

a Federal appeals court ruled that the Service needed to complete a full environmental impact statement (EIS) regarding the proposed emergency actions. I commend the Service for voluntarily withdrawing their proposed regulations and for recognizing the need to develop a full EIS, and urge the Service to complete this EIS at the earliest possible date.

I think it important to note for members that Congress is legislating in this matter solely because all other administrative options available to the Service—under NEPA or any other statute—had been exhausted, and that the only remedy remaining was a legislative fix. This is an important factor driving the need for this legislation.

I do appreciate the helpful modifications made to the bill in the Resources Committee. Even improved, the bill does contain two troubling provisions of which I am still concerned. First, the bill would waive all procedural requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). And second, the bill authorizes the use of otherwise outlawed hunting practices, notably the use of electronic calling devices and un-plugged shotguns.

However, while I personally disagree with the Congress passing legislation to waive NEPA or to authorize the otherwise illegal hunting methods, and while I remain concerned that these regulations may be too broad, I realize that under the constraints of this specific emergency situation, such provisions may be warranted, if not necessary.

Moreover, I am pleased that the Resources Committee amended the bill to include an expiration date of May 15, 2001, or earlier if the Service files its final EIS before that date, to limit the duration of this emergency action.

And while I believe the Fish and Wildlife Service will act in good faith to complete the EIS at the earliest possible date, I also believe that a fixed expiration date is necessary to ensure that a temporary action does not inadvertently become permanent. I look forward to the Service completing its EIS, and I hope that this additional analysis will provide other alternatives to address the overabundance of light geese in a less indiscriminate manner and without requiring Congress to pass legislation.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the legislation being offered today by the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

H.R. 2545, the "Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act," quite simply is trying to head off an unmitigated conservation disaster for white geese, including greater and lesser snow geese and Ross' geese. During the past three decades, these mid-continent snow geese species populations have literally exploded, from an estimated 800,000 in 1969 to more than five million today. This dramatic increase has resulted in the devastation of nearly 50,000 acres of snow geese habitat around Canada's Hudson Bay. This tundra habitat, most of which comprises a coastal salt marsh, is vital for nesting. As the snow geese proliferate and consume this habitat, other populations of birds are also placed at risk by this loss of habitat.

A special report issued in January 1998, by Ducks Unlimited provides a good example of the depth and the breadth of the problem. In studies conducted in Churchill, Manitoba, there were 2,000 nesting pairs in 1968. In 1997, that number grew to more than 40,000 pairs. The result is a cruel fate for the birds,

particularly the thousands of orphaned, malnourished and eventually dead goslings who cannot survive on barren tundra.

Together with expected population increases is another vexing problem: recovery of habitat, destroyed by overfeeding at this far-north latitude, is expected to take at least 15 years; it will take even longer if some of the acreage continues to be foraged by geese during the recovery period.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working for a few years in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Service, several departments of Fish and Game, Ducks Unlimited, the Audubon Society and other non-governmental entities to try to address the problem. In February of this year, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued two final rules to authorize the use of additional hunting methods to reduce the population of snow geese so that a reasonable population can survive on a viable habitat. The goal was to reduce the number of mid-continent light geese in the first year by 975,000 using additional hunting methods carefully studied and approved by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Unfortunately, the Service withdrew the rules in the aftermath of a court challenge. The result of inaction, however, would be devastating. Chairman Saxton was correct to press for a legislative solution to expedite the recovery process by implementing the Service's rules, as the bill before us does today. It is clear that human decision making has contributed mightily to the light geese problem through increased agricultural production, sanctuary designation, and reduction in harvest rates.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us takes an affirmative and humane step to help assure the long-term survival of mid-continent light geese and the conservation of the habitat upon which they and other species depend. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, as co-author of H.R. 2454, I rise in strong support of the Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act. The fundamental goal of this legislation is to stop the destruction of the Canadian Arctic Tundra by a growing population of mid-continent light geese. If we do not act, these valuable wetlands may be lost forever.

Three years ago, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service joined with the Canadian Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, the National Audubon Society and several State and Provincial Fish and Game Departments in forming the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. After carefully studying the problem, the Group issued a report that recommended that the population of mid-continent light geese, which now numbers more than five million birds, be cut in half within six years.

The working group suggested that the food supply be reduced along U.S. Flyways, baiting of light geese be permitted, sharpshooters be hired to kill large numbers of geese and additional hunting methods such as electronic goose calls and unplugged shotguns be utilized.

The Fish and Wildlife Service carefully reviewed these recommendations and it conducted an exhaustive analysis of the various wildlife management options to reduce the population. It flatly rejected the flawed idea of "letting nature run its course" because it would cause an environmental catastrophe and many of the suggestions of the Working Group were not implemented.

In fact, in the end, the Service issued two modest rules which would have increased the harvest of light geese by allowing hunters to use electronic calls and unplugged shotguns. While these changes by themselves would not save the fragile Arctic ecosystem, they were a responsible step in the right direction.

Once enacted these rules will reduce the population of mid-continent geese and more importantly they will slow the destruction of the Arctic Tundra that is being transformed from thickly vegetated wetlands to a virtual desert.

In La Prouse Bay in Canada, which is a critical nesting site, more than 60 percent of the salt-marsh vegetation has already been destroyed or damaged to the point where it is unable to nourish birds.

Regrettably, in response to a court order, the Fish and Wildlife Service withdrew their regulations and they are now completing an Environmental Impact Statement on mid-continent light geese.

While that occurs, the Arctic Tundra will continue to be destroyed an acre at a time and these essential wetlands which provide life for literally hundreds of avian species, besides geese, will be irreplaceably lost.

There is a better way. H.R. 2454 will reinstate the Fish and Wildlife Service's rules in their identical form. It is a temporary solution and it will sunset no later than May 15, 2001. This legislation is strongly supported by the Administration, the States, and by most of the conservation community including Ducks Unlimited and the National Audubon Society.

In closing, let me quote from the Chairman of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group, Dr. Bruce Batt, who testified that "the finite amount of suitable goose breeding habitat is rapidly being consumed and eventually will be lost. Every technical, Administrative, legal and political delay just adds to the problem. There is real urgency here as we may not be far from the point where the only choice is to record the aftermath of the crash of goose numbers with the related ecosystem destruction with all the other species that live there with geese."

I urge an aye vote on H.R. 2454, a bipartisan bill that will save critical Arctic wetlands.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2454, 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.

ARIZONA STATEHOOD AND ENABLING ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 747) to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of Arizona from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 747

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 "Arizona Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1999".

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF TRUST FUNDS OF STATE OF ARIZONA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 28 of the Act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 574, chapter 310) is amended in the first paragraph by adding at the end the following: "The trust funds (including all interest, dividends, other income, and appreciation in the market value of assets of the funds) shall be prudently invested on a total rate of return basis. Distributions from the trust funds shall be made as provided in Article 10, Section 7 of the Constitution of the State of Arizona."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 25 of the Act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 573, chapter 310), is amended in the proviso of the second paragraph by striking "the income therefrom only to be used" and inserting "distributions from which shall be made in accordance with the first paragraph of section 28 and shall be used".

(2) Section 27 of the Act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 574, chapter 310), is amended by striking "the interest of which only shall be expended" and inserting "distributions from which shall be made in accordance with the first paragraph of section 28 and shall be expended".

SEC. 3. USE OF MINERS' HOSPITAL ENDOWMENT FUND FOR ARIZONA PIONEERS' HOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 28 of the Act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 574, chapter 310) is amended in the second paragraph by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", except that amounts in the Miners' Hospital Endowment Fund may be used for the benefit of the Arizona Pioneers' Home".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be deemed to have taken effect on June 20, 1910.

SEC. 4. CONSENT OF CONGRESS TO AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION OF STATE OF ARIZONA.

Congress consents to the amendments to the Constitution of the State of Arizona proposed by Senate Concurrent Resolution 1007 of the 43rd Legislature of the State of Arizona, Second Regular Session, 1998, entitled "Senate Concurrent Resolution requesting the Secretary of State to return Senate Concurrent Resolution 1018, Forty-Third Legislature, First Regular Session, to the Legislature and submit the Proposition contained in Sections 3, 4, and 5 of this Resolution of the proposed amendments to Article IX, Section 7, Article X, Section 7, and Article XI, Section 8, Constitution of Arizona, to the voters; relating to investment of State monies", approved by the voters of the State of Arizona on November 3, 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON).

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

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are considering H.R.

747, a bill to amend the Arizona Enabling Act of 1910 to allow the State of Arizona to manage its State trust differently.

The bill was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), who we will hear from in just a moment. The State of Arizona, like many other States, receives revenues generated from lands that were granted to the State upon admission to the Union. These revenues contribute funds to schools and other public institutions.

As currently provided for in the original Enabling Act, the funds must pay all of their own income. This creates a problem because it does not account for or adjust to rates of inflation. Moreover, the current Enabling Act has a number of investment restrictions. While these restrictions may have been appropriate at one time, they are outdated and no longer necessary or advisable.

In order to make the necessary changes to allow the State trust fund to be managed differently, it is necessary for Congress to approve and amend the Arizona Enabling Act.

□ 1445

This legislation is almost identical to a bill that we passed the last Congress that amended the New Mexico Enabling Act. This is an important piece of legislation that will benefit the State of Arizona. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Act of June 20, 1910, which provided statehood for Arizona, granted federally owned lands to the new State and created a permanent trust fund into which revenues from these lands are invested. However, the act also placed certain limitations on the fund which have worked over time to prevent the State from managing the trust fund as profitably as possible. H.R. 747 will alter the terms of the trust fund and correct the problem.

These changes have been approved by the voters in Arizona, but because they alter the original statehood act, Congress must approve them as well. This measure is almost identical to legislation approved in a previous Congress for the State of New Mexico.

It is noncontroversial, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP).

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) for all his hard work on this. The bill has

been explained. Let me just say that it has been approved by the Governor. It is supported by the entire Arizona delegation as well.

The proposition on the ballot that was considered in the State of Arizona makes very minor changes to the 1910 Enabling Act. I urge its support.

I would also like to thank the Arizona delegation, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. SALMON and Mr. SHADEGG for their support and cosponsorship of H.R. 747, the Arizona Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1999.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 747 amends the 1910 act of Congress that granted the State of Arizona's entry into the Union. This bill makes two minor changes to the Arizona Enabling Act relating to the administration of state trust funds. This legislation is supported by the Governor of Arizona, our State Treasurer, State Attorney General, State Legislature, and most importantly, the citizens of Arizona through their approval of this change through the ballot process.

On November 3, 1998, Arizona voters passed Proposition 102. This ballot measure amended the Arizona constitution to authorize the investment of Permanent Land Trust Fund monies in equity securities. These trust fund monies derive from the sale of State Trust Lands granted to Arizona by the federal government at statehood. The proposition allows the State of Arizona to capitalize on the higher return rates offered through equity securities. This would improve management in the State and assist in the generation of more revenues for the beneficiaries by gaining authorization to invest part of the fund in stocks and to invest some earnings to offset inflation.

The Arizona Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments legislation will also make a much needed and essential change to the funding of the Arizona Pioneers' Home. This state-operated facility has been dedicated to the long-term care of miners and homesteaders since 1911. Inadequate funds exist in the Miners' Hospital Endowment Fund to build and operate a separate hospital for disabled miners. Disabled miners have been cared for at the Arizona Pioneers' Home, but current law prohibits the commingling of funds associated with state trust lands. H.R. 747 would allow the Arizona Pioneers' Home to expend monies from the Miners' Hospital Endowment Fund to continue care for miners who meet the statutory admission requirements.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 747 is a bill that is supported by bipartisan interests in the State of Arizona and most importantly, the citizens of Arizona. I ask my colleagues for favorable consideration of this legislation.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 747.

The question was taken.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the

Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

VISITOR CENTER FOR HOME OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1104) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1104

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

SECTION 1. VISITOR CENTER FOR HOME OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, HYDE PARK, NEW YORK.

(a) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—The Secretary of the Interior may transfer to the Archivist of the United States administrative jurisdiction over land located in the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, for use by the Archivist for the construction of a visitor center facility to jointly serve the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, located in Hyde Park, New York.

(b) CONDITIONS OF TRANSFER.—

(1) PROTECTION OF HISTORIC SITE.—The transfer authorized in subsection (a) shall be subject to an agreement between the Secretary and the Archivist that shall include such provisions for the protection of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and the joint use of the facility to be constructed as the Secretary and the Archivist may consider necessary.

(2) CONSIDERATION.—A transfer made pursuant to subsection (a) shall be made without consideration or reimbursement.

(3) TERMINATION.—If use by the Archivist of the land referred to in subsection (a) is terminated by the Archivist at any time, administrative jurisdiction over the land shall automatically revert to the Department of the Interior.

(c) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a) shall consist of not more than 1 acre of land as may be mutually agreed to by the Secretary and the Archivist and more particularly described in the agreement required under subsection (b)(1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON).

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1104 is a non-controversial bill that would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the

United States for the construction of a visitor center.

The visitor center facility would jointly serve the F.D.R. Historic Site and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, located in Hyde Park, New York. The land transferred is authorized to be not more than one acre.

H.R. 1104 is the result of efforts by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SWEENEY) and retired Congressman Jerry Solomon, also from New York.

This bill is supported by the administration.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. H.R. 1104 is a minor house-keeping measure to authorize the National Park Service to transfer jurisdiction over approximately one acre of land to the National Archives to enable construction of a joint visitor center facility at the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, NY.

It is our understanding that the site in question has been mutually agreed upon by the two agencies and that the funds have already been appropriated to construct the joint-use facility.

Mr. Speaker, both the National Park Service and the National Archives and Records Administration testified in favor of this legislation, and we are unaware of any controversy and we support the legislation.

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SWEENEY) the author of the bill.

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding me the time and for his support.

I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER) for his support.

Finally, I would like to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the subcommittee chair, for his support.

I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 1104, the legislation I introduced to transfer administrative jurisdiction from the National Park Service to the National Archives for the construction of a visitor center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site.

The much anticipated visitor center will serve three area National Historic Sites and will be a great addition to the rich history of the Nation's Roosevelt era and that of New York's Hudson Valley.

The 105th Congress provided \$8.2 million to the National Archives for construction of the much-needed new facility on a one-acre parcel within the historic site. However, construction is stalled due to a legal snag; and this legislation corrects that snag.

In short, jurisdiction over this site for the visitor center must be transferred from the National Park Service to the National Archives and Records Administration before we can begin construction on this long-awaited visitor center.

Mr. Speaker, Franklin D. Roosevelt, our Nation's 32nd President, lived at his home in Hyde Park, New York, commonly referred to as "Springwood," for most of his young life.

While Governor of New York and as President, Mr. Roosevelt frequented Springwood often and entertained many dignitaries, including Winston Churchill and King George VI.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was involved in the planning and construction of the Presidential library at the site. The F.D.R. Library is the only Presidential library that was used by a sitting President for official duty.

F.D.R. was intent on preserving his papers and mementos for future generations to cherish and study. Included in his collection are 44,000 books, photographs, Roosevelt's White House desk and chair, and his collection of naval prints, models, and many paintings.

The F.D.R. Library became the site of the broadcast of Mr. Roosevelt's popular fireside chats, and President Roosevelt would regularly hold conferences with world leaders in his personal study.

This legislation enjoys widespread support of the National Park Service, the National Archives and Records Administration, the town of Hyde Park, the Eleanor Roosevelt Site at Val-Kill, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, Historic Hudson, and the Hudson River Valley Greenway.

All of these organizations and communities have dedicated their time and expertise to ensure that this visitor center becomes a reality, and I thank them all for their support.

I look forward to seeing many Americans and all of those who would travel and venture to Hyde Park, New York, to seeing the visitor center finally become a reality at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Historic Site.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1104.

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.

OLD JICARILLA ADMINISTRATIVE SITE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 695) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to convey an administrative site in