

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4455

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide international wildlife management and conservation programs through the Wildlife Without Borders Program in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. SAXTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide international wildlife management and conservation programs through the Wildlife Without Borders Program in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Wildlife Without Bor-  
5       ders Authorization Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1           (1) our Nation has a long-standing commitment  
2           to assisting other countries with the conservation of  
3           wildlife species and limited wildlife conservation re-  
4           sources, including trained wildlife professionals, are  
5           often unavailable in many foreign countries con-  
6           taining globally important biological resources;

7           (2) conservation activities, both overseas and in  
8           neighboring countries, are required to meet the Fed-  
9           eral Government's obligations under numerous inter-  
10          national treaties, laws, agreements, and cooperative  
11          programs;

12          (3) since 1989, the Wildlife Without Borders  
13          Program, an administratively-created program with-  
14          in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, has  
15          provided wildlife conservation assistance throughout  
16          the world by developing locally-adapted wildlife man-  
17          agement and conservation programs, in coordination  
18          with non-governmental organizations, governments,  
19          private businesses, and community leaders, in an ef-  
20          fort to maintain global species diversity;

21          (4) activities under the Wildlife Without Bor-  
22          ders Program is responsible for implementation of  
23          over 800 conservation projects around the world that  
24          address grass-roots threats to numerous endangered  
25          species, habitats, and ecosystems and that com-

1       plement the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-  
2       ice’s existing programs for African elephants, rhinoc-  
3       eros and tigers, Asian elephants, great apes, migra-  
4       tory birds, and marine turtles;

5           (5) activities under the Wildlife Without Bor-  
6       ders Program provide education, training, and out-  
7       reach to strengthen capacity for habitat and wildlife  
8       conservation throughout the world and serve a key  
9       role in facilitating international dialogue; and

10          (6) although the Secretary of the Interior is  
11       generally authorized to undertake partnering and ca-  
12       pacity building activities, a specific authorization will  
13       reinforce our Nation’s long-term commitment to the  
14       Wildlife Without Borders Program.

15          (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide  
16       capacity building, outreach, education, and training assist-  
17       ance in endangered species and strategic habitat conserva-  
18       tion to other nations by providing international wildlife  
19       management and conservation programs through the  
20       Wildlife Without Borders Program.

21 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

22       In this Act:

23          (1) CONSERVATION.—The term “conservation”  
24       includes—

1 (A) the methods and procedures necessary  
2 to bring a species to the point at which there  
3 are sufficient populations in the wild to ensure  
4 that the species does not become extinct; and

5 (B) all activities associated with protection  
6 and management of a species, including—

7 (i) maintenance, management, protec-  
8 tion, and restoration of species habitat;

9 (ii) research and monitoring;

10 (iii) law enforcement;

11 (iv) community outreach and edu-  
12 cation;

13 (v) conflict resolution initiatives; and

14 (vi) strengthening the capacity of local  
15 communities, government agencies, non-  
16 governmental organizations, and other in-  
17 stitutions to implement conservation pro-  
18 grams.

19 (2) FISH OR WILDLIFE.—The term “fish or  
20 wildlife” means any member of the animal kingdom,  
21 including any mammal, fish, bird, amphibian, rep-  
22 tile, mollusk, crustacean, or arthropod.

23 (3) PLANT.—The term “plant” mean any mem-  
24 ber of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots, and  
25 other parts thereof.

1           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2           the Secretary of the Interior.

3           (5) SPECIES.—The term “species” includes any  
4           subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any dis-  
5           tinct population segment of any species of vertebrate  
6           fish or wildlife.

7   **SEC. 4. WILDLIFE WITHOUT BORDERS PROGRAM.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out the  
9           Wildlife Without Borders Program within the United  
10          States Fish and Wildlife Service to provide international  
11          wildlife conservation assistance through the initiation, fa-  
12          cilitation, and promotion of locally adapted wildlife man-  
13          agement and conservation programs in coordination with  
14          non-governmental organizations, governments, private  
15          businesses, and community leaders. Such program shall  
16          include, but shall not be limited to, partnership programs  
17          for grass roots capacity building, applied scientific con-  
18          servation research, and wildlife management training.

19          (b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—The program author-  
20          ized under this section shall include the following:

21                (1) SPECIES PROGRAM.—A species program,  
22                which shall comprise administration of the programs  
23                and funds authorized by—

24                        (A) the African Elephant Conservation Act  
25                        of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.);

1 (B) the Asian Elephant Conservation Act  
2 of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.);

3 (C) the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation  
4 Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.);

5 (D) the Great Ape Conservation Act of  
6 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301);

7 (E) the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of  
8 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601); and

9 (F) any similar, future authority provided  
10 to the Secretary and implemented by the Fish  
11 and Wildlife Service.

12 (2) REGIONAL PROGRAM.—A regional program,  
13 which shall—

14 (A) address grass-roots conservation prob-  
15 lems through a regional grants program focused  
16 on building in-country human and institutional  
17 capacity to achieve comprehensive conservation  
18 in a manner adapted to the particular needs of  
19 a partner country;

20 (B) facilitate and guide delivery of other  
21 international United States Fish and Wildlife  
22 Service programs; and

23 (C) coordinate, develop, and implement re-  
24 gional treaties, conventions, and accords, in-  
25 cluding regional coordination mechanisms, on

1           behalf of the United States Fish and Wildlife  
2           Service.

3           (3) GLOBAL PROGRAM.—A global program,  
4           which shall, through programs under the jurisdiction  
5           of the secretary and that are implemented through  
6           the United States Fish and Wildlife Service—

7                   (A) implement global habitat and conserva-  
8                   tion initiatives; and

9                   (B) address the international aspects of  
10                  global conservation threats, such as invasive  
11                  species and wildlife disease.

12          (c) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall operate the  
13          program components authorized under this section in a  
14          coordinated fashion to ensure efficient and cost-effective  
15          implementation.

16          (d) ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS.—The Secretary may  
17          include such additional components in the program au-  
18          thorized under this section as the Secretary considers ap-  
19          propriate.

20       **SEC. 5. ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.**

21           In administering the Wildlife Without Borders Pro-  
22          gram, the Secretary may accept donations of funds and  
23          to use such funds for capacity building, grants, and other  
24          on-the-ground uses carried out by the program compo-

1 nents authorized under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section  
2 4.

3 **SEC. 6. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**

4 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)  
5 shall not apply to any advisory committees established  
6 under this Act.

7 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 To carry out this Act there is authorized to be appro-  
9 priated to the Secretary \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal  
10 years 2009 through 2013.

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