

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1901

To provide for a comprehensive study by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to assess the water management, needs, and conservation of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2009

Mr. BOYD (for himself, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To provide for a comprehensive study by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to assess the water management, needs, and conservation of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System.

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. STUDY ON THE APALACHICOLA-CHATTAHOO-**
4 **CHEE-FLINT RIVER SYSTEM.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ACF RIVER SYSTEM.—The term “ACF
2 River System” means the Apalachicola-Chattahoo-
3 chee-Flint River System.

4 (2) COUNCIL.—The term “Council” means the
5 National Research Council of the National Academy
6 of Sciences.

7 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
8 the Secretary of the Army.

9 (b) NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL STUDY.—Not
10 later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
11 the Secretary shall offer to enter into an agreement with
12 the Council under which the Council shall conduct a com-
13 prehensive study of the water management, needs, and
14 conservation of the ACF River System.

15 (c) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—The study under
16 subsection (b) shall include the following:

17 (1) A summary of the existing body of scientific
18 knowledge on—

19 (A) the ecology, hydrology, geomorphology,
20 and biogeochemistry of the Apalachicola River
21 and the greater ACF River System;

22 (B) the ecosystem services provided by the
23 Apalachicola River;

24 (C) the impact of variation in freshwater
25 flow on the ecology of the river and downstream

1 coastal ecosystems, including the Apalachicola
2 Bay ecosystem; and

3 (D) how to restore the natural hydraulic
4 function of the ACF River System, including
5 restoration of floodplains and wetlands.

6 (2) An assessment of models that serve as the
7 basis for the master manuals of the ACF River Sys-
8 tem.

9 (3) An assessment of water availability, supply
10 options, demand-management alternatives, and so-
11 cioeconomic factors that influence uses in the ACF
12 River System, including water quality, navigation,
13 hydropower, recreation, in-stream ecology, and flood
14 control.

15 (4) An assessment of policies, regulations, and
16 other factors that affect Federal water project oper-
17 ations.

18 (5) Recommendations for an approach to deter-
19 mine water limits that recognize the needs of all
20 water users along the ACF River System, including
21 adequate in-stream flow requirements.

22 (6) Recommendations for any additional meas-
23 ures to address the long-term watershed manage-
24 ment needs of the ACF River System as the Council
25 considers to be appropriate.

1 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after entering
2 into an agreement under subsection (b), the Council shall
3 submit to the Secretary and Congress a report containing
4 the findings of the study under subsection (b), including
5 such recommendations as the Council considers to be ap-
6 propriate.

7 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
8 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
9 \$1,200,000.

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