

the Grand River ditch, includes large areas of alpine, sub-alpine-forest, wet-meadow, and montane-forest ecosystems. Dominant features are the Mummy Range and Specimen Mountain. This portion extends to park's north boundary, adjoining existing Comanche Peak Wilderness on the Roosevelt National Forest.

Trail Ridge Unit, a relatively small section of the wilderness, lies between Fall River Road and Trail Ridge Road, and includes approximately 6,310 acres. This section includes forested mountainside of lodgepole pine, Englemann spruce and sub-alpine fir, and the park's trademark expanse of alpine tundra and sub-alpine forest.

Never Summer Unit, another fairly small section west of the Grand River Ditch, which comprises approximately 9,824 acres, is generally above timberline, featuring steep slopes and peaks of the Never Summer Mountains, including 12 peaks reaching 12,000 feet in elevation. This area adjoins the existing Neota Wilderness on the Roosevelt National Forest and Never Summer Wilderness on the Routt National Forest.

Enos Mills Unit, the largest portion of the wilderness—approximately 149,408 acres—is south of Trail Ridge Road and generally bounded on the east, south, and west by the park boundary. This area contains examples of every ecosystem present in the park. The park's dramatic stretch of the Continental Divide, featuring Longs Peak (elevation 14,251 feet) and other peaks over 13,000 feet, dominate.

Former reservoir sites at Blue Bird, Sand Beach, and Pear lakes, previously breached and reclaimed, are included in wilderness as is a portion of the Indian Peaks Wilderness transferred to the park in 1980, when the boundary between the park and the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest was adjusted.

The bill also includes language to provide that if non-federal inholdings within the wilderness boundaries are acquired by the United States, they will become part of the wilderness and managed accordingly and that specified federal lands within the park will be managed as wilderness when current incompatible uses cease.

AREAS EXCLUDED FROM WILDERNESS DESIGNATION

The following areas are not included in the bill's wilderness designation:

Trail Ridge and other roads used for motorized travel; water storage and conveyance structures; buildings; and other developed areas are not included in wilderness.

Parcels of privately owned land or land subject to life estate agreements in the park.

Water diversion structures (see below).

WATER

The new bill would NOT create a new federal reserved water right. Instead, it includes a finding that the park's existing federal reserved rights, as decided by the Colorado courts, are adequate and an explicit statement that the bill does not create any new federal reserved water right.

EXISTING WATER FACILITIES

Boundaries for the wilderness designated in the bill are drawn to exclude (among other things): existing water storage and water conveyance structures, assuring continued use of Grand River Ditch and its right-of-way; the east and west portals of the Adams Tunnel of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project (CBT); CBT gauging stations; Long Draw Reservoir; and lands owned by the St. Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District, including Copeland Reservoir.

The bill includes provisions to make clear that its enactment will not impose new restrictions on already-allowed activities for the operation, maintenance, repair, or recon-

struction of the Adams Tunnel, which diverts water under Rocky Mountain National Park (including lands that would be designated as wilderness by the bill) or other CBT facilities, and that additional activities for these purposes will be allowed, should they be necessary to respond to emergencies.

A REPUBLICAN SURPLUS CONGRESS BRINGS GREAT BENEFITS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, it is the nature of politics that we never get everything we want. But when the American people support a general direction in which we want to go, small victories do become possible.

Yesterday's agreement between Congress and the White House on the remaining spending bills represent a victory for those seeking to take this country in the direction that the Republicans have been trying to go, the direction of smaller government, holding the line on spending, local control of education, tax relief, a stronger military, and more weapons for the war on drugs.

After many months of difficult negotiations, an agreement has been reached that reflects the priorities of a Republican Congress. This Congress can properly be called the surplus Congress. Just a short time ago, Congress was facing \$200 billion deficits as far as the eye could see. Anyone proposing to end that was immediately labeled as an extremist by liberal Members on the other side of the aisle.

Here we are, with a Federal budget that has a surplus at hand. Now, I know that there are a number of Democrats who fervently believe that the current budget surplus is due to President Clinton's 1993 tax increase, but they are wrong.

Federal revenues are up, way up, but I would suggest to my friends on the other side to examine the budget tables and take a look at where those revenues are coming from. I am fairly confident that they have not done that, because if they had, they would discover that strong job growth and the booming stock market are primarily responsible for those increased revenues, and not the Clinton tax hike.

The funny thing is that no matter how many times this is pointed out, the liberals continue to go on thinking that it was a tax hike, Clinton's tax hike, that put us on the right track, out of budget deficits. Not to belabor the point, but it is important to know the truth about this very important issue.

To those on the other side who are still not convinced, despite the fact that the budget tables are available for the whole world to see, they only need to consider the President's own budget a mere 2 years ago. In the 1996 budget, 3 years after the Clinton tax hike, it contained \$200 billion-a-year budget

deficits as far as the eye could see past the end of this century, into the next century.

It was not until a Republican Congress forced the President to accept a balanced budget that the surplus actually became a reality. The deficit Congress was transformed into a surplus Congress.

The primary reason why a balanced budget benefits the average person is because it makes lower interest rates. That means it is easier to buy a house and to make monthly mortgage payments. It means those credit card debts are a little easier to pay off. It means that young people who want to go on and further their education have an easier time paying off student loans. Most important of all, lower interest rates mean business can expand more easily and create new jobs, and job creation, economic growth, means higher revenues.

Mr. Speaker, this shows that the cuts on the capital gains taxes were important in a couple of ways. Federal revenues from capital gains realizations are way up, and low taxes on capital investments mean more capital invested.

Ronald Reagan cut the taxes on capital gains. This Republican Congress did it again. The results are that capital investments have soared, and liberals on left are scratching their heads, wondering why the economy is booming. It is not rocket science and it is not magic. The Republicans were elected in 1994 to change the course after 40 years of Democrat rule; 40 years in the direction of bigger government, higher taxes, and less accountability.

As we approach the final actions of this surplus Congress, I am glad that we have held fast to Republican principles of limited growth in the Federal Government, of tax relief, stronger schools, safer streets, a better military, a balanced budget, and a \$70 billion Federal surplus.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. TOWNS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)