

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5361

To require the Secretary of the Interior to provide public access to Navassa National Wildlife Refuge and Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2004

Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. POMBO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to provide public access to Navassa National Wildlife Refuge and Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ACCESS TO NAVASSA AND DESECHEO NA-**
4 **TIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES.**

5 (a) ACCESS, GENERALLY.—The Secretary of the In-
6 terior, acting through the Director of the United States
7 Fish and Wildlife Service (in this section referred to as
8 the “Secretary”), shall provide public access to, use of,
9 and recreational opportunities at the Navassa National
10 Wildlife Refuge and Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge

1 under special use permits issued under the first section
2 of Public Law 87–714 (16 U.S.C. 460k), popularly known
3 as the Refuge Recreation Act, section 4 of the National
4 Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16
5 U.S.C. 668dd), and regulations issued under this section.

6 (b) TIME LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary—

7 (1) subject to paragraph (2), may limit access
8 to such refuges to specific time periods in any year;
9 and

10 (2) shall provide access to each refuge during at
11 least one period each year.

12 (c) PRIORITY.—In issuing special use permits under
13 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to consider-
14 ation of permit applications that do not negatively impact
15 opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation.

16 (d) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may include in any
17 permit issued under this section conditions that the Sec-
18 retary determines are necessary to protect fish and wildlife
19 populations and their habitat or public health and safety.

20 (e) REGULATIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
23 retary shall issue regulations governing the issuance
24 of special use permits under this section.

1 (2) CONTENTS.—Regulations under this sub-
2 section shall establish for each of the Navassa Na-
3 tional Wildlife Refuge and Desecheo National Wild-
4 life Refuge—

5 (A) the dates for which access may be pro-
6 vided;

7 (B) the process for submitting an applica-
8 tion for a special use permit; and

9 (C) the minimum information required to
10 be included in a permit application.

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