

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3898, AS REPORTED  
OFFERED BY MR. BIGGS OF ARIZONA**

Add at the end the following:

1   **SEC. \_\_\_\_.** **IDENTIFICATION AND PERMITTING FOR BRACK-**  
2                           **ISH GROUNDWATER AND DESALINATION ON**  
3                           **CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS.**

4           (a) REVIEW AND IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than  
5 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
6 retary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers,  
7 shall review lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary  
8 to identify parcels of such lands that are well-suited for  
9 brackish groundwater extraction and desalination efforts,  
10 including projects involving reverse osmosis, membrane fil-  
11 tration, or other desalination technologies, taking into con-  
12 sideration factors such as brackish water resource avail-  
13 ability, energy access, and compatibility with existing land  
14 uses.

15           (b) STREAMLINED PERMITTING PROCESS.—The Sec-  
16 retary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Envi-  
17 ronmental Protection Agency and each relevant State  
18 water resource agency, shall—

19                   (1) establish clear and simple permitting proc-  
20                   esses for brackish groundwater and desalination

1 projects on parcels identified under subsection (a),  
2 including processes to facilitate (to the extent prac-  
3 ticable)—

4 (A) the actions of the Secretary under sec-  
5 tion 17 applicable to such projects; and

6 (B) the expedited issuance of a permit  
7 under section 404 of the Federal Water Pollu-  
8 tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as amended  
9 by this Act, relating to such projects; and

10 (2) ensure, to the extent practicable, that each  
11 process established under paragraph (1) minimizes  
12 regulatory burdens, provides for categorical exclu-  
13 sions or streamlined environmental assessments, and  
14 promotes collaboration with State and local entities  
15 to expand brackish groundwater and desalination ef-  
16 forts.

17 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18  
18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
19 retary shall submit to Congress a report detailing the par-  
20 cels identified under subsection (a) and each permitting  
21 process established under subsection (b).

