To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Kissimmee River in the State of Florida as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2021

Mr. SOTO (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

FEBRUARY --, 2022

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 9, 2021]
To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Kissimmee River in the State of Florida as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Kissimmee River Wild
and Scenic River Act”.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY OF WILD AND SCENIC
RIVER SEGMENTS, KISSIMMEE RIVER, FLOR-
IDA.

Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16
U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
lowing:

“(____) KISSIMMEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—The re-
stored segment of the Kissimmee River, beginning ap-
proximately 16 miles downstream of Lake Kissimmee
and ending approximately 15 miles upstream of Lake
Okeechobee.”.

SEC. 3. STUDIES AND REPORTS.

Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16
U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
lowing:

“(____) KISSIMMEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—Not later
than 3 years after the date on which funds are made
available to carry out this paragraph, the Secretary
of the Interior shall—
“(A) complete the study of the Kissimmee River, Florida named in paragraph (__) of subsection (a); and

“(B) submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study.”.

SEC. 4. EFFECT ON MANAGEMENT.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not interfere with the current management of the area of the Kissimmee River described in section 5(a)(__) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, nor shall the fact that such area is listed for study under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) be used as justification for more restrictive management until Congress acts on the study recommendations.