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SENATE

{ REPORT
{ 105-324

GRANT-KOHR'S RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1998

SEPTEMBER 9, 1998.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2272]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 2272) to amend the boundaries of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in the State of Montana, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE

The purpose of S. 2272 is to expand the boundaries of Grant-Kohrs National Historic Site in the State of Montana by approximately 120 acres.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

Grant-Kohrs Ranch was founded by Canadian trader John Grant in 1862. The ranch was purchased in 1866 by Conrad Kohrs, a legendary Western cattleman. Kohr's grandson carried on the legacy as a Hereford rancher from 1930 to 1972, when Congress authorized the establishment of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site (Public Law 92-406).

The enabling legislation restricted land acquisition to 2,000 acres, of which 1,378 acres are within the current boundary. An additional 120 acres outside the site's southwest boundary was purchased as an uneconomic remnant in 1988 from Conrad Kohrs Warren under Public Law 91-646. S. 2272 would adjust the boundary to include the 120 acres within the National Historic Site's boundary.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 2272 was introduced by Senator Burns on July 8, 1998 and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation held a hearing on July 23, 1998.

At its business meeting on July 29, 1998, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered S. 2272 favorably reported.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND TABULATION OF VOTES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on July 29, 1998, by a unanimous voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 2272, as described herein.

SUMMARY OF S. 2272

S. 2272 amends Public Law 92-406 to incorporate 120 acres of land already owned by the National Park Service into the boundaries of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The following estimate of costs of this measure has been provided by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, August 12, 1998.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 2272, the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site Boundary Adjustment Act of 1998.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director.*

Enclosure.

S. 2272—Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site Boundary Adjustment Act of 1998

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2272 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 2272 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 2272 would adjust the boundary of the Grant-Kohrs National Historic Site to include an additional 120 acres. Because the federal government already owns the additional acreage, no land would have to be acquired to make the boundary adjustment. Based on information provided by the National Park Service, CBO expects that the agency would incur no additional development, op-

erating, or other costs as a result of including this land within the park.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 2272. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards of significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from enactment of S. 2272, as ordered reported.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The testimony of the Department of the Interior at the Subcommittee hearing follows:

STATEMENT BY MAUREEN FINNERTY, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK OPERATIONS AND EDUCATION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you to address S. 2272, a bill to expand the boundary of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site. The Administration transmitted this bill to Congress on March 5, 1998 as part of its legislative program. We strongly support the bill, and thank Senator Burns for introducing the legislation.

S. 2272 would authorize the National Park Service to include 120 acres of land in the boundary of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site. The land was purchased by the federal government as an uneconomic remnant in 1988. This parcel is a critical portion of the cultural landscape and a defining characteristic of the park. Already owned and managed by the National Park Service as an important cultural landscape component, it is in the public interest to officially incorporate this remnant into the boundary of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site.

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site was established in 1972. It is the only unit in the system to commemorate this nation's frontier cattle era. It is one of the best surviving examples of cattle industry development from the 1850s to the modern era. The site includes 88 original structures, over 26,000 artifacts and an intact cultural landscape. The park manages an archive collection (over 100 linear feet) that details the property's ranching and living operations since 1866. The collection provides original documentation for resource preservation and education.

Before the area became a unit of the National Park System, it was headquarters for a 19th-century cattle empire. Founded by Canadian trader John Grant, the ranch was bought in 1866 by Conrad Kohrs, whose acumen made him one of the west's legendary cattlemen. Kohrs's grandson carried on the legacy as a Hereford rancher from 1930 to 1972.

The proposed addition to the park boundary is a 120-acre parcel that was purchased in 1988 as an uneconomic remnant from then-owner Conrad Kohrs Warren. The authority of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) was used. Section 301(9) of this law states that: "If acquisition of only a part of the property would leave its owner with an uneconomic remnant, the head of the Federal agency concerned shall offer to acquire the entire property." While the property has been long-owned and managed by the National Park Service as part of the site, its preservation has not been institutionalized through formal incorporation.

Because there has been little or no change to the character and use of the lands that formed the heart of the ranch, including this parcel, it is critical for the National Park Service to maintain that landscape. The rights to irrigation water for Grant Kohrs NHS on Taylor Creek is diverted to this 120-acre parcel. The historic irrigation system and additional water delivered from the Clark Fork River via the West Side Ditch originate on the parcel and extends to adjoining hayfields on the ranch.

Adjusting the boundary to incorporate this tract is recommended in the site's 1993 General Management Plan and 1995 Management Assessment, both of which had extensive public involvement and review. Inclusion of the 120 acres is within the authorized boundary ceiling for Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS.

The proposal benefits the National Park Service and Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS by ensuring continued protection of the property, the historic irrigation system, and a timeless cultural landscape that manifests that cowboy and cattleman's west, an important and popular time in this country's past.

That completes my prepared remarks Mr. Chairman. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of the rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill S. 2272, as ordered reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

(Public Law 92–406, August 25, 1972)

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, Montana—
Establishment

【That, in order to provide an understanding of the frontier cattle era of the Nation’s history, to preserve the Grant-Kohrs Ranch, and to interpret the nationally significant values thereof for the benefit and inspiration of present and future generations, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) is hereby authorized to designate not more than two thousand acres in Deer Lodge Valley, Powell County, Montana, for establishment as the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site.】 *The boundary of the National Historic Site shall be as generally described on a map entitled, “Boundary Map, Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site”, numbered 80030–B, and dated January, 1998, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the local and Washington, District of Columbia, offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.*

