

of the Interior to conduct a study to investigate opportunities to better manage the water resources in the Salmon Creek watershed of the upper Columbia River, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment as follows:

(Omit the part in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in italic.)

S. 2951

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

**SECTION 1. SALMON CREEK WATERSHED, WASHINGTON, WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—[The Commissioner of Reclamation] *The Secretary of the Interior* may conduct a study to investigate the opportunities to better manage the water resources in the Salmon Creek Watershed, a tributary to the Upper Columbia River system, Okanagoan County, Washington, so as to restore and enhance fishery resources (especially the endangered Upper Columbia Spring Chinook and Steelhead), while maintaining or improving the availability of water supplies for irrigation practices vital to the economic well-being of the county.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the study under subsection (a) shall be to derive the benefits of and further the objectives of the comprehensive, independent study commissioned by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Okanagoan Irrigation District, which provides a credible basis for pursuing a course of action to simultaneously achieve fish restoration and improved irrigation conservation and efficiency.

(c) COST SHARE.—*The Federal government's cost share for the feasibility study shall not exceed 50 percent.*

Amend the title to read as follows: "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to investigate opportunities to better manage the water resources in the Salmon Creek watershed of the upper Columbia River."

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2951), as amended, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2951

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

**SECTION 1. SALMON CREEK WATERSHED, WASHINGTON, WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior may conduct a study to investigate the opportunities to better manage the water resources in the Salmon Creek Watershed, a tributary to the Upper Columbia River system, Okanagoan County, Washington, so as to restore and enhance fishery resources (especially the endangered Upper Columbia Spring Chinook and Steelhead), while maintaining or improving the availability of water supplies for irrigation practices vital to the economic well-being of the county.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the study under subsection (a) shall be to derive the benefits of and further the objectives of the comprehensive, independent study commissioned by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Okanagoan Irrigation District, which provides a credible basis for pursuing a course of action to simultaneously achieve fish restoration and improved irrigation conservation and efficiency.

(c) COST SHARE.—The Federal Government's cost share for the feasibility study shall not exceed 50 percent.

**WEBER BASIN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, UTAH CONTRACTS**

The bill (H.R. 3236) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with the Weber Basin water Conservancy District, Utah, to use Weber Basin Project facilities for impounding, storage, and carriage of non-project water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and other beneficial purposes, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**INCREASED AUTHORIZATION FOR MINIDOKA PROJECT, IDAHO**

The bill (H.R. 3577) to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated for the north side pumping division of the Minidoka reclamation project, Idaho, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUND WATER STUDY AND FACILITIES AMENDMENTS ACT**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 1848) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Ground water study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

**SECTION 1. DENVER WATER REUSE PROJECT.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—*The Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the appropriate State and local authorities, may participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse Project ("Project") to reclaim and reuse water in the service area of the Denver Water Department of the city and county of Denver, Colorado.*

(b) COST SHARE.—*The Federal share of the cost of the Project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.*

(c) LIMITATION.—*Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for the operation and maintenance of the Project.*

(d) FUNDING.—*Funds appropriated pursuant to section 1615 of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act may be used for the Project.*

**SEC. 2. RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUNDWATER STUDY AND FACILITIES ACT.**

*Design, planning, and construction of the Project authorized by the Act shall be in accordance with, and subject to the limitations contained in, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (106 Stat. 4663-4669, 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.), as amended.*

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1848), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to the provisions of the Reclamation Wastewater and Ground Water Study and Facilities Act to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project."

**TRUCKEE WATERSHED RECLAMATION PROJECT**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 2195) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to the provisions of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Truckee watershed reclamation project for the reclamation and reuse of water, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

**SECTION 1. TRUCKEE WATERSHED RECLAMATION PROJECT.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—*The Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with Washoe County, Nevada, may participate in the design, planning, and construction of, the Truckee watershed reclamation project, consisting of the North Valley Reuse Project and the Spanish Springs Valley Septic Conversion Project ("Project"), to reclaim and reuse wastewater (including degraded ground water) within and without the service area of Washoe County, Nevada.*

(b) COST SHARE.—*The Federal share of the cost of the Project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.*

(c) LIMITATION.—*Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for the operation or maintenance of the Project.*

(d) FUNDING.—*Funds appropriated pursuant to section 1615 of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act may be used for the Project (106 Stat. 4663-4669, 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.), as amended.*

**SEC. 2. RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUNDWATER STUDY AND FACILITIES ACT**

*Design, planning, and construction of the Project shall be in accordance with, and subject to the limitations contained in, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (106 Stat. 4663-4669, 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.), as amended.*

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2195), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to the provisions of the Reclamation Wastewater and Ground Water Study and Facilities Act to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Truckee watershed reclamation project for the reclamation and reuse of water."

**RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUNDWATER STUDY AND FACILITIES ACT AMENDMENTS**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 2301) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in

the design, planning, and construction of the Lakehaven water reclamation project for the reclamation and reuse of water, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

**SECTION 1. LAKEHAVEN WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT.**

(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—*The Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Lakehaven Utility District, Washington, may participate in the design, planning, and construction of, and land acquisition for, the Lakehaven water reclamation project ("Project"), Washington, to reclaim and reuse wastewater (including degraded groundwater) within and outside the service area of the Lakehaven Utility District.*

(b) **COST SHARE.**—*The Federal share of the cost of the Project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.*

(c) **LIMITATION.**—*Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for the operation and maintenance of the Project.*

(d) **FUNDING.**—*Funds appropriated pursuant to section 1615 of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act may be used for the Project (106 Stat. 4663–4669, 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.), as amended.*

**SEC. 2. RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUNDWATER STUDY AND FACILITIES ACT.**

*Design, planning, and construction of the Project shall be in accordance with, and subject to the limitations contained in, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (106 Stat. 4663–4669, 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.), as amended.*

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to. The bill (S. 2301), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to the provisions of the Reclamation Wastewater and Ground Water Study and Facilities Act to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Lakehaven water reclamation project for the reclamation and reuse of water."

**BURNT, MALHEUR, OWYHEE, AND POWDER RIVER BASIN WATER OPTIMIZATION FEASIBILITY STUDY ACT OF 2000**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 2877) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on water optimization in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River basin, Oregon, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Omit the part in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in italic.]

S. 2877

*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 "Burnt, Malheur, Owyhee, and Powder River Basin Water Optimization Feasibility Study Act of 2000".

**SEC. 2. STUDY.**

The Secretary of the Interior may conduct [a feasibility study] *feasibility studies* on water optimization in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River basin, Oregon.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2877), as amended, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2877

*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 "Burnt, Malheur, Owyhee, and Powder River Basin Water Optimization Feasibility Study Act of 2000".

**SEC. 2. STUDY.**

The Secretary of the Interior may conduct feasibility studies on water optimization in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River basin, Oregon.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies on water optimization in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River basin, Oregon."

**NAMPA AND MERIDIAN CONVEYANCE ACT**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 3022) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain irrigation facilities to the Nampa and Meridian Irrigation District, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

*This Act may be cited as the "Nampa and Meridian Conveyance Act".*

**SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF FACILITIES.**

*The Secretary of the Interior (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall, as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, convey facilities to the Nampa and Meridian Irrigation District (in this Act referred to as the "District") in accordance with all applicable laws and pursuant to the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement (contract No. 1425–99MA102500, dated 7 July 1999) between the Secretary and the District. The conveyance of facilities shall include all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to any portion of the canals, laterals, drains, and any other portion of the water distribution and drainage system that is operated or maintained by the District for delivery of water to and drainage of water from lands within the boundaries of the District.*

**SEC. 3. LIABILITY.**

*Except as otherwise provided by law, effective on the date of conveyance of facilities under this Act, the United States shall not be liable for*

*damages of any kind arising out of any act, omission, or occurrence based on its prior ownership or operation of the conveyed property.*

**SEC. 4. EXISTING RIGHTS NOT AFFECTED.**

*Nothing in this Act affects the rights of any person except as provided in this Act. No water rights shall be transferred, modified, or otherwise affected by the conveyance of facilities and interests to the Nampa and Meridian Irrigation District under this Act. Such conveyance shall not affect or abrogate any provision of any contract executed by the United States or State law regarding any irrigation district's right to use water developed in the facilities conveyed.*

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 3022), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

**RECLAMATION REFORM ACT OF 2000**

The Senate proceeded to consider a bill (S. 1697) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to refund certain collections received pursuant to the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

[Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

*This title may be cited as the "Reclamation Reform Refund Act of 2000".*

**SEC. 2. REFUND OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS RECEIVED UNDER RECLAMATION REFORM ACT OF 1982.**

(a) **REFUND REQUIRED.**—*Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to refund fully amounts received by the United States as payments for charges assessed by the Secretary before January 1, 1994, for failure to file or properly file certain certification or reporting forms pursuant to sections 206 and 224(c) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390ff, 390ww(c)) prior to the receipt of irrigation water. Such refunds shall be made regardless of whether such payments were required by the United States, were made pursuant to a compromise or settlement (whether court approved or otherwise), or were otherwise received by the United States. Any refund issued pursuant to this subsection shall include the amount of associated interest assessed by the Secretary and paid to the United States pursuant to section 224(i) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390ww(i)).*

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—*There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as necessary.*

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1697), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

**KLAMATH BASIN WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2000**

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 938, S. 2882.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2882) to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to conduct certain feasibility studies to augment water supplies for the Klamath Project, Oregon and California, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which