the Upper Farmington have been managed cooperatively on the local, state and federal level for over a decade. Regrettably, Salmon Brook, a major tributary, and the Lower Farmington that runs 40 miles from Canton to its confluence with the Connecticut River in Windsor do not share the same federal protection. Continued threats to the river's water quality reinforce the urgent need for a collaborative effort to preserve the unique character of both the Upper and Lower Farmington, as well as Salmon Brook, for present and future generations.

The Lower Farmington is a rare natural, cultural and recreational area for the people of the First District and throughout the entire state of Connecticut. The river's free-flowing waters support a rich ecological system and serves as the habitat for diverse fish species, including the American shad and the Atlantic salmon. The River is also home to trout, river otter and bald eagle populations. Since the 1600s, the River has prominently been featured in our state history, from the Tunxis Native American tribes who settled on its shores to the mills and dams that sprung up as part of the Industrial Revolution. Today, people from across Connecticut can enjoy the majestic views of the river along the Farmington River Trail—a former railroad line that when completed will run 26 miles along the shores of the Farmington.

Since 1968, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System has protected the Nation's most valuable rivers. Through this system, rivers that possess remarkable scenic, recreational, natural, and cultural values are preserved in their free-flowing condition and are protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Designated rivers are afforded the federal protection necessary to maintain their resources and character.

The Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook Wild and Scenic River Study Act is the first significant step towards designating the Lower Farmington in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I urge my colleagues to join me in ensuring the environmental and historic preservation of these waterways by supporting the underlying bill.

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

Mr. RENZI. 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 Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1344, 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.

AUTHORIZING NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO PAY FOR SUBCONTRACTOR SERVICES COMPLETED AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3961) to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services rendered by subcontractors under a General Services Administration Indefinite Deliver/Indefinite Quantity Contract issued for work to be completed at the Grand Canyon National Park.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3961

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) IDIQ.—The term ''IDIQ'' means an Indefinite Deliver/Indefinite Quantity contract.

(2) PARK.—The term ''park'' means Grand Canyon National Park.

(3) PGI.—The term ''PGI'' means Pacific General, Inc.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The park issued approximately 40 task orders to PGI under an IDIQ between fiscal years 2002 and 2003 for a variety of projects.

(2) The value of these task orders was over $17,000,000 for various construction projects throughout the park.

(3) According to invoices sent to the park, PGI certified that proceeds of payments were being sent to subcontractors and suppliers.

(4) In January 2004, complaints were received by numerous subcontractors citing lack of payments by PGI.

(5) The National Park Service has paid over $10,000,000 to PGI, of which an estimated $1,300,000 was owed, but not paid to subcontractors.

(6) During an acquisition management review conducted by the Washington Contracting and Procurement Office of the National Park Service, it was found that the park had failed to ensure that PGI obtained the necessary payment and performance bonds required by the IDIQ and the Miller Act (40 U.S.C. 270a).

(7) On February 6, 2004, the National Park Service suspended further payment to PGI and issued a suspension notice to cease activity by the contractor.

(8) The National Park Service gave PGI every reasonable opportunity to resolve the situation, but PGI has effectively ceased doing business.

(9) Recovery by the Government of that $1,300,000 is unlikely.

(10) The National Park Service is prohibited from making payments to a contractor without obtaining payment and performance bonds.

(11) Contract law generally prohibits payment directly to subcontractors because of the lack of a direct, contractual relationship between the parties.

(12) The Federal Government has derived benefits from the work that has been completed.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to authorize the Secretary to pay for services rendered by subcontractors that should have been paid by PGI.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION.

The Secretary is authorized to use $1,300,000 from the park's entrance fee revenues to pay subcontractors of PGI for work performed at the park under an IDIQ with PGI between fiscal years 2002 and 2003 provided that—

(1) the primary contract between PGI and the National Park Service is terminated;

(2) the amount owed to the subcontractors is verified;

(3) all reasonable legal avenues or recourse have been exhausted by the subcontractors to recoup amounts owed directly from PGI; and

(4) the subcontractors provide a written statement that payment of the amount verified in paragraph (2) represents payment in full by the United States for all work performed at the park under the IDIQ with PGI between fiscal years 2002 and 2003.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3961, authored by myself, would authorize the National Park Service to pay up to 38 subcontractors for work they performed at the Grand Canyon National Park during the years 2002 and 2003. To date, these subcontractors still have not been paid a total of $1.3 million because the primary contractor went out of business. As it turned out, the primary contractor was not bonded, a fact that the National Park Service does not dispute. The Park Service has indicated it has the money and wishes to make the contractors whole, but requires a congressional directive to do so.

I thank the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) whose perseverance on this issue has allowed us to get to this point today in helping to resolve the issue. I urge adoption of the bill.

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

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

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, first, I wish to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) for his work on this bill. We have no objection to the consideration of this legislation, H.R. 3961, and urge our colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. RENZI. 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 Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3961.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SOUTHERN NEVADA READINESS CENTER ACT

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4382) to provide for the conveyance of certain land in Clark County, Nevada, for use by the Nevada National Guard.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4382

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 ''Southern Nevada Readiness Center Act''.

SEC. 2. NEVADA NATIONAL GUARD LAND CONVEYANCE, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Clark County, Nevada, may convey, without consideration, to the Nevada Division of State Lands for use by the Nevada National Guard between 35 and 50 acres of land in Clark County, Nevada, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Southern Nevada Readiness Center Act'' and dated October 4, 2005.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4382, introduced by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER), would allow Clark County, Nevada, to convey 35 to 50 acres to the State and exempt them from paying 85 percent of the land value which is required by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act. The State of Nevada would like to build a National Guard facility, the Southern Nevada Readiness Center, on this land. The Center would likely serve as the new Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team for the State and serve related purposes for the protection of McCarran airport. Currently, National Guard units in Las Vegas must serve and operate from locations spread over 25 miles.

I urge passage of the bill.

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

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

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, we support H.R. 4382; and I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER). We have no objection to the adoption of the legislation by the House today.

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

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of the bill, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of H.R. 4382, the Southern Nevada Readiness Center Act. I would like to thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY), as well as the Nevada National Guard and Clark County, Nevada, for their strong support of this legislation.

The purpose of H.R. 4382 is to convey 35 to 50 acres of land from the McCarran Airport Cooperative Management Area Boundary to the Nevada National Guard in the State of Nevada for the purpose of building the Nevada National Guard Readiness Center. This new center will reside in my district in southern Nevada.

The Nevada Army National Guard is an impressive group of soldiers whose work contributes to the United States military's overall mission of defending our homeland. More specifically, the Nevada National Guard maintains a three-part mission geared to the Federal, State and community. The underlying focus of each individual mission is for the safety, the protection and the well-being of the American people.

Under the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization for fiscal year 2005, over $12.8 million was secured to construct a new Nevada National Guard Readiness Center in southern Nevada. Additionally, during their 2005 legislative work period, the Nevada State legislature approved matching funds and has appropriated over $27 million for the construction of and projects associated with the Readiness Center.

The State of Nevada is firmly committed to ensuring that we do our part to defend our homeland and that our guard is prepared to respond to any national security threats facing our State and Nation.

The Southern Nevada Readiness Center is an essential link to helping the State meet its commitment to train guardsmen to respond to chemical, biological and other terrorist threats against Nevada and our Nation.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support passage of this very important bill.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I just want to state my support for our National Guard Civil Support Teams and for H.R. 4382. We fought long and hard for our CST in Guam and just broke ground for our facility last month.

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

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers; and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4382.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2006

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4588) to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows

H.R. 4588

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 ''Water Resources Research Act Amendments of 2006''.

SEC. 2. WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT AMENDMENTS.

(a) SCOPE OF RESEARCH; OTHER ACTIVITIES; COOPERATION AND COORDINATION.—Section 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) plan, conduct, or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer reviewed research that fosters—

''(A) improvements in water supply reliability;

''(B) resolutions of other water problems;

''(C) the entry of new research scientists, engineers, and technicians into water resources fields; and

''(D) the dissemination of research results to water managers and the public.''.

(b) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Section 104(e) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303 (e)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''5'' and inserting ''3''; and

(2) by inserting ''at producing measured results and applied water supply research'' after ''effectiveness''.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, to remain available until expended, $12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.''.

(d) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RESEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303 (g)(1)) is amended by striking ''$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, $4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005'' and inserting the following: ''$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011''.

(e) COORDINATION.—Section 104(h)(2) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(h)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(2) REPORT'' and inserting ''(2) REPORTS''; and

(2) by inserting after the first sentence the following: ''As part of the annual budget submission to Congress, the Secretary shall also provide a crosscut budget detailing the expenditures on activities listed under subsection (a)(1) and a report which details the level of applied research and the results of the activities authorized by this Act, including potential and actual—

''(A) increases in annual water supplies;

''(B) increases in annual water yields; and

''(C) advances in water infrastructure improvements.''.

(f) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 107 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10306) is amended by striking ''15'' and inserting ''5''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

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