

For almost a decade, the USGS has partnered with a nonprofit organization called AmericaView to help citizens, researchers, and public agencies solve real world problems using satellite imagery. Over these years, the USGS has provided satellite data and grants to AmericaView. AmericaView, in turn, has supported a network of university partners now in a total of 36 states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Thanks to this outreach program, a great trove of satellite data and information, which is archived at the USGS Earth Resources Observation Data Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is put to work throughout our country. Each state program tailors its efforts to each state's needs, applying the data for use in a range of useful activities, including science education projects, the calculation of drought effects, designing irrigation protocols, or planning flood response. In short, USGS is enabling an amazing and varied array of remote sensing data applications through these ongoing outreach efforts and partnerships.

Despite receiving appropriations in past fiscal years, the USGS geospatial imagery outreach program has never formally been authorized. Passing this legislation today will officially authorize the USGS' existing outreach activities, helping to boost the program's recognition, expand the program to additional states and territories, and provide for Congressional direction and oversight.

The legislation before us today was amended in Committee to reflect input from the Department of Interior and colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and I'd like to thank the Administration and my colleagues for their willingness to work together on this bill. I'd also like to recognize the contributions of our former colleague, Representative Ralph Regula of Ohio, who introduced this legislation in the previous Congress.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2489, the National Land Remote Sensing Outreach Act.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and 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. 2489, 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. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. 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.

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARY EXPANSION

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1471) to expand the boundary of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, to redesignate the unit as a National Historical Park, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1471

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

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.

Section 1 of Public Law 100-206 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (3) and inserting:

“(3) preserve and interpret a southern agricultural-based rural community during the early to middle years of the 20th century.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “map entitled ‘Jimmy Carter National Historic Site and Preservation District Boundary Map’, numbered NHS-JC-80000, and dated April 1987” and inserting “map titled ‘Jimmy Carter National Historical Park and Preservation District, Proposed Boundary Map’, numbered 330/80,019, and dated September 2009”;

(3) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking “and described more particularly as follows—” and inserting “or is needed to enhance the visitor experience, and includes—”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “15” and inserting “18”;

(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking “Carter.” and inserting “Carter, and properties in the vicinity of the residence along West Church Street that are needed for administrative and visitor uses and to protect scenic values, not to exceed 10 acres;”;

(E) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(G) the Billy Carter Service Station at 104 West Church Street, consisting of less than one acre;

“(H) the property at 147 Old Plains Highway, known locally as the ‘Haunted House’, where Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter resided from 1956 to 1961, consisting of approximately one acre;

“(I) the Georgia Welcome Center on State Route 280/27, consisting of approximately 18 acres; and

“(J) two corridors of land no wider than 50 feet each between the Georgia Welcome Center and the President Carter boyhood home for the purpose of establishing walking and biking trails while using, to the greatest extent practicable, the right-of-way for the Shoreline Excursion Train.”;

(4) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) after subparagraph (B), insert the following:

“(C) by donation only, other lands and interests in lands in the environs of Plains containing natural, cultural, or historic resources consistent with the purposes of the national historical park which, upon acquisition, shall be included in and administered as part of the national historical park.”; and

(5) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “, the Georgia Welcome Center (referred to in sub-

section (b)(2)(I)),” after “subsection (b)(2)(A))”.

SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION AS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—Public Law 100-206 is amended—

(1) by striking “National Historic Site” each place it appears and inserting “National Historical Park”;

(2) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “national historical park”;

(3) in the section heading of section 1, by striking “NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”;

(4) in the subsection heading of section 1(b), by striking “NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”; and

(5) in the section heading of section 3, by striking “HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the “Jimmy Carter National Historic Site” shall be deemed a reference to the “Jimmy Carter National Historical Park”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Public Law 100-206 is further amended by striking section 7.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) 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 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, the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in Plains, Georgia, was established in 1987 to preserve the boyhood home and current residence of our 39th President. The former President and his wife have a lifetime tenancy in their home and are actively involved in the work of the park.

The pending measure would expand the current boyhood homesite from 15 acres to 18 acres and allow the National Park Service to acquire several additional properties. The bill would also redesignate the park from a national historic site to a national historical park.

Mr. Speaker, the sponsor of this legislation, Representative SANFORD BISHOP, is to be commended for his commitment to preserving this important piece of Presidential history. This is an excellent piece of legislation, and I urge Members to support it.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that President Carter is heavily involved in the land acquisition and park expansion authorized in this legislation. We have been made aware that one of the properties included in the expansion is a haunted house. This is no Halloween trick. The currently dilapidated structure will be rehabilitated by the National Park Service and eventually be made available to show the public where President Carter lived before his current estate was constructed.

I am also aware that President Carter is an avid hunter. He likes to stalk deer, dove, quail, turkey, and even the occasional squirrel. Fortunately, with the passage of an important Republican gun rights amendment to the Credit Card Reform Act last spring, President Carter will be able to legally transport his firearms to and from his home and clean and load his firearms on his compound within the national park without fear of violating Federal law when this provision goes into effect in February 2010.

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Right now, other Americans and the other 391 National Park units would be subject to criminal penalties for these actions.

President Carter has an excellent relationship with the National Park Service, which should be preserved. After all, the agency has the duty to preserve the legacy of his 4 years as President through the conservation of his high school, boyhood home and even his current residence within the park. The National Park Service dutifully handles many important tasks, including the day-to-day maintenance of his property and even of mowing his lawn.

Finally, it has been said that these new acquisitions will complete the story of Mr. Carters life. This is a noble goal. I can only assume that is why the legislation also includes the Federal takeover of Billy Carter's gas station.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1471, which will expand and revitalize the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, which is located in Plains, Georgia.

My Congressional District in Southwest Georgia includes Plains. Therefore I am pleased to sponsor this bipartisan legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives which, if passed, will bolster the local economy, enhance tourism, and provide people from around the world with a new insight into the life and career of the 39th President of the United States.

H.R. 1471 will expand the national historic site's authorized boundaries from 15 acres to 18 acres and would allow the National Park Service to acquire several additional properties for the park, including a house that the Carter family lived in from 1956–1961. Additionally, the legislation will redesignate the park from a national historic site to a national historical park. It also would direct that the park service preserves, and interprets, a southern agricultural-based rural community during the early to middle years of the 20th century.

Last August, I took my whole staff on a visit to the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, including his boyhood home and school, so they could get a better feel and understanding of the values that shaped this great Georgian. We listened to the messages recorded by the former President that tell visitors of his experiences as a child and young man and how they influenced his views and values. After touring the Depression-era farm, home and school where he grew into manhood, every one of my staff members, including a number from Georgia and several who are not, told me they were inspired by what they learned about the life of Jimmy Carter, just as I have been.

The eventual passage of this bill will ensure that the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site has the resources it needs to continue to inspire generation after generation of visitors. Additionally, the investments made in this property will positively impact the economic development of Plains and the surrounding Sumter County by providing increased opportunities for tourism.

The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site already does a remarkable job of helping people to understand the values that shaped this great Georgian. This bill will ensure that the site will continue to inspire generations of visitors, as well as grow and positively impact the economies of Plains. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1471.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and 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. 1471, 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.

STEPHEN MATHER WILDERNESS AND NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2806) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park in order to allow the rebuilding of a road outside of the floodplain while ensuring that there is no net loss of acreage to the Park or the Wilderness, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2806

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) In 1988, 93 percent of the North Cascades National Park Complex was designated the Stephen Mather Wilderness.

(2) A road corridor was deliberately excluded from the wilderness designation to provide for the continued use and maintenance of the upper Stehekin Valley Road.

(3) The upper Stehekin Valley Road provides access to Stephen Mather Wilderness trailheads and North Cascades National Park from the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

(4) Record flooding in 1995 and again in 2003 caused severe damage to the upper Stehekin Valley Road and led to the closure of a 9.9-mile section of the road between Car Wash Falls and Cottonwood Camp.

(5) The National Park Service currently does not have the flexibility to rebuild the upper Stehekin Valley Road away from the Stehekin River due to the current location of the non-wilderness road corridor provided by Congress in 1988.

(6) It is a high priority that the people of the United States, including families, the disabled, and the elderly, have reasonable access to the National Parks system and their public lands.

(7) The 1995 Lake Chelan National Recreation Area General Management Plan calls for retaining vehicle access to Cottonwood Camp.

(8) Tourism associated with the North Cascades National Park Complex is an important part of the economy for rural communities in the area.

(9) Additional management flexibility would allow the National Park Service to consider retention of the upper Stehekin Valley Road in a manner that provides for no net loss of wilderness.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.

The Washington Park Wilderness Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-668) is amended by inserting after section 206 the following:

“SEC. 207. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR ROAD.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may adjust the boundaries of the North Cascades National Park and the Stephen Mather Wilderness in order to provide a corridor of not more than 100 feet in width along which the Stehekin Valley Road may be rebuilt—

“(1) outside of the floodplain between milepost 12.9 and milepost 22.8;

“(2) within one mile of the route, on the date of the enactment of this section, of the Stehekin Valley Road;

“(3) within the boundaries of the North Cascades National Park; and

“(4) outside of the boundaries of the Stephen Mather Wilderness.

“(b) NO NET LOSS OF LANDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The boundary adjustments made under this section shall be such that equal amounts of federally owned acreage are exchanged between the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park, resulting in no net loss of acreage to either the Stephen Mather Wilderness or the North Cascades National Park.

“(2) STEHEKIN VALLEY ROAD LANDS.—The newly designated wilderness shall include the lands along the route of the Stehekin Valley Road that are replaced by the reconstruction.

“(3) EQUALIZATION OF LAND.—If the lands described in paragraph (2) contain fewer acres than the corridor described in subsection (a), the Secretary may designate additional Federal lands in the North Cascades National Park as wilderness, but such designation may not exceed the amount needed to equalize the exchange and these additional lands must be selected from lands that qualify as wilderness under section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131(c)).

“(c) NO SALE OR ACQUISITION AUTHORIZED.—Nothing in this Act authorizes the sale or acquisition of any land or interest in land.