

Finally, on the swampy, marshy plains of southeast Texas where the San Jacinto River meets Buffalo Bayou, General Sam and the boys took a stand. In broad daylight in midafternoon on April 21, 1836, the volunteers for Texas freedom charged a Mexican army over twice their number. This fierce bunch of frontiersmen from all the States overwhelmingly defeated the invaders.

In 18 minutes, Texas had won independence and the largest amount of land in North American history changed hands because of a single battle.

Texas remained a free and independent republic for 9 years, electing General Sam as its first president. Then Texas was admitted to the U.S. by just one vote. And the rest, as they say, is Texas history.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING ISRAEL ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today also to honor the state of Israel which will celebrate its 60th anniversary in May. The relationship between the United States and Israel is indeed a special one. Israel has been our close friend and ally through the Cold War and now in the global war on terror. It is a relationship that will continue to strengthen in the years to come.

Even after 60 years, Israel continues to fight for its very survival against relentless attacks by Hamas and Hezbollah and other terrorist groups. The United States and Israel must always stand in complete solidarity against those nations and groups that seek to destroy Israel. We have stood together against anti-Semitism for the last 60 years, and we will continue to do so for many years to come.

I congratulate the Israeli government and the Israeli people on their special day. May God continue to bless the very close American relationship with Israel not only in this special year, but for all eternity.

OIL HITS \$118 A BARREL

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, oil has hit \$118 a barrel. Gas is \$3.50 to \$4 a gallon. Fox News this morning said some experts say it will be \$5 a gallon by later this summer.

Most environmental radicals and extremists seem to come from very wealthy or very upper-income families. They want gas to go even higher so people will drive less. Perhaps the wealthy leaders of the Sierra Club and some of these other environmental

groups aren't being hurt, but they are really hurting the poor and the lower income and the working people of this country.

We don't need to produce all of our oil here domestically, but if we would just start producing a little bit more, then some of the OPEC countries and foreign energy producers would hold their prices down. We need to not let this country be sent into a deeper recession by environmental extremists and radicals.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 18, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 18, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1195.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 9, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, I am hereby resigning my position as the United States Representative for the 4th District of Maryland effective 11:59 p.m. EST, May 31, 2008.

I have chosen that date because it allows me the necessary time to complete several ongoing projects and allows Governor O'Malley sufficient time to call a special election to fill the remainder of my term and maintain the super delegate seat at this year's Democratic Convention.

It has been my honor to serve the constituents of the 4th Congressional District for the past 16 years. I will do everything in my power to assist my successor with the transition.

Sincerely,

ALBERT R. WYNN,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 9, 2008.

Hon. MARTIN O'MALLEY,
Governor, State of Maryland, Maryland State House, State Circle, Annapolis, MD.

DEAR GOVERNOR O'MALLEY, I am hereby resigning my position as the United States Representative for the 4th District of Maryland effective 11:59 p.m. EST, May 31, 2008.

I have chosen that date because it allows me the necessary time to complete several

ongoing projects and allows you sufficient time to call a special election to fill the remainder of my term and maintain the super delegate seat at this year's Democratic Convention.

It has been my honor to serve the constituents of the 4th Congressional District for the past 16 years. I will do everything in my power to assist my successor with the transition.

Sincerely,

ALBERT R. WYNN,
Member of Congress.

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 17, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Section 605(a) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110-161), I am pleased to appoint Dr. David Schonfeld of Glendale, Ohio and Mr. Lawrence E. Tan of Newark, Delaware to the Commission on Children and Disasters.

Both Dr. Schonfeld and Mr. Lawrence Tan have expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill their requests.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT LIAISON, THE HONORABLE TODD TIAHRT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jill Craven, District Liaison, the Honorable TODD TIAHRT, Member of Congress:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 15, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a preliminary hearing subpoena for testimony issued by the Court of the Eighteenth Judicial District of Kansas.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

JILL CRAVEN.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the

vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

COPPER SALMON WILDERNESS ACT

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3513) to amend the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 to designate the Copper Salmon Wilderness and to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the North and South Forks of the Elk River in the State of Oregon as wild or scenic rivers, and for other purposes, as amended.

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

H.R. 3513

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 "Copper Salmon Wilderness Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF THE COPPER SALMON WILDERNESS.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Section 3 of the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 98–328) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "eight hundred fifty-nine thousand six hundred acres" and inserting "871,593 acres";

(2) in paragraph (29), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(30) certain land in the Siskiyou National Forest, comprising approximately 11,922 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Copper Salmon Wilderness Proposal' and dated April 1, 2008, to be known as the 'Copper Salmon Wilderness'."

(b) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall file a map and a legal description of the Copper Salmon Wilderness with—

(A) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(2) FORCE OF LAW.—The map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct typographical errors in the map and legal description.

(3) BOUNDARY.—If the boundary of the Copper Salmon Wilderness shares a border with a road, the Secretary may only establish an offset that is not more than 150 feet from the centerline of the road.

(4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Each map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

SEC. 3. WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATIONS, ELK RIVER, OREGON.

Section 3(a)(76) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)(76)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "19-mile segment" and inserting "28.2-mile segment";

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "; and" and inserting a period; and

(3) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

"(B)(i) The approximately 0.6-mile segment of the North Fork Elk from its source in sec. 21, T.

33 S., R. 12 W., Willamette Meridian, downstream to 0.01 miles below Forest Service Road 3353, as a scenic river.

"(ii) The approximately 5.5-mile segment of the North Fork Elk from 0.01 miles below Forest Service Road 3353 to its confluence with the South Fork Elk, as a wild river.

"(C)(i) The approximately 0.9-mile segment of the South Fork Elk from its source in the southeast quarter of sec. 32, T. 33 S., R. 12 W., Willamette Meridian, downstream to 0.01 miles below Forest Service Road 3353, as a scenic river.

"(ii) The approximately 4.2-mile segment of the South Fork Elk from 0.01 miles below Forest Service Road 3353 to its confluence with the North Fork Elk, as a wild river."

SEC. 4. PROTECTION OF TRIBAL RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed as diminishing any right of any Indian tribe.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Secretary shall seek to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Coquille Indian Tribe regarding access to the Copper Salmon Wilderness to conduct historical and cultural activities.

SEC. 5. DESIGNATION OF POTENTIAL WILDERNESS AREA, SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST, OREGON.

(a) DESIGNATION.—In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), certain National Forest System land in the State of Oregon administered by the Forest Service as part of the Siskiyou National Forest and comprising approximately 1,708 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Copper Salmon Wilderness Proposal" and dated April 1, 2008, are designated as a potential wilderness area for eventual inclusion in the Copper Salmon Wilderness designated by paragraph (30) of section 3 of the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 98–328), as added by section 2.

(b) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file with the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a map and legal description of potential wilderness area designated by subsection (a). The map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct clerical and typographical errors in the map and description. In the case of any discrepancy between the acreage specified in subsection (a) and the map, the map shall control. The map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service.

(c) MANAGEMENT.—Except as provided in subsection (d) and subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall manage the potential wilderness area designated by subsection (a) as wilderness until its designated as wilderness under subsection (e).

(d) ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of implementing the planned ecological restoration approved by the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment for the Coastal Healthy Forest Treatments, dated May 25, 2007, the Secretary may use motorized equipment and mechanized transport in the potential wilderness area until its designated as wilderness under subsection (e).

(2) LIMITATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall use the minimum tool or administrative practice necessary to accomplish ecological restoration under paragraph (1) with the least amount of adverse impact on wilderness character and resources.

(e) EVENTUAL WILDERNESS DESIGNATION.—The potential wilderness area designated by subsection (a) shall be designated as wilderness on the earlier of—

(1) the date on which the Secretary publishes in the Federal Register notice that the conditions in the potential wilderness area that are incompatible with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) have been removed; or

(2) the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) INCORPORATION INTO COPPER SALMON WILDERNESS; ADMINISTRATION.—On its designation as wilderness under subsection (e), the potential wilderness area designated by subsection (a) shall be—

(1) incorporated into the Copper Salmon Wilderness; and

(2) administered in accordance with the Wilderness Act, the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984, and other laws applicable to the Copper Salmon Wilderness, except that, with respect to the potential wilderness area, any reference in the Wilderness Act to the effective date of that Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date on which the lands are designated as wilderness under subsection (e).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives starts our celebration of Earth Day with the consideration of two measures to designate wilderness on Federal lands in opposite ends of the country, Oregon, and in my home State of West Virginia.

As chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources, I think it appropriate to recognize that in many places of this great Nation of ours, there remain areas with special features, unique landscapes teeming with wildlife that deserve and command conservation.

The pending measure, introduced by our colleague, Representative PETER DEFAZIO, would designate portions of the National Forest System land in Oregon as wilderness and potential wilderness, and designate segments of the Elk River as wild and scenic.

These areas include some of the last remaining stands of Port Orford Cedars in the Elk River watershed. Furthermore, the fisheries of the Elk River are known as one of the best salmon and steelhead producers in the continental United States.

This bill has broad support from the Governor of Oregon, the Curry County Commission, the Mayor of Port Orford, the Port Orford Chamber of Commerce, the Friends of the Elk River, Trout Unlimited, and the American Fisheries Society, the Oregon Chapter.