

CLARION RIVER, PENNSYLVANIA

SEPTEMBER 24, 1996.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 3568]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3568) to designate 51.7 miles of the Clarion River, located in Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 3568 is to designate 51.7 miles of the Clarion River, located in Pennsylvania, as a component of the Wild and Scenic River System.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

In 1992, Congress enacted Public Law 102-271 which designated portions of the Allegheny River in Pennsylvania under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and directed the U.S. Forest Service to study whether 92 miles of the Clarion River was appropriate for designation under that Act. In March 1996, the Forest Service completed the first step of the report. It found that 51.7 miles of the Clarion River met the criteria under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for designation. Basically, this determination means that the river is free flowing and has at least one “outstandingly remarkable” feature as specified in the Act. In this case, the eligibility report found that the River had remarkable recreation and scenic values.

About 60 percent of the River courses through Forest Service and State game lands and the balance is abutted by private property. The Forest Service found strong support for the designation as at-

tested to by the proclamation issued by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge designating June 1996 as "Clarion River Month."

H.R. 3155 designates those portions of the Clarion River as recreational or scenic under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in accordance with the Forest Service report.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 3568 was introduced by Congressman William F. Clinger, Jr. (R-PA) on June 4, 1996. The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Lands. The Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill on July 9, 1996, where the Administration testified in support. On September 18, 1996, after discharging the Subcommittee from further consideration of the bill, the Full Resources Committee met to mark up H.R. 3568. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by voice vote.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 3 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274) is amended by adding a new paragraph at the end. The paragraph designates a 51.7 mile segment of the Clarion River, Pennsylvania, as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers system to be managed by the Secretary of the Interior.

More specifically, the bill designates as a recreational river the 8.6 mile segment from the Allegheny National Forest/State Game Lands Number 44 boundary to Portland Mills, and the 26 mile segment from the Allegheny National Forest boundary located approximately .8 miles downstream from Irwin Run to Game Lands 283 boundary located approximately .9 miles downstream from the Cooksburg bridge. Designated as scenic rivers are the 8 mile segment from Portland Mills to the Allegheny National Forest boundary located approximately .8 miles downstream from Irwin Run, and the 9.1 mile segment from the State Game Lands 283 boundary located approximately .9 miles downstream from the Cooksburg bridge to an unnamed tributary at the backwaters of Piney Dam located approximately .6 miles downstream from Blyson Run.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With respect to the requirements of clause 2(l)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and clause 2(b)(l) of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 2(l)(4) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee estimates that the enactment of H.R. 3568 will have no significant inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

COST OF THE LEGISLATION

Clause 7(a) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out H.R. 3568. However, clause 7(d) of that Rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XI

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(1)(3)(B) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, H.R. 3568 does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(1)(3)(D) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight on the subject of H.R. 3568.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(1)(3)(C) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for H.R. 3568 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 20, 1996.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 3568, a bill to designate 51.7 miles of the Clarion River, located in Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, as ordered reported by the House Committee in Resources on September 18, 1996. Enacting H.R. 3568 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to the bill.

H.R. 3568 would amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to include a 51.7 mile segment of the Clarion River in Pennsylvania, and would classify various portions of that segment as recreational or scenic rivers. The segment would be managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that administering the segment could increase the agency's discretionary spending for soil erosion control planning in advance of timber sales and other land uses potentially affecting water quality in the river, but that any such increase would be insignificant.

H.R. 3568 contains no private-sector or intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4) and would impose no significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

If you wish further details on this statement, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Victoria V. Heid (for federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact).

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director*.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

H.R. 3568 contains no unfunded mandates.



CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 3 OF THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

* * * * *

SEC. 3. (a) The following rivers and the land adjacent thereto are hereby designated as components of the national wild and scenic rivers system:

(1) * * *

* * * * *

() *CLARION RIVER, PENNSYLVANIA.—The 51.7-mile segment of the main stem of the Clarion River from the Allegheny National Forest/State Game Lands Number 44 boundary, located approximately 0.7 miles downstream from the Ridgway Borough limit, to an unnamed tributary in the backwaters of Piney Dam approximately 0.6 miles downstream from Blyson Run, to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in the following classifications:*

(A) *The approximately 8.6-mile segment of the main stem from the Allegheny National Forest/State Game Lands Number 44 boundary, located approximately 0.7 miles downstream from the Ridgway Borough limit, to Portland Mills, as a recreational river.*

(B) *The approximately 8-mile segment of the main stem from Portland Mills to the Allegheny National Forest boundary, located approximately 0.8 miles downstream from Irwin Run, as a scenic river.*

(c) *The approximately 26-mile segment of the main stem from the Allegheny National Forest boundary, located approximately 0.8 miles downstream from Irwin Run, to the State Game Lands 283 boundary, located approximately 0.9 miles downstream from the Cooksburg bridge, as a recreational river.*

(D) *The approximately 9.1-mile segment of the main stem from the State Game Lands 283 boundary, located approxi-*

mately 0.9 miles downstream from the Cooksburg bridge, to an unnamed tributary at the backwaters of Piney Dam, located approximately 0.6 miles downstream from Blyson Run, as a scenic river.

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