AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

PRINT 116–54

OFFERED BY MR. CALVERT OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of title II of division L, add the following:

Subtitle A—Western Riverside County Wildlife Refuge.

SEC. 82501. ESTABLISHMENT.

The Secretary of the Interior (in this subtitle referred to as the “Secretary”), acting through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, shall establish as a national wildlife refuge the lands, waters, and interests therein acquired under section 82504. The national wildlife refuge shall be known as the Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge (in this subtitle referred to as the “Wildlife Refuge”).

SEC. 82502. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Wildlife Refuge shall be—

(1) to conserve, manage, and restore wildlife habitats for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans;

(2) to conserve species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of
1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) or the California En-
dangered Species Act (California Fish and Game
Code 2050-2068), or which is a covered species
under the Western Riverside County Multiple Spe-
cies Habitat Conservation Plan;

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

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

SEC. 82503. NOTIFICATION OF ESTABLISHMENT. The Sec-
retary shall publish notice of the establishment
of the Wildlife Refuge in the Federal Register.

SEC. 82504. BOUNDARIES.

(a) In General.—The Secretary shall include within
the boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge the lands and waters
within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species
Habitat Conservation Plan Area (as depicted on maps and
described in the Final Western Riverside County Multiple
Species Habitat Conservation Plan dated June 17, 2003)
that are owned by the Federal government, a State, or
a political subdivision of a State on the date of enactment.
SEC. 82505. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the establishment of the Wildlife Refuge and thereafter, the Secretary shall administer all federally owned lands, waters, and interests in the Wildlife Refuge in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and this subtitle. The Secretary may use such additional statutory authority as may be available to the Secretary for the conservation, management, and restoration of fish and wildlife and natural resources, the development of compatible wildlife dependent outdoor recreation opportunities, and the facilitation of fish and wildlife interpretation and education as the Secretary considers appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subtitle and serve the objectives of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS REGARDING NON-FEDERAL LANDS.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with the State of California, any political subdivision thereof, or any other person—

(1) for the management, in a manner consistent with this subtitle and the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, of lands that are owned by such State, subdivision, or other person and located within the boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge;
(2) to promote public awareness of the natural resources of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area; or

(3) to encourage public participation in the conservation of those resources.

SEC. 82506. ACQUISITION AND TRANSFERS OF LANDS AND WATERS FOR WILDLIFE REFUGE.

(a) ACQUISITIONS.—The Secretary shall acquire by donation, purchase with appropriated funds, or exchange the lands and water, or interest therein (including conservation easements), within the boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge, except that the lands, water, and interests therein owned by the State of California and its political subdivisions may be acquired only by donation.

(b) TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of any Federal department or agency, including any agency within the Department of the Interior, that has jurisdiction of any Federal property located within the boundaries of the Wildlife Refuge as described by this subtitle shall, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Secretary an assessment of the suitability of such property for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge.
(2) ASSESSMENT.—Any assessment under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) parcel descriptions and best existing land surveys for such property;

(B) a list of existing special reservations, designations, or purposes of the property;

(C) a list of all known or suspected hazardous substance contamination of such property, and any facilities, surface water, or groundwater on such property;

(D) the status of withdrawal of such property from—

(i) the Mineral Leasing Act; and

(ii) the General Mining Act of 1872;

and

(E) a recommendation as to whether such property is or is not suitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge.

(3) INCLUSION IN WILDLIFE REFUGE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, not later than 60 days after receiving an assessment submitted pursuant to paragraph (1), determine if the property described in such assessment is suitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge.
(B) Transfer.—If the Secretary determines the property in an assessment submitted under paragraph (1) is suitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge, the head of the Federal department or agency that has jurisdiction of such property shall transfer such property to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purposes of this subtitle.

(4) Property unsuitable for inclusion.—Property determined by the Secretary to be unsuitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge based on an assessment submitted under paragraph (1) shall be subsequently transferred to the Secretary for purposes of this subtitle by the head of the department or agency that has jurisdiction of such property if such property becomes suitable for inclusion in the Wildlife Refuge as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the head of the department or agency that has jurisdiction of such property.

(5) Public access.—If property transferred to the Secretary under this subsection allows for public access at the time of transfer, such access shall be maintained unless such access—

(A) would be incompatible with the purposes of the Wildlife Refuge;
(B) would jeopardize public health or safety; or

(C) must be limited due to emergency circumstances.