

Henry David Thoreau, Willa Cather, George Perkins Marsh, Mary Hunter Austin, David James Duncan, and John Muir, poets such as William Cullen Bryant, and painters such as Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Frederic Remington, Georgia O'Keefe, Albert Bierstadt, and Thomas Moran, helped define the distinct cultural value of wild nature and concept of wilderness in the United States;

Whereas national leaders, such as President Theodore Roosevelt, who reveled in outdoor pursuits, have sought to ensure the wisest use of natural resources, so as to provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people as possible;

Whereas luminaries in the conservation movement, such as scientist Aldo Leopold, writer Howard Zahniser, teacher Sigurd Olson, biologists Olaus, Adolph, and Margaret "Mardy" Murie, and conservationists David Brower and Marjory Stoneman Douglas, envisioned and ardently advocated for a national system of protected wilderness areas and believed that the people of the United States could and should protect and preserve wilderness so that wilderness lasts well into the future;

Whereas legislators such as Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, a Democrat from Minnesota, Senator Clinton P. Anderson, a Democrat from New Mexico, and Representative John Saylor, a Republican from Pennsylvania, introduced versions of the Wilderness Act in each House of Congress and worked tirelessly along with colleagues for 8 years to secure its passage with bipartisan votes of 78 to 12 in the Senate and 373 to 1 in the House of Representatives;

Whereas President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law in the Rose Garden on September 3, 1964;

Whereas, over the 50 years since the enactment of the Wilderness Act, various Presidents from both parties, leaders of Congress, and experts in the land management agencies within the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture have expanded and improved the system of wilderness protection created by the Wilderness Act;

Whereas the Wilderness Act instituted an unambiguous national policy to recognize the natural heritage of the United States as a valuable resource and protect wilderness for the good of future generations;

Whereas wilderness provides billions of dollars of ecosystem services in the form of safe drinking water, clean air, and recreational opportunities;

Whereas 44 States have protected wilderness areas; and

Whereas President Gerald R. Ford stated that the National Wilderness Preservation System "serves a basic need of all Americans, even those who may never visit a wilderness area—the preservation of a vital element in our heritage" and that "wilderness preservation ensures that a central facet of our Nation can still be realized, not just remembered": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.);

(2) recognizes and commends the extraordinary work of the individuals and organizations involved in building and maintaining the National Wilderness Preservation System; and

(3) is grateful for wilderness, a tremendous asset the United States continues to preserve as a gift to future generations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 574—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2014, AS "NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK"

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED of Rhode Island, Ms. WARREN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BEGICH, and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 574

Whereas the estuary regions of the United States constitute a significant share of the economy of the United States, with as much as 42 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States generated in coastal shoreline counties;

Whereas the population of coastal shoreline counties in the United States increased by 39 percent from 1970 to 2010 and is projected to continue to increase;

Whereas not less than 1,900,000 jobs in the United States are supported by marine tourism and recreation;

Whereas the commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and seafood industries rely on healthy estuaries and directly support 1,681,000 jobs in the United States;

Whereas in 2012, commercial fish landings generated \$5,100,000,000 and recreational anglers took more than 70,000,000 fishing trips and spent \$24,600,000,000;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitats for countless species of fish and wildlife, including many species that are listed as threatened or endangered species;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization, erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during hurricanes and storms;

Whereas the United States has lost more than 110,000,000 acres of wetland, or 50 percent of the wetland of the United States, since the first European settlers arrived;

Whereas some bays in the United States that were once filled with fish and oysters have become dead zones filled with excess nutrients, chemical wastes, harmful algae, and marine debris;

Whereas changes in sea level can affect estuarine water quality and estuarine habitats;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) provides that it is the policy of the United States to preserve, protect, develop, and, if possible, restore or enhance the resources of the coastal zone of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas 24 coastal and Great Lakes States and territories of the United States operate a National Estuary Program or contain a National Estuarine Research Reserve;

Whereas scientific study leads to a better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas the Federal Government, State, local, and tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities

in a cost-effective manner, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas the week of September 20 through September 27, 2014, is recognized as "National Estuaries Week" to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal Government and State and local government officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 20 through September 27, 2014, as "National Estuaries Week";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Week;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to sustaining employment in the United States and the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States;

(4) recognizes that persistent threats undermine the health of the estuaries of the United States;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;

(6) reaffirms the support of the Senate for estuaries, including the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 575—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2014 AS "NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 575

Whereas over 2,900,000 families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 7 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among males in the United States;

Whereas the National Cancer Institute estimates that, in 2014, 233,000 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 29,000 men will die of, prostate cancer;

Whereas 40 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas approximately every 7.5 seconds, a male in the United States turns 50 years old and increases his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is up to 60 percent higher than that for white males and have double the prostate cancer mortality rate than that of white males;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer;

Whereas the probability that obesity will lead to death and high cholesterol levels is strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;