

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 2245  
OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Conserving Ecosystems  
3 by Ceasing the Importation of Large Animal Trophies  
4 Act” or the “CECIL Act”.

**5 SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO PROHIBITED ACTS.**

6 Section 9(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973  
7 (16 U.S.C. 1538(a)) is amended—

8 (1) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(3) Except as provided in section 10 of this Act,  
10 it is unlawful for any person to import into or export from  
11 the United States any sport-hunted trophy of a species  
12 listed or proposed to be listed under section 4(c) as a  
13 threatened species or endangered species.”.

**14 SEC. 3. IMPORTS OF SPORT-HUNTED TROPHIES.**

15 Section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973  
16 (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)) is amended by adding at the end the  
17 following:

1           “(3) Before issuing any permit under this Act au-  
2 thorizing import of any sport-hunted trophy of a species  
3 that is listed or proposed to be listed as an endangered  
4 or threatened species, the Secretary must make a finding  
5 after public notice and comment pursuant to section 553  
6 of title 5, United States Code, of whether the country  
7 where the animal was killed adequately provides for the  
8 conservation and monitoring for that species, including  
9 that—

10           “(A) a management plan for that species based  
11 on the best available science that—

12           “(i) addresses existing threats to the spe-  
13 cies;

14           “(ii) provides a significant conservation  
15 benefit to the species;

16           “(iii) formally coordinates with adjacent  
17 countries to protect transboundary populations;  
18 and

19           “(iv) ensures that any take is sustainable  
20 and does not contribute to the species’ decline  
21 in either the short-term or long-term according  
22 to current population estimates derived through  
23 the use of the best available science;

24           “(B) such management plan is being actively  
25 implemented;

1           “(C) the country where the animal was killed  
2 demonstrates transparency, accountability, and  
3 verifiability in governance to ensure that any bene-  
4 fits of trophy hunting, including revenue from such  
5 taking, materially, directly and substantially benefits  
6 the conservation of that species;

7           “(D) hunting of the species in such country en-  
8 hances the propagation or survival of the species;  
9 and

10           “(E) the local community in which the trophy  
11 hunting occurs directly and substantially benefits  
12 from the hunting of the species.

13           “(4) Notwithstanding sections 9(b) and 9(c)(2), no  
14 permit may be issued by the Secretary for the import of  
15 a sport-hunted trophy of an elephant or lion taken in Tan-  
16 zania, Zimbabwe, or Zambia.”.

17 **SEC. 4. PERMIT FEES FOR SPORT-HUNTED TROPHY IM-**  
18 **PORTS.**

19           Section 10(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of  
20 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(2)) is amended by redesignating  
21 subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D), and by inserting  
22 after subparagraph (B) the following:

23           “(C) No permit may be issued by the Secretary under  
24 this Act for import of a sport-hunted trophy unless the  
25 applicant pays to the Secretary all administrative costs in-

1 curred by the United States that are associated with proc-  
2 essing the permit application.”.

3 **SEC. 5. TRANSPARENCY OF SPORTS-HUNTED TROPHY IM-**  
4 **PORT PERMITS.**

5 Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973  
6 (16 U.S.C. 1539(c)) is amended by inserting “The Sec-  
7 retary shall publish notice in the Federal Register of each  
8 application for an exemption or permit which is made  
9 under this Act for a sport-hunted trophy of a species that  
10 is listed or proposed to be listed as an endangered species  
11 or threatened species.” after “section.”

12 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CON-**  
13 **SERVATION COUNCIL.**

14 The International Wildlife Conservation Council of  
15 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is hereby abol-  
16 ished.

17 **SEC. 7. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
19 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
20 of the United States shall conduct and submit to the Con-  
21 gress a report on the results of a study of the effectiveness  
22 of trophy hunting in supporting international wildlife con-  
23 servation efforts.

24 (b) REPORT.—The report shall—

1           (1) include a detailed analysis of how permit  
2 fees and other payments from hunters to govern-  
3 ment entities and hunting guides in host countries  
4 are applied to tangible actions supporting the con-  
5 servation of the target species and other wildlife in  
6 such countries;

7           (2) identify data gaps and recommend informa-  
8 tion that hunters and host countries must submit to  
9 verify the impacts of trophy hunting on wildlife con-  
10 servation efforts; and

11           (3) recommend actions that the Department of  
12 the Interior and the Congress should take to ensure  
13 that trophy hunting contributes to conservation.

Amend the title so as to read: “To amend the En-  
dangered Species Act of 1973 to strengthen protections  
for endangered and threatened species, as well as species  
proposed to be listed, by requiring certification by the  
Fish and Wildlife Service that any international trophy  
hunting of those species enhances the conservation of the  
species before any import of the trophy would be per-  
mitted, and for other purposes.”.

