

Federal NAWCA grants require a 10-to-1 nonFederal match, and over the past 30 years, \$1.6 billion in Federal funding has been matched more than 3 to 1 with \$4.7 billion contributed by nonFederal partners.

The result so far has been 29.8 million acres, an area the size of the State of Pennsylvania, of rehabilitated and restored wetlands. These wetlands support ecological health and biodiversity while providing outstanding opportunities for Americans to hunt, to fish, to hike, to bird watch, to farm, and to ranch. The resulting economic activity exceeds \$5 billion every year.

Even those who don't use these lands directly benefit. Wetlands provide natural processes that allow us to have clean, plentiful water supplies. Wetlands protect the lands around them by absorbing flood water and storm surges.

H.R. 925 reauthorizes NAWCA so we can continue the critical work on North America's wetlands that offer tremendous ecological and economic benefits to each and every one of us.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to support NAWCA today to make sure that we continue to conserve our public land. Let's work together today on behalf of all Americans, now and for future generations.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise also in strong support of H.R. 925, the North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act. And I would also like to thank Mr. THOMPSON for his extraordinary leadership on this legislation and for his service on the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

As he spoke about, he has a passion to make sure that we are preserving that habitat we all value and the wildlife that lives there—not just the migratory birds, but all of the other life that it supports. It is critically important that we continue this program. It is one of the truly successful stories in conservation in our Nation, and, again, I want to thank Mr. THOMPSON for his leadership.

This bill works to reduce wetlands disappearance and to conserve migratory bird habitat. The good part about it is that we, in setting aside this land now, predominantly use conservation easements as a mechanism to do that.

I understand the chairman's concern about more acres of land in the Federal inventory and the dollars that it takes to maintain that land. We absolutely have to address that. But the good news here is that many of these acres are in conservation easements, which means they stay in private ownership. They just have an easement from the Federal Government to maintain that critical habitat.

That really is the best of both worlds as well as leveraging private dollars with this. What a great example of how to leverage public dollars with private dollars.

Several years ago, the duck hunters, en masse, came and said: Listen, we want to increase the duck stamp fee so that we can make sure we have the necessary dollars to match the Federal dollars that go into this program. It was extraordinarily successful.

People who enjoy the resources, from bird watchers to hunters and others, have said: We want to put more of our dollars into it. And, again, we are using their tax dollars to leverage those private dollars for this critical habitat.

Our wetlands across the United States are Mother Nature's filter for the water that comes off the land and also Mother Nature's nurseries for all that critical wildlife that lives there, both fish, and birds, and other critters that are critical to these environments. They are disappearing at an alarming rate. This bill helps us stem the loss of those wetlands.

As I have said, the leveraging of private resources is critical. I think Congress should be doing more to identify these types of Federal programs like NAWCA that have proven to be successful. NAWCA matches funding that then contributes to conservation success in our communities. Let's do more of that.

Protecting and restoring and managing wetland habitats is critically important. I would argue, of all of the habitats out there, this habitat, on the scale of value, has the most value across, not just the United States, but across the planet. We have to do more to make sure we are preserving that.

It is critical that we invest efficiently to conserve these areas. Investing efficiently means leveraging that one public dollar to three private dollars, and we want to make sure that we are preserving these areas for use for future generations.

Unfortunately, wetlands continue to disappear at an alarming rate. This helps stem the disappearance of those wetlands.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Representative THOMPSON and Representative WITTMAN for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and would inquire whether my colleague has any remaining speakers on his side. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this is, undoubtedly, a popular program. It does well serve public recreation and use, the very purpose of our public lands, and I certainly don't oppose it.

But I do want to close with this warning: We are continuing to acquire more and more land while we are failing to take care of the enormous estates that we already hold.

LOUIE GOHMERT, my colleague on the Natural Resources Committee, has compared our Federal lands policy to the old miser in town whose mansion is

dilapidated, whose yard is overgrown with weeds, and whose paint is peeling because he spends all of his time and money plotting how he is going to acquire his neighbor's property.

I would like to hope that the bipartisan support for this bill will be accompanied soon with bipartisan support for Mr. BISHOP's bill, H.R. 1225, which would actually take the resources that we are generating from the public lands to assure that we are taking proper care of our public lands.

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 925.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FIRST INFANTRY RECOGNITION OF SACRIFICE IN THEATER ACT

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1088) to authorize the Society of the First Infantry Division to make modifications to the First Division Monument located on Federal land in Presidential Park in District of Columbia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1088

*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 "First Infantry Recognition of Sacrifice in Theater Act" or the "FIRST Act".*

#### SEC. 2. MODIFICATION TO FIRST DIVISION MONUMENT.

(a) *AUTHORIZATION.*—*The Society of the First Infantry Division (an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that code), may make modifications (including construction of additional plaques and stone plinths on which to put the plaques) to the First Division Monument located on Federal land in President's Park in the District of Columbia that was set aside for memorial purposes of the First Infantry Division, in order to honor the members of the First Infantry Division who paid the ultimate sacrifice during United States operations, including Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom. The First Infantry Division at the Department of the Army shall collaborate with the Department of Defense to provide to the Society of the First Infantry Division the list of names to be added.*

(b) *NON-APPLICATION OF COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.*—*Subsection (b) of section 8903 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Commemorative Works Act"), shall not apply to actions taken under subsection (a) of this section.*

(c) FUNDING.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the activities of the Society of the First Infantry Division which are authorized by this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the matter under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill introduced by Representative MARSHALL would honor the heroism of the soldiers of the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division by authorizing the installation of additional plaques at the First Infantry Division Monument located in the National Park Services' President's Park just south of the White House.

These additions would include the names of over 600 1st Infantry Division soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation during Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn, ensuring that these fallen soldiers are not forgotten.

For over 100 years now, soldiers of the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division have embodied their motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

I am proud to rise in strong support of this bill and the brave soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division and I want to thank Representative MARSHALL for championing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1088 offered by our colleague from Kansas, Dr. ROGER MARSHALL, authorizes the Society of the 1st Infantry Division to modify the First Infantry Division Monument here in Washington, D.C.

This society seeks to honor its members who died during combat in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 1st Infantry Division of the United States Army has served our country faithfully with distinction and honor for well over a century now. 12,949 heroes of the "Big Red One" have fallen in the defense of our Constitution and the freedoms it guarantees. A grateful Nation remembers their names

by inscribing them on a monument here in our Nation's Capital.

Every one of them has been faithful to the Division's motto of: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

It is time to update and add names to the monument to honor these American heroes and to serve as an inspiration and example to the generation whose freedom and security they gave their lives to protect.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the author of this bill.

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Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today humbled and a bit emotional in support of the First Infantry Recognition of Sacrifice in Theater Act, also known as the FIRST Act.

The FIRST Act modifies the First Infantry Division Monument to include and honor the names of 660 brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The First Infantry Division Monument, located in President's Park, west of the White House, was first conceived by the Society of the 1st Infantry Division to commemorate the lives of soldiers killed serving our country during World War I. Over the years, a total of 12,949 names of fallen soldiers have been inscribed and commemorated on this monument, but it will now take an act of Congress to honor the sacrifices of those 660 recently fallen soldiers and give their families a hallowed place for remembrance.

Throughout history, when the President had decided to send troops into harm's way to protect American lives and uphold American values, he has almost always called upon the 1st Infantry Division.

Indeed the 1st Infantry Division, more commonly known as "The Big Red One," has a heroic and storied past. Established in 1917, the Division celebrated their 102nd anniversary earlier this year, and since 1955, has called Fort Riley, Kansas, its home.

Over the years, the soldiers of The Big Red One have fought in World War I, World War II, the Cold War, the Vietnam war, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the Balkans peacekeeping missions, the war on terror, and as of today, multiple operations around the globe.

Always first into battle, the Division fired the very first American shots of World War I, providing the United States its first victory in the war to

end all wars at the Battle of Cantigny, France.

Despite suffering more than 1,000 casualties, the 1st Infantry Division bravely captured the village from German forces, defended it against repeated counterattacks, and bolstered the morale of the Allies. The Division returned home in September 1919 with 5 medals of honor.

Next, in World War II, the 1st Infantry Division led the way during the Allied invasion of North Africa, leading to the defeat of the Axis Afrika Korps and capturing over 250,000 soldiers.

The Division then departed for the invasion of Sicily, after a specific request from Lieutenant General George "Old Blood and Guts" Patton. There they faced fierce mountain combat and suffered heavy casualties, with some units losing over half their fighting strength.

The 1st Infantry Division would then return to England in preparation for the Invasion of Normandy. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, soldiers from The Big Red One would once again lead the assault on German forces in landings at Omaha Beach. They would then go on to fight a continuous offensive across France and into Germany, suffering over 20,000 casualties throughout the war.

After the war, the 1st Infantry Division provided protection for occupied Germany and maintained security at the Nuremberg trials. The Division played a pivotal role in World War II and would return home with 16 members being awarded the Medal of Honor.

The 1st Infantry Division has been active all over the world, assisting in combat and humanitarian missions for over 100 years. Since the Division's establishment, more than 13,000 soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division have lost their lives in battle. Today, soldiers from the Division stand at the ready in over 15 countries. We sleep peacefully here at home because they stand at the ready abroad.

It is our duty as Members of Congress to ensure these fallen soldiers are not forgotten by passing the FIRST Act and allowing the inclusion of the names of these 660 fallen soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

I am proud to represent them as they continue to exemplify their motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman MARSHALL for that very moving presentation and for the impressive history that he recounted of the 1st Infantry Division.

This is a great bill, an important bill, and I know we are all very proud to support it. I urge a "yes" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1088, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Society of the First Infantry Division to make modifications to the First Division Monument located on Federal Land in President's Park in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS SEMIPOSTAL STAMP REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1446) to require the United States Postal Service to continue selling the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp until all remaining stamps are sold, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1446

*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 "Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION; REQUIREMENT TO SELL ALL STAMPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2(c) of the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010 (39 U.S.C. 416 note; Public Law 111-241) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking "of at least 6 years,"; and  
(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: "and ending not earlier than the date on which the United States Postal Service provides notice to Congress under paragraph (5)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) REQUIREMENT TO SELL ALL STAMPS PRINTED.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The United States Postal Service shall sell each copy of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund Semipostal Stamp that the United States Postal Service prints under this Act.

"(B) NOTIFICATION OF CONGRESS.—The United States Postal Service shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives when all copies of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund Semipostal Stamp printed under this Act have been sold."

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if enacted on the day after the date of enactment of the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-165; 128 Stat. 1878).

#### SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legisla-

tion" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1446. It is a bill that would require the U.S. Postal Service to continue selling the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. It would require those continued sales until such time as the remaining stamps are sold.

Now, since 2010, these stamps have been sold by the U.S. Postal Service to support international conservation efforts, but the authorization for these sales has expired, leaving 49 million stamps unsold—printed, but unsold. Americans care deeply about wildlife, and by purchasing these stamps, they can support the Multinational Species Conservation Fund, which includes five grant programs that support the conservation of African and Asian elephants, great apes, marine turtles, rhinos and tigers.

Between 2011 and 2017, the stamp sales from this program generated \$3.9 million, and that money went to conservation projects related to antipoaching, capacity building, community engagement and outreach, habitat restoration, and raising public awareness of wildlife trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, 49 million stamps have already been printed. They are sitting and waiting to be sold. This bill doesn't authorize the printing of any new stamps, but it does direct the U.S. Postal Service to continue selling the stamps it has printed until they are exhausted.

At a time when so many species are threatened with extinction due to climate change, habitat loss, and exploitation, we must do more to protect wildlife.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have another speaker at this point, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, September 30, 2019.

Hon. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS,  
Chair, Committee on Oversight and Reform,  
House of Representatives, Washington DC.

DEAR CHAIR CUMMINGS: I write to you concerning H.R. 1446 the, "Multinational Spe-

cies Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2019."

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Oversight and Reform. I acknowledge that your Committee will not formally consider H.R. 1446 and agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your Committee's Rule X jurisdiction.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,

Chair,

House Natural Resources Committee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM,  
Washington, DC, October 16, 2019.

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GRIJALVA: I am writing to you concerning the bill H.R. 1446, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2019. There are certain provisions in the legislation which fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

In the interest of permitting your committee to proceed expeditiously to consideration of this important bill, I am willing to waive this Committee's right to consider the bill. I do so with the understanding that by waiving consideration of the bill, the Committee does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction. I request that you urge the Speaker to name members of this Committee to any conference committee which is named to consider such provisions.

Please place this letter into the committee report on H.R. 1446 and into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS,

Chairman.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CLAY for this legislation and for his being amenable to changes that make this bill one that every Member can support.

This legislation raises money through the voluntary purchases of a special stamp that in turn funds valuable conservation efforts of iconic global species such as tigers, elephants, rhinos, great apes, marine turtles, and their habitats.

Anyone who wants to help these efforts can do so by purchasing these stamps; a small surcharge for which is then deposited in the Multinational Species Conservation Funds. These funds in turn provide grants for conservation work around the globe. To date, over \$5.7 million have been raised