S. 531

To promote recreation on Federal lakes, to require Federal agencies responsible for managing Federal lakes to pursue strategies for enhancing recreational experiences of the public, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 14, 2001

Mrs. Lincoln (for herself, Mr. Cleland, and Mr. Dorgan) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

- To promote recreation on Federal lakes, to require Federal agencies responsible for managing Federal lakes to pursue strategies for enhancing recreational experiences of the public, and for other purposes.
 - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
 - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
 - 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
 - 4 This Act may be cited as the "National Recreation
 - 5 Lakes Act of 2001".
 - 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.
 - 7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

- 1 (1) recreation is an authorized purpose at almost all Federal lakes;
- 3 (2) lakes created by Federal dam projects have 4 become powerful magnets for diverse recreation ac-5 tivities, drawing hundreds of millions of visits annu-6 ally and generating tens of billions of dollars in eco-7 nomic benefits;
 - (3) recreational opportunities are provided at such lakes, on surrounding land, and on downstream tailwaters by Federal agencies and through partnerships among Federal, State, and local government agencies and private persons; and
 - (4) the quality of recreational opportunities at and around Federal lakes depends on clean air and water and attractive viewsheds.
 - (b) Purposes.—The purposes of this Act are—
 - (1) to require Federal agencies responsible for management of lakes created by Federal dam projects to pursue strategies for enhancing recreational experiences at the lakes; and
 - (2) to direct Federal agencies to investigate the possibilities for the use of, and to use, creative management of the project lakes that optimizes both recreational opportunities and other purposes of the project lakes, including—

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1	(A) provision of agricultural and municipal
2	water supplies;
3	(B) provision of flood control and naviga-
4	tion benefits;
5	(C) production of hydroelectric power; and
6	(D) protection of water quality.
7	SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.
8	In this Act:
9	(1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the
10	Federal Lakes Recreation Leadership Council estab-
11	lished by section 5.
12	(2) NATIONAL RECREATION DEMONSTRATION
13	LAKE.—The term "national recreation demonstra-
14	tion lake" means a project lake that is designated as
15	a national recreation demonstration lake under sec-
16	tion 4.
17	(3) Participating agency.—The term "par-
18	ticipating agency" means—
19	(A) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;
20	(B) the Bureau of Land Management;
21	(C) the Bureau of Reclamation;
22	(D) the National Park Service;
23	(E) the United States Fish and Wildlife
24	Service;
25	(F) the Forest Service;

1	(G) the Army Corps of Engineers;
2	(H) the Tennessee Valley Authority; and
3	(I) any other project lake management
4	agency that participates in the Program at the
5	request of the Council.
6	(4) Program.—The term "Program" means
7	the national recreation lakes demonstration program
8	established by section 4.
9	(5) Project lake.—The term "project lake"
10	means an impoundment of water that—
11	(A) is part of a water resources project op-
12	erated, maintained, or constructed by or with
13	the participation of any Federal agency;
14	(B) has a maximum storage capacity of
15	200 acre feet or more; and
16	(C) includes recreation as an authorized
17	purpose.
18	(6) Project lake management agency.—
19	The term "project lake management agency" means
20	a Federal agency that manages a project lake.
21	(7) Recreation.—
22	(A) In general.—The term "recreation"
23	means—

1	(i) a water-related recreational activ-
2	ity that takes place on, adjacent to, or in
3	a project lake or tailwater; and
4	(ii) a recreational activity or wildlife-
5	related activity that takes place on feder-
6	ally managed land in the vicinity of a
7	project lake that is permitted under a land
8	management plan in effect on the date of
9	enactment of this Act.
10	(B) Inclusions.—The term "recreation"
11	includes—
12	(i) boating (including power boating,
13	sailing, rafting, kayaking, and canoeing),
14	diving, swimming, camping, trail-based ac-
15	tivities, and picnicking; and
16	(ii) fishing and other wildlife-related
17	activity.
18	SEC. 4. NATIONAL RECREATION LAKES DEMONSTRATION
19	PROGRAM.
20	(a) Establishment.—There is established the Na-
21	tional Recreation Lakes Demonstration Program con-
22	sisting of the 25 national recreation demonstration lakes
23	to be established under this Act.
24	(b) Criteria.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall develop 2 and establish criteria for use in selecting project 3 lakes managed by participating agencies for designa-4 tion as national recreation demonstration lakes.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The criteria shall—

- (A) include lake size, diversity of current and potential recreational uses, opportunities for partnerships with private and public entities, and present and projected regional recreation demand; and
- (B) require a strong showing of local support from the area of the lake, including support from State and local governments, private citizens, and businesses.
- (3) Consultation.—In developing the criteria, the Council shall consult with participating agencies to encourage the nomination of project lakes for the Program so as to include project lakes in all regions of the country and project lakes that will provide a variety of recreational experiences.
- 21 (c) Nomination of National Recreation Dem-22 Onstration Lakes.—A participating agency or an inter-23 est group located in the immediate vicinity of a project 24 lake may nominate the project lake to become a national 25 recreation demonstration lake by submitting to the Coun-

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- 1 cil a nomination in accordance with such procedures as
- 2 the Council may establish.
- 3 (d) Designation of National Recreation Dem-
- 4 ONSTRATION LAKES.—
- 5 (1) IN GENERAL.—On receiving the nomina-6 tions from participating agencies and local interest 7 groups, the Council shall designate 25 project lakes
- 8 to be national recreation demonstration lakes.
- 9 (2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting project 10 lakes for designation as national recreation dem-11 onstration lakes, the Council shall endeavor to in-12 clude project lakes in all regions of the country and 13 project lakes that will provide a variety of rec-14 reational experiences.
- 15 (3) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—A designation of a 16 project lake as a national recreation demonstration 17 lake shall be effective for a period not to exceed 10 18 years.
- 19 (e) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL RECRE-20 ATION DEMONSTRATION LAKES.—
- 21 (1) Enhancement of recreation activities.—Each participating agency shall use authorities under this Act to enhance opportunities for recreation activities on, in, and in the vicinity of national recreation demonstration lakes.

- (2) New Authorities.—In accordance with the Act of October 22, 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b) and the Act of November 13, 1998 (16 U.S.C. 5951 et seq.), the head of any participating agency except the National Park Service may conduct any activity to experiment with permits, fees, concession agree-ments, and innovative management structures at a national recreation demonstration lake under the ju-risdiction of the participating agency.
 - (3) Assistance to units of local government in the vicinity of a national recreation demonstration lake may carry out activities (including planning and marketing activities, the establishment of advisory boards, and other activities) to improve communications and cooperation between the agency and local community interests in the vicinity of the lake with respect to management of the national recreation demonstration lake.

(f) Local Advisory Committees.—

(1) Establishment and purpose.—Under guidelines developed by the Council, the head of a participating agency shall establish, for each national recreation demonstration lake managed by the

1	agency, a local advisory committee comprised of
2	State and local government and private sector rep-
3	resentatives.
4	(2) Duties.—The duties of a local advisory
5	committee shall be to recommend and coordinate
6	with project lake managers on projects proposed to
7	be completed by the participating agency under the
8	Program.
9	(3) Other authorities and require-
10	MENTS.—
11	(A) Meetings.—All meetings of a local
12	advisory committee shall be announced at least
13	1 week in advance in a local newspaper of
14	record and shall be open to the public.
15	(B) Records.—A local advisory com-
16	mittee shall maintain records of the meetings of
17	the committee and make the records available
18	for public inspection.
19	(C) Compensation.—Members of a local
20	advisory committee shall not receive any com-
21	pensation.
22	(D) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
23	ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5
24	U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to a local advisory

committee established under paragraph (1).

1	SEC. 5. FEDERAL LAKES RECREATION LEADERSHIP COUN-
2	CIL.
3	(a) Establishment.—There is established a council
4	to be known as the "Federal Lakes Recreation Leadership
5	Council" as contemplated by the memorandum of agree-
6	ment among the Secretary of the Interior, Secretary of
7	Agriculture, Secretary of the Army, and Chairman of the
8	Tennessee Valley Authority dated October 27, 1999.
9	(b) Membership.—The Council shall be composed
10	of—
11	(1) the Secretary of the Interior (or designee),
12	who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Council;
13	(2) the Secretary of the Army (or designee);
14	(3) the Secretary of Agriculture (or designee);
15	(4) the Director of the Tennessee Valley Au-
16	thority (or designee);
17	(5) a representative of the recreation industry,
18	appointed by the President;
19	(6) a representative of the National Association
20	of State Park Directors, appointed by the President;
21	and
22	(7) a director of a State Fish and Wildlife
23	Agency, appointed by the President.
24	(c) Terms; Vacancies.—
25	(1) Term.—

1	(A) In general.—Except as provided
2	under subparagraph (B), a member shall be ap-
3	pointed for the life of the Council.
4	(B) Presidential appointee.—A mem-
5	ber of the Council appointed under paragraphs
6	(5), (6), or (7) of subsection (b) shall be ap-
7	pointed for a term of 5 years.
8	(2) Vacancies.—A vacancy on the Council—
9	(A) shall not affect the powers of the
10	Council; and
11	(B) shall be filled in the same manner as
12	the original appointment was made.
13	(d) Purpose.—The purpose of the Council shall be
14	to—
15	(1) increase the awareness of the social and
16	economic values associated with project lake recre-
17	ation among project lake management agencies and
18	other stakeholders with an interest in recreation at
19	project lakes;
20	(2) develop policies that provide an environment
21	for success that emphasizes the role of recreation at
22	project lakes;
23	(3) protect and manage recreation and other re-
24	sources to optimize all resource benefits; and

1	(4) promote a process that will involve Federal
2	State, tribal, and local units of government and field
3	managers in the planning, development, and man-
4	agement of recreation uses at project lakes.
5	(e) Duties.—The Council shall—
6	(1)(A) work to implement the goals and rec
7	ommendations of the National Recreation Lakes
8	Study Commission as detailed in the Commission's
9	1999 report entitled "Reservoirs of Opportunity"
10	and
11	(B) use the report as a guide for all Council ac
12	tions;
13	(2) solicit each project lake management agency
14	to become a participating agency;
15	(3) respond to requests for assistance from
16	Members of Congress in drafting legislation, includ-
17	ing new authorization and funding requirements, to
18	best achieve the purposes of this Act;
19	(4) promote collaboration among agencies to
20	provide training opportunities, interagency develop-
21	ment assignments, and regular lake manager meet
22	ings;
23	(5) promote the development and consistency
24	of—

1	(A) data collection at project lakes,
2	including—
3	(i) making scientific assessments of
4	watershed and natural resource conditions;
5	and
6	(ii) making assessments of customer
7	facility and infrastructure needs; and
8	(B) required maintenance schedules;
9	(6) promote agency policies that encourage con-
10	struction, operation, and maintenance of high qual-
11	ity visitor and recreational services and facilities by
12	concessioners and permittees at project lakes, includ-
13	ing adequate opportunities for profitability and re-
14	covery of capital investments;
15	(7) develop consistent guidance to encourage
16	construction, operation, and maintenance of com-
17	mercial recreation facilities and other visitor amen-
18	ities at project lakes;
19	(8) recognize and reward innovation and col-
20	laboration at project lakes;
21	(9) develop public information materials to
22	identify the type and location of recreation facilities
23	and programs at project lakes;
24	(10) promote cooperation and share new ap-
25	proaches from Federal and State managing agen-

1	cies, Indian tribes, and the private sector to embrace
2	a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship;
3	(11) develop training courses on business skills
4	to close the recreation needs gap;
5	(12) support annual regional workshops with
6	State, tribal, local, and private sector participants to
7	seek feedback and assistance in achieving the goals
8	of the Program;
9	(13) develop and establish an application and
10	selection process to implement the Program;
11	(14) develop guidelines for the formation of
12	local advisory committees to be established by
13	project lake management agencies managing na-
14	tional recreation demonstration lakes; and
15	(15) develop and administer a competitive grant
16	program for distributing available funds among na-
17	tional recreation demonstration lakes for purposes
18	described in this Act under which—
19	(A) the total number of lakes improved
20	under the program shall not exceed 25 lakes
21	and
22	(B) grants are provided in a manner that
23	to the maximum extent practicable, reflects the
24	geographical diversity of the United States

- 1 (f) Principles.—In all its actions and recommenda-2 tions, the Council shall consider the following principles:
- 3 (1) Watershed health.—The health of the
- 4 watersheds associated with project lakes must be
- 5 protected.

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- 6 (2) Neighboring communities.—Neighboring
 7 communities should be encouraged to participate in
 8 planning the recreation needs and other uses of
 9 project lakes to help to diversify the economic base
 10 of the community and promote sustainable practices
 11 to protect resources.
 - (3) FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—Federal responsibilities to enhance recreation at project lakes while operating projects to optimize water use for all beneficial purposes should be reaffirmed.
 - (4) Management flexibility should be increased and support for management innovation should be demonstrated.
- 19 (5) Support.—Public and private support 20 should be attracted to provide public outdoor recre-21 ation activities at project lakes.
- 22 (g) FACA.—The Council shall be subject to the Fed-
- 23 eral Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

1	(h) TERMINATION OF COUNCIL.—The Council shall
2	terminate 15 years after the date on which funds are first
3	made available to carry out this section.
4	SEC. 6. PERIODIC REVIEW AND REVISION OF OPERATING
5	POLICIES FOR PROJECT LAKES.
6	(a) Reports.—
7	(1) Project lake management agencies.—
8	Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
9	of this Act, the head of each project lake manage-
10	ment agency shall submit to the Committee on En-
11	ergy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Com-
12	mittee on Resources of the House of Representa-
13	tives, and the Council a report that describes—
14	(A) actions taken by the agency to commu-
15	nicate to personnel of the agency the require-
16	ments of this Act and other laws relating to
17	recreation use of project lakes; and
18	(B) actions to be taken by the agency to
19	expand recreation opportunities at project lakes,
20	including a schedule for taking the actions.
21	(2) COUNCIL.—Not later than 3 years after the
22	date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years
23	thereafter, the Council shall submit to the Com-
24	mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
25	ate, and the Committee on Resources of the House

1	of Representatives a report describing actions taken
2	by participating agencies to expand recreation op-
3	portunities at project lakes.
4	(3) Participating agencies.—
5	(A) Periodic reports.—The head of
6	each participating agency shall periodically re-
7	port to the Council regarding activities of the
8	participating agency under this section.
9	(B) Comprehensive review.—Not later
10	than 5 years after the date of enactment of this
11	Act and at least once every 15 years thereafter,
12	the head of each participating agency shall con-
13	duct a comprehensive review of operating poli-
14	cies for project lakes managed by the agency
15	that describes—
16	(i) the actions taken by the agency to
17	communicate to personnel of the agency
18	the requirements of this Act and other
19	laws relating to recreation use of project
20	lakes; and
21	(ii) the actions to be taken by the
22	agency to expand recreation opportunities
23	at project lakes, including a schedule for
24	taking the actions.
25	(b) Policies.—

1	(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each project
2	lake management agency shall—
3	(A) revise the policies of the agency as nec-
4	essary to incorporate new information and en-
5	sure coordinated management of project lakes
6	to produce high levels of benefits for recreation
7	and all authorized purposes and designated uses
8	of project lakes; and
9	(B) where recreation is consistent with the
10	project lake purposes and designated uses of
11	project lands and waters, give recreation appro-
12	priate attention in all agency decisions and poli-
13	cies relating to the project lake.
14	(2) Tailwaters.—In conducting any activity
15	relating to the tailwater of a project lake, the head
16	of a project lake management agency shall—
17	(A) investigate ways to consider rec-
18	reational uses dependent on water release
19	schedules and release volumes;
20	(B) consider release schedules to enhance
21	such opportunities and uses of the tailwater;
22	and
23	(C) appropriately balance all of the pur-
24	poses of the project.

1	SEC. 7. RECREATION FEE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.
2	Section 315 of the Department of the Interior and
3	Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (16 U.S.C.
4	460l–6a note; Public Law 104–134), is amended—
5	(1) in subsection (a)—
6	(A) by inserting ", the Bureau of Reclama-
7	tion," after "the National Park Service";
8	(B) by striking "Service) and" and insert-
9	ing "Service),"; and
10	(C) by inserting before "shall each" the
11	following: ", and the Secretary of the Army
12	(acting through the Corps of Engineers)";
13	(2) in subsection (b), by striking "four agen-
14	cies" and inserting "6 agencies"; and
15	(3) in subsection (e)—
16	(A) by striking "and" and inserting a
17	comma; and
18	(B) by inserting ", and the Secretary of
19	the Army' before "shall carry out".
20	SEC. 8. USE OF FEDERAL WATER PROJECT FUNDING FOR
21	MATCHING REQUIREMENTS FOR RECRE-
22	ATION PROJECTS AT NATIONAL RECREATION
23	DEMONSTRATION LAKES.
24	(a) Federal Water Project Recreation Act.—
25	The Federal Water Project Recreation Act is amended—
26	(1) in section 2 (16 U.S.C. 460l–13)—

1	(A) in subsection (a), by striking "it and
2	to bear" and all that follows through "recre-
3	ation," and inserting "the project,"; and
4	(B) in subsection (b)—
5	(i) by striking "recreation and"; and
6	(ii) by striking "recreation or";
7	(2) in section 3 (16 U.S.C. 460l–14)—
8	(A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking "it
9	and will bear" the first place it appears and all
10	that follows through "recreation," and inserting
11	"the project,"; and
12	(B) in subsection (c), by striking para-
13	graph (2); and
14	(3) in section 4 (16 U.S.C. 460l–15), by strik-
15	ing "recreation and" and all that follows through
16	"those purposes" and inserting "fish and wildlife
17	purposes".
18	(b) FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION ACT.—The
19	Act of August 9, 1950 (16 U.S.C. 777 et seq.) is amended
20	by striking the first section 13 (relating to effective date)
21	and the second section 13 (relating to State use of con-
22	tributions) and inserting the following:

1	"SEC. 13. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL WATER PROJECT
2	SPENDING TO NON-FEDERAL SHARE OF COV
3	ERED RECREATION PROJECTS.
4	"(a) Definitions.—In this section:
5	"(1) COVERED RECREATION PROJECT.—The
6	term 'covered recreation project' means construction
7	or reconstruction of a facility for recreation at a na-
8	tional recreation demonstration lake that is carried
9	out with assistance under this Act.
10	"(2) NATIONAL RECREATION DEMONSTRATION
11	LAKE.—The term 'national recreation demonstration
12	lake' has the meaning given the term in section 2 of
13	the National Recreation Lakes Act of 2001.
14	"(3) Recreation.—The term 'recreation' has
15	the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Na-
16	tional Recreation Lakes Act of 2001.
17	"(b) Treatment of Use of Amounts Appro-
18	PRIATED FOR A FEDERAL WATER PROJECT.—The use for
19	any covered recreation project of amounts appropriated
20	for a Federal water project shall be treated as payment
21	of the non-Federal share of costs required under this
22	Act.".
23	(c) Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration
24	ACT.—The Act of September 2, 1937 (16 U.S.C. 669 et
25	seq.) is amended—

1	(1) by redesignating section 10 as section 11;
2	and
3	(2) by inserting after section 9 the following:
4	"SEC. 10. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL WATER PROJECT
5	SPENDING TO NON-FEDERAL SHARE OF
6	RECREATION PROJECTS.
7	"(a) Definitions.—In this section:
8	"(1) COVERED RECREATION PROJECT.—The
9	term 'covered recreation project' means construction
10	or reconstruction of a facility for recreation at a na-
11	tional recreation demonstration lake that is carried
12	out with assistance under this Act.
13	"(2) National recreation demonstration
14	LAKE.—The term 'national recreation demonstration
15	lake' has the meaning given the term in section 2 of
16	the National Recreation Lakes Act of 2001.
17	"(3) Recreation.—The term 'recreation' has
18	the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Na-
19	tional Recreation Lakes Act of 2001.
20	"(b) Treatment of Use of Amounts Appro-
21	PRIATED FOR A FEDERAL WATER PROJECT.—The use for
22	any covered recreation project of amounts appropriated
23	for a Federal water project shall be treated as payment
24	of the non-Federal share of costs required under this
25	Act "

1	SEC. 9. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE FOR RECONSTRUCTION
2	OR REPLACEMENT OF RECREATION FACIL-
3	ITY.
4	(a) Assistance Authorized.—The head of each
5	project lake management agency may provide financial as-
6	sistance to a State or local agency to cover a portion of
7	the total costs incurred for the reconstruction or replace-
8	ment of a recreation facility operated under an agreement
9	with the State or local agency at a project lake.
10	(b) Costs Included.—The total costs of reconstruc-
11	tion or replacement of a recreation facility include the
12	costs associated with all components of the reconstruction
13	or replacement project, including—
14	(1) project administration;
15	(2) the provision of technical assistance; and
16	(3) contracting and construction costs.
17	(c) Limitation.—Assistance provided under sub-
18	section (a) shall not be used for costs incurred in main-
19	taining or operating the recreation facility.
20	SEC. 10. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.
21	This Act does not affect—
22	(1) the purposes of any project lake authorized
23	before the date of enactment of this Act;
24	(2) the authority of any State to manage fish
25	and wildlife; or

- 1 (3) the authority of any State or the Federal
- 2 Government to enter into any agreement relating to
- a project lake.

4 SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- 5 (a) In General.—There are authorized to be appro-
- 6 priated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal
- 7 years 2002 through 2006, to remain available until ex-
- 8 pended.
- 9 (b) Administrative Costs.—Not more than 5 per-
- 10 cent of the funds made available under subsection (a) may
- 11 be used to pay administrative costs incurred by the Sec-
- 12 retary of the Interior in coordinating the activities of the
- 13 Council and participating agencies under this Act.

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