

Swainson's hawks in Argentina, a project to conserve the forest habitat for monarch butterflies, jaguar conservation in the Yucatan region, the restoration of the California condor in Baja California, Mexico and the purchase of equipment for law enforcement personnel to protect imperiled Far Eastern leopards, Amur tigers and snow leopards.

A fundamental goal of this program has been to build conservation capacity and establish ecosystem management regimes by allocating a small amount of U.S. taxpayer money. It is no exaggeration to state that these are the only funds available to assist these highly endangered international species and without this investment these species may become extinct in the wild.

During the last Congress, witnesses representing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and the World Wildlife Fund testified before the House Natural Resources Committee on H.R. 4455. Each of these organizations spoke in strong support of my bill to establish the Wildlife Without Borders Program into law. For instance, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums said that: "AZA wholeheartedly supports this effort". The Wildlife Conservation Society stated that: "Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders program affirms the leadership of the U.S. Government within the international community, underscoring our commitment to our international wildlife treaty obligations, and encouraging coordinated international efforts to save wildlife species." Finally, the World Wildlife Fund testified that: "There is much to be gained in authorizing the international conservation programs of FWS, and creating one umbrella to promote synergies, efficiencies and coordination."

By establishing a Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders Program, we will send a positive message to the international community that the United States is committed to its international wildlife treaty obligations and we recognize the long-term importance of this program by enacting it into law. It will also ensure that this Congress has an opportunity to carefully examine this program, to evaluate its effectiveness and to decide whether its merits further expenditures of taxpayer money in the future.

I urge my colleagues to support this important conservation legislation.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2009*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Appropriations.

Requesting Member: JOHN M. SHIMKUS

Bill number: H.R. 3183

The Account: Construction—Chain of Rocks Canal

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

The funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities on the Chain of Rocks Canal; provides flood control for Metro East and a corridor for navigation of commerce

The Account: Construction—East St. Louis Levee

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities on the East St. Louis levee which provides flood protection for Metro East.

The Account: Construction—Upper Mississippi River Restoration IL, IA, MN, MO & WI

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers at Clock Tower Building Rock Island, IL 61204.

Funding The funding would be used to continue projects which are vital to the ecological restoration of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway, including habitat creation and long-term monitoring

The Account: Construction—Wood River Levee

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and for repair flood protection for Metro East at the Wood River Levee

The Account: O&M—Carlyle Lake

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Carlyle Lake.

The Account: O&M—Lake Shelbyville

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Lake Shelbyville.

The Account: O&M—Mississippi Rivers Between Missouri River and Minneapolis (MVS Portion) IL

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including the navigation channel on the Mississippi River which is essential to all commerce in the United States.

The Account: O&M—Rend Lake

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Rend Lake.

The Account: Construction—Madison & St. Clair Counties, IL

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation to the next phase of sewer design and construction in the Glen Carbon and Maryville areas to provide long term regional sewer system for Metro East.

The Account: Section 206—Lake Lou Yaeger Restoration

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and design and engineering of sediment removal plan for Lake Lou Yaeger and allow the viability as long term water source.

The Account: Investigations—Prairie DuPont Levee and Sanitary District and Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and design and engineering of sediment removal plan for Lake Lou Yaeger and allow the viability as long term water source.

The Account: EERE—Hardin County General Hospital Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Requesting Entity: Hardin County General Hospital located at Ferrell Road, Rosiclare, IL 62982.

Funding will be used for energy efficiency upgrades.

HONORING FROST, HOMETOWN,  
MOODY NATIONAL AND TEXAS  
FIRST BANKS

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, at a time when the financial headlines are dominated by stories of financial institutions seeking taxpayer funds and other special privileges, I am pleased to call my colleagues' attention to a story from the Galveston Daily News about how four community banks came together to help their friends, neighbors and customers begin to recover and rebuild from Hurricane Ike. I ask for unanimous consent to insert this story into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Last fall, as the people of Galveston were assessing the damage from Hurricane Ike and Congress was beginning debate on spending billions of taxpayer funds to bail out irresponsible financial institutions, representatives of Frost, HomeTown, Moody National and Texas First banks met to discuss how these banks could help jumpstart hurricane recovery efforts. The four banks agreed to make unsecured bridge loans to Galveston businesses to ensure these businesses had access to capital while they waited for federal assistance and insurance payments.

The four banks made more than \$40 million in recovery loans. These loans provided lifelines to many businesses struggling with both the devastation of Hurricane Ike and the credit crisis. Without the efforts of these four banks, several Galveston businesses would have had to shut their doors.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I extend my thanks to management and employees of Frost, HomeTown, Moody National, and Texas First banks for their efforts to help the businesses and people of Galveston recover from Hurricane Ike.