

27.5 RECORDED VOTE

A recorded vote by electronic device was ordered in the Committee of the Whole on the following amendment submitted by Mr. BOEHLERT to the amendment submitted by Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

Amendment submitted by Mr. BOEHLERT:

In the last line of the amendment, insert after "law" the following: "or policy that is in effect or has been proposed in the Federal Register by the date of the enactment of this Act."

Amendment submitted by Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

On page 29, beginning on line 15, strike paragraph (4) and insert instead:

(4) PROHIBITION ON USE OF ANY FUNDS TO CONSTRUCTION ROADS.—For purposes of recovery projects authorized by this Act, amounts in the Fund shall not be used, either directly through direct allocations from the Fund, or indirectly through allocations to recovery projects from other Forest Service accounts, for the construction of roads, in those areas within the recovery project where the construction of roads would be prohibited by any Federal environmental law or the applicable land management plan."

It was decided in the Yeas 200 affirmative Nays 187

27.6 [Roll No. 79] AYES—200

Table listing names of members who voted 'AYES' for the amendment, including Franks (NJ), McCarthy (NY), and others.

Table listing names of members who did not vote, including Slaughter, Smith (NJ), and others.

NOES—187

Table listing names of members who voted 'NOES' for the amendment, including Aderholt, Goode, Packard, and others.

NOT VOTING—43

Table listing names of members who did not vote, including Becerra, Gonzalez, Millender, and others.

So the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

After some further time,

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PEASE, assumed the Chair.

When Mr. LATOURETTE, Acting Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 394, reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted by the Committee.

The previous question having been ordered by said resolution.

The following amendment, reported from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, was agreed to:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Forest Recovery and Protection Act of 1998".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.
Sec. 4. National Pilot Program of Forest Recovery and Protection.
Sec. 5. Scientific Advisory Panel.
Sec. 6. Advance recovery projects.
Sec. 7. Monitoring plan.
Sec. 8. Forest Recovery and Protection Fund.
Sec. 9. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 10. Audit requirements.
Sec. 11. Forest inventorying and analysis.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) There are tradeoffs in values associated with proactive, passive, or delayed forest management. The values gained by proactive management outweigh the values gained by delayed or passive management of certain Federal forest lands.

(2) Increases in both the number and severity of wildfire, insect infestation, and disease outbreaks on Federal forest lands are occurring as a result of high tree densities, species composition, and structure that are outside the historic range of variability. These disturbances cause or contribute to significant soil erosion, degradation of air and water quality, loss of watershed values, habitat loss, and damage to other forest resources.

(3) Serious destruction or degradation of important forest resources occurs in all regions of the United States. Management activities to restore and protect these resources in perpetuity are needed in each region and should be designed to address region-specific needs.

(4) According to the Chief of the United States Forest Service, between 35 and 40 million of the 191 million acres of Federal forest lands managed by the Forest Service are at an unacceptable risk of destruction by catastrophic wildfire. The condition of these forests can pose a significant threat of destruction to human life and property as well as to the habitat for fish and wildlife (including threatened and endangered species), public recreation areas, timber, watersheds, and other important forest resources.

(5) Restoration and protection of important forest resources require active forest management involving a range of management activities, including thinning, salvage, prescribed fire (after appropriate thinning), sanitation and other insect and disease control, riparian and other habitat improvement, soil stabilization and other water quality improvement, and seedling planting and protection.

(6) Many national forest units of the National Forest System have an increasing backlog of unfunded projects to restore and protect degraded forest resources. Adequate funding, structured so as to maximize the allocation of monies for on-the-ground