

A free-flowing, unencumbered river is truly a sight to behold, which is why I am working now to add even more miles to Oregon's already impressive list of Wild and Scenic rivers through passage of the Oregon Wildlands Act. The Oregon Wildlands Act adds a total of nearly 200 miles, including many of the important tributaries to the Rogue River and the Elk River—home to one of North America's healthiest salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout populations along the Pacific Coast—and the Molalla River, to name a few.

Over the last 50 years, Congress designated 209 units of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, totaling nearly 12,600 miles of Wild and Scenic rivers and streams in 40 States and Puerto Rico to protect and provide remarkable habitat for endangered salmon and steelhead, drinking water for millions of Americans, and recreation opportunities for countless recreation enthusiasts who come from all over the world.

This is precisely what makes the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act so important after all these years as a tool to protect, for this and future generations, the very qualities that make America's and Oregon's natural treasures so unique and wonderful.

As Henry David Thoreau noted in his book, "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers," "He who hears the rippling of rivers in these degenerate days will not utterly despair." Fifty years ago, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act started as a novel idea to protect and enhance the Nation's waterways from pollution, dams, and construction that could interrupt their free-flowing condition. By 2018, it has become a remarkable success story deserving of celebration and commemoration.

As climate change and other environmental factors continue to threaten the health of America's rivers, it is important to build on the successes of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and continue to protect rivers across the country. It is in our best interest to do so, and I remain committed to continuing the legacy of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and to work to further its protections throughout the Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARK BIEL

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Mark Biel of Flathead County, natural resources program manager at Glacier National Park, for his outstanding work bringing new programs and research to the Crown of the Continent.

Growing up hiking and camping, Mark fostered a love of the outdoors, particularly national parks and public lands. He has had a long and distinguished career with the National Park Service and served at multiple national parks across the West. Mark has been at Glacier National Park for the last 8

years, where he has been recognized for his research on mountain goats and helped the park achieve designation as an International Transboundary Dark Sky Park.

He has also pioneered a wildlife shepherding program with his dog Gracie. Gracie, known as the bark ranger, has been trained to move bighorn sheep and mountain goats out of areas of high visitor traffic, such as visitor centers and parking lots. The program has helped make the park safer for both humans and animals while also providing an excellent tool for educating park visitors on the importance of avoiding human-wildlife conflicts.

Earlier this month, in recognition of his work at Glacier, Mark won the National Park Service Director's Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resource Stewardship. He was selected over six other nominees, one from each National Park Service region.

I congratulate Mark on such a tremendous achievement and thank him for his dedicated service to Glacier National Park and our entire National Park System.●

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Maine Development Foundation, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary. MDF is a nonpartisan membership organization that advances sustainable, long-term economic growth for the State of Maine. MDF works to empower leaders, strengthen communities, and shape public policy through trusted economic research.

MDF was created by State statute in 1978 and now operates statewide across all economic sectors. MDF's 250 members represent private companies, educational institutions, municipalities, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations. The MDF board of directors is made up of no less than 15 members who are elected each year. MDF operates a number of programs, aimed at increasing economic opportunities in Maine, including Leadership Maine, FOR/MAINE, Maine Downtown Center, the Maine Economic Growth Council, the Policy Leaders Academy, and more.

Leadership Maine, a cornerstone program of MDF, is a yearlong experience that prepares leaders across the State to help shape Maine's changing economy. This program has been operating for 25 years and now boasts over 1,000 alumni. These leaders are each creating an economy driven by educated, innovative, and engaged individuals. Participants learn firsthand about important issues facing the State through an intensive program that gives exclusive access to key community and business leaders. Each class is comprised of 35–45 leaders from across the State, from a cross section of the economy. All participants share a commitment

to make Maine a better place to live and to engage in public service in new ways.

MDF also provides support and staffing for the Maine Economic Growth Council, a legislatively chartered group that annually prepares the Measures of Growth report. This snapshot of the Maine economy over a range of sectors is instructive to policymakers finding the intersection of economy, community, and environment in securing a high quality of life for Mainers.

MDF played a critical role in the work and success to date of the Economic Development Assessment Team, EDAT, a Federal effort funded by the Economic Development Administration to support job growth and economic development in Maine's rural communities. Under MDF's guidance, the EDAT helped fund and establish the Forest Opportunity Roadmap Maine Initiative, a unique collaboration between industry, communities, government, education, and nonprofit organizations, working together to strengthen Maine's forest economy. With MDF's leadership, FOR/Maine developed a comprehensive action plan and strategy to support a thriving, innovative, and diverse industry that provides good jobs in vibrant rural communities for generations to come.

I am proud to recognize the great work of Maine Development Foundation over the last 40 years, and I look forward to what the future holds. I want to thank them for all their work to improve their community and the State of Maine—your work makes Maine such a special place to call home.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 26, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 6157. An act making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on September 27, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. McCONNELL).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: