

5. (purpose of the work).
6. (locations on the property where work is to be done).
7. (approximate frequency of aircraft flights along lines of sight for temperature and pressure measurements, in connection with geodimeter or similar work, if applicable).

We will make every effort to minimize disturbance or disruption to your property. However, in the unlikely event that property damage results, you are entitled to file a claim to recover your damages (tort claim). Please contact (insert name and telephone number of tort claims contact) immediately if property damage should occur.

If you have any questions about this program of the U.S. Geological Survey, you may contact (insert name of chief of project) at the following telephone number: (insert number).

If you consent to this request, please sign below and (list method of return, e.g., envelope provided, leave at a designated location, etc.). Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
(Signature and Printed Name of Requestor).

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, we agree with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle that proper protocol should be followed. I again ask our colleagues to support this legislation.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady for yielding me this time and also for her help and support with this legislation. I also want to thank the gentleman from California and the members on the Natural Resources Committee for their bipartisan support of the Upper Mississippi River protection bill.

As the gentlelady indicated, this has passed the previous Congresses. We're working with the Senate to finally get it to the President so it can be enacted.

And to address a couple other concerns—and we've worked in a bipartisan fashion on this bill—there is concern about privacy protection and data collection. We feel that what has been worked out is a reasonable compromise to ensure that privacy but also, more importantly, that there is buy-in of private landowners which will be crucial for the implementation of this legislation.

What we're trying to do is put the science in place in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The greatest threat that this great national treasure that we have running through the middle of America, comprising roughly 50 percent of the landmass of our Nation, is the amount of nutrients and sediments that flow into the river basin doing incalculable ecological damage. We've heard of the stories of the dead zone being created in the Gulf of Mexico. Well, 40 percent of the nutrients that are flowing south through the river and ending up deposited in the Gulf, contributing to the dead zone, emanates in the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

What we want to do is utilize the expertise that exists at USGS so that

they can do better monitoring of sediment and nutrient flows and develop computer models so we can identify the hot spots, and then utilize the resources that are available to target those hot spots to prevent the increased flow of sediment and nutrients into the river basin.

This has received wide support in the Upper Mississippi River region. All five of the State Governors in the Upper Mississippi region have endorsed this. The Mississippi River Basin has endorsed it. Countless outdoor recreational groups, such as Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, the Nature Conservancy have endorsed this approach, because it is a vital national treasure that we must do more to preserve and protect.

The Mississippi River affects over 30 million people who rely upon it for their primary drinking source. It is North America's largest migratory route, with 40 percent of the waterfowl species using this corridor during their biannual migration in the spring and during the fall. It's a multiple use resource, with commercial navigation, recreation, tourism, bringing roughly \$1.5 billion of direct economic activity to the Upper Mississippi region but, additionally, over \$1 billion with tourism activity to the Upper Mississippi. But what's been lacking is the scientific data that this legislation will put in place so we can start collecting it, tracking it, and then be smarter with the use of the various public and private approaches that this bill calls for so we can maximize the resources to intercept the nutrients and sediments that would flow into it.

Again, I want to thank the chairman of the committee, the members on the committee. I want to thank the members of the U.S. Geological Survey, especially Mike Jawson and his team at the Upper Mississippi River Environmental Science Lab. I have worked very closely with them with regards to this legislation and their long-term resource monitoring program. They do have incredible competency to do the science that we're asking them to do in this bill.

I also want to personally thank my own river advisory group who has consulted me on all things related to river issues.

I would encourage my colleagues to once again support this much needed but also bipartisan piece of legislation. I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself just enough time to wish a belated happy birthday to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

We have no further requests for time, and 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. 3671.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. BORDALLO. 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.

INLAND EMPIRE PERCHLORATE GROUND WATER PLUME ASSESSMENT ACT OF 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4252) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the Rialto-Colton Basin in the State of California, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4252

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 "Inland Empire Perchlorate Ground Water Plume Assessment Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. RIALTO-COLTON BASIN, CALIFORNIA, WATER RESOURCES STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall complete a study of water resources in the Rialto-Colton Basin in the State of California (in this section referred to as the "Basin"), including—

(1) a survey of ground water resources in the Basin, including an analysis of—

(A) the delineation, either horizontally or vertically, of the aquifers in the Basin, including the quantity of water in the aquifers;

(B) the availability of ground water resources for human use;

(C) the salinity of ground water resources;

(D) the identification of a recent surge in perchlorate concentrations in ground water, whether significant sources are being flushed through the vadose zone, or if perchlorate is being remobilized;

(E) the identification of impacts and extents of all source areas that contribute to the regional plume to be fully characterized;

(F) the potential of the ground water resources to recharge;

(G) the interaction between ground water and surface water;

(H) the susceptibility of the aquifers to contamination, including identifying the extent of commingling of plume emanating within surrounding areas in San Bernardino County, California; and

(I) any other relevant criteria; and

(2) a characterization of surface and bedrock geology of the Basin, including the effect of the geology on ground water yield and quality.

(b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the study in coordination with the State of California and any other entities that the Secretary determines to be appropriate, including other Federal agencies and institutions of higher education.

(c) REPORT.—Upon completion of the study, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) 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, H.R. 4252, introduced by our colleague, Representative JOE BACA of California, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Geological Survey, to study the health and quality of the aquifers in the Rialto-Colton Basin. This includes a study of any perchlorate concentration plumes within an aquifer and its possible contamination of other nearby aquifers.

□ 1445

The ground water constitutes about 79 percent of the drinking water supply in the entire Inland Empire area of California, and it is, as such, critical to understand any threats posed by contamination to this supply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 4252.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this well-intentioned bill tries to force the administration into making ground water cleanup in the Rialto-Colton Basin of California a priority. Everyone acknowledges that this bill is a restatement of current law, and that new funding is not authorized in this bill, but we all understand what the gentleman from California is trying to accomplish and, in the spirit of bipartisanship, Republicans supported his efforts in the Natural Resources Committee.

But I need to point out that this bipartisan gesture continues to go unreciprocated. We've been trying in vain for months now to get the same kind of bipartisan cooperation to restore full water deliveries to the Central Valley of California. The valley's economy has been devastated by the diversion of 200 billion gallons of water in order to dump that water into the Pacific Ocean to serve the left's pet cause, the 3-inch Delta Smelt.

Apologists for this policy argue that, well, it's the drought. Well, they ignore

the fact that the drought we've had is a relatively minor one by historical standards, it appears to be over, and that in far more severe droughts in the past, far more water has reached the Central Valley. But that's before the environmental left took over our water policy and diverted 200 billion gallons of that water into the Pacific Ocean.

It's unfortunate that the majority actually rewrote this bill specifically to keep us from offering amendments that would address the agony of the Central Valley.

Time and again, the majority, using parliamentary gimmicks, has prevented any attempt to restore normal water deliveries to the San Joaquin Valley.

By the Obama administration's own numbers, it spent about \$1.5 billion as part of the so-called "stimulus" in the Central Valley's six Congressional districts to save or create 1,600 jobs.

Well, today Congress has the power to restore tens of thousands of jobs lost because of water diversions at no cost to taxpayers. This House is in possession of a bill to do just that, H.R. 3105, by my colleague, Congressman NUNES. But still it studiously avoids exercising that power because this administration and this majority in Congress have chosen fish over people.

Farmers in the San Joaquin Valley are now faced with making planning decisions. Despite near record precipitation in the northern Sierra watershed—NOAA this week reported that precipitation is now 129 percent of normal—the Department of the Interior has just announced Central Valley farmers will be guaranteed only 25 percent of their normal allocations. Let me repeat that so it sinks in. Precipitation is 129 percent of normal; guaranteed water delivery is 25 percent of normal.

Even Senator FEINSTEIN tried to give the farmers a 40 percent water allocation, yet that effort has been opposed by the environmental left and its friends in Congress.

Perchlorate contamination in the Inland Empire is the indirect result of Federal policy, and the Federal government has a responsibility to assist the people of the Inland Empire with cleanup. But the agony of California's Central Valley is the direct result of policies that Congress could change in this very bill. It's disappointing to me that the majority chooses not to do so. I think it makes a mockery of any claims of bipartisanship, although we once again extend that offer of bipartisanship by supporting this bill, and invite the majority to join us.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA) such time as he may consume.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4252, the Inland Empire Perchlorate Ground Water Plume Assessment Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the Rialto-

Colton Basin in the State of California, and for other purposes.

I would like to also thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member DOC HASTINGS, and my good friend, chairwoman from the Water and Power Subcommittee, GRACE NAPOLITANO, and the ranking member, my good friend from the State of California, Representative TOM MCCLINTOCK, for their support of this legislation.

And I want to thank Representative BORDALLO from Guam for speaking in support of this much-needed legislation.

I also want to take the time to thank my colleagues in the House of Representatives for their bipartisan support on an important bill, not only the Inland Empire, but it will also give us a study in terms of the effects it has on many cities too as well.

In addition, I want to commend the city of Rialto and the Perchlorate Task Force, city Councilman Ed Scott and Rialto Mayor Pro Tem Joe Baca, Jr., for their hard work and dedication in protecting families.

The city realizes that the water from over 20 wells was contaminated by perchlorate. I state, 20 wells were contaminated by Perchlorate. Perchlorate is a rocket fuel additive, an unstable organic compound that has been found to be harmful to humans because it interferes with the thyroid function. And you know when it interferes with the thyroid function it affects many women and others in that area.

I'm very familiar with the water contamination. My family lives in the city of Rialto. My children, my friends and close neighbors know what it's like to live with water that is contaminated.

When we first learned that our water was not safe to drink, we were all very much scared in terms of the water and the quality that came out and the neighbors and the people in that area. We wondered how long this water was bad. We worried about the damage caused by poor quality water. We were nervous because we drank the water, cooked with the water, bathed our children with the water.

Therefore, I drafted this bill to make sure that other families and neighboring cities will not have to suffer or have that kind of fear.

This bill is requesting that the plume in the Rialto-Colton basin is studied, and I state studied. Plumes are underground pockets of water, and some are pools of water. Some travel like underground rivers.

In Rialto, the plume has perchlorate in it. We know that the water in this plume is moving. The contaminated water is traveling underground. We don't know how big it is or how fast the water is moving. We need to know more about the plume to permanently fix the problem.

The research established by the study in H.R. 4252 will guarantee that the problem will be identified. A study by the U.S. Geological Survey is not something done lightly. It is an intense research endeavor.

As the Nation's largest water and earth and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the U.S. Geological Survey collects, monitors, analyzes and provides scientific understanding about the nature of the resource, the conditions, the issues, and the problems. The diversity of the scientific experts enables them to carry out large-scale investigations and provide impartial scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers.

As an unbiased science organization that focuses on biology, geography, geology, and water, they are dedicated to the timely, relevant, impartial study of the landscape, our national resources, and the natural hazards that threaten us.

The USGS study will reduce the perchlorate problems in my area that have caused heartaches, frustration, and fear. Fortunately, under the city council of Rialto's zero tolerance policy, the city does not blend any detectable level of perchlorate into the water system. They are all making sure that water is safe by conducting well-head treatment.

But what about the cities that do not have the policies or the treatment facilities to clean their water? How will those people be affected? How will the children be affected—how will those be affected by it?

We are very familiar with the wealth of water problems in California, as described by my colleague on that side, not only in the northern portion of California, where water is very much needed in that area. Apart from those problems, water contamination is one that can be prevented.

I ask that all Members vote in support of this legislation, not because it is a California issue, but because it is a national issue that could impact anyone. It is a way to help correct a wrong and to prevent further problems.

Commissioner Connor from the Department of the Interior stated that the directives in this bill are within the USGS's jurisdiction. The USGS has found that ground water constitutes about 79 percent of the drinking water supply in the entire Inland Empire. A study by the USGS is long overdue.

We have learned that perchlorate contamination began in 1940 through the actions of the U.S. military and continued to 1960 through the work of U.S. defense contractors, and was made worse by fireworks companies.

Some cities in the area discovered the high level of perchlorate contamination in drinking water in 1996. Since that time the USGS has not made the plume a priority. I state: It has not made the plume a priority.

Water managers need to know the source, and the fate, and the transportation of perchlorate within the Rialto Colton Basin and the adjacent basin in order to effectively mitigate the contamination. That is why I drafted this bill. That's why I'm grateful that we are here today.

In the administration's written statement regarding this legislation, they indicated that the citizens relying on water from the Rialto-Colton Basin would have to compete with other administrative priorities for funding.

The message you will be sending to USGS by voting in support of this study will be that families deserve clean drinking water throughout our country, and especially those areas like mine that are being affected. Families that rely on drinking water from the tap should not have to drink contaminated water, or wonder what's going to happen to their child or fear to give that water to their children or have to go out and purchase additional water to make sure that the thyroid does not affect that woman or that child or the individuals in that home.

This is a national issue, and it's a basic right for our citizens and their families. When someone has contaminated the only source of drinking water for the community, this issue becomes a national issue.

These families should not suffer from health problems associated with perchlorate. It is common knowledge that perchlorate affects the thyroid in our body. Women and infants are at greatest risk.

I want to let you know the hardship faced by people living in the area and why this bill is important. The people are innocent victims. Others misused the land and left us with a legacy of contaminated water.

The families in my area are living under a median household income of \$41,254, very low for the State of California; and 17.4 percent of these citizens live below the poverty line. People in the area have had double-digit unemployment rates for many months. This area has ranked in the top five consistently for having the highest foreclosure rate. These families already shoulder too much of the cost associated with trying to find a solution.

H.R. 4252 moves beyond finding those at fault. We need to know and fully appreciate the extent of the damage. We must do this to help isolate the problems and prevent other cities from suffering.

The contamination plume is moving and many other areas will suffer. The hot spot for contamination is in Rialto, California, which has an area that in 2009 was designated as a Superfund site. That shows how bad the problem is because it is very difficult to obtain this designation.

This Superfund designation will help take care of the hot spot. But what about the water traveling? What about the water traveling underground in the plume?

□ 1500

What about other cities that are impacted? What about my neighboring city and the City of Riverside? The contamination is spreading and no one knows exactly how much of the contamination is moving or where exactly

it is going. The well-head treatment alone will not solve the problem because of the contamination in the ground.

The Rialto-Colton basin has a plume that is contaminated by TCE, perchlorate, and other harmful chemicals. Without treatment, the water is dangerous. I fear for the communities that do not have well-head treatment facilities. The study will identify the extent of the damage underground.

The bill does not violate PAYGO. I state the bill does not violate PAYGO requirements, but serves to notice and highlight that there is a plume in the Rialto-Colton basin that must be reviewed. We have an opportunity to be proactive. Your vote in support of this bill is proactive and will help families.

Again, I want to thank Rialto City Council member Ed Scott for coming in September of 2009 to testify in support of H.R. 4252. He spoke not only for his residents in the city of 96,000 people, but also approximately 400,000 residents who reside in the neighboring cities that are affected by the chemicals which have polluted the Rialto-Colton basin.

I want to thank the Association of California Water Agencies for writing a letter in support of the legislation. What we learn from the study in H.R. 4252 will help other areas where there is the hardship of perchlorate. There are many States who have perchlorate issues. This study will help them be aware of what could be happening underground.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4252.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield whatever time he may consume to my friend and colleague representing the Central Valley of California (Mr. NUNES).

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I want to make sure that we have a clear record of what has happened in the House of Representatives regarding what is now called H.R. 4252. This bill actually was originally called H.R. 2316, and it was marked up in the Resources Committee and then altered later. Now, why did that happen? It happened because the Democratic majority cares about clean drinking water for their constituents, but could care less about providing water to the San Joaquin Valley of California.

So I really enjoy hearing people come down here and cry about how they have contaminated drinking water. And I would only say that there is one thing worse than contaminated drinking water, and that is having no water. What has really happened here is that the radical left and the radical environmental group has taken over the entire Democratic Party, so much so that they won't even allow free and fair and open debate on not only an easy California water bill, because they are afraid to have to actually consider any amendments, but they are also doing the same thing on the government takeover of health care bill, to

where they are going to try to deem a bill passed mysteriously.

This is a terrible abuse of power. It is a terrible facade that is being put up saying that people need clean drinking water. I don't have a problem with people having clean drinking water. I think this is a noble bill, a noble cause. But you should not choose some constituents in California over an entire valley in California that has 3 million people and hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland that has been idled to the point where tens of thousands of farm workers have been thrown out of work because the Democrats in this body choose to do funny little things and change bills like this, change the numbers and think that the American people won't figure out the games that you guys continue to play on that side.

The more that you play little games like this, the more that you play little tricks like this, the more that myself and other colleagues of mine will come down here and point out the hypocrisy of the Democrats in the majority.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEINER). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I will simply appeal again to the majority, water might be controversial, but it needn't be partisan. We have done everything we can in good faith to support this bill for clean drinking water for Rialto and Colton. We would ask the majority again to reconsider its opposition to restoring the full water entitlement to the Central Valley. Again, there is something desperately wrong with our public policy when we are at 129 percent of normal in our Sierra precipitation and yet only 25 percent of the water deliveries to the Central Valley.

With that final appeal for bipartisanship, 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. 4252.

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.

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4003) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources in the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park

System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4003

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 "Hudson River Valley Special Resource Study Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(2) *STUDY AREA.*—The term "study area"—

(A) means the portion of the Hudson River that flows from Rodgers Island at Fort Edward to the southern-most boundary of Westchester County, New York; and

(B) includes any relevant sites and landscapes within the counties in New York that about the area described in subparagraph (A).

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF STUDY.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—As soon as funds are made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall complete a special resource study of the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to evaluate—

(1) the national significance of the area; and
(2) the suitability and feasibility of designating the area as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) *STUDY GUIDELINES.*—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) use the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion in the National Park System in accordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c));

(2) determine the effect of the designation of the area as a unit of the National Park System on existing commercial and recreational activities, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, recreational shooting, motor boat use, off-highway vehicle use, snowmobile use, and on the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure, and the effect on the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities;

(3) identify any authorities that will compel or permit the Secretary to influence local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal land if the area is designated a unit of the National Park System; and

(4) closely examine park unit models, in particular national river and recreation areas, as well as other landscape protection models, that—

(A) encompass large areas of non-Federal lands within their designated boundaries;

(B) foster public and private collaborative arrangements for achieving National Park Service objectives; and

(C) protect and respect the rights of private land owners.

SEC. 4. REPORT.

Not later than 36 months after the date that funds are first made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study authorized by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) 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, H.R. 4003, introduced by our friend Representative MAURICE HINCHEY of New York, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the resources in the Hudson River Valley and determine the suitability and the feasibility of establishing the area as a unit of the National Park System.

Mr. Speaker, for more than half a century various local, state, and Federal agencies have helped to protect, preserve, and celebrate this historic and significant landscape. The valley is home to numerous state and Federal parks that honor a variety of historic events. Representative HINCHEY is to be commended for his tireless efforts on behalf of his constituents and the outstanding historic and cultural resources found in New York State. We support passage of H.R. 4003, and urge its adoption by the House today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4003 has been adequately explained by the majority. I do want to point out, however, that the committee wisely adopted an amendment by Congressman ROB BISHOP that requires the National Park Service to identify local activities that will be limited or eliminated if the study leads to a park designation. As Congress considers additions to the National Park System, the public is entitled to know which existing activities, such as hunting and fishing and boating and snowmobiling and energy production and transmission, will be restricted.

As we in the West painfully know, national park designation comes with an abundance of regulations and direct Federal management. It is important that people living in the affected area know ahead of time how much authority over their local affairs will be ceded to the Federal Government.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY).

Mr. HINCHEY. I want to express also my deep appreciation and gratitude to the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, NICK RAHALL, for working with me to move this important piece of legislation. I also would like to thank Chairman GRIJALVA and the staff of the Natural Resources Committee for all the support and guidance throughout this process.

I would like to mention that there are no restrictions in the context of this legislation for any of the things that were just mentioned. None whatsoever. In fact, all of those kinds of activities will be enhanced and encouraged and be much more easy to achieve