

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3198

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide international wildlife management and conservation programs through the Wildlife Without Borders Program in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide international wildlife management and conservation programs through the Wildlife Without Borders Program in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 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 “Wildlife Without Bor-
5 ders Authorization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) our Nation has a long-standing commitment
2 to assisting other countries with the conservation of
3 wildlife species and limited wildlife conservation re-
4 sources, including trained wildlife professionals, are
5 often unavailable in many foreign countries con-
6 taining globally important biological resources;

7 (2) conservation activities, both overseas and in
8 neighboring countries, are required to meet the Fed-
9 eral Government's obligations under numerous inter-
10 national treaties, laws, agreements, and cooperative
11 programs;

12 (3) since 1983, the Wildlife Without Borders
13 Program, an administratively created program with-
14 in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, has
15 provided wildlife conservation assistance throughout
16 the world by developing locally adapted wildlife man-
17 agement and conservation programs, in coordination
18 with non-governmental organizations, governments,
19 private businesses, and community leaders, in an ef-
20 fort to maintain global species diversity;

21 (4) activities under the Wildlife Without Bor-
22 ders Program is responsible for implementation of
23 over 950 conservation projects around the world that
24 address grass-roots threats to numerous endangered
25 species, habitats, and ecosystems and that com-

1 plement the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
2 ice’s existing programs for African elephants, rhinoc-
3 eros and tigers, Asian elephants, great apes,
4 neotropical migratory birds, and marine turtles;

5 (5) activities under the Wildlife Without Bor-
6 ders Program provide education, training, and out-
7 reach to strengthen capacity for habitat and wildlife
8 conservation throughout the world and serve a key
9 role in facilitating international dialogue; and

10 (6) although the Secretary of the Interior is
11 generally authorized to undertake partnering and ca-
12 pacity building activities, a specific authorization will
13 reinforce our Nation’s long-term commitment to the
14 Wildlife Without Borders Program.

15 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide
16 capacity building, outreach, education, and training assist-
17 ance in endangered species and strategic habitat conserva-
18 tion to other nations by providing international wildlife
19 management and conservation programs through the
20 Wildlife Without Borders Program.

21 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) CONSERVATION.—The term “conservation”
24 includes—

1 (A) the methods and procedures necessary
2 to bring a species to the point at which there
3 are sufficient populations in the wild to ensure
4 that the species does not become extinct; and

5 (B) all activities associated with protection
6 and management of a species, including—

7 (i) maintenance, management, protec-
8 tion, and restoration of species habitat;

9 (ii) research and monitoring;

10 (iii) law enforcement;

11 (iv) community outreach and edu-
12 cation;

13 (v) conflict resolution initiatives; and

14 (vi) strengthening the capacity of local
15 communities, government agencies, non-
16 governmental organizations, and other in-
17 stitutions to implement conservation pro-
18 grams.

19 (2) FISH OR WILDLIFE.—The term “fish or
20 wildlife” means any member of the animal kingdom,
21 including any mammal, fish, bird, amphibian, rep-
22 tile, mollusk, crustacean, or arthropod.

23 (3) PLANT.—The term “plant” mean any mem-
24 ber of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots, and
25 other parts thereof.

1 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of the Interior.

3 (5) SPECIES.—The term “species” includes any
4 subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any dis-
5 tinct population segment of any species of vertebrate
6 fish or wildlife.

7 **SEC. 4. WILDLIFE WITHOUT BORDERS PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out the
9 Wildlife Without Borders Program within the United
10 States Fish and Wildlife Service to provide international
11 wildlife conservation assistance through the initiation, fa-
12 cilitation, and promotion of locally adapted wildlife man-
13 agement and conservation programs in coordination with
14 non-governmental organizations, governments, private
15 businesses, and community leaders. Such program shall
16 include, but shall not be limited to, partnership programs
17 for grass roots capacity building, applied scientific con-
18 servation research, and wildlife management training.

19 (b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—The program author-
20 ized under this section shall include the following:

21 (1) SPECIES PROGRAM.—A species program,
22 which shall comprise administration of the programs
23 and funds authorized by—

24 (A) the African Elephant Conservation Act
25 of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.);

1 (B) the Asian Elephant Conservation Act
2 of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.);

3 (C) the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation
4 Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.);

5 (D) the Great Ape Conservation Act of
6 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301);

7 (E) the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of
8 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601); and

9 (F) any similar, future authority provided
10 to the Secretary and implemented by the Fish
11 and Wildlife Service.

12 (2) REGIONAL PROGRAM.—A regional program,
13 which shall—

14 (A) address grass-roots conservation prob-
15 lems through a regional grants program focused
16 on building in-country human and institutional
17 capacity to achieve comprehensive conservation
18 in a manner adapted to the particular needs of
19 a partner country;

20 (B) facilitate and guide delivery of other
21 international United States Fish and Wildlife
22 Service programs; and

23 (C) coordinate, develop, and implement re-
24 gional treaties, conventions, and accords, in-
25 cluding regional coordination mechanisms, on

1 behalf of the United States Fish and Wildlife
2 Service.

3 (3) GLOBAL PROGRAM.—A global program,
4 which shall, through programs under the jurisdiction
5 of the secretary and that are implemented through
6 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service—

7 (A) implement global habitat and conserva-
8 tion initiatives; and

9 (B) address the international aspects of
10 global conservation threats, such as invasive
11 species and wildlife disease.

12 (c) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall operate the
13 program components authorized under this section in a
14 coordinated fashion to ensure efficient and cost-effective
15 implementation.

16 (d) ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS.—The Secretary may
17 include such additional components in the program au-
18 thorized under this section as the Secretary considers ap-
19 propriate.

20 **SEC. 5. ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.**

21 In administering the Wildlife Without Borders Pro-
22 gram, the Secretary may accept donations of funds and
23 to use such funds for capacity building, grants, and other
24 on-the-ground uses carried out by the program compo-

1 nents authorized under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section
2 4.

3 **SEC. 6. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**

4 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)
5 shall not apply to any advisory committees established
6 under this Act.

7 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 To carry out this Act there is authorized to be appro-
9 priated to the Secretary \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal
10 years 2010 through 2015.

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