

AUTHORIZING TO SELL OR EXCHANGE CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE SITES AND OTHER LAND

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture be discharged from further consideration of S. 33 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 33) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire, construct, or improve administrative sites.

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

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and that any statements relating to this measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 33) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 33

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

SECTION 1. SALE OR EXCHANGE OF LAND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) may, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, sell or exchange any right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the following National Forest System land and improvements:

(1) In the Ouachita National Forest—

(A) tract 1, “Work Center and two Residences” (approximately 12.4 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Waldron, Arkansas, Work Center and Residences” and dated July 26, 2000;

(B) tract 2, “Work Center” (approximately 10 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Booneville, Arkansas, Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(C) tract 3, “Residence” (approximately ½ acre), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Glenwood, Arkansas, Residence” and dated July 26, 2000;

(D) tract 4, “Work Center” (approximately 10.12 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Thornburg, Arkansas, Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(E) tract 5, “Office Building” (approximately 1.5 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Perryville, Arkansas, Office Building” and dated July 26, 2000;

(F) tract 6, “Several Buildings, Including Office Space and Equipment Depot” (approximately 3 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Hot Springs, Arkansas, Buildings” and dated July 26, 2000;

(G) tract 7, “Isolated Forestland” (approximately 120 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Sunshine, Arkansas, Isolated Forestland” and dated July 26, 2000;

(H) tract 8, “Isolated Forestland” (approximately 40 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Sunshine, Arkansas, Isolated Forestland” and dated July 26, 2000;

(I) tract 9, “Three Residences” (approximately 9.89 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Heavener, Oklahoma, Three Residences” and dated July 26, 2000;

(J) tract 10, “Work Center” (approximately 38.91 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Heavener, Oklahoma, Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(K) tract 11, “Residence #1” (approximately 0.45 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Talihina, Oklahoma, Residence #1” and dated July 26, 2000;

(L) tract 12, “Residence #2” (approximately 0.21 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Talihina, Oklahoma, Residence #2” and dated July 26, 2000;

(M) tract 13, “Work Center” (approximately 5 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Big Cedar, Oklahoma, Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(N) tract 14, “Residence” (approximately 0.5 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Idabel, Oklahoma, Residence” and dated July 26, 2000;

(O) tract 15, “Residence and Work Center” (approximately 40 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Idabel, Oklahoma, Residence and Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000; and

(P) tract 16, “Isolated Forestland” at sec. 30, T. 2 S., R. 25 W. (approximately 2.08 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ouachita National Forest, Mt. Ida, Arkansas, Isolated Forestland” and dated August 27, 2001.

(2) In the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest—

(A) tract 1, “Tract 750, District 1, Two Residences, Administrative Office” (approximately 8.96 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Mountain View, Arkansas, Tract 750, District 1, Two Residences, Administrative Office” and dated July 26, 2000;

(B) tract 2, “Tract 2736, District 5, Mountainburg Work Center” (approximately 1.61 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Mountainburg, Arkansas, Tract 2736, District 5, Mountainburg Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(C) tract 3, “Tract 2686, District 6, House” (approximately 0.31 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Paris, Arkansas, Tract 2686, District 6 House” and dated July 26, 2000;

(D) tract 4, “Tract 2807, District 6, House” (approximately 0.25 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Paris, Arkansas, Tract 2807, District 6, House” and dated July 26, 2000;

(E) tract 5, “Tract 2556, District 3, Dover Work Center” (approximately 2.0 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Dover, Arkansas, Tract 2556, District 3, Dover Work Center” and dated July 26, 2000;

(F) tract 6, “Tract 2735, District 2, House” (approximately 0.514 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Jasper, Arkansas, Tract 2735, District 2, House” and dated July 26, 2000; and

(G) tract 7, “Tract 2574, District 2, House” (approximately 0.75 acres), as identified on the map entitled “Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, Jasper, Arkansas, Tract 2574, District 2, House” and dated July 26, 2000.

(b) APPLICABLE AUTHORITIES.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any sale or exchange of land described in subsection (a) shall be subject to laws (including regulations) applicable to the conveyance and acquisition of land for National Forest System purposes.

(c) CASH EQUALIZATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may accept cash equalization payments in excess of 25 percent of the total value of the land described in subsection (a) from any exchange under subsection (a).

(d) SOLICITATIONS OF OFFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary may use solicitations of offers for sale or exchange under this Act on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(2) REJECTION OF OFFERS.—The Secretary may reject any offer under this Act if the Secretary determines that the offer is not adequate or not in the public interest.

SEC. 2. DISPOSITION OF FUNDS.

Any funds received by the Secretary through sale or by cash equalization from an exchange—

(1) shall be deposited into the fund established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the “Sisk Act”) (16 U.S.C. 484a); and

(2) shall be available for expenditure, without further Act of appropriation, for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of administrative facilities, land, or interests in land for the national forests in the States of Arkansas and Oklahoma.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

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

ADJUSTING BOUNDARIES OF GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Agriculture Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1499 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1499) to adjust the boundaries of Green Mountain National Forest.

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

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1499) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1499

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

SECTION 1. GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST EXPANSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The boundaries of the Green Mountain National Forest are modified to include all parcels of land depicted on the forest maps entitled “Green Mountain Expansion Area Map I” and “Green Mountain Expansion Area Map II”, each dated

February 20, 2002, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Washington, District of Columbia.

(b) MANAGEMENT.—Federally owned land delineated on the maps acquired for National Forest purposes shall continue to be managed in accordance with the laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System.

(c) 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 boundaries of the Green Mountain National Forest, as adjusted by this Act, shall be considered to be the boundaries of the national forest as of January 1, 1965.

NATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICAL SERVICES ACT

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Agriculture Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1367 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am wondering if the Senator from Nevada is qualified to talk about a bill such as this.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, this is legislation that I authored and was very proud to have authored. This is the bill that is going to help protect large cats from being owned in a place such as New York and kept in apartments.

Mr. REID. I ask that the Senator from Nevada be listed as cosponsor of this important legislation.

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

Without objection, the clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1367) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a loan repayment program regarding the provision of veterinary services in shortage situations, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will the Senator withhold? We have had a very difficult day. I was trying to add a little levity to it. Senator ENSIGN is, of course, a veterinarian. He is the acting majority leader. I thought he was moving a bill dealing with veterinarians. I should bring to the attention of the American public, we have a veterinarian serving in the Senate.

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 1367) was read the third time and passed.

THE CALENDAR

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order

for the Senate to proceed en bloc to the consideration of the following calendar items: Calendar No. 41, S. 425; Calendar No. 255, S. 391; Calendar No. 256, S. 434; Calendar No. 257, S. 435; Calendar No. 258, S. 452; Calendar No. 259, S. 714; Calendar No. 260, S. 1003; Calendar No. 261, H.R. 622; and Calendar No. 262, H.R. 1012.

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

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that any amendments, where applicable, be agreed to, the bills, as amended, if amended, be read three times, passed, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; the consideration of these items appear separately in the RECORD and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

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

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT OF 2003

The bill (S. 425) to revise the boundary of the Wind Cave National Park in the State of South Dakota, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

S. 425

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 "Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision", numbered 108/80,030, and dated June 2002.

(2) PARK.—The term "Park" means the Wind Cave National Park in the State.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of South Dakota.

SEC. 3. LAND ACQUISITION.

(a) AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire the land or interest in land described in subsection (b)(1) for addition to the Park.

(2) MEANS.—An acquisition of land under paragraph (1) may be made by donation, purchase from a willing seller with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(b) BOUNDARY.—

(1) MAP AND ACREAGE.—The land referred to in subsection (a)(1) shall consist of approximately 5,675 acres, as generally depicted on the map.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(3) REVISION.—The boundary of the Park shall be adjusted to reflect the acquisition of land under subsection (a)(1).

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer any land acquired under section 3(a)(1) as part of the Park in accordance with laws (including regulations) applicable to the Park.

(b) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall transfer from the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to the Director of the National Park Service administrative jurisdiction over the land described in paragraph (2).

(2) MAP AND ACREAGE.—The land referred to in paragraph (1) consists of the approximately 80 acres of land identified on the map as "Bureau of Land Management land".

SEC. 5. GRAZING.

(a) GRAZING PERMITTED.—Subject to any permits or leases in existence as of the date of acquisition, the Secretary may permit the continuation of livestock grazing on land acquired under section 3(a)(1).

(b) LIMITATION.—Grazing under subsection (a) shall be at not more than the level existing on the date on which the land is acquired under section 3(a)(1).

(c) PURCHASE OF PERMIT OR LEASE.—The Secretary may purchase the outstanding portion of a grazing permit or lease on any land acquired under section 3(a)(1).

(d) TERMINATION OF LEASES OR PERMITS.—The Secretary may accept the voluntary termination of a permit or lease for grazing on any acquired land.

WILD SKY WILDERNESS ACT OF 2003

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 391) to enhance ecosystem protection and the range of outdoor opportunities protected by statute in the Skykomish River valley of the State of Washington by designating certain lower-elevation Federal lands as wilderness, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments, as follows:

[Strike the parts shown in black brackets and insert the parts shown in italic.]

S. 391

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 "Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2003".

【SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF POLICY.

【(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

【(1) Americans cherish the continued existence of diverse wilderness ecosystems and wildlife found on their Federal lands and share a strong sense of moral responsibility to protect their wilderness heritage as an enduring resource to cherish, protect, and bequeath undisturbed to future generations of Americans.

【(2) The values of an area of wilderness offer to this and future generations of Americans are greatly enhanced to the degree that the area is diverse in topography, elevation, life zones and ecosystems, and to the extent that it offers a wide range of outdoor recreational and educational opportunities accessible in all seasons of the year.

【(3) Large blocks of wildlands embracing a wide range of ecosystems and topography, including low-elevation forests, have seldom remained undisturbed due to many decades of development.

【(4) Certain wildlands on the western slope of the Cascade Range in the Skykomish River valley of the State of Washington offer an outstanding representation of the original character of the forested landscape, ranging from high alpine meadows and extremely rugged peaks to low-elevation mature and old-growth forests, including groves with some of the largest and most spectacular