



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

JUL 31 2014

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Committee on Natural Resources
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are responses prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey to the questions for the record submitted following the June 10, 2014, oversight hearing on "Whole Lotta Shakin': An Examination of America's Earthquake Early Warning System Development and Implementation".

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this material to the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

for Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Rush Holt
Ranking Minority Member

**Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Oversight Hearing Tuesday, June 10, 2014**

Oversight hearing on “Whole Lotta Shakin’: An examination of America’s earthquake early warning system development and implementation”

Questions from Chairman Lamborn for Dr. Bill Leith:

1. It has taken 15 years to deploy 2,700 of the planned 7,100 seismic stations for the Advanced National Seismic Network. That means about 180 stations are built each year.

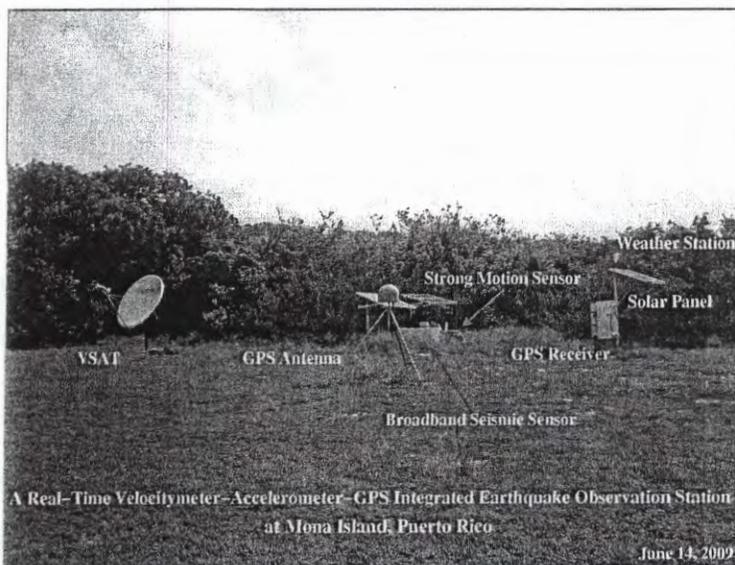
How long do the seismic units last and what is the maintenance costs associated with them? Are these permanent structures? If so what are their dimensions and what do they look like?

Will additional stations need to be constructed along the west coast to facilitate an Earthquake Early Warning System? If so, where is the greatest need geographically for additional seismic stations? Are there other partners – State and local governments, private industry, or non-profit organizations and Foundations that are willing to partner with the USGS to help facilitate making the Earthquake Early Warning System operational?

Response to QFR #1:

The USGS plan for implementing earthquake early warning (EEW) assumes a 10-year operational life for both seismic and GPS field equipment; operationally, about 10 percent of field equipment must be replaced each year, on average. If funded, the proposed lifecycle replacement plan completely upgrades obsolete field equipment within the existing monitoring networks in 10 years or less.

Seismic and GPS seismic stations are typically permanent structures (accompanying photo shows a combined seismic and GPS station in Puerto Rico). Seismic sensors are usually installed just below the ground surface, in order to ensure good coupling between the sensor and the ground. Similarly GPS sensors are installed on monuments that are dug into the ground and stabilized to minimize wind noise.



The seismic and GPS networks currently operated by the ANSS seismic networks on the west coast are not sufficiently dense in all areas to provide earthquake early warnings without unacceptable delays and blind zones (the areas too close to the earthquake epicenter to receive a warning). New stations must be added, and many existing stations must be upgraded, to achieve the station density needed for EEW. We estimate that about 440 new and upgraded seismic stations will be needed in California and about 280 in Washington and Oregon. In addition, real-time GPS data will be integrated into the EEW system to provide direct measurements of ground displacement; about 300 GPS stations are planned for the West Coast system.

Our plan for the West Coast system is to operate a network of seismic stations that are spaced no more than 20 km apart and within 5 km of mapped active faults. However, experience tells us that damaging earthquakes can occur even where faults have not been mapped; therefore, 20-km spacing or closer is also needed throughout all high-risk areas. Even denser station spacing, about 10 km, would be needed to minimize the blind zone in densely populated areas.

Additional details are available in the *“Technical Implementation Plan for the ShakeAlert Production System—An Earthquake Early Warning System for the West Coast of the United States”*, now published as USGS Open-File Report 2014–1097, and available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2014/1097/>.

Several public and private-sector entities already contribute data and/or communications to the California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN). Of the current ShakeAlert system test users, one-third are private companies. Another ten companies have expressed interest in early warning product development. Within the current CISN, there are about 20 State, local, public utility, and private entities that either provide real-time data from earthquake sensors that they own and operate, and/or provide sites for CISN stations, and/or provide data communications. In addition, the State of California is a strong supporter of EEW: in September 2013, California enacted legislation that calls for the California Emergency Management Agency, in collaboration with the California Institute of Technology, California Geological Survey, University of California Berkeley, the USGS, and others, to develop and deploy a comprehensive statewide earthquake early warning system.

Questions from Rep. Holt for Dr. Bill Leith:

1. Dr. Leith, is the current state of scientific understanding about earthquakes sufficient to design and build an effective earthquake early warning system in other parts of the United States? Does the development of the west coast early warning system help with the potential development of early warning systems in other parts of the country, such as around the New Madrid fault zone? Are there significant differences to how an early warning system would work in the U.S. outside the west coast, and are there any differences to how much warning time people might get in other regions?

Response to QFR #2:

As EEW technology is proven and matures on the U.S. West Coast, ShakeAlert will be propagated to other regions of the country that have significant earthquake risk. All of the

investment in development work for a West Coast system is transferrable at minimal cost to the ANSS regional seismic networks that now provide enhanced reporting of earthquakes in the intermountain west and the central and eastern United States. A strategy to extend EEW to the east and Alaska will need to evaluate the cost/benefit in other areas and focus first on those population centers with highest risk, such as New York City, Salt Lake City/Provo, Anchorage, San Juan, PR, Memphis, St. Louis, Boston, and Washington, DC.

Although large earthquakes in the eastern United States are less frequent than in the west, strong shaking from earthquakes propagates to much further distances. For earthquake early warning, this would translate to longer useful warning times in the east than in the west. For example, were there a repeat of the large earthquakes that struck New Madrid, MO, and Charleston, SC, in the 19th century, several minutes of warning would be possible in Washington, DC, and New York.

The challenge for EEW in the eastern United States is that potential locations of large earthquakes are not well known; few active faults are defined, but broad areas are judged to have the potential for producing damaging earthquake shaking. This means that, to ensure useful warning times, hundreds of EEW-capable sensors would be needed to cover the potential source areas. Before making that investment, it makes sense to expand research on earthquake sources and ground motions in the east, so that any future investments in improved monitoring are well targeted. Such research would be enabled by making permanent the currently deployed Central and Eastern U.S. Seismic Network, the funding for which will end in 2017 (the network is currently funded by the National Science Foundation).



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

JUL 31 2014

The Honorable Tom McClintock
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water and Power
Committee on Natural Resources
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are responses prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey to the questions for the record submitted following the March 25, 2014, oversight hearing entitled *Examining the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Spending, Priorities and the Missions of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Four Power Marketing Administrations and the U.S. Geological Survey's Water Program*.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this material to the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
Ranking Minority Member

**Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Water and Power
Oversight/Legislative Hearing
March 25, 2014**

Question from Representative Napolitano for the USGS:

1. What are USGS plans for the FY2014 increase to the streamgage system, and what would USGS do with a similar amount in FY2015?

The FY2014 \$6.0 million increase to the NSIP supports expansion and improved stabilization of the national streamflow information network and improvements in its operation. Specifically, the NSIP increase funded an additional 260 streamgages relative to FY2013, resulting in a total of 1,037 fully funded and 861 partially funded streamgages in the NSIP-designated network. Of these, 217 support National Weather Service river forecasts; 22 enable tracking of water-quality contaminant loads; and 60 help to track effects of land use, population, and climate changes on streamflow. The remaining funds support flood hardening at critical gages and improved delivery of real-time data to local, State, and Tribal managers, water purveyors and users, researchers, and the society at large. NSIP funding has been restored for 26 of the approximately 110 streamgages that lost NSIP funding in 2013 due to sequestration.

Overall, the FY2014 increase will enhance the NSIP goals to meet federal water needs related to flood forecasting, managing inter-jurisdictional flows, tracking major river flows to key estuaries, tracking effects of climate and land use on streamflows over time, and evaluating the transport of contaminant loads into our waters.

An increase in FY2015 will support continued expansion and stabilization of streamgages in the NSIP-designated network, data delivery efficiencies, and regional characterizations of streamflow at ungaged sites. Regional characterizations can provide streamflow estimates at locations infeasible or uneconomical to measure directly. In addition, NSIP funds will continue the development of techniques to better estimate uncertainty of streamflow information over the full range of streamflow conditions – extreme highs to extreme lows. In addition to varying with streamflow magnitude, uncertainty varies with channel conditions, hydraulic controls, and many other factors. Understanding and reporting that uncertainty is particularly important for flood and drought response and for water allocations.

2. To what extent do non-federal funds under the Cooperative Water Program (CWP) support National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) gages?

CWP appropriated funds, reimbursable funds from CWP local, State, and Tribal Cooperators, and other Federal partners support 2,043 (or two thirds) of the 3,080 active streamgages in the NSIP-designated network. The CWP and USGS partners

thereby support the majority of the NSIP-designated network, which can lead to variability and vulnerability to the sustainability of the NSIP network, which is designed to meet federal needs related to flood forecasting, inter-jurisdictional flows, major river flows to key estuaries, effects of climate and land use on streamflows over time, and transport of contaminant loads into our waters.

The NSIP-designated network represents only a subset of the USGS national streamgaging network (currently over 8,000 streamgages). The remaining 5,000 streamgages are supported by the CWP, its Cooperators, and other Federal agencies. These streamgages are maintained within the overall USGS national streamgaging network because they address national water priorities, such as hazard mitigation and water availability for human and ecosystem health, and because they help to facilitate management decisions, operations, and responsibilities by localities, States, Tribes, and other Federal agencies, including for example, reservoir operation, allocation of safe drinking water, and management of groundwater pumping.

In FY2014, the total funding for the 8,000 streamgage network is about \$160 million, comprising contributions by NSIP (about 17 percent), CWP appropriated funds (about 17 percent), CWP local, State, and Tribal Cooperators (about 49 percent), and other Federal agencies (about 17 percent).

3. What is the risk of a gap between Landsat 8 thermal infrared sensor (TIRS) data, which many States are using for monitoring consumptive water uses, and the next mission under the National Land Information Program (NLIP)? What is being done to minimize that risk?

Landsat images contain many layers of data collected at different points along the visible and invisible light spectrum. This allows Landsat images to show not only evapotranspiration but where vegetation is thriving and where it is stressed. To effectively measure consumptive water use, states and others require all of these layers of data. The two Landsat satellites currently operating at the same time, Landsats 7 and 8, ensure the ability to "revisit" any spot on the Earth's surface every eight days, which is extremely valuable for measuring consumptive water use. The Landsat 8 Thermal Infrared Sensor (TIRS) will exceed its three-year design life in early 2016. Landsat 7 is expected to run out of fuel by 2018. As such, under current satellite operations, there are risks associated with the availability of current data used to monitor consumptive water uses within the next four years.

The President's 2015 budget requests an increase in funding for the initiation of a new mission following completion this summer of the NASA Sustainable Land Imaging Architecture Study. NASA, with assistance from the USGS, is studying options for continuing the Landsat series of missions over the next two decades.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

JUL 19 2014

The Honorable John Fleming
Chairman
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans
and Insular Affairs
Committee on Natural Resources
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are responses prepared by the Office of Insular Affairs to the questions for the record submitted following the April 29, 2014, oversight and legislative hearing on *the Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs' spending and the President's Fiscal Year 2015 budget request for the Office*, and *H.R. 4296, To Amend Public Law 94-241 with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands*.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this material to the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Ranking Minority Member

**Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs
1334 Longworth House Office Building**

April 29, 2014

2:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Hearing on:

- *“the Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs’ spending and the President’s Fiscal Year 2015 budget request for the Office”* and on the following bills:
- **H.R. 4296 (Sablan)**, To amend Public Law 94–241 with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands.
- **H.R. 4402 (Bordallo)**, To authorize the Secretary of the Navy to establish a surface danger zone over the Guam National Wildlife Refuge or any portion thereof to support the operation of a live-fire training range complex. *“Guam Military Training and Readiness Act of 2014”*

Questions from The Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

PANEL (1/2): Thomas Bussanich – Office of Insular Affairs, Department of Interior

Question 1. OIA testified that Compact impact funds are being distributed in accordance with an enumeration conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau and completed in 2013. Please provide a copy of this enumeration.

ANSWER: The enumeration of the Bureau of Census is contained in the addendum to these answers.

Question 2. According to testimony, the Empowering Insular Communities program is intended for investment in critical services: power, water, sewer, solid waste, healthcare, and public safety.

Question a). In what ways are this program and the purposes for which funds are used different from the purposes and uses of Covenant capital improvement grants?

ANSWER: Covenant Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding can be used essentially for any infrastructure project while Empowering Insular Community (EIC) funding is more targeted and can only be used for that year’s designated theme. As in years 2011-2014, fiscal year 2015 funding will be devoted to sustainable energy projects. Since 2011, OIA has been leveraging its partnership with the National Renewable Energy Lab in assisting the territories in their development and implementation of strategic energy plans.

EIC funding also differs in that it does not necessarily have to be used for infrastructure purposes. If needed, EIC funding can be used for non-infrastructure activities as long as it meets the goals and purposes of the grant program.

While CIP projects are typically given five-year grant periods, EIC projects are expected to be completed within 24 months. In this way, the EIC program focuses on targeted projects that can be completed in the short term.

The EIC grant application and review process is quite different from the CIP grant program. Under the CIP program, the territories are guaranteed a certain amount each year while EIC grants are awarded purely on a competitive basis. Therefore, only the best grant applications receive funding thereby maximizing the available funding by selecting projects that will have the greatest impact and increasing the probability of project success.

Question b). 2015 funds are intended to be used to implement actions identified in the strategic plans developed for each territory by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. How are the specific projects to be funded selected? Is each territory's strategic plan allotted a portion of funding? Or are projects selected from among all territories' strategic plans on the basis of expected return on investment or some other criteria?

ANSWER: Projects are selected on a competitive basis. A call letter is sent to each territory on an annual basis inviting them to apply for Empowering Insular Communities funding. The call letter contains guidance for applicants and specifies the rating criteria. The territories select which projects from the strategic energy plans they would like to propose. OIA gives priority to proposals that will help reduce the cost of electricity in the territory, reduce a territory's dependence on imported fossil fuels, are identified and support in the territory's Strategic Energy Plan or Energy Action Plan, and propose to expend the grant funds within 24 months. In addition, other factors are considered such as the number of people served, the greatest impact, the largest cost reduction, the potential for base load power production, and the potential for attracting private sector investment.

OIA holds review meetings with senior staff and the Budget Division to review and discuss the submissions made by each insular area. Input is solicited from OIA field staff when applicable. Projects are selected for funding based on the results of these meetings and information provided by the insular area governments.

Question c). The EIC aimed at building sustainable energy strategies that are not reliant on oil. Is the program helping island communities develop more sustainable energy use and become less reliant on oil? If not, what are the barriers to accomplishing these goals?

ANSWER: Since 2011, the Empowering Insular Communities (EIC) grant program has helped island communities develop more sustainable energy use and become less reliant on oil. Rooftop solar energy systems have been deployed on Guam as well as for various energy efficiency projects on Guam and in American Samoa. The

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands is pursuing energy efficiency projects and rooftop solar energy systems as well as making progress on an integrated resource plan that will select the most cost-effective mix of energy sources to meet the territory's demand for electricity. American Samoa is making preparations to initiate a geothermal slim hole drilling program to verify the existence of geothermal resource that could potentially transform the energy landscape of American Samoa.

EIC funding is currently being supplemented by Capital Improvement Project (CIP) and Technical Assistance funding. For example, the exploratory geothermal drilling in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands is 100% CIP funded, and the wind turbine pilot project on Guam is primarily funded through the CIP program. In addition, over the last few years, Technical Assistance grants have been awarded for various sustainable energy purposes. Indeed, OIA's current portfolio of sustainable energy projects would not be possible without supplemental funds from the CIP and Technical Assistance grant programs.

Although the EIC program has seen success, it still faces a variety of barriers to accomplishing the overarching goal of reducing dependence on fossil fuels in the insular areas. The territories must first evaluate which renewable energy technologies to pursue. The selection process can be difficult as the territories sometimes receive unsolicited proposals that may overpromise results and underestimate costs or propose technologies that are not yet commercially available. Given their inexperience, the insular areas need assistance in selecting mature technologies that are commercially feasible and will provide the greatest impact over the long term.

In addition, there is often a lack of detailed local information on renewable energy resource availability in the islands. For example, the first step in the development of wind energy is to characterize the available wind resources including wind speed, direction, and location. Conducting a wind resource assessment of this nature helps potential investors forecast the performance of a proposed wind project and the expected return on investment. Without an accurate wind resource assessment, it is difficult to attract financial resources necessary for final development, construction, commissioning, and initial operations.

Another barrier is assisting local utilities and government agencies in developing detailed request for proposals that attract experienced and high-quality firms. Renewable energy projects often require high up-front capital costs that are not attractive to investors if there is a high level of project uncertainty. The level of project uncertainty must be reduced by carrying out research to provide quality information to investors when using the request for proposals mechanism. Providing detailed, actionable information in a request for proposals casts a wider net, encouraging experienced and qualified companies to respond with real-world project cost estimates.

The insular areas also struggle with a lack of appropriate legal, policy, and program management frameworks for energy projects. In general, the insular areas have few energy policies, incentives, regulations, and standards. For example, some insular areas

lack local policies providing guidance for net metering, tax incentives, building codes, permitting, siting standards, grid interconnection, smart metering, industry recruitment incentives, rebate programs, and public financing programs. By creating new policy frameworks the insular areas could help encourage additional investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects by reducing investor risk. These frameworks are necessary for projects to be implemented and operate successfully.

Shown below are additional barriers to pursuing sustainable energy strategies in the insular areas:

- lack of on-site expertise and capacity to conduct energy audits
- social acceptance of technologies
- energy literacy of the public
- local workforce development in renewable energy sector
- vulnerability to extreme weather events
- limited land area
- high capital costs
- enduring inefficiencies in utilities' transmission and distribution systems
- data tracking within the utility sector is not easily accessible
- grid stability and interconnection issues
- limited access to low-cost financing
- lack of on-site expertise and capacity to operate and maintain large-scale renewable energy projects

Question 3. ABC Initiative funding is requested to be increased by \$1.8 million over the 2014 level. Is this \$1.8 million the "additional funds" expected to be used to begin addressing deferred maintenance items, referred to in testimony? How, specifically, will this \$1.8 million be used?

ANSWER: The \$1.8 million will be provided to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for ABCs project management, coordination and guidance of local facilities planning efforts, development and maintenance of information systems and hardware, and provision of on-the-ground "embedded teams" actually performing maintenance. While this amount will provide for the Army Corps technical services in the four territories, most materials will be procured with separate funding sources.

Question 4. According to testimony the fifteen-year agreement between the United States and the Republic of Palau calls for \$229 million in assistance to Palau and part of that commitment, \$65.7 million, has already been appropriated. The balance, therefore, seems to be \$163.3 million. Yet, also according to testimony, once approved by Congress the new agreement will be funded at \$178.3 million. Please explain the \$15 million discrepancy. What update can you give us, if any, on the administration's efforts to secure passage of the Palau agreement?

ANSWER: The additional \$15 million is a Postal Service subsidy included in the fifteen-year agreement between the United States and the Republic of Palau.

Approving the results of the Agreement is of critical importance to the national security of the United States, to our bilateral relationship with Palau, and to our broader strategic interests in the Asia Pacific region. As such, the Administration transmitted legislation to Congress that would approve the Agreement and has worked with the Committee to try to identify appropriate offsets for funding the Agreement. The Administration stands ready to continue to work with Congress to approve this critically important piece of legislation.

Question 5. Currently, the annual \$750,000 cost of obtaining GDP statistics for American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands is paid out of the Office of Insular Affairs budget. When, if ever, does the administration plan to include these four areas of the United States in national accounting? How is GDP accounted for the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico?

ANSWER: The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), a Department of Commerce (DOC) agency, produces GDP data for the nation as a whole, the 50 states and the District of Columbia (DC). The BEA's current mandate does not extend to the territories and that is why OIA is funding the production of territorial GDP data which are as critical for the territories as they are for the nation, the 50 states and the DC. Prior to the BEA's first release of territorial GDP data in 2010, there was no official measure of how the economies of the territories performed. The BEA's GDP data are the only official measures of economic performance in the territories that inform policy makers, businesses, households and individuals about how the territorial economies perform and how their outputs (incomes) change over time. OIA has funded the BEA's GDP data production for the territories since 2010 and may continue to do so until the BEA includes the territories in its mandate. With regard to whether and when the BEA may include the territories in its mandate, OIA (DOI) defers to the BEA.

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Planning Board produces its own GDP data within the framework of its legal responsibility of creating an annual Economic Report to the Governor and the Legislative Assembly, including the presentation of the Commonwealth's economic outlook and a detailed analysis of its economic performance.

Question 6. What is the status of the co-management agreement between the Department of Interior and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which President Obama identified as the prerequisite for conveyance of submerged lands in the Islands Unit of the Marianas Trench National Monument to the Commonwealth?

ANSWER: Secretary Jewell committed the Federal government to early discussions of provisions relating to development of a coordinated-management agreement for the submerged lands within the Marianas Trench National Monument among representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the CNMI Governor. FWS and NOAA regional leaders met with the CNMI Governor and his staff on June 16th and agreed to work together toward this agreement and transfer. Actions to develop an Agreement for Coordinated Management are underway between the agencies and CNMI and continued discussions are scheduled.

Question 7. Over 15 years ago, OIA assisted territorial and FAS governments to improve their financial management by providing financial management software. This, also, allowed OIA to receive financial information in the same format from all these governments. Has this investment proven successful? Is the software still viable or is it in need of updating? If updating is advisable, will OIA again be assisting financially and again encouraging uniformity across all the governments it works with?

ANSWER: Prior to its dissolution, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) government maintained a centralized accounting system in Saipan for the governments of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (and its states), Palau, and the Marshall Islands. In approximately 1986, as the TTPI wound down its activities, it decentralized accounting and created computer centers and accounting systems in each of the islands. The accounting software was the same for each government and met government accountability standards to create financial reports that could be audited. The accounting system and associated software was effective in ensuring each government owned and was responsible for maintaining and upgrading its own accounting system. As noted in the question, technical assistance funding was requested and awarded to the FSM and RMI in the early 2000's to upgrade their accounting systems. This was accomplished under the auspices of the "Insular Management Controls" program, which was subsequently discontinued. Since that time, the office has not undertaken a general hardware and software upgrade on the scale of that previous effort.

OIA also continues to provide financial management related support to the insular areas through the TAP Graduate School Contract. Each year, the insular areas identify financial management capacity building needs that they have and the Graduate School, funded through TAP, provides training and assistance. OIA has also supported financial management improvements in each area by working on providing support for Single Audits through OIA staff and the Graduate School Contract.

Question 8. The Brown Tree Snake Control program seems to be successful at preventing the spread of the snake among the U.S.-related Pacific Islands. There are other species of plants and animals, however, such as the coconut rhinoceros beetle and little fire ant that may, also, pose significant threat. Aside from the Brown Tree Snake, what is OIA doing to identify and address the spread of invasive species to the islands under its responsibility?

ANSWER: The Department is pleased with the results of the Brown Tree Snake control program. OIA currently has no programs or funding specifically designated to address other invasive species in the insular areas. However, the insular areas may choose to utilize some of the limited Technical Assistance Program funding available to them to assist with their local invasive species programs. The CNMI and Guam resource agencies also have the capability to redirect limited DOI FWS and USDA funding to address invasive species issues.

Question 9. The President's budget proposes maintaining funding at \$1 million to support local efforts to protect coral reefs in the insular areas. How are these funds being deployed in the Northern Mariana Islands and in the other insular areas? Is the condition of coral reefs improving as a result of this effort?

ANSWER: OIA funds a wide range of activities designed to improve the health of coral reefs in the U.S. insular areas and freely associated states. Recent projects include education and outreach, capacity building, monitoring of reef health and restoration of watersheds to reduce stress to adjacent coral reefs:

- **LaoLao Bay, Saipan, CNMI:** A major initiative in the CNMI has been restoration of Laolao Bay, a popular site for recreation and fishing in Saipan. A major threat to the Bay's coral reefs is run-off of sediments from the upper watershed. With OIA funding, roads and drainage have been improved and the upper watershed has been extensively revegetated. Coral reefs in Laolao Bay are now recovering due to improved water quality. The success of this long-term initiative has been documented in a 30-minute film on LaoLao Bay, aired widely across the CNMI.
- **Marine Research and Education Center, St. Croix, USVI:** OIA has provided significant support to a partnership to build a major marine institute at Salt River Bay National Park. The facility will serve not only to educate local elementary and university students but as a model of green building design for the insular areas. As part of this effort, OIA funded one of the first inter-disciplinary scientific studies of the Bay that resulted in a student at the University of the Virgin Islands taking first place in 2014's Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) competition.
- **Regional Program Support:** OIA has been a major supporter of the Micronesia Challenge, and more recently, the Caribbean Challenge. Both efforts seek to advance biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in their respective regions by bringing together people from government, private enterprise, and community and non-profit organizations to collectively address the challenges of natural resource management, enhance public-private partnerships, and share experiences and best practices.
- **Student Internships and Education:** OIA is a major supporter of the annual Governor Tauese P.F. Sunia Memorial Coral Reef Summer Internships in American Samoa. The internships provide students with a unique opportunity to gain valuable experience in coral reef conservation policy and management working on priority projects of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. OIA has also supported the Coral Fellows Program. The program provides the state and territorial coral reef management agencies with highly qualified candidates whose education and work experience meet each island's specific needs, while providing the individual fellows with professional experience in coastal and coral reef resources management.

Question 10. With respect to H.R. 4296 the Office of Insular Affairs testified that the reduction (from the current number of foreign workers in the Northern Mariana Islands to zero at the end of 2014) "would have significant adverse consequences for the CNMI economy."

Question a). Would it be consistent to say, therefore, that it is the administration's position that not extending the current transition period would have a significant adverse impact on the Northern Marianas economy?

ANSWER: Yes. It should be noted that the Secretary of Labor on May 27, 2014, determined the CNMI immigration transition period would be extended for five years through December 31, 2019 in order to forestall significant adverse effects on the CNMI economy that the departure of thousands of foreign workers would cause.

Question b). Have there been adverse consequences to the Northern Marianas economy as a result of delaying the decision—to extend or to not extend the transition period—almost until the deadline required by statute for this decision?

ANSWER: At the time of the hearing, uncertainty as to the availability of labor in the CNMI was causing economic and business decisions to be delayed.

Question c). The Department of Labor is required to consult with the Department of the Interior with respect to the decision to extend or to not extend the transition period. OIA testified that its concerns that the reduction to zero in 2014 would have adverse economic consequences had been communicated to Labor. Is this communication the consultation required by law? When did this communication occur? What did the Office of Insular Affairs advise the appropriate decision with respect to extension of the transition period would be? Has this advice been documented? If so, would OIA provide such documents to the Committee?

ANSWER: The Departments of Labor and Interior have been consulting for over three years on the issue of extension of the transition period, including a meeting on June 27, 2013, with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor James Moore, Jr., and Dr. Hong Kim Senior Economist, both from the Office of Assistant Secretary for Policy. Follow-on discussions also occurred.

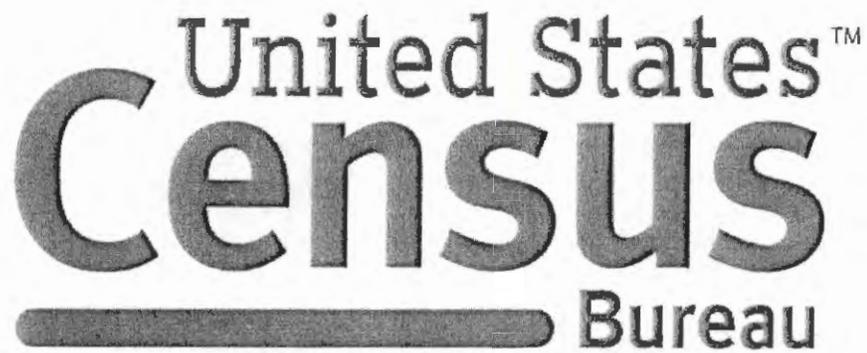
OIA officials always stressed to USDOL the need to address the extension of immigration so as to allow adequate time for both private and public sectors in the CNMI to plan for the future.

Question d). The Office of Insular Affairs is requesting additional funds for the purpose of assisting the economy of the Northern Mariana Islands. Would there be any additional cost to the federal government, above current funding, of extending the transition period in the Northern Marianas and, thus, avoiding the adverse economic consequences identified by OIA?

ANSWER: The Department of the Interior does not view the extension of the CNMI immigration transition period through December 31, 2014 as causing the expenditure of additional Federal funds.

Question e). OIA testified that the Secretary of Labor is analyzing whether an extension of the transitional worker program is warranted. What, if any, are the reasons such an extension might not be warranted?

ANSWER: If the Secretary of Labor *determined* that sufficient United States-eligible labor were available in the CNMI, extension of the transition period would not be warranted.



**2013 Estimates of
Compact of Free Association
(COFA) Migrants**

November 5, 2013

Introduction

The Compacts of Free Association are joint congressional-executive agreements between the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. These agreements establish, in part, that citizens of the aforementioned areas may move freely among these places, engage in occupations, and establish residence as nonimmigrants in the United States and their territories and possessions.

The Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 introduced the requirement for an enumeration of qualified nonimmigrants (for the purposes of this report they will be referred to as COFA migrants) to be conducted no less frequently than every five years in Hawaii, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), and American Samoa. This is the third such enumeration and serves as the basis for apportioning \$30 million in funding to these jurisdictions for a range of development programs and other benefits as a result of the immigration of COFA migrants.

In accordance with the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, the U.S. Department of the Interior signed an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Census Bureau to produce estimates of COFA migrants for 2013.

Methodology

The Census Bureau and the Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs agreed to use the following existing datasets for producing the 2013 Estimates of COFA Migrants:

1. To produce estimates of qualified nonimmigrants residing in Hawaii, the Census Bureau used three-year data (2009-2011) from the American Community Survey.
2. To produce estimates of qualified nonimmigrants residing in American Samoa, CNMI, and Guam, the Census Bureau used data from the 2010 Census.

Definitions

A COFA migrant is defined as “a person, or their children under the age of 18, admitted or resident pursuant to section 141 of the U.S.-Republic of the Marshall Islands or U.S.-Federated States of Micronesia Compact, or section 141 of the U.S.-Palau Compact, who as of a date referenced in the most recently published enumeration, is a resident of an affected jurisdiction.” The date of residency for COFA migrants is determined by the effective date of the agreement, which is 1986 for the U.S.-Republic of the Marshall Islands and the U.S.-Federated States of Micronesia Compacts, and 1994 for the U.S.-Palau Compact.

Thus, from the above statement there are two types of persons to estimate:

1. COFA migrants – This was defined as a person born in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or Palau, and who entered American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, or Hawaii by 1986 or earlier (for those persons born in the Republic of the Marshall Islands or the Federated States of Micronesia), or by 1994 or earlier (for those persons born in Palau). All residents were considered, regardless of their residency status (household or facility-based) or citizenship status. In order to identify these persons, the following data items were used: place of birth and year of entry.
2. The children of COFA migrants – This was defined as an unmarried child or grandchild of a COFA migrant, less than eighteen years old, residing in the same household as the COFA migrant. In order to identify these persons, the following data items were used: age, relationship, and marital status.

Timeline

On May 22, 2013, the Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs signed an Interagency Agreement with the Census Bureau to produce estimates of COFA migrants for 2013. The final tabulations are being delivered to the Department of Interior on November 5, 2013.

Results

The Census Bureau estimates that there were 34,555 COFA migrants residing in the four jurisdictions combined (American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii) in 2013.

Table 1: 2013 Estimate of COFA Migrants: All Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Estimate	Margin of Error
American Samoa	25	(x)
CNMI	2,660	(x)
Guam	17,170	(x)
Hawaii	14,700	+/-2,241

x – Not Applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey (Hawaii), and 2010 Census (American Samoa, CNMI, and Guam).

Understanding Margin of Error

A margin of error is not applicable for the estimate of COFA migrants and their children living in American Samoa, CNMI, or Guam because these estimates are derived from a census as opposed to a survey. The estimate of COFA migrants and their children living in Hawaii are based on a survey and are subject to sampling variability, and the degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented through a margin of error. The value shown above is the 90-percent margin of error. The margin of error is best understood through a confidence interval. The 90-percent confidence interval provides a range of possible values for which we are 90 percent confident that it contains the true value of the estimate. The 90-percent confidence interval is constructed from the lowest possible value (estimate minus the 90-percent margin of error), ending with the highest possible value (estimate plus the 90-percent margin of error).

Although there is a range which we are 90-percent confident contains the true number of COFA migrants, for the purposes of this project, the Census Bureau is recommending the use of the estimates reported in Table 1 as the best estimate of COFA migrants in 2013.

For additional information on accuracy of the American Community Survey three-year data, please visit the following link:

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2011.pdf

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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

JUL 18 2014



The Honorable John Lewis
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Lewis:

In accordance with your request to the National Park Service (NPS) of June 25, 2014, the NPS has prepared the enclosed draft to redesignate the Martin Luther King, Junior National Historic Site as the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park. Also enclosed is the map referenced in the draft.

This draft has been prepared as a service to you. It has not been reviewed within the Department of the Interior or cleared by the Office of Management and Budget. We can, therefore, make no commitment at this time concerning the position of the Department on this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and Legislative
Affairs

Enclosures

Drafting service
Rep. John Lewis (GA-5)

113th Congress
2nd session

A Bill

To redesignate the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes.

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 “Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park Act of 2014.”

SEC. 2. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

The Act entitled “An Act to establish the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes” (Public Law 96-428) is amended—

(1) in section 1, by striking “the map entitled ‘Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site’, numbered 489/80,013B, and dated September 1992” and inserting “the map entitled ‘Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park’, numbered 489/80,032 and dated April 2009”;

(2) by striking “Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site” each place it appears and inserting “Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park”;

(3) by striking “national historic site” each place it appears and inserting “national historical park”; and

(4) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “historical park”.

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law (other than in this Act), map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to "Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site" shall be deemed to be a reference to "Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park".



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

JUL 1 1 2014

The Honorable Mark E. Amodei
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Amodei:

In accordance with your request, the Department of the Interior has prepared the enclosed draft bill to exempt payments made from Bureau of Land Management accounts related to proceeds for certain land sales and payments under the Taylor Grazing Act from the sequestration provisions of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act.

This draft legislation has been prepared as a service to you. It has not been reviewed within the Department of the Interior or cleared by the Office of Management and Budget. We can, therefore, make no commitment at this time concerning the position of the Department on this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional
and Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

Drafting Service

7.11.2014

*Exempting Certain Payments
From BBEDCA*

Section XX. Grazing and Proceeds of Sales Payments.

Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting "Payments to States from Proceeds of Certain Land Sales and Payments under the Taylor Grazing Act within the Miscellaneous Permanent Payment Accounts (14-9921-0-2-999)." before "Payments to the United States Territories, Fiscal Assistance (14-0418-0-1-806).".



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

AUG - 1 2014

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are responses to questions received by the Department of the Interior following the April 3, 2014, oversight hearing before the House Natural Resources Committee on "Department of the Interior Spending and the President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Proposal."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this material to the Committee.

Sincerely,

for Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

Questions from Chairman Hastings:

1. What actions has the Department of Interior taken to address the “on the ground” problem of mussel-encrusted boats leaving federally managed infested water bodies?

Response: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service co-chairs the intergovernmental Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF), which leads efforts to prevent the westward spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species in North America, and has developed guidelines on approaches to minimize the potential risks of mussel-encrusted recreational boats that the States and other partners to use.

Through the 100th Meridian Initiative, the FWS and partners focus on containing the spread of invasive mussels and other aquatic nuisance species throughout the West through the Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters, watercraft inspection training and certification, prevention planning, and prohibition of interstate transport via its injurious wildlife listing of zebra mussels. The ANSTF and its partners manage the “Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!” campaign, a national outreach campaign. The campaign empowers recreational users with simple steps to help stop aquatic invasive species transport and spread.

The FWS provided funding in 2012 for mandatory inspections and decontaminations and improvements to inspection and decontamination procedures in areas where the National Park Service has established mandatory inspection and cleaning of boats in marina at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, which includes Lakes Mead and Mohave.

The Agency’s aquatic invasive species control and management funding for zebra and quagga mussels is \$2 million as a line item, of which \$1 million is used to fund 42 existing State/Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans which encompass a wide variety of invasive species activities, with much of the western work being focused on zebra and quagga mussels and both voluntary and mandatory boat inspections by the States. The other \$1 million is used to collaboratively work with the states, in order to increase effectiveness of control activities. The FWS provided funds to assist the NPS and state partners with their mandatory inspections and decontaminations, including improvements to their inspection and decontamination procedures.

2. How can the National Park System authorize boats to leave Lake Mead without mandatory inspection and decontamination when Executive Order 13112 expressly prohibits a federal agency from authorizing any activities that spread invasive species?

Response: With nearly 6.5 million annual visitors and, in Fiscal Year 2013, nearly 40,000 vessel passes sold, inspecting every boat that leaves Lake Mead National Recreation Area is impracticable and cost prohibitive, and, even if possible, it would not guarantee that no mussel infested boats would leave Lake Mead. In fact, on busy summer weekends, visitation can reach 200,000-300,000, and there are dozens of lake access points for Lakes Mead and Mohave, many of which do not have entrance stations or are

unmanned.

Lake Mead NRA is actively working to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species. Current efforts include controlling and monitoring populations of quagga mussels and promoting public education. The quagga program is focused mainly on slipped and moored boats, which are the highest risk vector for transporting mussels from Lake Mead. The program provides that 72 hours prior to pulling a boat out of the water to leave the park, boat owners with slipped or moored boats must notify NRA personnel to schedule an inspection and hot-water wash to remove all visible quagga mussels. Boat wash facilities are located at all 7 marinas within the park. Day use boaters are required to clean, drain and dry their vessels before leaving the area.

While the NPS does not have the authority to stop vessels with quagga mussels that are departing federal lands at Lake Mead NRA, all of the western states do have laws in place regarding the transport of invasive species, including quagga mussels. Lake Mead NRA has coordinated with the Nevada Department of Wildlife and Arizona Game and Fish Department to provide boat wash information to the other western states. The NPS continues to work with the concessioners, the States, boat owners, haulers, repossession companies, and contractors to ensure protocols are being followed and boats are being inspected and washed properly.

3. As you know, in Fiscal Year 2012, House Report 112-3 31 included appropriations of \$1 million for “the implementation of *mandatory operational inspection and decontamination stations* at federally-managed or interjurisdictional water bodies considered to be of highest risk.” However, I understand that this funding was not applied to inspection and decontamination stations as required by the House Report language. Why wasn't it, and when do you expect this requirement to be fulfilled?

Response: Zebra and quagga mussel spread in the West is a complex issue involving interjurisdictional waters where both state and federal laws and policies apply. Many fouled vessels being intercepted in western states come from interjurisdictional and federally-managed waters in the lower Colorado River. The NPS has established mandatory inspection and cleaning of moored boats at Lake Mead NRA, which includes Lakes Mead and Mohave.

In 2012, in response to increasing pressure to make the program more effective, FWS, working collaboratively with the states, used these funds for mandatory inspections and decontaminations, and improvements to inspection and decontamination procedures. Discussions with Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan Coordination Committee, and the Western Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force indicated support for this approach, in particular at the Lake Mead National Recreational Area. FWS also briefed Appropriations Committee staff about using FY 2012 funds to implement the priorities identified by the Task Force.

4. It has come to my attention that the Idaho State Department of Agriculture has been refused requests to the National Park Service (NPS) for copies of relevant

departing boat notifications to the Idaho Invasive Species Program as they are filed throughout the year; copies of all 2007-2009 departure records of Idaho-registered boats and boats that listed "Idaho" as the destination. Why was this information refused, and under what authority?

Response: The National Park Service has worked with park concessioners to have them provide information on departing boats directly to the States of Arizona and Nevada. The State agencies have agreed to share this information with other western states, including Idaho, and have been providing this boater information for the last two years. Some of the data that Idaho has requested is not available as Lake Mead NRA first discovered mussels in 2007 and did not have wash stations at that time.

5. Your recent letter to Secretary of State Kerry regarding the Columbia River Treaty indicated an interest in studying flood risk standards in the Columbia River Basin. Does the Administration support increasing flood risk in the area above current levels?

Response: The Administration's position on the U.S. Entity's regional recommendations concerning the future of the Columbia River Treaty remains under consideration.

6. Should states and local governments affected by ESA settlements (such as the mega-settlements your Department signed in 2011) be allowed a say regarding the issuance of ESA listing deadlines negotiated and set by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with nongovernmental organizations in federal court?

Response: The settlement agreements committed the FWS to make the listing determinations required by the ESA for 251 species on a workable and publicly available schedule. The settlements did not commit the FWS to add these species to the list; rather, they committed the FWS to make a determination by a date certain as to whether listing was still warranted and, if so, to publish a proposed rule to initiate the rulemaking process of adding a species to the list.

Question from Rep. Garcia:

7. I'd first like to say how much I've enjoyed working with you over the past year. It's great to see you again. As you know, I represent the Everglades - one of our country's greatest natural treasures. Although the administration's commitment to Everglades restoration has been strong, I worry that some of the larger projects undertaken in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan have been indefinitely delayed, effecting families and businesses that surround them. The farmers in my district have lost entire annual crop yields because of the high water tables and significant flooding that has taken place across the region. Finalizing Contract 8 and completing the C-111 Canal South Dade would protect our growers from facing significant financial risk, personal burden and a strong disadvantage in the international market. Madam Secretary, where are we on C-111 South Dade and how does the Department plans to move it forward?

Response: On April 30, 2014, Assistant Secretary of the Army Jo Ellen Darcy announced the resolution of issues associated with the C-111 Project so that the project could restart after a hiatus of two years. The issues that had delayed the project involved matters associated with the cost share and crediting to the local sponsor, the South Florida Water Management District. Now that the issues are resolved, the Army and the District may execute an amendment to the project cooperation agreement such that important work to complete the project, including Contract 8, may move forward.

Questions from Rep. Sablan:

8. Submerged Lands and Co-management Agreement—The next step for the administration is to complete the co-management agreement between the Commonwealth government and the Fish and Wildlife Service, so that submerged lands in the Islands Unit of the Marianas Trench National Monument can be handed back to the Northern Marianas. I hope you will put some energy into getting that agreement, because it has been five years now since the Monument was created. Secretary Jewell, could you give me a status report on those negotiations between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Commonwealth. When can we expect an agreement?

Response: The Department has committed to early discussions of provisions relating to development of a coordinated-management agreement for the submerged lands within the Marianas Trench National Monument among representatives of the U.S. fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the CNMI Governor. FWS and NOAA regional leaders met with the CNMI Governor and his staff on June 16th and agreed to work together toward this agreement and transfer. Actions to develop an Agreement for Coordinated Management are underway between the agencies and CNMI and continued discussions are scheduled.

9. ABC Initiative—I would like to know more about the President's budget, which recommends moving \$1.7 million from the Compact Impact Discretionary funds the Office of Insular Affairs gets and putting that money into the ABC Initiative. We lose \$1.7 million of compact impact money that could go directly into education and instead we get "embedded teams." Can you help me understand what you are trying to do here?

Response: The Department is making every effort to be more efficient and effective in responding to the needs of U.S. territories. Specifically, the ABCs initiative has assessed the conditions of every school building in the territories, which identified \$177.4 million deferred maintenance, \$16.7 million of which is considered health and safety risks that must be rectified to provide a safe learning environment. Additional funds for the ABC initiative will be used to begin addressing deferred maintenance items with priority given to health and safety maintenance issues. By conducting the ABCs as regional effort through the Army Corps of Engineers, the territories are realizing economies of scale that could not be obtained by doing it individually for each territory.

10. Financial Management Software;—About 15 years ago OIA provided financial management software to all of the insular areas. This was to improve financial management by the local governments and meant that OIA would be dealing with financial information in the same format from all areas. First, how has this project worked out? Did it achieve its goals? And, second, is that software ready for an update? If so, will OIA be assisting again?

Response: Prior to its dissolution, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI)

government maintained a centralized accounting system in Saipan for the governments of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (and its states), Palau, and the Marshall Islands. In approximately 1986, as the TTPI wound down its activities, it decentralized accounting and created computer centers and accounting systems in each of the islands. The accounting software was the same for each government and met government accountability standards to create financial reports that could be audited. The accounting system and associated software was effective in ensuring each government owned and was responsible for maintaining and upgrading its own accounting system. As noted in the question, technical assistance funding was requested and awarded to the FSM and RMI in the early 2000's to upgrade their accounting systems. This was accomplished under the auspices of the "Insular Management Controls" program, which was subsequently discontinued. Since that time, the office has not undertaken a general hardware and software upgrade on the scale of that previous effort.

OIA also continues to provide financial management related support to the insular areas through the TAP Graduate School Contract. Each year, the insular areas identify financial management capacity building needs that they have and the Graduate School, funded through TAP, provides training and assistance. OIA has also supported financial management improvements in each area by working on providing support for Single Audits through OIA staff and the Graduate School Contract.

11. Palau Compact—When you were here last year, I asked you about the agreement to extend the financial terms of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic of Palau. I had hoped that with your assistance and support, we could figure out a way to secure passage of the agreement by Congress. Unfortunately, there has been little progress. The two committees of jurisdiction in the House and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the Senate have simply been unable to come up with a suitable offset. We are going to have to work harder. But we are also going to need more leadership and some sense of urgency from the administration. So, can you update us, Madam Secretary, on any administration's efforts to secure passage of the Palau agreement?

Response: Approving the results of the Agreement is of critical importance to the national security of the United States, to our bilateral relationship with Palau, and to our broader strategic interests in the Asia Pacific region. As such, the Administration transmitted legislation to Congress that would approve the Agreement and has worked with the Committee to try to identify appropriate offsets for funding the Agreement. The Administration stands ready to continue to work with Congress to approve this critically important piece of legislation.

12. ESA—We often hear from our Republican members that the Fish and Wildlife Service should concentrate more on recovering threatened and endangered species and less on listing them. However, complying with the majority's endless document requests and subpoenas has cost your department \$1.5 million and tied up 19,000 hours of staff time.

Do you believe these resources would be better utilized to help reach species recovery goals?

Response: With limited resources it is critically important that FWS focus on species recovery.

13. Coastal Barrier Resources System—The Department's budget shows a great deal of concern over the effects of climate change. I share those concerns. However, the budget does not dedicate any additional resources to remapping the Coastal Barrier Resources System, a project that is long overdue. Given that coastal storms and sea level rise are an imminent threat to private property, public infrastructure, and the environment, doesn't it make sense to include updating CBRS maps as part of your climate adaptation agenda?

Response: Through appropriated funding to the FWS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, along with funding provided under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013, the FWS is well positioned to provide modernized maps for the Coastal Barrier Resources System. The FWS, through an interagency partnership with FEMA, is conducting a digital conversion of the CBRS maps that is anticipated to be completed by 2016. Funding through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 provided \$5 million to comprehensively modernize maps for eight northeastern states by 2017, which will correct errors affecting property owners and facilitate increased awareness of and compliance with CBRA among federal partners and other stakeholders.

14. Law Enforcement—The Department is requesting only very modest increases to its law enforcement and international affairs budgets at a time when global wildlife poaching and trafficking is at an all-time high. Is this lack of dedication consistent with the recommendations in the recently released National Strategy for Combating Wildlife trafficking?

Response: The Department has requested funding at a level that will allow FWS to make a significant contribution to the fight against wildlife trafficking. The Department's efforts represent the continuation and enhancement of work that has been underway for years. The request is also consistent with the National Strategy, which calls for marshaling and strategically using existing resources across executive branch agencies and departments and working in partnership with other nations, the nonprofit community, and the private sector.

Question from Rep. Duncan:

15. You mentioned during the hearing that there were cases where chemicals used in fracking were found in ground water. Were you referring to proven cases where ground water was contaminated because of fracking, or were you referring to an instance where chemicals used in tracking happened to be found in water, with no clear correlation between the two? Do you have evidence you can share regarding what you have found?

Response: As indicated at the hearing, the Department is not aware of any studies that have suggested a direct link between hydraulic fracturing and groundwater contamination, but there have been links with groundwater contamination from injected fluids and documented cases of fluid spills on the surface contaminating groundwater. These types of incidents are generally reported to states or the Environmental Protection Agency, and news of them are often reported in the press. With regard to hydraulic fracturing, however, of paramount importance to the process is the integrity of the well bore, the well bore casing, and the concrete seal, which play key roles in ensuring groundwater is protected and fluids going into the well do not escape. Additionally, it is important that companies have a water management plan in place for fluids that flow back to the surface.

Questions from Rep. Robert Wittman:

Atlantic Seismic PEIS

16. Do you believe that the Atlantic Seismic PEIS balances environmental protection, including mitigating marine mammal impact while promoting a better understanding of the available resources in the study area?

Response: Yes. The PEIS establishes multiple mitigation measures designed to protect the environment and minimize the impacts to marine life while setting a path forward for survey activities that will update nearly four-decade-old data on offshore energy resources in the region.

17. What date do you expect the Department to issue the Record of Decision (ROD) for Atlantic Seismic?

Response: Input from the public is an essential part of this process and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has experienced a high level of interest in the PEIS. Requests were received from several stakeholders, including members of Congress, to extend the comment period on this document. Based on these requests, BOEM extended the comment period until May 7, 2014. BOEM issued its Record of Decision on July 18, 2014.

5 Year Plan

18. As the Department of Interior begins the process to establish the 2017-2022 Five Year Plan, will you commit to taking into consideration the broad bipartisan support for offshore energy production offshore Virginia?

Response: As a part of the Five Year Program planning process, BOEM will consider all 26 OCS planning areas, including offshore Virginia. Beginning this summer, BOEM will initiate the planning process for developing the next Five Year Program for 2017-2022. It is a detailed, carefully executed, and public process that is based on sound scientific analysis. A key part of safe and responsible development of our offshore oil and gas resources is tailoring consideration of leasing to specific regions and environments, engaging with States and local communities as well as industry, NGOs and other stakeholders, and addressing potential conflicts.

National Fish Hatchery System

19. The Fish & Wildlife Service report release in 2013 valued its fisheries program at \$3.6 billion and supporting 68,000 jobs. Do you view the fisheries program as an important component of the Presidents Great Outdoors Program?

Response: Yes, the FWS Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program is an important component of the President's America's Great Outdoor Initiative, which has a goal to achieve lasting conservation of the outdoor spaces that power our nation's economy, shape our culture, and build our outdoor traditions. In FY 2012, National Fish Hatchery System facilities distributed or held in refugia 113 species of fish. Many species that are produced to meet goals for the recovery of threatened and endangered species or for the restoration of imperiled species also have recreational value.

In addition to culturing aquatic species, many of our hatcheries provide outdoor education programs and other opportunities such as recreational fishing, nature trails, bird watching, and camping.

Consistent with the intent of the Initiative, volunteers are critical to the success of the hatchery system. Whether they are giving back to their communities, being good stewards of the land, setting examples for future generations, or sharing their wealth of knowledge, volunteers are critical to the operation of national fish hatcheries across the country. In FY 2013, National Fish Hatchery System facilities recorded 98,265 hours by adult volunteers valued at \$2,215,876. The National Fish Hatchery System also recorded 12,618 hours by youth volunteers.

20. Has Interior considered the overall economic impacts that closing hatcheries would have on the recreational fishing community, small businesses and localities?

Response: In the fall of 2012, the FWS launched a comprehensive review of the 70 fish and aquatic species propagation hatcheries to ensure the NFHS will be positioned to address high priority aquatic resource needs now and into the future while working within its budget limitations. The *National Fish Hatchery System: Strategic Hatchery and Workforce Planning Report* is the product of that comprehensive review. Although economic impacts were not among the criteria used to evaluate the propagation programs, FWS understands the potential impact of reductions in fish production programs on local communities. The FWS announced in November 2013 that it does not intend to close any hatcheries in the current fiscal year. Operations throughout the Service's National Fish Hatchery System have been greatly impacted by budget reductions including sequestration, as well as increasing operations costs.

The Report is intended to inform the discussion on the future of the NFHS to chart a course for the system that is financially sustainable, addresses today's most pressing conservation challenges, and continues to serve the public interest.

21. Do you believe Interior is complying with the mitigation hatchery responsibilities established by Congress and will you be requesting the full amount of funding from the water resource agencies for mitigation hatcheries?

Response: Over the past decade, FWS has been working to intensify efforts to obtain

Questions for Secretary Jewell
April 3, 2014 HNR Oversight Hearing

reimbursement for fish mitigation production from responsible parties. Mitigation for federal water projects is still an important goal of the NFHS and the fish supplied by these hatcheries provide important economic opportunities to the states and the recreational community in general. We support the continuation of mitigation work on a reimbursable basis.

Questions from Rep. Napolitano:

22. Water Challenges (water shortages and water use conflicts) is one of the Department's initiatives. How will the proposed spending for basic data gathering (USGS streamgaging and ground water monitoring specifically) impact DOI ability's to fulfill its statutory mandates, affect decision support, and impact states and other non-federal partners?

Response: The FY 2015 budget request reflects a careful prioritization of science investments to support streamgages through the National Streamflow Information Program and enhance groundwater monitoring among other activities under the USGS Water Resources Mission Area. On the heels of the 125th anniversary of the installation of the first streamgage in Embudo, New Mexico, the Department recognizes that streamgages are critical to forecast floods and droughts, manage flood flows, deliver water supplies, establish water rights, protect threatened aquatic habitats, and for recreation. More than 247 million daily observations from 26,000 streamgages are currently available through the USGS National Water Information System. The USGS operates 4,461 stations with more than 30 years of record, and 8,024 gages comprise the U.S. streamgage network today.

Groundwater monitoring is similarly important. Groundwater is a critical component of our Nation's drinking water, agriculture, industry, and aquatic ecosystems, yet as a nation we have a poor handle on the quantity, quality, and location of groundwater. Funding in the FY 2015 budget request supports USGS activities associated with the SECURE Water Act (P.L. 111-11), which will allow USGS to continue the path forward to achieving a national water availability and use assessment and to advancing USGS efforts on groundwater availability, initiating a gradual implementation of the National Groundwater Monitoring Network, and advancing the national assessment of brackish aquifers. The budget also proposes \$2.0 million for a state water-use grant program. The grant program would provide the necessary framework, resources and incentives for states to provide water supply and use information in a consistent manner, which is essential for eventually providing a uniform, trustworthy national assessment of water availability and use.

23. Part of Reclamation's core mission is to provide for sustainability and recycling. WaterSMART and Title XVI funding continues to fall short to be ahead of the backlog of authorized projects.

- a. Can you describe the constraints and reasoning why the \$21.5 million budget does not meet the \$350 million need when these projects have been successful? And produced thousands of AF of water.**

Response: The Department recognizes that water reuse is an essential tool in stretching the limited water supplies in the West. The Department's FY 2015 budget request for this program reflects the need to prioritize limited budget resources while enabling the significant non-federal cost share that continues to make the Title XVI program

successful. Water reuse projects continue to be a valuable tool to address current and future water resource challenges posed by drought and the competing demand for scarce water resources.

24. What is being done to address the costs of not having any water vs. water delivery with quagga mussels? How are you managing the research funding on invasive species? Who is leading the R/D?

Response: We recognize the threat posed by invasive mussels in the West, with impacts at Reclamation dams, powerplants, and facilities of other water providers, as well as at recreational sites. Operations and maintenance costs at facilities have reflected these impacts, but to date mussels have not prevented the delivery of Reclamation water or power. The FY 2015 budget request, under the Bureau of Reclamation's Science and Technology program, prioritizes research and development aimed at mitigating the impacts of invasive zebra and quagga mussels on water and hydropower facilities. The S&T Program will continue to help develop and test technologies to manage zebra and quagga mussels with testing of pulse-pressure technologies, UV lamps and high-capacity filters, and coatings materials that will resist mussel colonization.

Reclamation's collaboration with industry recently led to the commercialization of a natural molluscicide that can eradicate mussel colonies within piped systems in dams and powerplants. The S&T Program will continue developing and testing new technologies in collaboration with other agencies, and partner with U.S. industry representatives by utilizing technology transfer authorities. Field tests of multiple promising technologies are underway.

25. The White House Council on Native American Affairs is advancing 5 priorities including "economic development, justice systems, education, natural resources and healthcare including health disparity." Substance abuse is included but mental health is not defined in "social services." There is a lack of services for adequate mental health care and suicide prevention. How is this being accounted for through the council and the Department? Specifically, how are you addressing the serious mental health issues? Can you speak to the specifics of the program?

Response: At the Department, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' programs assist tribal communities in developing their natural and socio-economic infrastructures. The FY 2015 Budget Request proposes the Tiwahe Initiative, which will expand BIA's capacity in current programs that address Indian children and family issues and job training needs. It will provide culturally-appropriate services with a goal toward empowering individuals and families through health promotion, family stability, and strengthening tribal communities.

American Indian and Alaska Native youth suicide is a serious problem in Indian Country, and child abuse and neglect, persistent problems among Indian populations in the United

States, has had devastating impacts. Children living in poverty are more likely to be exposed to violence and psychological trauma, and Indian communities are plagued by high rates of poverty, substance abuse, suicide, and violent crime.

The Bureau of Indian Education provides the Department's most direct action on youth suicide by providing technical assistance and monitoring through BIE regional School Safety Specialists to ensure schools are compliant with intervention strategies and reporting protocols to further ensure student safety. BIE also partners with other federal agencies, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) in the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education, enabling it to address the unique needs of its students in the areas of behavioral health and suicide prevention.

The BIE has in place a Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention Services Policy that promotes suicide prevention and early intervention in BIE schools. The policy applies to all BIE-operated elementary and secondary schools and residential facilities, and it mandates specific actions in all schools, dormitories and the two post-secondary institutions; and encourages tribally-operated schools to develop similar policies. These actions create a safety net for students who are at risk of suicide, and promote proactive involvement of school personnel and communities in intervention, prevention and postvention activities. In addition, the Office of Justice Services (OJS) in BIA has partnered with a number of health and social service programs to assist in educating and presenting at schools, seminars, workshops, and community events on suicide prevention.

26. Reclamation's budget for authorized Native American water settlements in 2015 is \$112 million, an increase of \$12.3 million over 2014 enacted. What is the status and number of current pending water settlements? And how is the President's Opportunity and Security Initiative investing in finding solutions to climate challenges through technology development and R/D?

Response: As the Department has indicated, negotiating settlements of Indian water rights claims has been and remains a high priority for this Administration. Such settlements help ensure that Indian people have safe, reliable water supplies and are also in keeping with the United States' trust responsibility to tribes. The Department currently has 38 Federal Teams in the field working on Indian water settlements in 11 western states with 21 teams involved in implementation of enacted settlements and the remainder involved in negotiations or assessments of possible settlements. Of these, 3 settlements have federal legislation pending at various stages in the legislative process, with several more expected in the next few years.

The President's Opportunity, Growth and Security Initiative supports investing in research and unlocking data and information to better understand the projected impacts of climate change and how to better prepare our communities and infrastructure; helping communities plan and prepare for the impacts of climate change and encouraging local measures to reduce future risk; and funding breakthrough technologies that will make us more resilient in the face of a changing climate.

27. In 2009, not one commercial solar energy project was in development on federal land. In the past 5 years, the Department has authorized 50 renewable energy projects in -solar, wind and geothermal. Fully developed, these projects will provide nearly 14,000 megawatts of power—enough to power over 4.8 million homes and support over 20,000 construction and operations jobs. Can you discuss the development goals for 2015 on federal land and Native American land?

Response: The BLM in 2015 will be well on its way toward achieving the President's goal of authorizing 20 gigawatts (20,000 megawatts) of renewable energy from public lands by 2020.

28. (On employment and training)- Would like to thank the Secretary for supporting public-private partnerships with \$1 million toward a goal of \$20 million for education and employment for youth and veterans. It is a start but not enough and I would stress how important it is to continue to educate our youth including our university students in water technology, Ag. Can you discuss some of the training for employment?

Response: Engaging the American public, particularly young people, is a key priority. In 2009, the Department established a comprehensive youth program with strong performance goals to engage, educate and employ youth. Since then it has become one of the largest national youth programs in the country, providing employment opportunities for over 93,000 young people and veterans through direct hires and partnerships on public lands. Secretary Jewell challenged the Department to expand these efforts in new ways including new applications and other technological tools, an emphasis on urban centers, and incorporating youth activities into the core operations of the Department's bureaus. By September 30, 2015, the Department will provide 40,000 work and training opportunities over fiscal years 2014 and 2015 to young people (ages 15-25) to support the Department's mission.

The Department has also been active in establishing long-term relationships with federal agencies, schools, veteran's organizations and military organizations that allow us to attract and retain our Nation's veterans. The Department was the first federal agency to sign an agreement with the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, that focused on connecting reserve service members to employment opportunities; connecting military youth and families to America's great outdoors, history and culture; and expanding recreational opportunities for community-based wounded warrior programs.

29. Energy projects could be impacted by the permitting processes. As the debate on energy development and climate change continues, how would you weigh greater industrial safety, permitting, and proper oversight of environmental risks and potential irreversible long-term effects to our ecosystems?

Response: Facilitating efficient, responsible development of energy resources while reducing carbon pollution are integral parts of the Administration's broad energy strategy.

Renewable energy development is an important component of that strategy. The President's Climate Action Plan set an ambitious target of doubling renewable electricity generation by 2020. In support of that goal, since 2009, the BLM has approved 52 renewable energy projects on public lands including 29 utility-scale solar facilities, 11 wind farms, and 12 geothermal plants. If built as approved, these projects could provide more than 14,000 megawatts in energy capacity to power 4.8 million homes.

Development of conventional energy resources from public lands also continues to play a role in meeting our Nation's growing energy needs, and the BLM is working to achieve a responsible balance between energy production and environmental protection. For example, the BLM has begun outreach with tribal and state governments to determine if additional regulations could be developed that would establish standards to further limit the waste of vented and flared gas. The Department also implements the President's Climate Action Plan goals to reduce the Nation's carbon footprint, and is taking actions such as exploring ways to reduce methane emissions from mining operations on public lands. The Department will continue working to ensure efficient and responsible development.

30. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is leading the nation with active solar, wind and geothermal energy programs on BLM public lands. What challenges is the Department facing when implementing these programs? How many jobs have been produced in renewables? And how is enforcement of proper assessments and permitting in continuous land operations important to prevent irreversible deterioration?

Response: As part of its efforts to increase the production of renewable energy on public lands, the Administration has been effective in managing development challenges by working closely with project applicants to ensure projects are designed to give proper consideration to resource and environmental concerns. This authorizing process also places a significant emphasis on early coordination among stakeholders. The Administration's consideration of each proposed project is informed by public participation and environmental analyses required under the National Environmental Policy Act and other applicable federal and state environmental laws.

This inclusive and efficient authorization process has played an important role in developing renewable energy projects that help support thousands of jobs in local communities across the West. In Fiscal Year 2012, we estimate that geothermal, wind, and solar energy activities on BLM-managed public lands supported more than 11,000 jobs.

The BLM participates in the interagency Rapid Response Team for Transmission (RRTT), which is led by the White House Council on Environmental Quality. The RRTT works to improve transmission siting, permitting, and review processes, and is currently developing a pre-application process for high-voltage transmission line applications in order to improve interagency and intergovernmental coordination with a focus on helping project proponents and federal agencies identify and avoid potential siting challenges and issues. BLM remains focused on approving critical renewable energy projects, as well as

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transmission projects, on public lands in an accelerated and environmentally responsible manner.

Questions from Rep. Lowenthal:

31. Last year I asked the Interior Department a question for the record about how the BLM would ensure that FracFocus fixed its data search, sort, and aggregation tools. Interior replied that “FracFocus has evolved into a standardized, easily accessible repository of public information.” Nothing could be further from the truth.

Madam Secretary, Executive Order 13642 requires that “the default state of new and modernized Government information resources shall be open and machine readable” and that the Federal government is “to ensure that data are released to the public in ways that make the data easy to find, accessible, and usable.” FracFocus contains error-prone data that can only be downloaded tediously, one well at a time, in PDF format. Not in aggregate or machine-readable format as the Executive Order calls for.

Madam Secretary, do you agree that FracFocus currently does not comply with the Open Data Executive Order?

Response: The Bureau of Land Management is considering in its revised proposed regulation the use of FracFocus for disclosure of the additives in hydraulic fracturing fluids. The Ground Water Protection Council, which is responsible for the development of FracFocus, has had a successful track record developing a similar risk-based data management system that is relied on by other regulatory agencies, including the Department of Energy, and others. BLM will be maintaining its own well records and will be working to comply with all statutes and executive orders concerning its records.

Notably, the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board Task Force recently issued its Report on FracFocus 2.0, which contains recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the disclosure of chemical additives and improve transparency for regulators, operating companies, and the public. The BLM is continuing its dialogue with the GWPC and expects further progress to ensure the site meets key elements addressed by the Task Force report, which will enhance the transparency of chemical disclosure data.

32. Is the BLM working on an agreement with the Ground Water Protection Council to ensure that future versions of FracFocus are an appropriate regulatory tool for the BLM?

Response: As noted in response to the previous question, as the BLM moves forward with finalizing its revised proposed hydraulic fracturing rule it is continuing dialogue with the GWPC and expects site improvements that will further enhance the transparency and use of hydraulic fracturing chemical disclosure data.

33. Last year I asked Interior the following question for the record: How will BLM guarantee that all data submitted to FracFocus will exist in perpetuity if it is not a federal website, and is partly funded by the oil and gas industry? Your answer was that in addition to data being housed in the FracFocus database, “BLM would also

maintain permanent possession of a set of this data.”

Madam Secretary, can you confirm to us that BLM will keep a separate database of all the information that is submitted to FracFocus, so that the public will not have to worry about the loss of this information?

Response: While BLM continues to work out the details of the process, data submitted to FracFocus will be periodically transmitted to the BLM for archival purposes and potential hosting if it became necessary.

Questions from Rep. Daines:

Thank you for testifying before the House Natural Resources Committee on April 3, 2014. After sitting in the hearing for a significant period of time, I am disappointed I did not get the opportunity to ask you a question as I was detained voting during consideration of a piece of legislation in the House Homeland Security Committee. I would appreciate a timely response to this issue as it is a very important issue to Montana.

As you are aware, three school districts in Montana (Gardiner and West Yellowstone) near Yellowstone National Park were recently notified by the Department of the Interior that they are required to repay millions of dollars in Federal payments due to an oversight by current and past Administrations. Now that this error has been discovered, the Department is attempting to have these three school districts repay all of the funds received since 1977, amounting to an estimated \$8-10 million dollars.

This hardly seems fair given that it took the Department 37 years to determine that these overpayments had occurred.

Now, it goes without saying that accountability and oversight are lacking in the federal government—especially when it comes to managing our nation's budget. But what's equally disconcerting, and more outrageous to the people of Montana, is that you have asked small rural school districts to pay for the federal government's mistakes. Asking them to come up with millions of dollars that the Department of Interior has failed to account for is not only unfair, it demonstrates once again that the federal government is unwilling to take accountability for its mistakes.

34. Can you shed some light on the current state of play between the Department and the school districts?

Response: While the payments were made in error, federal debt collection law requires the federal government to seek recovery of the overpayments from the school districts. As the Department has indicated to the delegation, we are committed to working with the school districts to bring about a reasonable resolution to this issue. Currently, the Department is reviewing its options for potential resolution of the matter, and the NPS is in the process of validating the repayment figure to ensure the accuracy of the final dollar amount, which is estimated at approximately \$9 million.

35. It's my understanding that this debt could be waived. Additionally, there may be a legislative solution. If so, why is the Department of the Interior pursuing the debt repayment in the first place instead of working to find a solution?

Response: As noted in response to the previous question, federal law requires that the government seek recovery of these overpayments from the school districts. However, the Department is currently reviewing options which might be pursued to resolve this issue. The Department is committed to bringing about a resolution of this issue.

36. Do you have a precise number for the overpayment amount? Our school districts need some certainty. Can you provide those details to my office within the next 7 days?

Response: Because the Department is currently validating the repayment figure, there is not yet a final repayment amount. We expect to have more information available in the near future, but as indicated in a previous response the total amount is estimated at \$9 million.

Questions from Rep. Mullin:

37. As you know last Thursday your Fish and Wildlife Service decided to list the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened Species under the Endangered Species Act.

This decision was roundly met with enormous disappointment among the five state wildlife directors and the great number of entities in the private sector that joined together to create an unprecedented Range Wide Plan to conserve the Lesser Prairie Chicken and avoid such a listing.

Indeed, the Range Wide Plan—when added to the several other federal, state and private conservation programs—would have protected around 13 million acres of Lesser Prairie Chicken habitat throughout the five states, and amassed over \$21 million in funding from the private sector to pay for conservation activities for the Lesser Prairie Chicken.

But instead of embracing the Range Wide Plan as the new and effective way to administer the Endangered Species Act in this era where the Service lacks the financial resources and the personnel to conduct any conservation for these species, the Fish and Wildlife Service effectively booted away that opportunity to do something bold and creative, and instead sent the signal to all who might listen that the Service will not recognize and reward such new thinking.

I cannot imagine that anyone will invest the time and effort to craft a multi-state Range Wide conservation program now that they clearly see that FWS does not properly credit them by not listing the species while the conservation program is given a fair opportunity to demonstrate the positive conservation it can achieve.

Secretary Jewell, do you have money in your current Fish and Wildlife Service budget to dedicate to conservation activities for the Lesser Prairie Chicken?

- a. Do you have Service personnel available to do the massive on the ground conservation activities that the state wildlife agencies and their private sector partners are prepared to dedicate themselves to in conserving this species?**

Response: While state conservation agencies have taken a primary role in implementing conservation actions for the lesser prairie-chicken, as discussed below several private conservation organizations and federal agencies, including the Fish and Wildlife Service, have played important roles in this effort. FWS has provided both technical and financial assistance through its programs and activities, such as the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, and through Habitat Conservation Planning and Candidate Conservation Agreements. FWS also works very closely with its partners and, in recognition of the significant and ongoing efforts of states and landowners to conserve the lesser prairie-chicken, the use of a special 4(d) rule will allow the five range states to continue to manage conservation efforts for the species and avoid further regulation of activities such as oil and gas development and utility line maintenance that are covered under the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (WAFWA) range-wide conservation plan.

The FWS decision to list the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species was accompanied by a creative and unprecedented use of the authority conferred by Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act to ensure that the states would be able to continue to implement their range-wide plan even after a federal listing. As a result, more land has been enrolled in the range-wide plan in the short period since the federal listing than had been enrolled prior to the federal listing. Earlier this summer the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies indicated that its focus is now to continue implementing the plan, recover the species, and facilitate the bird's removal from the list of threatened species; FWS has that same focus and will continue to work with the states toward that objective.

- b. Since you have little to offer beyond what the states and others have already contributed, why didn't you decide not to list this species while those unprecedented efforts of others had the chance to work?**

Response: Threats to the lesser-prairie chicken, including drought and habitat fragmentation, continue to impact the species and are expected to continue into the future. Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, after reviewing the best available science and the on-the-ground conservation efforts, the Service determined that the lesser prairie-chicken is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future and should therefore be listed as a threatened species.

Over the last decade, a number of significant, on-the-ground conservation programs have been implemented across the birds' five-state range (Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado) to conserve and restore its habitat and improve the status of the lesser prairie-chicken. Key programs such as the WAFWA range-wide plan, USDA's NRCS LPCI, USDA's FSA Conservation Reserve Program, the Bureau of Land Management's New Mexico Candidate Conservation Agreement, the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico, are engaging state and federal agencies, landowners and industry in efforts to conserve the lesser prairie-chicken and restore its habitat. Collectively, these various efforts are quite similar to a recovery plan, something that the Service normally prepares years after a species' listing. This early identification of a strategy to recover the lesser prairie-chicken is likely to speed its eventual delisting. This special rule encourages managers and operators to implement protective practices on their land and recognizes landowners' work to protect the species.

38. Secretary, the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) provides that once a state develops procedures that are as effective as the feds, the Interior Department may grant "primacy" to that state. This includes my state of Oklahoma. Once a state achieves primacy, it has exclusive jurisdiction to regulate coal mining.

In 2010, the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) unilaterally countermanded Secretarial policy and regulation with a bureau-level policy, providing no analysis, rationale or basis for the change whatsoever.

The new policy directs enforcement against a mine operator whenever OSM disagrees with a permitting decision made by a state, essentially rendering a state issued permit meaningless.

Can you provide any rationale for OSM to issue a violation against an operator simply because it believes the state violated the law? Can you provide any legal or equitable basis for such a policy?

Response: SMCRA's federal regulations on inspection and monitoring and enforcement apply to all types of SMCRA violations, including violations of performance standards or permit conditions and violations of permitting requirements.

SMCRA authorizes OSMRE to cite violations in a primacy state whenever the bureau finds a condition that presents an imminent danger to the health and safety of the public or to the environment. SMCRA also authorizes OSMRE to cite non-imminent harm conditions if, after being notified of the existence of a violation, a state regulatory authority fails to take appropriate action to cause the violation to be abated and fails to give good cause for taking no abatement action.

OSMRE does not take enforcement action against an operator unless the operator has violated a performance standard, permit condition, or permitting requirement under SMCRA.

39. To compound the problems, OSM is now applying this new policy retroactively. In my state of Oklahoma, there has been three separate violations recently issued on three permits, with a promise of more to come.

These permits were issued years ago. They have been mined and reclaimed according to the approved plans in the permits. OSM now believes that the reclamation does not conform to OSM's "emerging" views of what constitutes land reclamation to approximate original contours, and is asking the operator to spend tens of millions of dollars to completely redo the reclamation. Madame Secretary as a former business owner, I'm sure you understand the critical importance of any business being able to rely on the terms and conditions of a permit once issued.

How can you explain why this action is being applied retroactively to permits in Oklahoma that are already substantially reclaimed?

Response: Both SMCRA and its equivalent in Oklahoma law require that all land affected by surface coal mining operations be returned to its Approximate Original Contour (AOC) as it existed prior to mining. OSMRE cited an operator for three consecutive years, beginning in 2011, for violating Oklahoma's performance standards under SMCRA pertaining to backfilling and grading. OSMRE cited this same mining operator for similar violations in 1994, which was upheld on appeal to the Interior Board

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of Land Appeals. OSMRE's position on AOC has not changed since the initial 1994 violations.

Questions from Rep. Grijalva:

Wild Horse/Burro

40. Secretary Jewell, in your statement you mentioned that BLM is expected to receive more fees and revenues from oil and gas extraction as well as grazing permits. This means not just more expansion, but also exploitation on public lands. What role have you taken in balancing the impact those activities may have on public lands, particularly on endangered species and wild horses?

Response: Balancing multiple uses, including statutory obligations to protect specific resources, is at the core of the land use planning process, and ensuring balance was a central premise of the leasing reforms the Department implemented in 2010 to establish orderly, open, and consistent environmental processes for oil and gas resource development on public lands. The oil and gas leasing reforms ensure needed balance with up-front natural resource analysis added to the development process. Potential lease sales are fully coordinated both internally and externally via public participation, and analyzed by incorporating an interdisciplinary review of available information and on-site visits as appropriate to supplement or validate existing data.

41. Secretary Jewell, thank you very much for your leadership and your support for enhancing our country's sustainable great outdoor activities by finding a balance between greater public access to our parks and recreations, while also ensuring that those parks are not overused and managed in a sustainable way. Can you perhaps touch upon the idea of how the Department could foster eco-tourism while at the same time manages the impact on endangered species and wild horse herds?

Response: In 2012, President Obama signed Executive Order 13597 and announced a number of initiatives to significantly increase travel and tourism in the United States. This Executive Order charged the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior with co-leading an interagency task force to develop recommendations for a National Travel and Tourism Strategy to promote domestic and international travel opportunities throughout the United States. The strategy, finalized later that year, focuses on promoting regional tourism collaborations in "key strategic destination markets," especially those with a combination of natural and cultural attractions. The Department recently joined with other federal agencies and states to sign a Memorandum of Understanding intended to formalize an agreement through which the Western States Tourism Policy Council, a consortium of 13 western state tourism offices, and six federal agencies will continue to work together to advance tourism on our public lands,

A Departmental interagency tourism team, working in concert with local community tourism partners and the National Geographic Society, is facilitating Geotourism projects which present authentic natural and cultural experiences to a growing ecotourism audience. Among other things, marketing communications for these projects often feature stories that capture travel travelers' interest in protected species.

Additionally, the National Park Service's policies on tourism aim to support and promote appropriate visitor use through cooperation and coordination with the tourism industry. As part of this effort, the NPS collaborates with industry professionals to promote sustainable and informed tourism that incorporates socioeconomic and ecological concerns and supports long-term preservation of park resources and quality visitor experiences, and uses this collaboration as an opportunity to encourage and showcase environmental leadership by the NPS and by the tourism industry, including park concessioners.

Wilderness/50th Anniversary

42. Secretary Jewell, while you are preparing for the centennial of the National Park Service in 2016, September 3^d, 2014 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, a historic environmental law that protects some of the wildest places in our country, including significant portions of national parks like Yosemite, Grand Teton and Olympic. What is the Department doing in the 50th anniversary year to reaffirm its commitment to steward our wilderness areas for current and future generations?

Response: The 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act provides an important opportunity to celebrate the importance of its continued preservation of wilderness areas for future generations. Surveys indicate that 12 million Americans take between 16 and 35 million trips to wilderness each year, either on their own or with a guide. Parks, monuments, and wilderness areas are the infrastructure for the outdoor industry, which generates \$646 billion annually to the economy, supports 6.1 million jobs and generates nearly \$80 billion in federal, state and local taxes.

Regarding the anniversary, the three Interior agencies that manage wilderness, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the NPS, are participating in Wilderness50, a diverse and growing national coalition of government agencies, non-profit organizations, and academic institutions that have come together to plan and conduct 50th Anniversary celebration events and activities. A wide variety of commemoration events are being planned throughout the country to raise public awareness of this historic year and the benefits of wilderness. One of our key goals is to engage youth and underserved communities; and foster wilderness stewardship by better connecting the broad wilderness network.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

43. Secretary Jewell, I am concerned that the Land and Water Conservation Fund authorizing legislation is expiring in September of 2015. So many important conservation projects in my state/district have been funded through LWCF over the years, and I know it has been an essential tool for your agency to purchase inholdings and conserve exceptional places not fit for development. From your

perspective, what do we need to do to ensure that sufficient LWCF funding continues to be available?

Response: The President's budget continues to support full, permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The 2015 Budget proposes \$900 million in combined discretionary (\$350m) and mandatory (\$550m) funds for 2015 – the 50th anniversary of the LWCF Act – and to permanently authorize \$900 million in annual mandatory funding for DOI and USDA programs. We look forward to working with the Committee and Congress in this effort.

Oil and Gas

44. Secretary Jewell, you are probably aware of the recently reported oil spill on the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument that lay undiscovered for years, can you comment on the need for the proposed increase in the BLM's oil and gas inspection program?

Response: The Bureau of Land Management Oil and Gas program has no greater priority than ensuring that development is done safely and responsibly. Since 2000, the BLM has permitted nearly 47,000 new wells to be drilled on public and tribal lands. Today, the BLM oversees approximately 100,000 wells across the country – the most ever – and we must meet inspection and enforcement responsibilities on each one. Keeping up with this rising demand is an ongoing challenge.

The current funding system limits the BLM's ability to effectively meet this responsibility and ensure protection of both environmental and economic resources. Unlike with offshore oil and gas development, the BLM does not have the authority to charge industry fees to support its inspection and enforcement program. The 2015 request for BLM's Oil and Gas Management program would expand onshore oil and gas inspection activities and offset the cost of oil and gas inspection and enforcement activity with fees from industry, similar to what the offshore industry pays. The proposed inspection fees will generate an estimated \$48 million, providing a \$10 million increase in program capacity while reducing the need for direct appropriations by \$38 million. Enacting these fees will help the bureau respond more quickly to increases in inspection workloads and reduce the cost to taxpayers of operating the program.

The Department and the BLM are taking the spill on the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument very seriously. After an initial on-the-ground inspection the BLM suspects that the vast majority of the spill may be as much as three decades old. A small nearby pipeline appears to have leaked from time to time with perhaps as much as 10 barrels of oil having leaked fairly recently. The pipeline has been repaired and the leak has stopped. The BLM is currently reviewing best options for ensuring safe rehabilitation and restoration of both the recent small leak as well as the older spill. The BLM in Utah, including experts brought in from several of its field offices in the area, is conducting a complete inspection of the entire oil field. The company that operates the Upper Valley oil field has been very cooperative and immediately shut down the well

down and is working with the BLM to determine best next steps.

45. Secretary Jewell, in your statement you mentioned that the budget increase in the Department's oil and gas programs is driven from the expansion of onshore oil and gas activities, I would like to know what steps have you taken as Secretary to assure that oil and gas development on federal lands is balanced with your obligations as Secretary to assure that our public lands are managed in a manner to protect their natural values for future generations of Americans?

Response: Balancing multiple uses is at the core of the land use planning process, and ensuring balance was a central premise of the leasing reforms the Department implemented in 2010 to establish orderly, open, and consistent environmental processes for oil and gas resource development on public lands. The oil and gas leasing reforms ensure needed balance with up-front natural resource analysis added to the development process. Potential lease sales are fully coordinated both internally and externally via public participation, and analyzed by incorporating an interdisciplinary review of available information and on-site visits as appropriate to supplement or validate existing data.

Renewable Energy

46. Secretary Jewell, the expansion of renewable energy in the West will be dependent on transmission and modernization of the grid. This is in line with your agency and President's goal to approve 20,000 megawatts of renewable energy on public lands by 2020. I want to know what role is the department taking to advance infrastructure needed for renewable energy and ensure transmission corridors are properly sighted and what kind of funds are needed in order to make certain we are avoiding areas of high conflict?

Response: Upgrading the country's electric grid is critical to our efforts to make electricity more reliable, less expensive, and to promote clean energy sources. As renewable energy development grows, the Department is mindful of the need for transmission infrastructure to get the electricity from the places where the sun and wind can best be harnessed to the businesses and homes where the power is needed. The Department is a Participating Agency in the Interagency Rapid Response Team for Transmission (RRTT), which aims to improve the overall quality and timeliness of electric transmission infrastructure permitting, review, and consultation by the Federal government on both Federal and non-Federal lands. As part of the President's 2015 budget, the BLM is requesting \$5 million to support the review of energy corridors established under section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This review is critical to ensuring that these corridors are properly sited and fully coordinated with states, tribes, and other stakeholders.

Climate Change

47. Thank you, Secretary Jewell, for your Department's attention to the climate crisis. As you know, our public lands are already feeling the impacts of climate change, from wildfires, to droughts, to pine beetle infestations and extreme weather events. The President has proposed a \$1 billion Climate Change Resiliency Fund to prepare for the impacts and consequences of climate change. What do you foresee the Department doing with the funds in order to prepare our lands for climate change and mitigate the after effects of climate change?

Response: The President's proposed Climate Resilience Fund is a government-wide investment in developing more resilient communities and finding solutions to climate challenges through technology development and applied research. For the Department, this could include developing landscape level information, geographic information system data, models, and other tools to support resilient and adaptive land management. The Department is also positioned to help communities plan and prepare for the impacts of climate change through assistance to tribes and local governments for planning, protecting wetlands, and improving coastal resiliency during a time of severe weather conditions. The Fund would enable the Department to focus resources on technologies and infrastructure to reduce risks to public lands from drought, fire, and flooding, as well as more resilient approaches to managing water resources infrastructure.

48. Secretary Jewell, you may well aware that the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is currently publishing its fifth assessment of climate change science, particularly focusing on the impacts of climate change — ranging from the effects on endangered species to changes in agriculture. I want to know what Department is planning to do or have been doing in addressing the impact of climate change, especially in terms of climate adaption and disaster prevention?

Response: The Department is taking action to prepare for anticipated climate change impacts and build the resilience of the resources it manages. The Department's Climate Change Adaptation Policy was issued in December 2012 in response to the need to prepare for the impacts of climate change. The Policy articulates and formalizes the Departmental approach to climate change adaptation and provides guidance to bureaus and offices for addressing climate change impacts upon the Department's mission, programs, operations, and personnel. The Department is currently finalizing its 2014 Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which will describe the Department's overall strategy for addressing climate change adaptation including specific bureau strategies for identifying climate change related vulnerabilities and addressing those vulnerabilities.

The Department is conducting a new Climate Change Adaptation Priority Performance Goal for FY 2014 and FY 2015, to measure bureau performance and achievements toward implementing five priority climate change adaptation strategies, which were established in the 2013 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan. The Priority Goal will be used to target, track, and report progress on a quarterly basis over the next two years and will be instrumental in ensuring that the Department meets the requirements of Executive Order 13653.

The Department's approach to climate change is iterative and will be adjusted in the future as our understanding of impacts and vulnerabilities becomes clearer.

Budget

49. Secretary Jewell, in your budget proposal, the National Park Service operations account would provide parks with additional seasonal staff to enhance visitor experiences during peak visitation. While this benefits the visitors in the short-term, the deteriorating park resources will not benefit substantially. For example, a low percentage of invasive plants and animals are currently being controlled in this year's budget and in the proposed budget. Therefore, what is the Department's long-term plan for dealing with the park operations shortfall to ensure the park resources continue to be enjoyed by park visitors and don't continue to deteriorate? And how can Congress work with you to address these continuing operational needs?

Response: The NPS anticipates increased attention and visitation leading up to and during the Centennial in 2016, and the FY 2015 request includes an operations increase of \$40 million to prepare for this opportunity. This funding would support an expected influx of visitors during the 2016 Centennial celebrations and provide a stronger foundation for visitor services and infrastructure investments in its second century of preserving the parks for on-going usage and the future enjoyment of visitors. The request also includes \$15.7 million to fully fund fixed costs in the operations account, without requiring an offsetting reduction to park base operations. Full funding of fixed costs is critical to ensuring the stability of park operations on an annual basis, and in particular as parks prepare to welcome increased attention and visitation around the Centennial. Additionally, the request includes \$10 million for Centennial Challenge projects and partnerships, a matching program that would leverage federal funds with partner donations for signature projects and programs at national parks, which will provide benefits into the future.

50. Secretary Jewell, I'm encouraged the proposed investments in operations will provide more opportunities for our youth, employ veterans, and provide for better park maintenance. However, I understand that parks have been losing rangers and other staff over the last decade. With the small scope of proposed operational budget increase, will park base budgets actually get an increase over pre-sequester levels and will it improve non-seasonal park staff levels?

Response: The proposed FY 2015 budget request for NPS operations includes funding for fixed costs and support for new responsibilities, youth employment opportunities, volunteer capacity, deferred maintenance projects, and seasonal staff to enhance the visitor experience in preparation for the 2016 Centennial. All told, the increases requested in the budget would fund operations at \$47 million above the enacted FY 2014 level.

The budget restores some of the seasonal employees who provide visitor services during peak periods of visitation that have been lost over recent years due to budget reductions and fixed costs absorptions.

51. Secretary Jewell, the proposed multi-year investment in the deferred maintenance backlog is reassuring to see given the unsustainable scope of the backlog. How can Congress ensure that the backlog is realistically dealt with over the long-term?

Response: Reducing the NPS deferred maintenance backlog is primarily dependent on funding levels. As of the end of FY 2013, NPS deferred maintenance needs stood at approximately \$11.3 billion; \$683 million annually is needed to keep this at a steady state. In FY 2014, the NPS will devote approximately \$382 million to deferred maintenance from a variety of fund sources, including repair and rehabilitation, line-item construction, recreation fee revenue, and funding available through the Department of Transportation, Federal Highways Administration. Nearly half of the deferred maintenance backlog is in roads, bridges, and tunnels.

The NPS will continue to prioritize available funding to target the highest priority assets. This strategy will maintain a large number of important assets; however, deterioration of some assets that support park missions is expected.

52. Secretary Jewell, given that 90% of the FS's Law Enforcement and Investigations (LE&I) budget would go toward fixed cost such as staff salaries and maintenance, "why did the FS cut its LE&I in FY15 (\$126 million) which is below FY14, 13, and 12 (\$140 million)? And how would this reduction impact the FS's law enforcement operation?"

Response: This question appears to refer to the U.S. Forest Service's Law Enforcement and Investigations budget and we defer to the USFS for a response to this question.

Question from Rep. Fleming:

53. During your answers to questions, you said, "I believe hydraulic fracturing can be done safely and responsibly. I can't say that I've seen any studies that suggest a direct link between hydraulic fracturing and groundwater contamination. But there have been links with groundwater contamination on injected fluids, and I think it depends on assuring you've got a good well bore integrity and good practices, and those are the kinds of things we're looking at in our fracking regulations... There has been groundwater contamination from injected fluids, whether it's injected wastewater fluids, or other means, so we want to make sure that in our fracking regulations that we have the kind of well bore integrity so the water is going to its intended location and the frack fluid and that's exactly what our regulations are intended to do."

- a. Please provide documentation of the aforementioned specific examples of groundwater contamination, including date, operator, how it was reported, and if there was an independent audit.**

Response: As indicated at the hearing, the Department is not aware of any studies that have suggested a direct link between hydraulic fracturing and groundwater contamination, but there have been links with groundwater contamination from injected fluids and documented cases of fluid spills on the surface contaminating groundwater. These types of incidents are generally reported to states or the Environmental Protection Agency, and news of them are often reported in the press. With regard to hydraulic fracturing, however, of paramount importance to the process is the integrity of the well bore, the well bore casing, and the concrete seal, which play key roles in ensuring groundwater is protected and fluids going into the well do not escape. Additionally, it is important that companies have a water management plan in place for fluids that flow back to the surface.

Question from Rep. Flores:

54. As part of the revision for the resource management plan (RMP) for Oklahoma and Texas, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is evaluating opening up public lands along a 116-mile stretch of the Red River to actively manage for recreational purposes that could require significant new budgetary resources. The amount of federal funds needed may depend on how large of an area the BLM believes is federally owned. As you know, the border between Oklahoma and Texas that would delineate where the BLM lands are located has been disputed for a number of years. On October 10, 2000, H.R. Res. 72 was signed into law that ratifies the Red River Boundary Compact agreed to by Texas and Oklahoma that sets the boundary at the Southern vegetative line.

Does the Department of the Interior have a legal analysis of where it believes the boundary should be located, and what impact does the agency believe the Red River Boundary Compact has on this boundary and the location of federally owned lands? Additionally, is the BLM looking to open up the entire area along the 116-mile stretch or just isolated areas?

Response: The Bureau of Land Management is not expanding Federal holdings along the Red River. The BLM currently is in the initial stages of developing options for management of public lands and resources in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, an area that includes the Red River. As part of its planning process, BLM is seeking public input as to the best uses of the public lands in question. The Bureau's goal and commitment is to work closely with local and state government officials, congressional delegation members, and the public to determine the best management options for the public lands in these three states for the next many years.

The Department's understanding is that the Red River Boundary Compact did not alter the location of federally-managed lands in the Red River area.

Questions from Rep. McClintock:

Frogs and Toad

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's draft economic analysis of its proposal to designate 1,831,820 acres of critical habitat in California for the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, the northern distinct population segment of the mountain yellow-legged frog, and the Yosemite toad.

The economic impact analysis employed an "incremental" approach that limits the analysis primarily to the costs incurred to the federal government as a result of section 7 consultations. This methodology severely deemphasizes *the* most significant costs that accompany critical habitat designations—costs to the public as a result of lost mineral and timber production, tourism, and recreational opportunities.

This "incremental" approach, rather than a thorough study of the cumulative economic impacts, was used because of revisions to 50 CFR Part 424 that became effective on October 30, 2013. However, the draft economic analysis produced for FWS by consultant Industrial Economics, Inc. was dated August 27, 2013.

It appears that the draft economic analysis was complete and made available to the Service prior to the promulgation of the new rule adopting the "incremental" methodology. It also appears that the Service withheld the publication of the draft economic analysis until after the final rule took effect on October 30.

55. Please explain to the committee as to why the Service solicited an economic analysis from Industrial Economics that employed a narrow methodology that was not yet finalized and why it delayed the release of this analysis for over two months.

56. I would also like to know if the Service plans to employ a broader methodology including baseline impacts and effects on local economies.

Response: The FWS is required, under section 4(b) (2) of the Endangered Species Act , to evaluate and consider the probable economic and other relevant impacts resulting from a designation of critical habitat. The prevailing methodology used to conduct economic analyses assesses the impacts that are likely to result solely from the designation itself, *i.e.*, the incremental impacts. The FWS has consistently used this approach for economic analyses of critical habitat designations that occur on lands outside of the jurisdiction of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals since 2007. This approach is supported by Executive Order 12866, Office of Management and Budget Circular A-4 (issued in 2003) and a 2008 Memorandum Opinion from the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior. In October 2013, this approach was codified in the revisions to the ESA implementing regulations and is now applicable nationwide.

The initial draft of the economic analysis was submitted to the FWS by contractors on August 27, 2013. As a result of the internal review and approval process, and

coordination with other federal agencies, it took several months before the draft was released to the public for review and comment. These steps are part of the standard quality control process and are independent of the revision to the ESA implementing regulations for impact analyses.

Yosemite

57. The implementation of the MRP is estimated to cost \$210 million dollars, the draft Tuolumne River Plan (TRP) is estimated to cost \$64.5 million dollars, and the Mariposa Grove Plan is estimated to cost \$36 million dollars. Additionally, the Park has an estimated \$500 million dollars in deferred maintenance obligations. We would like to understand how the National Park Service (NPS) intends to prioritize and implement the elements of these plans and address Yosemite deferred maintenance needs in the event that additional Congressional appropriations are not provided, can you explain the National Park Service's funding expectations and schedule to implement the changes proposals?

Response: Potential funding to implement the plan will be derived from three primary sources, the recreation fee program, including entrance and camping fees; concessions franchise fees; and other federal sources such as the federal lands highway program funds.

Both recreation fee revenue and concession franchise fees are annual revenue sources collected by the park. Over the course of the next twenty years, assuming reauthorization of the recreation fee authority, the park anticipates that both of these fund sources (currently the park collects approximately \$18 M in fees annually) will be available to implement the changes proposed. Based on projected revenues, the park is confident there will be financial resources to implement a number of projects within the next 15-20 years for all three plans mentioned.

As for priorities, during the first 5-10 years of implementation the focus will be to improve the transportation system to alleviate traffic congestion and to conduct ecological restoration of high-use areas to better accommodate visitor use. Projects include adding and modifying parking, realigning failing intersections and restoring eroded riverbanks. Prerequisites for the most critical changes to the transportation system will require additional funding during the same time period to relocate facilities and increase the supply of parking. Concurrent to the improvements to transportation/parking, the park will direct financial resources toward creating additional camping opportunities and replacing tent cabins with hard-sided lodging.

58. The new location of some facilities was not identified in some of the Park's proposals, such as the new bike racks, river rafting facilities and maintenance buildings. When and how will the location of the facilities be chosen and how will the public have an opportunity to engage in that process?

Response: The locations of minor facilities, such as bicycle rental stands and raft rental operations, will be located outside of the quarter-mile river corridor boundary, yet remain

within the primary visitor services nodes. The park does not anticipate further environmental review and public involvement for these actions. The minor shift of the location of these facilities outside the corridor is an operational decision that will be determined after the 2016 concessions contract is awarded. The cost is expected to be minimal.

59. How do you intend to prioritize the needs identified in these plans?

Response: As noted above, the first priority for plan implementation will be to alleviate traffic congestion and also to restore riverbanks and meadows. Once these steps are accomplished, current levels of visitation can be managed more successfully. Concurrently, other priorities will be implemented to enhance the visitor experience by providing additional campsites and increasing the availability of year-round visitor accommodations.

Priority projects seek to accomplish four major goals:

- Correct identified impacts to river resources to ensure continued protection.
- Alleviate crowding and congestion and provide for easy access to key park facilities and shuttles.
- Enhance camping opportunities and winter lodging.
- Replace temporary non-code compliant employee housing.

60. Can you explain what the cumulative impact of all these plans is expected to be on the current visitor experience?

Response: All of the plans address long-standing issues with visitor use and user capacity management in the most heavily visited destinations within the park, most notably by calling for actions that will improve the efficiency of the transportation system. Key actions such as relocating and retrofitting day-use parking areas, adding campsites, and increasing the amount of year-round lodging in Yosemite Valley, will improve access and the overall quality of the visitor experience. In addition, the wide array of recreational opportunities available throughout the park will be maintained and boating opportunities will be expanded. Once implemented, the plans will provide for a higher-quality visitor experience by improving access to the most popular areas in Yosemite and by providing lasting protection for the natural features within those areas. Overall, the park expects implementation to improve the visitor experience.

61. The MRP notes that the TOP will reduce the overnight capacity at Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp and eliminate commercial horseback day-rides from the Tuolumne Meadows Stables. Does the NPS anticipate this will produce residual impact on other High Sierra Camps and increase visitation to Yosemite Valley due to the reduction in visitor services in the Tuolumne area?

Response: The NPS does not anticipate any residual visitation impacts on other High Sierra Camps or Yosemite Valley because of actions proposed in the Tuolumne River Plan; specifically, the elimination of day rides and reduced capacity at Glen Aulin High

Sierra Camp. With regard to Glen Aulin, the overnight capacity at Tuolumne is currently 2,892 people at one time. Thus, the 4-bed reduction at Glen Aulin represents only a 0.1% of the existing capacity and is an insignificant change.

With regard to day rides at Tuolumne Meadows, current operations serve a maximum of 62 riders per day. At peak periods, Yosemite Valley serves 18,710 people at one time and Tuolumne Meadows serves nearly 5,000. Therefore, an addition or subtraction of 62 people is not a significant change for either area. However, because day rides will continue to be available in Wawona and because other unique attributes of Tuolumne Meadows and Yosemite Valley are the primary attractions to these areas, the NPS does not believe there will be any effect on visitation from the changes made to day-riding opportunities.

California Water

62. When the Bureau was releasing water from Northern California dams in 2013, did the agency take in account water reliability, and that the fact that those releases would leave our reservoirs empty in 2014?

Response: Yes, Reclamation accounts for water reliability – along with several other variables – when making releases from reservoirs. Drought – precipitation far below average – is the overwhelming influence on water supplies in California this year. Releases made during 2013 have not left reservoirs empty in 2014; inflows and outflows are managed daily at all Reclamation reservoirs in Northern California, and storage levels, while below average, are adequate for ongoing water deliveries and power generation, albeit at reduced levels.

63. Many water releases from California reservoirs serve multiple purposes, can you please specify how many acre feet of water releases by the Bureau were solely for environmental purposes in 2013?

Response: Many of Reclamation's facilities, including the main Central Valley Project reservoirs in California, are specifically authorized for multiple purposes. Water is frequently stored or delivered for dual or simultaneous use for multiple project purposes including, but not limited to, irrigation, municipal, power, recreation, as well as non-ESA fish and wildlife enhancement, so it is very difficult to separate the amount of water that is exclusively dedicated to environmental compliance purposes. It is worth noting, however, that provision of water flow or storage for fish and wildlife purposes can sometimes be re-delivered for additional beneficial uses, and results in greater reliability of the water supply.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240
JUL - 7 2014



The Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Portman:

In accordance with your request to the National Park Service (NPS) of June 24, 2014, the NPS has prepared the enclosed draft bill to establish an endowment for the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

This draft has been prepared as a service to you. It has not been reviewed within the Department of the Interior or cleared by the Office of Management and Budget. We can, therefore, make no commitment at this time concerning the position of the Department on this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and Legislative
Affairs

Enclosure

A Bill

To establish an endowment for the National Park Service and for other purposes.

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 “National Park Service Endowment Act”.

SEC. 2. SECOND CENTURY ENDOWMENT FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.

Public Law 90-209, which established the National Park Foundation, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 12. SECOND CENTURY ENDOWMENT FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.—

“(a) SECOND CENTURY ENDOWMENT – To further the mission of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation (Foundation) shall establish a special account to be known as the Second Century Endowment for the National Park System (Endowment).

“(1) FUNDS FOR THE ENDOWMENT.—

“(A) The Foundation shall deposit into the Endowment—

- (i) any funds received from the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to subsection (b) and section 4;
- (ii) any funds added in accordance with subparagraph (B); and
- (iii) any interest accrued pursuant to paragraph (2).

“(B) The Foundation may solicit gifts, devises, or bequests for the Endowment, and may add any gifts, devises, or bequests received, accepted, held, or administered to the Endowment from time to time as the Foundation may determine.

“(2) INTEREST-BEARING ACCOUNT.—The Foundation shall deposit any funds received for the Endowment in a federally insured interest-bearing account and any accrued interest on such funds shall be added to the principal and form a part of the Endowment.

“(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Each fiscal year, the Foundation shall expend from the Endowment no more than 50 per centum of the funds received or added to the Endowment in accordance with subparagraph (1)(A) for projects or programs approved by the Secretary of the Interior to further the mission of the National Park Service.

“(b) RECREATION AND CONCESSIONS FRANCHISE FEES.—

(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Foundation, for deposit into the Endowment, the interest accrued on the amounts deposited in each of the following special accounts and sub-accounts established for the National Park Service:

“(1) recreation fees authorized by Title VIII, Division J, of Public Law 108-447;
and

“(2) concessions franchise fees authorized by section 407 of Title IV of Public Law 105-391.”

“(c) REPORT.— Beginning two years after the enactment of this section, the Foundation shall include a report on the operation of the Endowment in its annual report to Congress that shall include--

“(1) a statement of the amounts deposited in the Endowment and the balance remaining in the Endowment at the end of the fiscal year; and

“(2) a description of the sums and purposes of the expenditures made from the Endowment for the fiscal year.

“SEC. 13. SHORT TITLE.

This Act shall be known as the ‘National Park Foundation Act’”.

SEC. 3. INVESTMENT OF SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.

(a) RECREATION FEES.—Section 807 of Title VIII, Division J, of Public Law 108-447 is amended—

(1) in subsection (b) by striking “and (e)” and inserting “(e), and (f)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the new following subsection:

“(f) INVESTMENT OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SPECIAL ACCOUNT.—

“(1) INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS.—The funds deposited in the special account established for the National Park Service pursuant to this section shall earn interest in the amount determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the basis of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities.

“(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer any accrued interest from the prior

fiscal year to the National Park Foundation for use in accordance with section 12 of the National Park Foundation Act of 1967 (Public Law 90-209).”.

(b) CONCESSIONS FRANCHISE FEES.— Section 407 of Title IV of Public Law 105-391 is amended—

(1) in subsection (c) by inserting (1) before “All”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(2) INVESTMENT OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SPECIAL ACCOUNT.— The funds deposited in the special account required under this subsection shall earn interest in the amount determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the basis of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities.

“(3) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer any accrued interest from the prior fiscal year to the National Park Foundation for use in accordance with section 12 of the National Park Foundation Act of 1967 (Public Law 90-209).”.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF LODGING AND CAMPING FEES.

(a) FEES.—The Secretary of the Interior, either directly or through a concessions contract, lease, or similar instrument, may impose a fee in addition to the daily cost of lodging or camping—

(1) of not more than 5 dollars on each person for each night of lodging in facilities within units of the national park system; and

(2) of not more than 2 dollars on each person for each night of camping in designated campgrounds within units of the national park system.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—No fees may be charged under this section within units of the national park system for—

- (1) visitors who are guests of park employees in their official places of residence;
- (2) visitors engaged in backcountry camping at undesignated sites;
- (3) employees of the national park system, including seasonal employees or employees of concessioners, who live in housing provided in the parks due to their employment; and
- (4) persons engaged in residential educational and interpretive programs who are lodged in park facilities while participating in these programs.

(c) SPECIAL ACCOUNT.—

(1) DEPOSITS.— All funds collected under this section shall be deposited into a special account in the Treasury of the United States, and the funds so deposited shall earn interest in the amount determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the basis of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities. Funds deposited in the special account, and any accrued interest, shall remain available, without further appropriation, for transfer to the National Park Foundation in accordance with paragraph (2) .

(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer any funds deposited in the special account established by paragraph (1) from the prior fiscal year, and any accrued interest, to the National Park Foundation for use in accordance with section 12 of the National Park Foundation Act of 1967 (Public Law 90-209).



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

JUL - 7 2014



The Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Portman:

In accordance with your request to the National Park Service (NPS) of June 24, 2014, the NPS has prepared the enclosed draft bill to clarify program authorities of the National Park Service, to extend park boards, to redesignate parks consistent with the resources managed, and to make technical corrections in park boundaries and in park laws.

This draft has been prepared as a service to you. It has not been reviewed within the Department of the Interior or cleared by the Office of Management and Budget. We can, therefore, make no commitment at this time concerning the position of the Department on this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and Legislative
Affairs

Enclosure

A Bill

To clarify program authorities of the National Park Service, to extend park boards, to redesignate parks consistent with the resources managed, and to make technical corrections in park boundaries and in park laws and for other purposes.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “National Parks Program Authorities and Technical Amendments Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AUTHORITIES

- Sec. 101. National Park Service Interpretation and Education.
- Sec. 102. National Park System Plan.
- Sec. 103. National Park System Uniform Penalties.
- Sec. 104. Park International Cooperation.
- Sec. 105. Partnership Education and Interpretation Agreements.
- Sec. 106. Volunteers in the Parks.

TITLE II—NATIONAL PARK BOARDS

- Sec. 201. National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board.
- Sec. 202. National Park System Advisory Board.

TITLE III—PARK REDESIGNATIONS

- Sec. 301. Big Bend-Rio Bravo International Park.
- Sec. 302. Catocin Mountain National Recreation Area.
- Sec. 303. Chopawamsic CCC National Recreation Area.
- Sec. 304. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park.
- Sec. 305. Ocmulgee Mounds National Monument.

TITLE IV—PARK LAND EXCHANGES AND BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS

- Sec. 401. Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park.

- Sec. 402. George Washington Memorial Parkway Land Exchange.
- Sec. 403. Guadalupe Mountains National Battlefield Park Boundary Revision.
- Sec. 404. Kennesaw Mountain National Park Boundary Revision.
- Sec. 405. Lava Beds National Monument Wilderness Boundary.
- Sec. 406. Voyageurs National Park Boundary Revision.

TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO PARK AUTHORITIES.

- Sec. 501. District of Columbia Snow Removal.
- Sec. 502. Golden Gate National Recreation Area and San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

TITLE VI—AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- Sec. 601. Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail.

TITLE VII—TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

- Sec. 701. Baltimore National Heritage Area.
- Sec. 702. Cumberland Island National Seashore.
- Sec. 703. Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area.
- Sec. 704. Niagara Falls National Heritage Area.
- Sec. 705. Snake River Headwaters.
- Sec. 706. Taunton River.

TITLE I—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AUTHORITIES

SEC. 101. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION.—

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

- (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.
- (2) INTERPRETATION.—The term “interpretation” means enhancing visitor experiences by providing cohesively developed, thematic opportunities for visitors to gain awareness, appreciation, and understanding of park resources, both through in-person contacts and the use of interpretive media. “Interpretation” may also refer to the professional career field of National Park Service employees, volunteers, and partners who interpret park resources.

(3) EDUCATION.—The term “education” means enhancing public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of park resources through learner-centered, place-based materials, programs, and activities that achieve specific learning objectives as identified in a curriculum.

(4) RELATED AREAS.—The term “related areas” means—

(A) national wild and scenic rivers and national trails administered by the National Park Service;

(B) National Heritage Areas; and

(C) miscellaneous areas, commonly referred to as “affiliated areas,” administered in connection with the National Park System.

(5) INSTITUTION.—Term “institution” means nonprofit educational organizations and institutions.

(b) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION.—

(1) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(A) to more effectively achieve the mission of the National Park Service through enhanced management and protection of national park resources and public enjoyment of parks by providing clear authority and direction for interpretation and education activities in the National Park Service that are now carried out by the National Park Service under separate authorities;

(B) to ensure that the public encounters a variety of interpretive and educational opportunities and services before, during, and after their visit to a National Park System unit, carried out for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations;

(C) to recognize the National Park Service as an educational institution that provides lifelong learning opportunities to all members of our society and contributes to interdisciplinary learning in traditional and non-traditional educational settings;

(D) to provide opportunities for all people to find relevance in the National Park System and to engage in active stewardship;

(E) to strengthen the education programs of the National Park Service through improved management and collaboration with other educational institutions; and

(F) to ensure the utilization of interpretation and education to strengthen public understanding of the full meaning and relevance of heritage resources, both cultural and natural, by creating public dialogue and fostering civic engagement.

(c) INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY. — The Secretary is authorized and directed to ensure that the highest quality interpretation and education is recognized and utilized in the administration of the National Park System and related areas. In utilizing interpretation and education, the Secretary shall—

(1) provide a broad range of programs including formal and informal interpretive activities, curriculum-based education activities for formal learners, information and orientation services, up-to-date interpretive media, and consider emerging learning and communications technology to reach new audiences; and

(2) ensure that the National Park Service actively engages in educational outreach, including programs and services outside of park boundaries, focused on resource

conservation, ecosystem sustainability, civic engagement, and our shared natural and cultural heritage.

(d) INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION EVALUATION AND QUALITY

IMPROVEMENT.—The Secretary shall undertake a program of regular evaluation of interpretation and education programs to ensure that they meet program goals and audience needs and shall utilize the results to ensure that the management of interpretation and education—

(1) adjusts to how people learn and engage with the natural world and shared heritage as embodied in the National Park System;

(2) reflects and embraces different cultural backgrounds, ages, education, gender, abilities, ethnicity, and needs;

(3) demonstrates innovative approaches to management and appropriately incorporates emerging learning and communications technology; and

(4) reflects current scientific and academic research, content, methods, and audience analysis.

(e) IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF PARTNERS AND VOLUNTEERS IN

INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall—

(1) coordinate partners and volunteers in the delivery of quality programs and services to supplement those provided by the National Park Service as part of a park's Comprehensive Interpretive Plan;

(2) support interpretive partners by providing opportunities for partners to participate in interpretive training; and

(3) collaborate with the Department of Education and other federal and non-federal public or private agencies, organizations, or institutions for the purposes of developing, promoting, and making available educational opportunities related to park resources and themes to the public.

SEC. 102. NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM PLAN.

Section 8 of the National Park Service General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-5) is amended by redesignating subsections (a) through (f) as subsections (c) through (h) respectively and inserting the following new subsections:

“(a) The Secretary shall develop a comprehensive ‘National Park System Plan,’ which shall constitute a professional guide for evaluating and prioritizing potential additions to the National Park System for the 10 years following 2016. The National Park System Plan shall—

“(1) identify those natural, cultural, and historical themes of the United States that are not adequately represented in the National Park System and that, if included in the National Park System would, in the professional judgment of the National Park Service, provide a more complete representation of the nation’s heritage;

“(2) recognize the role of units of the National Park System as cornerstones of a network of protected areas that safeguard biological diversity and the nation’s evolving cultural heritage;

“(3) articulate the role of the National Park System, in cooperation with other Federal, State and Tribal governments and private landowners, in supporting the nation’s conservation and preservation strategy;

“(4) promote large landscape conservation and encourage partnerships to protect continuous conservation corridors to support healthy ecosystems and cultural resources; and

“(5) identify opportunities to carry out the mission of the National Park Service in a more cost-effective and efficient manner by such means as sharing resources, leveraging Federal funding to attract private investment, engaging in partnerships, and utilizing existing parks and programs for themes and groups underrepresented in the National Park System.

“(b) The Secretary shall submit the plan described in subsection (a) to the Committee on Natural Resources of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate no later than August 25, 2016.”

SEC. 103. NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM UNIFORM PENALTIES.

(a) The first section of the Act of March 2, 1933 (47 Stat. 1420, ch. 180) is amended by striking “such fine and imprisonment.” and inserting “such fine and imprisonment; except if the violation occurs within a park, site, monument, and memorial that is part of the National Park System, where violations shall be subject to the penalty provision set forth in 16 U.S.C. 3 and 18 U.S.C. 3571.”.

(b) Section 2(k) of the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 462(k)) is amended by striking “cost of the proceedings.” and inserting “cost of the proceedings; except if the violation occurs within an area that is part of the National Park System, where violations shall be subject to the penalty provision set forth in 16 U.S.C. 3 and 18 U.S.C. 3571.”.

SEC. 104. PARK INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) the National Park “idea,” initiated with the creation of the world’s first national park at Yellowstone in 1872, is one of the United States of America’s most important contributions to the world, where now there are over 100,000 parks and protected areas globally, in nearly every nation, and representing over 12 percent of the world’s land surface;

(2) the National Park Service has been a leader in global conservation matters since its inception, and has provided critical assistance in park management and natural or cultural heritage protection to nearly every country in the world;

(3) through the National Park Service’s international programs, including the former International Seminar on National Parks, the World Parks Congress, Sister Parks, and International Volunteers, thousands of foreign park professionals, and cultural and natural heritage specialists have received both technical training and inspiration needed to return to their home countries and develop or improve their own nations’ park systems and heritage programs, thus promoting U.S. interests in global conservation;

(4) despite much progress over the last century, many national parks and heritage sites around the world continue to suffer from lack of staff, resources, and adequate planning, face numerous internal and external threats, and are in great need of assistance;

(5) international cooperation between the National Park Service and counterpart agencies in other countries provides important benefits to the National Park Service and the National Park System within the United States, including—

(A) protection of numerous shared species of wildlife that move seasonally between National Park System units within the United States and parks

and other habitats outside U.S. borders, particularly within the Western Hemisphere;

(B) the restoration of several wildlife species to units of the National Park System within the United States made possible by assistance from other countries, particularly Canada and Mexico;

(C) collaborative scientific and technical work on shared resources and threats to parks including air and water pollution, invasive species, and climate change, in particular with the neighboring countries of Canada and Mexico, as well as Russia and nations of the Caribbean;

(D) the learning of new skills by National Park Service employees and the enhancement of National Park Service programs based on ideas shared from other countries; and

(E) wildland firefighting assistance from other countries, in particular Canada, Mexico, and Australia;

(6) many units of the National Park System have historical and cultural links with other countries and international cooperation helps the National Park Service better understand and communicate the historical significance and value of its sites;

(7) National Park Service international programs are carried out by the National Park Service under a range of authorities and support U.S. foreign policy interests and public diplomacy efforts; and

(8) the upcoming Centennial of the National Park Service in 2016 provides an opportunity for celebrating the impact the National Park idea has had on the rest of the world and for reinvigorating the National Park Service's global role.

(b) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The Secretary of the Interior—

(1) working with the Secretary of State as appropriate, may cooperate with foreign governments, other federal agencies, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations, including through the development of official agreements, to promote the development, management, and protection of national parks, natural and cultural resource heritage sites, and other protected areas around the world; and

(2) may develop and implement programs to promote—

(A) the development, management, and protection of national parks, natural and cultural heritage sites, and other protected areas outside the United States, including by providing scientific and technical assistance, training foreign park and heritage professionals both within the United States and overseas, and developing “Sister Parks,” and other programs; and

(B) the protection of species of migratory wildlife shared between the units of the National Park System and parks and other habitats outside the United States and to assist national parks in the United States and elsewhere address global issues including, but not limited to, climate change, air and water pollution, and invasive species.

SEC. 105. PARTNERSHIP EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION AGREEMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

(2) INSTITUTION.—The term “institution” means nonprofit educational organizations and institutions.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to enter into partnership education and interpretation agreements with institutions for the purpose of providing comprehensive interpretive and educational activities, research, technical assistance, training, youth programs, and similar educational services at units of the National Park System, where such programs supplement and enhance the basic public interpretive and educational programs provided by the National Park Service.

(c) USE OF PARK FACILITIES; PROVISION OF LODGING AND FOOD.—An agreement authorized under this section may allow the institution, if the Secretary determines that such use and provisions are an integral part of an activity, to use park facilities free of charge for the activities described in section (a) and for the provision of lodging and food services for participants.

(d) GOODS AND SERVICES.—Under an agreement authorized by this section, the Secretary may acquire from, or provide to, an institution goods and services to be used by the Secretary or the institution in carrying out an activity as part of the agreement.

(e) FEES.—Under an agreement authorized by this section:

(1) The Secretary may authorize an institution to charge, collect, retain and expend fees for activities and services provided to program participants, subject to the adoption of financial management measures for accounting and reporting approved by the Secretary.

(2) The Secretary may authorize an institution to charge and retain funds collected to support the provision of lodging and food services authorized in section (b).

(3) The Secretary may provide collection services provided to the institution with or without reimbursement for activities and services provided to program participants by

an institution if such collection improves the efficient and cost-effective execution of the agreement. Any funds collected by the Secretary may be retained and available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation, for expenditures associated with the development, maintenance and operation of any program-related park facilities and activities authorized by the specific agreement for those activities at the park, including indirect operating costs of the program.

(4) Any funds collected by an institution pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be expended for the purposes of the specific agreement authorized by this section.

(f) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Notwithstanding the provisions of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (Public Law 95-224; 31 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with institutions to carry out the purposes of this section.

SEC. 106. VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARKS.

Section 4 of the Volunteers in the Parks Act of 1969 (16 U.S.C. 18j) is amended by striking “\$3,500,000” and inserting “such sums as may be necessary.”.

TITLE II—NATIONAL PARK BOARDS

SEC. 201. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD.

Section 409(d) of the National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 5958(d)) is amended by striking “2009” and inserting “2024”.

SEC. 202. NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD.

Section 3(f) of the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 463(f)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “2010” and inserting “2025”.

TITLE III—PARK REDESIGNATIONS

SEC. 301. BIG BEND—RIO BRAVO INTERNATIONAL PARK.

(a) For the purpose of permanently commemorating the long relationship of peace and goodwill between the people and governments of Mexico and United States and upon the proclamation of the President of the United States and the enactment by the proper authority of the Mexican Government of a similar provision respecting the Rio Bravo area in the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Coahuila, the Big Bend National Park, in the State of Texas, shall become part of an international park known as the Big Bend—Rio Bravo International Park.

(b) The international park established in subsection (a) shall consist of lands in the United States and Mexico as depicted on the map entitled “Big Bend National Park, Proposed Re-Designation as Big Bend-Rio Bravo International Park”, numbered 155/122/644 and dated November 1, 2013. After consultation with Mexico, the Secretary may make minor corrections or modifications to the map.

(c) For purposes of administration, promotion, development, and support by appropriations, that part of the Big Bend-Rio Bravo International Park within the territory of the United States shall continue to be designated as the “Big Bend National Park”.

SEC. 302. CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area Act”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—

(1) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “Catoctin Mountain Park, Proposed Designation Change to Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area,” numbered 841/80444C and dated November 2013.

(2) RECREATION AREA.—The term “recreation area” means the Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area designated by section e(1)

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

(c) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that —

(1) the Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area, in Frederick County, Maryland, was established in 1933;

(2) the Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area was transferred to the National Park Service by executive order in 1936;

(3) in 1942, the presidential retreat known as “Camp David” was established in the Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area;

(4) in 1954, approximately 4,400 acres of land in the Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area was transferred to the State of Maryland and designated as Cunningham Falls State Park;

(5) in 1954, the Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area was renamed “Catoctin Mountain Park”;

(6) the proximity of Catoctin Mountain Park, Camp David, and Cunningham Falls State Park and the difference between management of the parks by the Federal and State government have caused longstanding confusion to visitors to the parks; and

(7) the history, uses, and resources of Catoctin Mountain Park make the park appropriate for designation as a national recreation area.

(d) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to designate Catoctin Mountain Park as a national recreation area to—

(1) clearly identify the park as a unit of the National Park System; and

(2) distinguish the park from Cunningham Falls State Park; and

(3) to interpret the park as one of the first New Deal sites which provided jobs for citizens through the Civilian Conservation Corps.

(e) CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—There is established in the State of Maryland, the Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area as generally depicted on the map.

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law (other than this section), map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to Catoctin Mountain Park shall be deemed to be a reference to the Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

(4) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may make minor adjustments in the boundary of the recreation area consistent with section 7(c) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601–9(c)).

(5) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may acquire any land, interest in land, or improvement to land within the boundary of the recreation area by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(6) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall administer the recreation area—

(A) in accordance with this section and the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—

(i) the Act of August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

(ii) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.); and

(B) in a manner that protects and enhances the scenic, natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources of the recreation area; and

(C) in a manner that visitors to the park have opportunities through exhibits, materials, and interpretive programs to learn about the park's role as one of the first New Deal sites which provided jobs for citizens through the Civilian Conservation Corps.

SEC. 303. CHOPAWAMSIK CCC NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

The Act of June 22, 1948 (Chapter 596; 62 Stat. 571), is amended—

(1) by striking the first section and inserting:

“SECTION 1. CHOPAWAMSIK CCC NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

The area known as ‘Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area,’ which was initially transferred to the to the administration of the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the National Park Service by Executive Order Numbered 7496, dated November 14, 1936, and by Act of Congress of August 13, 1940 (54 Stat. 785), and which was renamed in 1948 as ‘Prince William Forest Park,’ is hereby redesignated as ‘Chopawamsic CCC National Recreation Area.’”;

(2) in section 2, by striking “Sec. 2.” and inserting “SEC. 2. SURPLUS LANDS OF DEPARTMENT OF ARMY.”;

(3) in section 3, by striking “Sec. 3.” and inserting “SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF LAND.”;

(4) in sections 2 and 3 (as amended by paragraphs (2) and (3)), by striking “Prince William Forest Park” each place it appears and inserting “Chopawamsic CCC National Recreation Area”; and

(5) by striking section 4 and adding the following:

“SEC. 4. INTERPRETATION.

“In administering Chopawamsic CCC National Recreation Area, in accordance with the Act of August 13, 1940 (54 Stat. 785), the Secretary of the Interior shall provide exhibits, materials, and interpretive programs for visitors to the park to learn about the park’s role as a model for the program that created recreation areas for urban populations and provided jobs for citizens through the Civilian Conservation Corps.

“SEC. 5. REFERENCES.

“Any reference in any law (other than this section), regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to ‘Prince William Forest Park’ or ‘Chopawamsic Park’ shall be considered a reference to ‘Chopawamsic CCC National Recreation Area.’

SEC. 304. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) The Act entitled “An Act to establish the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes” (Public Law 96-428) is amended—

(1) in Section 1, by striking “the map entitled ‘Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site’, numbered 489/80,013B, and dated September 1992” and inserting “the map entitled ‘Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park’, numbered 489/80,032 and dated April 2009”;

(2) by striking “Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site” each place it appears and inserting “Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park”;

(3) by striking “national historic site” each place it appears and inserting “national historical park”; and

(4) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “historical park”.

(b) REFERENCES.

(1) Any reference in any law (other than this section), map, regulation, document, record, or other official paper of the United States to the “Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site” shall be considered to be a reference to the “Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park”.

SEC. 305. OCMULGEE MOUNDS NATIONAL MONUMENT.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Georgia, shall be known and redesignated as the “Ocmulgee Mounds National Monument”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law (other than this section), map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Ocmulgee National Monument shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Ocmulgee Mounds National Monument”.

TITLE IV—PARK LAND EXCHANGES AND BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS

SEC. 401. FORT SUMTER AND FORT MOULTRIE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) Congress established Fort Sumter National Monument by Joint Resolution of April 28, 1948 (62 Stat. 204; 16 U.S.C. 450ee) to commemorate historic events at or near Fort Sumter, site of the first engagement of the Civil War on April 12, 1861;

(2) Fort Moultrie, site of the first decisive victory of the American Patriots over the British Navy in the American Revolutionary War on June 28, 1776, was acquired by the Federal government from the State of South Carolina in 1960 under the authority of

the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461 et. seq.) and since 1960 has been administered by the National Park Service as part of Fort Sumter National Monument without a legislated boundary; and

(3) Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie played important roles in the protection of Charleston Harbor and in the Nation's coastal defense system as a whole, and Fort Moultrie is the only site in the National Park System that preserves the history of the United States coastal defense system from 1776 through 1947.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT SUMTER AND FORT MOULTRIE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to preserve, maintain, and interpret the nationally significant historical values and cultural resources associated with Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie, there is established the Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park in the State of South Carolina as a unit of the National Park System.

(2) BOUNDARY.—The boundary of Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park (“park”) is generally depicted on the map entitled “Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, Proposed Boundary Map”, numbered 392/80,088 and dated August 2009. The map shall be on file in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

(3) ACQUISITION.—

(A) LAND.—Lands and interests in lands within the boundary of the park may be acquired by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Land or interests in land owned by the State of South Carolina, or a political subdivision of the State, may only be acquired by donation or exchange.

(B) PERSONAL PROPERTY AND ARTIFACTS.—The Secretary may acquire, by the same methods identified in paragraph (A), personal property, artifacts, and other objects associated with, or appropriate for interpretation of, the park.

(4) ADMINISTRATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the park in accordance with this section and laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System including the National Park Service Organic Act (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et. seq.) and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461 et. seq.).

(B) INTERPRETATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for the interpretation of historical events and activities that occurred at or near Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie, including—

(i) the Battle of Sullivan's Island on June 28, 1776, and the 1780 Siege of Charleston;

(ii) the bombardment of Fort Sumter by Confederate forces on April 12, 1861, and other Civil War events associated with Charleston Harbor;

(iii) the 1863-1865 Siege of Charleston, which was the longest siege of the Civil War;

(iv) the development of the nation's coastal defense system from the American Revolutionary War through World War II;

(v) the lives of soldiers and workers, free and enslaved, who built, maintained, and defended the two forts; and

(vi) the role of Sullivan's Island in the Atlantic slave trade, including its impact on the military, economic, political, cultural, and social history of the United States.

(C) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with public and private entities and individuals to carry out this section.

(c) REVISION OF EXISTING LAW.—Section 2 of the Joint Resolution to establish the Fort Sumter National Monument in the State of South Carolina, approved April 28, 1948 (62 Stat. 204; 16 U.S.C. 450ee-1), is repealed.

SEC. 402. GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

(2) RESEARCH CENTER.—The term “Research Center” means the Federal Highway Administration's Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center.

(3) FARM.—The term “Farm” means the Claude Moore Colonial Farm.

(4) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map titled “GWMP—Claude Moore Proposed Boundary Adjustment”, numbered 850/82003, and dated April 2004. The map shall be available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

(b) PURPOSE—The purpose of this section is to authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal land in accordance with the terms and conditions of this section.

(c) ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TRANSFER.—

(1) TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Transportation are authorized to transfer administrative jurisdiction for approximately 0.342 acre of land under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior within the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, generally depicted as “B” on the Map, for approximately 0.479 acre of land under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation within the boundary of the Research Center that is adjacent to the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, generally depicted as “A” on the Map.

(B) USE RESTRICTION.—The Secretary shall restrict the use of 0.139 acre of land within the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway immediately adjacent to part of the north perimeter fence of the Research Center, generally depicted as “C” on the Map, by prohibiting the storage, construction, or installation of any item that may obstruct the view from the Research Center into the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT OR CONSIDERATION.—The transfer of administrative jurisdiction under this section shall occur without reimbursement or consideration.

(3) COMPLIANCE WITH AGREEMENT.—

(A) AGREEMENT.—The National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration shall comply with all terms and conditions of the Agreement entered into by the parties on September 11, 2002, regarding the transfer of administrative jurisdiction, management, and maintenance of the lands discussed in the Agreement.

(B) ACCESS TO LAND.— The Secretary shall allow the Research Center access to the land the Secretary restricts under paragraph (1)(B) for purposes of maintenance in accordance with National Park Service standards, which includes grass mowing and weed control, tree maintenance, fence maintenance, and visual appearance. No tree 6 inches or more in diameter shall be pruned or removed without the advance written permission of the Secretary. Any pesticide use must be approved in writing by the Secretary prior to application of the pesticide.

(d) MANAGEMENT OF TRANSFERRED LANDS.—

(1) INTERIOR LAND.— The land transferred to the Secretary under subsection (c)(1) shall be included in the boundaries of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and shall be administered by the National Park Service as part of the parkway subject to applicable laws and regulations.

(2) TRANSPORTATION LAND.— The land transferred to the Secretary of Transportation under subsection (c)(1) shall be included in the boundary of the Research Center and shall be removed from the boundary of the parkway.

(3) RESTRICTED-USE LAND— The land the Secretary has designated for restricted use under subsection (c)(1) shall be maintained by the Research Center.

SEC. 403. GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION.

The first section of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the establishment of the Guadalupe Mountains National Park in the State of Texas, and for other purposes” (80 Stat. 920, 16 U.S.C. 283) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Additionally, the boundary of Guadalupe Mountains National Park is modified to include approximately 1,320 acres as generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Guadalupe Mountains National Park Proposed Boundary Adjustment’, numbered 166/101,021, and dated February, 2010. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.”.

SEC. 404. KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.— In this section:

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

(2) PARK.—The term “Park” means Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

(b) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The boundary of the Park is modified to include approximately 8 acres identified as “Wallis House and Harriston Hill”, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Proposed Boundary Adjustment”, numbered 325/80,000, and dated February, 2010. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

(c) LAND ACQUISITION.—The Secretary is authorized to acquire the land or interests in land as described in subsection (b) by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or by exchange.

(d) ADMINISTRATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS.—The Secretary shall administer the lands added to the Park by this section in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

SEC. 405. LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT WILDERNESS BOUNDARY.

The first section of the Act of October 13, 1972 (Public Law 92-493; 86 Stat. 811) is amended in the first sentence—

(1) by striking “That, in” and inserting “SECTION 1. In”; and

(2) by striking “ten thousand acres” and all that follows through the remainder of the sentence and inserting “10,431 acres, as depicted within the proposed wilderness boundary on the map entitled ‘Lava Beds National Monument, Proposed Wilderness Boundary Adjustment’, numbered 147/80,015, and dated September 2005, and those lands within the area generally known as the Schonchin Lava Flow comprising about 18,029 acres, as depicted within the proposed wilderness boundary on the map, are designated as wilderness.”.

SEC. 406. VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION.

The Act entitled “To authorize the establishment of the Voyageurs National Park in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes”, approved January 8, 1971 (16 U.S.C. 160), is amended—

(1) in section 102—

(A) by striking “A Proposed Voyageurs National Park, Minnesota,” numbered LNPMW-VOYA-1001, dated February 1969,” and inserting “Voyageurs National Park, Proposed Land Transfer and Boundary Adjustment, numbered 172/80,056 and dated June 2009”; and

(B) by striking the word “drawing” each place it appears and by inserting the word “map”;

(2) in section 201—

(A) by inserting before the last sentence:

“Administrative jurisdiction of lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management within the boundary of the Voyageurs National Park, as shown on the map described in section 102(b), is hereby transferred to the National Park Service.”; and

(B) by striking “only by donation.” in the last sentence and inserting “by donation or exchange.”; and

(3) in section 301, by adding the following new subsection at the end:

“(d) Subject to valid existing rights, all public lands within the boundaries of Voyageurs National Park are withdrawn from—

“(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

“(2) disposition under all laws relating to mineral, oil and gas, and geothermal leasing.”.

TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO PARK AUTHORITIES.

SEC. 501. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SNOW REMOVAL.

Section 3 of the Act entitled, “An Act providing for the removal of snow and ice from the paved sidewalks of the District of Columbia”, approved September 16, 1922 (42 Stat. 845, ch. 318), is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 3. (a) It shall be the duty of a federal agency to remove, or cause to be removed, snow, sleet, or ice from paved sidewalks and crosswalks within the fire limits of the District of Columbia that are—

“(1) in front of or adjacent to buildings owned by the United States and under such federal agency’s jurisdiction; or

“(2) public thoroughfares in front of, around, or through public squares, reservations, or open spaces and that are owned by the United States and under such federal agency’s jurisdiction.

“(b) The snow, sleet, or ice removal required by subsection (a) shall occur within a reasonable time period after snow or sleet ceases to fall or after ice has accumulated. In the event that snow, sleet, or ice has hardened and cannot be removed, such federal agency shall make the paved sidewalks and crosswalks under its jurisdiction described in subsection (a) reasonably safe for travel by the application of sand, ashes, salt, or other acceptable materials and shall, as soon as practicable, thoroughly remove the snow, sleet, or ice.

“(c)(1) The duty of a federal agency described in subsections (a) and (b) may be delegated to another governmental or non-governmental entity through a lease, contract, or other comparable arrangement.

“(2) If two or more federal agencies have overlapping responsibility for the same sidewalk or crosswalk they may enter into an arrangement assigning responsibility.”.

**SEC. 502. GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND SAN FRANCISCO
MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

(a) GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.—Section 4(f) of the Act titled “An Act to establish the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, and for other purposes” (Public Law 92-589; 16 U.S.C. 460bb-3(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f) The Secretary may enter into a concession contract pursuant to Title IV of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 5951 et seq.) or a lease pursuant to section 802 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-2), notwithstanding any provision of either Act, for the parcels of property known as Cliff House Properties and Louis’ Restaurant. Furthermore, notwithstanding any other provision of law, any proceeds from the use of such property shall be available until expended, without further appropriation, for the administration, maintenance, repair, and related expenses of those properties and for major renovation and park rehabilitation of those buildings included in the Fort Mason Foundation Agreement.”.

(b) SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.—

(1) LEASING.—Section 3(c) of the “San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Act of 1988” (Public Law 100-348; 16 U.S.C. 410nn-1(c)) is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “any real or personal property, including” and inserting “any real or personal property, including the Haslett Warehouse and”; and

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any proceeds from the lease of such property shall be available until expended, without further appropriation, for the administration, maintenance, repair and related expenses of the leased property and the vessels, equipment, piers and other assets within the park.”.

(2) FEES.—Section 3(d) of the “San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Act of 1988” (Public Law 100-348; 16 U.S.C. 410nn-1(d)) is amended by striking in the second sentence “credited in accordance with” and all that follows through the period and inserting “available until expended, without further appropriation, for purposes at the park for which fee revenue is permitted to be used under section 808(a)(3) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-447; 16 U.S.C. 6807).”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(1) MAP; BOUNDARY.—Section 2(b) of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-348; 16 U.S.C. 410nn(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking “numbered 641/80,053 and dated April 7, 1987” and inserting “numbered 350/80,012B and dated July 2007”; and

(B) by striking the third and fourth sentences and inserting the following.
“The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the ‘Secretary’) may make minor revisions of the boundary of the park in accordance with section 7(c) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9(c)).”.

(2) ADMISSION CHARGES.—Section 4(e) of the Act titled “An Act to establish the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, and for other purposes” (Public Law 92-589; 16 U.S.C. 460bb-3(e)) is amended by striking “and for admission to the sailing vessel Balclutha and other historic vessels of the National Maritime Museum”.

TITLE VI—AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

SEC. 601. POTOMAC HERITAGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL.

Section 5(a)(11) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “, except that no designation of the trail shall be made in the State of West Virginia”.

TITLE VII—TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

SEC. 701. BALTIMORE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11) is amended—

(1) in sections 8005(b)(3) and 8005(b)(4) by striking “Baltimore Heritage Area Association” and inserting “Baltimore City Heritage Area Association”; and

(2) in section 8005(i) by striking “EFFECTIVENESS” and inserting “FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE”.

SEC. 702. CUMBERLAND ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE.

Section 6(b) of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the Cumberland Island National Seashore in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes” (Public Law 92-536) is amended by striking “physiographic conditions not prevailing” and inserting “physiographic conditions now prevailing”.

SEC. 703. MUSCLE SHOALS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

Section 8009(j) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 is amended by striking “EFFECTIVENESS” and inserting “FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE”.

SEC. 704. NIAGARA FALLS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

Section 427(k) of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-229) is amended by striking "Except as provided for the leasing of administrative facilities under subsection (g)(1), the" and inserting "The".

SEC. 705. SNAKE RIVER HEADWATERS.

Section 5002(c)(1) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 is amended by striking “paragraph (205) of section 3(a)” each place it appears and inserting “paragraph (206) of section 3(a)”.

SEC. 706. TAUNTON RIVER.

Section 5003(b) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 is amended by striking “section 3(a)(206)” each place it appears and inserting “section 3(a)(207)”.