

manage the Black Hills National Forest and grasslands. The station, which focuses on managing prairies to sustain livestock and wildlife, has been instrumental in decisions affecting wood production and stream flows, and in providing forage for livestock and wildlife species.

Additionally, and perhaps most importantly, in light of the devastating fires that raged in the Black Hills region this summer, the research station provides vital fire ecology research.

Mr. Speaker, this bill contains two major provisions that address these important forest management and health needs for South Dakota.

First, H.R. 4226 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain lands owned by the Forest Service and to use the funds to acquire land in order to construct two administrative sites for the Black Hills National Forest. By allowing the Black Hills National Forest to construct two new administrative facilities, the Forest Service will be able to eliminate two leased offices which have an annual cost of \$150,000, thereby consolidating four administrative sites into two.

Additionally, by allowing the sale or exchange of these lands, the Black Hills National Forest can increase efficiency and communications, decrease public confusion over the location of administrative sites, and make the Black Hills more visible and available to the over four million people that visit the area each year. Furthermore, according to the Forest Service, this bill will save the taxpayers an additional \$109,000 in annual maintenance costs and \$880,000 in deferred maintenance costs.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4226 also contains a provision to protect private property owners from being forced to sell their land for the project. Second, this bill authorizes \$2.1 million to build a new research laboratory for the Rocky Mountain Research Center to be co-located with one of the new Forest Service administrative buildings.

Authorizing the funds to build the new research laboratory is essential, because the Forest Service has indicated it may close the research station if it does not have a new facility. Currently the station's laboratory needs major repairs, is not handicap accessible, does not meet OSHA regulations and is inadequate to support the unit's mission. In fact, it is my understanding that the current facility housing the Rocky Mountain Research Center in Rapid City was among the lowest ranked in a recent review of all USDA research facilities by the strategic planning task force on USDA research.

The Forest Service has estimated the construction of a new lab co-located with one of the new administrative sites would save the taxpayers \$10,200 in annual maintenance costs, and \$219,700 in deferred maintenance costs.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr.

YOUNG), the chairman of the Committee on Resources, and the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER), the ranking member. I would also like to thank the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH), the ranking member, for their work on this bill. I would also like to thank their staff and, in particular, Veronica Rolocut and Erica Rosenberg.

Additionally, I want to thank Dan Uresk at the Rocky Mountain Research Center as well as Black Hills National Forest Supervisor John Twiss for their help on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will streamline administrative operations in the Black Hills National Forest as well as provide a future for the Rocky Mountain Research Station and the valuable information that it provides.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation by voting to pass H.R. 4226.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the gentleman from South Dakota for an excellent presentation, especially as the chief sponsor of this legislation.

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, we have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4226, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1430

COLUSA BASIN WATERSHED INTEGRATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1113) to assist in the development and implementation of projects to provide for the control of drainage, storm, flood and other waters as part of the water-related integrated resource management, environmental infrastructure, and resource protection and development projects in the Colusa Basin Watershed, California, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1113

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Colusa Basin Watershed Integrated Resources Management Act".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.

The Secretary of the Interior (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary"), acting within existing budgetary authority, may provide financial assistance to the Colusa Basin Drainage District, California (in this Act referred to as the "District"), for use by the District or by local agencies acting pursuant to section 413 of the State of California statute known as the Colusa Basin Drainage Act (California Stats. 1987, ch. 1399) as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act (in this Act referred to as the "State statute"), for planning, design, environmental compliance, and construction required in carrying out eligible projects in the Colusa Basin Watershed to—

(1)(A) reduce the risk of damage to urban and agricultural areas from flooding or the discharge of drainage water or tailwater;

(B) assist in groundwater recharge efforts to alleviate overdraft and land subsidence; or

(C) construct, restore, or preserve wetland and riparian habitat; and

(2) capture, as an incidental purpose of any of the purposes referred to in paragraph (1), surface or stormwater for conservation, conjunctive use, and increased water supplies.

SEC. 3. PROJECT SELECTION.

(a) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A project shall be an eligible project for purposes of section 2 only if it is—

(1) consistent with the plan for flood protection and integrated resources management described in the document entitled "Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report and Draft Program Financing Plan, Integrated Resources Management Program for Flood Control in the Colusa Basin", dated May 2000; and

(2) carried out in accordance with that document and all environmental documentation requirements that apply to the project under the laws of the United States and the State of California.

(b) COMPATIBILITY REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall ensure that projects for which assistance is provided under this Act are not inconsistent with watershed protection and environmental restoration efforts being carried out under the authority of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4706 et seq.) or the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

SEC. 4. COST SHARING.

(a) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary shall require that the District and cooperating non-Federal agencies or organizations pay—

(1) 25 percent of the costs associated with construction of any project carried out with assistance provided under this Act;

(2) 100 percent of any operation, maintenance, and replacement and rehabilitation costs with respect to such a project; and

(3) 35 percent of the costs associated with planning, design, and environmental compliance activities.

(b) PLANNING, DESIGN, AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be made available to fund 65 percent of costs incurred for planning, design, and environmental compliance activities by the District or by local agencies acting pursuant to the State statute, in accordance with agreements with the Secretary.

(c) TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—For purposes of this section, the Secretary shall treat the value of lands, interests in lands (including rights-of-way and other easements), and necessary relocations contributed by the District to a project as a payment by the District of the costs of the project.

SEC. 5. COSTS NONREIMBURSABLE.

Amounts expended pursuant to this Act shall be considered nonreimbursable for purposes of the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388;

43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.), and Acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

SEC. 6. AGREEMENTS.

Funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be made available to the District or a local agency only if the District or local agency, as applicable, has entered into a binding agreement with the Secretary—

(1) under which the District or the local agency is required to pay the non-Federal share of the costs of construction required by section 4(a); and

(2) governing the funding of planning, design, and compliance activities costs under section 4(b).

SEC. 7. REIMBURSEMENT.

For project work (including work associated with studies, planning, design, and construction) carried out by the District or by a local agency acting pursuant to the State statute in section 2 before the date amounts are provided for the project under this Act, the Secretary shall, subject to amounts being made available in advance in appropriations Acts, reimburse the District or the local agency, without interest, an amount equal to the estimated Federal share of the cost of such work under section 4.

SEC. 8. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements and contracts with the District to assist the Secretary in carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(b) SUBCONTRACTING.—Under such cooperative agreements and contracts, the Secretary may authorize the District to manage and let contracts and receive reimbursements, subject to amounts being made available in advance in appropriations Acts, for work carried out under such contracts or subcontracts.

SEC. 9. RELATIONSHIP TO RECLAMATION REFORM ACT OF 1982.

Activities carried out, and financial assistance provided, under this Act shall not be considered a supplemental or additional benefit for purposes of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 1263; 43 U.S.C. 390aa et seq.).

SEC. 10. APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED.

Within existing budgetary authority and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary is authorized to expend up to \$25,000,000, plus such additional amount, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in costs of services of the types involved in the District's projects as shown by engineering and other relevant indexes to carry out this Act. Sums appropriated under this section shall remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1113.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1113 introduced, by the gentleman from California (Mr.

OSE), addresses issues associated with water management, flood control, drainage and subsistence occurring within the multicounty Colusa Basin in California.

The bill intends to reduce the risk of damage to urban and agricultural areas from flooding or the discharge of drainage water. It will assist in groundwater recharge efforts, as well as provide funding for conservation, conjunctive use and increased water supplies.

One of the prime objectives of local project proponents in seeking introduction of this legislation was to specifically identify a congressional priority for funding from within existing Federal programs. This authorization is not intended to expand Federal expenditure but is to prioritize existing spending. I would encourage my colleagues to vote for the legislation.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) to address some of his feelings on this legislation that affects his Congressional District.

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, oftentimes, I am reminded by others who are smarter than I, when an organization does what one is hoping it does, perhaps the best thing one can do is just sit down and be quiet. However, I did want to offer a few remarks on the passage of H.R. 1113.

H.R. 1113 is a win-win for my district in that it provides the opportunity to complete work that was commenced under my predecessor's tenure. When Vic Fazio was here in the 105th Congress, he worked with Members on both sides of the aisle, the purpose of which was to bring some flood protection to the Colusa Basin and its residents. He was, I believe, able to get this package passed through the House twice, actually; but, unfortunately, it got caught in a time crunch at the end of the 105th and, as such, did not get signed by the President.

We are back here today on the first step of the new travels of the new journey. We pass it here in the House. It will go on to the Senate from here. The essential components of this bill are that we provide flood protection for people in the Colusa Basin, hopefully averting up to an average of \$5 million a year in flood damage that occurs on seasonal streams off the Pacific Coast range.

It provides up to 10,000 acres of new wetlands and habitat for wildlife along the Pacific flyway. It is supported by the Yolo, Glenn and Colusa Boards of Supervisors, the California Farm Bureau, local organizations like the Family Water Alliance, the Sacramento Valley Landowners Association, the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, and also by the municipalities such as Wilcox, Colusa and Orland.

It is also somewhat of a unique vehicle in that the Colusa Basin Drainage District has entered into a memorandum of understanding somewhat unusual in this, laying out the param-

eters under which the 10,000 acres of new wildlife and habitat area will be managed. It is unique in that sense.

It is perhaps a vehicle we could mimic elsewhere in the country as we work to balance our needs between the demands of humans for flood protection and our needs to help in the environment and the like.

Again, I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) for allowing me to come and speak.

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) for his management of the legislation and on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes a number of relatively small structures for water retention and watershed management in California's Colusa Basin. The bill, as amended, now requires a reasonable level of local cost sharing to help cover project planning, design and environmental compliance expenses. I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) for his sponsorship of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote aye on the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1113, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN PROJECT CONVEYANCE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2984) to direct the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to convey to the Loup Basin Reclamation District, the Sargent River Irrigation District, and the Farwell Irrigation District, Nebraska, property comprising the assets of the Middle Loup Division of the Missouri River Basin Project, Nebraska, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. R. 2984

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