Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada, who own property adjacent to lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management have been adversely affected by certain erroneous private surveys.

(2) These landowners have occupied or improved their property in good faith and in reliance on erroneous surveys of their properties that they believed were accurate.

(3) These landowners presumed their occupancy was codified through an Eighth Judicial District Court (Nevada) Judgment and Decree filed October 26, 1989, as a ''friendly lawsuit'' affecting numerous landowners in the (North) Decatur Boulevard area.

(4) The 1990 Bureau of Land Management dependent resurvey and section subdivision of sections 6, 7, 18, and 19, T. 19 S., R. 61 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, correctly established accurate boundaries between such public lands and private lands.

(5) The Bureau of Land Management has the authority to sell public lands which are affected as a result of erroneous private survey and encroachments existing as of the date of this Act as it affects T. 19 S., R. 61 E., sections 18 and 19, and T. 19 S. R. 60 E., section 13 and 24, if encroachments based on the same erroneous private survey are identified, in accordance with this Act.

SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF LANDS.

(a) CLAIMS.—Within one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the city of Las Vegas on behalf of the owners of real property, located adjacent to the lands described in subsection (b), may submit to the Secretary of the Interior (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') in writing a claim to the lands described in subsection (b). The claim submitted to the Secretary shall be accompanied by—

(1) a description of the lands claimed;

(2) information relating to the claim of ownership of such lands; and

(3) such other information as the Secretary may require.

(b) LANDS DESCRIBED.—The lands described in this subsection are those Federal lands located in the Bureau of Land Management Las Vegas District, Clark County, Nevada, in sections 18 and 19, T. 19 S., R. 61 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, as described by the dependent resurvey by the Bureau of Land Management accepted May 4, 1990, under Group No. 683, Nevada, and subsequent supplemental plats of sections 18 and 19, T. 19 S., R. 61 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, as contained on plats accepted November 17, 1992. Such lands are described as (1) government lots 22, 23, 26, and 27 in said section 18; and (2) government lots 20, 21, and 24 in said section 19, containing 29.36 acres, more or less.

(c) CONVEYANCE.—The Secretary shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the public lands described in subsection (b) to the city of Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada, upon payment by the city of fair market value based on a Bureau of Land Management approved appraised market value of the lands as of December 1, 1982, and on the condition that the city convey the effected lands to the land owners referred to in subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

(Mr. DOOLITTLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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

Mr. Speaker, within the city of Las Vegas there are many areas where longstanding property line disputes exist. H.R. 2135 is meant to solve one of the most difficult, which is along the Decatur Boulevard alignment at the border between the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas.

The original land surveys of the subject area were performed in 1881 and 1882. There is considerable evidence that points set by the original Government contract surveys were not stones as called for in the official field notes, but small mesquite stakes.

Originally, the poor surveys did not affect anyone, but in the 1950's development began to move toward the outer edges of Las Vegas. As years passed and development increased it became evident that severe discrepancies existed among the property surveys in the area. In 1989, in response to citizens' concerns, the city of Las Vegas commissioned a survey of the properties in an area 4 miles north to south and 1 mile each side of Decatur Boulevard.

H.R. 2135 will resolve the longstanding property line disputes that have prevented the affected landowners from being able to sell or even refinance their homes and enjoys the support of the BLM, the city of Las Vegas, and the affected landowners.

□ 1400

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we support this legislation to correct these erroneous private surveys and to straighten out the actual property ownership problems and to provide for the conveyance of these lands for fair market value to the adjacent owners or to others.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2135 deals with about 30 acres of land in Las Vegas that because of erroneous private surveys, has created problems for the adjacent private landowners who thought the land was theirs and who found that after accurate surveys were done that the land actually belongs to the Federal Government.

We have no objection to consideration of the measure. The bill has been amended by the Resources Committee to provide for the sales of these parcels to the adjacent private landowners, based on the fair market value of the property at the time these survey errors were brought to the attention of the Bureau of Land Management. With that change the administration has no problems with the bill.

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

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to see the House take up H.R. 2135, legislation I have introduced to make boundary corrections along Decatur Boulevard in Las Vegas and North Las Vegas.

Landowners along Decatur approached me last year with the problem that H.R. 2135 addresses. It seems that the original survey conducted in the area in the late 1800's was deficient. Subsequent surveys based on that first one, and upon which people bought land along Decatur, were in error due to that initial botched survey. Since there are no liens on any of the property, the usual title searches performed at the time of purchase did not show problems with the titles. However, subsequent to the purchases of the properties, it was discovered that the property lines are drawn incorrectly.

The cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas have spent a lot of time and money trying to correct the erroneous boundaries and make the homeowners whole. And they have been largely successful, in that the bulk of people affected by the boundary error have had their property boundaries adjusted. Unfortunately, however, for about 20 homeowners, the land in question involves Federal land managed by the BLM. Since Las Vegas and North Las Vegas have no jurisdiction over the BLM land, these boundary errors can only be corrected by Congress.

Mr. Speaker, this situation has created a nightmare for those who, in good faith, bought property along Decatur Boulevard. They don't own the land they thought they paid for; in some cases, almost one-third of the land actually belongs to the Bureau of Land Management. Today's consideration of H.R. 2135 caps the efforts of many years by the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas to put to rest the issue by resolving the boundary dispute along Decatur Boulevard, and I urge my colleagues to support the measure.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WICKER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2135, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to provide for the relief of certain persons in Clark County, Nevada, who purchased lands in good faith reliance on existing private land surveys.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HANFORD REACH PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2292) to preserve and protect the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2292

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

TITLE I—HANFORD REACH PRESERVATION ACT

SEC. 101. AMENDMENT OF PUBLIC LAW 100–605.

Section 2 of Public Law 100–605 is amended as follows:

*(1) By striking ''**INTERIM**'' in the section heading.*

(2) By striking ''For a period of eight years after'' and inserting ''After'' in subsection (a).

(3) By striking in subsection (b) ''During the eight year interim protection period, provided by this section, all'' and inserting ''All''.

TITLE II—LAMPREY WILD AND SCENIC RIVER ACT

SEC. 201. DESIGNATION.

Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end thereof:

''(157) LAMPREY RIVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The 11.5-mile segment extending from the southern Lee town line to the confluence with the Piscassic River in the vicinity of the Durham-Newmarket town line (hereinafter in this paragraph referred to as the 'segment') as a recreational river. The segment shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior through cooperative agreements between the Secretary and the State of New Hampshire and its relevant political subdivisions, namely the towns of Durham, Lee, and Newmarket, pursuant to section 10(e) of this Act. The segment shall be managed in accordance with the Lamprey River Management Plan dated January 10, 1995, and such amendments thereto as the Secretary of the Interior determines are consistent with this Act. Such plan shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements for a comprehensive management plan pursuant to section 3(d) of this Act.''.

SEC. 202. MANAGEMENT.

(a) COMMITTEE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall coordinate his management responsibilities under this Act with respect to the segment designated by section 3 with the Lamprey River Advisory Committee established pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 483.

(b) LAND MANAGEMENT.—The zoning ordinances duly adopted by the towns of Durham, Lee, and Newmarket, New Hampshire, including provisions for conservation of shorelands, floodplains, and wetlands associated with the segment, shall be deemed to satisfy the standards and requirements of section 6(c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the provisions of that section, which prohibit Federal acquisition of lands by condemnation, shall apply to the segment designated by section 201 of this Act. The authority of the Secretary to acquire lands for the purposes of this paragraph shall be limited to acquisition by donation or acquisition with the consent of the owner thereof, and shall be subject to the additional criteria set forth in the Lamprey River Management Plan.

SEC. 203. UPSTREAM SEGMENT.

Upon request by the town of Epping, which abuts an additional 12 miles of river found eligible for designation as a recreational river, the Secretary of the Interior shall offer assistance regarding continued involvement of the town of Epping in the implementation of the Lamprey River Management Plan and in consideration of potential future addition of that portion of the river within Epping as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

TITLE III—WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL RIVERS AMENDMENTS OF 1996

SEC. 301. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO THE NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER.

(a) BOUNDARIES.—Section 1101 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 460m–15) is amended by striking out ''NERI–80,023, dated January 1987'' and inserting ''NERI–80,028A, dated March 1996''.

(b) FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT.—Section 1106 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 460m–20) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof: ''The Secretary shall permit the State of West Virginia to undertake fish stocking activities carried out by the State, in consultation with the Secretary, on waters within the boundaries of the national river. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction of the State of West Virginia with respect to fish and wildlife.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title XI of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 460m–15 and following) is amended by adding the following new section at the end thereof:

"SEC. 1117. APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF OTHER LAW.

''(a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The provisions of section 202(e)(1) of the West Virginia National Interest River Conservation Act of 1987 (16 U.S.C. 460ww–1(e)(1)) shall apply to the New River Gorge National River in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply to the Gauley River National Recreation Area.

''(b) REMNANT LANDS.—The provisions of the second sentence of section 203(a) of the West Virginia National Interest River Conservation Act of 1987 (16 U.S.C. 460ww–2(a)) shall apply to tracts of land partially within the boundaries of the New River Gorge National River in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply to tracts of land only partially within the Gauley River National Recreation Area.''.

SEC. 302. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO THE GAULEY RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 205(c) of the West Virginia National Interest River Conservation Act of 1987 (16 U.S.C. 460ww–4(c)) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof: ''If project construction is not commenced within the time required in such license, or if such license is surrendered at any time, such boundary modification shall cease to have any force and effect.''.

(b) GAULEY ACCESS.—Section 202(e) of the West Virginia National Interest River Conservation Act of 1987 (16 U.S.C. 460ww–1(e)) is amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end thereof:

''(4) ACCESS TO RIVER.—(A) In order to facilitate public safety, use, and enjoyment of the recreation area, and to protect, to the maximum extent feasible, the scenic and natural resources of the area, the Secretary is authorized and directed to acquire such lands or interests in lands and to take such actions as are necessary to provide access by noncommercial entities on the north side of the Gauley River at the area known as Woods Ferry utilizing existing roads and rights-of-way. Such actions by the Secretary shall include the construction of parking and related facilities in the vicinity of Woods Ferry for noncommercial use on lands acquired pursuant to paragraph (3) or on lands acquired with the consent of the owner thereof within the boundaries of the recreation area.

''(B) If necessary, in the discretion of the Secretary, in order to minimize environmental impacts, including visual impacts, within portions of the recreation area immediately adjacent to the river, the Secretary may, by contract or otherwise, provide transportation services for noncommercial visitors, at reasonable cost, between such parking facilities and the river.

''(C) Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall affect the rights of any person to continue to utilize, pursuant to a lease in effect on April 1, 1993, any right of way acquired pursuant to such lease which authorizes such person to use an existing road referred to in subparagraph (A). Except as provided under paragraph (2) relating to access immediately downstream of the Summersville project, until there is compliance with this paragraph the Secretary is prohibited from acquiring or developing any other river access points within the recreation area.''.

SEC. 303. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO THE BLUESTONE NATIONAL SCENIC RIVER.

(a) BOUNDARIES.—Section 3(a)(65) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)(65)) is amended by striking out ''WSR–BLU/20,000, and dated January 1987'' and inserting ''BLUE–80,005, dated May 1996''.

(b) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Section 3(a)(65) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)(65)) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof: ''In order to provide reasonable public access and vehicle parking for public use and enjoyment of the river designated by this paragraph, consistent with the preservation and enhancement of the natural and scenic values of such river, the Secretary may, with the consent of the owner thereof, negotiate a memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement, or acquire not more than 10 acres of lands or interests in such lands, or both, as may be necessary to allow public access to the Bluestone River and to provide, outside the boundary of the scenic river, parking and related facilities in the vicinity of the area known as Eads Mill.''.

TITLE IV—LIMITATION ON LAND ACQUISITION: MISSOURI RIVER, NEBRASKA AND SOUTH DAKOTA

The undesignated paragraph in section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) relating to the 39-mile segment of the Missouri River, Nebraska and South Dakota, from the headwaters of Lewis and Clark Lake to Ft. Randall Dam is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Notwithstanding section 6(a), lands and interests in lands may not be acquired for the purposes of this paragraph without the consent of the owner thereof.''.

TITLE V—TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

SEC. 501. NUMBERING OF PARAGRAPHS.

(a) DESIGNATIONS.—The unnumbered paragraphs in section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)), relating to each of the following river segments, are each amended by numbering such paragraphs as follows:

River:	Paragraph Number
East Fork of Jemez, New Mexico	(109)
Pecos River, New Mexico	(110)
Smith River, California	(111)
Middle Fork Smith River, California	(112)
North Fork Smith River, California	(113)
Siskiyou Fork Smith River, California	(114)
South Fork Smith River, California	(115)
Clarks Fork, Wyoming	(116)
Niobrara, Nebraska	(117)
Missouri River, Nebraska and South Dakota	(118)
Bear Creek, Michigan	(119)
Black, Michigan	(120)
Carp, Michigan	(121)
Indian, Michigan	(122)
Manistee, Michigan	(123)
Ontonagon, Michigan	(124)
Paint, Michigan	(125)
Pine, Michigan	(126)
Presque Isle, Michigan	(127)
Sturgeon, Hiawatha National Forest, Michigan	(128)
Sturgeon, Ottawa National Forest, Michigan	(129)
East Branch of the Tahquamenon, Michigan	(130)
Whitefish, Michigan	(131)
Yellow Dog, Michigan	(132)
Allegheny, Pennsylvania	(133)
Big Piney Creek, Arkansas	(134)
Buffalo River, Arkansas	(135)
Cossatot River, Arkansas	(136)
Hurricane Creek, Arkansas	(137)
Little Missouri River, Arkansas	(138)
Mulberry River, Arkansas	(139)
North Sylamore Creek, Arkansas	(140)
Richland Creek, Arkansas	(141)
Sespe Creek, California	(142)
Sisquoc River, California	(143)
Big Sur River, California	(144)
Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey	(145)
The Maurice River, Middle Segment	(146)
The Maurice River, Middle Segment	(147)
The Maurice River, Upper Segment	(148)
The Menantico Creek, Lower Segment	(149)
The Menantico Creek, Upper Segment	(150)
Manumuskin River, Lower Segment	(151)
Manumuskin River, Upper Segment	(152)
Muskee Creek, New Jersey	(153)
Red River, Kentucky	(154)

Rio Grande, New Mexico ..... (155)
Farmington River, Connecticut ..... (156)

(b) STUDY RIVERS.—Section 5(a) of such Act is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (106), relating to St. Mary's, Florida, is renumbered as paragraph (108).

(2) Paragraph (112), relating to White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, is renumbered as paragraph (113).

(3) The unnumbered paragraphs, relating to each of the following rivers, are amended by numbering such paragraphs as follows:

River:	***Paragraph Number***
Mills River, North Carolina	*(109)*
Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord, Massachusetts	*(110)*
Niobrara, Nebraska	*(111)*
Lamprey, New Hampshire	*(112)*
Brule, Michigan and Wisconsin	*(114)*
Carp, Michigan	*(115)*
Little Manistee, Michigan	*(116)*
White, Michigan	*(117)*
Ontonagon, Michigan	*(118)*
Paint, Michigan	*(119)*
Presque Isle, Michigan	*(120)*
Sturgeon, Ottawa National Forest, Michigan	*(121)*
Sturgeon, Hiawatha National Forest, Michigan	*(122)*
Tahquamenon, Michigan	*(123)*
Whitefish, Michigan	*(124)*
Clarion, Pennsylvania	*(125)*
Mill Creek, Jefferson and Clarion Counties, Pennsylvania	*(126)*
Piru Creek, California	*(127)*
Little Sur River, California	*(128)*
Matilija Creek, California	*(129)*
Lopez Creek, California	*(130)*
Sespe Creek, California	*(131)*
North Fork Merced, California	*(132)*
Delaware River, Pennsylvania and New Jersey	*(133)*
New River, West Virginia and Virginia	*(134)*
Rio Grande, New Mexico	*(135)*

TITLE VI—PROTECTION OF NORTH ST. VRAIN CREEK, COLORADO

SEC. 601. NORTH ST. VRAIN CREEK AND ADJACENT LANDS.

The Act of January 26, 1915, establishing Rocky Mountain National Park (38 Stat. 798; 16 U.S.C. 191 and following), is amended by adding the following new section at the end thereof:

"SEC. 5. NORTH ST. VRAIN CREEK AND ADJACENT LANDS.

''Neither the Secretary of the Interior nor any other Federal agency or officer may approve or issue any permit for, or provide any assistance for, the construction of any new dam, reservoir, or impoundment on any segment of North St. Vrain Creek or its tributaries within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park or on the main stem of North St. Vrain Creek downstream to the point at which the creek crosses the elevation 6,550 feet above mean sea level. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the issuance of any permit for the construction of a new water gaging station on North St. Vrain Creek at the point of its confluence with Coulson Gulch.''.

SEC. 602. ENCOURAGEMENT OF EXCHANGES.

(a) LANDS INSIDE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK.—Promptly following enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall seek to acquire by donation or exchange those lands within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park owned by the city of Longmont, Colorado, that are referred to in section 111(d) of the Act commonly referred to as the ''Colorado Wilderness Act of 1980'' (Public Law 96-560; 94 Stat. 3272; 16 U.S.C. 192b-9(d)).

(b) OTHER LANDS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall immediately and actively pursue negotiations with the city of Longmont, Colorado, concerning the city's proposed exchange of lands owned by the city and located in and near Coulson Gulch for other lands owned by the United States. The Secretary shall report to Congress 2 calendar years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter on the progress of such negotiations until negotiations are complete.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

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

(Mr. DOOLITTLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2292, a bill to preserve the Hanford reach of the Columbia River and for other purposes. Mr. Speaker, this is good bi-partisan legislation which provides for the preservation and improved management of important rivers thoughout the country.

Title I, authored by Mr. HASTINGS, of the bill provides for permanent protection of the last free-flowing section of the Columbia River which support native salmon spawning beds. In 1988, Congress enacted legislation to prohibit damming and dredging of this river segment for 8 years while directing the Secretary of the Interior to develop a plan for future management of this river segment. While Secretary Babbitt has yet to send us the required study, the moratorium on damming and dredging is about to expire and therefore it is important for Congress to renew this moratorium in perpetuity. I applaud the gentleman from Washington, [Mr. HASTINGS], for his effort to preserve the Hanford Reach.

Title II of the bill is a measure authored by Congressman ZELIFF which designates 11.5 miles of the Lamprey River in New Hampshire as a wild and scenic river. This legislation is based on a report prepared pursuant to a previous act of Congress. Although the river is bounded by mostly private property, this legislation contains adequate safeguards to protect private property and is strongly supported by local persons.

Title III, authored by Mr. RAHALL relates to several wild and scenic rivers in the State of West Virginia which are also units of the park system. It reflects the work of the committee over the last 4 years to amend boundaries and make technical amendments to improve the management of these parks. This title adds important lands to these parks, assures that the State can continue to manage wildlife and improves public access to the rivers.

Title IV, authored by Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from using condemnation along a 39-mile segment of the Missouri Wild and Scenic River in the State of South Dakota. Since the NPS has already stated their intent not to use condemnation along this stretch of river, this legislation simply puts into action the plans already adopted by the NPS.

Title V of the bill simply contains technical amendments to the Wild and Scenic River Act which provides for the numbering of the study and designation paragraphs of the existing act.

Title VI of the bill, authored by Mr. SKAGGS provides for the protection of the St. Vrain Creek in Colorado. This provision also enhances the protection of Rocky Mountain National Park through which the stream flows.

In all Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill with many strong protection measures. I commend the many Members for their work on this bill and urge all my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS], who has worked very hard on title VI of this legislation dealing with the North St. Vrain River and Rocky Mountain National Park.

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, this provision, title VI of this bill, represents the culmination now of some 8 years of work conducted by many, many citizens in the area of Colorado that I represent who have been concerned for some time with the protection of this pristine roadless canyon, the last major roadless canyon along the front range of the Rockies in the State of Colorado.

We are here because folks with different interests, from environmentalists to water district managers, to local communities and residents, spent literally hours and hours, and tons of meetings over several years developing a consensus that is embodied in title VI of this bill. It will ensure that the free flow of this stream in the upper reaches of the North Saint Vrain Canyon originating in Rocky Mountain National Park down to Button Rock Reservoir will remain free flowing forever.

This is really some extraordinary country, Mr. Speaker, one of the most impressive wildlife habitat areas along the front range as well as an area of extraordinary and dramatic beauty. We should all be proud of taking this step to make sure that it remains that way in perpetuity.

I want to thank the members and the leadership of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD], for his assistance on this, and urge its passage along with the other provisions in this piece of legislation.

I am delighted that the House will today approve H.R. 2292, legislation that includes well-deserved and long-awaited protections for North St. Vrain Creek, the largest remaining roadless canyon along Colorado's Front Range.

The relevant part—title VI—of the bill will prevent construction of new dams on North St.

Vrain Creek as it flows through Rocky Mountain National Park and the Roosevelt National Forest, and will clarify public land ownership along the creek. Both of these provisions are based on freestanding legislation that I introduced last year and I appreciate the inclusion of the North St. Vrain Creek Protection Act in this bill.

North St. Vrain Creek, fed by countless rivulets and wild tributaries, is the primary stream flowing from the southeastern portion of Rocky Mountain National Park. From its beginnings at the continental divide, in snowfields near Long's peak, it tumbles through waterfalls and cascades in the Wild Basin area of the park. After leaving the park, the creek cuts a narrow, deep canyon until it reaches the Ralph Price Reservoir.

The watershed includes habitat for bighorn sheep, deer, elk, and mountain lions; for peregrine falcons, owls, hawks, and songbirds; for native fish, insects, and other small creatures; and for a dazzling diversity of aquatic, riparian, and mountain plants. It provides popular hiking, fishing, and hunting terrain relatively near to some of Colorado's larger cities.

The stream, surrounded by a thousand shades of greenery cooled by the mist of tumbling water, provides a profound sense of refreshment, of inspiration, and of wonder. This joining of land and water is exceptional, even for Colorado—which is no small distinction.

The North St. Vrain should be kept free of additional dams and impoundments. To that end, my bill's provisions, now included in H.R. 2922, incorporate the recommendations of a citizens' advisory committee, which I appointed in conjunction with the Boulder County Commissioners. That committee spent over 5 years developing a consensus proposal on how to protect the creek and canyon while protecting local property and water rights.

Thus, these provisions represent a great deal of work by Coloradans—especially the 50 people who took part in 103 advisory committee meetings and performed over 300 hours of independent research. Another 600 people attended 12 public hearings on the proposal. I've never known such a dedicated and conscientious group of public servants as the unpaid members of this North St. Vrain Advisory Committee. They know the creek and its environs as thoroughly as any group of citizens anywhere knows a particular area in the United States.

The advisory committee reached four principal conclusions:

First, that the North St. Vrain Creek is deserving of National Wild and Scenic River status, but that it would be premature to seek legislation to so designate it, pending development of consensus on that point. This bill would not preclude such a designation later.

Second, that, for now, a permanent prohibition should be placed on Federal approval or assistance for the construction of dams on the creek and on any part of its national park tributaries.

Third, that the National Park Service and the Forest Service should move promptly to reach agreement with the city of Longmont, CO, regarding Federal acquisition of lands the city owns along the creek.

And, fourth, that a series of the committee's recommendations should be followed in managing the Federal lands along the creek.

Three of these proposals are specified in the bill's language. I have submitted, as part of the hearing record, two documents related to the fourth proposal, regarding management of the relevant lands. One is a copy of the advisory committee's final report, and the other is a copy of the advisory committee's management plan outline. I will also present these documents to the Forest Service and National Park Service when they develop future management plans for the creek and adjoining lands.

The primary theme of these documents is that Federal management decisions should retain the current types and levels of recreational uses of the public lands in the corridor along North St. Vrain Creek. This can be done by restricting the expansion of trails and campgrounds, and through strategic land acquisitions to protect natural features from damage that would come from expanded or excessive uses. The documents also support continued good stewardship on private lands in the corridor under the guidance and control of Boulder County's land-use regulations, as well as continued protection against trespass.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced this legislation not only because of my belief in the importance of protecting the North St. Vrain, but also because of my firm conviction that the hundreds of Coloradans who have worked toward that goal have crafted a sound, effective consensus measure. Its provisions are good, clear, and straightforward, and they have the strong support of the people in the area. I urge the House to approve this bill, so that, with its enactment into law, the wonders of North St. Vrain Creek will be protected for all time.

Finally, let me express my thanks to the leadership of the Resources Committee for bringing this bill up for House action and to my colleague from Colorado, Mr. ALLARD, for his assistance.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Most of the titles of this legislation we are in agreement with, but we along with the administration, as they noted in their testimony, are concerned about the protections provided in the Hanford Reach provisions of this legislation. The concern being that we are accepting a much lesser degree of protection than we believe and the administration believes the Hanford Reach deserves, and are concerned whether or not this will eventually lead to the loss of vital natural and cultural resources. We recognize that there is disagreement on this, but we are concerned that this does not provide the level of protection that is necessary.

Mr. Speaker, the amendments adopted by the Resources Committee wraps into H.R. 2292 several river bills pending before the committee. Several of the titles in the amended bill are either opposed by the administration or they otherwise have concerns with the language. This is not a noncontroversial bill. We would have preferred that the House take up these river bills separately.

As the administration noted in its testimony, if not followed by subsequent actions, the Hanford Reach provisions of H.R. 2292 would result in a far lesser degree of protection than the Hanford Reach deserves and could result in the potential loss of vital natural and cultural resources.

We have no objection to the Lamprey River title. I understand the administration supports the bill and that the language is consistent with what we have done for similar rivers.

We also have no objection to the provisions dealing with the North St. Vrain. The House passed the same legislation in the last Congress, also sponsored by Representative SKAGGS.

The administration has expressed some minor concerns about certain provisions in the West Virginia rivers title, specifically as they relate to river access and fish stocking activities, but these should not delay its passage.

Likewise I would note that the administration does not support the language dealing with the Missouri River.

Mr. Speaker, I can understand the desire to package legislation, but in this case, with the concerns and objections outstanding, it may eventually delay, rather than facilitate, enactment of the various provisions.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Washington [Mr. HASTINGS].

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 2292, the Hanford Reach Preservation Act. I want to thank my fellow colleagues on the House Resources Committee, in particular Chairman YOUNG and subcommittee Chairman HANSEN, for their expeditious consideration of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, title I of H.R. 2292 makes permanent the current moratorium on dam building, channeling, and navigational projects along the stretch of the Columbia River known as the Hanford Reach. Located in the heart of my central Washington congressional district, the Hanford Reach is the last free-flowing stretch of the Columbia River. Running through the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, the reach is also the location of some of the healthiest salmon runs anywhere in the Pacific Northwest.

For the past 8 years, the Federal Government has played an important role in protecting the reach by prohibiting its agencies from constructing dams, channels, and other projects on this part of the river. H.R. 2292 permanently extends the current moratorium on these activities that is set to expire November 6, 1996.

The original moratorium was a direct response to proposals that would have opened the reach to barge traffic. We have since learned that making the reach navigational is not only unwise ecologically but is also impractical. H.R. 2292 ensures that we will never consider this policy again.

The Hanford Reach Preservation Act will make a significant contribution to the continued protection of this pristine area. While more needs to be resolved within the local community before this area is completely protected, H.R. 2292 is a positive step in the right direction.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their assistance and strongly urge the House to vote in favor of this measure.

Mr. Miller of California. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, 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 gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2292, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO, LAND CONVEYANCE

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2438) to provide for the conveyance of lands to certain individuals in Gunnison County, CO, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2438

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

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT AND LAND CONVEYANCE, RAGGEDS WILDERNESS, WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST, COLORADO.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Certain landowners in Gunnison County, Colorado, who own real property adjacent to the portion of the Raggeds Wilderness in the White River National Forest, Colorado, have occupied or improved their property in good faith and in reliance on erroneous surveys of their properties that the landowners reasonably believed were accurate.

(2) In 1993, a Forest Service resurvey of the Raggeds Wilderness established accurate boundaries between the wilderness area and adjacent private lands.

(3) The resurvey indicated that a small portion of the Raggeds Wilderness is occupied by adjacent landowners on the basis of the earlier erroneous land surveys.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to remove from the boundaries of the Raggeds Wilderness certain real property so as to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to use the authority of Public Law 97–465 (commonly known as the Small Tracts Act; 16 U.S.C. 521c–521i) to convey the property to the landowners who occupied the property on the basis of erroneous land surveys.

(c) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The boundary of the Raggeds Wilderness, Gunnison and White River National Forests, Colorado, as designated by section 102(a)(16) of Public Law 96–560 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note), is hereby modified to exclude from the area encompassed by the wilderness a parcel of real property approximately 0.86-acres in size situated in the SW¼ of the NE¼ of Section 28, Township 11 South, Range 88 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, as depicted on the map entitled ''Encroachment-Raggeds Wilderness'', dated November 17, 1993. Such map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(d) CONVEYANCE OF LAND REMOVED FROM WILDERNESS AREA.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall use the authority provided by Public Law 97–465 (commonly known as the Small Tracts Act; 16 U.S.C. 521C–521i) to convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property excluded from the boundaries of the Raggeds Wilderness under subsection (c) to those owners of real property in Gunnison County, Colorado, whose real property adjoins the excluded lands and who have occupied the excluded lands in good faith reliance on an erroneous survey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

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

(Mr. DOOLITTLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2438, introduced by Mr. MCINNIS of Colorado. H.R. 2438 corrects an encroachment into the Raggeds Wilderness on the White River National Forest, just west of the Town of Marble, CO. The encroachment, discovered in 1993 following a new boundary survey, consists of approximately 400 feet of power line and 450 feet of road. In addition, portions of four subdivision lots extend into the wilderness. The road is a county road and provides the sole legal access to the four lots. The entire encroachment is less than 1 acre of land.

The land in question does not have any wilderness characteristics. This land was used as it is today for 23 years before Congress designated the Raggeds Wilderness in 1982. Although only 0.86 acres is affected, the Forest Service cannot settle the matter under authority of the Small Tracts Act because the lands in question are within the Raggeds Wilderness.

H.R. 2438 adjusts the wilderness boundary to exclude the 0.86 acres from the wilderness area, and, as amended in the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Lands, it directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the affected lands to the landowners under the authority of the Small Tracts Act.

I urge the Members of the House to support H.R. 2438, so that the Forest Service will have the authority it needs to complete this minor land adjustment.

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the consideration of this measure. The bill was amended by the Committee on Resources to require that land transfers should be made pursuant to the Small Tracts Act, thereby protecting the public interest in this land transfer.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2238 deletes approximately 1 acre from the Raggeds Wilderness and authorizes the transfer of this land to the adjacent private landowners who thought the land was theirs based on erroneous private surveys.

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

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this 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 California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2438, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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WENATACHEE NATIONAL FOREST LAND EXCHANGE

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2518) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain lands in the Wenatachee National Forest, WA, for certain lands owned by Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, WA, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2518

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

SECTION 1. LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) EXCHANGE.—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the ''(Secretary'') shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the National Forest System lands described in subsection (b)(1) to Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington (referred to in this section as the ''Public Utility District''), in exchange for the conveyance to the Secretary of Agriculture by Public Utility District of all right, title, and interest of the Public Utility District in and to the lands described in subsection (b)(2).

(b) DESCRIPTIONS OF LANDS.—

(1) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS.—The National Forest System lands referred to in subsection (a) are 122 acres, more or less, that are partially occupied by a wastewater treatment facility referred to in subsection (c)(4)(A) with the following legal description:

(A) The NE¼ of SW¼ of section 27 of township 27 north, range 17 east, Willamette Meridian, Chelan County, Washington.

(B) The N½ of SE¼ of SW¼ of such section 27.

(C) The W½ of NW¼ of SE¼ of such section 27.

(D) The NW¼ of SW¼ of SE¼ of such section 27.

(E) The E½ of NW¼ of the SE¼ of such section 27.

(F) That portion of the S½ of SE¼ of SW¼ lying north of the northerly edge of Highway 209 right-of-way of such section 27.

(2) PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT LANDS.—The lands owned by the Public Utility District are 109.15 acres, more or less, with the following legal description:

(A) S½ of SW¼ of section 35 of township 26 north, range 17 east, Willamette Meridian Chelan County, Washington.

(B) The area specified by Public Utility District No. 1 as Government Lot 5 in such section 35.