

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 306

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 18, 2011

Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Corolla Wild Horses
5 Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WILD HORSES IN AND AROUND THE CURRITUCK**
7 **NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.**

8 (a) AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
2 rior shall enter into an agreement with the Corolla
3 Wild Horse Fund (a nonprofit corporation estab-
4 lished under the laws of the State of North Caro-
5 lina), the County of Currituck, North Carolina, and
6 the State of North Carolina within 180 days after
7 the date of enactment of this Act to provide for
8 management of free-roaming wild horses in and
9 around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

10 (2) TERMS.—The agreement shall—

11 (A) allow a herd of not less than 110 free-
12 roaming wild horses in and around such refuge,
13 with a target population of between 120 and
14 130 free-roaming wild horses;

15 (B) provide for cost-effective management
16 of the horses while ensuring that natural re-
17 sources within the refuge are not adversely im-
18 pacted; and

19 (C) provide for introduction of a small
20 number of free-roaming wild horses from the
21 herd at Cape Lookout National Seashore as is
22 necessary to maintain the genetic viability of
23 the herd in and around the Currituck National
24 Wildlife Refuge.

1 (b) CONDITIONS FOR EXCLUDING WILD HORSES
2 FROM REFUGE.—The Secretary shall not exclude free-
3 roaming wild horses from any portion of the Currituck
4 National Wildlife Refuge unless—

5 (1) the Secretary finds that the presence of
6 free-roaming wild horses on a portion of the Refuge
7 threatens the survival of an endangered species for
8 which such land is designated as critical habitat
9 under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
10 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

11 (2) such finding is based on a credible peer-re-
12 viewed scientific assessment; and

13 (3) the Secretary provides a period of public no-
14 tice and comment on that finding.

15 (c) REQUIREMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION OF HORSES
16 FROM CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE.—During
17 the effective period of the memorandum of understanding
18 between the National Park Service and the Foundation
19 for Shackleford Horses, Inc. (a non-profit corporation or-
20 ganized under the laws of and doing business in the State
21 of North Carolina) signed in 2007, no horse may be re-
22 moved from Cape Lookout National Seashore for intro-
23 duction at Currituck National Wildlife Refuge except—

24 (1) with the approval of the Foundation; and

1 (2) consistent with the terms of such memo-
2 randum (or any successor agreement) and the Man-
3 agement Plan for the Shackleford Banks Horse
4 Herd signed in January 2006 (or any successor
5 management plan).

6 (d) NO LIABILITY CREATED.—Nothing in this sec-
7 tion shall be construed as creating liability for the United
8 States for any damages caused by the free-roaming wild
9 horses to any person or property located inside or outside
10 the boundaries of the refuge.

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