

Area as the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area.

Later this year, our colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. McINNIS), will retire after over 22 years of public service. Throughout that time, SCOTT McINNIS has achieved a great deal on behalf of the people of Colorado.

The Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area is 122,000 acres of pristine and rugged canyon lands located just outside the Grand Junction home of the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. McINNIS). Four years ago, the gentleman from Colorado was the driving force behind the legislation that led to the preservation of these Colorado canyons. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. McINNIS) returns home to the State and the people he adores, I can think of no more fitting tribute.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I consume.

Mr. Speaker, again we have no objection to the consideration of this measure.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4827.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HEALTHY FOREST YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS ACT OF 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4838) to establish a Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps to provide a means by which young adults can carry out rehabilitation and enhancement projects to prevent fires and suppress fires, rehabilitate public land affected or altered by fires, and provide disaster relief, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4838

*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 "Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps Act of 2004".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the natural fire regimes of forested public land have been altered by intensive fire suppression;

(2) fire suppression has led to increased risk of unnaturally severe wildfires that in recent years have destroyed thousands of

homes, devastated agricultural crops and livestock, reduced biodiversity, and scorched thousands of areas of soil and natural resources;

(3) catastrophic wildfires pose a particular threat to communities and wildlife living close to forested wildland, known as the "wildland-urban interface";

(4) each year millions of dollars are spent to fight severe wildfires and protect communities where municipal water supplies, human lives, and property are threatened;

(5) contracts and cooperative agreements between Federal agencies and State and local governments and other entities empower communities and are cost-effective tools that provide positive social and environmental benefits, and the use of such contracts and agreements should be encouraged as a means to prevent unnaturally severe fires, rehabilitate public land affected or altered by fires, and enhance and maintain environmentally important land and water; and

(6) joint collaborations between the Federal agencies and service and conservation corps composed of young adults are particularly beneficial, as the collaborations provide—

(A) young adults the opportunity to prepare for productive lives while engaged in meaningful and educational public service opportunities; and

(B) the public with cost-saving human resources to assist in conserving, maintaining, and protecting public land.

#### SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to allow service and conservation corps to enter into agreements with public land management agencies to perform rehabilitation and enhancement projects to prevent fire, rehabilitate public land affected or altered by fires, and suppress fires, and provide disaster relief;

(2) to offer young adults who are members of a service and conservation corps, particularly young adults who are at-risk or economically disadvantaged, a chance to obtain skills and experience in forest restoration, so that they are better equipped to gain productive employment in the expanding workforce being deployed on National Forest System lands in fuels reduction, post-fire rehabilitation, and other forest health projects, and so that the pool of trained workers in forest restoration is expanded to satisfy the existing and increasing need for such workers;

(3) to provide those young adults the opportunity to serve their communities and their country; and

(4) to expand educational opportunities by rewarding individuals who participate in the Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps with an increased ability to pursue higher education or employment.

#### SEC. 4. HEALTHY FOREST YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps.

(b) PARTICIPANTS.—The Corps shall consist of young adults who are enrolled as members of a service and conservation corps covered by a contract or cooperative agreement entered into under subsection (c).

(c) CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary concerned may enter into contracts or cooperative agreements directly with—

(1) any service and conservation corps to carry out a rehabilitation and enhancement project described in subsection (d); or

(2) a department of natural resources, agriculture, or forestry (or an equivalent department) of any State that has entered into a contract or cooperative agreement with a service and conservation corps to carry out a rehabilitation and enhancement project described in subsection (d).

(d) AUTHORIZED PROJECTS.—Under a contract or cooperative agreement entered into under subsection (c), a service and conservation corps may carry out a rehabilitation and enhancement project to prevent fire and suppress fires, rehabilitate public land affected or altered by fires, and provide disaster relief, including—

(1) a project relating to the National Fire Plan;

(2) a project relating to the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.); and

(3) other activities allowed under—

(A) a national forest and grassland land management plan; or

(B) a Bureau of Land Management land use plan.

(e) PRIORITY PROJECTS.—In entering into a contract or cooperative agreement under subsection (c), the Secretary concerned shall give priority to rehabilitation and enhancement projects that will—

(1) reduce hazardous fuels on public land;

(2) restore public land affected or imminently threatened by disease or insect infestation;

(3) rehabilitate public land affected or altered by fires;

(4) assess windthrown public land or public land at high risk of return;

(5) work to address public land located within relative proximity to a municipal watershed and municipal water supply;

(6) provide related emergency assistance, such as natural disaster relief and the rescue of lost or injured persons;

(7) instill in members of the service and conservation corps a work ethic and a sense of personal responsibility;

(8) be labor-intensive; and

(9) be planned and initiated promptly.

(f) ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BY CORPS MEMBERS WHO ARE UNDER 18.—A young adult under the age of 18 who is enrolled as a member of a service and conservation corps covered by a contract or cooperative agreement entered into under subsection (c) may perform the following types of activities as part of a rehabilitation and enhancement project carried out under the contract or cooperative agreement:

(1) Performance of logistical support at fire caches or with the supply unit in support of a fire suppression project.

(2) Conducting pre-treatment inventory and other preparatory work, such as building control lines with hand tools, in advance of a prescribed fire project, and conducting post-treatment evaluation and monitoring of the project.

(3) Participation in fire-prevention patrols and the dissemination of fire prevention information.

(4) Performance of certain aspects of a Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation project, approved by the Secretary, if not on site, then in a support role receiving and distributing materials and supplies.

(g) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—The Secretary concerned may provide such services as the Secretary considers to be necessary to carry out this Act, including technical assistance, oversight, monitoring, and evaluation to or for—

(1) State departments of natural resources and agriculture (or equivalent agencies);

(2) service and conservation corps;

(3) in the case of Indian lands, the applicable Indian tribe;

(4) in the case of Hawaiian home lands, the applicable State agency in the State of Hawaii; and

(5) in the case of land under the jurisdiction of an Alaska Native Corporation, the applicable Alaska Native Corporation.

(h) OTHER USES OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under this Act may be used to support implementation, monitoring, training,

technical assistance, and administrative work of service and conservation corps covered by a contract or cooperative agreement entered into under subsection (c).

#### SEC. 5. NONCOMPETITIVE HIRING STATUS.

The Secretary may grant a person who is a former member of the Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps with credit for time served as a member of the Corps toward future Federal hiring and may provide the person with a noncompetitive hiring status for not more than 120 days beginning on the date on which the person completed service as a member of the Corps.

#### SEC. 6. NONDISPLACEMENT.

The nondisplacement requirements of section 177(b) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(b)) shall apply to activities carried out under this Act.

#### SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATION.**—The term “Alaska Native Corporation” means a Regional Corporation or Village Corporation, as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602).

(2) **HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.**—The term “Hawaiian home lands” has the meaning given the term in section 203 of Public Law 91-378 (commonly known as the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970; 16 U.S.C. 1722).

(3) **INDIAN LANDS.**—The term “Indian lands” has the meaning given the term in section 203 of Public Law 91-378 (commonly known as the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970; 16 U.S.C. 1722).

(4) **PUBLIC LAND.**—The term “public land” means—

(A) land of the National Forest System (as defined in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)));

(B) public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)) and other land administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

(C) land owned by a State or local agency;

(D) Indian lands, with the approval of the applicable Indian tribe;

(E) Hawaiian home lands, with the approval of the applicable State agency in the State of Hawaii; and

(F) land under the jurisdiction of an Alaska Native Corporation, with the approval of the applicable Alaska Native Corporation.

(5) **SECRETARY CONCERNED.**—The term “Secretary concerned” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to land of the National Forest System described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4);

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to public land described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph; and

(C) the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior jointly, with respect to land described in subparagraphs (C) through (F) of such paragraph.

(6) **SERVICE AND CONSERVATION CORPS.**—The term “service and conservation corps” means any organization established by a State or local government, nonprofit organization, or Indian tribe that—

(A) has a research-validated demonstrable capability to provide productive work to individuals;

(B) gives participants a combination of work experience, basic and life skills, education, training, and support services; and

(C) provides participants with the opportunity to develop citizenship values through service to their communities and the United States.

(7) **STATE.**—The term “State” means—

(A) a State;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

(D) Guam;

(E) American Samoa;

(F) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

(G) the Federated States of Micronesia;

(H) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

(I) the Republic of Palau; and

(J) the United States Virgin Islands.

(8) **YOUNG ADULT.**—The term “young adult” means an individual between 16 and 25 years of age.

#### SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4838, introduced by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and Agriculture to enter into contracts with nonprofit youth conservation corps to carry out land management initiatives relating to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act.

This legislation was originally included in the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, but was removed during negotiations. This bill shares bipartisan support and will allow youth conservation corps to perform service projects related to forest health, restoration, and community protection from wildfire. I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD letters to and from the Committee on Resources and the Committee on Agriculture regarding this piece of legislation:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,

Washington, DC, September 27, 2004.

Hon. ROBERT GOODLATTE,

Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, 1301 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On September 15, 2004, the Committee on Resources reported with amendments H.R. 4838, the Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps Act of 2004. The bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Resources, with an additional referral to the Committee on Agriculture because it affects activities in forests not created from the public domain.

Staffs from both of our Committee's have been working diligently on further amending the bill in the form of an amendment in the nature of a substitute for consideration under suspension of the rules on the House floor. The amendment they have crafted should address your concerns. First, it reduces the authorization of appropriations from \$25 million per fiscal year to \$5 million for each fiscal year 2005 through 2009. Additionally, the amendment will address Administration concerns by limiting the type of work performed by 16 and 17 year olds.

Knowing that the 108th Congress is rapidly drawing to a close, I ask that you allow the Committee on Agriculture to be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that

it may be scheduled under suspension of the rules tomorrow.

This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Agriculture represented on the conference committee. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

RICHARD W. POMBO,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,

Washington, DC, September 27, 2004.

Hon. RICHARD POMBO,

Chairman, House Committee on Resources, 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for forwarding a draft copy of H.R. 4838, the “Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps Act of 2004”, as ordered reported by your Committee on September 15, 2004. As you are aware, the Committee on Agriculture was granted an additional referral of this legislation on those provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of this Committee.

Knowing of your interest in expediting this legislation and in maintaining the continued consultation between our Committees on these matters, I will agree to discharge H.R. 4838 from further consideration by the Committee on Agriculture. I do so with the understanding that by discharging the bill, the Committee on Agriculture does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over these or similar measures. In addition, in the event a conference with Senate is requested on this matter, the Committee on Agriculture reserves the right to seek appointment of conferees, if it should become necessary.

Once again, I am grateful for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respect committees.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,  
Chairman.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the cosponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) for bringing forth this very important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL).

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding me this time and for his leadership on the Committee on Resources and on this bill. I also want to thank the chairman for his leadership and also the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), who I have worked very closely with on this bill, the Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps.

This legislation will allow the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to contract directly with the youth service and conservation corps to carry out rehabilitation and enhancement projects in our parks and forests, placing a priority on those projects that prevent and suppress forest fires. This partnership between the Federal Government and the Nation's service and

conservation corps will provide cost-effective assistance in preventing forest fires and restoring damaged forests lands.

□ 1545

In addition to providing additional resources to control forest fires, the program will offer important work experience to low-income, disadvantaged, and often minority youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who, through the corps, will develop the skills and habits they need to become productive citizens. Research has shown that youth who complete corps programs have higher rates of employment and earn more than their counterparts. Corps members also score higher on measures of personal and social responsibility and are more likely to earn a college degree.

Finally, not even taking into account the obvious financial benefits to society from protecting at-risk youth, corps generates \$1.60 in immediate benefits for every \$1 in cost. I encourage my colleagues to vote for passage of the Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps Act to enable local youth corps to work with the Federal Government to protect their communities. This is an opportunity to utilize cost-saving human resources to conserve, maintain, and protect Federal land. It is an investment in our environment and our country's youth.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4838, 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.

#### NEW HOPE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1537) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the New Hope Cemetery Association certain land in the State of Arkansas for use as a cemetery.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1537

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

#### SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY IN POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

(a) CONVEYANCE ON CONDITION SUBSEQUENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, subject to valid existing rights and the condition stated in subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), shall convey to the New Hope Cem-

etry Association (referred to in this section as the “association”), for no consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the parcel of land described in subsection (b).

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The parcel of land referred to in subsection (a) is the parcel of National Forest System land (including any improvements on the land) that—

(1) is known as “New Hope Cemetery Tract 6686c”;

(2) consists of approximately 1.1 acres; and

(3) is more particularly described as a portion of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30, T. 11, R. 17W, Pope County, Arkansas.

(c) CONDITION ON USE OF LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The association shall use the parcel conveyed under subsection (a) as a cemetery.

(2) REVERSION.—If the Secretary, after notice to the association and an opportunity for a hearing, makes a finding that the association has used or permitted the use of the parcel for any purpose other than the purpose specified in paragraph (1), and the association fails to discontinue that use, title to the parcel shall, at the option of the Secretary, revert to the United States, to be administered by the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 1537, introduced by Senator BLANCHE LINCOLN, would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the New Hope Cemetery Association certain land in the State of Arkansas for use as a cemetery. The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) introduced the companion bill in the House, but in the interest of time has requested the Senate bill be moved.

The existing cemetery is about 5 acres and nearing full capacity. The Forest Service initially tried to facilitate this trade without legislation, but the land was appraised for far more than the cemetery association could afford. The conveyance would not create additional management boundaries for the Forest Service, and the agency has no need for the land. As such, the Forest Service would convey the 1.1 acres for free. I urge Members to support this important measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the sponsor of the bill, Senator LINCOLN, for bringing forth this vital legislation, and urge its favorable consideration.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1537.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CRAIG RECREATION LAND PURCHASE ACT

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1778) to authorize a land conveyance between the United States and the City of Craig, Alaska, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1778

*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 “Craig Recreation Land Purchase Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CITY.—The term “City” means the City of Craig, Alaska.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

#### SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE TO SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If, not later than 180 days after the date on which the City receives a copy of the appraisal conducted under subsection (c), the City offers to convey to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the City in and to the parcels of non-Federal land described in subsection (b), the Secretary, subject to the availability of appropriations, shall—

(1) accept the offer; and

(2) on conveyance of the land to the Secretary, pay to the City an amount equal to the appraised value of the land, as determined under subsection (c).

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The non-Federal land referred to in subsection (a) consists of—

(1) the municipal land identified on the map entitled “Informational Map, Sunnahae Trail and Recreation Parcel and Craig Canyery Property” and dated August 2003;

(2) lots 1 and 1A, Block 11-A, as identified on the City of Craig Subdivision Plat, Craig Tideland Addition, Patent # 155 (Inst. 69-982, Ketchikan Recording Office), dated April 21, 2004, consisting of approximately 22,353 square feet of land; and

(3) the portion of Beach Road eastward of a projected line between the southwest corner of lot 1, Block 11, USS 1430 and the northwest corner of lot 1, Block 11-A, as identified on the City of Craig Subdivision Plat, Craig Tideland Addition, Patent # 155 (Inst. 69-982, Ketchikan Recording Office), dated April 21, 2004, consisting of approximately 4,700 square feet of land.

(c) APPRAISALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before conveying the land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(A) conduct an appraisal of the land, in accordance with—

(i) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions;

(ii) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice; and

(iii) Forest Service Appraisal Directives; and

(B) submit to the City a copy of the appraisal.

(2) PAYMENT OF COSTS.—

(A) CITY.—The City shall pay the costs of appraising the land described in subsection (b)(1).