

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 6127, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6127

To provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. FULCHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.

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 “Modernizing Access
5 to Our Public Waters Act” or the “MAPWaters Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) FEDERAL FISHING RESTRICTION.—The
4 term “Federal fishing restriction” means a defined
5 area in which all or certain fishing activities are
6 temporarily or permanently prohibited or restricted
7 by a Federal land or water management agency.

8 (2) FEDERAL LAND OR WATER MANAGEMENT
9 AGENCY.—The term “Federal land or water man-
10 agement agency” means—

11 (A) the Bureau of Reclamation;

12 (B) the National Park Service;

13 (C) the Bureau of Land Management;

14 (D) the United States Fish and Wildlife
15 Service; and

16 (E) the Forest Service.

17 (3) FEDERAL WATERWAY.—The term “Federal
18 waterway” means any portion of a body of water
19 managed partially or wholly by 1 or more of the rel-
20 evant Secretaries.

21 (4) FEDERAL WATERWAY RESTRICTION.—The
22 term “Federal waterway restriction” means a re-
23 striction on the access or use of a Federal waterway
24 applied under applicable law by 1 or more of the
25 Secretaries.

1 (5) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
2 means—

3 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture, acting
4 through the Chief of the Forest Service; and

5 (B) the Secretary of the Interior.

6 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY DATA STANDARDIZATION.**

7 Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the Secretaries, in coordination with the Fed-
9 eral Geographic Data Committee established by section
10 753(a) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (43
11 U.S.C. 2802(a)), shall jointly develop and adopt inter-
12 agency standards to ensure compatibility and interoper-
13 ability among applicable Federal databases with respect
14 to the collection and dissemination of geospatial data re-
15 lating to public outdoor recreational access of Federal wa-
16 terways and Federal fishing restrictions.

17 **SEC. 4. DATA CONSOLIDATION AND PUBLICATION.**

18 (a) FEDERAL WATERWAY RESTRICTIONS.—Not later
19 than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each
20 of the Secretaries, to the maximum extent practicable,
21 shall digitize and make publicly available online, as appli-
22 cable, geographic information system data that includes,
23 with respect to Federal waterway restrictions—

24 (1) status information with respect to the con-
25 ditions under which Federal waterways are open or

1 closed to entry or watercraft, including watercraft
2 inspection, decontamination requirements, low-ele-
3 vation aircraft, or diving;

4 (2) the dates on which Federal waterways are
5 seasonally closed to entry or watercraft;

6 (3) the areas of Federal waterways with restric-
7 tions on motorized propulsion, horsepower, or fuel
8 type;

9 (4) the areas of Federal waterways with an-
10 choring restrictions, no wake zones, exclusion zones,
11 danger areas, or vessel speed restrictions;

12 (5) Federal waterway restrictions on the direc-
13 tion of travel, including upstream or downstream
14 travel; and

15 (6) the types of watercraft that are restricted
16 on each area of a Federal waterway, including the
17 permissibility of—

18 (A) canoes;

19 (B) rafts and driftboats;

20 (C) motorboats;

21 (D) personal watercraft;

22 (E) airboats;

23 (F) amphibious aircraft;

24 (G) hovercraft;

1 (H) oversnow vehicles and other motorized
2 vehicles on frozen bodies of water; and

3 (I) oceangoing ships; and

4 (7) citations documenting the source of the re-
5 strictions.

6 (b) FEDERAL WATERWAY ACCESS AND NAVIGATION
7 INFORMATION.—Not later than 4 years after the date of
8 enactment of this Act, each of the Secretaries, to the max-
9 imum extent practicable, shall digitize and make publicly
10 available online, as applicable, geographic information sys-
11 tem data that includes, with respect to Federal waterway
12 access and navigation information—

13 (1)(A) the location of boat ramps, portages, and
14 fishing access sites under the authority of the Fed-
15 eral land or water management agency; and

16 (B) the identification of the dates on which the
17 facilities and sites identified under subparagraph (A)
18 are open or closed, as applicable; and

19 (2) bathymetric information and depth charts,
20 as feasible.

21 (c) FEDERAL FISHING RESTRICTIONS.—Not later
22 than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each
23 of the Secretaries, to the maximum extent practicable,
24 shall digitize and make publicly available online geo-

1 graphic information system data that describes, with re-
2 spect to Federal fishing restrictions—

3 (1) the location and geographic boundaries of
4 Federal fishing restrictions on recreational and com-
5 mercial fishing, including—

6 (A) full or partial closures;

7 (B) no-take zones; and

8 (C) Federal fishing restrictions within or
9 surrounding marine protected areas;

10 (2) Federal fishing restrictions enacted pursu-
11 ant to section 302(b) of the Federal Land Policy
12 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732(b));
13 and

14 (3) Federal requirements with respect to catch
15 and release.

16 (d) PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Secretaries shall de-
17 velop a process to allow members of the public to submit
18 questions or comments regarding the information de-
19 scribed in subsections (a) and (b).

20 (e) UPDATES.—The Secretaries, to the maximum ex-
21 tent practicable, shall update—

22 (1) the data described in subsections (a) and
23 (b) not less frequently than 2 times per year; and

24 (2) the data described in subsection (c) in real
25 time as changes go into effect.

1 (f) EXCLUSION.—This section shall not apply to irri-
2 gation canals and flowage easements.

3 (g) DISCLOSURE.—Any geographic information sys-
4 tem data made publicly available under this section shall
5 not disclose information regarding the nature, location,
6 character, or ownership of historic, paleontological, or ar-
7 chaeological resources, consistent with applicable law.

8 **SEC. 5. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION.**

9 (a) COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THIRD-PARTY PRO-
10 VIDERS.—For purposes of carrying out this Act, the Sec-
11 retaries may—

12 (1) coordinate and partner with non-Federal
13 agencies and private sector and nonprofit partners,
14 including—

15 (A) State, territorial, and District of Co-
16 lumbia natural resource agencies;

17 (B) Tribal natural resource agencies;

18 (C) technology companies;

19 (D) geospatial data companies; and

20 (E) experts in data science, analytics, and
21 operations research; and

22 (2) enter into an agreement with a third party
23 to carry out any provision of this Act.

24 (b) UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—The
25 Secretaries may work with the Director of the United

1 States Geological Survey to collect, aggregate, digitize,
2 standardize, and publish data on behalf of the Secretaries
3 to meet the requirements of this Act.

4 (c) REQUIREMENT.—With respect to data developed
5 and distributed under this Act, the Secretaries shall in-
6 clude a notice that any geospatial data are subject to ap-
7 plicable Federal, State, and Tribal regulations.

8 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

9 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
10 of this Act and annually thereafter through March 30,
11 2033, the Secretaries shall submit a report that describes
12 the progress made by the Secretaries with respect to meet-
13 ing the requirements of this Act to—

14 (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
15 sources of the Senate;

16 (2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
17 and Forestry of the Senate;

18 (3) the Committee on Natural Resources of the
19 House of Representatives;

20 (4) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of
21 the House of Representatives; and

22 (5) the Committee on Agriculture of the House
23 of Representatives.

24 **SEC. 7. EFFECT.**

25 Nothing in this Act—

1 (1) modifies or alters the definition of the term
2 “navigable waters” under Federal law;

3 (2) affects the jurisdiction or authority of State
4 or Federal agencies to regulate navigable waters;

5 (3) modifies or alters the authority or jurisdic-
6 tion of Federal or State agencies to manage fish-
7 eries; or

8 (4) authorizes or is intended to result in the
9 closing of or restriction of access to waters open to
10 hunting, fishing, or other forms of outdoor recre-
11 ation as of the date of the enactment of this Act.