

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 6127  
OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN OF ARKANSAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing Access  
3 to Our Public Waters Act” or the “MAPWaters Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5       In this Act:

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

11           (2) **FEDERAL LAND OR WATER MANAGEMENT**  
12 **AGENCY.**—The term “Federal land or water man-  
13 agement agency” means—

14                   (A) the Bureau of Reclamation;

15                   (B) the National Park Service;

16                   (C) the Bureau of Land Management;

17                   (D) the United States Fish and Wildlife  
18                   Service; and

1 (E) the Forest Service.

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

6 (4) FEDERAL WATERWAY RESTRICTION.—The  
7 term “Federal waterway restriction” means a re-  
8 striction on the access or use of a Federal waterway  
9 applied under applicable law by 1 or more of the  
10 Secretaries.

11 (5) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”  
12 means—

13 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture, acting  
14 through the Chief of the Forest Service; and

15 (B) the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
17 the several States, the District of Columbia, and  
18 each territory and possession of the United States.

19 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY DATA STANDARDIZATION.**

20 Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment  
21 of this Act, the Secretaries, in coordination with the Fed-  
22 eral Geographic Data Committee established by section  
23 753(a) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (43  
24 U.S.C. 2802(a)), shall jointly develop and adopt inter-  
25 agency standards to ensure compatibility and interoper-

1 ability among applicable Federal databases with respect  
2 to the collection and dissemination of geospatial data re-  
3 lating to public outdoor recreational access of Federal wa-  
4 terways and Federal fishing restrictions.

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

6 (a) **FEDERAL WATERWAY RESTRICTIONS.**—Not later  
7 than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each  
8 of the Secretaries, to the maximum extent practicable,  
9 shall digitize and make publicly available online, as appli-  
10 cable, geographic information system data that includes,  
11 with respect to Federal waterway restrictions—

12 (1) status information with respect to the con-  
13 ditions under which Federal waterways are open or  
14 closed to entry or watercraft, including watercraft  
15 inspection, decontamination requirements, low-ele-  
16 vation aircraft, or diving;

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

19 (3) the areas of Federal waterways with restric-  
20 tions on motorized propulsion, horsepower, or fuel  
21 type;

22 (4) the areas of Federal waterways with an-  
23 choring restrictions, no wake zones, exclusion zones,  
24 danger areas, or vessel speed restrictions;

1           (5) Federal waterway restrictions on the direc-  
2           tion of travel, including upstream or downstream  
3           travel; and

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

7                   (A) canoes;

8                   (B) rafts and driftboats;

9                   (C) motorboats;

10                  (D) personal watercraft;

11                  (E) airboats;

12                  (F) amphibious aircraft;

13                  (G) hovercraft;

14                  (H) oversnow vehicles and other motorized  
15                  vehicles on frozen bodies of water; and

16                  (I) oceangoing ships.

17           (b) FEDERAL WATERWAY ACCESS AND NAVIGATION  
18           INFORMATION.—Not later than 4 years after the date of  
19           enactment of this Act, each of the Secretaries, to the max-  
20           imum extent practicable, shall digitize and make publicly  
21           available online, as applicable, geographic information sys-  
22           tem data that includes, with respect to Federal waterway  
23           access and navigation information—

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

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

7           (2) bathymetric information and depth charts,  
8 as feasible.

9           (c) FEDERAL FISHING RESTRICTIONS.—Not later  
10 than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each  
11 of the Secretaries, to the maximum extent practicable,  
12 shall digitize and make publicly available online geo-  
13 graphic information system data that describes, with re-  
14 spect to Federal fishing restrictions—

15           (1) the location and geographic boundaries of  
16 Federal fishing restrictions on recreational and com-  
17 mercial fishing, including—

18                   (A) full or partial closures;

19                   (B) no-take zones; and

20                   (C) Federal fishing restrictions within or  
21 surrounding marine protected areas;

22           (2) Federal fishing restrictions enacted pursu-  
23 ant to section 302(b) of the Federal Land Policy  
24 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732(b));  
25 and

1           (3) Federal requirements with respect to catch  
2           and release.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20       **SEC. 5. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION.**

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

1           (1) coordinate and partner with non-Federal  
2 agencies and private sector and nonprofit partners,  
3 including—

4           (A) State natural resource agencies;

5           (B) Tribal natural resource agencies;

6           (C) technology companies;

7           (D) geospatial data companies; and

8           (E) experts in data science, analytics, and  
9 operations research; and

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

12          (b) UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—The  
13 Secretaries may work with the Director of the United  
14 States Geological Survey to collect, aggregate, digitize,  
15 standardize, and publish data on behalf of the Secretaries  
16 to meet the requirements of this Act.

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

21 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

22          Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment  
23 of this Act and annually thereafter through March 30,  
24 2034, the Secretaries shall submit a report that describes

1 the progress made by the Secretaries with respect to meet-  
2 ing the requirements of this Act to—

3 (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
4 sources of the Senate;

5 (2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,  
6 and Forestry of the Senate;

7 (3) the Committee on Natural Resources of the  
8 House of Representatives;

9 (4) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of  
10 the House of Representatives; and

11 (5) the Committee on Agriculture of the House  
12 of Representatives.

13 **SEC. 7. EFFECT.**

14 Nothing in this Act—

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

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

19 (3) modifies or alters the authority or jurisdic-  
20 tion of Federal or State agencies to manage fish-  
21 eries; or

22 (4) authorizes the closing of or restriction of ac-  
23 cess to waters open to hunting, fishing, or other



1 forms of outdoor recreation as of the date of the en-  
2 actment of this Act.

