

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE
PRINT 117-8
OFFERED BY MR. CALVERT OF CALIFORNIA

Page 705, after line 3, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 1640. ESTABLISHMENT OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE**
2 **COUNTY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (in
4 this section referred to as the “Secretary”), acting
5 through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall
6 establish as a national wildlife refuge the lands, waters,
7 and interests therein acquired under subsection (g). The
8 national wildlife refuge shall be known as the “Western
9 Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge” (in this sec-
10 tion referred to as the “Wildlife Refuge”).

11 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Wildlife Refuge
12 shall be—

13 (1) to conserve, manage, and restore wildlife
14 habitats for the benefit of present and future gen-
15 erations of Americans;

16 (2) to conserve species listed as threatened or
17 endangered under the Endangered Species Act of
18 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) or the California En-
19 dangered Species Act (California Fish and Game

1 Code 2050–2068), or which is a covered species
2 under the Western Riverside County Multiple Spe-
3 cies Habitat Conservation Plan;

4 (3) to support the recovery and protection of
5 threatened and endangered species under the En-
6 dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et
7 seq.); and

8 (4) to provide for wildlife habitat connectivity
9 and migratory corridors within the Western River-
10 side County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation
11 Plan Area.

12 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
13 gress that the Secretary shall seek to acquire land, water,
14 or interests therein (including conservation easements), or
15 sufficient to satisfy the goals established in the Multiple
16 Species Habitat Conservation Plan, within the acquisition
17 boundaries pursuant to this section, including but not lim-
18 ited to those which have been heretofore or may be herein-
19 after acquired by the Western Riverside County Regional
20 Conservation Authority for Purposes of the Multiple Spe-
21 cies Habitat Conservation Plan.

22 (d) NOTIFICATION OF ESTABLISHMENT.—The Sec-
23 retary shall publish notice of the establishment of the
24 Wildlife Refuge in the Federal Register.

1 (e) ACQUISITION BOUNDARIES.—The Secretary shall
2 establish the acquisition boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge
3 as the lands and waters within the Western Riverside
4 County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area
5 (as depicted on maps and described in the Final Western
6 Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation
7 Plan dated June 17, 2003).

8 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the establishment of
10 the Wildlife Refuge and thereafter, the Secretary
11 shall administer all federally owned lands, waters,
12 and interests in the Wildlife Refuge in accordance
13 with the National Wildlife Refuge System Adminis-
14 tration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and
15 this section. The Secretary may use such additional
16 statutory authority as may be available to the Sec-
17 retary for the conservation, management, recovery
18 and restoration of fish and wildlife and habitat, the
19 development of compatible wildlife dependent out-
20 door recreation opportunities, and the facilitation of
21 fish and wildlife interpretation and education as the
22 Secretary considers appropriate to carry out the pur-
23 poses of this section and serve the objectives of the
24 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat
25 Conservation Plan.

1 (2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS REGARDING
2 NON-FEDERAL LANDS.—The Secretary may enter
3 into cooperative agreements with the State of Cali-
4 fornia, any political subdivision thereof, or any other
5 person—

6 (A) for the management, in a manner con-
7 sistent with this section and the Western River-
8 side County Multiple Species Habitat Conserva-
9 tion Plan, of lands that are owned by such
10 State, subdivision, or other person and located
11 within the acquisition boundaries of the Wildlife
12 Refuge;

13 (B) to promote public awareness of the
14 natural resources of the Western Riverside
15 County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation
16 Plan Area; or

17 (C) to encourage public participation in the
18 conservation of those resources.

19 (g) ACQUISITION AND TRANSFERS OF LANDS AND
20 WATERS FOR WILDLIFE REFUGE.—

21 (1) ACQUISITIONS.—The Secretary shall ac-
22 quire by donation, purchase with appropriated
23 funds, or exchange such lands and waters, or inter-
24 ests therein (including conservation easements), as
25 they become available, that will achieve the purposes

1 of subsection (b), within the acquisition boundaries
2 of the Wildlife Refuge, except that the lands, waters,
3 and interests therein owned by the State of Cali-
4 fornia and its political subdivisions may be acquired
5 only by donation.

6 (2) TRANSFERS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—The head of any Fed-
8 eral department or agency, including any agen-
9 cy within the Department of the Interior, that
10 has jurisdiction of any Federal property located
11 within the boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge as
12 described by this section shall, not later than 1
13 year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
14 submit to the Secretary an assessment of the
15 suitability of such property for inclusion in the
16 Wildlife Refuge.

17 (B) ASSESSMENT.—Any assessment under
18 subparagraph (A) shall include—

19 (i) parcel descriptions and best exist-
20 ing land surveys for such property;

21 (ii) a list of existing special reserva-
22 tions designations, or purposes of the prop-
23 erty;

24 (iii) a list of all known or suspected
25 hazardous substance contamination of such

1 property, and any facilities, surface water,
2 or groundwater on such property;

3 (iv) the status of withdrawal of such
4 property from—

5 (I) the Mineral Leasing Act (30
6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.); and

7 (II) the General Mining Act of
8 1872 (30 U.S.C. 22 et seq.); and

9 (v) a recommendation as to whether
10 such property is or is not suitable for in-
11 clusion in the Wildlife Refuge, and the rea-
12 sons supporting the recommendation.

13 (C) INCLUSION IN WILDLIFE REFUGE.—

14 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
15 shall, not later than 60 days after receiving
16 an assessment submitted pursuant to sub-
17 paragraph (A), determine if the property
18 described in such assessment is suitable for
19 inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge.

20 (ii) TRANSFER.—If the Secretary de-
21 termines the property in an assessment
22 submitted under subparagraph (A) is suit-
23 able for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge,
24 the head of the Federal department or
25 agency that has jurisdiction of such prop-

1 erty shall transfer such property to the ad-
2 ministrative jurisdiction of the Secretary
3 for the purposes of this section.

4 (D) PROPERTY UNSUITABLE FOR INCLU-
5 SION.—Property determined by the Secretary to
6 be unsuitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Ref-
7 uge based on an assessment submitted under
8 subparagraph (A) shall be subsequently trans-
9 ferred to the Secretary for purposes of this sec-
10 tion by the head of the department or agency
11 that has jurisdiction of such property if such
12 property becomes suitable for inclusion in the
13 Wildlife Refuge as determined by the Secretary
14 in consultation with the head of the department
15 or agency that has jurisdiction of such prop-
16 erty.

17 (E) PUBLIC ACCESS.—If property trans-
18 ferred to the Secretary under this paragraph al-
19 lows for public access at the time of transfer,
20 such access shall be maintained unless such ac-
21 cess—

22 (i) would be incompatible with the
23 purposes of the Wildlife Refuge;

24 (ii) would jeopardize public health or
25 safety; or

1 (iii) must be limited due to emergency
2 circumstances.

