

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3988

To supplement the Secretary of the Army's existing authorities to review the operations of reservoirs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To supplement the Secretary of the Army's existing authorities to review the operations of reservoirs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Fixing Operations of
5 Reservoirs to Encompass Climatic and Atmospheric
6 Science Trends Act" or the "FORECAST Act".

7 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF RESERVOIR OPERATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after a re-
9 quest of a non-Federal sponsor of a reservoir, the Sec-
10 retary of the Army, in consultation with the Administrator

1 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
2 (NOAA), shall review its operation, including the water
3 control manual and rule curves, using improved weather
4 forecasts and run-off forecasting methods, including the
5 Advanced Hydrologic Prediction System of the National
6 Weather Service and the Hydrometeorology Testbed pro-
7 gram of NOAA.

8 (b) DESCRIPTION OF BENEFITS.—In conducting the
9 review under subsection (a), the Secretary shall determine
10 if a change in operations, including the use of improved
11 weather forecasts and run-off forecasting methods, will
12 improve one or more of the core functions of the Army
13 Corps of Engineers, including—

14 (1) reducing risks to human life, public safety,
15 property;

16 (2) reducing the need for future disaster relief;

17 (3) improving local water storage capability and
18 reliability in coordination with the non-Federal spon-
19 sor and other water users;

20 (4) restoring, protecting, or mitigating the im-
21 pacts of a water resources development project on
22 the environment; or

23 (5) improving fish species habitat or population
24 within the boundaries and downstream of a water
25 resources project.

1 (c) RESULTS REPORTED.—Not later than 90 days
2 after completion of the review under this section, the Sec-
3 retary shall submit a report to Congress regarding the re-
4 sults of such review.

5 (d) MANUAL UPDATE.—As expeditiously as prac-
6 ticable and not later than 3 years after submission of the
7 report under subsection (c), and pursuant to the proce-
8 dures required under existing authorities, if the Secretary
9 determines from the results of the review that using im-
10 proved weather and run-off forecasting methods improves
11 one or more core functions of the Army Corps of Engi-
12 neers at a reservoir, the Secretary shall incorporate such
13 changes in its operation and update the water control
14 manual.

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