

rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE EXPANSION ACT

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1719) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1719

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the “John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act”.*

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act:*

(1) **HISTORIC SITE.**—The term “Historic Site” means the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez, California, established by Public Law 88–547 (78 Stat. 753).

(2) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “John Muir National Historic Site Proposed Boundary Expansion”, numbered 426/127150, and dated November 2014.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

## SEC. 3. JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE LAND ACQUISITION.

(a) **ACQUISITION.**—The Secretary may acquire by donation the approximately 44 acres of land and any interests in the land that is identified on the map.

(b) **BOUNDARY.**—On the acquisition of the land authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary shall adjust the boundaries of the Historic Site to include the acquired land.

(c) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The land and any interests in land acquired under subsection (a) shall be administered as part of the National Historic Site.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1719 would authorize the expansion of the John Muir National Historic Site by approximately 44 acres.

Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, in Martinez, California, this site preserves the 14-room Italianate Victorian mansion where John Muir lived, as well as a 325-acre tract of native oak woodlands and grasslands owned by the Muir family.

The additional proposed acreage in this bill is directly adjacent to the cur-

rent site and will allow for better public access to trails in the area. This acreage will be donated to the National Park Service and will not be acquired with any Federal dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1719 authorizes the National Park Service to expand the boundary of the John Muir National Historic Site and acquire 44 acres of land from the Muir Heritage Land Trust. The donation will expand the site and help carry on Muir's important legacy of conservation and environmental stewardship.

John Muir is one of our Nation's most respected and revered ecologists. His writings have inspired millions, and his activism and advocacy led to the establishment of some of our first and most iconic national parks.

From the moment he set foot in Yosemite Valley, John Muir was consumed with its natural wonder and beauty. He became Yosemite's most vocal champion, but he didn't spend his whole life there.

From 1890 until his death in 1914, Muir lived on a farm not far from San Francisco. It was from this corner of the bay area that Muir cofounded the Sierra Club and helped lay the groundwork for a century of conservation.

John Muir's tireless advocacy led to the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, and his spirit and enduring legacy led to the protection of much more.

Passage of H.R. 1719 will contribute to John Muir's legacy and it will help to protect and conserve the place where he found solace and inspiration in his later years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the bill's sponsor, Representative DESAULNIER from California, and I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER).

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from California for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 1719, the John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act. This bipartisan legislation will expand the Martinez, California, historic site in my district that celebrates the life and legacy of John Muir.

Muir was a lifelong conservationist, a leading advocate of the National Park Service, and a cofounder of the Sierra Club. He worked to establish and protect national parks, including Yosemite, Sequoia, Grand Canyon, and Mount Rainier.

The John Muir National Historic Site, which includes the home where he

lived, covers 330 acres of Contra Costa County where Muir championed the revolutionary idea that wild spaces should be set aside for all to enjoy.

This bill would make it possible for the National Park Service to accept a donation of 44 acres of land from the John Muir Land Trust, improving access to the park and its scenic trails, including those on Mount Wanda, named after Muir's eldest daughter.

The trail systems are accessible for hikers, bikers, and equestrians, including critical connections to the 550-mile Bay Area Ridge Trail and to nearby protected lands along the Franklin Ridge corridor.

As John Muir once said, “everybody needs beauty, as well as bread, places to play in . . . where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike.”

Mr. Speaker, I thank my predecessor, Congressman George Miller, who championed this bill. I also thank the Natural Resources Committee chair, Chairman BISHOP; Ranking Member GRIJALVA; the subcommittee chairman, Mr. MCCLINTOCK from California; and subcommittee ranking member, Ms. HANABUSA for their leadership in bringing H.R. 1719 to the floor today.

I am grateful for the support of 21 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who cosponsored this legislation, and to Senator KAMALA HARRIS for leading the bill's counterpart in the U.S. Senate.

I also thank the John Muir Land Trust for its hard work and dedication preserving and protecting this valuable parkland and shoreline in Contra Costa County for future generations.

This legislation puts a fitting emphasis on the National Park Service's centennial celebrations, helping to preserve the trails and lands that surround the longtime home of the man known as the “father” of the U.S. National Park Service.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on this bipartisan legislation, the John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act.

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Natural Resources, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1719, the “John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act,” authorizing the Department of the Interior to acquire an additional 44 acres of land to expand the John Muir National Historic Site, which currently stretches across 330 acres in the East Bay of San Francisco and includes the home where legendary naturalist John Muir lived until he died in 1914.

The John Muir National Historic Site, established by Congress in 1964, is located in Martinez, California and honor one of the nation's foremost conservationists, whom historians refer to as the “Father of the National Park Service.”

The historic site preserves the 14-room Italianate Victorian mansion where the naturalist and writer John Muir lived, as well as a

nearby 325 acre tract of native oak woodlands and grasslands historically owned by the Muir family.

H.R. 1719 authorizes the Department of the Interior to acquire by donation approximately 44 acres to expand the boundary of John Muir National Historic Site.

The acreage to be acquired is directly continuous with Mount Wanda and will allow for better public access to trails.

In the 114th Congress, H.R. 1289, a bill identical to H.R. 1719, passed the House by voice vote.

Additionally, a similar bill, H.R. 5699, was introduced in the 113th Congress by former Congressman George Miller, and passed the House by a vote of 361–39.

Companion legislation, S. 729, has been introduced in the Senate by Senator KAMALA HARRIS of California.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1719 is a fitting tribute to one of America's greatest citizen activists, the co-founder of the Sierra Club, and a central actor in the successful effort to establish Yosemite National Park.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 1719.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1719, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## CLEAR CREEK NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND CONSERVATION ACT

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1913) to establish the Clear Creek National Recreation Area in San Benito and Fresno Counties, California, to designate the Joaquin Rocks Wilderness in such counties, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1913

*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 “Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act”.

### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The term “management plan” means the Plan for the Recreation Area prepared under section 4(c).

(2) **RECREATION AREA.**—The term “Recreation Area” means the Clear Creek National Recreation Area.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

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

(5) **OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE.**—The term “off highway vehicle” means any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, or other natural terrain and not intended for use on public roads.

### SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEAR CREEK NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—To promote environmentally responsible off highway vehicle recreation, the area generally depicted as “Proposed Clear Creek National Recreation Area” on the map titled “Proposed Clear Creek National Recreation Area” and dated February 14, 2017, is established as the “Clear Creek National Recreation Area”, to be managed by the Secretary.

(b) **OTHER PURPOSES.**—The Recreation Area shall also support other public recreational uses, such as hunting, hiking, and rock and gem collecting.

(c) **MAP ON FILE.**—Copies of the map referred to in subsection (a) shall be on file and available for public inspection in—

(1) the Office of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(2) the appropriate office of the Bureau of Land Management in California.

### SEC. 4. MANAGEMENT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall manage the Recreation Area to further the purposes described in section 3(a), in accordance with—

(1) this Act;

(2) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

(3) any other applicable law.

(b) **USES.**—The Secretary shall—

(1) prioritize environmentally responsible off highway vehicle recreation and also facilitate hunting, hiking, gem collecting, and the use of motorized vehicles, mountain bikes, and horses in accordance with the management plan described in subsection (c);

(2) issue special recreation permits for motorized and non-motorized events; and

(3) reopen the Clear Creek Management Area to the uses described in this subsection as soon as practicable following the enactment of this Act and in accordance with the management guidelines outlined in this Act and other applicable law.

(c) **INTERIM MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The Secretary shall use the 2006 Clear Creek Management Area Resource Management Plan Amendment and Route Designation Record of Decision as modified by this Act or the Secretary to incorporate natural resource protection information not available in 2006, as the basis of an interim management plan to govern off highway vehicle recreation within the Recreation Area pending the completion of the long-term management plan required in subsection (d).

(d) **PERMANENT MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall create a comprehensive management plan for the Clear Creek Recreation Area that—

(1) shall describe the appropriate uses and management of the Recreation Area in accordance with this Act;

(2) shall be prepared in consultation with—  
(A) appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies (including San Benito, Monterey, and Fresno Counties);

(B) adjacent land owners;

(C) other stakeholders (including conservation and recreational organizations); and

(D) holders of any easements, rights-of-way, and other valid rights in the Recreation Area;

(3) shall include a hazards education program to inform people entering the Recreation Area of the asbestos related risks associated with various activities within the

Recreation Area, including off-highway vehicle recreation;

(4) shall include a user fee program for motorized vehicle use within the Recreational Area and guidelines for the use of the funds collected for the management and improvement of the Recreation Area;

(5) shall designate as many previously used trails, roads, and other areas for off highway vehicle recreation as feasible in accordance with this in order to provide a substantially similar recreational experience, except that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as precluding the Secretary from closing any area, trail, or route from use for the purposes of public safety or resource protection;

(6) may incorporate any appropriate decisions, as determined by the Secretary, in accordance with this Act, that are contained in any management or activity plan for the area completed before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(7) may incorporate appropriate wildlife habitat management plans or other plans prepared for the land within or adjacent to the Recreation Area before the date of the enactment of this Act, in accordance with this Act;

(8) may use information developed under any studies of land within or adjacent to the Recreation Area carried out before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(9) may include cooperative agreements with State or local government agencies to manage all or a portion of the recreational activities within the Recreation Area in accordance with an approved management plan and the requirements of this Act.

(e) **ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may acquire land adjacent to the National Recreation Area by purchase from willing sellers, donation, or exchange.

(2) **MANAGEMENT.**—Any land acquired under paragraph (1) shall be managed in accordance with—

(A) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);

(B) this Act; and

(C) any other applicable law (including regulations).

(3) **IMPROVED ACCESS.**—The Secretary may acquire by purchase from willing sellers, donation, exchange, or easement, land, or interest in land to improve public safety in providing access to the Recreation Area.

(f) **PRIVATE PROPERTY.**—

(1) **ACCESS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall provide landowners adequate access to inholdings within the Recreation Area.

(B) **INHOLDINGS.**—For access purposes, private land adjacent to the Recreation Area to which there is no other practicable access except through the Recreation Area shall be managed as an inholding.

(2) **USE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.**—Nothing in this Act affects the ownership, management, or other rights relating to any non-Federal land (including any interest in any non-Federal land).

(3) **BUFFER ZONES.**—Nothing in this Act creates a protective perimeter or buffer zone around the Recreation Area.

(4) **VALID RIGHTS.**—Nothing in this Act affects any easements, rights-of-way, and other valid rights in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(g) **WATER RIGHT EXCLUSION.**—Nothing in this Act—

(1) shall constitute or be construed to constitute either an express or implied reservation by the United States of any water or water rights with respect to the Recreation Area; or

(2) shall affect any water rights existing on the date of the enactment of this Act.