111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 4108

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, California.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2009

Mr. McClintock introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, California.

- 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 "Gold Hill-Wakamatsu
- 5 Preservation Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds that—
- 8 (1) the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, California,
- 9 was the location of the founding of the Wakamatsu
- Tea and Silk Farm Colony in 1869;

1	(2) the Ranch is—
2	(A) the oldest property in North America
3	to be associated with Japanese immigration;
4	and
5	(B) the only property associated with the
6	immigration of samurai following the Meiji Res-
7	toration;
8	(3) the Ranch includes—
9	(A) an 1860s home that was occupied by
10	the Wakamatsu settlers;
11	(B) mulberry trees planted by the silk
12	farmers; and
13	(C) the grave stone of Okei Ito, which is
14	the oldest Japanese immigrant grave in the
15	United States; and
16	(4) a variety of non-Federal funds have been
17	obligated with respect to the acquisition and restora-
18	tion of the Ranch, including—
19	(A) \$485,000 from the Farm and Ranch-
20	land Protection Program and \$515,000 from
21	private donations to be applied toward acquisi-
22	tion of the Ranch; and
23	(B) \$483,750 from the California Cultural
24	and Historical Endowment to be applied toward
25	restoration of the Graner farmhouse

1 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

1	SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.
2	In this Act:
3	(1) MAP.—The term "map" means the map en-
4	titled "Gold Hill-Wakamatsu Site" and dated May
5	7, 2009.
6	(2) Ranch.—
7	(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "Ranch"
8	means the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, Cali-
9	fornia (El Dorado County Assessor's Parcel No.
10	089–010–06), comprising approximately 272
11	acres, which is more particularly described as
12	the SW $^{1}/_{4}$ and the SW $^{1}/_{2}$ of the SE $^{1}/_{4}$ of Sec.
13	29 and the $N^{1/2}NE^{1/4}$ of Sec. 32, T. 11 N., R.
14	10 E., of El Dorado County, California.
15	(B) Exclusion.—The term "Ranch" ex-
16	cludes the small inholding of the Gold Trail
17	School District, as depicted on the map.
18	(3) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
19	the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
20	rector of the Bureau of Land Management.
21	SEC. 4. ACQUISITION OF GOLD HILL RANCH, COLOMA,
22	CALIFORNIA.
23	(a) In General.—Subject to subsection (b), the Sec-
24	retary may acquire the Ranch in exchange for consider-
25	ation in an amount not to exceed \$3,290,000.

1	(b) LIMITATION ON ACQUISITION.—The acquisition
2	of the Ranch under subsection (a) shall only be from will-
3	ing sellers and not through eminent domain.
4	(c) Non-Federal Contributions.—For the con-
5	sideration required under subsection (a), the American
6	River Conservancy and the Gold Hill Wakamatsu Colony
7	Foundation shall contribute any private funds or State or
8	Federal grants received by the Conservancy and the Foun-
9	dation for the acquisition of the Ranch.
10	(d) Visitor Center.—
11	(1) In General.—On acquisition of the
12	Wakamatsu Colony site, the Secretary may work
13	with the American River Conservancy and the Gold
14	Hill Wakamatsu Colony Foundation to design and
15	develop a visitor center that provides for the inter-
16	pretation of—
17	(A) the Wakamatsu Colony;
18	(B) early pioneer history; and
19	(C) the contribution of traditional Japa-
20	nese crops and practices to the extensive agri-
21	cultural economy of the State of California.
22	(2) Costs.—To the maximum extent prac-
23	ticable, the costs of constructing the visitor center
24	and conducting restoration activities at the Ranch
25	shall be leveraged by amounts received by the Amer-

- 1 ican River Conservancy and the Gold Hill
- 2 Wakamatsu Colony Foundation in the form of pri-
- 3 vate funds and State or Federal grants provided for
- 4 those purposes.
- 5 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
- 6 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
- 7 essary to carry out this Act.

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