth hunting license, or an apprentice youth 7848  
hunting license, as applicable, as provided in this section. 7849

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No person shall procure or attempt to procure a hunting 7851  
license by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or any false 7852  
statement. 7853

This section does not authorize the taking and possessing of 7854  
deer or wild turkeys without first having obtained, in addition to 7855  
the hunting license required by this section, a ~~special~~ deer or 7856  
wild turkey permit as provided in section 1533.11 of the Revised 7857  
Code or the taking and possessing of ducks, geese, or brant 7858  
without first having obtained, in addition to the hunting license 7859  
required by this section, a wetlands habitat stamp as provided in 7860  
section 1533.112 of the Revised Code. 7861

This section does not authorize the hunting or trapping of 7862  
fur-bearing animals without first having obtained, in addition to 7863  
a hunting license required by this section, a fur taker permit as 7864  
provided in section 1533.111 of the Revised Code. 7865

No hunting license shall be issued unless it is accompanied 7866  
by a written explanation of the law in section 1533.17 of the 7867  
Revised Code and the penalty for its violation, including a 7868  
description of terms of imprisonment and fines that may be 7869  
imposed. 7870

No hunting license, other than an apprentice hunting license, 7871  
shall be issued unless the applicant presents to the agent 7872  
authorized to issue the license a previously held hunting license 7873

or evidence of having held such a license in content and manner 7874  
approved by the chief, a certificate of completion issued upon 7875  
completion of a hunter education and conservation course approved 7876  
by the chief, or evidence of equivalent training in content and 7877  
manner approved by the chief. A previously held apprentice hunting 7878  
license does not satisfy the requirement concerning the 7879  
presentation of a previously held hunting license or evidence of 7880  
it. 7881

No person shall issue a hunting license, except an apprentice 7882  
hunting license, to any person who fails to present the evidence 7883  
required by this section. No person shall purchase or obtain a 7884  
hunting license, other than an apprentice hunting license, without 7885  
presenting to the issuing agent the evidence required by this 7886  
section. Issuance of a hunting license in violation of the 7887  
requirements of this section is an offense by both the purchaser 7888  
of the illegally obtained hunting license and the clerk or agent 7889  
who issued the hunting license. Any hunting license issued in 7890  
violation of this section is void. 7891

The chief, with approval of the wildlife council, shall adopt 7892  
rules prescribing a hunter education and conservation course for 7893  
first-time hunting license buyers, other than buyers of apprentice 7894  
hunting licenses, and for volunteer instructors. The course shall 7895  
consist of subjects including, but not limited to, hunter safety 7896  
and health, use of hunting implements, hunting tradition and 7897  
ethics, the hunter and conservation, the law in section 1533.17 of 7898  
the Revised Code along with the penalty for its violation, 7899  
including a description of terms of imprisonment and fines that 7900  
may be imposed, and other law relating to hunting. Authorized 7901  
personnel of the division or volunteer instructors approved by the 7902  
chief shall conduct such courses with such frequency and at such 7903  
locations throughout the state as to reasonably meet the needs of 7904  
license applicants. The chief shall issue a certificate of 7905



completion to each person who successfully completes the course 7906  
and passes an examination prescribed by the chief. 7907

**Sec. 1533.11.** (A) Except as provided in this section, no 7908  
person shall hunt deer on lands of another without first obtaining 7909  
an annual ~~special~~ deer permit. Except as provided in this section, 7910  
no person shall hunt wild turkeys on lands of another without 7911  
first obtaining an annual ~~special~~ wild turkey permit. Each 7912  
applicant for a ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit shall pay an 7913  
annual fee of twenty-three dollars for each permit unless the 7914  
rules adopted under division (B) of section 1533.12 of the Revised 7915  
Code provide for issuance of a deer or wild turkey permit to the 7916  
applicant free of charge. Except as provided in rules adopted 7917  
under division (B)(2) of that section, each applicant who is a 7918  
resident of this state and who at the time of application is 7919  
sixty-six years of age or older shall procure a ~~special~~ senior 7920  
deer or wild turkey permit, the fee for which shall be one-half of 7921  
the regular ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit fee. Each applicant 7922  
who is under the age of eighteen years shall procure a ~~special~~ 7923  
youth deer or wild turkey permit, the fee for which shall be 7924  
one-half of the regular ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit fee. 7925  
Except as provided in division (A)(2) of section 1533.12 of the 7926  
Revised Code, a deer or wild turkey permit shall run concurrently 7927  
with the hunting license. The money received shall be paid into 7928  
the state treasury to the credit of the wildlife fund, created in 7929  
section 1531.17 of the Revised Code, exclusively for the use of 7930  
the division of wildlife in the acquisition and development of 7931  
land for deer or wild turkey management, for investigating deer or 7932  
wild turkey problems, and for the stocking, management, and 7933  
protection of deer or wild turkey. Every person, while hunting 7934  
deer or wild turkey on lands of another, shall carry the person's 7935  
~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit and exhibit it to any 7936  
enforcement officer so requesting. Failure to so carry and exhibit 7937

such a permit constitutes an offense under this section. The chief 7938  
of the division of wildlife shall adopt any additional rules the 7939  
chief considers necessary to carry out this section and section 7940  
1533.10 of the Revised Code. 7941

The owner and the children of the owner of lands in this 7942  
state may hunt deer or wild turkey thereon without a ~~special~~ deer 7943  
or wild turkey permit. The tenant and children of the tenant may 7944  
hunt deer or wild turkey on lands where they reside without a 7945  
~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit. 7946

(B) A ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit is not transferable. 7947  
No person shall carry a ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit issued 7948  
in the name of another person. 7949

(C) The wildlife refunds fund is hereby created in the state 7950  
treasury. The fund shall consist of money received from 7951  
application fees for ~~special~~ deer permits that are not issued. 7952  
Money in the fund shall be used to make refunds of such 7953  
application fees. 7954

**Sec. 1533.12.** (A)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division 7955  
(A)(2) of this section, every person on active duty in the armed 7956  
forces of the United States who is stationed in this state and who 7957  
wishes to engage in an activity for which a license, permit, or 7958  
stamp is required under this chapter first shall obtain the 7959  
requisite license, permit, or stamp. Such a person is eligible to 7960  
obtain a resident hunting or fishing license regardless of whether 7961  
the person qualifies as a resident of this state. To obtain a 7962  
resident hunting or fishing license, the person shall present a 7963  
card or other evidence identifying the person as being on active 7964  
duty in the armed forces of the United States and as being 7965  
stationed in this state. 7966

(2) Every person on active duty in the armed forces of the 7967  
United States, while on leave or furlough, may take or catch fish 7968

of the kind lawfully permitted to be taken or caught within the 7969  
state, may hunt any wild bird or wild quadruped lawfully permitted 7970  
to be hunted within the state, and may trap fur-bearing animals 7971  
lawfully permitted to be trapped within the state, without 7972  
procuring a fishing license, a hunting license, a fur taker 7973  
permit, or a wetlands habitat stamp required by this chapter, 7974  
provided that the person shall carry on the person when fishing, 7975  
hunting, or trapping, a card or other evidence identifying the 7976  
person as being on active duty in the armed forces of the United 7977  
States, and provided that the person is not otherwise violating 7978  
any of the hunting, fishing, and trapping laws of this state. 7979

In order to hunt deer or wild turkey, any such person shall 7980  
obtain a ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit, as applicable, under 7981  
section 1533.11 of the Revised Code. However, the person need not 7982  
obtain a hunting license in order to obtain such a permit. 7983

(B) The chief of the division of wildlife shall provide by 7984  
rule adopted under section 1531.10 of the Revised Code all of the 7985  
following: 7986

(1) Every resident of this state with a disability that has 7987  
been determined by the veterans administration to be permanently 7988  
and totally disabling, who receives a pension or compensation from 7989  
the veterans administration, and who received an honorable 7990  
discharge from the armed forces of the United States, and every 7991  
veteran to whom the registrar of motor vehicles has issued a set 7992  
of license plates under section 4503.41 of the Revised Code, shall 7993  
be issued ~~an annual~~ a fishing license, hunting license, fur taker 7994  
permit, deer or wild turkey permit, or wetlands habitat stamp, or 7995  
any combination of those licenses, permits, and stamp, free of 7996  
charge on an annual, multi-year, or lifetime basis as determined 7997  
appropriate by the chief when application is made to the chief in 7998  
the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by the chief. 7999

(2) Every resident of the state who was born on or before 8000  
December 31, 1937, shall be issued an annual fishing license, 8001  
hunting license, fur taker permit, deer or wild turkey permit, or 8002  
wetlands habitat stamp, or any combination of those licenses, 8003  
permits, and stamp, free of charge when application is made to the 8004  
chief in the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by the 8005  
chief. 8006

(3) Every resident of state or county institutions, 8007  
charitable institutions, and military homes in this state shall be 8008  
issued an annual fishing license free of charge when application 8009  
is made to the chief in the manner prescribed by and on forms 8010  
provided by the chief. 8011

(4) Any mobility impaired or blind person, as defined in 8012  
section 955.011 of the Revised Code, who is a resident of this 8013  
state and who is unable to engage in fishing without the 8014  
assistance of another person shall be issued an annual fishing 8015  
license free of charge when application is made to the chief in 8016  
the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by the chief. The 8017  
person who is assisting the mobility impaired or blind person may 8018  
assist in taking or catching fish of the kind permitted to be 8019  
taken or caught without procuring the license required under 8020  
section 1533.32 of the Revised Code, provided that only one line 8021  
is used by both persons. 8022

(5) As used in division (B)(5) of this section, "prisoner of 8023  
war" means any regularly appointed, enrolled, enlisted, or 8024  
inducted member of the military forces of the United States who 8025  
was captured, separated, and incarcerated by an enemy of the 8026  
United States. 8027

Any person who has been a prisoner of war, was honorably 8028  
discharged from the military forces, and is a resident of this 8029  
state shall be issued ~~an annual~~ a fishing license, hunting 8030

license, fur taker permit, or wetlands habitat stamp, or any 8031  
combination of those licenses, permits, and stamp, free of charge 8032  
on an annual, multi-year, or lifetime basis as determined 8033  
appropriate by the chief when application is made to the chief in 8034  
the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by the chief. 8035

(C) The chief shall adopt rules pursuant to section 1531.08 8036  
of the Revised Code designating not more than two days, which need 8037  
not be consecutive, in each year as "free sport fishing days" on 8038  
which any resident may exercise the privileges accorded the holder 8039  
of a fishing license issued under section 1533.32 of the Revised 8040  
Code without procuring such a license, provided that the person is 8041  
not otherwise violating any of the fishing laws of this state. 8042

**Sec. 1533.131.** The chief of the division of wildlife may sell 8043  
gift certificates that may be used to obtain hunting and fishing 8044  
licenses, fur taker, ~~special~~ deer, and ~~special~~ wild turkey 8045  
permits, and wetlands habitat stamps. For the purposes of this 8046  
section, the chief shall adopt rules in accordance with section 8047  
1531.10 of the Revised Code doing all of the following: 8048

(A) Providing that a gift certificate may be used to obtain a 8049  
resident or nonresident hunting license under section 1533.10 of 8050  
the Revised Code, a resident or nonresident fishing license under 8051  
section 1533.32 of the Revised Code, a fur taker permit under 8052  
section 1533.111 of the Revised Code, a ~~special~~ deer or wild 8053  
turkey permit under section 1533.11 of the Revised Code, a 8054  
wetlands habitat stamp under section 1533.112 of the Revised Code, 8055  
or a combination of those licenses, permits, and stamps; 8056

(B) Prescribing the form for the gift certificates; 8057

(C) Authorizing persons who are designated and authorized 8058  
under section 1533.13 of the Revised Code to sell licenses and 8059  
permits under this chapter also to sell gift certificates under 8060  
this section; 8061

(D) Establishing fees for the gift certificates, which shall 8062  
equal the total of the fee for a resident or nonresident hunting 8063  
license, a resident or nonresident fishing license, a fur taker 8064  
permit, a ~~special~~ deer or wild turkey permit, a wetlands habitat 8065  
stamp, or a combination of those licenses, permits, and ~~stamps~~ 8066  
stamp, as applicable, and the fee established under section 8067  
1533.13 of the Revised Code; 8068

(E) Requiring gift certificates to expire one year after the 8069  
date of purchase. 8070

Nothing in this section or rules adopted under it relieves an 8071  
individual who receives a gift certificate for a hunting license 8072  
from complying with the requirement established under section 8073  
1533.10 of the Revised Code to present, when applying for the 8074  
license, a previously held hunting license or evidence of having 8075  
held such a license in content and manner approved by the chief, a 8076  
certificate of completion issued upon completion of a hunter 8077  
education and conservation course approved by the chief, or 8078  
evidence of equivalent training in content and manner approved by 8079  
the chief. 8080

Nothing in this section or rules adopted under it relieves an 8081  
individual who receives a gift certificate for a fur taker permit 8082  
from complying with the requirements established under section 8083  
1533.111 of the Revised Code to present, when applying for the 8084  
permit, a previously held hunting license or trapping or fur taker 8085  
permit or evidence of having held such a license or permit in 8086  
content and manner approved by the chief, a certificate of 8087  
completion issued upon completion of a trapper education course 8088  
approved by the chief, or evidence of equivalent training in 8089  
content and manner approved by the chief. 8090

**Sec. 1533.171.** (A) No person, in the act of hunting, 8091  
pursuing, taking, or killing a wild animal, shall act in a 8092

negligent, careless, or reckless manner so as to injure persons or 8093  
property. 8094

(B) The court before whom any person is convicted of or 8095  
pleads guilty to a violation of division (A) of this section shall 8096  
report that fact, together with the violator's name and address, 8097  
to the chief of the division of wildlife not later than ten days 8098  
after the date of conviction or plea. 8099

(C) Not later than seven days after receiving a notification 8100  
under division (B) of this section, the chief shall revoke, for 8101  
not less than one year nor more than five years, each hunting 8102  
license, fur taker permit, ~~special~~ deer permit, ~~special~~ wild 8103  
turkey permit, and wetlands habitat stamp issued to that person 8104  
under this chapter. No fee paid for such a license, permit, or 8105  
stamp shall be returned to the person. 8106

Upon revoking a license, permit, or stamp, or a combination 8107  
thereof, under this division, the chief immediately shall send a 8108  
notice of that action by certified mail to the last known address 8109  
of the person. The notice shall state the action taken, order the 8110  
person to surrender the revoked license, permit, or stamp, or 8111  
combination thereof, and state that the department of natural 8112  
resources will not afford a hearing as required under section 8113  
119.06 of the Revised Code. 8114

(D) If, after receiving a notice under division (C) of this 8115  
section, the person decides to petition for a review of the 8116  
revocation, the person shall file a petition for such a review not 8117  
later than thirty days after receiving the notice in the municipal 8118  
court or the county court, or, if the person is under eighteen 8119  
years of age, the juvenile court, in whose jurisdiction the 8120  
violation occurred. The review shall be limited to the question of 8121  
the appropriateness of the period of revocation. The court shall 8122  
send a copy of the petition to the chief by certified mail 8123  
together with timely notice of the date, time, and place of a 8124

hearing on the petition. The filing of a petition for a review 8125  
shall not stay the revocation during the pendency of the appeal. 8126

(E) No person whose license, permit, or stamp, or a 8127  
combination thereof, has been revoked under this section shall 8128  
attempt to purchase, purchase, apply for, or receive any hunting 8129  
license, fur taker permit, ~~special~~ deer permit, ~~special~~ wild 8130  
turkey permit, or wetlands habitat stamp issued under this chapter 8131  
or engage in hunting during the time any such license, permit, or 8132  
stamp, or a combination thereof, is revoked. 8133

**Sec. 1533.42.** Except as otherwise provided by division rule, 8134  
every licensee taking fish with commercial fishing gear, except a 8135  
trotline of seventy hooks or less, in any of the waters mentioned 8136  
in this chapter and Chapter 1531. ~~and this chapter~~ of the Revised 8137  
Code or division rule, shall keep accurate reports for each day's 8138  
catch upon forms provided, and in the manner prescribed, by the 8139  
chief of the division of wildlife. 8140

Every commercial fishing licensee shall keep an accurate 8141  
record of each day's catch as prescribed upon a monthly report 8142  
form. The report shall include at least the number of pounds of 8143  
each kind of fish taken, the locality fished, the kind and amount 8144  
of fishing gear lifted, the number of fishing nights, the number 8145  
of lifts, and any other data the biologists employed by the 8146  
division of wildlife require in following the trend of the 8147  
fisheries. The licensee shall report each month, under oath when 8148  
requested to do so, those data to the chief. 8149

The daily catch data shall be recorded accurately on the 8150  
respective date upon a report form approved by the chief no later 8151  
than twelve noon on the day following the day in which the fish 8152  
were taken. The monthly report and any other report required 8153  
pursuant to this section shall be submitted to the division no 8154  
later than the fifteenth day of the month following the end of the 8155



calendar month in which the fish were taken. 8156

A licensee shall contact the chief or the chief's designee 8157  
when the licensee is in transit to the licensee's trap nets to 8158  
lift, move, pull, remove, clean, or maintain the trap nets for any 8159  
reason and also shall contact the chief or the chief's designee 8160  
when returning to land with a daily catch of fish from a trap net 8161  
indicating the licensee's estimated time of arrival at a specific 8162  
port and any other information required by the chief. The licensee 8163  
shall contact the chief or the chief's designee by using a 8164  
cellular telephone, radio, or other communication device in a 8165  
manner prescribed by the chief. 8166

No person shall fail to comply with any report procedure 8167  
provided for in this section, other provisions of this section, or 8168  
division rule adopted pursuant thereto. 8169

In addition to other penalties provided in the Revised Code, 8170  
the license of any person who is convicted of two violations of 8171  
this section that occurred within a twelve-month period is 8172  
suspended upon the second such conviction by operation of law for 8173  
a period of sixty fishing season days immediately following that 8174  
conviction. 8175

In addition to other penalties provided in the Revised Code, 8176  
the license of any person who is convicted of three or more 8177  
violations of this section that occurred within a twelve-month 8178  
period is suspended upon the third or subsequent such conviction 8179  
by operation of law for a period of eighteen fishing season months 8180  
immediately following that conviction. 8181

During any period of suspension, no person shall use or 8182  
engage in fishing with commercial gear owned, used, or controlled 8183  
at the time of conviction by the licensee whose license has been 8184  
suspended. 8185

Sec. 1533.632. (A) As used in this section:	8186
(1) "Aquaculture" means a form of agriculture that involves the propagation and rearing of aquatic species in controlled environments under private control, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of sale for consumption as food.	8187 8188 8189 8190
(2) "Aquaculture species" means any aquatic species that may be raised through aquaculture that is either a class A aquaculture species or a class B aquaculture species.	8191 8192 8193
(3) "Class A aquaculture species" includes <del>all of the following:</del>	8194 8195
<del>(a) Trout and salmon (Onchorhynchus sp., Salmo sp., Salvelinus sp.);</del>	8196 8197
<del>(b) Walleye (Stizostedion vitreum);</del>	8198
<del>(c) Sauger (Stizostedion canadense);</del>	8199
<del>(d) Bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus);</del>	8200
<del>(e) Redear sunfish (Lepomis microlophus);</del>	8201
<del>(f) Green sunfish (Lepomis cyanellus);</del>	8202
<del>(g) White crappie (Pomoxis annularis);</del>	8203
<del>(h) Black crappie (Pomoxis nigromaculatus);</del>	8204
<del>(i) Blue catfish (Ictalurus furcatus);</del>	8205
<del>(j) Any species added by rule under division (B) of this section or listed as commercial fish under section 1531.01 of the Revised Code except white perch (Morone americana) <u>any species designated as such by the chief of the division of wildlife in rules adopted under division (B) of this section.</u></del>	8206 8207 8208 8209 8210
(4) "Class B aquaculture species" includes any species, except for class A aquaculture species, designated as such by the chief <del>of the division of wildlife</del> <u>in rules adopted under division</u>	8211 8212 8213

(B) of this section. 8214

(5) "Aquaculture production facility" means a facility ~~used~~ 8215  
~~for aquaculture that has suitable infrastructure and equipment, as~~ 8216  
~~determined by the chief, and that is solely dedicated to the~~ 8217  
~~propagation and rearing of an aquaculture species.~~ 8218

(6) "Suitable infrastructure" includes ponds, raceways, and 8219  
tanks. 8220

(B) The chief, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised 8221  
Code, shall adopt rules for the regulation of aquaculture and may 8222  
issue permits to persons wishing to engage in aquaculture for the 8223  
production of aquaculture species. Rules adopted under this 8224  
section shall ensure the protection and preservation of the 8225  
wildlife and natural resources of this state. The legal length and 8226  
weight limitations established under section 1533.63 of the 8227  
Revised Code do not apply to class A or class B aquaculture 8228  
species. 8229

A permit may be issued upon application to any person who 8230  
satisfies the chief that the person ~~has suitable equipment, of~~ 8231  
~~which the person is the owner or lessee, to engage in aquaculture~~ 8232  
~~for a given aquaculture species or group of~~ owns or leases an 8233  
aquaculture ~~species~~ production facility. Each permit shall be in 8234  
such form as the chief prescribes. The permits shall be classified 8235  
as either class A or class B. A class A permit shall be required 8236  
for all class A aquaculture species that are ~~specified in this~~ 8237  
~~section or~~ designated by rule as a class A aquaculture species. 8238  
Class B permits shall be issued on a case-by-case basis. In 8239  
determining whether to issue a class B permit, the chief shall 8240  
take into account the species for which the class B permit is 8241  
requested, the location of the aquaculture production facility, 8242  
and any other information determined by the chief to be necessary 8243  
to protect the wildlife and natural resources of this state. The 8244  
annual fee for a class A permit shall be fifty dollars unless 8245

otherwise provided by rule by the chief. The annual fee for a 8246  
class B permit shall be set by the chief at a level between one 8247  
hundred and five hundred dollars. In determining the fee to be 8248  
charged for a class B permit, the chief shall take into account 8249  
the additional costs to the division for the inspection of 8250  
aquaculture facilities used to raise a given class B aquaculture 8251  
species. 8252

The chief may revoke a permit upon a determination that the 8253  
person to whom the permit was issued has violated any rule adopted 8254  
under this section. The permit shall be reissued upon a showing by 8255  
the person that the person is in compliance with the rules adopted 8256  
under this section. A holder of an aquaculture permit may receive 8257  
a permit issued under section 1533.301 or 1533.40 of the Revised 8258  
Code without payment of the fee for that permit if the conditions 8259  
for the issuance of the permit have been met. 8260

(C) No person shall knowingly sell any aquatic species under 8261  
an aquaculture permit issued under this section that was not 8262  
raised in an aquaculture production facility. In addition to any 8263  
other penalties prescribed for violation of this division, the 8264  
chief may revoke the permit of any person convicted of a violation 8265  
of this division for any period of time the chief considers 8266  
necessary. 8267

(D) No person who does not hold a current valid aquaculture 8268  
permit shall knowingly sell an aquaculture species while claiming 8269  
to possess an aquaculture permit. 8270

**Sec. 1533.68.** If a person is convicted of a violation of any 8271  
law relative to the taking, possession, protection, preservation, 8272  
or propagation of wild animals, or a violation of division (C) of 8273  
section 2909.08 of the Revised Code while hunting, or is convicted 8274  
of a violation of any rule of the division of wildlife, the court 8275  
or magistrate before whom the conviction is had, as an additional 8276

part of the penalty in each case, ~~shall~~ may suspend or revoke each 8277  
license or permit issued to the person in accordance with any 8278  
section of the Revised Code pertaining to the hunting, fishing, 8279  
trapping, breeding, and sale of wild animals or the sale of their 8280  
hides, skins, or pelts. No fee paid for such a license or permit 8281  
shall be returned to the person. 8282

No person having a license or permit suspended or revoked as 8283  
provided in this section, in the event of a hunting or trapping 8284  
violation, shall engage in hunting or trapping, in the event of a 8285  
violation of division (C) of section 2909.08 of the Revised Code 8286  
while hunting, shall engage in hunting, or in the event of a 8287  
fishing violation, shall engage in fishing, or purchase, apply 8288  
for, or receive any such license or permit for the following 8289  
periods of time, as applicable: 8290

(A) Three years after the date of conviction if the person is 8291  
convicted of taking or possessing a deer in violation of section 8292  
1531.02 of the Revised Code; 8293

(B) Not more than three years after the date of conviction if 8294  
the person is convicted of taking or possessing any other wild 8295  
animal in violation of section 1531.02 of the Revised Code, is 8296  
convicted of a misdemeanor violation of division (C) of section 8297  
2909.08 of the Revised Code while hunting, or is convicted of a 8298  
second or subsequent violation of section 1533.17 of the Revised 8299  
Code within a period of three consecutive years after the date of 8300  
conviction of the immediately preceding violation of that section; 8301

(C) Not more than five years after the date of conviction if 8302  
the person is convicted of violating section 1533.171 or of taking 8303  
or possessing an eagle or osprey in violation of section 1533.07 8304  
of the Revised Code or is convicted of a felony violation of 8305  
division (C) of section 2909.08 of the Revised Code while hunting; 8306

(D) Not more than five years after the date of conviction if 8307

the person is convicted of violating any section of this chapter 8308  
or Chapter 1531. of the Revised Code not specified in division 8309  
(A), (B), or (C) of this section. 8310

All licenses and permits suspended or revoked as provided in 8311  
this section shall be taken up by the magistrate and sent to the 8312  
department of natural resources where they shall be filed with a 8313  
record of the arrest until the person who held the suspended or 8314  
revoked license or permit is lawfully entitled to obtain another 8315  
license or permit. 8316

**Sec. 1533.86.** As used in sections 1533.86 to 1533.90 of the 8317  
Revised Code: 8318

(A) "Ginseng" means the plant *Panax quinquefolius* L., also 8319  
known as *Panax quinquefolium* L., commonly known as American 8320  
ginseng. 8321

(B) "Wild ginseng" means ginseng that grows in an 8322  
uncultivated state and in its natural habitat whether the plant 8323  
occurs naturally from that habitat or was introduced or increased 8324  
in abundance by sowing ginseng seed or transplanting ginseng 8325  
plants from other areas and performing no other cultivation 8326  
practices. 8327

(C) "Cultivated ginseng" means ginseng that grows or has been 8328  
grown in tilled beds under the shade of artificial structures or 8329  
natural shade and is cultivated according to standard ginseng 8330  
horticultural practices. 8331

(D) "Harvest" means to cut, pick, dig, root up, gather, or 8332  
otherwise collect ginseng. 8333

(E) "Person" includes any legal entity defined as a person 8334  
under section ~~1-59~~ 6111.01 of the Revised Code and any political 8335  
subdivision, instrumentality, or agency of ~~this state,~~ another 8336  
state, ~~or the United States.~~ 8337

(F) "Collector" means a person who harvests ginseng.	8338
(G) "Grower" means a person who grows cultivated ginseng.	8339
(H) "Dealer" means a person who buys or otherwise acquires or conveys ginseng for resale.	8340 8341
(I) "Buy" includes trade or barter.	8342
(J) "Sell" includes trade or barter.	8343
<b>Sec. 1533.882.</b> No person shall do any of the following:	8344
(A) Without written authorization from the chief of the division of wildlife, harvest wild ginseng except during the harvesting season as established by rule adopted pursuant to section 1533.88 of the Revised Code;	8345 8346 8347 8348
(B) Without first obtaining written permission from the person entitled to the ginseng, willfully destroy, injure, or harvest ginseng that is the property of that person;	8349 8350 8351
(C) <u>Attempt to harvest ginseng in a manner that, if harvested, would constitute a violation of division (A) or (B) of this section;</u>	8352 8353 8354
<u>(D)</u> Ship or otherwise transport out of state ginseng that has not been certified in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to division (B) of section 1533.88 of the Revised Code;	8355 8356 8357
<del>(D)</del> <u>(E)</u> Except during the buying season as established by rule adopted pursuant to section 1533.88 of the Revised Code, buy, otherwise acquire, or sell uncertified ginseng;	8358 8359 8360
<del>(E)</del> <u>(F)</u> Fail to keep records as established by rule adopted pursuant to section 1533.88 of the Revised Code;	8361 8362
<del>(F)</del> <u>(G)</u> Possess ginseng from another state without a certificate of legal taking issued by that state under its ginseng management program;	8363 8364 8365

~~(G)~~(H) Knowingly provide incorrect or false information on or 8366  
in any permit application, report, export certificate, or other 8367  
document required by rules adopted pursuant to section 1533.88 of 8368  
the Revised Code; 8369

~~(H)~~(I) Violate any provision of sections 1533.86 to 1533.90 8370  
of the Revised Code or rules adopted pursuant to section 1533.88 8371  
of the Revised Code. 8372

**Sec. 1533.99.** (A) Whoever violates section 1533.17 of the 8373  
Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree on a 8374  
first offense and a misdemeanor of the second degree on each 8375  
subsequent offense. In addition to any other sanction imposed 8376  
under this division, on a second or subsequent offense occurring 8377  
within a period of three consecutive years after the date of 8378  
conviction of the immediately preceding violation of that section 8379  
any firearms or other hunting implements in the possession or 8380  
under the control of the offender at the time of the violation are 8381  
subject to seizure in accordance with section 1531.20 of the 8382  
Revised Code. If the offender persists in the offense after 8383  
reasonable warning or request to desist, the offender is guilty of 8384  
a misdemeanor of the second degree. 8385

(B) Whoever violates section 1533.161, 1533.23, 1533.24, 8386  
1533.301, 1533.40, 1533.41, 1533.45, 1533.48, 1533.511, 1533.55, 8387  
1533.56, 1533.58, 1533.62, 1533.631, 1533.66, 1533.71, 1533.72, 8388  
1533.73, 1533.74, 1533.75, 1533.76, 1533.77, ~~1533.78~~, 1533.79, or 8389  
1533.80, division (F) of section 1533.731, or division (B) or (C) 8390  
of section 1533.97 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor 8391  
of the third degree. 8392

(C) Whoever violates division (B) of section 1533.03, section 8393  
1533.07, 1533.171, 1533.34, 1533.341, 1533.342, 1533.35, 1533.42, 8394  
1533.51, 1533.63, 1533.64, 1533.67, 1533.68, 1533.721, 1533.881, 8395  
or 1533.882, division (B)(2) or (3) of section 1533.731, or 8396



division (A) of section 1533.97 of the Revised Code is guilty of a  
misdemeanor of the first degree.

(D) Whoever violates division (D) of section 1533.97 of the  
Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. The  
court shall require any person who is convicted of or pleads  
guilty to the offense to refund to all participants in the fishing  
tournament operated by the person any entry fees paid by the  
participants.

(E) Whoever violates division (C) or (D) of section 1533.632  
of the Revised Code is guilty of a felony of the fifth degree.

(F) Whoever violates any section of this chapter for which no  
penalty is otherwise provided is guilty of a misdemeanor of the  
fourth degree.

(G) A court that imposes sentence for a violation of any  
section of this chapter governing the holding, taking, or  
possession of wild animals shall require the person who is  
convicted of or pleads guilty to the offense, in addition to any  
fine, term of imprisonment, seizure, and forfeiture imposed, to  
make restitution for the minimum value of the wild animal or  
animals illegally held, taken, or possessed as established under  
section 1531.201 of the Revised Code. An officer who collects  
moneys paid as restitution under this section shall pay those  
moneys to the treasurer of state who shall deposit them in the  
state treasury to the credit of the wildlife fund established  
under section 1531.17 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 1541.03.** All lands and waters dedicated and set apart  
for state park purposes shall be under the control and management  
of the division of parks and recreation, which shall protect,  
maintain, and keep them in repair. The division shall have the  
following powers over all such lands and waters:

(A) To make alterations and improvements;	8427
(B) To construct and maintain dikes, wharves, landings, docks, dams, and other works;	8428 8429
(C) To construct and maintain roads and drives in, around, upon, and to the lands and waters to make them conveniently accessible and useful to the public;	8430 8431 8432
(D) Except as otherwise provided in this section, to adopt, amend, and rescind, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, rules necessary for the proper management of state parks, bodies of water, and the lands adjacent to them under its jurisdiction and control, including the following:	8433 8434 8435 8436 8437
(1) Governing opening and closing times and dates of the parks;	8438 8439
(2) Establishing fees and charges for use of facilities in state parks;	8440 8441
(3) Governing camps, camping, and fees for camps and camping;	8442
(4) Governing the application for and rental of, rental fees for, and the use of <del>cabins</del> <u>cottages</u> ;	8443 8444
(5) Relating to public use of state park lands, and governing the operation of motor vehicles, including speeds, and parking on those lands;	8445 8446 8447
(6) Governing all advertising within state parks and the requirements for the operation of places selling tangible personal property and control of food service sales on lands and waters under the control of the division, which rules shall establish uniform requirements;	8448 8449 8450 8451 8452
(7) Providing uniform standards relating to the size, type, location, construction, and maintenance of structures and devices used for fishing or moorage of watercraft, rowboats, sailboats, and powercraft, as those terms are defined in section 1547.01 of	8453 8454 8455 8456

the Revised Code, over waters under the control of the division 8457  
and establishing reasonable fees for the construction of and 8458  
annual use permits for those structures and devices; 8459

(8) Governing state beaches, swimming, inflatable devices, 8460  
and fees for them; 8461

(9) Governing the removal and disposition of any watercraft, 8462  
rowboat, sailboat, or powercraft, as those terms are defined in 8463  
section 1547.01 of the Revised Code, left unattended for more than 8464  
seven days on any lands or waters under the control of the 8465  
division; 8466

(10) Governing the establishment and collection of check 8467  
collection charges for checks that are returned to the division or 8468  
dishonored for any reason. 8469

The division shall adopt rules under this section 8470  
establishing a discount program for all persons who are issued a 8471  
golden buckeye card under section 173.06 of the Revised Code. The 8472  
discount program shall provide a discount for all park services 8473  
and rentals, but shall not provide a discount for the purchase of 8474  
merchandise. 8475

The division shall not adopt rules establishing fees or 8476  
charges for parking a motor vehicle in a state park or for 8477  
admission to a state park. 8478

Every resident of this state with a disability that has been 8479  
determined by the veterans administration to be permanently and 8480  
totally disabling, who receives a pension or compensation from the 8481  
veterans administration, and who received an honorable discharge 8482  
from the armed forces of the United States, and every veteran to 8483  
whom the registrar of motor vehicles has issued a set of license 8484  
plates under section 4503.41 of the Revised Code, shall be exempt 8485  
from the fees for camping, provided that the resident or veteran 8486  
carries in the state park such evidence of the resident's or 8487

veteran's disability as the chief of the division of parks and recreation prescribes by rule. 8488  
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Unless otherwise provided by division rule, every resident of this state who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is permanently and totally disabled and who furnishes evidence of that age or disability in a manner prescribed by division rule shall be charged one-half of the regular fee for camping, except on the weekends and holidays designated by the division, and shall not be charged more than ninety per cent of the regular charges for state recreational facilities, equipment, services, and food service operations utilized by the person at any time of year, whether maintained or operated by the state or leased for operation by another entity. 8490  
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As used in this section, "food service operations" means restaurants that are owned by the department of natural resources at Hocking Hills, Lake Hope, Malabar Farm, and Rocky Fork state parks or are part of a state park lodge. "Food service operations" does not include automatic vending machines, concession stands, or snack bars. 8501  
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As used in this section, "prisoner of war" means any regularly appointed, enrolled, enlisted, or inducted member of the military forces of the United States who was captured, separated, and incarcerated by an enemy of the United States. Any person who has been a prisoner of war, was honorably discharged from the military forces, and is a resident of this state is exempt from the fees for camping. To claim this exemption, the person shall present written evidence in the form of a record of separation, a letter from one of the military forces of the United States, or such other evidence as the chief prescribes by rule that satisfies the eligibility criteria established by this section. 8507  
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**Sec. 1541.05.** (A) The chief of the division of parks and 8518

recreation, with the approval of the director of natural 8519  
resources, may dispose of any of the following by sale, donation, 8520  
trade, trade-in, recycling, or any other lawful means, in a manner 8521  
that will benefit the division: 8522

(1) Standing timber that as a result of wind, storm, 8523  
pestilence, or any other natural occurrence may present a hazard 8524  
to life or property, ~~or~~ timber that has weakened or fallen on 8525  
lands under the control and management of the division, or any 8526  
timber that requires management to improve wildlife habitat, 8527  
protect against wildfires, provide access to recreational 8528  
facilities, or improve the safety, quality, or appearance of any 8529  
state park area; 8530

(2) Spoils of a dredging operation conducted by the division 8531  
in waters under the control and management of the division. Prior 8532  
to the disposition of any spoils under this division, the chief 8533  
shall notify the director of environmental protection of ~~his~~ the 8534  
chief's intent so that the director may determine if the spoils 8535  
constitute solid wastes or hazardous waste, as those terms are 8536  
defined in section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, that ~~shall~~ must be 8537  
disposed of in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code. 8538  
If the director does not notify the chief within thirty days after 8539  
receiving notice of the disposition that the spoils ~~shall~~ must be 8540  
disposed of in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code, 8541  
the chief may proceed with the disposition. 8542

(3) Notwithstanding sections 125.12 to 125.14 of the Revised 8543  
Code, excess supplies and surplus supplies, as those terms are 8544  
defined in section 125.12 of the Revised Code; 8545

(4) Agricultural products that are grown or raised by the 8546  
division. As used in this division, "agricultural products" 8547  
includes products of apiculture, animal husbandry, or poultry 8548  
husbandry, field crops, fruits, and vegetables. 8549

(5) Abandoned personal property, including golf balls that 8550  
are found on property under the control and management of the 8551  
division. 8552

(B) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the 8553  
chief shall adopt, and may amend and rescind, such rules as are 8554  
necessary to administer this section. 8555

(C) Proceeds from the disposition of items under this section 8556  
shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the 8557  
state park fund created in section 1541.22 of the Revised Code. 8558

**Sec. 1541.40.** There is hereby created in the division of 8559  
parks and recreation an Ohio parks and recreation council, which 8560  
shall consist of seven members to be appointed by the governor 8561  
with the advice and consent of the senate. By reason of his 8562  
vocation, employment, or affiliation one of ~~such~~ the members shall 8563  
be classed as a representative of municipal parks, one as a 8564  
representative of metropolitan park districts, one as a 8565  
representative of conservancy districts, one as a representative 8566  
of ~~soil conservation districts or of~~ soil and water conservation 8567  
districts, one as a representative of private recreational 8568  
facilities, and two as representatives of the public. 8569

Terms of office shall be for ~~two~~ three years, commencing on 8570  
the first day of February and ending on the thirty-first day of 8571  
January, ~~except that upon expiration of the terms ending on~~ 8572  
~~February 3, 1973, the new terms which succeed them shall commence~~ 8573  
~~on February 4, 1974 and end on January 31, 1976, and upon~~ 8574  
~~expiration of the terms ending on February 2, 1975, the new terms~~ 8575  
~~which succeed them shall commence on February 3, 1975 and end on~~ 8576  
~~January 31, 1977.~~ Each member shall hold office from the date of 8577  
~~his~~ appointment until the end of the term for which ~~he~~ the member 8578  
was appointed. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring 8579  
prior to the expiration of the term for which ~~his~~ the member's 8580

predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of 8581  
~~such~~ that term. Any member shall continue in office subsequent to 8582  
the expiration date of ~~his~~ the member's term until ~~his~~ the 8583  
member's successor takes office, or until a period of sixty days 8584  
has elapsed, whichever occurs first. 8585

The council shall annually select from among its members a 8586  
~~chairman~~ chairperson and a ~~vice-chairman~~ vice-chairperson. 8587

Members of the council shall receive no compensation, but 8588  
shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses 8589  
incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of 8590  
the council. 8591

The council shall hold at least one regular meeting in each 8592  
quarter of each calendar year, and shall keep a record of its 8593  
proceedings, which shall be open to the public for inspection. 8594  
Special meetings may be called by the ~~chairman~~ chairperson, and 8595  
shall be called by ~~him~~ the chairperson upon receipt of a written 8596  
request therefor signed by two or more members of the council. A 8597  
written notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent 8598  
to each member of the council. A majority of the members of the 8599  
council shall constitute a quorum. 8600

The chief of the division of parks and recreation shall act 8601  
as secretary of the council. Technical, legal, and other services 8602  
required by the council in the performance of its official duties 8603  
shall be furnished by the personnel of the division of parks and 8604  
recreation. 8605

The governor may remove any member of the council at any time 8606  
for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. 8607

**Sec. 1547.05.** No person born on or after January 1, 1982, 8608  
shall operate on the waters in this state a powercraft powered by 8609  
more than ten horsepower, unless the operator successfully has 8610

completed either a safe boater course approved by the national 8611  
association of state boating law administrators or a proctored or 8612  
nonproctored proficiency examination that tests knowledge of 8613  
information included in the curriculum of such a course, and has 8614  
received a certificate as evidence of successful completion of the 8615  
course or examination. 8616

No person shall permit a powercraft to be operated on the 8617  
waters in this state in violation of this section. 8618

**Sec. 1547.08.** (A) No person shall operate a vessel within or 8619  
through a designated bathing area or within or through any area 8620  
that has been buoyed off designating it as an area in which 8621  
vessels are prohibited. 8622

(B)(1) No person shall operate a vessel at greater than idle 8623  
speed or at a speed that creates a wake under any of the following 8624  
circumstances: 8625

(a) Within three hundred feet of any marina, boat docking 8626  
facility, boat gasoline dock, launch ramp, recreational boat 8627  
harbor, or harbor entrance on Lake Erie or on the Ohio river; 8628

(b) During the period from sunset to sunrise according to 8629  
local time within any water between the Dan Beard bridge and the 8630  
Brent Spence bridge on the Ohio river for any vessel not 8631  
documented by the United States coast guard as commercial; 8632

(c) Within any area buoyed or marked as a no wake area on the 8633  
waters in this state. 8634

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply in either 8635  
of the following places: 8636

(a) An area designated by the chief of the division of 8637  
watercraft unless it is marked by a buoy or sign as a no wake or 8638  
idle speed area; 8639

(b) Within any water between the Dan Beard bridge and the 8640



Brent Spence bridge on the Ohio river when the United States coast guard has authorized the holding of a special event of a community nature on that water. 8641  
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(C) No person shall operate a vessel in any area of restricted or controlled operation in violation of the designated restriction. 8644  
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(D) No person shall operate a vessel within three hundred feet of an official diver's flag unless the person is tendering the diving operation. 8647  
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(E) All areas of restricted or controlled operation as described in division (A) of this section or as provided for in section 1547.14 or 1547.61 of the Revised Code shall be marked by a buoy or sign designating the restriction. All waters surrounded by or lying between such a buoy or sign and the closest shoreline are thereby designated as an area in which the designated restrictions shall apply in the operation of any vessel. 8650  
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Markings on buoys designating areas of restricted or controlled operation shall be so spaced as to show all around the horizon. Lineal spacing between the buoys shall be such that under normal conditions of visibility any buoy shall be readily visible from the next adjacent buoy. No colors or symbols, except as provided for in rules of the chief, shall be used on buoys or signs for marking closed or controlled areas of boating waters. 8657  
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Any state department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control of impounded boating waters may place such buoys or signs on its waters. Any political subdivision may apply to the chief for permission to place such buoys or signs on other waters within its territorial limits. No person shall place or cause to be placed a regulatory buoy or sign on, into, or along the waters in this state unless the person has complied with all the provisions of this chapter. 8664  
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(F) No person shall enter, operate a vessel that enters, or allow a vessel to enter a federally declared security zone as defined in 33 C.F.R. Chapter I, subparts 6.01-1, 6.01-2, 6.01-3, 6.01-4, 6.01-5, 6.04-1, 6.04-5, 6.04-6, 6.04-7, and 6.04-8.

(G) No person shall permit any vessel to be operated on the waters in this state in violation of this section.

**Sec. 1547.51.** There is hereby created within the department of natural resources the division of watercraft. The division shall administer and enforce all laws relative to the identification, numbering, registration, titling, use, and operation of vessels operated on the waters in this state and, with the approval of the director of natural resources, educate and inform the citizens of the state about, and promote, conservation, navigation, safety practices, and the benefits of recreational boating.

**Sec. 1547.54.** (A)(1) Except as otherwise provided in section 1547.542 of the Revised Code, the owner of every watercraft requiring registration under this chapter shall file an application for a triennial registration certificate with the chief of the division of watercraft on forms that shall be provided by the chief or by an electronic means approved by the chief. The application shall be signed by the following:

(a) If the watercraft is owned by two persons under joint ownership with right of survivorship established under section 2131.12 of the Revised Code, by both of those persons as owners of the watercraft. The signatures may be done by electronic signature if the owners themselves are renewing the registration and there are no changes in the registration information since the issuance of the immediately preceding registration certificate. In all other instances, the signatures shall be done manually.

(b) If the watercraft is owned by a minor, by the minor and a parent or legal guardian. The signatures may be done by electronic signature if the parent or legal guardian and the minor themselves are renewing the registration and there are no changes in the registration information since the issuance of the immediately preceding registration certificate. In all other instances, the signatures shall be done manually.

(c) In all other cases, by the owner of the watercraft. The signature may be done by electronic signature if the owner is renewing the registration personally and there are no changes in the registration information since the issuance of the immediately preceding registration certificate. In all other instances, the signatures shall be done manually.

(2) An application for a triennial registration of a watercraft filed under division (A)(1) of this section shall be accompanied by the following fee:

(a) For canoes, rowboats, and inflatable watercraft that are numbered under section 1547.53 of the Revised Code, twelve dollars;

(b) For canoes, row boats, and inflatable watercraft that are not numbered under section 1547.53 of the Revised Code, seventeen dollars;

(c) For class A watercraft, including motorized canoes, thirty dollars;

(d) For class 1 watercraft, forty-five dollars;

(e) For class 2 watercraft, sixty dollars;

(f) For class 3 watercraft, seventy-five dollars;

(g) For class 4 watercraft, ninety dollars.

(3) For the purpose of registration, any watercraft operated by means of power, sail, or any other mechanical or electrical

means of propulsion, except motorized canoes, shall be registered 8732  
by length as prescribed in this section. 8733

(4) If an application for registration is filed by two 8734  
persons as owners under division (A)(1)(a) of this section, the 8735  
person who is listed first on the title shall serve as and perform 8736  
the duties of the "owner" and shall be considered the person "in 8737  
whose name the watercraft is registered" for purposes of divisions 8738  
(B) to (Q) of this section and for purposes of all other sections 8739  
in this chapter. 8740

(B) All registration certificates issued under this section 8741  
are valid for three years and are renewable on a triennial basis 8742  
unless sooner terminated or discontinued in accordance with this 8743  
chapter. The renewal date shall be printed on the registration 8744  
certificate. A registration certificate may be renewed by the 8745  
owner in the manner prescribed by the chief. All fees shall be 8746  
charged according to a proration of the time remaining in the 8747  
registration cycle to the nearest year. 8748

(C) In addition to the fees set forth in this section, the 8749  
chief, or any authorized agent, shall charge an additional fee of 8750  
three dollars for any registration certificate the chief or 8751  
authorized agent issues. When the registration certificate is 8752  
issued by an authorized agent, the additional fee of three dollars 8753  
shall be retained by the issuing agent. When the registration 8754  
certificate is issued by the chief, the additional fee of three 8755  
dollars shall be deposited to the credit of the waterways safety 8756  
fund established in section 1547.75 of the Revised Code. 8757

(D)(1) Upon receipt of the application in approved form, the 8758  
chief shall enter the same upon the records of the office of the 8759  
division of watercraft, assign a number to the watercraft if a 8760  
number is required under section 1547.53 of the Revised Code, and 8761  
issue to the applicant a registration certificate. If a number is 8762

assigned by the chief, it shall be set forth on the certificate. 8763  
The registration certificate shall be on the watercraft for which 8764  
it is issued and available at all times for inspection whenever 8765  
the watercraft is in operation, except that livery operators may 8766  
retain the registration certificate at the livery where it shall 8767  
remain available for inspection at all times and except as 8768  
otherwise provided in division (D)(2) of this section. 8769

(2) A person who is operating on the waters of this state a 8770  
canoe, rowboat, or inflatable watercraft that has not been 8771  
numbered under section 1547.53 of the Revised Code and who is 8772  
stopped by a law enforcement officer in the enforcement of this 8773  
chapter or rules adopted under it shall present to the officer, 8774  
not later than seventy-two hours after being stopped, a 8775  
registration certificate. The registration certificate shall have 8776  
been obtained under this section for the canoe, rowboat, or 8777  
inflatable watercraft prior to the time that it was stopped. 8778  
Failure of the person to present the registration certificate 8779  
within seventy-two hours constitutes prima-facie evidence of a 8780  
violation of this section. 8781

(E) No person shall issue or be issued a registration 8782  
certificate for a watercraft that is required to be issued a 8783  
certificate of title under Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code 8784  
except upon presentation of a certificate of title for the 8785  
watercraft as provided in that chapter, proof of current 8786  
documentation by the United States coast guard, a renewal 8787  
registration form provided by the division of watercraft, or a 8788  
certificate of registration issued under this section that has 8789  
expired if there is no change in the ownership or description of 8790  
the watercraft. 8791

(F) Whenever the ownership of a watercraft changes, a new 8792  
application form together with the prescribed fee shall be filed 8793  
with the chief or the chief's agent and a new registration 8794

certificate shall be issued. The application shall be signed 8795  
manually by the person or persons specified in ~~division~~ divisions 8796  
(A)(1)(a) to (c) of this section and shall be accompanied by a 8797  
two-dollar transfer fee. Any remaining time on the registration 8798  
shall be transferred. An authorized agent of the chief shall 8799  
charge an additional fee of three dollars, which shall be retained 8800  
by the issuing agent. If the certificate is issued by the chief, 8801  
an additional fee of three dollars for each certificate issued 8802  
shall be collected. 8803

(G) If an agency of the United States has in force an overall 8804  
system of identification numbering for watercraft or certain types 8805  
of watercraft within the United States, the numbering system 8806  
employed by the division shall be in conformity with that system. 8807

(H)(1) The chief may assign any registration certificates to 8808  
any authorized agent for the assignment of the registration 8809  
certificates. If a person accepts that authorization, the person 8810  
may be assigned a block of numbers and certificates that upon 8811  
assignment, in conformity with this chapter and Chapter 1548. of 8812  
the Revised Code and with rules of the division, shall be valid as 8813  
if assigned directly by the division. Any person so designated as 8814  
an agent by the chief shall post with the division security as may 8815  
be required by the director of natural resources. The chief may 8816  
issue an order temporarily or permanently restricting or 8817  
suspending an agent's authorization without a hearing if the chief 8818  
finds that the agent has violated this chapter or Chapter 1548. of 8819  
the Revised Code, rules adopted under them, or any agreements 8820  
prescribed by the chief. 8821

(2) A clerk of the court of common pleas may apply for 8822  
designation as an authorized agent of the chief. The division 8823  
shall accept the clerk's bond that is required under section 8824  
2303.02 of the Revised Code for any security that is required for 8825  
agents under this division, provided that the bond includes a 8826

rider or other provision specifically covering the clerk's duties 8827  
as an authorized agent of the chief. 8828

(I) All records of the division made or kept pursuant to this 8829  
section shall be public records. Those records shall be available 8830  
for inspection at reasonable hours and in a manner compatible with 8831  
normal operations of the division. 8832

(J) The owner shall furnish the division notice within 8833  
fifteen days of the following: 8834

(1) The transfer, other than through the creation of a 8835  
security interest in any watercraft, of all or any part of the 8836  
owner's interest or, if the watercraft is owned by two persons 8837  
under joint ownership with right of survivorship established under 8838  
section 2131.12 of the Revised Code, of all or any part of the 8839  
joint interest of either of the two persons. The transfer shall 8840  
not terminate the registration certificate. 8841

(2) Any change in the address appearing on the certificate 8842  
~~and, as~~ As a part of the notification, the owner shall furnish 8843  
the chief with the owner's new address: 8844

(3) The destruction or abandonment of the watercraft. 8845

(K) The chief may issue duplicate registration certificates 8846  
or duplicate tags to owners of currently registered watercraft, 8847  
the fee for which shall be four dollars. 8848

(L) If the chief finds that a registration certificate 8849  
previously issued to an owner is in error to a degree that would 8850  
impair its basic purpose and use, the chief may issue a corrected 8851  
certificate to the owner without charge. 8852

(M) No authorized agent shall issue and no person shall 8853  
receive or accept from an authorized agent a registration 8854  
certificate assigned to the authorized agent under division (H) of 8855  
this section unless the exact month, day, and year of issue are 8856

plainly written on the certificate by the agent. Certificates 8857  
issued with incorrect dates of issue are void from the time they 8858  
are issued. 8859

(N) The chief, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised 8860  
Code, shall adopt rules governing the renewal of watercraft 8861  
registrations by electronic means. 8862

(O) As used in this section: 8863

(1) "Disabled veteran" means a person who is included in 8864  
either of the following categories: 8865

(a) Because of a service-connected disability, has been or is 8866  
awarded funds for the purchase of a motor vehicle under the 8867  
"Disabled Veterans' and Servicemen's Automobile Assistance Act of 8868  
1970," 84 Stat. 1998, 38 U.S.C. 1901, and amendments thereto; 8869

(b) Has a service-connected disability rated at one hundred 8870  
per cent by the veterans administration. 8871

(2) "Prisoner of war" means any regularly appointed, 8872  
enrolled, enlisted, or inducted member of the military forces of 8873  
the United States who was captured, separated, and incarcerated by 8874  
an enemy of the United States at any time, and any regularly 8875  
appointed, enrolled, or enlisted member of the military forces of 8876  
Great Britain, France, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, 8877  
Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, 8878  
South Africa, or the republics formerly associated with the Union 8879  
of Soviet Socialist Republics or Yugoslavia who was a citizen of 8880  
the United States at the time of the appointment, enrollment, or 8881  
enlistment, and was captured, separated, and incarcerated by an 8882  
enemy of this country during World War II. 8883

(P) Any disabled veteran, congressional medal of honor 8884  
awardee, or prisoner of war may apply to the chief for a 8885  
certificate of registration, or for a renewal of the certificate 8886



of registration, without the payment of any fee required by this 8887  
section. The application for a certificate of registration shall 8888  
be accompanied by evidence of disability or by documentary 8889  
evidence in support of a congressional medal of honor that the 8890  
chief requires by rule. The application for a certificate of 8891  
registration by any person who has been a prisoner of war shall be 8892  
accompanied by written evidence in the form of a record of 8893  
separation, a letter from one of the armed forces of a country 8894  
listed in division (O)(2) of this section, or other evidence that 8895  
the chief may require by rule, that the person was honorably 8896  
discharged or is currently residing in this state on active duty 8897  
with one of the branches of the armed forces of the United States, 8898  
or was a prisoner of war and was honorably discharged or received 8899  
an equivalent discharge or release from one of the armed forces of 8900  
a country listed in division (O)(2) of this section. 8901

(Q) Annually by the fifteenth day of January, the director of 8902  
natural resources shall determine the amount of fees that would 8903  
have been collected in the prior calendar year for each 8904  
certificate of registration issued or renewed pursuant to division 8905  
(P) of this section and shall certify the total amount of foregone 8906  
revenue to the director of budget and management for 8907  
reimbursement. The director of budget and management shall 8908  
transfer the amount certified from the general revenue fund to the 8909  
waterways safety fund created pursuant to section 1547.75 of the 8910  
Revised Code. 8911

**Sec. 1547.541.** The owner of a ~~wooden~~ watercraft that is more 8912  
than twenty-five years old, is essentially as originally 8913  
constructed, and is owned primarily as a collector's item and for 8914  
participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and 8915  
similar uses, but is not used for general recreation may apply to 8916  
the chief of the division of watercraft for an historic watercraft 8917

identification plate. The chief, by rule, may establish additional 8918  
criteria for the registration of historic watercraft that the 8919  
chief considers necessary. 8920

The chief shall prescribe the form of application and shall 8921  
issue an historic watercraft identification plate, which shall be 8922  
securely affixed to the watercraft. The plate shall bear no date, 8923  
but shall bear the inscription "historic watercraft." A 8924  
registration number assigned by the chief shall be shown on the 8925  
plate. The plate is valid without renewal as long as the 8926  
watercraft exists and ownership does not change. The fee for the 8927  
plate is twenty-five dollars. 8928

Whenever the ownership of an historic watercraft changes, an 8929  
application for transfer of registration, together with a fee of 8930  
ten dollars, shall be filed with the division of watercraft, and a 8931  
new certificate of registration shall be issued. 8932

The historic watercraft identification plate shall be shown 8933  
on the watercraft in the same manner as a number required under 8934  
sections 1547.53 and 1547.57 of the Revised Code. 8935

If the watercraft is to be used for general recreation, it 8936  
also shall be registered as required by section 1547.54 of the 8937  
Revised Code. 8938

**Sec. 1547.99.** (A) Whoever violates section 1547.91 of the 8939  
Revised Code is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree. 8940

(B) Whoever violates division (F) of section 1547.08, section 8941  
1547.10, division (I) of section 1547.111, section 1547.13, or 8942  
section 1547.66 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of 8943  
the first degree. 8944

(C) Whoever violates a provision of this chapter or a rule 8945  
adopted thereunder, for which no penalty is otherwise provided, is 8946  
guilty of a minor misdemeanor. 8947

(D) Whoever violates section 1547.07 or 1547.12 of the Revised Code without causing injury to persons or damage to property is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(E) Whoever violates section 1547.07 or 1547.12 of the Revised Code causing injury to persons or damage to property is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(F) Whoever violates division (M) of section 1547.54, division (G) of section 1547.30, or section 1547.131, 1547.25, 1547.33, 1547.38, 1547.39, 1547.40, 1547.65, 1547.69, or 1547.92 of the Revised Code or a rule adopted under division (A)(2) of section 1547.52 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(G) Whoever violates section 1547.11 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree and shall be punished as provided in division (G)(1), (2), or (3) of this section.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G)(2) or (3) of this section, the court shall sentence the offender to a jail term of three consecutive days and may sentence the offender pursuant to section 2929.24 of the Revised Code to a longer jail term. In addition, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of not less than one hundred fifty nor more than one thousand dollars.

The court may suspend the execution of the mandatory jail term of three consecutive days that it is required to impose by division (G)(1) of this section if the court, in lieu of the suspended jail term, places the offender under a community control sanction pursuant to section 2929.25 of the Revised Code and requires the offender to attend, for three consecutive days, a drivers' intervention program that is certified pursuant to section 3793.10 of the Revised Code. The court also may suspend the execution of any part of the mandatory jail term of three consecutive days that it is required to impose by division (G)(1)

of this section if the court places the offender under a community control sanction pursuant to section 2929.25 of the Revised Code for part of the three consecutive days; requires the offender to attend, for that part of the three consecutive days, a drivers' intervention program that is certified pursuant to section 3793.10 of the Revised Code; and sentences the offender to a jail term equal to the remainder of the three consecutive days that the offender does not spend attending the drivers' intervention program. The court may require the offender, as a condition of community control, to attend and satisfactorily complete any treatment or education programs, in addition to the required attendance at a drivers' intervention program, that the operators of the drivers' intervention program determine that the offender should attend and to report periodically to the court on the offender's progress in the programs. The court also may impose any other conditions of community control on the offender that it considers necessary.

(2) If, within six years of the offense, the offender has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of section 1547.11 of the Revised Code, of a municipal ordinance relating to operating a watercraft or manipulating any water skis, aquaplane, or similar device while under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them, of a municipal ordinance relating to operating a watercraft or manipulating any water skis, aquaplane, or similar device with a prohibited concentration of alcohol, a controlled substance, or a metabolite of a controlled substance in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine, of division (A)(1) of section 2903.06 of the Revised Code, or of division (A)(2), (3), or (4) of section 2903.06 of the Revised Code or section 2903.06 or 2903.07 of the Revised Code as they existed prior to March 23, 2000, in a case in which the jury or judge found that the offender was under the influence of

alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them, the court shall sentence the offender to a jail term of ten consecutive days and may sentence the offender pursuant to section 2929.24 of the Revised Code to a longer jail term. In addition, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of not less than one hundred fifty nor more than one thousand dollars.

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In addition to any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, the court may require the offender to attend a drivers' intervention program that is certified pursuant to section 3793.10 of the Revised Code.

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(3) If, within six years of the offense, the offender has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to more than one violation identified in division (G)(2) of this section, the court shall sentence the offender to a jail term of thirty consecutive days and may sentence the offender to a longer jail term of not more than one year. In addition, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of not less than one hundred fifty nor more than one thousand dollars.

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In addition to any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, the court may require the offender to attend a drivers' intervention program that is certified pursuant to section 3793.10 of the Revised Code.

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(4) Upon a showing that serving a jail term would seriously affect the ability of an offender sentenced pursuant to division (G)(1), (2), or (3) of this section to continue the offender's employment, the court may authorize that the offender be granted work release after the offender has served the mandatory jail term of three, ten, or thirty consecutive days that the court is required by division (G)(1), (2), or (3) of this section to impose. No court shall authorize work release during the mandatory jail term of three, ten, or thirty consecutive days that the court

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is required by division (G)(1), (2), or (3) of this section to  
impose. The duration of the work release shall not exceed the time  
necessary each day for the offender to commute to and from the  
place of employment and the place in which the jail term is served  
and the time actually spent under employment.

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(5) Notwithstanding any section of the Revised Code that  
authorizes the suspension of the imposition or execution of a  
sentence or the placement of an offender in any treatment program  
in lieu of being imprisoned or serving a jail term, no court shall  
suspend the mandatory jail term of ten or thirty consecutive days  
required to be imposed by division (G)(2) or (3) of this section  
or place an offender who is sentenced pursuant to division (G)(2)  
or (3) of this section in any treatment program in lieu of being  
imprisoned or serving a jail term until after the offender has  
served the mandatory jail term of ten or thirty consecutive days  
required to be imposed pursuant to division (G)(2) or (3) of this  
section. Notwithstanding any section of the Revised Code that  
authorizes the suspension of the imposition or execution of a  
sentence or the placement of an offender in any treatment program  
in lieu of being imprisoned or serving a jail term, no court,  
except as specifically authorized by division (G)(1) of this  
section, shall suspend the mandatory jail term of three  
consecutive days required to be imposed by division (G)(1) of this  
section or place an offender who is sentenced pursuant to division  
(G)(1) of this section in any treatment program in lieu of  
imprisonment until after the offender has served the mandatory  
jail term of three consecutive days required to be imposed  
pursuant to division (G)(1) of this section.

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(6) As used in division (G) of this section, "jail term" and  
"mandatory jail term" have the same meanings as in section 2929.01  
of the Revised Code.

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(H) Whoever violates section 1547.304 of the Revised Code is

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guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree and also shall be 9074  
assessed any costs incurred by the state or a county, township, 9075  
municipal corporation, or other political subdivision in disposing 9076  
of an abandoned junk vessel or outboard motor, less any money 9077  
accruing to the state, county, township, municipal corporation, or 9078  
other political subdivision from that disposal. 9079

(I) Whoever violates division (B) or (C) of section 1547.49 9080  
of the Revised Code is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. 9081

(J) Whoever violates section 1547.31 of the Revised Code is 9082  
guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on a first offense. 9083  
On each subsequent offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor 9084  
of the third degree. 9085

(K) Whoever violates section 1547.05 or 1547.051 of the 9086  
Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree if 9087  
the violation is not related to a collision, injury to a person, 9088  
or damage to property and a misdemeanor of the third degree if the 9089  
violation is related to a collision, injury to a person, or damage 9090  
to property. 9091

(L) The sentencing court, in addition to the penalty provided 9092  
under this section for a violation of this chapter or a rule 9093  
adopted under it that involves a powercraft powered by more than 9094  
ten horsepower and that, in the opinion of the court, involves a 9095  
threat to the safety of persons or property, shall order the 9096  
offender to complete successfully a boating course approved by the 9097  
national association of state boating law administrators before 9098  
the offender is allowed to operate a powercraft powered by more 9099  
than ten horsepower on the waters in this state. Violation of a 9100  
court order entered under this division is punishable as contempt 9101  
under Chapter 2705. of the Revised Code. 9102

**Sec. 1548.02.** The chief of the division of watercraft shall 9103

adopt such rules as the chief considers necessary to ensure 9104  
uniform and orderly operation of this chapter, and the clerks of 9105  
the courts of common pleas shall conform to those rules. The chief 9106  
shall receive and file in the chief's office all information 9107  
forwarded to the chief by the clerks under this chapter and shall 9108  
maintain indexes covering the state at large for that information. 9109  
These indexes shall be for the state at large and not for 9110  
individual counties. 9111

The chief shall check with the chief's record all duplicate 9112  
certificates of title received in the chief's office from the 9113  
clerks. 9114

If it appears that any certificate of title has been 9115  
improperly issued or is no longer required, the chief shall cancel 9116  
the certificate. Upon the cancellation of any certificate of 9117  
title, the chief shall notify the clerk who issued it, and the 9118  
clerk shall enter the cancellation in the clerk's records. The 9119  
chief also shall notify the person to whom the certificate of 9120  
title was issued, as well as any lienholders appearing on it, of 9121  
the cancellation and, if it is a physical certificate of title, 9122  
shall demand the surrender of the certificate of title, but the 9123  
cancellation shall not affect the validity of any lien noted on 9124  
it. The holder of a physical certificate of title shall return it 9125  
to the chief immediately. 9126

The clerks shall keep on hand a sufficient supply of blank 9127  
forms that, except certificate of title and memorandum certificate 9128  
forms, shall be furnished and distributed without charge to 9129  
registered manufacturers or dealers or to other persons residing 9130  
within the county. The clerks shall provide the certificates of 9131  
title, the ribbons for data processing, and removable backup media 9132  
from moneys provided to the clerks from the automated title 9133  
processing fund in accordance with division (B)(3)(b) of section 9134  
4505.09 of the Revised Code. The clerks shall furnish all other 9135



supplies from other moneys available to the clerks.

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Sec. 1548.031. (A) No minor under eighteen years of age shall  
sell or otherwise dispose of a watercraft or outboard motor or  
purchase or otherwise acquire a watercraft or outboard motor  
unless the application for a certificate of title is accompanied  
by a form prescribed by the chief of the division of watercraft  
and signed in the presence of a clerk or deputy clerk of a court  
of common pleas or any notary public by one of the minor's  
parents, the minor's guardian, or another person having custody of  
the minor authorizing the sale, disposition, purchase, or  
acquisition of the watercraft or outboard motor. At the time the  
adult signs the form, the adult shall provide identification  
establishing that the adult is the individual whose signature  
appears on the form.

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(B) No right, title, or claim to or interest in a watercraft  
or outboard motor shall be acquired by or from a minor unless the  
application for a certificate of title is accompanied by the form  
required by this section.

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(C) No clerk of a court of common pleas shall be held liable  
in any civil action that arises under the law of this state for  
injury or loss to persons or property caused when a person has  
obtained a certificate of title in violation of this section  
unless the clerk failed to use reasonable diligence in  
ascertaining the age of the minor or the identity of the adult who  
signed the form authorizing the sale, disposition, purchase, or  
acquisition of the watercraft or outboard motor by the minor.

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Sec. 1548.032. (A)(1) If a person who is not an electronic  
watercraft dealer owns a watercraft for which a physical  
certificate of title has not been issued by a clerk of a court of  
common pleas and the person sells the watercraft to a watercraft

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dealer registered under section 1547.543 of the Revised Code, the 9166  
person is not required to obtain a physical certificate of title 9167  
to the watercraft in order to transfer ownership to the dealer. 9168  
The person shall present the dealer, in a manner approved by the 9169  
chief of the division of watercraft, with sufficient proof of the 9170  
person's identity and complete and sign a form prescribed by the 9171  
chief attesting to the person's identity and assigning the 9172  
watercraft to the dealer. Except as otherwise provided in this 9173  
section, the watercraft dealer shall present the assignment form 9174  
to any clerk of a court of common pleas together with an 9175  
application for a certificate of title and payment of the fees 9176  
prescribed by section 1548.10 of the Revised Code. 9177

In a case in which an electronic certificate of title has 9178  
been issued and either the buyer or seller of the watercraft is an 9179  
electronic watercraft dealer, the electronic watercraft dealer 9180  
instead may inform a clerk of a court of common pleas via 9181  
electronic means of the sale of the watercraft and assignment of 9182  
ownership of the watercraft. The clerk shall enter the information 9183  
relating to the assignment into the automated title processing 9184  
system, and ownership of the watercraft passes to the applicant 9185  
when the clerk enters this information into the system. The dealer 9186  
is not required to obtain a physical certificate of title to the 9187  
watercraft in the dealer's name. 9188

(2) A clerk shall charge and collect from a dealer a fee of 9189  
five dollars for each watercraft assignment sent by the dealer to 9190  
the clerk under division (A)(1) of this section. The fee shall be 9191  
distributed in accordance with section 1548.10 of the Revised 9192  
Code. 9193

(B) If a person who is not an electronic watercraft dealer 9194  
owns a watercraft for which a physical certificate of title has 9195  
not been issued by a clerk of a court of common pleas and the 9196

person sells the watercraft to a person who is not a watercraft 9197  
dealer registered under section 1547.543 of the Revised Code, the 9198  
person shall obtain a physical certificate of title to the 9199  
watercraft in order to transfer ownership of the watercraft to 9200  
that person. 9201

Sec. 1561.011. Nothing in this chapter applies to activities 9202  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the 9203  
Revised Code. 9204

Sec. 1563.01. Except for section 1563.11 of the Revised Code, 9205  
nothing in this chapter applies to activities that are permitted 9206  
and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code. 9207

Sec. 1565.01. Nothing in this chapter applies to activities 9208  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the 9209  
Revised Code. 9210

Sec. 1567.01. Nothing in this chapter applies to activities 9211  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the 9212  
Revised Code. 9213

Sec. 1567.35. No gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, fuel oil, or 9214  
gas engine shall be used in a mine, except for operating pumping 9215  
machinery where electric, compressed air, or steam power is not 9216  
available or cannot be transmitted to the pump, in which case the 9217  
owner, lessee, or agent shall observe the following: 9218

(A) Notice shall be given to the chief of the division of 9219  
mineral resources management, before installing, and the 9220  
installation and operation shall be subject to the chief's 9221  
approval. 9222

(B) No wood or inflammable material shall be permitted within 9223

twenty-five feet of the engine. 9224

(C) The supply tank from which the gasoline, naphtha, 9225  
kerosene, or fuel oil is fed to the engine, shall be of metal, 9226  
with a suitable screw cap opening, fitted with a gasket, so as to 9227  
make the tank airtight and prevent the escape of gas into the 9228  
atmosphere, and the tank kept free from leaks. 9229

(D) The gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, or fuel oil shall be fed 9230  
from a tank to the carburetor or mixer by metal tubes securely 9231  
connected so as to reduce the possibility of leaks to a minimum. 9232

(E) The exhaust from the engine shall be conducted by means 9233  
of metal pipes into the return air current, so that the combustion 9234  
fumes will not enter the workings of the mine where the ~~worker's~~ 9235  
workers are required to work, or be conducted in an upcast shaft 9236  
or slope not used as a means of ingress or egress or through metal 9237  
pipes to the surface. 9238

(F) At no time shall more than five gallons of such gasoline, 9239  
naphtha, kerosene, or fuel oil be taken into the mine, including 9240  
that in the supply tank. 9241

(G) No gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, or fuel oil shall be 9242  
taken into the mine except in metallic cans, with a screw cap 9243  
opening at the top, fitted with a suitable gasket. 9244

(H) No package, can, or supply tank of an engine, containing 9245  
gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, or fuel oil, shall be opened until 9246  
ready to make the transfer from the package or can to the supply 9247  
tank, and in transferring, a funnel shall be used so as to avoid 9248  
spilling the gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, or fuel oil, and the cap 9249  
on the supply tank shall be immediately closed. 9250

(I) In no case shall the package, can, or supply tank be 9251  
opened when an open light or other thing containing fire is within 9252  
twenty-five feet of the same, provided that subject to the 9253

approval of the chief, the restrictions in the use of fuel oil in 9254  
a mine shall not apply to mobile or portable machinery, if ~~such~~ 9255  
the mobile or portable machinery is used in a clay, limestone, 9256  
shale, or any other mine not a coal mine. 9257

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit or 9258  
impede the use of diesel equipment in an underground coal mine, 9259  
provided that the chief approves the use of the equipment in 9260  
underground mines and the equipment satisfies requirements 9261  
established in rules adopted by the chief under section 1513.02 of 9262  
the Revised Code governing the use of diesel equipment in 9263  
underground mines. 9264

No owner, lessee, agent, or operator of a mine shall violate 9265  
this section. 9266

Sec. 1571.011. Nothing in this chapter applies to activities 9267  
that are permitted and regulated under Chapter 1514. of the 9268  
Revised Code. 9269

Sec. 2305.041. With respect to a lease or license by which a 9270  
right is granted to operate or to sink or drill wells on land in 9271  
this state for natural gas or petroleum and that is recorded in 9272  
accordance with section 5301.09 of the Revised Code, an action 9273  
alleging breach of any express or implied provision of the lease 9274  
or license concerning the calculation or payment of royalties 9275  
shall be brought within the time period that is specified in 9276  
section 1302.98 of the Revised Code. An action alleging a breach 9277  
with respect to any other issue that the lease or license involves 9278  
shall be brought within the time period specified in section 9279  
2305.06 of the Revised Code. 9280

Sec. 4115.04. (A)(1) Every public authority authorized to 9281  
contract for or construct with its own forces a public 9282

improvement, before advertising for bids or undertaking such 9283  
construction with its own forces, shall have the director of 9284  
commerce determine the prevailing rates of wages of mechanics and 9285  
laborers in accordance with section 4115.05 of the Revised Code 9286  
for the class of work called for by the public improvement, in the 9287  
locality where the work is to be performed. ~~Such~~ Except as 9288  
provided in division (A)(2) of this section, that schedule of 9289  
wages shall be attached to and made part of the specifications for 9290  
the work, and shall be printed on the bidding blanks where the 9291  
work is done by contract. A copy of the bidding blank shall be 9292  
filed with the director before ~~such~~ the contract is awarded. A 9293  
minimum rate of wages for common laborers, on work coming under 9294  
the jurisdiction of the department of transportation, shall be 9295  
fixed in each county of the state by ~~said~~ the department of 9296  
transportation, in accordance with section 4115.05 of the Revised 9297  
Code. 9298

(2) In the case of contracts that are administered by the 9299  
department of natural resources, the director of natural resources 9300  
or the director's designee shall include language in the contracts 9301  
requiring wage rate determinations and updates to be obtained 9302  
directly from the department of commerce through electronic or 9303  
other means as appropriate. Contracts that include this 9304  
requirement are exempt from the requirements established in 9305  
division (A)(1) of this section that involve attaching the 9306  
schedule of wages to the specifications for the work, making the 9307  
schedule part of those specifications, and printing the schedule 9308  
on the bidding blanks where the work is done by contract. 9309

(B) Sections 4115.03 to 4115.16 of the Revised Code do not 9310  
apply to: 9311

(1) Public improvements in any case where the federal 9312  
government or any of its agencies furnishes by loan or grant all 9313  
or any part of the funds used in constructing such improvements, 9314

provided that the federal government or any of its agencies 9315  
prescribes predetermined minimum wages to be paid to mechanics and 9316  
laborers employed in the construction of such improvements; 9317

(2) A participant in a work activity, developmental activity, 9318  
or an alternative work activity under sections 5107.40 to 5107.69 9319  
of the Revised Code when a public authority directly uses the 9320  
labor of the participant to construct a public improvement if the 9321  
participant is not engaged in paid employment or subsidized 9322  
employment pursuant to the activity; 9323

(3) Public improvements undertaken by, or under contract for, 9324  
the board of education of any school district or the governing 9325  
board of any educational service center; 9326

(4) Public improvements undertaken by, or under contract for, 9327  
a county hospital operated pursuant to Chapter 339. of the Revised 9328  
Code or a municipal hospital operated pursuant to Chapter 749. of 9329  
the Revised Code if none of the funds used in constructing the 9330  
improvements are the proceeds of bonds or other obligations ~~which~~ 9331  
that are secured by the full faith and credit of the state, a 9332  
county, a township, or a municipal corporation and none of the 9333  
funds used in constructing the improvements, including funds used 9334  
to repay any amounts borrowed to construct the improvements, are 9335  
funds that have been appropriated for that purpose by the state, a 9336  
board of county commissioners, a township, or a municipal 9337  
corporation from funds generated by the levy of a tax~~+~~ provided~~+~~ 9338  
~~however,~~ that a county hospital or municipal hospital may elect to 9339  
apply sections 4115.03 to 4115.16 of the Revised Code to a public 9340  
improvement undertaken by, or under contract for, the hospital. 9341

Sec. 5577.081. (A) Except when transferring unfinished 9342  
aggregate material between facilities that are under the control 9343  
of the same owner or operator that is subject to Chapter 1514. of 9344  
the Revised Code or when unloading or loading finished aggregate 9345

product within a ten-mile radius of a surface mining operation 9346  
that is permitted and regulated under that chapter, all vehicles 9347  
entering or leaving such an operation that have a gross vehicle 9348  
weight as defined in division (JJ) of section 4501.01 of the 9349  
Revised Code that is in excess of sixty-six thousand pounds shall 9350  
use the specific roads designated pursuant to sections 303.14 and 9351  
303.141 or 519.14 and 519.141 of the Revised Code as the primary 9352  
means of ingress to and egress from the facilities or operation. 9353

(B) The owner or operator of a surface mining operation that 9354  
is permitted under Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code and that is 9355  
subject to the use of specific roads as the primary means of 9356  
ingress to and egress from the operation pursuant to sections 9357  
303.14 and 303.141 or 519.14 and 519.141 of the Revised Code shall 9358  
post a sign in a conspicuous location to inform the drivers of 9359  
trucks entering and leaving the operation of the roads to use as 9360  
the primary means of ingress to and egress from the operation. 9361

(C)(1) Whoever violates this section shall receive a written 9362  
warning in such a manner that it becomes a part of the person's 9363  
permanent record that is maintained by the bureau of motor 9364  
vehicles and assists in monitoring violations of this section. 9365

(2) A person who commits a second offense within one year 9366  
after committing the first offense is guilty of a minor 9367  
misdemeanor. 9368

(3) A person who commits a third or subsequent offense within 9369  
one year after committing the first offense is guilty of a 9370  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 9371

(D) Fine money that is collected under division (C) of this 9372  
section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of 9373  
the surface mining fund created in section 1514.06 of the Revised 9374  
Code. 9375



Sec. 5749.02. (A) For the purpose of providing revenue to 9376  
administer the state's coal mining and reclamation regulatory 9377  
program, to meet the environmental and resource management needs 9378  
of this state, and to reclaim land affected by mining, an excise 9379  
tax is hereby levied on the privilege of engaging in the severance 9380  
of natural resources from the soil or water of this state. The tax 9381  
shall be imposed upon the severer and shall be: 9382

(1) ~~Seven~~ Ten and six-tenths cents per ton of coal; 9383

(2) Four cents per ton of salt; 9384

(3) Two cents per ton of limestone or dolomite; 9385

(4) Two cents per ton of sand and gravel; 9386

(5) Ten cents per barrel of oil; 9387

(6) Two and one-half cents per thousand cubic feet of natural 9388  
gas; 9389

(7) One cent per ton of clay, sandstone or conglomerate, 9390  
shale, gypsum, or quartzite; 9391

(8) Except as otherwise provided in this division or in rules 9392  
adopted by the reclamation forfeiture fund advisory board under 9393  
section 1513.182 of the Revised Code, an additional fourteen cents 9394  
per ton of coal produced from an area under a coal mining and 9395  
reclamation permit issued under Chapter 1513. of the Revised Code 9396  
for which the performance security is provided under division 9397  
(C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code. If at the end of a 9398  
fiscal biennium the balance of the reclamation forfeiture fund 9399  
created in section 1513.18 of the Revised Code is equal to or 9400  
greater than ten million dollars, the rate levied shall be twelve 9401  
cents per ton. If at the end of a fiscal biennium the balance of 9402  
the fund is at least five million dollars, but less than ten 9403  
million dollars, the rate levied shall be fourteen cents per ton. 9404  
If at the end of a fiscal biennium the balance of the fund is less 9405

than five million dollars, the rate levied shall be sixteen cents 9406  
per ton. Not later than thirty days after the close of a fiscal 9407  
biennium, the chief of the division of mineral resources 9408  
management shall certify to the tax commissioner the amount of the 9409  
balance of the reclamation forfeiture fund as of the close of the 9410  
fiscal biennium. Any necessary adjustment of the rate levied shall 9411  
take effect on the first day of the following January and shall 9412  
remain in effect during the calendar biennium that begins on that 9413  
date. 9414

(B) Of the moneys received by the treasurer of state from the 9415  
tax levied in division (A)(1) of this section, ~~six and~~ 9416  
~~three tenths~~ four and seventy-six-hundredths per cent shall be 9417  
credited to the geological mapping fund created in section 1505.09 9418  
of the Revised Code, ~~fourteen and two tenths per cent shall be~~ 9419  
~~credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund created in section~~ 9420  
~~1513.18 of the Revised Code, fifty seven and nine tenths~~ eighty 9421  
and ninety-five-hundredths per cent shall be credited to the coal 9422  
mining administration and reclamation reserve fund created in 9423  
section 1513.181 of the Revised Code, and ~~the remainder~~ fourteen 9424  
and twenty-nine-hundredths per cent shall be credited to the 9425  
unreclaimed lands fund created in section 1513.30 of the Revised 9426  
Code. ~~When, at any time during a fiscal year, the chief of the~~ 9427  
~~division of mineral resources management finds that the balance of~~ 9428  
~~the coal mining administration and reclamation reserve fund is~~ 9429  
~~below two million dollars, the chief shall certify that fact to~~ 9430  
~~the director of budget and management. Upon receipt of the chief's~~ 9431  
~~certification, the director shall direct the tax commissioner to~~ 9432  
~~instead credit to the coal mining administration and reclamation~~ 9433  
~~reserve fund during the remainder of the fiscal year for which the~~ 9434  
~~certification is made the fourteen and two tenths per cent of the~~ 9435  
~~moneys collected from the tax levied in division (A)(1) of this~~ 9436  
~~section and otherwise required by this division to be credited to~~ 9437

~~the reclamation forfeiture fund.~~ 9438

Fifteen per cent of the moneys received by the treasurer of 9439  
state from the tax levied in division (A)(2) of this section shall 9440  
be credited to the geological mapping fund and the remainder shall 9441  
be credited to the unreclaimed lands fund. 9442

Of the moneys received by the treasurer of state from the tax 9443  
levied in divisions (A)(3) and (4) of this section, seven and 9444  
five-tenths per cent shall be credited to the geological mapping 9445  
fund, forty-two and five-tenths per cent shall be credited to the 9446  
unreclaimed lands fund, and the remainder shall be credited to the 9447  
surface mining fund created in section 1514.06 of the Revised 9448  
Code. 9449

Of the moneys received by the treasurer of state from the tax 9450  
levied in divisions (A)(5) and (6) of this section, ninety per 9451  
cent shall be credited to the oil and gas well fund created in 9452  
section 1509.02 of the Revised Code and ten per cent shall be 9453  
credited to the geological mapping fund. All of the moneys 9454  
received by the treasurer of state from the tax levied in division 9455  
(A)(7) of this section shall be credited to the surface mining 9456  
fund. 9457

All of the moneys received by the treasurer of state from the 9458  
tax levied in division (A)(8) of this section shall be credited to 9459  
the reclamation forfeiture fund. 9460

~~(C) For the purpose of paying the state's expenses for 9461  
reclaiming mined lands that the operator failed to reclaim under a 9462  
coal mining and reclamation permit issued under Chapter 1513. of 9463  
the Revised Code, or under a surface mining permit issued under 9464  
Chapter 1514. of the Revised Code, for which the operator's bond 9465  
is not sufficient to pay the state's expense for reclamation, 9466  
there is hereby levied an excise tax on the privilege of engaging 9467  
in the severance of coal from the soil or water of this state in 9468~~

~~addition to the taxes levied by divisions (A)(1) and (D) of this section. The tax shall be imposed at the rate of one cent per ton of coal. Moneys received by the treasurer of state from the tax levied under this division shall be credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(D) For the purpose of paying the state's expenses for reclaiming coal mined lands that the operator failed to reclaim in accordance with Chapter 1513. of the Revised Code under a coal mining and reclamation permit issued after April 10, 1972, but before September 1, 1981, for which the operator's bond is not sufficient to pay the state's expense for reclamation and paying the expenses for administering the state's coal mining and reclamation regulatory program, there is hereby levied an excise tax on the privilege of engaging in the severance of coal from the soil or water of this state in addition to the taxes levied by divisions (A)(1) and (C) of this section. The tax shall be imposed at the rate of one cent per ton of coal as prescribed in this division. Moneys received by the treasurer of state from the tax levied by this division shall be credited to the reclamation forfeiture fund created in section 1513.18 of the Revised Code.~~

When, at the close of any fiscal year, the chief finds that the balance of the reclamation forfeiture fund, plus estimated transfers to it from the coal mining administration and reclamation reserve fund under section 1513.181 of the Revised Code, plus the estimated revenues from the tax levied by ~~this~~ division (A)(8) of this section for the remainder of the calendar year that includes the close of the fiscal year, are sufficient to complete the reclamation of ~~such~~ lands for which the performance security has been provided under division (C)(2) of section 1513.08 of the Revised Code, the purposes for which the tax under ~~this~~ division (A)(8) of this section is levied shall be deemed accomplished at the end of that calendar year. The chief, within

thirty days after the close of the fiscal year, shall certify 9501  
those findings to the tax commissioner, and the tax levied under 9502  
division (A)(8) of this section shall cease to be imposed after 9503  
the last day of that calendar year on coal produced under a coal 9504  
mining and reclamation permit issued under Chapter 1513. of the 9505  
Revised Code if the permittee has made tax payments under division 9506  
(A)(8) of this section during each of the preceding five full 9507  
calendar years. Not later than thirty days after the close of a 9508  
fiscal year, the chief shall certify to the tax commissioner the 9509  
identity of any permittees who accordingly no longer are required 9510  
to pay the tax levied under division (A)(8) of this section. 9511

Sec. 5749.11. (A) There is hereby allowed a nonrefundable 9512  
credit against the taxes imposed under division (A)(8) of section 9513  
5749.02 of the Revised Code for any severer to which a reclamation 9514  
tax credit certificate is issued under section 1513.171 of the 9515  
Revised Code. The credit shall be claimed in the amount shown on 9516  
the certificate. The credit shall be claimed by deducting the 9517  
amount of the credit from the amount of the first tax payment due 9518  
under section 5749.06 of the Revised Code after the certificate is 9519  
issued. 9520

If the amount of the credit shown on a certificate exceeds 9521  
the amount of the tax otherwise due with that first payment, the 9522  
excess shall be claimed against the amount of tax otherwise due on 9523  
succeeding payment dates until the entire credit amount has been 9524  
deducted. The total amount of credit claimed against payments 9525  
shall not exceed the total amount of credit shown on the 9526  
certificate. 9527

(B) A severer claiming a credit under this section shall 9528  
retain a reclamation tax credit certificate for not less than four 9529  
years following the date of the last tax payment against which the 9530  
credit allowed under that certificate was applied. Severers shall 9531

make tax credit certificates available for inspection by the tax 9532  
commissioner upon the tax commissioner's request. 9533

**Section 2.** That existing sections 123.04, 303.14, 307.37, 9534  
519.14, 1501.011, 1501.02, 1501.07, 1501.23, 1501.32, 1502.01, 9535  
1502.03, 1502.12, 1504.02, 1506.04, 1507.01, 1510.04, 1511.021, 9536  
1513.01, 1513.02, 1513.07, 1513.071, 1513.08, 1513.13, 1513.16, 9537  
1513.17, 1513.18, 1513.181, 1513.29, 1513.30, 1513.37, 1514.01, 9538  
1514.03, 1514.04, 1514.05, 1514.06, 1514.09, 1514.11, 1514.99, 9539  
1515.10, 1515.211, 1517.02, 1517.10, 1517.11, 1520.02, 1520.03, 9540  
1520.05, 1520.07, 1521.01, 1521.04, 1521.05, 1521.06, 1521.061, 9541  
1521.062, 1521.064, 1521.13, 1521.14, 1521.18, 1521.19, 1521.99, 9542  
1531.01, 1531.02, 1531.04, 1531.06, 1531.10, 1531.20, 1531.27, 9543  
1531.99, 1533.07, 1533.08, 1533.09, 1533.10, 1533.11, 1533.12, 9544  
1533.131, 1533.171, 1533.42, 1533.632, 1533.68, 1533.86, 1533.882, 9545  
1533.99, 1541.03, 1541.05, 1541.40, 1547.05, 1547.08, 1547.51, 9546  
1547.54, 1547.541, 1547.99, 1548.02, 1567.35, 4115.04, and 5749.02 9547  
and sections 1502.11, 1513.10, 1521.08, and 1533.78 of the Revised 9548  
Code are hereby repealed. 9549

**Section 3.** It is the intent of the General Assembly to 9550  
appropriate five million dollars for the reclamation of land 9551  
affected by the surface mining of coal. Of that five million 9552  
dollars, not more than fifty thousand dollars shall be used to 9553  
study the management of the financial resources of the coal mining 9554  
regulatory program of the Division of Mineral Resources Management 9555  
in the Department of Natural Resources. The Chief of the Division 9556  
of Mineral Resources Management, in consultation with a statewide 9557  
association representing the coal mining industry and a statewide 9558  
association representing environmental advocacy, shall develop an 9559  
outline of the subjects for the study. The Chief shall select an 9560  
objective third party that has knowledge in the management of 9561  
finances to conduct the study. Upon completion of the study, the 9562

third party shall prepare a report of its findings and submit the 9563  
report to the Director of Natural Resources. 9564

**Section 4.** Not later than five years after the effective date 9565  
of this act, the Chief of the Division of Mineral Resources 9566  
Management shall submit a report to the Governor summarizing the 9567  
activities of the Division of Mineral Resources Management under 9568  
sections 1514.40 to 1514.47 of the Revised Code, as enacted by 9569  
this act, trends in miner accident rates, and the number and 9570  
causes of life-threatening accidents and fatalities since the 9571  
effective date of this act. In addition, the report shall compare 9572  
those trends and accident rates with the trends and accident rates 9573  
that occurred ten years prior to the effective date of this act 9574  
and, if necessary, recommend changes to those sections in order to 9575  
improve miner health or safety. 9576

**Section 5.** The amendment of section 1541.40 of the Revised 9577  
Code by this act applies to members appointed to the Ohio Parks 9578  
and Recreation Council on and after the effective date of this 9579  
act. 9580

**Section 6.** Section 5749.02 of the Revised Code as amended by 9581  
this act shall take effect on April 1, 2007. 9582

**Section 7.** Section 1533.10 of the Revised Code is presented 9583  
in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Am. 9584  
Sub. H.B. 66 and H.B. 296 of the 126th General Assembly. Section 9585  
1547.54 of the Revised Code is presented in this act as a 9586  
composite of the section as amended by both Sub. H.B. 345 and Sub. 9587  
S.B. 150 of the 124th General Assembly. The General Assembly, 9588  
applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of 9589  
the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if 9590  
reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the 9591

composites are the resulting versions of the sections in effect	9592
prior to the effective date of the sections as presented in this	9593
act.	9594