

SEC. 3. WATER AND POWER CONTRACTS.

Notwithstanding the transfer, the Secretary and the Secretary of Energy shall provide for and deliver Colorado River water and Parker-Davis Project Priority Use Power to the District in accordance with the terms of existing contracts with the District, including any amendments or supplements thereto or extensions thereof and as provided under section 2 of the Agreement.

SEC. 4. SAVINGS.

Nothing in this Act shall affect any obligations under the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (Public Law 93-320, 43 U.S.C. 1571).

SEC. 5. REPORT.

If transfer of works, facilities, and lands pursuant to the Agreement has not occurred by July 1, 2000, the Secretary shall report on the status of the transfer as provided in section 5 of the Agreement.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHERWOOD. 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 S. 356.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, S. 356, the Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act, introduced by Senator KYL of Arizona, is a companion bill to H.R. 841 introduced by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) that was reported from the Committee on Resources last year.

S. 356 continues the defederalization process by conveying certain works, facilities, and titles of the Gila Project and designated lands to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District in Arizona.

Wellton-Mohawk has fully repaid its project costs. On July 10, 1998, the district and the bureau signed a memorandum of agreement that covers the details of the transfer of title. It includes transfer of lands between the Federal Government and the district, including the acquisition of additional lands for exchange.

All transfers will be at fair market value. No change in the project operation is contemplated by the transfer and the district will continue to limit irrigated acreage to 62,875 acres. The transfer would include all facilities and works for which full repayment has been made.

"The goal of Reclamation and the District is that within 180 days of the execution of the Title Transfer Contract, the Secretary shall convey to

the District all right, title and interest of the United States to the Facilities, works and lands to be conveyed and transferred to the District."

It is the expectation of the committee that the Senate will accelerate its work on other transfer bills that are currently awaiting action in the Senate. The committee expects that the Bureau of Reclamation will adhere to their memorandum of agreement with the district signed on July 10, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, I request an aye vote on the bill.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 356, the Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act. The Wellton-Mohawk has fully repaid its project costs. The district and the bureau signed a memorandum of agreement 2 years ago that covers the details of the transfer of title.

The project facilities that will be transferred under legislation no longer provide benefits to the United States, and it is appropriate that the local district assume full responsibility for these facilities.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 356.

The question was taken.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. 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.

CLARIFYING CERTAIN BOUNDARIES OF COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4435) to clarify certain boundaries on the map relating to Unit NC01 of the Coastal Barrier Resources System, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4435

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

SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT OF COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The map described in subsection (b) is replaced, in the maps depicting the Coastal Barrier Resources System that are referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)), by the map entitled "Pine Island Unit NC-01" and dated May 1, 2000.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF REPLACED MAP.—The map described in this subsection is the map that—

(1) relates to Pine Island Unit NC-01 located in Currituck and Dare Counties, North Carolina; and

(2) is included in a set of maps entitled "Coastal Barrier Resources System", dated October 24, 1990, revised on October 23, 1992, and referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)).

(c) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the replacement map referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHERWOOD. 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 H.R. 4435.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4435, introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), corrects a mistake that was made in delineating the boundary of Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit NC01.

The Coastal Barrier Resources System consists of units located on undeveloped coastal barriers and delineated on maps adapted by Congress.

Land included in the system is not acquired by the Government, and the act does not prevent or regulate development on private lands. The act does prohibit the use of Federal developmental assistance, including Federal flood insurance, on property included in the system.

Unit NC01 was originally created in 1990 to incorporate property owned by the National Audubon Society and the surrounding associated aquatic habitat. Unfortunately, a significant amount of privately and publicly owned developed property was inadvertently, or incorrectly, included within its boundary.

In 1992, Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to redraw the boundary to fix these problems. That new map again failed to accurately portray the boundary of the Audubon Sanctuary, and the unit continued to include privately owned development property.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4435 removes the incorrectly labeled private property and adds associated aquatic habitat that was incorrectly left out of the unit in 1992.

The Fish and Wildlife Service supports this change. I commend the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for his efforts in correcting this error and urge an aye vote on H.R. 4435.

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

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

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation to change the boundaries of the Coastal Barrier Resource System Unit established under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act known as NC01.

I believe that it is important that we contain the so-called technical corrections bills that we have seen in our committee to address those problems that are clear inaccuracies. I believe that this legislation does that. And it is also incumbent that those of us on the committee not use those technical corrections to go for unintended changes and make sure that they are held at a minimum. I think that this legislation does that.

We see a lot of efforts from time to time to use boundary changes to do more than make these technical corrections, but this legislation does not do that. I think that this is consistent with the original intent of the Congress, and I urge passage of this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4435, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. 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.

DIRECTING A STUDY TO RESTORE KEALIA POND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, HAWAII

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3176) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine ways of restoring the natural wetlands conditions in the Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3176

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

SECTION 1. STUDY OF KEALIA POND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, HAWAII.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in consultation with the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall conduct a study to determine ways of restoring the natural wetlands conditions in the Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii. The

study shall include examination of hydrology, manmade impacts on wetlands, species succession, and imbalances in natural habitat in the refuge.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after amounts are first available to implement this section, the Secretary shall complete the study under subsection (a) and report to the Congress findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$250,000 to carry out this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHERWOOD. 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 H.R. 3176.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3176 addresses an ongoing water management problem at the Kealia National Wildlife Refuge on Maui, Hawaii. This bill was introduced by our colleague, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK).

The legislation directs the Secretary of Interior to study the serious water management problems that currently exist at the 700-acre refuge. The refuge was created in 1992 to conserve habitat for endangered birds and to provide a wintering sanctuary for a variety of waterfowl species.

Regrettably, the Fish and Wildlife Service has failed to provide the necessary resources to manage the water fluctuations. As a result of changes in the landscape, this refuge experiences the frequent dry-ups which result in dust storms, fish kills, and problems with nuisance insects. These problems have a negative economic and health impact on the people who live near the refuge.

1345

This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the water problems at the refuge and come up with a plan for addressing the management needs within 1 year. H.R. 3176 is non-controversial, and I urge an aye vote.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3176, to provide for the study of the deterioration that has taken place on Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge on the Island of Maui.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) has properly explained

the legislation. I want to commend and thank our colleague, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), for bringing the deterioration of this refuge to the attention of the committee.

I think I and most members of the committee were very disappointed to learn the extent to which this refuge, the largest freshwater pond in the entire State of Hawaii, could have reached such a degraded condition.

I think this legislation will be important in turning that around, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3176.

I want to thank Chairman YOUNG, Ranking Member Mr. MILLER of the Resources Committee and Subcommittee Chairman SAXTON and Ranking Member Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA of the Fisheries Subcommittee for their efforts to bring the bill to the floor today.

I introduced H.R. 3176 on October 28, 1999. The legislation requires the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine ways of restoring the natural wetlands conditions in Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge. The study would include an examination of hydrology, manmade impacts on wetlands, species succession and imbalances in natural habitat in the refuge. The legislation authorizes \$250,000 to conduct the study. The study would be reported to Congress not later than one year after funds for the study are made available.

The Refuge is located on the island of Maui and is part of the Mai Nui National Wildlife Refuge Complex. It was established in 1992 and consists of 691 acres. The pond itself is the largest natural pond in Hawaii, and covers between 400 and 500 acres at its greatest extent during the wet season. The pond is home of two endangered native Hawaiian birds, the Hawaiian stilt and the Hawaiian coot. The pond also provides food and shelter for numerous migratory waterfowl and shorebirds.

Human activity over the years has significantly changed the nature of the pond. In the early 1900's the pond had a depth of between six and eight feet. Over the years grazing and agricultural use of the land above the pond increased the runoff of sedimentation. Between 1925 and 1930 the pond was used as a rubbish dump, further reducing the depth of the pond. In 1970 twenty-five acres of land north of the pond were converted to a commercial aquaculture operation. Dikes were built, water impounded and a well dug.

All these activities have had a deleterious effect on the natural habitat of the pond.

Now the pond has an average depth of only one foot. As the depth of the pond decreased the pond increasingly lost the ability to carry off sediments. Sand carried into the pond from adjacent dunes that otherwise would have been flushed away now stays in the pond further reducing the depth.

The shallow depth of the pond permits it to dry up quickly. The natural trade winds of the area then cause great clouds of dust to arise. The dust blows into the homes, eyes and lungs of nearby residents. The dust causes burning eyes and residents worry that the cause may be that the dust contains fertilizer and chemical residue from agricultural runoff and unknown chemicals from materials deposited during the period the pond was used as a dump.