

Fruit Heights, is too steep for any development.

So, by city ordinance, they have already said, when they receive this land, that will be permanent open space. The area below the canal here is the land in question that would be transferred to the city for the purpose of a cemetery, which they drastically need. They have been through every area they have as potential in Fruit Heights City. This is truly the only area.

It is true that a nature conservancy group purchased this land from a citizen in Fruit Heights and then sold it at a profit to the Federal Government to be used as habitat for mule deer. The Mule Deer Association is neutral on this bill, neither opposing it nor in favor of it, and they basically privately say that if it's a cemetery, they'll probably have more forage potential for the mule deer than they have right now.

This is what is necessary. I appreciate the minority's working with me on this particular issue to find the realization that there is a need for a cemetery. I thank them for their support. I thank the chairman for putting this crucial issue forward, which to us may be not crucial, but to those dying to get into this place, it is indeed crucial.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I advise my friend from Arizona I have no further speakers, and I'm prepared to yield back if he is.

Mr. GRIJALVA. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield back the balance of my time and urge adoption of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 993.

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.

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC ACCESS ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1157) to ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1157

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 "Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Hanford Reach National Monument is public land that belongs to the American people.

(2) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Monument restricts public access to large portions of the Monument, including the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain.

(3) Public access to Rattlesnake Mountain is important for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, and cultural purposes.

(4) Rattlesnake Mountain reaches an elevation of 3,660 feet above sea level—the highest elevation of the Monument, and provides unparalleled scenic views over the Monument, the Hanford Site, and the Columbia River.

(5) Public access to Rattlesnake Mountain will increase tourism interest in the Monument and will provide economic benefits to local governments.

SEC. 3. ENSURING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE SUMMIT OF RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN IN THE HANFORD REACH NATIONAL MONUMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall provide public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes, including—

- (1) motor vehicle access; and
- (2) pedestrian and other nonmotorized access.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior may enter into cooperative agreements to facilitate access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain—

(1) with the Secretary of Energy, the State of Washington, or any local government agency or other interested persons, for guided tours, including guided motorized tours to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain; and

(2) with the Secretary of Energy, and with the State of Washington or any local government agency or other interested persons, to maintain the access road to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material to the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1157 directs the Department of the Interior to provide the public with motorized, nonmotorized, and pedestrian access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain, located in my district on the Hanford Reach National Monument. This 195,000-acre monument, designated by President Clinton in 2000, is near the Hanford Nuclear Site and is the only one in the continental United States managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

At 3,600 feet, Rattlesnake Mountain is the highest point in the region, and it provides unparalleled views for miles around the monument, the Hanford

Site, the Snake River, the Columbia River, and, of course, the Yakima River.

Unfortunately, it took the Fish and Wildlife Service 8 years to write a management plan that effectively closed Rattlesnake Mountain to public access, despite the public comments favoring just the opposite.

After I first introduced this bill in 2010, the Fish and Wildlife Service offered two public tours for selected individuals and then suddenly reneged on the offer just days before the tours were to occur.

During a 2011 committee hearing on the bill, the Interior Department's testimony suggested that the Fish and Wildlife Service supports tours of Rattlesnake, but very carefully didn't go the extra step of ensuring the Service would allow public access to the summit.

Finally, last month, the Fish and Wildlife Service granted a few dozen people the opportunity to tour Rattlesnake Mountain summit over two tours. These were the first two public tours offered since the monument was designated.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is necessary to ensure reasonable and regular public access can be guaranteed by law to the citizens of that area. The legislation is sponsored by the Tri-Cities Development Council, TRIDEC; the Board of County Commissioners; Benton County Commissioners, in which Rattlesnake Mountain is located; the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce; the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau; and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington.

The American people deserve to have access to public lands, including Rattlesnake Mountain in my district. I ask that the House pass this reasonable legislation today to make that possible.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1157, which would require the Fish and Wildlife Service to provide both motorized and non-motorized access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain.

The bill would allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to enter into cooperative agreements with the Department of Energy, the State of Washington, local governments, and other interested persons to provide guided tours to the summit of the mountain and to maintain the access road to the mountain.

In 2008, the Fish and Wildlife Service completed its management plan for this area and determined that service-sponsored or -led tours and a hiking trail are appropriate and compatible uses of the area.

In October of 2011, at the hearing on H.R. 2719, the Fish and Wildlife Service supported the bill's intent to provide

appropriate public access on Rattlesnake Mountain that gives due consideration to all stakeholders, including the Yakima Tribe.

I commend Chairman HASTINGS for introducing the bill, and I support it.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me explain a little bit about Rattlesnake Mountain and where it's located. I mentioned it is on the Hanford Nuclear Site. The Hanford Nuclear Site was part of the Manhattan Project, in which we built and assembled weapons that won the Second World War. And then for 40 years after the Second World War, this was in a defense production where we were producing fuel for our atomic weapons.

Now, Rattlesnake Mountain, as I mentioned in my opening remarks, is 3,600 feet. For obvious reasons, it was closed off to access because you had a secret site there producing weapons of war and you didn't want people to have access to look down at Hanford Site. That's totally understandable, and for that reason nobody really objected to having the top of Rattlesnake open. However, now that Hanford is no longer in defense production—and it hasn't been for nearly 25 years; it's now in a cleanup mode—things have really changed.

When I typically have townhall meetings or meetings with people in the Tri-Cities area, I ask how many people have been on top of Rattlesnake, and it's surprising how few have been up there. But when you're on top of Rattlesnake—it's 3,600 feet, like I mentioned—there are no trees, so you can see 360 degrees around you. On a clear day, which we generally have in central Washington, you really can see the Columbia River coming in from the north. You can see where the Snake River—and, by the way, that's where Lewis and Clark encamped before they made their trip down to the ocean—you can see where the Snake River comes into the Columbia River. And you can see where the Yakima River comes also into the Columbia River. So it is a really wonderful site, and I think it deserves to have access to the people.

More and more people have had the opportunity in the past to go up there. This simply ensures that the Department of Energy will come up with a plan in which that area will really be accessed.

So I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1157.

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. HASTINGS of Washington. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX FISH STOCKING ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1158) 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.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1158

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 "North Cascades National Park Service Complex Fish Stocking Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX.—The term "North Cascades National Park Service Complex" means collectively the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

(2) PLAN.—The term "plan" means the document entitled "North Cascades National Park Service Complex Mountain Lakes Fishery Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement" and dated June 2008.

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

SEC. 3. STOCKING OF CERTAIN LAKES IN THE NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary shall authorize the stocking of fish in lakes in the North Cascades National Park Service Complex.

(b) CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to allow stocking of fish in not more than 42 of the 91 lakes in the North Cascades National Park Service Complex that have historically been stocked with fish.

(2) NATIVE NONREPRODUCING FISH.—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) nonreproducing, as identified in management alternative B of the plan.

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making fish stocking decisions under this Act, the Secretary shall consider relevant scientific information, including the plan and information gathered under subsection (c).

(4) REQUIRED COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate the stocking of fish under this Act with the State of Washington.

(c) RESEARCH AND MONITORING.—The Secretary shall—

(1) continue a program of research and monitoring of the impacts of fish stocking on the resources of the applicable unit of the North Cascades National Park Service Complex; and

(2) beginning on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act and every 5 years thereafter, 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 research and monitoring under paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1158, the North Cascades National Park Service Complex Fish Stocking Act, has enjoyed broad bipartisan support, passing the last Congress by a voice vote. It was also reported out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee during a previous Congress on a voice vote, with a recommendation that it pass.

H.R. 1158 is necessary to ensure that the National Park Service, in coordination with the State of Washington, has the authority to continue stocking fish in certain alpine lakes in the North Cascades National Park Complex, including the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

In 2008, the National Park Service prepared an environmental impact statement regarding the management of the fisheries in these mountain lakes. That document identified the preferred alternatives as the one to allow continued fish stocking in 42 lakes in that area where the Agency concluded there would be no adverse impact on the native ecosystems. The Park Service also requested explicit authority to allow fish stocking to continue within the park complex. That, of course, is exactly what H.R. 1158 does.

Many tourists visit the park complex for its scenic beauty as well as for its fishing opportunities, making fish stocking an important component of the central Washington economy.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me deviate a bit here. While we are discussing public lands legislation, I would also like to inform the House that the Committee on Natural Resources will soon begin consideration of several proposals to designate new wilderness areas.

As Public Lands and Environmental Regulations Subcommittee Chairman BISHOP of Utah stated last week, in July the subcommittee plans to hold a legislative hearing on wilderness proposals. Congressman DAN BENISHK'S Sleeping Bear Dunes legislation and