

Calendar No. 211

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 873****[Report No. 114–131]**

To designate the wilderness within the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska as the Jay S. Hammond Wilderness Area.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2015

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

Reported by Ms. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italie*]**A BILL**

To designate the wilderness within the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska as the Jay S. Hammond Wilderness Area.

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 “Jay S. Hammond Wil-
5 derness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) on July 21, 1922, Jay Sterner Hammond
4 was born in Troy, New York;

5 (2) Hammond studied petroleum engineering at
6 Penn State University, where he was a member of
7 the Triangle Fraternity;

8 (3) Hammond later served as a Marine Corps
9 fighter pilot, serving—

10 (A) during World War II with the famous
11 Black Sheep Squadron in the South Pacific;
12 and

13 (B) in China from 1945–1946;

14 (4) after leaving military service, Hammond
15 flew to Alaska, where Hammond worked as a Bush
16 pilot, trapper, guide, and laborer;

17 (5) a war-related illness caused Hammond to
18 enroll at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, where
19 Hammond earned his degree in biological sciences in
20 1949;

21 (6) after graduating from the University of
22 Alaska, Fairbanks, Hammond went to work as a bi-
23 ologist, field agent, and hunter for the United States
24 Fish and Wildlife Service;

25 (7) in 1950, Hammond was transferred to
26 Southwest Alaska, where Hammond—

1 (A) conducted predator and prey studies
2 on the caribou herd of the Alaska Peninsula;
3 and

4 (B) conducted fisheries enforcement efforts
5 out of Dillingham as a pilot;

6 (8) Hammond—

7 (A) was 1 of the first people to count 64
8 brown bears at McNeil River in Southwest
9 Alaska; and

10 (B) once recorded nearly 500,000 Black
11 Brant geese eclipsing the sun at Izembek Bay;

12 (9) Hammond later cruised the entire shoreline
13 of 45-mile-long Lake Clark counting wildlife and
14 finding a future homestead site on the shore of Lake
15 Clark;

16 (10) upon Alaska entering the Union in 1959,
17 Hammond ran and won election to the Alaska State
18 House of Representatives;

19 (11) Hammond served as an independent in the
20 Alaska State House of Representatives from 1959 to
21 1965;

22 (12) in 1960, Hammond changed his party af-
23 filiation to Republican;

1 (13) after 3 terms in the Alaska State House
2 of Representatives, Hammond served as a State sen-
3 ator from 1967 to 1973;

4 (14) from 1972 to 1974, Hammond served as
5 mayor of the Bristol Bay Borough;

6 (15) during the 1960s and early 1970s, Ham-
7 mond served as the manager of Bristol Bay Borough
8 during periods in which the State legislature was not
9 in session;

10 (16) in 1974, Hammond was drafted by friends
11 to run for Governor of Alaska, defeating former Re-
12 publican Walter J. Hickel in the primary, and de-
13 feating the first Governor of the State, Democrat
14 William A. Egan, in the general election;

15 (17) the 1974 campaign for Governor was
16 dominated by—

17 (A) the opposition of Hammond to oil leas-
18 ing in Kachemak Bay;

19 (B) concern about State salmon fisheries
20 and environmental management; and

21 (C) fear about State overspending after the
22 discovery of oil on the North Slope;

23 (18) Hammond—

24 (A) won the Republican primary for Gov-
25 ernor in 1974 by 7,874 votes; and

1 (B) won the general election for Governor
2 in 1974 by a mere 221 votes after 2 recounts;

3 (19) in 1978, Hammond again defeated Walter
4 J. Hickel in the Republican primary by 98 votes, the
5 closest margin in a statewide election in the history
6 of Alaska;

7 (20) Hammond defeated Walter J. Hickel, a
8 write-in candidate, and Democrat Chancy Croft in
9 the 1978 General Election by 16,000 votes;

10 (21) as Governor, Hammond—

11 (A) oversaw construction of the Trans-
12 Alaska Pipeline;

13 (B) championed the creation of the Alaska
14 Permanent Fund;

15 (C) authored the Alaska Permanent Fund
16 Dividend program, which provides citizens of
17 Alaska a yearly dividend check from interest
18 earnings of the State share of petroleum reve-
19 nues placed in the Alaska Permanent Fund;

20 (D) won approval of a constitutional budg-
21 et reserve;

22 (E) opposed the repeal of the State income
23 tax;

24 (F) championed agricultural development
25 in Interior Alaska; and

1 (G) oversaw the purchase of the Alaska
2 Railroad by the State;

3 (22) with respect to environmental issues,
4 Hammond—

5 (A) opposed construction of a proposed
6 Ramparts hydroelectric dam on the Yukon
7 River;

8 (B) supported the congressional creation of
9 a 200-mile fisheries zone off the coast of the
10 State, which improved State fishery stocks;

11 (C) oversaw the creation of a limited entry
12 fisheries regime in the State;

13 (D) oversaw the creation of the largest
14 State park in the United States, the Wood
15 Tikchik State Park in Southwest Alaska, which
16 contains 1,600,000 acres of wilderness; and

17 (E) in 1980, as Governor, oversaw the en-
18 actment of the Alaska National Interest Lands
19 Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.),
20 which—

21 (i) dissolved the placement of
22 120,000,000 acres of Alaska into protected
23 status under chapter 3203 of title 54,
24 United States Code;

1 (ii) designated 104,000,000 acres of
2 land as units of the National Park System,
3 units of the National Wildlife Refuge Sys-
4 tem, National Monuments, components of
5 the National Wilderness Preservation Sys-
6 tem, and components of the National Wild
7 and Scenic Rivers System;

8 (iii) added 5,500,000 acres in 14 new
9 units of the National Wilderness Preserva-
10 tion System;

11 (iv) added more than 40,000,000
12 acres in 10 new units of the National Park
13 System, including the 3,860,000-acre Lake
14 Clark National Park and Preserve, bring-
15 ing to 54,000,000 acres the total size of
16 National Park System holdings in the
17 State;

18 (v) added a number of new units of
19 the National Wildlife Refuge System in the
20 State, bringing to 19 the number of units
21 of the National Wildlife Refuge System
22 covering 76,800,000 acres in the State;

23 (vi) created 13 components of the Na-
24 tional Wild and Scenic Rivers System run-
25 ning 3,131 miles; and

1 (vii) resulted in Alaska containing
 2 57,900,000 acres of wilderness;

3 (23) a talented and prolific writer and poet,
 4 Hammond—

5 (A) presented to the University of Alaska
 6 Library Archives an impressive collection of
 7 speeches, testimony, notebooks, and papers; and

8 (B) wrote several books on life in Alaska,
 9 including his first book entitled “Tales of Alas-
 10 ka’s Bush Rat Governor”;

11 (24) Hammond died on August 2, 2005, at age
 12 83, in his sleep, at his homestead at Port Alsworth,
 13 Alaska, after having survived—

14 (A) 5 plane crashes; and

15 (B) innumerable close calls with death, in-
 16 cluding during—

17 (i) Hammond’s first flight to Alaska
 18 and numerous subsequent flights during
 19 Hammond’s 59 years in the State; and

20 (ii) a fire at the homestead at Lake
 21 Clark;

22 (25) Hammond was survived by—

23 (A) his wife, Bella; and

24 (B) his daughters, Heidi ~~and Dana~~, *Dana*,
 25 *and Wendy*;

1 (26) Hammond—

2 (A) was well-respected for reaching across
3 the aisle to forge bipartisan alliances; and

4 (B) enjoyed many close friendships—

5 (i) with colleagues in both political
6 parties; and

7 (ii) members of his staff, who were
8 deeply loyal to Hammond; and

9 (27) the designation of the 2,600,000 acres of
10 wilderness in Lake Clark National Park and Pre-
11 serve, in which the homestead of Hammond is lo-
12 cated, would—

13 (A) honor Hammond; and

14 (B) be a fitting tribute to the honorable
15 life and legacy of Hammond, who was described
16 by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly on Au-
17 gust 7, 2005, as “the finest example of a true
18 public servant . . . there are few men who have
19 influence through their quiet articulation of
20 what is right and fair in the way of Jay Ham-
21 mond”.

22 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF JAY S. HAMMOND WILDERNESS**
23 **AREA.**

24 (a) DESIGNATION.—The approximately 2,600,000
25 acres of National Wilderness Preservation System land lo-

1 cated within the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve
2 designated by section 201(e)(7)(a) of the Alaska National
3 Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C.
4 410hh(e)(7)(a)) shall be known and designated as the
5 “Jay S. Hammond Wilderness Area”.

6 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
7 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
8 States to the wilderness area referred to in subsection (a)
9 shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Jay S. Ham-
10 mond Wilderness Area”.

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