

River that was authorized by a finding of feasibility approved by the President on August 30, 1935, and constructed for irrigation and electric power generation, the major features of which include—

(A) Seminoe Dam, Reservoir, and Powerplant; and

(B) Alcova Dam and Powerplant.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation.

(4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Wyoming.

(b) CONTRACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into 1 or more contracts with the city for annual storage of the city’s water for municipal and industrial use in Seminoe Dam and Reservoir of the Kendrick Project.

(2) CONDITIONS.—

(A) TERM; RENEWAL.—A contract under paragraph (1) shall—

(i) have a term of not more than 40 years; and

(ii) may be renewed on terms agreeable to the Secretary and the city, for successive terms of not more than 40 years per term.

(B) REVENUES.—Notwithstanding the Act of May 9, 1938 (52 Stat. 322, chapter 187; 43 U.S.C. 392a)—

(i) any operation and maintenance charges received under a contract executed under paragraph (1) shall be credited against applicable operation and maintenance costs of the Kendrick Project; and

(ii) any other revenues received under a contract executed under paragraph (1) shall be credited to the Reclamation Fund as a credit to the construction costs of the Kendrick Project.

(C) EFFECT ON EXISTING CONTRACTORS.—A contract under paragraph (1) shall not adversely affect the Kendrick Project, any existing Kendrick Project contractor, or any existing Reclamation contractor on the North Platte River System.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate passed S. 161, the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005. It is my hope that this bill will be considered quickly by the House of Representatives and sent to the President for his signature in the near future.

I want to thank Senator KYL and his staff for their work in helping to develop this compromise legislation. I also want to thank Senators DOMENICI and BINGAMAN, and their staffs on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for their efforts in reaching an agreement on this legislation during the last Congress and helping to move it through the legislative process. In addition, I want to recognize the work of Congressmen RENZI and HAYWORTH who have championed this legislation in the House of Representatives.

Late last year, after several years of negotiation and compromise, the Senate passed by unanimous consent a nearly identical measure. This bill provides a sound framework for a fair and equal value exchange of 50,000 acres of private and public land in Northern Arizona. It also addresses water issues as-

sociated with the exchange of lands located within the Verde River Basin watershed by limiting water usage on certain exchanged lands and by supporting the development of a collaborative science-based water resource planning and management entity for the Verde River Basin watershed.

The Arizona delegation and a broad array of local area officials are strongly supportive of the legislation because it will offer significant benefits for all parties. Benefits will accrue to the U.S. Forest Service and the public with the consolidation of checkerboard lands and the protection and enhanced management of extensive forest and grasslands. The communities of Flagstaff, Williams, and Camp Verde also will benefit in terms of economic development opportunities, water supply, and other important purposes.

While facilitating the exchange of public and private lands is a very important objective of this legislation, and indeed, was the original purpose when we began working on it several years ago, the provisions concerning water management are perhaps even more important. Since introducing the original legislation over 2 years ago, I have heard from hundreds of Arizonans and learned first-hand of the significant water issues raised by the transfer of Federal land into private ownership. We have modified the bill to take into account many of the concerns raised during meetings held throughout northern Arizona, including removing certain lands entirely from the exchange.

There is growing recognition of the need to develop and promote the wise management of Arizona’s limited water supplies, particularly with the extended drought coupled with rapid population growth. As such, the bill passed by the Senate would not only limit water usage on the exchanged lands, but also provide an opportunity to encourage sound water management in northern Arizona through the creation of a collaborative, science-based decision-making body to advance essential planning and management at the State and local level in Northern Arizona.

To be successful, this effort will require the involvement of all the stakeholders with water supply responsibilities and interests. It will also require a solid foundation of knowledge about available resources and existing demands. We are fortunate to have an existing model of collaborative science-based water resource planning and management with the Upper San Pedro Partnership in the Sierra Vista sub-watershed of Arizona. In my view, the establishment of a similar, cooperative body in the Verde Basin will be a vital step in assuring the wise use of our limited water resources.

Again, I want to thank all of the parties involved with this legislation.

DESIGNATING A PORTION OF THE WHITE SALMON RIVER AS A COMPONENT OF THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

FURTHERING THE PURPOSES OF THE SAND CREEK MASSACRE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 2000

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVEY CERTAIN LAND TO LANDER COUNTY, NEVADA, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONVEY CERTAIN LAND TO EUREKA COUNTY, NEVADA, FOR CONTINUED USE AS CEMETERIES

Ms. COLLINS. I ask consent that the committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 38, H.R. 481, and H.R. 541, and the Senate proceed to the measures en bloc, provided that the bills be read a third time and passed en bloc, and any statements related to the bills be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bills (H.R. 38), (H.R. 481) and (H.R. 541) were read the third time and passed en bloc.

MEASURES INDEFINITELY POSTPONED—CALENDAR NOS. 19, 23, 31, 40

Ms. COLLINS. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that calendar Nos. 19, 23, 31, and 40 be indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ESTABLISHING THE TREATMENT OF ACTUAL RENTAL PROCEEDS FROM LEASES OF LAND ACQUIRED UNDER AN ACT PROVIDING FOR LOANS TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL CORPORATIONS

AMENDING THE INDIAN LAND CONSOLIDATION ACT TO PROVIDE FOR PROBATE REFORM

AMENDING THE ACT OF AUGUST 9, 1955, TO PROVIDE FOR BINDING ARBITRATION FOR GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY RESERVATION CONTRACTS