

**§ 3906. Economic Benefits of Bioprospecting Denied.**

(a) A person who engages in an act of bioprospecting in violation of this article is guilty of criminal trespass.

(b) If found guilty of a violation under this article, a court may in addition to a penalty imposed herein, order restitution that is proportional to the economic interests the CNMI may have.

(c) Restitution funds collected shall be deposited into the “Bioprospecting Revolving Fund” to be used by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for expenses incurred as a result of enforcement and compliance monitoring for any licensed bioprospecting activity in the CNMI.

(d) The Secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources shall be the expenditure authority for the restitution fees collected in the “Bioprospecting Revolving Fund” established in subsection (c).

**Source:** PL 22-19, § 3(106) (June 24, 2022), modified.

**Commission Comment:** *Legislative Findings of 2022 Legislation.*— For Findings and Purposes of PL 22-19, see Commission comment to 2 CMC § 3901:

*Modifications.*— In codifying PL 22-19, the Commission numbered this section, pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(a); redesignated subsection designations to lowercase letters, pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(a), to ensure consistency in numbering hierarchy; substituted “subsection (c)” for “subsection (3)” in subsec. (d) to conform references, pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(c); and substituted “this article” for “this Act” each time it appeared, pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(d).