

# Union Calendar No. 314

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4294

[Report No. 109-558]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 10, 2005

Mr. PORTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

JULY 13, 2006

Additional sponsors: Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. CASE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. BAIRD

JULY 13, 2006

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on November 10, 2005]

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System, 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 “Natural Resource Pro-*  
5 *tection Cooperative Agreement Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR NATIONAL PARK**

7                    **NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION.**

8        (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of the Interior (re-*  
9 *ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) may enter into*  
10 *cooperative agreements with State, local, or tribal govern-*  
11 *ments, other Federal agencies, other public entities, edu-*  
12 *cational institutions, private nonprofit organizations, or*  
13 *participating private landowners for the purpose of pro-*  
14 *tecting natural resources of units of the National Park Sys-*  
15 *tem through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside*  
16 *of National Park System units.*

17        (b) *TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—*A cooperative agree-*  
18 *ment entered into under subsection (a) shall provide clear*  
19 *and direct benefits to park natural resources and—*

20                    (1) *provide for—*

21                                    (A) *the preservation, conservation, and res-*  
22 *toration of coastal and riparian systems, water-*  
23 *sheds, and wetlands;*

24                                    (B) *preventing, controlling, or eradicating*  
25 *invasive exotic species that are within a unit of*

1           *the National Park System or adjacent to a unit*  
2           *of the National Park System; or*

3                   *(C) restoration of natural resources, includ-*  
4                   *ing native wildlife habitat or ecosystems;*

5           *(2) include a statement of purpose demonstrating*  
6           *how the agreement will—*

7                   *(A) enhance science-based natural resource*  
8                   *stewardship at the unit of the National Park*  
9                   *System; and*

10                   *(B) benefit the parties to the agreement;*

11           *(3) specify any staff required and technical as-*  
12           *sistance to be provided by the Secretary or other par-*  
13           *ties to the agreement in support of activities inside*  
14           *and outside the unit of the National Park System*  
15           *that will—*

16                   *(A) protect natural resources of the unit of*  
17                   *the National Park System; and*

18                   *(B) benefit the parties to the agreement;*

19           *(4) identify any materials, supplies, or equip-*  
20           *ment and any other resources that will be contributed*  
21           *by the parties to the agreement or by other Federal*  
22           *agencies;*

23           *(5) describe any financial assistance to be pro-*  
24           *vided by the Secretary or the partners to implement*  
25           *the agreement;*

1           (6) *ensure that any expenditure by the Secretary*  
2           *pursuant to the agreement is determined by the Sec-*  
3           *retary to support the purposes of natural resource*  
4           *stewardship at a unit of the National Park System;*  
5           *and*

6           (7) *include such other terms and conditions as*  
7           *are agreed to by the Secretary and the other parties*  
8           *to the agreement.*

9           (c) *LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary shall not use any*  
10          *funds associated with an agreement entered into under sub-*  
11          *section (a) for the purposes of land acquisition, regulatory*  
12          *activity, or the development, maintenance, or operation of*  
13          *infrastructure, except for ancillary support facilities that*  
14          *the Secretary determines to be necessary for the completion*  
15          *of projects or activities identified in the agreement.*

16          (d) *FUNDING.—Funds available to carry out the provi-*  
17          *sions of this Act shall be limited to programs and amounts*  
18          *specified in the statute for such use in the annual appro-*  
19          *priation Act for the National Park Service.*



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