

adjusted to exclude the National Forest System lands included in the White River National Forest under paragraph (1).

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference to the Dillon Ranger District, Arapaho National Forest, in any existing statute, regulation, manual, handbook, or otherwise shall be deemed to be a reference to the Dillon District, White River National Forest.

(c) EXISTING RIGHTS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect valid existing rights of persons holding any authorization, permit, option, or other form of contract existing on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) FOREST RECEIPTS.—Notwithstanding the distribution requirements of payments under the Act of May 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 260; 16 U.S.C. 500), the distribution of receipts from the Arapaho National Forest and the White River National Forest to affected county governments shall be based upon the National Forest boundaries that existed on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1020 adjusts the boundaries of the White River National Forest to include all national forest system lands within Summit County, CO, which are currently part of the Dillon Ranger District of the Arapaho National Forest. The White River National Forest has administered these lands for a number of years, and therefore the inclusion of the Dillon Ranger District within the White River Forest will more accurately depict the proper administration of these lands. Furthermore, the inclusion should reduce confusion within the general public as to who administers the Dillon Ranger District. The legislation will not alter the current distribution of forest receipts to the affected county governments.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is non-controversial, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, as explained by the gentlewoman from Idaho, this bill adjusts the boundary of the White River National Forest to include lands which are currently part of the Dillon Ranger District of Arapaho National Forest. It is my understanding that the administration's earlier concerns about the language preserving the current distribution of forest receipts have been resolved and that there is no further objection by the administration on this bill.

This legislation again is sponsored by the gentleman from Colorado [Mr.

MCINNIS], and I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have any additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1020.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FACILITATING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LAND IN TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1439) to facilitate the sale of certain land in Tahoe National Forest in the State of California to Placer County, CA, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1439

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LAND CONVEYANCE, TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA.

(a) SALE AUTHORIZED.—Subject to all valid existing rights, the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to Placer County, California (in this section referred to as the "County"), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, consisting of approximately 35 acres located in Tahoe National Forest in the State of California to permit the County to create a community park in Squaw Valley.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The parcel to be conveyed under subsection (a) is generally depicted on a map entitled "Placer County Conveyance", dated April 1997, which shall be available for public inspection in appropriate offices of the Secretary. The map and attached approximate legal description are subject to adjustment by survey. The cost of any such survey shall be borne by the County.

(c) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay to the United States an amount equal to the fair market value of the conveyed parcel, as determined in conformance with the document entitled "Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (1992)". The proceeds from the sale shall be deposited in the fund established by Public Law 90-171 (16 U.S.C. 484a; commonly known as the Sisk Act) and shall be available for expenditure in accordance with such Act.

(d) EXISTING USES.—As a condition on the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall agree to provide for continuation of any existing non-Federal improvements or uses on the conveyed parcel for the remainder of the terms of the existing authorizations.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1439 introduced by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] of the committee authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell 35 acres in the Tahoe National Forest to Placer County, CA, for the purpose of creating a community park in Squaw Valley.

The site is located at the southwest and northwest corners of Squaw Valley Road and Highway 89.

Now this area stands out as the only feasible location to accommodate the various interests. Placer County believes that this legislation is needed to streamline the acquisition process and thus save thousands of dollars for the county and for the Forest Service.

There is substantial support for the park and the community, and the Placer County Parks Commission has allocated over \$250,000 for acquisition and development of this park. Currently there are no public parks in Squaw Valley, and the nearest park facilities are located in Tahoe City, which is approximately 10 miles away.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, this piece of legislation was introduced by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE], and the bill is intended to facilitate the sale of about 35 acres of Federal land in the Tahoe National Forest in California, Placer County. The prospective purchaser intends to use the property for a public park.

The Forest Service has the authority to sell this land under current law and testified that the bill is unnecessary, but the legislation serves the purpose of highlighting this as a priority matter for Forest Service attention. It does not, however, alter the responsibility of the purchaser to pay fair market value for the land.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation introduced by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA].

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill H.R. 1439, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOOPA VALLEY RESERVATION SOUTH BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 79) to provide for the conveyance of certain land in the Six Rivers National Forest in the State of California for the benefit of the Hoopa Valley Tribe, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 79

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Hoopa Valley Reservation South Boundary Adjustment Act".

SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF LANDS WITHIN SIX RIVERS NATIONAL FOREST FOR HOOPA VALLEY TRIBE.

(a) TRANSFER.—All right, title, and interest in and to the lands described in subsection (b) shall hereafter be administered by the Secretary of the Interior and be held in trust by the United States for the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The lands are hereby declared part of the Hoopa Valley Reservation. Upon the inclusion of such lands in the Hoopa Valley Reservation, Forest Service system roads numbered 8N03 and 7N51 and the Trinity River access road which is a spur off road numbered 7N51, shall be Indian reservation roads, as defined in section 101(a) of title 23 of the United States Code.

(b) LANDS DESCRIBED.—The lands referred to in subsection (a) are those portions of Townships 7 North and 8 North, Ranges 5 East and 6 East, Humboldt Meridian, California, within a boundary beginning at a point on the current south boundary of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, marked and identified as "Post H.V.R. No. 8" on the Plat of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation prepared from a field survey conducted by C.T. Bissel, Augustus T. Smith, and C.A. Robinson, Deputy Surveyors, approved by the Surveyor General, H. Pratt, March 18, 1892, and extending from said point on a bearing of north 72 degrees 30 minutes east, until intersecting with a line beginning at a point marked as "Post H.V.R. No. 3" on such survey and extending on a bearing of south 15 degrees 59 minutes east, comprising 2,641 acres more or less.

(c) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The boundary of the Six Rivers National Forest in the State of California is hereby adjusted to exclude the lands to be held in trust for the benefit of the Hoopa Valley Tribe pursuant to this section.

(d) SURVEY.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management, shall survey and monument that portion of the boundary of the Hoopa Valley Reservation established by the addition of the lands described in subsection (b).

(e) SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.—The transfer of lands to trust status under this section extinguishes the following claims by the Hoopa Valley Tribe:

(1) All claims on land now administered as part of the Six Rivers National Forest based on the allegation of error in establishing the boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Reservation, as those boundaries were configured before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) All claims of failure to pay just compensation for a taking under the fifth amendment to the United States Constitution, if such claims are based on activities, occurring before the date of the enactment of this Act, related to the lands transferred to trust status under this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH].

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 79, introduced by the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] would transfer 2,641 acres of land to the Hoopa Valley Tribe of California. This land is currently part of the Six Rivers National Forest.

The south boundary of the Hoopa Valley Reservation contains a dogleg and as a result of the 1875 survey that left 2,541 acres out of the 6-mile square, H.R. 79 would straighten the boundary to reflect what many believe was the originally intended boundary of the reservation. Similar legislation was introduced in the 104th Congress, reported by the Committee on Resources and passed on the House floor, but the adjournment prevented final action on the bill in the Senate.

On May 8, 1997, the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health approved this amendment in the nature of a substitute to incorporate several technical changes recommended by the administration, and on May 21 the Committee on Resources reported the bill with an amendment to ensure that several Forest Service roads on the lands being transferred will remain open to the public after the transfer. The roads provide access to the public campground, the Trinity River and the national forest land.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all involved on both sides of the aisle for working with me, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS], and the Hoopa Valley Tribe to develop language that everyone can agree on on H.R. 79. Additionally I would like to thank my colleagues, especially the gentleman from New York [Mr. HINCHEY], the subcommittee ranking member, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE], and the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] for their assistance with passage of these four bills.

So I urge this bill's passage, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, as mentioned earlier by the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH], this legislation was introduced by the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] and a similar piece of legislation was also introduced by Senator BOXER of California.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 79 would transfer almost 2,640 acres of land currently within the Six Rivers National Forest in California to the Hoopa Valley Tribe to be held in trust for the tribe. This language includes an operating campground that is adjacent to the southern boundary of the reservation. There is question as to whether or not this land was intended to be part of the original reservation boundaries, but by looking at a map of the area one can conclude that may have been the case.

□ 1530

Regardless, the Forest Service has testified that it supports this transfer and believes that the tribe has the resources and expertise to effectively manage the area.

In fact, the Hoopa Valley Tribe is well-known as environmentally sensitive toward the stewards of their land. The tribe operates under a forest management plan which was adopted for the years 1994 through the year 2003. This management plan was developed with the collaboration of the World Wildlife Fund. In March of this year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a biological opinion finding that the Hoopa forest management plan would not jeopardize the northern spotted owl or any of the other listed endangered species.

Attached to my statement, Mr. Speaker, I include two letters from the tribe's representative. The first is to the office of the Secretary of the Interior, and the second is to Mr. James Lyons, the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at the Department of Agriculture. These letters explain the tribe's forest management plan and how we can expect the transfer of lands to be managed.

H.R. 79 makes clear that the roads within this area will be made part of the Indian reservation roads system within the Bureau of Indian Affairs assuring public access through the area and to the Trinity River.

I would like to thank the gentlewoman from Idaho [Mrs. CHENOWETH] and her staff for working with Democrats on this side of the aisle and for bringing to the floor this legislation for consideration. I hope that this will benefit the Hoopa Valley Tribe in the future, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following letters for the RECORD: