

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 5303
OFFERED BY MS. GRAHAM OF FLORIDA**

At the end of title I, add the following:

1 **SEC. 153. APALACHICOLA, CHATTAHOOCHEE, AND FLINT**
2 **RIVER PROJECTS.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) APALACHICOLA-CHATTAHOOCHEE-FLINT
5 PROJECTS.—The term “Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-
6 Flint projects” means the Federal water resources
7 projects on the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and
8 Flint Rivers in the States of Alabama, Florida, and
9 Georgia authorized by section 2 of the Act of March
10 2, 1945 (59 Stat. 17, chapter 19; 60 Stat. 635,
11 chapter 595) and section 203 of the Flood Control
12 Act of 1962(76 Stat. 1182), including—

13 (A) Buford Dam and Reservoir;

14 (B) West Point Dam and Reservoir;

15 (C) George W. Andrews Dam and Res-
16 ervoir;

17 (D) Walter F. George Dam and Reservoir;

18 and

19 (E) Jim Woodruff Dam and Reservoir.

1 (2) FRESHWATER FLOWS.—The term “fresh-
2 water flows” means the quality, quantity, timing,
3 and variability of freshwater flows required—

4 (A) to support and reestablish—

5 (i) the physical, chemical, biological,
6 and overall ecological integrity of the com-
7 ponents, functions, and natural processes
8 required for a thriving and resilient Chat-
9 tahoochee River, Apalachicola River, Apa-
10 lalachicola River floodplain, and Apalachicola
11 Bay;

12 (ii) commercial and recreational fish-
13 eries dependent on freshwater flows into
14 Apalachicola Bay and adjacent waters, in-
15 cluding the Gulf of Mexico; and

16 (iii) thriving and diverse fish, wildlife,
17 and plant populations having species com-
18 position, diversity, adaptability, and func-
19 tional organization similar to those found
20 in the Chattahoochee River and Apalachi-
21 cola River ecosystems prior to construction
22 of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint
23 projects;

24 (B) to restore and recover species that are
25 endangered, threatened, or at risk; and

1 (C) to prevent significantly harmful ad-
2 verse impacts to the Chattahoochee River and
3 Apalachicola River ecosystems.

4 (b) PROJECT MODIFICATION.—Notwithstanding any
5 authorized purpose of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-
6 Flint projects, the Secretary shall operate the Apalachi-
7 cola-Chattahoochee-Flint projects in a manner that en-
8 sures the maintenance of freshwater flows.

9 (c) REVISION OF WATER CONTROL MANUALS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
11 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
12 retary shall complete the ongoing revision of the
13 water control manuals for the Apalachicola-Chat-
14 tahoochee-Flint projects and issue revised water con-
15 trol manuals for those projects that ensure the
16 maintenance of freshwater flows.

17 (2) OPERATIONAL MODIFICATIONS.—In car-
18 rying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure
19 that operational modifications needed to maintain
20 freshwater flows are achieved, to the maximum ex-
21 tent practicable, while providing system-wide balance
22 in conservation storage through the maintenance of
23 water levels within the same action zone for each of
24 the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint project res-
25 ervoirs.

1 (3) INDEPENDENT PEER REVIEW OF WATER
2 CONTROL MANUALS.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
4 enter into an arrangement with the National
5 Academy of Sciences under which the National
6 Academy of Sciences shall carry out an inde-
7 pendent peer review of each revised water con-
8 trol manual, as required under section 2034 of
9 the Water Resources Development Act of 2007
10 (33 U.S.C. 2343).

11 (B) COMPLIANCE.—Each independent peer
12 review under this paragraph shall comply with
13 section 2034 of the Water Resources Develop-
14 ment Act of 2007 (33 U.S.C. 2343).

15 (4) FINAL APPROVAL.—Before a final water
16 control manual may be issued, the Secretary shall
17 obtain written approval of each water control man-
18 ual developed under this subsection from—

19 (A) the Administrator of the Environ-
20 mental Protection Agency;

21 (B) the Director of the United States Fish
22 and Wildlife Service;

23 (C) the Director of the National Oceanic
24 and Atmospheric Administration; and

1 (D) the Director of the United States Geo-
2 logical Survey.

3 (d) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER FEDERAL AND STATE
4 LAWS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), nothing in
5 this section waives, limits, or otherwise affects the applica-
6 bility of any provision of Federal or State law that would
7 otherwise apply to the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint
8 projects.

