

Maine aquaculture industry, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, and State of Maine that resulted in strong protections for endangered Atlantic salmon. Additionally, under his supervision, the New England Field Office has secured significant resource benefits by negotiating numerous settlement agreements on contentious hydroelectric project license renewals. For example, a mitigation fund created as part of the relicensing of the Fifteen Mile Falls hydroelectric project on the Connecticut River has allowed the restoration of 20 miles of river habitat, protection of over 25,000 acres of watershed lands, and fish passage improvements.

Under Mike's supervision, the New England Field Office has been a wise steward of natural resource damage assessment funds. Mike has insisted that such funds be used to obtain the greatest possible benefit for fish and wildlife impacted by oil spills and other environmental degradation. In Maine, settlement funds totaling \$8 million were used to leverage over \$100 million in additional investment to protect habitat for common loons and ducks that were impacted by the North Cape oil spill in Rhode Island. The combined funds secured the protection of 1.5 million acres and more than 200 lakes and ponds that provide nesting habitat for over 125 pairs of loons and 600 pairs of common eiders. In Massachusetts, settlement funds have been used to preserve endangered roseate tern colonies in Buzzards Bay, restore saltmarsh and eelgrass beds, and provide herring with spawning habitat on the Acushnet River.

Mike's emphasis on collaboration shines through in the exceptional work performed by his office through the Fish and Wildlife Service Partners program. During Mike's tenure as supervisor of the New England Field Office, the program has restored hundreds of miles of river access and thousands of acres of wetlands in the region. In New Hampshire, thanks to a highly successful dam removal program that Mike conceived and helped to create, I have witnessed improvements to our rivers such as the Contoocook and Souhegan. Meanwhile, the Partners program has restored coastal saltmarsh in Greenland, Newmarket, Newington, Hampton, Rye and North Hampton, New Hampshire. This and similar work throughout New England has enhanced landscapes and preserved critical habitat for Atlantic salmon, American shad, American eel, brook trout, and freshwater mussels.

Mike's work has also benefitted many species including Indiana bats, New England cottontail rabbits, and a variety of migratory birds such as piping plovers, bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks, loons, roseate terns, and bald eagles. His stewardship has even impacted the smallest of species. Mike's negotiation of an agreement with the city of Concord, the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game, and pri-

vate partners has ensured the protection of the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly through cooperative management of 300 acres of habitat at the Concord City Airport.

Mike plans to teach in his retirement, and this is fitting because he has already been a mentor, coach, and teacher for many individuals. Mike's dedication and his outgoing and gregarious personality, to which colleagues and friends attribute much of his success, are widely admired. The inspiration Mike provides for others will undoubtedly continue to be a catalyst for conservation.

Mike is to be commended for his extensive work on behalf of fish, wildlife, wetlands, and conservation in general. I am certain that Mike's retirement will be enjoyable, as some say that his professional and personal attributes may be equaled only by his aquatic resource collection skills with a fly rod. Mike's upcoming time for angling, hunting, kayaking, and relaxing with his wife, children, and grandchildren, is well-deserved. I wish Mike and his family great success in the years to come. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3490. An act to transfer administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands from the Bureau of Land Management to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to take such lands into trust for Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3522. An act to ratify a conveyance of a portion of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation to Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, pursuant to the settlement of litigation between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, to authorize issuance of a patent for said lands, and to change the exterior boundary of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation accordingly, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4332. An act to amend the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act to require the Council to establish a single telephone number that consumers with complaints or inquiries could call and be routed to the appropriate Federal banking

agency or State bank supervisor, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5631. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2457. An act to provide for extensions of leases of certain land by Mashantucket Pequot (Western) Tribe.

S. 2739. An act to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 3196. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, as the "E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building".

H.R. 3468. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the "Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office".

H.R. 3532. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, as the "Private Johnathan Millican Lula Post Office".

H.R. 3720. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 Clay Avenue in Waco, Texas, as the "Army PFC Juan Alonso Covarrubias Post Office Building".

H.R. 3803. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 3936. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Helen Highway in Cleveland, Georgia, as the "Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office Building".

H.R. 3988. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3701 Altamesa Boulevard in Fort Worth, Texas, as the "Master Sergeant Kenneth N. Mack Post Office Building".

H.R. 4166. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the "Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex".

H.R. 4203. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the "Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building".

H.R. 4211. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the "Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office".

H.R. 4240. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, as the "Felix Sparks Post Office Building".