

**TITLE 49 - TRANSPORTATION**  
**SUBTITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**CHAPTER 3 - GENERAL DUTIES AND POWERS**  
**SUBCHAPTER I - DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION**

**§ 303a. Development of water transportation**

- (a) **Policy.**— It is the policy of Congress—
- (1) to promote, encourage, and develop water transportation, service, and facilities for the commerce of the United States; and
  - (2) to foster and preserve rail and water transportation.
- (b) **Definition.**— In this section, “inland waterway” includes the Great Lakes.
- (c) **Requirements.**— The Secretary of Transportation shall—
- (1) investigate the types of vessels suitable for different classes of inland waterways to promote, encourage, and develop inland waterway transportation facilities for the commerce of the United States;
  - (2) investigate water terminals, both for inland waterway traffic and for through traffic by water and rail, including the necessary docks, warehouses, and equipment, and investigate railroad spurs and switches connecting with those water terminals, to develop the types most appropriate for different locations and for transferring passengers or property between water carriers and rail carriers more expeditiously and economically;
  - (3) consult with communities, cities, and towns about the location of water terminals, and cooperate with them in preparing plans for terminal facilities;
  - (4) investigate the existing status of water transportation on the different inland waterways of the United States to learn the extent to which—
    - (A) the waterways are being used to their capacity and are meeting the demands of traffic; and
    - (B) water carriers using those waterways are interchanging traffic with rail carriers;
  - (5) investigate other matters that may promote and encourage inland water transportation; and
  - (6) compile, publish, and distribute information about transportation on inland waterways that the Secretary considers useful to the commercial interests of the United States.

(Pub. L. 103–272, § 4(j)(6)(A), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1366.)

**Historical and Revision Notes**

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
303a	49 App.:142.	Feb. 28, 1920, ch. 91, § 500, 41 Stat. 499; Aug. 6, 1981, Pub. L. 97–31, § 12(9), 95 Stat. 154.

Section 4 (j)(6)(A) amends 49:ch. 3 by restating 49 App.:142 as section 303a because the provision more appropriately belongs in chapter 3.

In subsection (a)(2), the words “in full vigor both” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words “be construed to” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c)(1), the word “appropriate” is omitted as surplus. The word “vessels” is substituted for “boats” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (c)(2), the words “the subject of”, “apparatus”, “appliances in connection therewith”, and “or interchange” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c)(3), the words “appropriate” and “suitable” are omitted as surplus.

---

*NB: This unofficial compilation of the U.S. Code is current as of Jan. 4, 2012 (see <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/uscpint.html>).*

---

In subsection (c)(6), the words “province and”, “from time to time”, and “useful statistics, data, and” are omitted as surplus.