

land exchanges among willing sellers and willing buyers at Cascade Reservoir in Idaho. Several agricultural easements were reserved within 300 feet of the reservoir at the time the Bureau of Reclamation acquired lands for the reservoir. Now the easement holders and reclamation would like to exchange these easements for other Federal lands in the area. The exchanges would help the parties improve and maintain water quality in the reservoir. All parties have agreed to the exchange.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote on this bill.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As the gentleman points out, this allows for land exchange around the Cascade Reservoir north of Boise, Idaho. We have no objections to the bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1778.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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CONVEYING CERTAIN LAND IN WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 610) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 610

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On completion of an environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary"), shall convey to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming (referred to in this Act as "Westside"), all right, title, and interest (excluding the mineral interest) of the United States in and to such portions of the Federal land in Big Horn County and Washakie County, Wyoming, described in subsection (c), as the district enters into an agreement with the Secretary to purchase.

(b) PRICE.—The price of the land conveyed under subsection (a) shall be equal to the appraised value of the land, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) LAND DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is the approximately 16,500

acres of land in Big Horn County and Washakie County, Wyoming, as depicted on the map entitled "Westside Project" and dated May 9, 2000.

(2) ADJUSTMENT.—On agreement of the Secretary and Westside, acreage may be added to or subtracted from the land to be conveyed as necessary to satisfy any mitigation requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(d) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Proceeds of the sale of land under subsection (a) shall be deposited in a special account in the Treasury of the United States and shall be available to the Secretary of the Interior, without further Act of appropriation, for the acquisition of land and interests in land in the Worland District of the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Wyoming that will benefit public recreation, public access, fish and wildlife habitat, or cultural resources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 610, a bill to direct the conveyance of certain BLM lands to the Westside Irrigation District of Wyoming.

Mr. Speaker, S. 610 directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey roughly 37,000 acres of land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District.

In turn, Westside Irrigation District will irrigate these lands and sell them as farmland parcels. Proceeds raised from the land sales will be given to the Secretary of the Interior for the acquisition of the land in the Worland District of the Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of benefiting public recreation, increasing public access, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, and improving cultural resources.

In recent years, expanded residential development in Washakie and Big Horn Counties has resulted in key loss to the economy: farmland. This legislation will afford communities an opportunity to retain their economic vitality, while protecting cultural and natural resources and the environment.

I would personally like to congratulate everyone who worked so diligently on this measure. I believe it is a job well done between the Federal agencies of the State and individual landholders. I ask my colleagues to support S. 610.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As the gentleman has explained, this is an exchange of land or the direct sale of land in Wyoming, and while the administration is concerned that not all of the lands have been identified, we have no objections to the bill at this time, and we urge its passage.

S. 610 (Enzi) is a Senate passed measure that directs the sale of 16,500 acres of public land in Wyoming to the Westside Irrigation District. Mineral estate would remain with the United States.

District required to pay fair market value for the lands.

Prior to any sale there has to be completed an environmental analysis under NEPA.

Bill allows the Secretary and the District to add or subtract lands if necessary to satisfy the mitigation requirements of the NEPA analysis.

Administration had raised a number of concerns with the bill as introduced. While the bill was amended in the Senate to address some of these concerns, the Administration still does not support passage.

Administration concerned that they are required to sell lands that had not been identified for disposal. The lands contain significant paleontological resources and provide important wildlife habitat.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 610.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

EXCHANGING CERTAIN LANDS IN WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1030) to provide that the conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management of the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1030

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. 60 BAR LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 2201.1-2(d) and 2091.3-2(c) of title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply in the case of the conveyance by the Secretary of the Interior of the land described in subsection (b) in exchange for approximately 9,480 acres of land in Campbell County, Wyoming, pursuant to the terms of the Cow Creek/60 Bar land exchange, WYW-143315.

(b) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The land described in this subsection comprises the following land in Campbell and Johnson Counties, Wyoming:

(1) Approximately 2,960 acres of land in the tract known as the "Bill Barlow Ranch";

(2) Approximately 2,315 acres of land in the tract known as the "T-Chair Ranch";

(3) Approximately 3,948 acres of land in the tract known as the "Bob Christensen Ranch";

(4) Approximately 11,609 acres of land in the tract known as the "John Christensen Ranch".