

The Law on Conservation, Restoration, and Management of Wetlands in Islamic Republic of Iran

Article 1: Any type of utilization or activity resulting in the irreversible destruction and pollution of wetlands is prohibited. The reference organization for determining irreversible destruction and pollution is the Department of Environment, henceforth referred to as the Organization in this law.

Note: The directive for preventing irreversible destruction and pollution of wetlands shall be prepared by the Organization within six month of the communication of this law and submitted to the cabinet for approval so as to be a basis for the decisions of the Organization and all the relevant authorities. This directive must guarantee the conservation and restoration of wetlands in Iran.

Article 2: The Organization is mandated to determine the water requirements of the wetlands, and the Ministry for Energy is mandated to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for allocating and supplying the water requirements.

Article 3: Importing any type of Exotic harmful flora and/or fauna species into wetlands is prohibited. The list of such species will be prepared by the Organization, and the list shall be revised and published once every two years.

Article 4: Natural and juridical persons violating the articles of the current law and the ratified regulations, after submitting a claim by the Organization, shall be mandated to stop their activities and compensate for the losses they incurred. Moreover, depending on the decision of the legal authority, such persons will be mandated to pay penalties three to five times the incurred loss. In case of repeated offence, in addition to compensating the loss, such persons shall be sentenced to pay a penalty of six to eight times the incurred losses.

Note 1: Revenues acquired by receiving penalty fees and losses mentioned in this law will be recorded as a separate income line in the Budget Law of each year, and they will be deposited in the General Account of the Treasury Department, while an equivalent sum (100%) of the revenues shall be allocated to the National Environmental Funds in the Annual Budget in order to compensate for the losses and pursue the conservation, restoration, and management of wetlands.

Note 2: In the course of implementing this law, the Organization is exempt from paying the costs of legal proceedings.

Article 5: The government is mandated to account for the funds needed for implementing the necessary plans for the realization of the objectives of this law in the Annual Budget for the relevant organizations.

This law consisting of five articles and three noted was ratified in the public session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly on April 24, 2017, and it was approved by the Guardian Council of the Constitution on May 3, 2017.

Signed: Ali Larijani

The Islamic Consultative Assembly- The Speaker