

OPA, that was established in 1990 to include the Clam Pass Conservation Area. Private land owners indicated that these lands were never held within the conservation area, and were erroneously included in the OPA. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, after completing an exhaustive investigation, agreed that these areas, in fact, were added in error.

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fully supports this technical correction legislation which will also add approximately 68 acres of undeveloped land to the OPA that were previously omitted. In addition, Mr. Speaker, the new map that would be adopted also has been certified as accurate by all local authorities.

Again, I ask my colleagues to support passage of this noncontroversial bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1714, introduced by Congressman CONNIE MACK of Florida, corrects an honest mapping mistake made in the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990. Under current law, only Congress can add or delete property from the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

Under this bill, 48 acres of previously held land would be removed from the system, which would allow the affected homeowners to qualify for Federal flood insurance. We would be making this change because this property is not contained within the designated Clam Pass Conservation Area, these are not inholdings, and these lands were never held for conservation or recreation purposes.

We would be providing this relief because this bill satisfies the threshold of being a legitimate mapping mistake. The Fish and Wildlife Service testified in support of this technical correction, and the new implementing map would add 65 acres of conservation land to the Coastal Barrier Resources System that was overlooked when the unit was originally created. As a result, the net effect of H.R. 1714 is to actually increase the size of the system by 17 acres.

I would urge an “aye” vote on H.R. 1714.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this legislation. Again, I want to thank my colleague from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for supporting this noncontroversial piece of legislation, and I urge Members to support the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1714.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FISH STOCKING IN NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX LAKES

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3227) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3227

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

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to authorize the National Park Service to allow the stocking of fish in certain lakes under certain conditions in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

SEC. 2. STOCKING OF CERTAIN LAKES IN NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK, ROSS LAKE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, AND LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, may authorize the stocking of fish in lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.*

(b) *CONDITIONS.*—*The following conditions shall apply to stocking of lakes under subsection (a):*

(1) *The Secretary is authorized to allow stocking in up to, but not to exceed, 42 lakes. The 42 lakes which may be stocked are those lakes identified for potential stocking under Alternative B of the 2005 North Cascades National Park Service Complex Mountain Lakes Fishery Management Plan Draft.*

(2) *The Secretary shall only stock fish that are—*

(A) *native to the slope of the Cascade Range on which the lake to be stocked is located; and*

(B) *functionally sterile.*

(3) *The Secretary is authorized to coordinate the stocking of fish with the State of Washington.*

(c) *REPORTS.*—*The Secretary shall continue a program of research and monitoring of the impacts of fish stocking on park resources and shall report the results of such research and monitoring to the appropriate committees of Congress every 5 years.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in 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 gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3227 authorizes the National Park Serv-

ice to stock fish in the North Cascades National Park, the Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area. These lakes do not naturally contain fish, but fish stocking has been conducted in these lakes periodically since the late 1800s.

The North Cascades National Park is currently working on the Mountain Lake Fisheries Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement that evaluates fish stocking in the park. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement found that fish stocking could only take place in these lakes if the National Park Service was granted the authority to do so by Congress. During committee consideration of H.R. 3227, changes were made to the bill to incorporate suggestions from the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objections to H.R. 3227.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman DOC HASTINGS of Washington State and the cosponsors of this bill should be congratulated for their efforts to ensure continuation of a long-standing and highly successful program that creates fishing opportunities in the North Cascades region.

For over 100 years, 91 of the 245 lakes in the North Cascades Complex have been stocked with fish. This has created recreational opportunities that are important to the quality of life and the region and help sustain the local economy.

I urge support for the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this legislation. Again, I want to thank the gentleman from South Carolina for his cooperation in managing these three bills this afternoon on the floor.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3227, legislation to allow for the continued stocking of fish in certain alpine lakes in the North Cascades National Park Complex, including the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

Many of these lakes have been stocked since the turn of the 20th century, long before they became part of the National Park complex. For decades, volunteer groups, working with the State of Washington, have stocked trout in a number of lakes in this area under carefully constructed management plans written by State and Park Service biologists. In addition, congressional consideration of the creation of the North Cascades National Park points to allowing fish stocking.

In order to protect this longstanding practice in the North Cascades, I introduced H.R. 3227 to ensure that fish stocking can continue. While I believe the original text of this bill provided the clearest path to the protection and continuation of fish stocking, I am also confident that this amended text also fully ensures the stocking of fish in these lakes.

I would like to briefly mention two of the changes to the legislation. First, the amended version of H.R. 3227 reduces the number of lakes that can be studied from 91, which is the number of lakes that have historically had fish stocking, to 42. I believe this reduction was unnecessary but am supporting it to ensure the advancement of this legislation. In my view, it should be left up to scientists in the Park Service and the State of Washington to decide which lakes should be stocked. Congress does not have the proper science to study which lakes are best and, therefore, we should not be arbitrarily limiting the number of lakes that can be studied.

The changes made in the Resources Committee also limited the type of fish that can be used to stock the lakes. After working with the National Park Service and the State of Washington, my original legislation was drafted to allow fish that are either native to the watershed or functionally sterile to be used. The version before us today states that the fish have to be both native to the Cascade Range and functionally sterile. The one word change from "or" to "and" puts a needless burden on those who stock the lakes. Those involved with fish stocking want to ensure that the lakes and the surrounding area are kept in pristine condition. In addition, the National Park Service and the State of Washington are the only entities with the authority to stock the lakes. Again, it is my view that these decisions should be left up to science and the people working in the North Cascades to decide what fish are both safe for the environment and the best for stocking. This change will only serve to increase the cost and the effort needed to stock the lakes of the North Cascades—but such a compromise moves this bill forward.

Despite my disagreement on the wisdom of changes made to this legislation, I am pleased that the House has the opportunity to pass H.R. 3227 today. Although the version before us is far from perfect, it does allow fish stocking to rightfully continue in the North Cascades. Compromise is never easy, and at times it produces a diminished product. That is the case today. However, I can support it as a result of bipartisan negotiations and agreement. But, more importantly, I can support it because it provides firm protections to continue fish stocking where it was always intended to be allowed.

Finally, I would like to thank many of my Washington state colleagues who cosponsored H.R. 3227, including RICK LARSEN, NORM DICKS, and CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, BRIAN BAIRD and ADAM SMITH. I especially would like to note the assistance provided by NORM DICKS, whose involvement in this issue goes back to his time as a staff member in Congress. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation to make sure that my constituents and many other residents of Washington and our surrounding States can continue to enjoy the recreation opportunities created by fish stocking in the North Cascades.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3227, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 984) expressing support for the designation of July 26, 2008 as "National Day of the Cowboy".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 984

Whereas pioneering men and women, known as cowboys, helped establish the American West;

Whereas the cowboy embodies honesty, integrity, courage, compassion, respect, a strong work ethic, and patriotism;

Whereas the cowboy spirit exemplifies strength of character, sound family values, and good common sense;

Whereas the cowboy archetype transcends ethnicity, gender, geographic boundaries, and political affiliation;

Whereas the cowboy is an excellent steward of the land and its creatures;

Whereas the cowboy lives off the land and works to protect and enhance the environment;

Whereas cowboy traditions have been part of the American culture for generations;

Whereas the cowboy continues to be an important part of the economy, through the work of approximately 727,000 ranchers in all 50 States, and contributes to the well-being of nearly every county in the Nation;

Whereas annual attendance at professional and working ranch rodeo events exceeds 27,000,000 fans, and the rodeo is the 7th most watched sport in the Nation;

Whereas membership and participation in rodeo and other organizations that promote and encompass the livelihood of the cowboy spans race, gender, and generations;

Whereas the cowboy is a central figure in literature, film, and music, and occupies a central place in the public imagination;

Whereas the cowboy is an American icon; and

Whereas the ongoing contributions made by cowboys and cowgirls to their communities should be recognized and encouraged: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses support for the designation of a "National Day of the Cowboy"; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I stand to join my colleagues in the consideration of H. Res. 984 which supports the designation of July 26, 2008, as National Day of the Cowboy.

H. Res. 984 was introduced by Representative GABRIELLE GIFFORDS of Arizona on February 13, 2008, and since then, the bill has garnered the support and cosponsorship of 52 Members of Congress, both men and women, from both sides of the aisle. The measure was considered and passed by voice vote out of the Oversight Committee on June 12, 2008.

Mr. Speaker, it is reasonable to assert that our great country wouldn't be what it is today without the significant influences of the cowboy. This is why each year a day is set aside for Americans to celebrate the contributions of the cowboy and cowgirl to our Nation's culture and heritage. With the advocacy of the National Day of the Cowboy Organization for the past several years, the National Day of the Cowboy has been celebrated by the public through education, the arts, special events, rodeos, and other community activities.

This year, July 26 has been selected as the day for honoring and preserving the rich history of the cowboy settlement in the American West, an act that forever changed the landscape of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Arizona for introducing this thoughtful measure, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in celebrating the American cowboys and cowgirls by agreeing to pass H. Res. 984.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the resolution designating July 26, 2008, as the National Day of the Cowboy.

For the last 3 years on the last Saturday of July, people across America gathered to honor one of the greatest icons of our Nation, the American cowboy. National Day of the Cowboy first emerged in July of 2005 in large part to the efforts of the late United States Senator Craig Thomas of Wyoming.

Cowboys are the original heroes of American culture. From the earliest western settlers to present-day ranchers and cattlemen, their tireless courage, integrity, and adventurous spirit has made them a symbol of values that built this great Nation.

Their trade nourishes our bodies as well as our souls. The values inspire each of us. From Maine to California, from twisted urban streets to the vast, open plains, Americans envy and respect those who each day, ride off into the sunset.