

The bill (S. 1167), as amended, was passed.

SALT CEDAR AND RUSSIAN OLIVE CONTROL DEMONSTRATION ACT

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1516) to further the purposes of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 by directing the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the commissioner of Reclamation, to carry out an assessment and demonstration program to assess potential increases in water availability for Bureau of Reclamation projects and other uses through control of salt cedar and Russian olive, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(Strike the part shown in black brackets and insert the part shown in italic.)

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 “Salt Cedar Control Demonstration Act”].

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

[Congress finds that—

[(1) the western United States is currently experiencing its worst drought in modern history;

[(2) it is estimated that throughout the western United States salt cedar and Russian olive—

[(A) occupy between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 acres of land; and

[(B) are non-beneficial users of 2,000,000 to 4,500,000 acre-feet of water per year;

[(3) the quantity of non-beneficial use of water by salt cedar and Russian olive is greater than the quantity that valuable native vegetation would use;

[(4) much of the salt cedar and Russian olive infestation is located on Bureau of Land Management land or other land of the Department of the Interior; and

[(5) as drought conditions and legal requirements relating to water supply accelerate water shortages, innovative approaches are needed to address the increasing demand for a diminishing water supply.

SEC. 3. SALT CEDAR AND RUSSIAN OLIVE ASSESSMENT AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

[(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In furtherance of the purposes of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4600), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), shall carry out a salt cedar and Russian olive assessment and demonstration program to—

[(1) assess the extent of the infestation of salt cedar and Russian olive in the western United States; and

[(2) develop strategic solutions for long-term management of salt cedar and Russian olive.

[(b) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall complete an assessment of the extent of salt cedar and Russian olive infestation in the western United States. The assessment shall—

[(1) consider past and ongoing research on tested and innovative methods to control salt cedar and Russian olive;

[(2) consider the feasibility of reducing water consumption;

[(3) consider methods of and challenges associated with the restoration of infested land;

[(4) estimate the costs of destruction of salt cedar and Russian olive, biomass removal, and restoration and maintenance of the infested land; and

[(5) identify long-term management and funding strategies that could be implemented by Federal, State, and private land managers.

[(c) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall carry out not less than 5 projects to demonstrate and evaluate the most effective methods of controlling salt cedar and Russian olive. Projects carried out under this subsection shall—

[(1) monitor and document any water savings from the control of salt cedar and Russian olive;

[(2) identify the quantity of, and rates at which, any water savings under paragraph (1) return to surface water supplies;

[(3) assess the best approach to and tools for implementing available control methods;

[(4) assess all costs and benefits associated with control methods and the restoration and maintenance of land;

[(5) determine conditions under which removal of biomass is appropriate and the optimal methods for its disposal or use;

[(6) define appropriate final vegetative states and optimal revegetation methods; and

[(7) identify methods for preventing the regrowth and reintroduction of salt cedar and Russian olive.

[(d) CONTROL METHODS.—The demonstration projects carried out under subsection (c) may implement 1 or more control method per project, but to assess the full range of control mechanisms—

[(1) at least 1 project shall use airborne application of herbicides;

[(2) at least 1 project shall use mechanical removal; and

[(3) at least 1 project shall use biocontrol methods such as goats or insects.

[(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—A demonstration project shall be carried out during a time period and to a scale designed to meet the requirements of subsection (c).

[(f) COSTS.—

[(1) IN GENERAL.—Each demonstration project under subsection (c) shall be carried out at a cost of not more than \$7,000,000, including costs of planning, design, implementation, maintenance, and monitoring.

[(2) COST-SHARING.—

[(A) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of a demonstration project shall not exceed 75 percent.

[(B) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the costs of a demonstration project may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions, including services provided by a State agency.

[(g) COOPERATION.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

[(1) use the expertise of Federal agencies, national laboratories, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, State agencies, and soil and water conservation districts that are actively conducting research on or implementing salt cedar and Russian olive control activities; and

[(2) cooperate with other Federal agencies and affected States, local units of government, and Indian tribes.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

[There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—

[(1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and

[(2) such sums as are necessary for each fiscal year thereafter.]

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act”.

SEC. 2. SALT CEDAR AND RUSSIAN OLIVE CONTROL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation and in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out a salt cedar (*Tamarix spp*) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) assessment and demonstration program—

(1) to assess the extent of the infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States;

(2) to demonstrate strategic solutions for—

(A) the long-term management of salt cedar and Russian olive trees; and

(B) the reestablishment of native vegetation; and

(3) to assess economic means to dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of salt cedar and Russian olive trees.

(b) ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall complete an assessment of the extent of salt cedar and Russian olive infestation on public and private land in the western United States.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to describing the acreage of and severity of infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States, the assessment shall—

(A) consider existing research on methods to control salt cedar and Russian olive trees;

(B) consider the feasibility of reducing water consumption by salt cedar and Russian olive trees;

(C) consider methods of and challenges associated with the revegetation or restoration of infested land; and

(D) estimate the costs of destruction of salt cedar and Russian olive trees, related biomass removal, and revegetation or restoration and maintenance of the infested land.

(c) LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall identify and document long-term management and funding strategies that—

(A) could be implemented by Federal, State, and private land managers in addressing infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees; and

(B) should be tested as components of demonstration projects under subsection (d).

(2) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall provide grants to institutions of higher education to develop public policy expertise in, and assist in developing a long-term strategy to address, infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees.

(d) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall establish a program that selects and funds not less than 5 projects proposed by and implemented in collaboration with Federal agencies, units of State and local government, national laboratories, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, individuals, organizations, or soil and water conservation districts to demonstrate and evaluate the most effective methods of controlling salt cedar and Russian olive trees.

(2) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—The demonstration projects under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be carried out over a time period and to a scale designed to fully assess long-term management strategies;

(B) implement salt cedar or Russian olive tree control using 1 or more methods for each project in order to assess the full range of control methods, including—

(i) airborne application of herbicides;

(ii) mechanical removal; and

(iii) biocontrol methods, such as the use of goats or insects;

(C) individually or in conjunction with other demonstration projects, assess the effects of and

obstacles to combining multiple control methods and determine optimal combinations of control methods;

(D) assess soil conditions resulting from salt cedar and Russian olive tree infestation and means to revitalize soils;

(E) define and implement appropriate final vegetative states and optimal revegetation methods, with preference for self-maintaining vegetative states and native vegetation, and taking into consideration downstream impacts, wildfire potential, and water savings;

(F) identify methods for preventing the regrowth and reintroduction of salt cedar and Russian olive trees;

(G) monitor and document any water savings from the control of salt cedar and Russian olive trees, including impacts to both groundwater and surface water;

(H) assess wildfire activity and management strategies;

(I) assess changes in wildlife habitat;

(J) determine conditions under which removal of biomass is appropriate (including optimal methods for the disposal or use of biomass); and

(K) assess economic and other impacts associated with control methods and the restoration and maintenance of land.

(e) DISPOSITION OF BIOMASS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall complete an analysis of economic means to use or dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of salt cedar and Russian olive trees.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The analysis shall—

(A) determine conditions under which removal of biomass is economically viable;

(B) consider and build upon existing research by the Department of Agriculture and other agencies on beneficial uses of salt cedar and Russian olive tree fiber; and

(C) consider economic development opportunities, including manufacture of wood products using biomass resulting from demonstration projects under subsection (d) as a means of defraying costs of control.

(f) COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to projects and activities carried out under this Act—

(A) the assessment under subsection (b) shall be carried out at a cost of not more than \$4,000,000;

(B) the identification and documentation of long-term management strategies under subsection (c) shall be carried out at a cost of not more than \$2,000,000;

(C) each demonstration project under subsection (d) shall be carried out at a Federal cost of not more than \$7,000,000 (including costs of planning, design, implementation, maintenance, and monitoring); and

(D) the analysis under subsection (e) shall be carried out at a cost of not more than \$3,000,000.

(2) COST-SHARING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The assessment under subsection (b), the identification and documentation of long-term management strategies under subsection (c), a demonstration project or portion of a demonstration project under subsection (d) that is carried out on Federal land, and the analysis under subsection (e) shall be carried out at full Federal expense.

(B) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS CARRIED OUT ON NON-FEDERAL LAND.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the costs of any demonstration project funded under subsection (d) that is not carried out on Federal land shall not exceed—

(I) 75 percent for each of the first 5 years of the demonstration project; and

(II) for the purpose of long-term monitoring, 100 percent for each of such 5-year extensions as the Secretary may grant.

(ii) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the costs of a demonstration project that is not carried out on Federal land

may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions, including services provided by a State agency or any other public or private partner.

(g) COOPERATION.—In carrying out the assessment under subsection (b), the demonstration projects under subsection (d), and the analysis under subsection (e), the Secretary shall cooperate with and use the expertise of Federal agencies and the other entities specified in subsection (d)(1) that are actively conducting research on or implementing salt cedar and Russian olive tree control activities.

(h) INDEPENDENT REVIEW.—The Secretary shall subject to independent review—

(1) the assessment under subsection (b);

(2) the identification and documentation of long-term management strategies under subsection (c);

(3) the demonstration projects under subsection (d); and

(4) the analysis under subsection (e).

(i) REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress an annual report that describes the results of carrying out this Act, including a synopsis of any independent review under subsection (h) and details of the manner and purposes for which funds are expended.

(2) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Secretary shall facilitate public access to all information that results from carrying out this Act.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—

(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

(2) \$15,000,000 for each subsequent fiscal year.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to further the purposes of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 by directing the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to carry out an assessment and demonstration program to control salt cedar and Russian olive, and for other purposes.”.

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

The bill (S. 1516), as amended, was passed.

HARPERS FERRY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT OF 2003

The bill (S. 1576) to revise the boundary of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time and passed; as follows:

S. 1576

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 “Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2003”.

SEC. 2. HARPERS FERRY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

The first section of the Act of June 30, 1944 (58 Stat. 645, chapter 328; 16 U.S.C. 450bb), is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. HARPERS FERRY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the ‘Secretary’) is authorized to acquire, by purchase from a willing seller with donated or appropriated funds, by donation, or by exchange, land or an interest in land within the boundaries as generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Boundary Map, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park’, numbered 385-80,021A, and dated April 1979.

“(b) BRADLEY AND RUTH NASH ADDITION.—The Secretary is authorized to acquire, by donation only, approximately 27 acres of land or interests in land that are outside the boundary of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Proposed Bradley and Ruth Nash Addition—Harpers Ferry National Historical Park’, numbered 385-80056, and dated April 1, 1989.

“(c) BOUNDARY EXPANSION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to acquire, by purchase from a willing seller with donated or appropriated funds, by donation, or by exchange, land or an interest in land within the area depicted as ‘Private Lands’ on the map entitled ‘Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Proposed Boundary Expansion,’ numbered 385/80,126, and dated July 14, 2003.

“(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

“(A) transfer to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (referred to in this Act as the ‘Park’) the land depicted on the map referred to in paragraph (1) as ‘U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lands’ and revise the boundary of the Park accordingly; and

“(B) revise the boundary of the Park to include the land depicted on the map referred to in paragraph (1) as ‘Appalachian NST’ and exclude that land from the boundary of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

“(d) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ACRES.—The number of acres of the Park shall not exceed 3,745.

“(e) MAPS.—The maps referred to in this section shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

“(f) ACQUIRED LAND.—Land or an interest in land acquired under this section shall become a part of the Park, subject to the laws (including regulations) applicable to the Park.

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

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

Sections 2 and 3 of the Act of June 30, 1944 (58 Stat. 646, chapter 328; 16 U.S.C. 450bb-1, 450bb-2), are amended by striking “Secretary of the Interior” each place it appears and inserting “Secretary”.

EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF A HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN THE STATE OF WYOMING

The bill (S. 1577) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Wyoming, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time and passed; as follows:

S. 1577

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.

Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 1651, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the