

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2000—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631, 1632, 1633, 1634, 1635, AND 1636

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I send a package of amendments to the desk and ask unanimous consent they be numbered separately. These amendments have been cleared on both sides. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GORTON. For anyone who is listening, these amendments include one by the Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, on National Forest-dependent rural communities; two by myself, one technical and one with respect to a Plum Creek land exchange; one by Senator KYL of Arizona with respect to funding for tribal school operations; two by Senator REID of Nevada on conveyances in that State; one by Senators MURKOWSKI, BINGAMAN, and COCHRAN with respect to Federal energy use, to which is appended a statement by Senator COCHRAN; and one by Senators BREAUX and LANDRIEU with respect to Fish and Wildlife Service authority to retain and use certain fees.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent those amendments be agreed to en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments are agreed to.

The amendments agreed to en bloc are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1628

(Purpose: To make technical corrections to the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990)

On page 132, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. 3. NATIONAL FOREST-DEPENDENT RURAL COMMUNITIES ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION.

(a) FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.—Section 2373 of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6611) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “national forests” and inserting “National Forest System land”;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking “the national forests” and inserting “National Forest System land”;

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking “forest resources” and inserting “natural resources”; and

(D) in paragraph (6), by striking “national forest resources” and inserting “National Forest System land resources”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking “national forests” and inserting “National Forest System land”;

(B) by striking “forest resources” and inserting “natural resources”.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2374(1) of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6612(1)) is amended by striking “forestry” and inserting “natural resources”.

(c) RURAL FORESTRY AND ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION ACTION TEAMS.—Section 2375(b) of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6613(b)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “forestry” and inserting “natural resources”; and

(2) in the second and third sentences, by striking “national forest resources” and inserting “National Forest System land resources”.

(d) ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.—Section 2376(a) of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6614(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “forest resources” and inserting “natural resources”; and

(2) by striking “national forest resources” and inserting “National Forest System land resources”.

(e) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—Paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 2377(a) of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6615(a)) are amended by striking “national forest resources” and inserting “National Forest System land resources”.

(f) LOANS TO ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED RURAL COMMUNITIES.—Paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 2378(a) of the National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6616(a)) are amended by striking “national forest resources” and inserting “National Forest System land resources”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1629

(Purpose: To make a technical correction to a U.S. Code cite)

On page 14, line 6, strike “(22 U.S.C. aa-1)” and insert “(22 U.S.C. 2799aa-1)”

AMENDMENT NO. 1630

Insert at the end of Title III in H.R. 2466: **SEC. . INTERSTATE 90 LAND EXCHANGE.**

(a) Section 604(a) of the Interstate 90 Land Exchange Act of 1998, 105 Pub. L. 277, 12 Stat. 2681-326 (1998) is hereby amended by adding at the end of the first sentence: “except title to offered lands and interests in lands described in section 605(c)(2)(Q, R, S, and T) must be placed in escrow by Plum Creek, according to terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary and Plum Creek, for a three year period beginning on the later of the date of enactment of this Act of consummation of the exchange. During the period the lands are held in escrow, Plum Creek shall not undertake any activities on these lands, except for fire suppression and road maintenance, without the approval of the Secretary, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.”

(b) Section 604(b) of the Interstate 90 Land Exchange Act of 1998, 105 Pub. Law 277, 12 Stat. 2681-326 (1998), is hereby amended by inserting after the words “offered land” the following: “as provided in section 604(a), and placement in escrow of acceptable title to the offered lands described in section 605(c)(2)(Q, R, S, and T).”

(c) Section 604(b) is further amended by adding the following at the end of the first sentence: “except Township 19 North, Range 10 East, W.M., Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 10 East, W.M., Section 32, and Township 21 North, Range 14 East, W.M., W½W½ of Section 16, which shall be retained by the United States.” The appraisal approved by the Secretary of Agriculture on July 14, 1999 (the “Appraisal”) shall be adjusted by subtracting the values determined for Township 19 North, Range 10 East, W.M., Section 4 and Township 20 North, Range 10 East, W.M., Section 32 during the Appraisal process in the context of the whole estate to be conveyed.

(d) After adjustment of the Appraisal, the value of the offered and selected lands, including the offered lands held in escrow, shall be equalized as provided in section 605(c) except that the Secretary also may equalize values through the following, including any combination thereof:

(1) conveyance of any other lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary acceptable to Plum Creek and the Secretary after compliance with all applicable Federal environmental and other laws; and

(2) to the extent sufficient acceptable lands are not available pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, cash payments as and to the extent funds become available through appropriations, private sources, or, if necessary, by reprogramming.

(e) The Secretary shall promptly seek to identify lands acceptable for conveyance to equalize values under paragraph (1) of subsection (d) and shall, not later than May 1, 2000, provide a report to Congress outlining the results of such efforts.

(f) As funds or lands are provided to Plum Creek by the Secretary, Plum Creek shall release to the United States deeds for lands and interests in land held in escrow based on the values determined during the Appraisal process in the context of the whole estate to be conveyed. Deeds shall be released for lands and interests in lands in the exact reverse order listed in section 605(c)(2).

(g) Section 606(d) is hereby amended to read as follows: “the Secretary and Plum Creek shall make the adjustments directed in section 604(b) and consummate the land exchange within 30 days of enactment of the Interstate 90 Land Exchange Amendment, unless the Secretary and Plum Creek mutually agree to extend the consummation date.”

SEC. . THE SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1999.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest is hereby adjusted as generally depicted on a map entitled “Snoqualmie National Forest 1999 Boundary Adjustment” dated June 30, 1999. Such map, together with a legal description of all lands included in the boundary adjustment, shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service in Washington, District of Columbia. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to adjust the boundary pursuant to section 11 of the Weeks Law of March 1, 1911.

(b) RULE FOR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For the purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest, as adjusted by this subsection (a), shall be considered to be the boundary of the Forest as of January 1, 1965.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I will comment further on that amendment. A number of objections from people in the vicinity of a portion of that land exchange were made both to me and to my colleague, Senator MURRAY. The letter responds to many of those concerns, and others will be responded to by the Plum Creek Company itself.

I would like to say a number of those objections were valid objections and deeply concerned this Senator, and we hope they will largely be alleviated by the prompt response of Plum Creek.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent a letter addressed to me from Plum Creek be printed in connection with the Plum Creek land exchange amendment.

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

PLUM CREEK TIMBER CO.,
Seattle, WA, September 14, 1999.

Hon. SLADE GORTON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR GORTON: We greatly appreciate your continuing efforts to resolve the issues created by the discovery of marbled murrelets on lands to be acquired by Plum Creek as part of the I-90 Land Exchange. Plum Creek agrees with the legislative language worked out by your office and the U.S. Forest Service to accommodate the new lands package and we are prepared to assist in any way that we can.

We are aware that some opposition has developed over the lands near Randle, Washington, that Plum Creek would receive in the exchange. The opponents have painted a dismal scenario of what Plum Creek might do when the exchange is complete and we want to assure you of the facts.

First, Plum Creek has an excellent reputation of including neighbors and local communities in the planning process. We have not yet developed any specific plans for the Randle area, and will not until we have met with community leaders and heard first-hand their concerns. We are prepared to consider any options that will help to resolve the issues.

Second, our own standards and the strict forest practice rules of the state of Washington require that great care be taken to identify and avoid any areas of geological concern, such as unstable soils and steep slopes. Indeed, after extensive public study and comment, nearly 10,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service land was removed from consideration early in the exchange process for just this reason. The land that remains in the exchange has been thoroughly studied and can, with careful planning, be managed in a thoughtful and appropriate manner.

Third, any Plum Creek operations will be strictly governed by our own Environmental Principles and the standards of the American Forest and Paper Association's Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Plum Creek is willing to continue to work with local citizens, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Delegation to resolve important issues upon completion of the I-90 Land Exchange. We continue to believe the Exchange is a fair deal for Plum Creek and a great deal for the public.

BILL BROWN.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, included within the Manager's amendment to the FY 2000 Interior Appropriations bill is a technical fix to last year's legislated I-90 Land Exchange. The amendment to the legislation was necessary to address to discovery of nesting marbled murrelets on two parcels of Forest Service land originally set to be exchanged to Plum Creek Timber Company. The language in the amendment is agreeable to both the Forest Service and Plum Creek.

Other issues, particularly that of potential landslides on parcels of land being transferred to Plum Creek near the town of Randle, Washington, have recently arisen. Members of the community are fearful that if some of these lands are harvested by Plum Creek that dangerous landslides are possible. I believe this a legitimate concern and have begun discussions with the Forest Service, Plum Creek, Congressman Baird and Senator Gorton as to possible solutions. I believe, however, that the land exchange is a benefit to the

people of Washington and should proceed as we continue to work on the issue of concern to Randle residents.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter to me from Plum Creek regarding the company's commitment to protecting the welfare of local communities, the forest land it acquires, and willingness to work with all parties to address the issues in Randle. I hope, that if a solution to the issues of concern to Randle residents is found in time, that such a solution be placed into the Interior bill at conference.

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

PLUM CREEK TIMBER CO.,
Seattle, WA, September 14, 1999.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MURRAY: We greatly appreciate your continuing efforts to resolve the issues created by the discovery of marbled murrelets on lands to be acquired by Plum Creek as part of the I-90 Land Exchange. Plum Creek agrees with the legislative language worked out by your office and the U.S. Forest Service to accommodate the new lands package and we are prepared to assist in any way that we can.

We are aware that some opposition has developed over the lands near Randle, Washington, that Plum Creek would receive in the exchange. The opponents have painted a dismal scenario of what Plum Creek might do when the exchange is complete and we want to assure you of the facts.

First, Plum Creek has an excellent reputation of including neighbors and local communities in the planning process. We have not yet developed any specific plans for the Randle area, and will not until we have met with community leaders and heard first-hand their concerns. We are prepared to consider any options that will help to resolve the issues.

Second, our own standards and the strict forest practice rules of the state of Washington require that great care be taken to identify and avoid any areas of geological concern, such as unstable soils and steep slopes. Indeed, after extensive public study and comment, nearly 10,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service land was removed from consideration early in the exchange process for just this reason. The land that remains in the exchange has been thoroughly studied and can, with careful planning, be managed in a thoughtful and appropriate manner.

Third, any Plum Creek operations will be strictly governed by our own Environmental Principles and the standards of the American Forest and Paper Association's Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Plum Creek is willing to continue to work with local citizens, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Delegation to resolve important issues upon completion of the I-90 Land Exchange. We continue to believe the Exchange is a fair deal for Plum Creek and a great deal for the public.

BILL BROWN.

AMENDMENT NO. 1631

(Purpose: To clarify that a Bureau-funded school may share a campus with a school that offers expanded grades and that is not a Bureau-funded school)

On page 33, line 18, after the period, insert the following: "Funds made available under this Act may be used to fund a Bureau-funded school (as that term is defined in section

1146 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2026)) that shares a campus with a school that offers expanded grades and that is not a Bureau-funded school, if the jointly incurred costs of both schools are apportioned between the 2 programs of the schools in such manner as to ensure that the expanded grades are funded solely from funds that are not made available through the Bureau."

AMENDMENT NO. 1632

(Purpose: To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes)

At the end of title I, insert the following:
SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE TO NYE COUNTY, NEVADA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COUNTY.—The term "County" means Nye County, Nevada.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

(b) PARCELS CONVEYED FOR USE OF THE NEVADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For no consideration and at no other cost to the County, the Secretary shall convey to the County, subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest in and to the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2).

(2) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The parcels of public land referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) The portion of Sec. 13 north of United States Route 95, T. 15 S. R. 49 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada.

(B) In Sec. 18, T. 15 S., R. 50 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

(i) W ½ W ½ NW ¼.

(ii) The portion of the W ½ W ½ SW ¼ north of United States Route 95.

(3) USE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The parcels described in paragraph (2) shall be used for the construction and operation of the Nevada Science and Technology Center as a nonprofit museum and exposition center, and related facilities and activities.

(B) REVERSION.—The conveyance of any parcel described in paragraph (2) shall be subject to reversion to the United States, at the discretion of Secretary, if the parcel is used for a purpose other than that specified in subparagraph (A).

(b) PARCELS CONVEYED FOR OTHER USE FOR A COMMERCIAL PURPOSE.—

(1) RIGHT TO PURCHASE.—For a period of 5 years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the County shall have the exclusive right to purchase the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2) for the fair market value of the parcels, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The parcels of public land referred to in paragraph (1) are the following parcels in Sec. 18, T. 15 S., R. 50 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

(A) E ½ NW ¼.

(B) E ½ W ½ NW ¼.

(C) The portion of the E ½ SW ¼ north of United States Route 95.

(D) The portion of the E ½ W ½ SW ¼ north of United States Route 95.

(E) The portion of the SE ¼ north of United States Route 95.

(3) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Proceeds of a sale of a parcel described in paragraph (2)—

(A) shall be deposited in the special account established under section 4(e)(1)(C) of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2345); and

(B) shall be available for use by the Secretary—

(i) to reimburse costs incurred by the local offices of the Bureau of Land Management in

arranging the land conveyances directed by this Act; and

(ii) as provided in section 4(e)(3) of that Act (112 Stat. 2346).

AMENDMENT NO. 1633

(Purpose: To give the city of Mesquite, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain parcels of public land in the city)

At the end of title I, insert the following:

SEC. —. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO CITY OF MESQUITE, NEVADA.

Section 3 of Public Law 99-548 (100 Stat. 3061; 110 Stat. 3009-202) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) FIFTH AREA.—

“(1) RIGHT TO PURCHASE.—For a period of 12 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the city of Mesquite, Nevada, shall have the exclusive right to purchase the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2).

“(2) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The parcels of public land referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:

“(A) In T. 13 S., R. 70 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) The portion of sec. 27 north of Interstate Route 15.

“(ii) Sec. 28: NE ¼, S ½ (except the Interstate Route 15 right-of-way).

“(iii) Sec. 29: E ½ NE ¼ SE ¼, SE ¼ SE ¼.

“(iv) The portion of sec. 30 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(v) The portion of sec. 31 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(vi) Sec. 32: NE ¼ NE ¼ (except the Interstate Route 15 right-of-way), the portion of NW ¼ NE ¼ south of Interstate Route 15, and the portion of W ½ south of Interstate Route 15.

“(vii) The portion of sec. 33 north of Interstate Route 15.

“(B) In T. 14 S., R. 70 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) Sec. 5: NW ¼.

“(ii) Sec. 6: N ½.

“(C) In T. 13 S., R. 69 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) The portion of sec. 25 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(ii) The portion of sec. 26 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(iii) The portion of sec. 27 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(iv) Sec. 28: SW ¼ SE ¼.

“(v) Sec. 33: E ½.

“(vi) Sec. 34.

“(vii) Sec. 35.

“(viii) Sec. 36.

“(3) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the city shall notify the Secretary which of the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2) the city intends to purchase.

“(4) CONVEYANCE.—Not later than 1 year after receiving notification from the city under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall convey to the city the land selected for purchase.

“(5) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, until the date that is 12 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2) are withdrawn from all forms of entry and appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, and from operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws.

“(6) USE OF PROCEEDS.—The proceeds of the sale of each parcel—

“(A) shall be deposited in the special account established under section 4(e)(1)(C) of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2345); and

“(B) shall be available for use by the Secretary—

“(i) to reimburse costs incurred by the local offices of the Bureau of Land Management in arranging the land conveyances directed by this Act; and

“(ii) as provided in section 4(e)(3) of that Act (112 Stat. 2346).

“(f) SIXTH AREA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall convey to the city of Mesquite, Nevada, in accordance with section 47125 of title 49, United States Code, up to 2,560 acres of public land to be selected by the city from among the parcels of land described in paragraph (2).

“(2) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The parcels of land referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:

“(A) In T. 13 S., R. 69 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) The portion of sec. 28 south of Interstate Route 15 (except S ½ SE ¼).

“(ii) The portion of sec. 29 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(iii) The portion of sec. 30 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(iv) The portion of sec. 31 south of Interstate Route 15.

“(v) Sec. 32.

“(vi) Sec. 33: W ½.

“(B) In T. 14 S., R. 69 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) Sec. 4.

“(ii) Sec. 5.

“(iii) Sec. 6.

“(iv) Sec. 8.

“(C) In T. 14 S., R. 68 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada:

“(i) Sec. 1.

“(ii) Sec. 12.

“(3) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, until the date that is 12 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the parcels of public land described in paragraph (2) are withdrawn from all forms of entry and appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, and from operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws.”

AMENDMENT NO. 1634

At the end of Title III, insert the following:

SEC. . Section 1770(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 2276(d)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11) and by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

“(10) section 3(e) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642(e));”

AMENDMENT NO. 1635

(Purpose: To prevent expenditure of funds that may be used to circumvent or contradict existing law and policy regarding the Federal Government's energy efficiency programs)

Insert at the end of Title III the following new section:

“SEC. . None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to implement or enforce any provision in Presidential Executive Order 13123 regarding the Federal Energy Management Program which circumvents or contradicts any statutes relevant to Federal energy use and the measurement thereof, including, but not limited to, the existing statutory mandate that life-cycle cost effective measures be undertaken at federal facilities to save energy and reduce the operational expenditures of the government.”

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I support the energy efficiency amendment contained in the package of amendments managed by the chairman of the subcommittee.

This amendment, which I have sponsored along with Senators MURKOWSKI and BINGAMAN, clarifies, with respect to the measurement of energy use by the Federal government, that the directives contained in Presidential Executive Order 13123 cannot circumvent or contradict any relevant statutes.

The Appropriations Committee addressed this matter last year, when Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator BYRD worked to clarify the intent of Congress with respect to energy use and energy measurement. As a result of their efforts, the conference report on the Omnibus Appropriations bill included language that has the same effect as the amendment we propose today—that is, the federal government shall obey existing laws, that proposed changes to the law are subject to the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and that the law cannot be changed by committee report language, executive order or any other mechanism that would circumvent the jurisdiction of the authorizing committee.

Mr. President, this amendment will remedy flaws in the Executive Order, most of which represents a laudable effort to save taxpayer dollars by increasing energy efficiency in federal buildings.

I thank Chairman GORTON, Energy Committee Chairman MURKOWSKI, ranking member BINGAMAN, and their staffs for working to resolve this issue.

AMENDMENT NO. 1636

(Purpose: To authorize the Fish and Wildlife Service to retain and use fees collected for certain damages caused to national wildlife refuge lands in Louisiana and Texas to assess and mitigate or restore the damaged resources, and monitor and study the recovery of such damaged resources)

On page 12, line 12, before the final period, insert the following: “: *Provided further*, That all funds received by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service from responsible parties, heretofore and through fiscal year 2000, for site-specific damages to National Wildlife Refuge System lands resulting from the exercise of privately-owned oil and gas rights associated with such lands in the States of Louisiana and Texas (other than damages recoverable under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (26 U.S.C. 4611 et seq.), the Oil Pollution Act (33 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.), or section 311 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1321 et seq.)), shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation and until expended to: (1) complete damage assessments of the impacted site by the Secretary; (2) mitigate or restore the damaged resources; and (3) monitor and study the recovery of such damaged resources”.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 1371, 1408, 1587, 1593, 1595, 1600, 1601, 1610, AND 1613

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I send a package of numbered amendments to the desk with modifications and ask unanimous consent that these amendments be adopted en bloc. They have been cleared on both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments will be appropriately numbered.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, again, the same explanation. These amendments include one from the Senator

from Maine, Ms. COLLINS, with respect to St. Croix Island International Historic Site; one by the Senator from Utah, Mr. HATCH, with respect to Lake Powell; one from Senator MURKOWSKI with respect to inspection fees for imported skins and furs; one from Senators MURKOWSKI, CAMPBELL, INOUE, and JOHNSON with respect to the Indian Trust Asset and Accounting Management System; one from Senator CAMPBELL with respect to pine beetle eradication; one from Senator BRYAN and Senator REID of Nevada with respect to Grand Canyon overflights; one from Senator BURNS with respect to grizzly bear reintroduction—Senator CRAIG is a cosponsor of Senator BURNS' amendment—one from Senator STEVENS with respect to Haines Borough in Alaska; and one from Senator DURBIN with respect to Shawnee National Forest.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments are agreed to.

The amendments agreed to en bloc are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1371

(Purpose: To place a requirement on the use of funds for development of a resource management plan and for timber sales in the Shawnee National Forest, Illinois)

At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. 3 . SHAWNEE NATIONAL FOREST, ILLINOIS.

None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to—

(1) develop a resource management plan for the Shawnee National Forest, Illinois; or

(2) make a sale of timber for commodity purposes produced on land in the Shawnee National Forest from which the expected cost of making the timber available for sale is greater than the expected revenue to the United States from the sale.

AMENDMENT NO. 1408 AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To prevent the physical reintroduction of grizzly bears into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness of Idaho and Montana in FY2000 and to allow for greater public involvement in the project)

Insert in general provisions, Title III, the following:

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the physical relocation of grizzly bears into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness of Idaho and Montana.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I wish to discuss an amendment originally offered by my colleague from Montana to prohibit the reintroduction of the grizzly bear in the Selway-Bitterroot area of Idaho and Montana. This language is being included in the managers' amendment.

I strongly support reintroduction of the grizzly bears under the Endangered Species Act. Presently in the lower 48 States, there are only 800 to 1000 bears in scattered pockets of habitat in Idaho, Montana and Washington. Large species such as the grizzly are most vulnerable when they are limited to small populations and confined to small portions of habitat. Because grizzlies are not likely to migrate beyond the pockets in which they now exist, they are not likely to find their own way to the Selway-Bitterroot area, even though it is an area they

once inhabited. The reintroduction of grizzlies in this area will greatly bolster efforts to recover grizzlies in the lower 48 States.

The current proposal by the Fish and Wildlife Service establishes a Citizen Management Committee to make the primary decisions on reintroduction and management. This committee would consist of 15 members, with 7 chosen by the Governor of Idaho, 5 chosen by the Governor of Montana, one chosen by the Nez Perce Tribe, one chosen by the Chief of the Forest Service and one chosen by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service. The committee would have authority to establish specific recovery goals, determine areas for reintroduction, and establish land-use standards.

This proposal has been developed after tremendous public involvement and outreach. Since 1992, with the formation of a citizens' group, local individuals and industries have been involved in the decisions relating to grizzly bear recovery in Idaho and Montana. Preparation of both the draft and final Environmental Impact Statements provided significant opportunity for public comment. In sum, the proposal has been developed with painstaking effort and deliberation.

The result is a coalition of supporters among timber companies, ranchers, and environmental groups. Governor Racicot of Montana has long backed the reintroduction plan. While Governor Kempthorne opposes the plan, he recently stated that he wants Idaho to take a strong leadership role if the reintroduction is going to happen. Numerous newspapers in both states have endorsed the plan.

Nevertheless, there continues to be opposition to the proposal among numerous local citizens, particularly within the Valley in Montana along the eastern border of the Selway-Bitterroot area. I strongly encourage both the Fish and Wildlife Service and Forest Service to continue their outreach and education efforts, and to address the concerns of these citizens.

Mr. President, you may recall that this Chamber has seen fierce opposition to the reintroduction of other species in an effort to recover them under the ESA. Specifically, we have debated reintroductions of the red wolf in North Carolina in 1995 and the gray wolf in Yellowstone in 1996. What has come of those programs? Nothing but tremendous success. Both species are close to full recovery. Both programs resulted in less livestock depredation than originally predicted. Both programs cost less to the Federal taxpayer than originally estimated. Have there been occasional problems with individual wolves? Of course. But each program had provided for such occasions, and problems were addressed efficiently and expeditiously.

With the care and attention that has been poured into the grizzly bear program from not just the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service, but

local citizens, industries, conservation groups and of course the States, I have no doubt that this program will also be a success.

Indeed, I will venture to say that, in hindsight, we will marvel at the ability of Nature to take over the grizzly bear program—as it has with the Yellowstone gray wolves and North Carolina red wolves—and run its own course smoothly, with nothing more than a little encouragement from us. All we need to do is to provide that encouragement.

I do not oppose the amendment adopted today by the managers of the bill, but that is only because it is narrowly limited to a prohibition of funds for physical relocation of bears in the Selway-Bitterroot area. The Service does not intend to relocate bears into the area before FY 2001. The language does not prohibit completion of the EIS and the Record of Decision, publication of a rulemaking under section 10(j) of the ESA, or activities to provide outreach and to set up the citizen's committee. It will not prevent activities in FY 2000 in support of reintroduction, short of physically relocating grizzlies in the area. Because the language does not prohibit what the Service would otherwise do in FY 2000, I do not oppose the language.

I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 1587 AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: to establish the scientific basis for noise standards applied to the Grand Canyon National Park)

At the end of Title I, add the following new section:

SEC. . No funds appropriated under this Act shall be expended to implement sound thresholds or standards in the Grand Canyon National Park until 90 days after the National Park Service has provided to the Congress a report describing (1) the reasonable scientific basis for such sound thresholds or standard and (2) the peer review process used to validate such sound thresholds or standard.

AMENDMENT NO. 1593

(Purpose: To provide for increased funding of certain programs of the Smithsonian Institution and the Indian Health Service)

At the appropriate place insert the following new section:

SEC. . Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall use any funds previously appropriated for the Department of the Interior for Fiscal Year 1998 for acquisition of lands to acquire land from the Borough of Haines, Alaska for subsequent conveyance to settle claims filed against the United States with respect to land in the Borough of Haines prior to January 1, 1999; *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall not convey lands acquired pursuant to this section unless and until a signed release of claims is executed.

AMENDMENT NO. 1595, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To require the Forest Service to use appropriated or other funds to improve the control or eradication of pine beetles in the Rocky Mountain region of the United States)

At the end of Title III, insert the following:
SEC. . The Forest Service shall use appropriations or other funds available to the Service to—

(1) improve the control or eradication of the pine beetles in the Rocky Mountain region of the United States; and

(2)(A) conduct a study of the causes and effects of, and solutions for, the infestation of pine beetles in the Rocky Mountain region of the United States; and

(B) submit to Congress a report on the results of the study, within 6 months of the date of enactment of this provision.

AMENDMENT NO. 1600, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: Making contingent funding plans)

At the end of Title I insert the following new section:

None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available to the Department of the Interior to deploy the Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) in any Bureau of Indian Affairs Area Office, with the exception of the Billings Area Office, until 45 days after the Secretary of the Interior certifies in writing to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Indian Affairs that, based on the Secretary's review and analysis, such system meets the TAAMS contract requirements and the needs of the system's customers including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians and affected Indian tribes and individual Indians.

The Secretary shall certify that the following items have been completed in accordance with generally accepted guidelines for system development and acquisition and indicate the source of those guidelines: design and functional requirements; legacy data conversion and use; system acceptance and user acceptance tests; project management functions such as deployment and implementation planning, risk management, quality assurance, configuration management, and independent verification and validation activities. The General Accounting Office shall provide an independent assessment of the Secretary's certification within 15 days of the Secretary's certification.

AMENDMENT NO. 1601, AS MODIFIED

(To assist small exporters of certain animal products)

At the end of Title I of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. . None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act or any other provision of law, may be used by any officer, employee, department or agency of the United States to impose or require payment of an inspection fee in connection with the import or export of shipments of fur-bearing wildlife containing 1000 or fewer raw, crusted, salted or tanned hides or fur skins, or separate parts thereof, including species listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora done at Washington, March 3, 1973 (27 UST 1027).

AMENDMENT 1610, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To ban the use of public funds for the study of decommissioning the Glen Canyon Dam or the draining of Lake Powell)

At the end of Title I insert the following:

SEC. . No funds appropriated for the Department of the Interior by this Act or any other Act shall be used to study or implement any plan to drain Lake Powell or to reduce the water level of the lake below the range of water levels required for the operation of the Glen Canyon Dam.

AMENDMENT NO. 1613, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: Expressing the sense of the Senate that the National Park Service should begin planning for the quadricentennial commemoration of the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site)

On page 62, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 1. QUADRICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION OF THE SAINT CROIX ISLAND INTERNATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) in 1604, 1 of the first European colonization efforts was attempted at St. Croix Island in Calais, Maine;

(2) St. Croix Island settlement predated both the Jamestown and Plymouth colonies;

(3) St. Croix Island offers a rare opportunity to preserve and interpret early interactions between European explorers and colonists and Native Americans;

(4) St. Croix Island is 1 of only 2 international historic sites comprised of land administered by the National Park Service;

(5) the quadricentennial commemorative celebration honoring the importance of the St. Croix Island settlement to the countries and people of both Canada and the United States is rapidly approaching;

(6) the 1998 National Park Service management plans and long-range interpretive plan call for enhancing visitor facilities at both Red Beach and downtown Calais;

(7) in 1982, the Department of the Interior and Canadian Department of the Environment signed a memorandum of understanding to recognize the international significance of St. Croix Island and, in an amendment memorandum, agreed to conduct joint strategic planning for the international commemoration with a special focus on the 400th anniversary of settlement in 2004;

(8) the Department of Canadian Heritage has installed extensive interpretive sites on the Canadian side of the border; and

(9) current facilities at Red Beach and Calais are extremely limited or nonexistent for a site of this historic and cultural importance.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) using funds made available by this Act, the National Park Service should expeditiously pursue planning for exhibits at Red Beach and the town of Calais, Maine; and

(2) the National Park Service should take what steps are necessary, including consulting with the people of Calais, to ensure that appropriate exhibits at Red Beach and the town of Calais are completed by 2004.

Mr. GORTON. I now move to reconsider the vote by which both of those sets of amendments were adopted, and I move to table my own motion.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 1359, 1362, 1367, 1493, 1572 1573, 1575, 1578, 1582, 1590, 1592, 1597, 1606, 1612, 1615, AND 1637 THROUGH 1657

Mr. GORTON. I now send a package of amendments to the desk and ask unanimous consent they be considered and agreed to en bloc and numbered separately. All of these amendments have been agreed to and cleared by both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments will be appropriately numbered.

Mr. GORTON. This last large package includes a Gorton-Levin-DeWine amendment with respect to Great Lakes fish and wildlife restoration and spartina grass research; one by Senator

COCHRAN and others with respect to the National Endowment for the Humanities; one by Senator BENNETT and others with respect to the National Endowment for the Arts; one from Senator LIEBERMAN with respect to the Weir Farm National Historic Site; one by Senator ABRAHAM with respect to Isle Royale National Park; one from Senator JEFFORDS with respect to weatherization assistance grants and State energy conservation grants; one by Senators CRAPO and BURNS with respect to cold water fish habitat conservation plans in Idaho and Montana; one from Senator TORRICELLI with respect to Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park; one from Senator JOHNSON, Senator BURNS, and others with respect to tribally controlled community colleges; one from Senator SHELBY with respect to a wildlife data system in Alabama; one from Senator INOUE and others with respect to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial; one from Senator BINGAMAN with respect to the Youth Conservation Corps; another from Senator BINGAMAN with respect to Indian post-secondary schools and changes to the Federal funding formula; one from Senator KOHL with respect to UK development LLC; one from Senator EDWARDS with respect to Lake Logan, NC; one from Senator ABRAHAM and others with respect to payments in lieu of taxes; one from Senator MURKOWSKI and others with respect to the Land and Water Conservation Fund stateside program; one from Senator STEVENS with respect to the Smithsonian Institution and Indian Health Service; one from Senator LEVIN with respect to the Keweenaw National Historic Park in Michigan; one from Senator COLLINS with respect to the St. Croix Island International Historic Site; one from Senator FEINSTEIN with respect to Forest Service reimbursement; one from Senator BINGAMAN with respect to municipal energy management; one from Senator BYRD with respect to the Wheeling National Heritage Area; one from myself with respect to the Forest Service/Weyerhaeuser Huckleberry land exchange; one from Senator REID of Nevada with respect to the Weber Dam in Nevada and feasibility study for a tribally operated trout fish hatchery on the Walker River; one from Senator STEVENS with respect to timber pipeline supply on the Tongass National Forest; one from Senator LOTT with respect to Civil War battlefields; one from the two Senators from Minnesota respecting a Minnesota science center; one from Senator KERREY of Nebraska with respect to the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge land acquisition; one from Senator BOND with respect to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield; one from Senator HOLLINGS with respect to Fort Sumter National Monument land acquisition; one from Senator ABRAHAM with respect to a Michigan community development database; one from Senator WARNER with respect to sand and gravel; one from Senator

TORRICELLI with respect to UPARR; and a final amendment of my own, a manager's amendment with respect to the setoffs necessary to pay for the other amendments we have adopted or are about to adopt.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendments have been agreed to.

The amendments agreed to en bloc are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1359

On page 79, line 19 of the bill, strike "under this Act or previous appropriations Acts." and insert in lieu thereof the following: "under this or any other Act."

AMENDMENT NO. 1362, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for the acquisition of the Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut, with an offset)

On page 18, line 19, before the period, insert the following: ", and of which not less than \$2,000,000 shall be used to acquire the Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut".

AMENDMENT NO. 1367, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for facilities maintenance at Isle Royale National Park)

On page 17, line 25, after the colon insert the following: "Provided further, That \$1,000,000 shall be made available for Isle Royale National Park to address visitor facility and infrastructure deterioration."

AMENDMENT NO. 1493, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide additional funding for the National Endowment for the Arts)

On page 94, line 7, strike, "\$86,000,000" and insert "\$90,000,000".

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Bennett-Jeffords-Reed amendment. For the past 34 years, the National Endowment for the Arts has served the public good by nurturing the expression of human creativity, supporting the cultivation of community spirit, improving our children's education, and fostering the recognition and appreciation of our nation's artistic accomplishments.

The arts and humanities have an immense positive impact on the lives of all Americans. Children and adolescents in particular tremendously from artistic expression. Studies show again and again that comprehensive arts education programs in schools with at-risk student populations improve academic achievement; student self-assurance; creative and critical thinking skills; attendance; as well as student and parent attitudes about school.

And yet, we as a society have consistently underfunded arts education and community arts programs at the local, state and federal level. In recent years, Congress has exacerbated this situation by dramatically reducing funding to the National Endowment for the Arts.

The NEA has not seen a budget increase in 8 years—not since 1992, when the agency had a budget of \$175.9 million. In 1996, the NEA's budget was slashed by 40% to \$99 million, and it has remained near that level ever since.

This year, the President requested an increase of \$52 million for the NEA, nearly all of which would have been used to pay for a major new initiative called Challenge America. A priority of Challenge America would be to get NEA funds to areas of the country that have not received sufficient funds in the past. Challenge America would focus on outreach projects for education, after-school programs using the arts, historic preservation, and upgrading the arts infrastructure in our communities. In effect, Challenge America would put the arts at the center of family and community life.

Mr. President, by reaching out to new communities and new regions of the country, the Challenge America program would directly address the concerns that members of this body have expressed with regard to the distribution of NEA funds.

Unfortunately, the Interior spending bill before us contains no funding for the Challenge America initiative. The Appropriations Committee's report indicates, however, that the lack of funds for Challenge America "should not be interpreted as a lack of support by the Committee for the Endowment's proposal."

The problem, of course, is the budget. The distinguished Interior Subcommittee Chairman and Ranking Member have done an outstanding job to report a bill within the tight allocations provided to them. I commend them for their effort and fully appreciate the constraints within which they operate.

However, I believe we can, and should, find the money to make the Challenge America program a reality and to allow the NEA to do what so many members of this body want it to do. At a time when we are considering an \$800 billion tax cut, I think it is not unreasonable to provide a small increase to an agency that has such a meaningful impact in communities across the country. This amendment, which would provide \$4 million in additional funding to the NEA in fiscal year 2000, would permit the NEA to get the Challenge America initiative off the ground. Every dime of additional money would be used for project grants—mostly the small, expedited grants that will get funding to previously underserved areas of the country.

Mr. President, the NEA is under new management. Chairman Bill Ivey has worked hard to reform the Endowment's operations and to respond to the concerns expressed by members of Congress in recent years.

It is time we gave the NEA a chance to show that it has changed. Let's give it the opportunity to do what we've asked it to do—to get more grants to new rural and urban areas, to do more in the area of arts education, and to help us rebuild our cities and make them more attractive places for people to live and work.

I urge my colleagues to support this important amendment.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, a number of my colleagues and I have advocated a small increase in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. I also want to commend Senator COCHRAN's efforts to increase funds for the National for the Humanities. Neither endowment has received a significant increase since their budgets were cut by nearly 40 percent in fiscal 1996. I believe a \$4 million increase is warranted given the reforms intended to make the endowments more efficient and more accountable have been implemented and we have seen results.

While a positive story could be told about the National Endowment for the Arts, I believe the real story of the NEA and NEH is a local story. And in my case, a Utah story. In previous years, I have outlined the origins of the strong arts and humanities tradition in Utah. The arts flourished in Utah before Utah was even a state. Utah also had one of the first publicly funded arts councils in America.

Today, I would like to tell two stories of traveling exhibition programs in the arts and humanities. Both benefit rural areas. Both provide communities with opportunities that might not be available otherwise. These types of programs make a strong case for a small federal investment in the arts and humanities.

For the last 35 years, the Utah Arts Council's Traveling Exhibition Program, supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, has toured visual arts exhibitions all over Utah. In some areas, particularly in the more rural regions of the state, the exhibition is the only source of visual arts programming. Utah's San Juan county bussed children from surrounding communities to view these exhibitions. Another rural county boasted a 100-percent citizen participation for one of the exhibits.

The Utah Arts Council's Traveling Exhibition Program serves more than 150,000 people in all but two counties of the state each year. Every year the Utah Arts Council receives more than 250 requests for the program, but is only able to satisfy half. Each Traveling Exhibition includes educational materials that emphasize not only the artistic aspects of the exhibits, but also its connections to other aspects of the curriculum.

Denise Hoffman, a librarian at the Green River Library and participant in the program, made this comment:

We are a very small and isolated town in rural Utah. Almost every student in the grade school comes to the library on a weekly basis. A vast majority of our students will never be exposed to the arts. We use the traveling exhibitions as a basis for learning. By making these displays easily affordable, you cannot count the young lives that have been touched, or guided into the arts. Please consider dollar for dollar what we are getting with this program. It is critical to us.

Another program that benefits rural areas is a collaborative project between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES)

and state humanities councils. Its goal is to give small rural museums access to Smithsonian resources. What resulted was a small traveling program with Smithsonian type exhibits called "Museum on Main Street." The two projects developed under this program are "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Homefront 1941-1945" and "Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon." The Utah Humanities Council spearheaded this effort and the following communities have participated in this program: Castle Dale, population 1,704; Vernal, population 6,644; Kanab, population 3,289; Wellsville, population 2,206; Monticello, population 1,806; Delta population 2,998; Ephraim, population 3,363; Heber, population 4,362; and Payson, population 9,510.

Castle Dale, Kanab, Payson, Vernal, and Delta hosted their first Smithsonian exhibit using "Produce for Victory" as a basis for the communities to remember what was occurring in America during the years 1941 through 1945. Each community developed local programs including USO dances, ration recipe luncheons, reunions of women who worked in munitions industries ("Rosie the Riveter"), discussions of the 1930s and 1940s movies and newsreels, and exhibitions of local artifacts.

Kanab had activities all year commemorating World War II. Events included a poster exhibit from the Smithsonian, World War II movies from Brigham Young University's film collection, and countless other very personal contributions from many of the town's people who had directly participated in the war or were relatives of those who had.

An immediate result of various groups working together on this project was to make young people aware of those whose lives were directly touched by World War II. Many of the local youth had no idea that they were living next door to people who had first-hand knowledge of this historic event. Grandchildren were talking to grandparents and asking questions about the war. Many teens were surprised to learn that some of those serving in the armed services were no older than their big brothers or themselves. During the celebration, those who had contributed their possessions from that period stood by their displays, ready to describe each artifact.

These types of activities help us remember our history, the individual sacrifices that were made for freedom, how individuals coped with difficult times, and how America emerged stronger. Understanding this legacy through these types of exhibits is a worthwhile pursuit.

The traveling exhibits that I have described today are in keeping with the goal of bringing our historical and cultural heritage to areas that would not otherwise have the opportunity. Much of the criticism of the NEA has been anecdotal and has painted an ugly pic-

ture. Utah's story is anything but. The state arts and humanities councils, assisted by the National Endowments, and the Smithsonian, has demonstrated how arts and humanities can be a positive influence in our communities.

Mr. President, I believe a continued federal arts and humanities partnership is worthwhile, and encourage my colleagues to support a small increase.

I would also like to thank Chairman GORTON for his leadership on this bill. He has had to balance several competing priorities and has done an admirable job. I appreciate very much his attention to the details of so many important issues.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, one of the most important provisions in this bill is its support for the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities. These agencies provide essential Federal support for cultural activities in communities across America. The arts and humanities are a central part of our democracy, our history and our heritage and they eminently deserve this federal support.

It is important for the federal government to create an environment which supports the arts and humanities in our nation. The Endowments have done an outstanding job in providing this needed support. They have provided assistance to theaters, museums, dance companies, and a wide range of cultural activities in communities and neighborhoods in every state.

The federal role is not an isolated one. It functions in partnership with local and state governments and the private sector. Across the country, mayors have been among the strongest supporters of the arts, because they know that a strong cultural community attracts families and businesses to our cities. Cultural tourism is a growth industry in states throughout the country.

Federal support provides needed assistance to cultural institutions, and it also provides critical support in schools. Today's schools face a broad range of challenges, and a compelling body of research demonstrates a strong correlation between study of the arts and academic achievement. The arts are "the Fourth R," and they deserve to have a significant role in the educational experience of all children.

In 1998, students with course work in music scored 52 points higher on the verbal portion and 36 points higher on the math portion of the SAT. With results like these, it is clear that we should find effective ways to integrate arts education into the classroom curriculum so that music, painting, drama and other arts can enrich the educational experience of all students.

The Endowments have often been the subject of criticism over the last several years. But Congress has imposed reforms that have virtually eliminated controversy over grant awards.

The Arts Endowment has worked hard to improve its operations and to

respond to the concerns expressed by members of Congress. Its current chair, Bill Ivey, has proposed a major new initiative, Challenge America, that will emphasize outreach projects for education, including after-school programs involving the arts, historic preservation and measures to develop the arts infrastructure in communities. He has also implemented "ArtsReach" which will encourage applications and grants to states that have received few grants in the past.

The Humanities Endowment has undertaken a leadership role to improve teacher training using the Internet and other technologies to ensure that new public programs in the humanities reach classrooms in as many communities as possible.

These agencies are doing all that they can to expand the scope of cultural activities in America. It is essential that we provide them with the resources necessary to carry out their important mission. I support efforts to increase funding for the agencies, so that they can more fully achieve their important goals. As the statute creating the agencies emphasized, the United States cannot afford to limit its efforts to science and technology alone, but should give fair and full support to the other great branches of scholarly and cultural endeavors in our society, in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better vision of the future.

I urge my colleagues to support funding for these agencies, and I hope that at long last we can give them the support that they have earned.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Senators BENNETT, CHAFEE, KENNEDY, MOYNIHAN, and REED, I am pleased that the Managers of the bill have agreed to support our proposal for a funding increase for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

First let me commend Senators GORTON and BYRD for starting this discussion out on the right foot. They provided modest increases for the NEA, NEH and IMLS under very difficult circumstances. I applaud the leadership they have shown in recognizing the important role that each of these agencies play in strengthening our nation's cultural institutions and expanding opportunities for participation in cultural activities.

My support for these agencies runs deep because I know that the grants that they make have a positive impact on the state of Vermont and nearly all who live there. The NEA and NEH make it possible for more Vermonters to have access to the arts and humanities in their many different forms and shapes—literature, art history, dance, music, folkarts, history and theater.

In number terms, the positive impact of the arts and the humanities is statistically significant. It can be measured in terms of increased academic

achievement and better outlook on life for those school-aged children that have the opportunity to participate in the arts or humanities experience.

In terms of education, students of the arts outperform their "non-arts" peers on the SAT. Even when one takes into consideration the economic status of a family, kids from low-income families that participate in the arts had higher grades in English, were less likely to drop out by grade 10, were less "bored" in school, had a higher "self concept," and placed a higher value on volunteerism than their low-income peers with low arts involvement.

The arts have demonstrated effectiveness in making a difference for youth at-risk by decreasing truancy and increasing enthusiasm for learning. Students engaged in the learning process are less likely to get into trouble and the arts have proven themselves are one of our best tools in this effort. The hard data backs up these claims.

In other instances, the positive impact of the arts and humanities can be "measured" by a smile that grows on the face of a person listening to the music of the Vermont Symphony at a free summer concert; it can be "quantified" by the deeper understanding one gains about storytelling and the New England folk culture thanks to programs sponsored by the Vermont Folklife Center; it can be "gauged" by a young person's spirit that soars to new heights from imagining worlds beyond their own while daydreaming at the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium in St. Johnsbury.

We must recognize and acknowledge the ways in which the arts expand the imagination of young people; broaden their interest in creating; introduce them to other worlds, other people, and other cultures; make learning other subjects generally more "fun;" and build their skills of cooperation that they must practice when performing a play, playing in a band, or singing in a choir. The NEA and NEH make these opportunities possible for the people of Vermont. With a little investigation, many of you will find that these agencies are doing the same in your home states.

Because of the consideration shown by the Chairman of this subcommittee, each of the three agencies will be able to extend their grant programs more broadly. With the additional money that we are requesting today, NEA and NEH could further expand their outreach efforts with an eye towards introducing more Americans, many for the first time to the beauty of dance, the spectacle of theater, the enchantment of reading and the magic of the museum.

We have new, visionary leaders at the NEA and NEH. Bill Ivey and Bill Ferris are Chairmen who have their ears to the ground and they are prepared to respond to the cultural needs of the people of this nation, regardless of where they live. They have made it their

business to involve the grassroots. They fundamentally understand where congress is coming from both in terms of its support for the agencies and with regard to the criticisms of "elitism" and favoritism.

To address concerns, they have focused on grassroots initiatives like: "Challenge America,"—an effort to target grant dollars to communities that lack a significant arts presence and invest in arts education, preservation of cultural heritage and after school programming for young people-at-risk;

"Our History is America's History"—a program that will encourage all Americans to explore our family's history and stories, enter these stories to the Internet and connect these personal histories to the broad sweep of American and world history; and

"ED-sitement"—a partnership involving the NEH, MCI corporations and others designed to help humanities teachers use the Internet effectively in their teaching.

Each of these programs better connect the local community with its rich and vibrant local history and cultural offerings. They draw upon the rich cultural heritage and traditions of a region and share those treasures and stories widely with our nation's community. I am anxious to support their efforts. It is due to their leadership and the leadership of my own Vermont Arts Council, Vermont Humanities Council and all of Vermont's museums and cultural institutions that I stand with confidence behind these agencies and call for a modest increase in their budgets.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities are agencies with small budgets that provide extraordinary service to the people of this nation. I encourage my colleagues to support each of these agencies.

In closing, I would like to applaud the leadership of my colleague from Mississippi, Senator COCHRAN for his unwavering support for the NEH. In addition, I would like to publicly state my support for the Institute for Museum Services and hope that during conference negotiations with the House, we will adopt the highest appropriation possible for that important agency.

Finally, I would like to thank Senator GORTON and Senator BYRD for their leadership on this issue and thank my colleagues for supporting this modest increase for NEA and NEH.

AMENDMENT NO. 1572, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding to carry out the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, with an offset)

On page 16, line 25, strike "\$49,951,000" and insert \$51,451,000, of which not less than \$1,500,000 shall be available to carry out the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.)."

AMENDMENT NO. 1573, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for the Fredricksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, with an offset)

On page 18, line 16, strike "\$84,525,000" and insert "\$87,725,000".

On page 18, line 19, before the period, insert the following: ", and of which not less than \$3,000,000 shall be available for the Fredricksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park".

AMENDMENT NO. 1575, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for tribally controlled colleges and universities)

At the appropriate place in title I, insert the following:

SEC. 1. (a) In addition to any amounts otherwise made available under this title to carry out the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978, \$1,500,000 is appropriated to carry out such Act for fiscal year 2000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1578 AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To make funds available to the Secretary of the Interior to develop a pilot wildlife data system for the State of Alabama)

On page 62, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 1. PILOT WILDLIFE DATA SYSTEM.

From funds made available by this Act to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary of the Interior shall use \$1,000,000 to develop a pilot wildlife data system to provide statistical data relating to wildlife management and control in the State of Alabama.

AMENDMENT NO. 1582 AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for modifications to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, with an offset)

On page 3, line 18, strike "\$287,305,000" and insert "\$283,805,000".

On page 17, line 19, strike "\$221,093,000" and insert "\$227,593,000".

On page 17, line 22, before the colon, insert the following: ", of which not less than \$3,500,000 shall be available for modifications to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial".

AMENDMENT NO. 1590, AS MODIFIED

Before the period at the end of the "Construction" account of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, insert the following: "": *Provided further*, That in return for a quit claim deed to a school building on the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Indian Reservation, the Secretary shall pay to U.K. Development, LLC the amount of \$375,000 from the funds made available under this heading".

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, the amendment I am offering would compensate a company that built a school building for the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe in my state of Wisconsin. It would also clarify ownership of the building. The educational program of the school, as well as the operation and maintenance funding are provided to the Tribe through a grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

When a number of classrooms were condemned, the BIA provided a grant to the school to lease temporary space while the classrooms were replaced. Rather than lease space, the Tribe entered into a lease/purchase agreement with a contractor for construction of an 8,400 square foot building. When the

Bureau learned that the Tribe had not used the initial grant payment to lease space, they declined to provide additional money to the tribe for this project since the BIA was, at the same time, providing about \$2 million for the tribe to replace the condemned classrooms. All of this and more is detailed in an audit report issued by Interior's Inspector General last March.

It is my understanding that this amendment will have no impact on construction projects which are to begin in fiscal year 2000. To that end, I would urge the chairman to call on BIA to identify before conference any potential negative impact associated with this amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 1592, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funds for the Forest Service to acquire lands at Lake Logan, NC)

On page 65, line 18, strike "\$37,170,000" and insert "\$38,170,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1597

(Purpose: To provide an additional \$4,000,000 for the National Endowment for the Humanities)

On page 95, line 5, strike "\$97,550,000" and insert "\$101,000,000".

On page 95, line 13, strike "\$14,150,000" and insert "\$14,700,000".

On page 95, line 14, strike "\$10,150,000" and insert "\$10,700,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1606, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide funding for the acquisition of new properties in Kenweenaw National Historic Park, Michigan, with an offset)

On page 18, line 19, before the period, insert the following: ", and of which not less than \$1,700,000 shall be available for the acquisition of properties in Keweenaw National Historical Park, Michigan".

AMENDMENT NO. 1612, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To make funds available for planning and development of interpretive sites for the quadricentennial commemoration of the Saint Croix Island International Historic site, with an offset)

On page 17, line 22, insert the following before the colon: "and of which \$90,000 shall be available for planning and development of interpretive sites for the quadricentennial commemoration of the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, Maine including possible interpretive sites in Calais, Maine".

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise in support of two amendments I have filed in connection with the Interior appropriations bill for fiscal year 2000.

My amendments, which are cosponsored by Senator SNOWE, are expected to be accepted as part of the managers' package, which the chairman of the subcommittee will be sending to the desk shortly.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the subcommittee chairman, Senator GORTON, and the ranking minority member, Senator BYRD, for their assistance and support of my proposals.

The amendments I am proposing will provide funding and National Park Service support for projects of great historical and international significant to my State and our country. Yet prob-

ably only a few of our colleagues have ever heard of St. Croix Island, nestled in the St. Croix River that separates Maine from Canada, or this island's place in the history of the United States and Canada and in the hearts of North Americans of French descent.

We have all probably heard of the Pilgrims' landing at Plymouth Rock in 1620, or the English colonial settlement at Jamestown in 1607, but few know the story of an even older settlement, dating back to 1604, when French nobleman Pierre Dugua Sieur de Mons, accompanied by a courageous group of adventurers that included Samuel Champlain, landed on St. Croix Island and quickly set about to construct a settlement. They cleared the island, planted crops, dug a well, and built houses, fortifications, public buildings, and gun emplacements. In the process, they were aided by Native peoples who made temporary camps on the island and assisted in various ways. At the same time, Samuel Champlain undertook a number of reconnaissance missions from the island. On one, he found and named Mount Desert Island, now the home to Acadia National Park.

By October, the settlement was ready. But the Maine winter was more than the seventy-nine settlers had bargained for. By winter's end, nearly half had died and many others were seriously ill.

The spring brought relief from the harsh weather. Sieur de Mons relocated his colony to Port Royal in what is now Nova Scotia and, in 1608, Champlain and a company of men founded Quebec.

According to the National Park Service, the French settlement on St. Croix Island in 1604 and 1605 was the first and "most ambitious attempt of its time to establish an enduring French presence in the 'New World.'" Many view the expedition that settled on St. Croix Island in 1604 as the beginning of the Acadian culture in North America. This rich and diverse culture spread across the continent, from Canada to Louisiana, where French-speaking Acadians came to be known as "Cajuns."

The rich history and cultural significance of the 1604 settlement at St. Croix Island are beyond question. Yet, with only four years remaining before the 400th anniversary of the settlement, there is still much to prepare for a proper and appropriate commemoration of this historical event.

Let me try to put the occasion in perspective. For the 300th anniversary of the settlement, U.S., British, and French naval ships, flagged out for the occasion, steamed up the St. Croix River and anchored off the historic island. Speakers at the ceremony honoring the anniversary included the consul general of France and the famous U.S. general and Maine patriot, Joshua Chamberlain.

Several thousand people attended the celebration.

In 1996, the U.S. National Park Service and Parks Canada agreed to "con-

duct joint strategic planning for the international commemoration [of the St. Croix Island], with a special focus on the 400th anniversary of settlement in 2004." For its part, Parks Canada constructed an exhibit in New Brunswick overlooking St. Croix Island. The exhibit uses Champlain's first-hand accounts, period images, updated research, and custom artwork to tell the compelling story of the settlement.

The National Park Service, on the other hand, has plans to expand a small, existing site located just south of Calais, Maine. The Park Service plan envisions a modest, but appropriate outdoor exhibit overlooking St. Croix Island and exhibits in an indoor visitor center, preferably located in nearby Calais. These plans are intended to commemorate in an appropriate way one of only two international historic sites in the U.S. national park system and, as far as they go, the plans are a welcome first step. The next steps have yet to be taken and time is growing short. That is why I offered two amendments to this appropriations bill.

The first amendment makes \$90,000 available in FY 2000 to finish pre-construction planning for and begin development of the outdoor site at Red Beach and to plan for the possible location of interpretive exhibits in Calais, Maine. Currently, no money is scheduled to be appropriated for the Red Beach site until FY 2002, and National Park Service officials in Maine and in the Northeast Regional Office agree with me that the funding schedule provides for too little too late. This money is needed now in order to ensure that the project is completed in time for the 400th anniversary celebration.

My second amendment asks the National Park Service to work with the people of Calais to make an indoor visitors center—known as the "Downeast Heritage Center—a reality. The people of Calais and surrounding areas have worked tirelessly to move the project towards completion. They need the assistance of the National Park Service—which already has endorsed the concept—but which now must help with planning and financial assistance to bring the project from a dream to reality. My amendment asks and directs the Park Service to work with the people of Calais on this project and to ensure that appropriate exhibits are completed in time for the 400th anniversary celebration.

I further request that the Park Service include in its fiscal year 2001 budget submission funds for both the Red Beach site and the Downeast Heritage Center in downtown Calais.

My amendments seeks only a small commitment of funds that are designed to commemorate a 1604 settlement of enormous historical significance.

I again want to thank Senator GORTON and Senator BYRD for their assistance in helping our country prepare for a terrific 400th anniversary celebration of the early French settlement at St. Croix Island.

I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 1615, AS MODIFIED

On page 76, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

"The Forest Service is authorized through the Forest Service existing budget to reimburse Harry Fray for the cost of his home, \$143,406 (1997 dollars) destroyed by arson on June 21, 1990 in retaliation for his work with the Forest Service."

AMENDMENT NO. 1637

(Purpose: To provide funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Resource Management account for grants under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program and for spartina grass research)

On page 10, line 15, strike "\$683,519,000" and insert "\$684,019,000".

On page 10, line 16, after "herein," insert the following: "of which \$400,000 shall be available for grants under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program, and of which \$300,000 shall be available for spartina grass research being conducted by the University of Washington, and".

AMENDMENT NO. 1638

(Purpose: To increase funding for weatherization assistance grants and state energy conservation grants, with an offset)

On page 78, line 16, strike "\$682,817,000" and insert "\$684,817,000".

On page 78, line 19, strike "\$166,000,000" and insert "\$168,000,000".

On page 78, line 24, strike "\$133,000,000" and insert "\$135,000,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1639

(Purpose: To set aside funding for development of a habitat conservation plan for cold water fish in the States of Idaho and Montana)

On page 10, line 16, after "herein," insert "of which \$500,000 of the amount available for consultation shall be available for development of a voluntary-enrollment habitat conservation plan for cold water fish in cooperation with the States of Idaho and Montana (of which \$250,000 shall be made available to each of the States of Idaho and Montana), and".

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to support the amendment proposed by Senator CRAPO, along with myself, Senator BURNS, and Senator CRAIG, to provide funding for the development of a habitat conservation plan for the recovery of the bull trout and other cold water fish in Montana and Idaho.

By way of background, the bull trout favors cold, high-mountain streams with lots of cover. Some are resident, remaining in the same tributary all year round. Most, however, are migratory, heading upstream spawn in the spring, when the water starts to get warm.

Historically, bull trout were found throughout the Northwest, from California to the Yukon Territory. Today, they are found primarily in Idaho and Montana. The Montana population is located in the Clark Fork River and in Lake Kookanusa, above the Libby Dam.

There are many reasons for the decline in the bull trout population, including timber harvesting, road building, farming and grazing, and dam construction. Ironically, efforts to help recover various salmon species in the

lower part of the Columbia River system may actually have harmed the bull trout in the upper part of the system, by reducing water levels in the upper reservoirs.

In any event, in 1998, the Fish and Wildlife Service listed the bull trout as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

For years, the State of Montana has been working hard to recover the bull trout. This work has intensified since the listing. For example, last year, Montana spent \$568,000 on recovery efforts: things like improving stream channels, stabilizing stream banks, fencing, monitoring, educating anglers, and preventing poaching. But, to get the job done, we need to do more. And we need more help from the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The amendment that we are offering today takes an important additional step. It sets aside \$500,000, from the Fish and Wildlife Service budget, to help the states of Montana and Idaho develop a voluntary habitat conservation plan for the bull trout and other cold water fish, including the westslope cutthroat trout, for which a listing petition has been filed.

The idea of the HCP is to provide guidance, to small landowners, particularly owners of woodlots, farms, and ranches. For example, the HCP might set standards re-channelizing streams. Or for timber harvesting and road building to prevent sedimentation. Compliance will be completely voluntary, but landowners who follow the guidance will know that they are in full compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

This can encourage the kind of voluntary, cooperative efforts that can go a long way towards recovering the bull trout. Let me give you an example. A few years ago, I spent the day at the Foote Ranch, along the Blackfoot River, in Ovando, in Northwest Montana. Geoff Foote and others were restoring Bull Trout habitat. Years ago, a stream had been straightened. This had the indirect effect of reducing the amount of mud that gathered along the sides of the stream, where bull trout spawn. So Geoff and others were re-channelizing the stream.

We cut logs, hauled them by horse, and placed the logs and large rocks so that the stream would meander and, by doing so, provide better bull spawning habitat.

It was a cooperative effort, involving folks from the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, local farmers and ranchers, and members of local environmental organizations. Our amendment will encourage further efforts, along these same lines.

The amendment does not modify the substantive provisions of the Endangered Species Act in any way. Nor does it implicate any of the controversies surrounding the standards for HCPs.

But it does provide funding to help Montana and Idaho continue their

work to recover the bull trout. That's important, in it's own right.

Moreover, it will help our State highway programs. The listing of the bull trout has caused concern about the potential effect on highway construction. By providing clear guidance, the HCP should go a long way to ensuring that the bull trout and our highway programs both can thrive.

I commend the sponsor of the amendment, Senator CRAPO, the Chairman of the Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee of the Environment and Public Works Committee, for his leadership on this issue. I also commend the other members of the delegation, Senators BURNS and CRAIG. I look forward to working further with them, Governors Racicot and Kempthorne, and Fish and Wildlife Service Director Clark to help recover the bull trout in Montana and Idaho in a reasonable, responsible way.

AMENDMENT NO. 1640

(Purpose: To increase funding for Post Secondary Schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and for other purposes)

On page 27, line 22, strike "\$1,631,996,000" and insert "\$1,632,596,000".

On page 29, line 10, after "2002" insert "": *Provided further*, That from amounts appropriated under this heading \$5,422,000 shall be made available to the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute and that from amounts appropriated under this heading \$8,611,000 shall be made available to Haskell Indian Nations University".

On page 62, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. —. BIA POST SECONDARY SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any funds appropriated for Bureau of Indian Affairs Operations for Central Office Operations for Post Secondary Schools for any fiscal year that exceed the amount appropriated for the schools for fiscal year 2000 shall be allocated among the schools proportionate to the unmet need of the schools as determined by the Post Secondary Funding Formula adopted by the Office of Indian Education Programs and the schools on May 13, 1999.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply for fiscal year 2000 and each succeeding fiscal year.

AMENDMENT NO. 1641

(Purpose: To direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to increase the number of youth employed during the summer to accomplish conservation projects)

At the appropriate place, insert the following new section:

SEC. . YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS AND RELATED PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, there shall be available for high priority projects which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps as authorized by Public Law 91-378, or related partnerships with non-Federal youth conservation corps or entities such as the Student Conservation Association, in order to increase the number of summer jobs available for youth, ages 15 through 22, on Federal lands:

(3) \$4,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service under this Act; and

(4) *** of the funds available to the Bureau of Land Management under this Act.

(b) Within six months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior

shall jointly submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives that includes the following:

(i) the number of youth, ages 15 through 22, employed during the summer of 1999, and the number estimated to be employed during the summer of 2000, through the Youth Conservation Corp, the Public Land Corps, or a related partnership with a State, local, or non-profit youth conservation corps or other entity such as the Student Conservation Association;

(ii) a description of the different types of work accomplished by youth during the summer of 1999;

(iii) identification of an problems that prevent or limit the use of the Youth Conservation Corps, the Public Land Corps, or related partnerships to accomplish projects described in subsection (a);

(iv) recommendations to improve the use and effectiveness of partnerships described in subsection (a); and

(v) and analysis of the maintenance backlog that identifies the types of projects that the Youth Conservation Corps, the Public Land Corps, or related partnerships are qualified to complete.

AMENDMENT NO. 1642

(Purpose: To increase funding for payments in lieu of taxes, with offsets)

On page 5, line 13, strike "\$130,000,000," and insert "\$135,000,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1643

Purpose: To provide funds for the land and water conservation fund stateside program, with offsets.

On page 18, line 19, strike "program." and insert "program, and in addition \$20,000,000 shall be available to provide financial assistance to States and shall be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to offer an amendment with Senator LAUTENBERG and 25 other Senators to provide \$20 million for the stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund or LWCF matching grant program.

Too often we forget that—in addition to a National Park System—we have national system of parks which includes tens of thousands of State and local parks. More than 37,000 of these State and local parks and recreation facilities have received a stateside LWCF matching grant, but there is a problem. The stateside LWCF program has been shut down because Congress hasn't funded it. Yet O.C.S. revenues currently are at \$4 billion.

Over 30 years ago, in a bipartisan effort, Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The LWCF is funded with Federal revenues from off-shore oil and gas leasing which now exceed \$4 billion a year. LWCF money can be used for two purposes:

(1) Acquisition of land by the four Federal land management agencies; and (2) matching grants to State and local governments for recreation facilities, parks, playgrounds, and campgrounds. The LWCF Act envisions a balance: between the Federal and State and local parks; between the needs of rural and urban populations; and between easterners and westerners.

Mr. President, I now want to refer to a "LWCF Authorization/Appropriation" chart. As this chart shows, the balance has been lost. FY1995 was the last year the LWCF stateside matching grant program was funded. In that year, over \$600 million was requested and only \$25 million was appropriated. Despite the past successes and growing demand, Washington pulled the rug out from under the stateside program. Four years ago, Congress and the administration zeroed out the stateside program. That was a serious mistake. Washington was being penny-wise and pound foolish. The promise to Americans set forth in the LWCF Act was broken.

When the offshore oil leasing program began, a portion of the receipts were pledged to recreation and conservation of America's great outdoors. I see no reason not to meet that pledge. I see many reasons to keep it. As the chart shows, 2 years ago was a record year for the Land and Water Conservation Fund when over \$900 million was appropriated. Out of the total, the Senate appropriated \$100 million for the stateside matching grant program.

Unfortunately, the good work of the Senate went for naught. This money was lost in conference. None of this money went to the stateside grant program. Every appropriated dollar went to Federal land acquisition and maintenance of Federal land.

This year the mistake of closing down this program is being recognized. The administration requested \$150 million for a State land conservation grants program and \$50 million for open space planning grants to States and local governments as part of their Lands Legacy proposal. As Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I had to oppose the administration's proposal because these programs are not authorized by the LWCF Act.

The President's Land Legacy proposal sought to fundamentally restructure the stateside matching grant program authorized by the LWCF Act. The LWCF stateside program is a formula grant program which provides monies to State and local communities for the planning, acquisition, and development of parks and recreation facilities. The President proposed to replace this program with a competitive grant program to the States for the purchase of land and open space planning. This proposal would have changed the focus of the stateside program and undercut the federalism inherent in the existing program.

Nonetheless, I was encouraged that the President, after 4 years, recognized the importance of sharing LWCF monies with State and local governments. More progress in restoring stateside was made last month when the House appropriated \$30 million for the program.

With this amendment, the Senate is doing its part. With tough budget targets, it was not easy to find \$20 million

in such a lean bill; however, we were able to find offsets from a variety of programs. These are difficult choices, but well worth it.

I wish we could have provided more money for this important program. However, it is a start. I will do all I can do to ensure that in conference the Senate recede to the House and provide \$30 million for the stateside matching grant program. I also will continue to seek permanent funding for this program so that we do not have to fight this annual appropriations battle.

Our system of government works best when all levels of government work together with the private sector to pursue shared goals. Few goals are as worthy as recreation for families and communities. Recreation is not a child's play. It is more than a hobby. It is a necessary component of our lives. It boosts the economy. It helps build stronger families and communities. And it encourages conservation efforts and helps preserve open space.

So why deny communities matching funds for recreation from proceeds of our offshore leasing program? I support offshore leasing and the use of some proceeds for stateside LWCF matching grants to State and local governments.

This amendment gives us a good reason to focus on the value of recreation to our lives and how we can do a better job encouraging people of all ages to enjoy America's natural splendor. Trips to national parks are remembered for a lifetime, but most day-to-day recreation takes place close to home and demand for local recreation resources is high and increasing. We must restore the LWCF stateside program; it is a good investment. This amendment is a start.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill that I am offering with my colleague from Alaska, Mr. MURKOWSKI.

I would like to thank our broad range of bipartisan cosponsors: Senators BOXER, CHAFEE, DODD, ROTH, SESSIONS, FEINGOLD, KERRY of Massachusetts, LEAHY, LANDRIEU, LINCOLN, FRIST, GRAHAM, COLLINS, SMITH of New Hampshire, GREGG, MOYNIHAN, WARNER, BAYH, MCCAIN, AKAKA, FEINSTEIN, JEFFORDS, and HAGEL.

Mr. President, this amendment would restore funds to a program that has helped protect open space in every State in the Nation through the State grants section of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This amendment restores \$20 million in fiscal year 2000 for these matching grants to States.

This "Stateside" program can be used to fund a variety of public open space efforts, including State and county parks, State forests, boating and swimming areas, and a variety of other recreational sites.

Mr. President, the House of Representatives saw fit to include the program at \$30 million in its Interior Appropriations bill.

We hope to come to their level in conference after our initial funding at \$20 million.

Over the past 30 years, through the stateside program, over \$3 billion has been provided to the States, and through them, to local governments, on a matching basis, to preserve approximately 37,000 park and recreation areas.

Mr. President, the decision to fund open space programs through the Land and Water Conservation Fund is one of the wisest investments we can make. Open spaces are more than just undeveloped land. We all know that protecting open spaces can guard sensitive drinking water supplies and preserve wildlife habitat.

Open spaces are also a lasting legacy we pass on to our children and grandchildren.

But there is another equally important benefit of open spaces.

In my State of New Jersey—the most densely populated State in the Nation—open spaces provide working families of limited means a place to enjoy the outdoors at little or no cost. A day at the beach or a picnic in the park or a hike in the woods is a day well spent.

Mr. President, open space is extremely valuable in my State. In a poll last year by Quinnipiac College published in the Newark Star-Ledger, 70 percent of New Jersey residents said that preserving open space and farmland is more important than commercial growth and development in rural areas.

Mr. President, it is extremely gratifying when members of both parties can join together in support of a program that has provided untold benefits for millions of Americans. I want to thank Senator MURKOWSKI and my other colleagues who support this amendment. I ask all of my colleagues to join us to preserve open space for America's families.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am extremely pleased to cosponsor the bipartisan amendment, offered by my colleague from Alaska, regarding the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The amendment provides \$20 million for matching grants to States under the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which, for almost 30 years, had enabled small communities throughout the Nation to establish local parks, build sports fields, acquire green ways and trails, and support community gardens.

The stateside program under the LWCF is a worthwhile conservation program that for too long has been without any funding at all. It has received nothing since 1995, and States have been strapped to find money for their own conservation efforts without any Federal assistance. As pressures for development and sprawl increase in many parts of the Nation, it is more important than ever to help States protect the open and green spaces that are crucial for a healthy community.

And with the recent ballot initiatives to promote conservation that have

been approved by voters across the Nation, States now have money available to match Federal dollars through the stateside program. It is now up to Congress to make the Federal money available. For those who criticize the program as a form of pork, let me stress that States must put up 50 percent of the money for their projects. This is not a hand-out. This is a fiscally sound program that makes land and water conservation for thousands of small communities around the country a national priority.

The stateside program has been supported by mayors, county officials, governors, civic associations, outdoor recreation groups, land conservancy groups, conservation groups—the list goes on and on.

I add myself to that list as a strong proponent of the LWCF, including the stateside program. The Federal Government, in my opinion, plays a vital role in assisting State and local governments establish local parks and protect open and green space. Indeed, when I was Governor of Rhode Island, I started the Green Acres Program in 1964 for this purpose, and the Federal Government matched some of the money to help get the program going.

Earlier this year, Senator LEAHY and I circulated a letter to our fellow Senators, asking them to support full funding for the LWCF. Thirty-six of our colleagues in the Senate endorsed that letter and signed it. What a tremendous showing of bipartisan support!

I am very pleased that the managers of the bill have agreed to this amendment.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased to join the Senator from Alaska, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. LAUTENBERG, in offering this important bipartisan amendment to provide much needed funding for the stateside program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Additional co-sponsors include Senators CHAFEE, ROTH, DODD, LANDRIEU, SESSIONS, FEINGOLD, LINCOLN, LEAHY, FRIST, KERRY, GRAHAM, COLLINS, SMITH of New Hampshire, GREGG, MOYNIHAN, WARNER, BAYH, MCCAIN, AKAKA, FEINSTEIN, JEFFORDS, and HAGEL.

The stateside program has, once again (since fiscal year 1995) been zeroed-out. Our amendment provides \$20 million for this popular program.

As the 21st century approaches, we must renew our commitment to our natural heritage. That commitment must go beyond a piecemeal approach. It must be a comprehensive, long-term strategy to ensure that when our children's children enter the 22d century, they can herald our actions today, as we revere those of President Roosevelt.

And preservation in the 21st century goes beyond protection of such wonders as Yosemite and Yellowstone. It must include an urban park in East Los Angeles where children can play basketball, a farm in Tulare County that can

continue to grow oranges or a historic building in Orange County that can be restored.

Today, our natural heritage is disappearing at an alarming rate. Each year, nearly 3 million acres of farmland and more than 170,000 acres of wetlands disappear. Each day, over 7,000 acres of open space are lost forever.

Across America, parks are closing, recreational facilities deteriorating, open spaces vanishing, historic structures crumbling.

Why is this happening? Because there is no dedicated funding source for all these noble purposes—a source which can be used only for these noble purposes.

I have offered a comprehensive bill—Resources 2000—that provides the most sweeping commitment to protecting America's natural heritage in more than 30 years. It will establish a dedicated funding source for resource protection.

But until such legislation is enacted, we must do what we can to fund these important programs now. This amendment does just that.

This amendment will provide \$20 million for the stateside portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

This is an important amendment for the future of our local communities, our quality of life, the recreational opportunities of our families and the preservation of our important lands.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a fund that was developed out of a bargain between the development of the offshore oil and the preservation of nonrenewable assets in our communities and throughout our Nation.

Since 1965, we have appropriated some \$3 billion to local governments, States and local governments, to help them protect and conserve these assets. States and local governments have matched that with an additional \$3 billion. That match tells us the kind of priority that our local communities place upon this program.

Unfortunately, in 1995 it all stopped and Congress failed to appropriate money for the program. One of the most successful programs that we have at the Federal level stopped. Since that time, if had provided the money that this program was truly entitled to, there would have been an additional \$2.5 billion that would have then been matched by another \$2.5 billion in non-federal dollars. That would be \$5 billion going toward improving quality of life and protecting and conserving natural resources based upon the priorities of those local communities.

Mr. President, every state across the Nation benefits from this program. I have here a book put together by the National Recreation and Park Association listing hundreds of projects in every state that are in dire need of this funding.

In my State of California, we have used stateside funding to team up with local sponsors to purchase areas of

Redwoods State Park, the Santa Monica Mountains, Lake Tahoe and San Deguito Park. But there is still more that needs to be done.

One project that I requested funding for this year is the Urban Nature Center and Sanctuary in Ernest Debs Park in Los Angeles. This Park would provide nature experiences for some of the city's most underserved children and their families.

The National Audubon Society in cooperation with the City of Los Angeles, is developing a model Urban Nature Center in Ernest Debs Regional Park in Northeast Los Angeles. This surprisingly natural, 195-acre site, run by the City's Recreation and Parks Department, is five miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. It rises above some of the city's densest urban neighborhoods, yet is home to more than 80 species of birds and other wildlife. Within two miles of the park, there are more than 30,000 children, mostly Latino, attending school for whom the park and the nature center could be a giant outdoor classroom.

The Nature Center is an exciting opportunity to bring together Audubon's traditional sources of support for conservation education with city, state and federal funds for parks, trails and habitat restoration. For its part in this innovative public/private partnership, the City of Los Angeles will dedicate \$1 million in existing County bond funds for habitat enhancement. The Audubon Society is dedicated to raising \$4 million in private contributions. I requested \$1 million for the federal contribution for this project, but nothing was provided.

Mr. President, this is the kind of thing we are always pushing for—federal/non-federal, public/private collaboration on important projects. And while others are contributing their share, the federal government is doing nothing. This must change.

Mr. President, this amendment is a small step toward fulfilling our commitment to the Land and Water Conservation Fund. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 1644

(Purpose: To provide for increased funding of certain programs of the Smithsonian Institution and the Indian Health Service, with an offset for National Park Service)

S. 1292 is amended by the following:

On page 17, line 19, strike "\$221,093,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$216,153,000".

On page 82, line 13, strike "\$2,135,561,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$2,138,001,000".

On page 90, line 3, strike "\$364,562,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$367,062,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1645

On page 78, line 17, insert after the comma "of which \$1.6 million shall be for grants to municipal governments for cost-shared research projects in buildings, municipal processes, transportation and sustainable urban energy systems, and".

AMENDMENT NO. 1646

(Purpose: To provide funding for Wheeling National Heritage Area)

On page 17, line 22, strike "\$4,000,000" and insert "\$5,000,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1647

(Purpose: Provide funding for an environmental impact statement to be prepared by the Forest Service, as mandated by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals)

On page 63, line 6, strike the period and insert in lieu thereof the following: ". *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$750,000 shall be used for a supplemental environmental impact statement for the Forest Service/Weyerhaeuser Huckleberry land exchange, which shall be completed by September 30, 2000."

AMENDMENT NO. 1648

(Purpose: To strike section 129 in its entirety and replace with language that directs a review of possible alternatives to the Weber Dam on the Walker River Paiute Reservation in Nevada without requiring completion of an Environmental Impact Statement. The new language directs \$200,000 to complete the review. This amendment retains the \$125,000 for an analysis of the feasibility of establishing a Tribally operated Lahontan Cutthroat trout fish hatchery on the Walker River within the Reservation, but identifies a different source for funding. \$175,000 of the funds appropriated in this amendment shall be made available through a corresponding reduction in Bureau of Land Management Wildland Fire Management Account. \$150,000 of the funds appropriated in this amendment shall be made available through a corresponding reduction in the Water Resources Investigations Program of the U.S. Geological Service. Within this program, \$250,000 was directed for hydrologic monitoring to support implementation of the Truckee River Water Quality Settlement Agreement (Senate Report 106-99, page 43), and \$150,000 was directed to complete an endocrine disruption study in the Las Vegas Wash (Senate Report 106-99, page 43). This amendment would reduce the Truckee River item by \$100,000 and the Las Vegas Wash endocrine disruption study by \$50,000)

Starting on page 60, line 20 and continuing through page 62, line 3, strike SEC. 129 in its entirety and insert:

"SEC. 129. WALKER RIVER BASIN.—\$200,000 is appropriated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in FY 2000 to be used through a contract or memorandum of understanding with the Bureau of Reclamation, for: (1) the investigation of alternatives, and if appropriate, the implementation of one or more of the alternatives, to the modification of Weber Dam on the Walker River Paiute Reservation in Nevada; (2) an evaluation of the feasibility and effectiveness of the installation of a fish ladder at Weber Dam; and (3) an evaluation of opportunities for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout restoration in the Walker River Basin. \$125,000 is appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Fiscal Year 2000 for the benefit of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, in recognition of the negative effects on the Tribe associated with delay in modification of Weber Dam, for an analysis of the feasibility of establishing a Tribally-operated Lahontan cutthroat trout hatchery on the Walker River as it flows through the Walker River Indian Reservation: *Provided*, That for the purposes of this section: (i) \$100,000 shall be transferred from the \$250,000 allocated for the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations, Truckee River Water Quality Settlement Agreement; (ii) \$50,000 shall be transferred from the \$150,000 allocated for the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations, Las Vegas Wash endocrine disruption study; and (iii) \$175,000 shall be transferred from the funds allocated for the Bureau of Land Management, Wildland Fire Management."

AMENDMENT NO. 1649

(Purpose: To provide funds for timber pipeline supply on the Tongass National Forest)

On page 76, line 12 of the bill, insert the following before the paragraph beginning with the word "Of": "From any unobligated balances available at the start of fiscal year 2000, the amount of \$11,550,000 shall be allocated to the Alaska Region, in addition to the funds appropriated to sell timber in the Alaska Region under this Act, for expenses directly related to preparing sufficient additional timber for sale in the Alaska Region to establish a three year timber supply."

AMENDMENT NO. 1650

(Purpose: To set aside funding for a feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail)

On page 17, line 22, insert before the colon the following: ", and of which not less than \$1,000,000 shall be available, subject to an Act of authorization, to conduct a feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail, and".

AMENDMENT NO. 1651

At the end of Title I, insert the following: "SEC. . Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in conveying the Twin Cities Research Center under the authority provided by Public Law 104-14, as amended by Public Law 104-208, the Secretary may accept and retain land and other forms of reimbursement: *Provided*, That the Secretary may retain and use any such reimbursement until expended and without further appropriation: (1) for the benefit of the National Wildlife Refuge System within the State of Minnesota; and (2) for all activities authorized by Public Law 100-696, U.S.C., 460zz."

AMENDMENT NO. 1652

On page 13, line 9, after the word "expended" include: "of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available to the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge for land acquisition."

On page 13, line 8, strike "\$55,244,000" and insert "56,244,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 1653

On page 17, line 22 insert before the colon the following: ", of which \$500,000 shall be available for the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield,".

AMENDMENT NO. 1654

On page 18, line 19 before the period insert the following: "and of which \$200,000 shall be available for the acquisition of lands at Fort Sumter National Monument".

AMENDMENT NO. 1655

On page 10, line 16, after "herein," insert "of which \$150,000 shall be available to Michigan State University toward creation of a community development database, and".

AMENDMENT NO. 1656

On page 24, at the end of line 10 insert the following before the colon: "*Provided further*, That not to exceed \$198,000 shall be available to carry out the requirements of Section 215(b)(2) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999".

AMENDMENT NO. 1657

At the end of Title III of the bill, add the following:

"SEC. . Each amount of budget authority for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000,

provided in this Act for payments not required by law, is hereby reduced by .34 percent: *Provided*, That such reductions shall be applied ratably to each account, program, activity, and project provided for in this Act."

AMENDMENT NO. 1359

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the pending technical amendment No. 1359 be adopted and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 1359) was agreed to.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote on the last set of collective amendments, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

PRESERVATION OF FOSSILS COLLECTED FROM PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, last year I worked closely with my colleagues Senator BYRD and Senator GORTON to place language in the report accompanying the Fiscal Year 1999 Department of Interior appropriations bill directing the Secretary to report to Congress on the need for a uniform federal policy guiding the collection of fossils from public lands. This was an important step that was long overdue.

Public lands such as those administered by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other agencies are some of our nation's finest repositories of fossils. By studying fossils, paleontologists learn information that is vital to understanding the Earth and the history of life on this planet. Unfortunately, the variety of policies used by federal agencies to guide the collection of fossils from these lands are confusing to the public, do not ensure that scientists have a full opportunity to study valuable specimens, and do not ensure that fossils are adequately preserved for the future. I believe it is time that we developed such a policy and implemented measures to maximize access to and preservation of important fossil specimens.

I am very pleased that the Department has undertaken a serious review of this issue and is consulting with all stakeholders to ensure that it provides Congress with the best information and recommendations possible. It is my hope that this report will be completed expeditiously so that we can work with the administration on any follow-up measures that may be required.

In the meantime, it is my hope that the administration will move forward with one important way that it can immediately make fossils more readily available to the public. New information technology has given us the ability to send vast amounts of data anywhere in the world almost instantaneously. I believe the administration should begin immediately to explore ways to utilize this capability to make data about critical fossils available to scientists worldwide. For example, the

South Dakota School of Mines and Technology has the capability to use CT scans to create high-resolution, three-dimensional images of a fossil and its internal structure that can be accessed by scientists over the next generation Internet. I strongly urge the administration to fund initiatives of this type in its fiscal year 2001 budget, and to move forward as quickly as possible with steps that can improve public access to these fossils.

Mr. GORTON. I agree with the Senator from South Dakota that it is important that the Secretary complete this study expeditiously and explore ways to use information technology to maximize the ability of paleontologists to study scientifically significant fossils.

Mr. BYRD. I also agree with the Minority Leader. The Department of the Interior should provide the results of its analysis to Congress quickly and support funding for initiatives that will use new technology to make important scientific data available.

PILOT PROGRAM FOR TRIBAL PRIORITY ALLOCATION IN THE BIA

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, the Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) Program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has been an issue of controversy for several years. For next year, the Senate Interior appropriations bill provides \$693 million for TPA. This money is used by local tribal governments to operate a wide range of programs like public safety, resources management, education, economic development, and human services.

Many tribes are not able to relate TPA funds to their own tribal needs with any specificity. As a result, the BIA simply does not know, and is not able to relate TPA spending to actual tribal needs. We are not saying that tribes misuse these funds. We are saying that there is precious little information about how TPA funds are directed toward tribal needs as determined by the tribes themselves.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I concur with this observation about the poor BIA oversight and management of locally operated TPA programs. The BIA has not been able to tell the Senate just how these funds are spent by tribal governments. Other than broad categories, the tribes themselves do not have to report how these funds are meeting tribal needs and goals. There are so many eligible uses for these funds that tribes do not report TPA spending to the BIA with any specificity. In public safety, for example, TPA funds can be spent for police cars. Natural resource funds can be spent on growing blue corn or improving a fish hatchery.

The BIA has little information about how tribal goals are being met with TPA funds, and TPA funds make up almost half of the entire BIA operations budget for Indian programs. Any effort to help us clarify the precise use of TPA funds will be a major step forward in accountability for both tribes and

the BIA. I welcome a pilot effort to move toward that goal.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, Chairman GORTON and I have both discussed the TPA accountability issue with Kevin Gover, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the BIA. Mr. Gover has recommended a pilot project at Eight Northern Pueblos Agency in New Mexico. The purpose of this pilot program would be to demonstrate the ability of tribes to assess their own needs and then develop TPA budgets that allow the BIA to track just how TPA funds are being used to achieve specific results for tribes.

Mr. GORTON. I was glad to see this pilot program recommended in the TPA report I have recently received from the BIA. We required this report in last year's appropriations bill. I have also noted that Nambe Pueblo has gone through a long process of local meetings to catalog their needs and organize their plans for using TPA funds. They have persevered in developing a model needs based budget process.

Mr. DOMENICI. Yes, Mr. Chairman, Nambe Pueblo leaders have broken new ground in developing budgets to meet their own needs. Nambe Pueblo is a small pueblo with 633 members. It is located about 20 miles north of Santa Fe. Their Governor, David Perez, and Councilman Tony Vigil and many others at Nambe have spent hours, days, and nights developing a very thorough description of their precise needs. They have worked closely with Eight Northern Indian Pueblos (ENIP) Executive Director Bernie Teba and ENIP Chairman Walter Dasheno, who is also Governor of Santa Clara Pueblo, to document their needs in several key categories.

In the area of Land Resources, for example, Nambe Pueblo has identified a solid waste disposal system, flood and erosion control needs, and an agricultural land recovery plan. For community services, they have identified youth services and senior citizen services. Their facility needs have been catalogued, and their economic and tourism plans have been laid out.

Mr. GORTON. This sounds like a very thorough effort. I would like to join Senator DOMENICI in commending the Nambe Pueblo for their hard work in developing a needs data base system that will enable them to track the use of TPA funds.

Mr. DOMENICI. When Assistant Secretary Gover first presented this idea to me a few months ago, he told me that ENIP had developed a solid approach for accountability that should be tried as a pilot for other tribes to emulate. Some of the other members of ENIP are anxious to try this approach to becoming more accountable to their tribal members, the BIA, and the Congress. It is a lot of work, but there is also a lot of benefit to be able to map out a complete picture of tribal needs and resources.

With Assistant Secretary Gover's continuing enthusiasm and support, I

am confident that a new beginning for accountability in TPA funding will actually be born at Nambe Pueblo. We will count on him to implement this ENIP pilot from existing TPA funds. We believe we have given him enough authority in this bill and other legislation to implement this accountability pilot program, and we look forward to its early success.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, like Senator DOMENICI, I look forward to a better future in accountability for TPA funds. This program is critical for tribes and they should also be able to measure their own progress against local needs as suggested by the Nambe Pueblo plan. I support this recommendation for a TPA accountability pilot program from existing TPA funds and I look forward to some positive results.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee for his extraordinary efforts to bring fairness and accountability to the BIA's TPA Program. It is the single largest expenditure in the BIA, followed by school operations. I believe tribes will benefit from the fruits of this pilot, and the Congress will be better able to justify TPA expenditures. We will have better knowledge of just how TPA funds help tribes to meet their own local needs and goals.

ALTERNATE FUELS RESEARCH

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I understand that my colleague from Alaska wants to comment with me on Department of Energy funding for alternate fuels research.

Mr. STEVENS. I do.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, as the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations knows, the Environmental Protection Agency and the country have been constantly seeking cleaner-burning diesel fuel. In fact, the administration has already announced new, stricter emissions standards for heavy vehicles as an incentive to move to other technologies. Would the Senator agree that the answer to this issue lies partly in the engine design, but more importantly in the type of fuel we burn?

Mr. STEVENS. Yes, I agree with the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The Department of Energy has been investigating alternate fuels that would improve air emissions but not require a new infrastructure or delivery system such as would be required in the use of compressed natural gas. One possibility is Gas-to-Liquids or GTL. The GTL process takes natural gas and converts it to a liquid fuel that has the characteristics of diesel fuel, only without sulfur, which interferes with the catalysts that clean up emissions.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Natural gas is nearly everywhere in the United States and does not need to be imported. We have somewhere between 30 to 60 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in Alaska, which could replace a significant

amount of the diesel fuel market, if the GTL process can be proved to be viable.

I have been interested in securing funding a private-public partnership to study GTL's performance as fuel. The study will report on the following: (1) How important fuel characteristics affect the performance and emissions of different diesel engines; (2) Experimental performance of diesel engines burning fuels like GTL fuels; (3) Engine design modifications which enhance performance using such fuels; and (4) Chemistry of GTL production. I would ask if the subcommittee chairman is aware of the premise that GTL technology has in producing a cleaner burning fuel?

Mr. GORTON. I am aware. ARCO, which is well known in Alaska, recently constructed and started a 70 barrel per day Gas-to-Liquids plant in Blaine, Washington, near Bellingham. ARCO did this with its own money and that of Syntroleum. With industry support like that we should encourage these developments. Pacific Northwest Lab is also heavily involved in diesel engine development because it is the most efficient internal combustion engine. Unfortunately, we had numerous constraints on the Interior appropriations this year.

Mr. STEVENS. Perhaps my colleagues agree that we should try to work with the Department of Energy on organizing a more pronounced effort there to support research on cleaner diesel from natural gas.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I hope we can join together to work with the Department of Energy to find some funds within the Department to support this effort.

Mr. GORTON. I will be pleased to work with my colleagues from Alaska.

LAKE POWELL

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, recently a handful of environmentalists have called for the draining of Lake Powell and the decommissioning of the Glen Canyon Dam. As the second largest man-made lake in the country, Lake Powell provides critically important water storage for the states of the Colorado River basin—the driest region in the United States. As many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle already know, Mr. President, draining Lake Powell is unsupportable. This amendment puts this issue to rest once and for all. This legislation simply prohibits the federal government from taking any action to drain Lake Powell or to decommission the Glen Canyon Dam without Congressional approval.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I wish to say to my good friend from Utah that I agree that draining Lake Powell is not a reasonable proposal, and I support his effort to put the issue to rest with this amendment. However, I would like to ask my colleague from Utah if he believes that his amendment in any way opens the door to the administration to pursue the decommissioning of other Bureau of Reclamation projects without Congressional approval?

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I appreciate the support of the chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee in this matter which is of great concern to my constituents. Mr. President, this amendment in no way gives assent to the Secretary of the Interior or any other government official to decommission other water projects without Congressional approval. Any effort by the administration to decommission a Bureau of Reclamation project without the approval of Congress or of those most affected by the action, in my view, would be unsupportable.

REGARDING THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I want to commend the chairman for the excellent job he has done under difficult circumstances in providing funding for our cultural agencies—the National Endowments for the Arts (NEA) and the Humanities (NEH), and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Mr. GORTON. In Committee on the Senate side, we were able to boost funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services by \$500,000, from its fiscal year 1999 level of \$23.405 million, to \$23.905 million for fiscal year 2000. And now we have adopted the Cochran and Bennett amendments as part of the managers' amendment to boost funding for the NEH and NEA by \$4,000 million each.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I was pleased to co-sponsor those amendments. I think we have done well by those two agencies. Now, as I understand it, the House of Representatives appropriated \$24.400 million for IMLS.

Mr. GORTON. Initially—that amount was subject to a 0.48 percent across-the-board reduction; consequently, the House-passed funding level is \$24.282 million, or \$377,000 more than what the Senate Committee on Appropriations reported.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. As the chairman knows, several of us—Senators WARNER, BENNETT, COCHRAN, JEFFORDS, REED, and KENNEDY, among others—support the House-passed funding level for IMLS, and contemplated offering an amendment here on the floor to achieve it.

Mr. GORTON. I say to my friend from New York that I am aware of the strong support for the IMLS here in the Senate. Rest assured that I will give every consideration to providing additional support for the IMLS when we go to conference on the bill.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. This is wonderful news indeed. The Institute of Museum and Library Services provides essential support to our nation's 8,000 non-Federal museums and, through a different appropriation, 120,000 libraries. It goes about its business quietly and professionally, with scant attention paid here, but the thriving condition of our museums provides ample evidence of its competence and importance.

I think, perhaps, we have turned the corner on Federal support for the arts

and humanities, for culture. The chairman deserves much of the credit and an enormous debt of gratitude for his unwavering support for the NEA, NEH, and IMLS and for steadily shepherding their appropriations during these past few, difficult years.

FEDERAL MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AT THE UTAH
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I want to raise an issue that was recently brought to my attention in Utah. It is a long-term project that I intend to undertake and I hope that the committee will support me in this effort.

The Utah Museum of Natural History contains collections of more than one million objects and specimens in the fields of geology, biology and anthropology. It ranks as one of the largest and most comprehensive collections for the western states. Overall, more than 75 percent of the museum's collections are federally owned; that is, recovered from federally managed public lands. Of the remaining 25 percent of the collections, a significant portion was collected on state lands under federally mandated permitting procedures. The museum is a repository for collections from BLM, Forest Service, Park Service and Bureau of Reclamation lands. Additional specimens have been collected from Department of Defense lands as well.

There are numerous authorities defining the legal relationship between the federal agencies and museums and research universities such as the Smithsonian's Organic Act passed in 1879, the Antiquities Act of 1906, NEPA and most recently, the National Archaeological Graves Protection and Reburial Act of 1990. The large number of federal collections in the museum is the consequence of the high percentage of federally owned lands in Utah. Utah ranks second among all states in percentage of federal lands; thus, field research in the natural sciences in Utah largely takes place on federal lands.

Unfortunately, the current facilities at the Utah Museum of Natural History used to house the federal collections are inadequate. Lack of space, materials, supplies and personnel have created a situation where the collections are in jeopardy of being permanently lost. This is not in anyway caused by the neglect of the museum staff, but it is simply a lack of space and funding to adequately store all of the collections properly.

I became interested when this situation was brought to my attention a few months ago. Since that time, my staff have been looking into various options to help remedy the situation. In the meantime, the museum has done a tremendous job putting together a master plan, organizing partners and seeking private donations to relocate the museums. But they are limited in their ability to raise funds without some federal participation and commitment. And with that in mind, I want to seek the chairman's input on that question. Does the chairman believe that the federal agencies such as the BLM, Forest Service and the National Park Service

have a legitimate role in helping remedy this situation?

MR. GORTON. The Senator raises a good point. Obviously there is a federal interest in protecting these collections. While I cannot commit to providing funding for this project in the future, I will work closely with my colleague from Utah. Until that time, however, I think it would be quite appropriate for the various agencies to lend their resources and expertise by participating in the partnership that has been created. I would encourage them to do so.

MR. BENNETT. I thank the chairman and I look forward to working with him.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, will the Senator from Washington care to enter into a colloquy regarding museums funding?

Mr. GORTON. I thank the Senator from Virginia and will be happy to engage in a colloquy.

Mr. WARNER. I understand the need to adequately address arts funding and commend the Chairman's leadership in securing \$500,000 above last year's appropriations for our nation's museums and libraries. However, this is still \$500,000 short of the House funding level to continue the great work done by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

As the Chairman knows, federal funds play an important role in assuring that Americans have access to excellent museum services. 8,000 museums and 120,000 libraries throughout the country have benefited from Congressional support of IMLS.

IMLS programs affect a broad segment of Americans and not an elite few. It helps small, rural museums gain access to resources such as database technology development by the larger museums. IMLS improves public accessibility of museums, while allowing local communities to decide on the content and programs of their own museums.

Additional funding will allow IMLS to provide technological improvements, making museum and library collections available online and accessible to learners of all ages.

I ask you to urge the Senate conferees to recede to the House position on IMLS funding and support a relatively modest \$500,000 increase in the IMLS budget so museums and libraries across the country will be able to extend their educational services, expand teacher training, preserve our cultural heritage for our posterity and increase access to valuable resources for America's children.

Mr. GORTON. I thank the Senator from Virginia and I will be pleased to recommend that the conferees consider your thoughtful request to recede to the House proposal, which increases funding for the IMLS by an amount of \$500,000 above the Senate level. I appreciate the Senator from Virginia's support for the work of the IMLS and hope that our final allocation is such that we are able to provide additional funding for museum programs of the IMLS.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the Senator from Washington.

FUNDING FOR MARK TWAIN HOUSE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to express my regret that the Interior Appropriations bill under consideration here includes no money for the Save America's Treasury Campaign. I would like to describe one of the many important projects that will go unrealized for lack of funding. This valuable project is the preservation of the Mark Twain House in Hartford, Connecticut, and construction of a complementary education and visitor center near the house.

Mark Twain wrote seven major books, including "Tom Sawyer" and the "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," while living with his family in the house, which he built in 1874. It is projected that the visitor's center would help double—to a total of 100,000—the annual number of visitors to Mark Twain House and contribute an estimated 12 million dollars every year to the Connecticut economy.

If money does come available for the Save America's Treasures Campaign, would you agree that the Mark Twain House should be high on the priority list?

Mr. GORTON. Yes. Mark Twain is a historical and cultural icon of great importance. Mark Twain's written works represent an American literature legacy and I know that this project is of great importance to Connecticut and to America.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank Senator GORTON. I appreciate his hard work on this important legislation.

GLACIER BAY NP VISITOR FACILITIES FUNDING

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wonder if the Subcommittee chairman would be willing to discuss with myself and the senior senator from Alaska, the Chairman of the full committee on Appropriations certain issues regarding the Glacier Bay National Park Visitor Facility.

Mr. GORTON. Yes, I will join the Appropriations Chairman and the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I thank my good friend. Being a member of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources the subcommittee chairman is well aware of Glacier Bay National Park. He is aware of it this year for some of the controversy that has been caused by the Park Service's attempts to prohibit commercial and subsistence fishing within the bounds of the park.

However, there is an area that the local community, the Park Service, and the Alaska Congressional Delegation do want to work together on in the park—a new visitor facility. Glacier Bay National Park is one of Alaska's treasures. More than 350,000 visitors come to the park each year. Currently, there is no single place for them

to go to learn about the park resources, native inhabitants, and spectacular beauty. The local native corporation has proposed a shared cost effort with the Park Service to build such a facility. Is the subcommittee chairman aware of this?

Mr. GORTON. I am aware of these efforts and would encourage the National Park Service to work closely with the native corporation to further develop this proposal in light of the fact that they use private dollars to maximize public resources. Visitor centers are becoming a very expensive item in the Interior budget. This approach should set an example for future facilities of this type.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Currently there is not a specific line item appropriation in the bill before us, H.R. 2466, for this project. However, it would be my hope that in conference the senior senator from Alaska and the Subcommittee Chairman could work to find the dollars for design and construction needed to make this visitor center a reality.

Mr. STEVENS. I say to my colleague from Alaska that I will work with him to try and find the funds needed for this project. It is a god project for the community and a worthwhile one for the government. I have been a Glacier Bay on numerous occasions and am supportive of increased visitor facilities. As I understand it no authorization is needed for this as the Secretary has existing authority under section 1307 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. The Senator is correct. Authorization does exist to do this.

Mr. GORTON. I will be pleased to continue to work with my colleagues on this project. I note that the Subcommittee has made a significant effort in this bill to provide for visitor facilities in Alaska, but agree that additional facilities at Glacier Bay National Park are needed.

UTAH SPECIFIC ISSUES

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I would like to briefly raise four issues with the Chairman for clarification. Utah is in the process of creating a GIS database on public lands. Is it the Chairman's understanding that the \$300,000 of federal funds appropriated through the BLM Realty and Ownership management will be combined with the funds appropriated by the State of Utah and then distributed to the rural counties by the special committee created by the State Legislature?

Mr. GORTON. The Senator is correct. However, the rural counties should also seek the expertise of Utah State University and the State of Utah and rely on their personnel to complete this mapping project.

Mr. BENNETT. I thank the Chairman. With regards to the Olympic Tree program funded under the Community and Urban Forestry account, given the nature of Olympic partners and the reliance upon in-kind donations, is it the

Committee's position that the local match may also include in-kind donations such as land, labor and materials?

Mr. GORTON. The Senator is correct.

Mr. BENNETT. With regards to the proposed final management plan for the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, is it the Chairman's understanding that the State of Utah's authority over wildlife management and wildlife damage prevention within the monument shall remain unchanged?

Mr. GORTON. The Senator is correct. The Committee would be concerned should the language of the final management plan diminish the ability of the State of Utah to manage wildlife damage prevention within the Monument. If this is the case, I would hope BLM would consult with the State of Utah during the Governor's Consistency Review to amend that language to prevent any potential conflict that might occur.

Mr. BENNETT. Again, I thank the Chairman. I have one final question regarding the Desert Tortoise Recovery program. There is a proposal by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create a new position of a tortoise recovery coordinator that reports out of the Reno Nevada office. This is of concern to me. As the Chairman knows, Washington County has made tremendous progress toward completing a Habitat Conservation Plan and recovery program. They have put together an effective, balanced team and compared to other recovery units, Washington County and its key partners including the State of Utah, BLM and State Parks have accomplished a great deal over the last five years. All of this was accomplished without a tortoise coordinator to oversee the project.

There are a couple of issues I believe should be addressed prior to the creation of proposed coordinator position. Issues such as determining which office would make section 7 evaluations regarding tortoises in Washington County—Salt Lake City or Reno? I would also like to know how the creation of such a position will impact funding and how do we insure that state and local communities are not adversely impacted. In order to preserve the good working relationship among the parties in Utah, I would hope the Chairman would support me in this position until these questions are answered.

Mr. GORTON. The Senator raises a good point. I am aware of the progress which has been made to date and I congratulate the Advisory Board on their efforts. I share the Senator's concerns about the creation of such a position. It is unclear to me how a single coordinator position from outside the Region would specifically help Washington County and BLM administer the HCP and improve things on the ground.

Mr. BENNETT. I thank the Chairman for his support.

BIOCATALYTIC DESULFURIZATION TECHNOLOGIES

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I would like to clarify the intent of one

provision within the bill. As we all are aware the Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to reduce the levels of sulfur in gasoline and diesel fuel. I note that the bill before us recognizes this new proposal and urges the Department of Energy to continue research on biocatalytic desulfurization technologies to assist the refining industry in meeting these new requirements. Was it the Committee's intent that the Department continue to support the ongoing gasoline biodesulfurization project in the Industries of the Future program in an effort to ensure that the technology is available to the refining industry to meet the new EPA rules?

Mr. GORTON. That was the intent of the Committee. This research is very promising and I thank you for bringing this point to our attention.

ARCHIE CARR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask the distinguished chairman of the subcommittee if he would consent to discuss with Senator MACK and me one of Florida's national wildlife refuges, the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge in Brevard County, Florida.

Mr. GORTON. I am pleased to join my colleague from Florida in a colloquy.

Mr. GRAHAM. The Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge is located in Brevard County, Florida, home of Florida's "Space Coast." The 900-acre refuge extends along the coast from Melbourne Beach to Wabasso Beach, and it is home to the most important nesting area for loggerhead sea turtles in the western hemisphere and the second most important nesting beach in the world. Twenty-five percent of all loggerhead sea turtle and 35% of all green sea turtle nests in the United States occur in this twenty mile zone.

Mr. MACK. The Refuge currently coexists with Florida's Space Coast. However, sea turtle nesting at this site is sensitive to impacts from development and human activity. To mitigate these impacts, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service coordinates with the local and state governments regarding joint management of beaches, index nesting beach surveys, public education programs, and appropriate public use facilities.

Mr. GRAHAM. It is my experience that in this type of situation, the best answer is land acquisition. Right now, approximately half of the 900-acres of the designated refuge is available for acquisition. Four key parcels make up the core area of the potential acquisition.

I recognize the extreme funding pressures that the subcommittee faced while determining its Land and Water Conservation Fund priorities. We feel that the Archie Carr Refuge is a key priority for Florida given its criticality to the loggerhead sea turtle population.

We request your consideration of this project during the conference with the House on the Interior Appropriations bill.

Mr. GORTON. I appreciate the Senators' comments. The Committee shares your view that the protection of the loggerhead sea turtle is critical, and we will consider the needs of the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge during our conference with the House.

SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, will the distinguished Chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee yield for a question?

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I will gladly yield to a question from my good friend from Louisiana.

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Chairman. I commend the gentleman from Washington and the distinguished ranking member Mr. BYRD for the great leadership they have demonstrated in crafting the FY2000 Interior Appropriations bill. Of great personal interest to me is a Kemp's Ridley sea turtle project that is, in part, funded through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This project is a twenty-year-old on-going success story in the recovery of a high endangered species. Since 1978, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, USFWS, has spearheaded the sea turtle conservation work at Rancho Nuevo, Mexico. This collaborative conservation project with the Mexican government and the U.S. shrimp industry through the National Fisheries Institute protects Kemp's Ridley sea turtle nests and other hazards, and ensures that young turtles make it into the sea. This project is the longest standing collaborative conservation project between the United States and Mexico without a formal treaty. This year, despite the demonstrable success of the project, the Fish and Wildlife Service did not dedicate funds to the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle project. I am extremely concerned and want to express my strong support for continued funding for this valuable conservation effort.

Mr. GORTON. It is clear from my friend's statement that he knows much about the sea turtle conservation project, and I share his enthusiasm for these important efforts to protect the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle. While I am keenly aware of the fiscal constraints on the Fish and Wildlife Service, I encourage the Service to consider providing whatever support it can within these existing budget constraints.

Mr. BYRD. I agree with my colleagues from Washington and Louisiana. The Fish and Wildlife Service should make every effort to support this project in order to uphold a scientifically justified success in endangered species management.

Mr. BREAUX. I thank my colleagues.

ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT POWDER RIVER COAL INITIATIVE

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank my colleague for addressing the potential benefits that could come from a new coal enhancement procedure being developed in my home state of Wyoming that would provide a unique economic

development opportunity for the Crow nation and its surrounding rural communities in Montana and Wyoming.

This project, known as the advanced development project Powder River coal initiative, is designed to develop a training program for the Crow nation that will create future employment opportunities for members of the tribe by utilizing a new technology that permanently removes the moisture from the Powder River Basin's low grade sub-bituminous coal. It is important that we must continue to develop programs like this advanced development project to further the twin goals of environmental protection and economic stability.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments of my colleague from Wyoming and agree there is a serious need to bolster the economy within the Crown nation. Further development of the tribe's vast coal reserves would go a long way toward improving the tribes current situation. I would like to assure my colleague that I will continue to work with him and with my colleague from the South Dakota to explore projects like the advanced development project Powder River coal initiative to see if we can't find a way to help the Crow nation develop its vital coal resources.

MARI SANDOZ CULTURAL CENTER

Mr. KERREY. I rise today with my good friend and colleague, Senator HAGEL, to talk about a very important and worthwhile project, the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center in Chadron, Nebraska.

Mari Sandoz was a world-renowned and internationally-acclaimed writer, born and raised in the Nebraska Sand Hills. Drawing on her childhood experiences and her research at the Nebraska State Historical Society, Sandoz wrote passionately and poetically about life on the Great Plains. Her works dealt with the early fur traders, the Plains Indians, the cattlemen and ranchers, the immigrant homesteaders, and the persecution of the Northern Cheyenne and Ogallala Sioux. Through her writing, Sandoz played an important role in the cultural preservation of the Western Nebraska of the 1800s and early 1900s. Preserving her works and her legacy is a way of preserving our own cultural heritage.

Mr. HAGEL. I join my friend, the senior Senator from Nebraska, in supporting a federal appropriation for the Mari Sandoz Cultural Center.

Nebraska has produced a number of this nation's most significant writers. The John Neihardt Center in Bancroft and the Willa Cather Center in Red Cloud commemorate two of Nebraska's most famous literary figures. A facility dedicated to Mari Sandoz would be an appropriate addition on to the state's literary heritage.

Following Mari Sandoz's death, Chadron State College came into possession of her writing and personal artifacts. The College developed the idea of the cultural center as the best way

to preserve her legacy. Plans for the center include museum display areas for American Indians and Sandoz family artifacts, rooms for meetings and workshops on Sandoz' work, archives for Sandoz' manuscripts, and an herbarium that will complement the descriptions of regional flora central to Sandoz' literature. The center would be a perfect tribute to one of Nebraska's finest writers.

Mr. KERREY. I agree that the construction of the Center is an important commemoration of Sandoz' contributions to Nebraska. Earlier this year, I requested that \$450,000 be appropriated from available funds in the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund or the Save America's Treasures to fund the Mari Sandoz Cultural Center. These dollars will help renovate, rehabilitate, and equip the former library facility on the Chadron State campus.

Mr. HAGEL. It is my understanding that these federal dollars will be in addition to the private dollars raised by Chadron State College and the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society.

Mr. KERREY. Yes, both organizations have been working diligently to raise \$900,000 in private funding for the construction and equipment of the new Center. I am hopeful that we will be able to provide additional Federal dollars for this historically and culturally significant Center.

Mr. HAGEL. We both realize that budget restraints are tight this year. But I am hopeful that Chairman GORTON and Ranking Minority Member BYRD will find a way to fully fund this project when the conference committee meets on the Interior appropriations bill later this fall.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, issues surrounding natural resource management present some of the most contentious and difficult problems we as policymakers face. Trying to ensure that our federal forestry policy is responsible and environmentally sustainable has been especially difficult, and we have sometimes fallen woefully short in this area. We can and must do much better. I have seen the awful results of clear-cutting, uncontrolled erosion, and other abuses by the logging industry, and I believe we must bring those abuses to an end now.

Even so, our national forests are tremendous resources for a variety of uses, including everything from timber harvesting to recreation. My state of Minnesota depends on these resources for jobs and family incomes; wood, industrial materials, paper and pulp; and family vacations and recreation. Above all, we must protect our national forests to ensure that these resources will be available for future generations. For these reasons, I have long supported carefully controlled, environmentally sustainable multiple use of our national forests.

I share many of my colleague Senator BRYAN's legitimate concerns about the future health of our nation's

forests, and about the abuses that have been allowed in certain regions under the Forest Service's timber sales program—especially in essential areas of biodiversity such as the Pacific Northwest. I recognize that these environmentally harmful forest management practices have serious long-term consequences for the health of our forests, and that they must be stopped.

The Timber Sale Management Program is in need of significant reform in many regions of our nation. I believe that my record shows clearly my support for reforming the program to ensure a more responsible and environmentally sustainable forestry effort. But this amendment would reduce by approximately \$32 million current funding levels for the program, and it could create some special problems in my state, where the Forest Service has generally been quite responsible in its timber sale efforts.

In my state of Minnesota, on July 4, 1999, we experienced a huge, once-in-a-thousand-year wind and rain storm that damaged and destroyed homes, businesses, public facilities, and wilderness areas in our national forests. Approximately 300,000 acres in seven counties were hit by the storm, which damaged as much as 70 percent of the trees in certain areas and washed out numerous roads. The damage caused by this storm has severely hindered the U.S. Forest Service's ability to responsibly manage the Chippewa and Superior National Forests. While I have worked successfully with my colleagues in the Minnesota delegation to ensure that approximately \$12 million in emergency funding is reprogrammed from elsewhere in the Forest Service budget to support timber salvage efforts in Minnesota, it is clear that much is yet to be done, and that it is going to take many years to dig out from under the storm and to restore the forest to its former state.

As I've observed, the Forest Service in Minnesota has a long tradition of generally responsible and publicly accountable forest management practices. I believe, especially as the post-storm clean-up there proceeds over the coming months and years, that the Forest Service must have adequate resources to deal with the storm's devastation. This amendment would cut approximately \$32 million from proposed funding for the Timber Sale Management Program, decreasing last year's funding for this program by approximately \$30 million. While I know that this funding is not yet precisely allocated to the various regions, I am concerned that a cut of this size might constrain the Service's overall capacity to adequately support efforts to recover, repair and rehabilitate public lands in Minnesota hard hit by the storm, and for that reason I think it would be unwise.

As I said, I recognize the problems with the Timber Sales Management Program, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, and I remain committed to

supporting efforts to bring a halt to these environmentally unsustainable abuses. Even though I cannot support this amendment today, I look forward to working with my colleague Senator BRYAN and others to find ways to reform and improve the forest management practices of the Forest Service, and of those private industry firms with whom it cooperates, to eliminate the abuses of our forests which have been brought to light during this debate.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, the Endangered Species Act listing of various runs of salmon throughout the Northwest has been a wake-up call for Washingtonians. We have seen an unprecedented decline in a historically vibrant salmon population, relied upon by countless sportsmen, commercial and tribal fishermen, and those of us who see salmon as a Northwest cultural icon.

And for years, at all levels of government, we've spent billions of dollars in an effort to recover this important species, but we've seen little in return. Millions and millions of dollars have been spent on massive studies. Millions of dollars have fueled growing bureaucracies to address the problem and create new regulations that may or may not save the fish.

In all the flurry of activity and spending, one, largely unrecognized effort has done more in our rivers and streams to improve salmon habitat than almost anything else in which we've invested our resources. Across Washington state, small, local volunteer groups spend their weekends restoring streams, revegetating riparian areas and creating healthy, inviting places for salmon to return. They recruit people from all over the community to spend a few hours on the weekend working in their local stream, river, or anywhere else that will make a difference for the fish.

In many cases, these locally-grown groups are able to work cooperatively with private landowners to restore streams and rivers that run through their property. These efforts achieve results and make all parties satisfied with the outcome in a way that government-mandated directives could never do.

That's why my 1999 Interior Appropriations bill includes a \$4 million appropriation for these groups to be able to continue their hard work and worthy efforts. The money will be appropriated to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to distribute, as quickly as possible, to locally-organized, on-the-ground salmon enhancement organizations.

These groups' potential for positive contributions to salmon recovery are immeasurable. For instance, a stream on the North Shore of Hood Canal would be an excellent salmon spawning and over wintering habitat if it were not for man-made barriers to fish passage. The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) would like to re-

move the 3 foot diameter pipe, which the stream now runs through, and correct the immediate four foot drop in the stream level. Replacing the pipe with an appropriately sized culvert and fishway would open up 1.7 miles of habitat for chum, coho, and steelhead. Hood Canal SEG likes to call these projects "no-brainers" because the habitat already exists, the fish just need to be able to get there.

Local residents are critical to these salmon recovery efforts, where intimate historic knowledge of seasonal flows, fish populations, and specific migratory trends don't typically exist outside the community.

Another group, Long Live the Kings (LLTK), is contributing to the recovery of listed salmonids in Hood Canal. At their Lilliwaup facility, LLTK is operating a captive rearing and supplementation program for threatened steelhead and summer chum. I was happy to have helped find funding for this program last year, and am pleased to continue this support.

While in the state during our August recess, I met with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association out of Bellingham, Washington. This group, with the passionate leadership of volunteers like Mike and Elaine McRory, have taken on habitat restoration projects in urban and rural areas alike, successfully soliciting the cooperation of private landowners to recover local stocks. Landowner participation is often contagious, and NSEA has seen one project on a given stream turn into two, three, or even more.

It should be clear that organizations across Washington State, not just those within the Puget Sound basin, are eligible to apply for these funds. In fact my staff will be traveling to Okanogan county at the end of this month to introduce members of the local community to NFWF representatives.

Grants for local groups through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provide a much needed funding source for long overdue projects ranging from Skagit FEG's Little Baker River Side Channel project, which would open one mile of chinook spawning and rearing habitat, to riparian restoration in Newaukum and Portage Creeks, conducted by Mid-Sound FEG and Stilli-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force.

The amount appropriated to the NFWF does include an earmark for a group that deserves special recognition for their efforts to clean up our local water, essential to salmon recovery success. River CPR's Puget Sound Drain Guard Campaign will employ volunteer labor to install devices aimed at trapping 90 percent of the oil and sediment that typically flows into storm drains. It is evident that this small amount of money is going to go a long way towards recovering salmon across our state.

Here is what some of these groups have to say about this initiative:

“Senator GORTON’S proposal to use the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to direct funding to the local level is very innovative and will ensure that the funds are used where they most help fish, on the ground,” said one Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group board member.

Alison Studley writes, “As a member of the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (Skagit FEG), I whole-heartedly support your endeavor to get salmon dollars to support on-the-ground projects. Local organizations are ready, willing and able to take on this challenge.”

In sum: I believe that Washingtonians and local salmon restoration organizations—not bureaucracies in Washington, D.C.—are in the best position to make decisions that will return salmon. That’s why my 1999 Interior Bill includes money for these local groups—who have been working on this problem for years—so they can decide how to restore the fisheries. It’s time for the federal government to let those who will be affected by the decisions make these decisions. Salmon are a critical part of the Northwest way of life, so let Northwesterners decide how to fix this problem without being told how to do it from Washington, D.C.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

VERMONT ELECTRIC RATES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today, plaintiffs from my home State of Vermont made opening arguments in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The plaintiffs, representing the New England Council for Energy Efficiency and the Environment, have raised serious questions about the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s decision in 1997 to grant power marketer status to a subsidiary of the Canadian company Hydro-Quebec.

The Council is protesting that Hydro-Quebec was unlawfully granted the ability to buy and sell power in the U.S. without regulatory oversight. According to expert testimony in that case, Hydro-Quebec already exercises too much control over Northeastern energy markets, and Vermont ratepayers will have to pay higher energy bills if this license is upheld.

Hydro-Quebec’s ability and willingness to exert undue influence on electricity markets in the United States is of serious concern. The company’s request last month that the Canadian government sue the United States over fair trade practices is a clear infringement of the legitimate rights of Vermonters to set Vermont electric

rates. The Vermont Public Service Board sets rates equally for all companies, be they foreign or domestic, yet Hydro-Quebec is using its status as a semi-governmental foreign company in an attempt to control these rates.

It is deeply ironic that Hydro-Quebec, a monopoly protected by Quebec law against all retail and virtually all wholesale competition in Quebec, should utilize principles of “fair trade” to lodge a complaint against the United States under NAFTA. Entrepreneurs in New England and New York who want to compete in Quebec are prohibited from doing so, thus precluding meaningful international competition in energy. Yet Hydro-Quebec is able to freely sell its energy in the U.S.

I call upon Hydro-Quebec to come out from behind its monopolistic shield and act like a true competitive utility. Drop your NAFTA lawsuit. End your efforts to undermine Vermont law. Stop using international law to threaten Vermont ratepayers. We want to do business with Hydro-Quebec, but we cannot do so while it tries to exert undue influence in Vermont and New England markets. In Vermont, the Public Service Board sets electric rates, not foreign companies. We will never, ever let a foreign entity write our rules on power sales.

I further call upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to thoroughly examine all means by which a foreign utility may exert influence in the United States. Foreign companies should not be given carte blanche to sell energy in the U.S. until all impacts of that decision are considered—not only market share, but also environmental impacts and means outside of the market by which a foreign company may exert influence. Hydro-Quebec is taking advantage of its enormous size and semi-governmental status to gouge ratepayers in Vermont. This issue is of enormous importance to the people of Vermont, and I hope the Commission will thoroughly examine all of these issues.

Mr. President, I will do all in my power to protect Vermont electric ratepayers from unnecessary manipulation and threats. I am carefully reviewing the law related to wholesale and retail power sales and will be sure to work for a revision of this law if we see that a region of this nation, or a particular state, is being treated unfairly.

EAST TIMOR

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I am horrified by the atrocities occurring in East Timor—where an armed militia is using murder and intimidation to nullify the results of a free and fair referendum. The United States must join the international community in protecting the people of East Timor from mass murder and religious persecution.

During this century, we have seen horrifying examples of dictators and despots whose brutality begins with at-

tacks on the peaceful men and women of the church. This is happening again in East Timor—where members of the Church are being brutally persecuted.

The stories coming out of East Timor are heart-wrenching.

Women and children are massacred within the sanctuary of their churches. Catholic priests, nuns and Caritas workers are being murdered as they try to protect their communities. Nobel Laureate Bishop Beli has been forced into exile. Churches, convents and schools are being burned. Thousands of men, women and children are fleeing from their homes in fear. They are taking refuge in the countryside—where there isn’t enough food, water or medicine.

This brutality is occurring with the complicity of the Indonesian military. This is a military that has conducted twenty five years of repression in East Timor. It is a military that the United States has trained and armed.

The international community cannot stand by while civilians are brutally murdered. That is why I support President Clinton’s statement of support for US participation in an United Nations peacekeeping force. The force would be led by regional powers—including our strong ally Australia. The United States would help to provide logistical support.

This peacekeeping force would have three goals: to protect the people of East Timor; to restore order and to enable the referendum for independence to be implemented.

The United States must stand up for our interests and our values. We must join our allies in protecting the people of East Timor and restoring peace and stability to their country.

RISK MANAGEMENT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President I rise today as one of the proud cosponsors of the Risk Management for the 21st Century Act.

This bill offers much-needed changes in the area of risk management for farmers and ranchers. Managing risk in agriculture has become perhaps the most important aspect of the business. Agricultural producers who are able to effectively manage their risk are able to sustain and increase profit. An effective crop insurance program will provide farmers and ranchers possibilities for economic sustainability in the future and help them out of the current financial crisis.

The Federal Government can help facilitate a program to unite the producer and the private insurance company. The control must be put ultimately in the hands of the agricultural producer. Although he cannot control risk, an effective management plan will help him to manage the effects of risks, such as weather, prices and natural disasters.

This bill addresses the inadequacies of the current crop insurance program.