

left the Scouts shortly before attaining the rank of tenderfoot.

I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and the professional staff for moving this bill along expeditiously, and thank my friend from Hawaii for his efforts on this particular legislation, and thank the gentleman from Oklahoma for having a wonderful bill. I urge Members to support this particular legislation.

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support for H.R. 2675, the HALE Scouts Act. This bill would grant the U.S. Forest Service authority to sell roughly 140 acres of land to the Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts, which is adjacent to the Scout's summer camp, Camp Tom Hale located in Tahina, OK. The Council is a nonprofit organization providing educational programs for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

The camp first opened in June 1930 to serve Boy Scouts in the McAlester, Oklahoma area. It was originally located at what is now Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton, Oklahoma. In 1963, the Boy Scout Council in McAlester worked with the State of Oklahoma and the U.S. Forest Service to exchange the camp at Robbers Cave for 480 acres of wilderness area in the Ouachita National Forest. This "new" Camp Hale has continued as a summer adventure camp serving thousands of scouts during the intervening 41 years. In 1997, the Council board developed a strategic plan for a \$3.5 million expansion and renovation of the camp. Since then, the Council has spent in excess of \$1 million continually updating and expanding facilities to meet the needs of scouts. As a result, a renewed emphasis on wilderness and the outdoors has flourished, with over 6,000 scouts and leaders from a five state area attending weekly sessions offered in June and July and enjoying the beautiful Ouachita Forest. Attendance has now exceeded the maximum number of available campsites and program areas, which is causing Camp Hale to begin turning away hundreds of scouts each summer.

It is now critical for camp growth that the boundaries be extended to include more area for camping and additional program and training services. Successful completion of this objective will allow the Boy Scouts to continue the expansion of outdoor and leadership training for thousands of youth living in the Central Southwest and bring additional usage and enjoyment of the Ouachita Forest to more families. I greatly appreciate this body's consideration of this measure, and urge my colleagues support.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I can't spot any more tenderfeet on the floor, and so we will yield back our time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2675, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### UTAH NATIONAL GUARD READINESS ACT

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3651) to require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3651

*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 "Utah National Guard Readiness Act".*

#### SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCE, CAMP WILLIAMS, UTAH.

(a) *CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.*—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management, shall convey, without consideration, to the State of Utah all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain lands comprising approximately 431 acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Proposed Camp Williams Land Transfer" and dated March 7, 2008, which are located within the boundaries of the public lands currently withdrawn for military use by the Utah National Guard and known as Camp Williams, Utah, for the purpose of permitting the Utah National Guard to use the conveyed land as provided in subsection (c).

(b) *REVOCATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER.*—Executive Order 1922 of April 24, 1914, as amended by section 907 of the Camp W.G. Williams Land Exchange Act of 1989 (title IX of Public Law 101-628; 104 Stat. 4501), shall be revoked, only insofar as it affects the lands identified for conveyance to the State of Utah under subsection (a).

(c) *REVERSIONARY INTEREST.*—The lands conveyed to the State of Utah under subsection (a) shall revert to the United States if the Secretary of the Interior determines that the land, or any portion thereof, is sold or attempted to be sold, or that the land, or any portion thereof, is used for non-National Guard or non-national defense purposes. Any determination by the Secretary of the Interior under this subsection shall be made in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Governor of Utah and on the record after an opportunity for comment.

(d) *HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.*—With respect to any portion of the land conveyed under subsection (a) that the Secretary of the Interior determines is subject to reversion under subsection (c), if the Secretary of the Interior also determines that the portion of the conveyed land contains hazardous materials, the State of Utah shall pay the United States an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the land, and the reversionary interest shall not apply to that portion of the land.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3651 was introduced by the ranking member on the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee, Representative BISHOP. The legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain identified public lands to the State of Utah for use by the Utah National Guard. The land would revert to the United States should it ever cease to be used by the National Guard.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend my colleague and friend, Representative BISHOP, for his leadership in this matter and his willingness to work with the committee to resolve issues raised in earlier consideration of the legislation. I am sure that I speak for Chairman RAHALL in that regard, and most certainly his fellow members on the Resources Committee. Therefore, I have no objection to the passage of H.R. 3651; and, in fact, enthusiastically endorse it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3651, the Utah National Guard Readiness Act, was cosponsored by the entire Utah delegation. There are only three of us, but we all agreed. So Mr. MATHESON, Mr. CANNON, and I are sponsoring this bill, as requested by the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard as well as the Governor of the State of Utah, in order to address the long-term growing pains of the National Guard at their Camp Williams headquarters.

The Utah National Guard has run out of State-controlled land on which to expand and build and support its vital national guard and national defense missions.

The lands transferred under this act are already withdrawn from military use by the Guard from the Bureau of Land Management. So placing the land in the State's name for use by the National Guard will allow for the consolidation of ownership patterns in the critical headquarters area, and allow the State of Utah to bond for future Guard facilities in a more streamlined and cost-effective manner.

I thank the chairman of our committee, Mr. RAHALL, and his staff, for working on this bill and moving it forward. I also thank the subcommittee chairman, Mr. GRIJALVA, for his assistance and that of the subcommittee professional staff.

In this day and age, we are asking the National Guardsmen to do more

and more heavy lifting for our Nation's defense and in deploying overseas in armed conflict. At the same time, we are asking them to also be on the frontlines in protect the homeland, and also to be there for our States and communities in times of emergency or natural disasters. We ask a lot of them, and they deliver.

This bill will allow our Utah National Guard to support its future mission growth in meeting these challenges. It is a small thing for us to be able to help them down the road in meeting their obligations. I thank my colleagues for consideration of this bill, and I strongly urge its adoption.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Armed Services Committee, and as chairman of the Air Land Subcommittee of that committee, I particularly want to commend Mr. BISHOP for his remarks regarding the National Guard deployments and our obligations to them. And in recognition of that, I would like his remarks to be incorporated as my own with regard to his bill. With his permission I would like to do that.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I think the gentleman from Hawaii could have done it much more artfully than I did, but I will be happy to allow him to do that.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3651, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### LOWER COLORADO RIVER MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM ACT

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2515) to authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2515

*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 "Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Act".*

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act:*

(1) **LOWER COLORADO RIVER MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM.**—The term "Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Pro-

gram" or "LCR MSCP" means the cooperative effort on the Lower Colorado River between Federal and non-Federal entities in Arizona, California, and Nevada approved by the Secretary of the Interior on April 2, 2005.

(2) **LOWER COLORADO RIVER.**—The term "Lower Colorado River" means the Colorado River from Lake Mead to the Southerly International Boundary with Mexico, including its historic floodplain and its mainstem reservoirs to their full pool elevations.

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

(4) **STATES.**—The term "States" means each of the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada.

#### SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION AND WATER ACCOUNTING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary is authorized to participate in the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program.

(b) **WATER ACCOUNTING.**—The Secretary is authorized to enter into an agreement with the States providing for the use of water from the Lower Colorado River for habitat creation and maintenance.

#### SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to participate in the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, to remain available until expended.

(b) **NONREIMBURSABLE AND NONRETURNABLE.**—All amounts appropriated to and expended by the Secretary for the LCR MSCP shall be nonreimbursable and nonreturnable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hawaii.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2515, as introduced by our colleague and friend, Representative Dean Heller, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the multi-species habitat conservation plan on the lower 400 miles of the Colorado River. The States of Nevada, Arizona and California, along with several major water districts, are participants and funding partners in this program.

As amended, this legislation is not controversial and should be supported. And I might say, Madam Speaker, exhibits the multiple responsibilities of the Resources Committee and the really extraordinary complications and details that have to be considered when such legislation comes forward. It is a tribute to the staffs of the members on the committee, and most particularly the professional staff of the Resources Committee, that this legislation is able to be compiled, understood and comprehended by the members, and then

brought forward to the body as a whole in a way that advances the public interest.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This particular bill helps solve the conundrum that we face in the protection and conservation of certain species: For example, the bony-tailed chub, the razorback sucker, and the humpback chub.

H.R. 2515, introduced by Dean Heller of Nevada and Harry Mitchell of Arizona, is an amended bipartisan measure aimed at protecting endangered species while keeping the waters running and the lights on for consumers in the Southwest.

As amended at the committee level, this bill has been scaled back, but still codifies a very popular multi-species habitat conservation plan on the Lower Colorado River. I note that some water and power supply organizations support key provisions taken out by the majority. However, in the interest of moving this bill forward, they support the passage of this bill with the hope that the final bill signed into law will better resemble the original legislation.

At a time when our water supply is being diminished due to a number of factors, this bill—although somewhat incomplete—is still a win-win for our water and power consumers.

I have no additional speakers, and I am prepared to yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I observed that Mr. BISHOP was looking directly at me when he recited, with a look that I can only determine as "gleeful," he cited the razorback sucker and the bonytail chub. I am not sure whether I was being categorized by him in the sucker category or the chub category, or he was gazing at me metaphorically.

Do you suppose he might be able to answer that for me.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. I will yield.

Mr. BISHOP of UTAH. I have certainly never thought of the gentleman as either a razorback or a bonytail.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, it is now clear for me.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2515, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.