under threat. More than 200,000 acres of historically significant battlefield land remain unprotected and are threatened by development pressures. That is why I urge my colleagues to fully fund the Civil War Battlefield Protection Program. This arm of the National Park Service is an invaluable tool to preserve our Nation's history.

In 1990, Congress established the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, a blue-ribbon panel empowered to investigate the status of America's remaining Civil War battlefields. Congress also tasked the Commission with the mission of prioritizing these battlefields according to their historic importance and the threats to their survival. The Commission ultimately looked at the 10,000-plus battles and skirmishes of the Civil War and determined that 384 priority sites should be preserved. The results of the report were released in 1993 and they were not encouraging.

The 1993 Commission report recommended that Congress create a $10 million-a-year emergency program to save threatened Civil War battlefield land. The result was the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program. To date, the Preservation Program, working with its partners, has saved 14,100 acres of land in 15 States.

The key to the success of the Preservation Program is that it achieves battlefield preservation through collaborative partnerships between State and local governments, the private sector and nonprofit organizations, such as the Civil War Preservation Trust. Matching grants provided by the program protect lands outside of the National Park Service boundaries and do not add to the Park Service's maintenance costs.

But for the Preservation Program and their partners with the Civil War Preservation Trust, we would have lost key sites from such national shrines at Antietam. Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Harpers Ferry, Bentonville, Mansfield, and Champion Hill. Their names still haunt us to this day. Had the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program not intervened, the sites would have been lost forever to commercial and residential development. Now they have been protected for future generations to enjoy and learn about our Nation's history. They are islands of greenspace in a seemingly endless sea of commercial sprawl.

The need to protect our Nation's battlefields is far too great for any one well-intentioned Federal program. That is why the partnership with the Civil War Preservation Trust is so critical. This visionary preservation group is able to work with other foundations, State and local governments and their membership to match Federal funds by 100 percent. How often can we tout such an achievement with other Federal programs? The trust receives no financial gain from the Preservation Program and, working with their non-Federal partners, has raised more than $30 million to secure key battlefield sites in 15 States. They are in this fight for all the right reasons. This partnership truly serves as a model in bringing all stakeholders to the table to tackle pressing national issues.

For me, these hallowed grounds, these living memorials to the 620,000 Americans who sacrificed their lives to fight in the Civil War, have special, personal significance. Ancestors of mine fought on both sides during the war, including William Jewell, who was wounded in the Battle of Cedar Mountain in Culpeper County, VA, wounded again at Antietam and was finally killed in action at Chancellorsville on May 3, 1863. It is not every day you can visit these battlefield sites and have an immediate, direct connection with your ancestors. We must preserve these sites so that future generations might see and touch the very places where so many sacrifices were made, by soldiers and civilians alike, to settle the unresolved issues from the American Revolution of slavery and sovereignty. We are a stronger, more diverse and genuinely free nation because of these sacrifices.

I would remind my colleagues that the Preservation Program has enjoyed bipartisan, bicameral support since its creation. In 2002, program funding was authorized through the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act at the level recommended by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission—$10 million a year. The clock is ticking against these threatened historical sites given the pace of commercial development. Just last month, the Civil War Preservation Trust released its list of the 10 most threatened battlefield sites. Among them: Gettysburg; Fort Morgan, Alabama; Marietta, Georgia and three sites in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 5 years there may be little left to protect. That is why I am here today to urge my colleagues to join me in requesting the full, authorized amount for the Preservation Program. These Federal funds will leverage millions more in private and other charitable donations; thereby increasing the trust's ability to preserve more threatened battlefield sites.

When the ''Soldiers' National Cemetery'' was dedicated at the Gettysburg battlefield in November 1863, President Lincoln spoke eloquently of the imperative to honor those who had given their ''last full measure of devotion'' 4 months earlier. The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program allows us to carry on Lincoln's vision. I urge my colleagues to join me in seeking full funding for the program this fiscal year.

HONORING GARY J. LANG

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment today to honor the distinguished civil service career of a particularly remarkable senior law enforcement official. Mr. Gary J. Lang recently retired from his position as chief of staff of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the Department of Homeland Security and in doing so, this special agent will leave behind a legacy of exceptional accomplishment and dedication to his country.

Over the years, Mr. Lang has successfully handled a series of professional challenges that truly distinguish him as one of our Nation's outstanding leaders. His entry into the Federal service in 1978 as an investigator with the Food and Drug Administration began a tradition in law enforcement to protect the public interest that exists to this day.

From his time at the FDA, through the Defense Investigative Service, and as a special agent with the U.S. Customs Service working in south Florida during an era known for its smuggling, drug trafficking and the related criminal violence, Mr. Lang demonstrated courage, honesty, and leadership in positions of increasing responsibility that have become defining characteristics of his career. He earned the respect of his colleagues and supervisors for his operational and managerial expertise in the field.

The Hill benefited from Mr. Lang's expert Federal law enforcement knowledge during the more than 4 years he spent supporting me through his work on various committees, including serving as special assistant for the Caucus on International Narcotics Control, as well as his time working with staff on the Judiciary and Finance Committees. The positive impact Gary had upon our initiatives through his expertise, dedication and memorable dignity was truly meaningful to me and our work effort.

More recently, in a headquarters management position as deputy executive director of operations/transition teams, Mr. Lang participated at the very center of the decision making that defined the investigative role the DHS would have in its mission to protect the public against acts of terror, and resulted in the creation of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the second largest investigative agency in the Federal Government. And, as a senior executive, Mr. Lang served as assistant director for ICE's Office of Investigations, managing the operational activities of a staff of 7,000 across the Nation and around the world.

Mr. Lang most recently served as the chief of staff at ICE, where he spearheaded the advancement of the Assistant Secretary's mission-critical goals across the full spectrum of the agency's operations and administrative lines of business, through its staff of 16,000. He worked diligently to ensure that ICE maximizes the application of its strategic resources to enforce U.S. trade and immigration laws and to target and neutralize national-level homeland security risks under ICE's legal authorities. Mr. Lang leads by example, by holding himself and others accountable in achieving ICE's highest

priority goals, in demanding a proactive approach in addressing emerging homeland security issues, and by setting the standard for dedication, morale and integrity throughout the ICE workforce.

Mr. Lang has distinguished himself at every level of Federal law enforcement and has engendered respect and appreciation from subordinates, peers, and leadership alike. I am glad to be able to congratulate him and honor his memorable career as it comes to a close after nearly 29 years in the Federal Government. We on the Hill wish both Gary and his wonderful wife Karyn the very best of luck for the future and thank them for their years of public service.

MATTHEW SHEPARD ACT

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On March 20, 2007, in Polk County, FL, Ryan Skipper, a gay man, picked up William Brown walking along the side of the road. Some time later Brown stabbed Skipper to death, then bragged about the killing. According to police, witnesses have said that Brown and another man planned the murder in advance and that their motivation was based on Skipper's sexual orientation.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Matthew Shepard Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

PEARL HARBOR

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, 2,403 American servicemembers lost their lives during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The men and women who survived that day of infamy led the United States, and our Allies, to victory in the Pacific during World War II.

Today I would like to specifically honor four of those survivors, the members of the North Dakota Pearl Harbor Survivor's Association. This group of four active members helps keep the memory of those who served so bravely alive: John Martin of Bismarck, ND; Clem Lonski of Jamestown, ND; Harold Bruchwein of Wahpeton, ND; and Agnes Shurr of Grand Forks, ND.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, my fellow North Dakotans, and all Americans, I would like to commend and thank these four individuals not only for their bravery and valor in leading the fight over fascism 60 years ago, but also for their commitment and dedication to keep alive the memory of those who gave their lives in defense of freedom on December 7, 1941.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING WNIT CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, today I commend the University of Wyoming Cowgirls on winning the 2007 Women's National Invitation Tournament.

On March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming women's basketball team won this exciting national tournament by defeating the University of Wisconsin team by a score of 72–56. They made it to the final by defeating Kansas State in triple overtime.

This historic win was the first WNIT championship for the Cowgirls and was witnessed by a record crowd of over 15,000 fans at the University of Wyoming Arena-Auditorium.

But as any Cowgirl fan can tell you, this victory was the result of months of hard practice, courageous leadership by the players and coaches, and a commitment to excellence both on the court and in the classroom. The teamwork and discipline demonstrated all year by the Wyoming Cowgirls allowed them to be successful on game day. And we do not have to look far to see examples of this success: This year, the Wyoming Cowgirls won the most games in program history, including thrilling late-game comebacks and overtime wins. Equally as important, however, they earned the respect of women's basketball programs across the Nation.

I am proud to stand here today on the floor of the Senate and congratulate the University of Wyoming Cowgirls on a championship season and recognize the student athletes, coaches, faculty, and fans who were essential in achieving this great victory.

MORE WATER, MORE ENERGY, LESS WASTE ACT

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, on Monday my colleagues, Senator BINGAMAN, Senator DOMENICI, Senator THOMAS and I introduced legislation, S. 1116, the More Water, More Energy, and Less Waste Act of 2007, to facilitate the use of water produced in connection with development of energy resources for irrigation and other beneficial uses in ways that will not adversely affect water quality or the environment.

The bill is similar to one that has been introduced during this Congress in the House by Representative MARK UDALL, H.R. 902, More Water and More Energy Act of 2007.

The bill's purpose is to help turn what is today an energy-industry problem into an opportunity. The development of energy resources frequently results in bringing to the surface water from underground sources. Energy producers seek to minimize the waters that are produced during extraction operations, but inevitably waters are produced and they must either be treated before being released to the surface or returned to the ground. In a few cases, the waters are clean enough to be used for livestock watering, irrigation or other beneficial purposes.

Especially in the water-short West, increasing the amount of water that can be used without adversely affecting water quality or the environment can increase water supplies for irrigation of crops, livestock watering, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. Everyone will benefit from increased supplies of useable water, even if the supplies are temporary in nature, provided that the new water is of good quality and will not adversely affect the environment now or in the future.

Our bill would do two things:

First, it would direct the Commissioner of Reclamation, the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a study to identify the technical, economic, environmental, and other obstacles to, one, reducing the quantity of produced water and, two, increasing the extent to which produced water can be used for irrigation and other purposes, without adversely affecting water quality or the environment, during or after energy development. The study would consider the legislative, administrative, and other actions that could reduce or eliminate those obstacles and the costs and benefits associated with reducing or eliminating those obstacles. Results of the study are to be reported to Congress within a year after enactment.

Second, it would provide grants for at least five projects to demonstrate, one, ways to optimize energy resource production by reducing the quantity of produced water generated or, two, feasibility, effectiveness, and safety of processes to increase the extent to which produced water may be recovered and made suitable for use for irrigation, municipal, or industrial uses, or other purposes without adversely affecting water quality or the environment.

The bill directs these pilot plants to be located in each of the Upper Basin States of the Colorado River, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico, and in at least one of the Lower Basin States of the Colorado River, Arizona, Nevada or California. This is to assure that, together, the projects would demonstrate techniques applicable to a variety of geologic and other conditions.

Under the bill, the Federal Government could pay up to half the cost of building each plant. However, no more than $1 million would be paid for anyone project, and no Federal funds would be used for operating the projects.

In the water-short West, the produced waters are a virtually untapped resource, and the benefits of using them for irrigation and other purposes could be substantial. It is estimated