

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was a watershed mark in American history. Two centuries later, the courageous story of these two outstanding explorers and the Corps of Discovery continues to inspire Americans of all ages. This legislation will help ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to learn about this remarkable journey.

Again Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote for H.R. 761.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 761, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SNOQUALMIE PASS LAND CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1285) to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of National Forest System land in Kittitas County, Washington, to facilitate the construction of a new fire and rescue station, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1285

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 "Snoqualmie Pass Land Conveyance Act".

SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCE, NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND, KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

(a) *CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall convey, without consideration, to the King and Kittitas Counties Fire District #51 of King and Kittitas Counties, Washington (in this section referred to as the "District"), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of National Forest System land in Kittitas County, Washington, consisting of approximately 1.5 acres within the SW¼ of the SE¼ of section 4, township 22 north, range 11 east, Willamette meridian, for the purpose of permitting the District to use the parcel as a site for a new Snoqualmie Pass fire and rescue station.*

(b) *REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Secretary determines at any time that the real property conveyed under subsection (a) is not being used in accordance with the purpose of the conveyance specified in such subsection, all right, title, and interest in and to the property shall revert, at the option of the Secretary, to the United States, and the United States shall have the right of immediate entry onto the property. Any determination of the Secretary under this subsection shall be made on the record after an opportunity for a hearing.*

(c) *SURVEY.—If necessary, the exact acreage and legal description of the lands to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. The cost of a survey shall be borne by the District.*

(d) *ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1285, introduced by Representative DOC HASTINGS of Washington, conveys 1.5 acres of land in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest to facilitate the construction of a new fire and rescue station.

Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue is in need of a new fire station as the current station has numerous deficiencies. The fire station is important to the community and often responds to fires on Federal lands.

Mr. Speaker, it is our understanding that there are ongoing discussions in Washington State to address some lingering issues related to this conveyance, and we support those efforts.

With that understanding, we have no objection to H.R. 1285, and support its adoption by the House today.

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

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The majority has adequately explained the bill. I would like to commend Congressman DOC HASTINGS and his staff for their work on this legislation.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the Snoqualmie Pass Land Conveyance Act would transfer an acre and a half of Forest Service land to the King and Kittitas Counties Fire District No. 51—also known as Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue. This land would be conveyed at no cost, but would have to be used by the Fire District specifically for the construction of a new fire station or it would revert back to the federal government.

Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue serves a portion of two counties on both sides of the Cascade Mountains along Interstate 90. This is a very rural area, with a small number of full-time residents, but it is also the major transportation corridor for goods and services between Eastern and Western Washington, as well as a destination for winter recreation. In recent years, this area has been the scene of major winter snowstorms, multi-vehicle accidents, and even avalanches. The Fire District is often the first responder to incidents in the area.

For decades, the Fire District has been leasing its current site from the Forest Service. They operate out of an aging building that was never designed to be a fire station. Through their hard work and dedication, they have served their community ably despite this building's many shortcomings. However, with traffic on the rise and the need for emergency services in the area growing, the Fire District needs to move to a true fire station.

They have identified a nearby site that would better serve the public safety needs of interstate travelers. This location would provide easy access to the interstate in either direction, reducing response times in emergencies. The parcel is on Forest Service property, immediately adjacent to a freeway interchange, between a frontage road and the interstate itself. The parcel was formerly a disposal site during construction of the freeway and is now a gravel lot.

I acknowledge that the Forest Service does not normally support conveyances of land free of charge. However, I believe an exception should be made in this particular circumstance because of the important public service provided by the Fire District, the heavy traffic and emergency calls created by non-residents in the area, the distance of Snoqualmie Pass from other communities with emergency services, and because of the high amount of federal land ownership in the area, which severely limits the local tax base. In fact, the Forest Service has acquired 20,000 acres in King and Kittitas counties at a cost of more than \$52 million over just the last ten years. I would also note again that under this bill, this land would revert back to the Forest Service if for whatever reason a new fire station is not built on the property.

Passage of this legislation would not guarantee that a new station would be built—the Fire District would have to work hard to gather the financing that would be required from state and local sources, as well as any applicable federal grants or loans. However, the conveyance of this site at no cost would help this Fire District hold down the overall cost of this project.

I first introduced this legislation last year, with my colleague from Washington, Mr. Reichert. Unfortunately, the bill was not considered before the end of the last Congress. We reintroduced the bill in early March and were pleased the Natural Resources Committee held a subcommittee hearing on the bill in April to take testimony on the issues involved. At a subsequent markup of the bill last month, the acreage involved was reduced to acre and a half to address concerns that a fire station would not require three acres. With this change, the bill was approved by voice vote in committee.

Last week, at a meeting in the region, several environmental interest groups expressed reservations about the conveyance. Over the next several weeks, it is understood these groups will meet with the Fire District to discuss their concerns. I am committed to working with my colleagues from Washington state in the Senate, as well as the Natural Resources Committee, to facilitate these discussions to ensure we have the public safety infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of this unique area. I am confident this can be done with little or no impact to the environment. It is my hope that the parties can reach agreement on this issue by September when

the Congress will reconvene and can resume work on the legislation.

I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee to review this issue and bring this bill forward. I look forward to continuing to work with the community at the Pass and my Washington colleagues to improve public safety in the area.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1285, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SANTA ROSA URBAN WATER REUSE PLAN ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 716) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 716

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 "Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan Act".

SEC. 2. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:*

"SEC. 16. CITY OF SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA, URBAN WATER REUSE PLAN.

"(a) *AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the City of Santa Rosa, California, is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of projects to implement the plan titled 'Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan'.*

"(b) *COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of the projects authorized by this section shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost. The Secretary shall credit the City of Santa Rosa with the value of all expenditures made before the date of the enactment of this section that are used toward completion of projects that are compatible with this section.*

"(c) *LIMITATIONS.—*

"(1) *Federal funds shall not be used for the operation or maintenance of a project authorized by this section.*

"(2) *Funds authorized by this legislation shall not be used for the development of new wetland areas.*

"(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000.*

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is amended by inserting after the last item relating to title XVI the following:*

"Sec. 16. City of Santa Rosa, California, Urban Water Reuse Plan."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of H.R. 716, as amended, is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design and construction of the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan. The water recycling facilities authorized by this legislation will result in significant improvements in water quality and water supply reliability in the Santa Rosa area.

I commend the sponsor of this legislation, Ms. WOOLSEY, for her commitment in this important project.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY).

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 716.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman RAHALL for his leadership in bringing H.R. 716, the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse bill, to the floor. The Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse bill is a huge step in the right direction for the City of Santa Rosa. It will help the city increase its reuse of wastewater as an alternative to releasing the water into the Russian River, where my district receives the great majority of our drinking water. The project is especially important in a region that remains arid for 6 months of the year and where droughts pose a genuine threat to humans and endangered species.

Under the reuse plan, the City of Santa Rosa will use recycled water for landscape irrigation, allowing the city to conserve valuable water for human consumption and for watershed preservation and enhancement. It is essential that we find new ways to reuse wastewater and prevent further discharge into nearby waterways. This project can help the City of Santa Rosa by making great strides in its water reuse program and give the city an opportunity to help endangered species, and at the same time protect the Russian River from further discharge.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for support of H.R. 716, the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse bill.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The chairman and sponsor have adequately explained the bill. I applaud the amendment agreed to in committee that prohibits taxpayer dollars from being used to create unrelated wetlands in this project.

However, given that the majority has not fully funded the title XVI program in the Energy and Water appropriations bill, I note that this bill makes the \$328 million backlog problem worse.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 716, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AVRA/BLACK WASH RECLAMATION AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1503) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Avra/Black Wash Reclamation and Riparian Restoration Project, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1503

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 "Avra/Black Wash Reclamation and Riparian Restoration Project".

SEC. 2. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

"SEC. 16. AVRA/BLACK WASH RECLAMATION AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT, PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

"(a) *AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with Pima County, Arizona, may participate in the planning, design, and construction of water recycling facilities and to enhance and restore riparian habitat in the Black Wash Sonoran Desert ecosystem in Avra Valley west of the metropolitan Pima County area.*

"(b) *COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the project.*

"(c) *LIMITATION.—Federal funds provided under this section shall not be used for operation or maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).*

"(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$14,000,000.*

"(e) *USE OF FUNDS.—Federal funds provided under this section shall only be used for the design, planning and construction of water-related infrastructure."*