

as nutrition problems, disease, and harvesting technology. There were many costly false starts in a search for solutions. Success was a hit or miss event. Gradually, solutions to feeding and health problems have been developed. Today, part of the catfish industry's attention is focused on obtaining new technology. This involves the National Marine Fisheries Service. The goal is to take advantage of existing technology.

Now, to many Americans fish are fish. To some, fish are classified as either fresh water or salt water. Here is where the Federal Government often draws a hard and fast bureaucratic line. The Federal Government has two different and distant agencies in two separate departments which deal with fish depending on the water they live in.

This is OK if these agencies talk to each other and share their success stories—yes, fish stories. And not about the one that got away. In Washington they call this dialog interagency coordination which is formalized with a memorandum of agreement. Sadly, this does not always occur.

Today, I stand here to tell you about one of those instances where the two Federal agencies did indeed find each other. They found each other without prodding from outside sources—like Congress. The story gets even better. When they found each other, there was a cooperative spirit to help America's catfish industry. Here, there is a success story.

Mr. President, it is encouraging for me to report to my colleagues there was a personal commitment, at the staff level, to help Mississippi's Delta catfish farmers. The National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS], in Pascagoula, which is part of the Department of Commerce took on the persistent fresh water pond harvesting technology problems. They worked with Scientists at the Department of Agriculture [USDA] laboratory, at Mississippi State University in Stoneville. Together they formed a joint effort to apply existing marine fisheries' technology to catfish ponds. The established saltwater fishing industry is excellent at catching fish. The new fresh water community is good at growing fish, however, they needed to learn how to be more effective at catching them. NMFS stepped in to share new gear technology with the fresh water fish community. This sharing of technology kept the fresh water community from reinventing the wheel.

The Government's traditional business as usual policy would have prevented the assistance and technology exchange. To provide this help across jurisdictional lines is a Federal no-no. More importantly the policy would have been prevented because it threatens budget authority and funding issues.

But, despite these Washington obstacles assistance was offered and received. A Mississippi success story.

The NMFS laboratory in Pascagoula committed itself because of its can do attitude. And clearly USDA and Mississippi State University were receptive. NMFS brought a range of potential solutions to the harvesting technology problems of the warmwater aquaculture industry because they had worked on this issue for years in the marine fishing industry. I want to single out two individuals. Specifically, John Watson and Charles "Wendy" Taylor of NMFS's Pascagoula laboratory. These two directly assisted in the development and retrofitting of harvesting equipment. They had lots of ideas. They offered hands-on help. They produced rapid results.

They showed those fresh water folks lots of new ideas and real solutions. Many of these ideas caused revolutionary improvements in the harvesting efficiency and quality control for the farm-raised catfish industry. Revolutionary is not an overstatement. This is not a fish story about the one that got away. This is about the catfish that got caught. The proof was tangible and quickly evident at the processing plants. John and Wendy made a difference in Stoneville.

The NMFS laboratory staff in Pascagoula could have told the scientists in Stoneville's USDA Laboratory that procedures and policies prohibit the marine fisheries' experts of Federal Government from sharing their technology with a sister industry. But, they did not. Instead, through the combined efforts of these two diligent scientists and the cooperative spirit of personnel with USDA's Stoneville Experiment Station and Mississippi State University, steps were taken to discover potential solutions to the technology problems which have plagued the farm-raised catfish industry.

I must say this cooperative spirit extends all the way back to Washington. It is also exhibited by Rolland Schmitt, the Director for the National Marine Fisheries Service. There is a leadership example which is reflected throughout the agency.

Mr. President, it is a pleasure to share with my colleagues this story of Federal interagency cooperation. It also illustrates that public-private partnership can be productive. I think it is worth noting that this cooperative effort has reduced duplication of Federal efforts. This makes fiscal sense, especially as we strive to make the services of government more efficient.

All of us should look for similar opportunities within Federal agencies in our own home States. I am sure there are more Stoneville's out there. I am sure there are more ways that the Federal Government can deliver cost-effective solutions to the problems. I am also sure there are more public-private partnerships that can make a difference. Let us use our oversight responsibilities in the next Congress to reexamine Government priorities, policies, and procedures for other interagency opportunities with an aim of

forming more partnerships with industry.

Mr. President, Stoneville should be the standard in the future, not the exception.

Again, I applaud the efforts of the National Marine Fisheries Service and I want to publicly thank them. They have significantly helped America's farm-raised catfish industry. I strongly encourage the continuation of the successful relationship between Stoneville and Pascagoula.

THE ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The television industry reflects so much of what we are as Americans. The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences—with its annual Emmy Award—recognizes the positive impact television makes on so much of our everyday life.

I'm an avid channel surfer at home, so I watch a fair amount of television. I know how positive a messenger television can be—whether explaining the spread of a deadly disease, bringing us up-to-the-minute reports of world events, or simply making us laugh during a half-hour situation comedy when our day has ended and we're ready to take a break.

The people and programs honored with the Emmy Award are a permanent part of our country's history.

Just listen to some of the who's who's list of recipients of the acting awards in the comedy field alone: Lucille Ball—four time recipient—Red Skelton, Danny Thomas, Eve Arden, Jack Benny, Shirley Booth, Carol Burnett, Dick Van Dyke, Mary Tyler Moore, Julie Andrews, and today's recent recipients Candace Bergen—five time recipient—Kelsey Grammer, and Helen Hunt. The programs honored—"Dick Van Dyke", "The Odd Couple", "All in the Family", "Get Smart", "Taxi", and "Barney Miller"—show just why the programming of "Nick at Nite" is so popular with people trying to recapture the classic days of comedy.

The drama programs honored over the years also give us a snapshot of American life at the time the programs aired: "Studio One", "Gunsmoke", "The Fugitive", "Mission Impossible", "Marcus Welby, M.D.", "Masterpiece Theatre", "The Waltons", and the modern-day "Hill Street Blues" and "E.R." Who can forget the Waltons' powerful message of family persevering through the Depression or who can forget how "Hill Street Blues" showed us the life of a police officer like we had never seen it before.

For all that is good, educational and powerful on television, I am pleased to pay a small part in honoring the academy and the entire television industry for its work.

As the Senior Senator for California, I also know how vital the entertainment industry is to my home State, where more than 150,000 people are employed in more than 1,000 entertainment-related companies.

The academy, itself, was founded in 1946 by Syd Cassyd, and elected a year later Edgar Bergan as president. Under his direction, the academy first produced the Emmy Awards in 1948. The organization went national when it merged with the New York Academy in 1947 with Ed Sullivan as its first president.

The academy continued to expand adding new chapters throughout the United States.

Today, with 9,000 members, the academy is the largest organization in the television industry. In addition to the Emmys for which it is best known, the academy also runs an intern program for college students interested in film and holds student film competitions. In 1984, the academy formed its first steering committee on drug and alcohol abuse and began its work with a 2-day seminar in Washington, DC with First Lady Nancy Reagan. A decade later, the academy sponsored another meeting—this one focusing on the information superhighway—with our Vice President, AL GORE.

Mr. President, it is an honor and a privilege to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences as a leader in the entertainment industry. I commend the academy on its growth and creativity over the past 50 years and I look forward to the next 50.

I yield the floor.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask that I might be able to speak for about 10 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

OMNIBUS PARKS BILL

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, there has been a great deal of interest from many Members in the disposition of the omnibus parks bill. As the Chair is aware, we as a committee, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, met in conference and reported out the Presidio package several days ago, which contains 126 separate sections covering some 41 States.

We sent it over to the House. There was an implication regarding taxes on one particular section. We attempted to clear it over here. We had an objection. That objection has been addressed. It is my understanding that, procedurally, this matter can move from this body, assuming there is no further objection.

There is another track that is underway by some Members—mostly from the other body—that suggest that the disposition of the omnibus parks bill should be in the appropriation bill, the CR that is forming. I find that extraordinary because there are authorizers and there are appropriators. My com-

mittee, as an authorizing committee, has done its job. The Committee on Natural Resources, chaired by Representative YOUNG, has done its job. We got our packages together. We had further communicated with the White House over a week ago, addressing specifically certain contentious sections and asking for a disposition.

There are, initially, four major items in dispute. One was the Utah wilderness issue. The administration saw fit to initiate the invocation of the Antiquities Act to take care of the Utah wilderness. In other words, it was a land grab; the administration simply took 1.8 million acres and didn't notify the Utah delegation—the Governor, the Members of the Senate or the House. It was really a land grab, with no public process, which this administration highlights as part of their philosophy. We had been debating Utah wilderness for an extensive period of time and hadn't resolved it. But the democratic process was going on, people were being heard, different views were being heard.

It wasn't so long ago that we had an opportunity to debate the California wilderness bill. There was no antiquities application or land grab there. They let the democratic process move forward. The reason I point this out is because that was a contentious item, Utah wilderness. We withdrew it because of the threat of a veto.

Another contentious issue involved a 15-year extension for the only manufacturing plant in my State of Alaska. Without a 15-year extension, it could not make the \$200 million investment to change that plant from a conventional pulp plant to a chlorine-free plant. They needed that commitment. The Forest Service would put up the timber so they could amortize the investment. The administration chose to object to that. The problem is, of course, that there is no source of timber, other than Federal timber, because all of southeastern Alaska is part of the Tongass National Forest. The communities are in the forest. The communities were assured at the time the forest was created that there would be enough timber to maintain a modest timber industry. So out of the 17 million acres of the forest, we have digressed down to trying to maintain an industry on about 1.7 million acres.

The pathetic part of it is, Mr. President, only roughly half of the timber is suitable for pulp. It is either dead, dying, or immature, in the sense that there is not enough soil to continue to maintain growth to full maturity. It has no other use. The reason this pulp mill was created is so we would have a tax base—this is the only year-round manufacturing plant in the State—and to secure jobs, and we would not have to export the pulp out of the State of Alaska—at that time, it was the territory of Alaska—down to the mills in the State of Washington, or to British Columbia, or Oregon.

Well, by the administration's dictate of lack of support for the extension,

this mill will close. So the Senator from Alaska has taken his hit. I withdrew that from the omnibus parks package. Then we had the grazing issue. The administration objected to the fee structure of grazing on public land—the traditional Western use of public land. So we withdrew that. Then we moved up to Minnesota and we had the Boundary Waters Area. This was a question of whether you could use small motorized four-wheelers to haul small boats, canoes, and so forth, over a trail between the lake system. It is all right for the young folks to get 10 people out there and push it, but some of the older folks need some motorized assistance. They objected to that. So we took that out.

Mr. President, as justification for that I ask unanimous consent that the letter from the OMB outlining the objections be printed in the RECORD, along with a list.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,

Washington, DC, September 25, 1996.

Hon. TRENT LOTT,

Majority Leader,

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. LOTT: I am writing to provide the Administration's initial views on the conference report on H.R. 1296, the Omnibus Parks Legislation, that was filed last night. We are still in the process of reviewing this extensive legislation and understand that a number of changes were made to the conference report from the version of the bill we reviewed late last week. But, on the basis of our review of the conference report language, the President would veto the conference report.

The conference report still includes provisions that are unacceptable to the Administration including: unwarranted boundary reductions to the Shenandoah and Richmond Battlefield National Parks in Virginia, special interest benefits adversely affecting the management of the Sequoia National Park in California, permanent changes in the process for regulating rights of way across national parks and other federal lands, unfavorable modification of the Ketchikan Pulp Company contract in the Tongass National Forest, erosion of coastal barrier island protections in Florida, and mandated changes that would significantly alter and delay the completion of the Tongass Land Management Plan.

We have repeatedly stated our strong support for legislation to improve the management of the Presidio in San Francisco, use Federal funds to help acquire the Sterling Forest in the New York/New Jersey Highlands Regions, and establish the Tallgrass Prairie National in Kansas. We have also repeatedly stated our strong willingness to work with you to develop bipartisan, compromise legislation that protects our Nation's natural resources. This conference report does not meet that test. We remain willing to work with you to develop a compromise package that could be included in a bill to provide continuing appropriations for FY 1997.

Sincerely,

FRANKLIN D. RAINES,
Director.