

(2) **WILDERNESS ADMINISTRATION.**—*The land transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture under subsection (a) that is within the Trinity Alps Wilderness shall—*

(A) *not affect the wilderness status of the transferred land; and*

(B) *be administered in accordance with—*

(i) *this section;*

(ii) *the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.); and*

(iii) *the California Wilderness Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 98-425).*

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) CORRECTIONS.—

(1) **MINOR ADJUSTMENTS.**—*The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior may, by mutual agreement, make minor corrections and adjustments to the transfers under this Act to facilitate land management, including corrections and adjustments to any applicable surveys.*

(2) **PUBLICATIONS.**—*Any corrections or adjustments made under subsection (a) shall be effective on the date of publication of a notice of the corrections or adjustments in the Federal Register.*

(b) HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.—

(1) **NOTICE.**—*The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall, with respect to the land described in sections 2(b) and 3(b), respectively—*

(A) *identify any known sites containing hazardous substances; and*

(B) *provide to the head of the Federal agency to which the land is being transferred notice of any sites identified under subparagraph (A).*

(2) **CLEANUP OBLIGATIONS.**—*To the same extent as on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, with respect to any Federal liability—*

(A) *the Secretary of Agriculture shall remain responsible for any cleanup of hazardous substances on the Federal land described in section 2(b); and*

(B) *the Secretary of the Interior shall remain responsible for any cleanup of hazardous substances on the Federal land described in section 3(b).*

(c) **EFFECT ON EXISTING RIGHTS AND AUTHORIZATIONS.**—*Nothing in this Act affects—*

(1) *any valid existing rights; or*

(2) *the validity or term and conditions of any existing withdrawal, right-of-way, easement, lease, license, or permit on the land to which administrative jurisdiction is transferred under this Act, except that beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the head of the agency to which administrative jurisdiction over the land is transferred shall be responsible for administering the interests or authorizations (including reissuing the interests or authorizations in accordance with applicable law).*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) 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. 689 was introduced by our colleague from California, Representative HERGER. The bill authorizes an inter-

change of land between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The specific lands are located within the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and on adjacent public lands in northern California. The purpose of the interchange is to ease problems that off-highway vehicle users are having with permitting. The administration supports this legislation.

H.R. 689 originally passed the House by voice vote on June 2, 2009. The Senate has amended the House-passed version of the bill to clarify the hazardous substance cleanup responsibilities of each agency.

Mr. Speaker, we support passage of this measure with the Senate amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Congressman HERGER for his excellent work on this legislation. Working closely with many constituents who enjoy outdoor recreation, Congressman HERGER developed this bill allowing Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management officials to better manage a complex mix of administrative jurisdictions in Shasta County. This legislation will not only help both agencies, but will also greatly benefit the many families who enjoy wholesome outdoor recreation in the area, especially the many off-highway vehicle users who have been using this area for generations. Not surprisingly, the bill has widespread support among the local OHV users.

It is a rare feat to have two separate Federal agencies and the public all agreeing that a particular piece of legislation is worthy of praise. Congressman HERGER should be congratulated for this win-win legislation.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of H.R. 689. This legislation is the result of a collaborative and bipartisan effort to limit government bureaucracy and improve the management of federal lands in Northern California. For years, many of my constituents raised concerns over difficulties in dealing with two federal agencies in order to use the Chappie-Shasta Off-Highway Vehicle Area in Shasta County, California. Though the Bureau of Land Management has managed the majority of this area, Forest Service holdings within the area have led to such issues as duplicative permitting and even different opening dates for the same area. This situation has led to increasing frustration from thousands of users who come from across California and elsewhere to enjoy this OHV area.

This simple legislation provides a commonsense solution by allowing the BLM to consolidate the OHV area while the Forest Service will benefit by receiving jurisdiction over small tracts of BLM land that are already contiguous to the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

This bill first passed the House by unanimous consent, and after a few technical changes, again received unanimous support from the Senate. Concurrence with the Senate's changes will finally allow for more efficient management of the Chappie-Shasta OHV Area and greater enjoyment of its users.

This legislation represents a win-win for taxpayers and their enjoyment of our federal lands. I thank Senators FEINSTEIN and BOXER for their work in supporting this effort and I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I 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.

I have no further requests for time, 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 concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 689.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1500

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE VOLUNTEER IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4973) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4973

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 "National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO IMPLEMENT VOLUNTEER, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS UNDER FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956.

(a) **REAUTHORIZATION.**—Section 7(f) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014.”.

(b) **TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**—Section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f) is amended in subsections (b)(2)(B)(ii) and (d)(2)(C)(i) by striking “National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966” each place it appears and inserting “National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966”.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1998.

Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f-1) is amended—

(1) *in the subsection heading by striking “PROJECTS” and inserting “NATIONAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATION PROGRAM”;*

(2) *by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:*

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations, and in conformance with the

strategy developed under paragraph (2) and consistent with the authorities regarding gifts, volunteer services, community partnerships, and refuge education enhancement under section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 741f), the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall carry out a National Volunteer Coordination Program within the National Wildlife Refuge System to—

“(A) augment and support the capabilities and efforts of Federal employees to implement resource management, conservation, and public education programs and activities across the National Wildlife Refuge System;

“(B) provide meaningful opportunities for volunteers to support the resource management, conservation, and public education programs and activities of national wildlife refuges or complexes of geographically related national wildlife refuges in each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region; and

“(C) fulfill the purpose and mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System under the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).”;

(3) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows

“(2) VOLUNTEER COORDINATION STRATEGY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No later than one year after date of enactment of this paragraph, the Director shall publish in the Federal Register a national strategy for the coordination and utilization of volunteers within the National Wildlife Refuge System.

“(B) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The strategy shall be developed in consultation with State fish and wildlife agencies, Indian tribes, refuge friends groups or similar volunteer organizations, and other relevant stakeholders.

“(C) VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS.—The Director shall provide, subject to the availability of appropriations, no less than one regional volunteer coordinator for each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region to implement the strategy published under this paragraph. Such coordinators may be responsible for assisting partner organizations in developing and implementing volunteer projects and activities under cooperative agreements under section 7(d) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(d)).”; and

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “for for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2009” and inserting “for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2014”.

SEC. 4. VOLUNTEER, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(e)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) (as amended by this Act) as subsection (g); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate—

“(1) evaluating the accomplishments of the volunteer program, the community partnerships program, and the refuge education programs authorized under this section, and of the National Volunteer Coordination Program and volunteer coordination strategy under section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f-1); and

“(2) making recommendations to improve the effectiveness of such programs, including regarding implementing subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) of subsection (e).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act

of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f-1) is further amended by striking paragraph (3), and by redesignating paragraph (4) (as amended by this Act) as paragraph (3).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) 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 within 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. 4973, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act, was introduced by our colleague from Maryland, Representative FRANK KRATOVIL.

The National Wildlife Refuge System encompasses a national network of public lands and waters set aside to conserve habitat and protect natural resources and, consequently, plays an integral role in our national network of Federal public lands.

During these difficult economic times, the government has looked for efficient and practical solutions to lower costs while maintaining critical refuge systems services. The National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Program serves this purpose. Last year, volunteers contributed to more than 1.5 million hours of support, the equivalent of nearly 750 full-time employees. This is better than \$7 returned on each dollar invested.

The pending measure would make the volunteer program permanent, establish a volunteer coordination strategy, and formalize a reporting schedule to ensure oversight and accountability.

I commend Mr. KRATOVIL for his important work on behalf of this initiative, and I ask Members on both sides to support passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4973. While individuals have been volunteering their time and talents to the National Wildlife Refuge System for nearly 30 years, the value of their work has significantly increased from \$1.1 million to \$30.3 million. Volunteers now perform about 20 percent of the work done on refuges, and for each refuge employee, there are nine volunteers. Without these dedicated men and women, many visitor centers would be open less frequently, fewer recreational opportunities would be available, many hunting programs would not occur, and important fish and wildlife population surveys would not be completed.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 4973, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of

2010. I would like to thank Congressman KRATOVIL for introducing this important bill and acknowledging the importance of the preservation of wildlife to our nation.

This bill would reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges. Volunteers are essential to the operation of these refuges and the preservation of our environment. Wildlife Refuge volunteers assist with laboratory research, photographing natural resources, conducting population services, and leading tours for visitors. Volunteers help provide important services to the public at no cost to taxpayers. Their service improves the quality of the visitor experience at our National Wildlife Refuges. This bill would also require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to publish a national strategy for the use and coordination of volunteers.

The National Wildlife Refuge system is the premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife and plants. The mission of the Refuge System is to manage a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitat. It is the volunteers that help make this mission possible and this bill will make sure that these volunteers have the resources they need. I strongly support our National Wildlife Refuge system and am heartened that so many Americans choose to volunteer their time on National Wildlife Refuges.

I feel strongly about the importance of protecting our natural world. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill in efforts to preserve our environment, one small step at a time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. 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. 4973, 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.

AUTHORIZING HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES FOR LOSS OF ICE IN ARCTIC

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2864) to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2864

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