

AMENDMENTS TO INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY2021

Full Committee Markup
House Appropriations Committee
July 10, 2020

1

ADOPTED VV

McCollum

Manager's Amendment – Department of the Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2021
Offered by Ms. McCollum of Minnesota

In the report:

At the appropriate place on page 5, insert: "CUSTOMER SERVICE. – The Committee directs each of the agencies funded by this Act to develop standards to improve customer service and incorporate the standards into the performance plans required under title 31 of the United States Code."

On page 7 after the paragraph titled, "Fire Resilient Communities" insert the header: "FIREFIGHTING AVIATION CONTRACTS" and insert the following paragraph: "In past years, the Committee has included direction and resources to assist the Forest Service in modernizing the fleet of aircraft available for wildland fire suppression activities. It is important that the Forest Service and Department of the Interior analyze current contracting capabilities to determine whether changes to existing practices may better support the strategic plan for aerial firefighting assets. Recent initiatives that have been undertaken have increased firefighting effectiveness and/or reduced costs. The Committee has become aware that the limitation on the length of federal civilian contracts (no more than five years) may be, as it was with stewardship contracts for forest health restoration, a limitation on both effectiveness and cost efficiency for procuring modern, cost effective aviation assets for fire suppression. The existing aviation fleet is primarily comprised of contractor-owned and operated aircraft, many of which are small businesses. The certainty provided by longer-term contracts of up to ten years has the potential to ensure greater accountability, cost efficiency and a streamlined approach. The U.S. Forest Service Aviation Implementation Strategy (2018-2022) indicates that the size and intensity of wildfires is expected to rise; resulting in continued demand for aerial fighting aircraft. Particularly as COVID-19 causes additional limitations on the ground, a modern and safe air fleet will be an important asset for the upcoming firefighting season. Therefore, the Committee directs the Forest Service in partnership with the Department of the Interior, to prepare and submit a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act outlining current statutory limitations that prohibit the use of 10-year contracts. Additionally, the report shall include current contract requirements that ensure a modern and safe aviation fleet and how a shift to 10-year contracting could impact those requirements. The report shall state how many aviation contracts the Forest Service and Department of the Interior have issued over the last 10 years, as well as any anticipated changes in either the number of contracts issued, the costs, or the type of contract vehicle used, due to a shift to 10-year contracting. Finally, the Forest Service shall provide input on how a potential pilot program for 10-year contracts could be implemented."

On page 8 under the heading "Marijuana on Public Lands", strike the sentence, "The Committee is aware that trespassers illegally grow marijuana on public lands in California." and insert the sentence, "The Committee is aware that trespassers illegally grow marijuana on public lands throughout the country, including in California and Kentucky."

At the appropriate place on page 9, insert: "PERFORMANCE MEASURES The Committee directs all agencies funded by this Act to comply with title 31 of the United States Code, including the development of their organizational priority goals and outcomes such as performance outcome measures, output measures, efficiency measures, and customer service measures."

On page 13, between the first and second paragraphs, add the following new paragraph: "*Cadastral Survey*.—The Committee directs the Bureau to continue executing the survey requirements of the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act, P.L. 104-42, as soon as public health conditions allow. The Bureau shall consult with Homestead Beneficiary Associations, as defined under 43 C.F.R. § 47.1, when conducting these surveys."

On page 25 strike the last sentence under the heading "Population Assessment and Cooperative Management" and replace with the following: The Service is to continue its work with the State of Maryland, NOAA, and other partners on eradication of invasive northern snakehead and use up to \$250,000 from within available funds for this effort.

On page 37 under the heading "Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.", after "...reclassifying it as a National Battlefield Site.", insert the following: "The Committee also directs the Service to convene the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park Advisory Commission to consider opportunities to maximize the visitor experience across all elements of the battlefield."

On page 45 of the report in the last sentence in the fourth paragraph on USGS Geomagnetism strike "a three-year effort to complete".

On page 94 under the heading "Recycling Needs and Survey Assessment.", after "...by plastic type and by region.", insert the following: "Additionally, the Agency should collect data on aluminum, including the rates at which aluminum cans are recycled."

In the table on page 156, in the sixth entry, strike "National Forest Foundation, Administrative Provision", and insert "Forest Service, Wildland Fire Management"

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Price

ADOPTED VV

**AMENDMENT TO INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT
APPROPRIATIONS BILL
OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert
the following:

1 SEC. ____ . None of the funds made available by this
2 Act or any other Act may be used to finalize, implement,
3 administer, or enforce—

4 (1) the proposed rule entitled “Strengthening
5 Transparency in Regulatory Science” published by
6 the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal
7 Register on April 30, 2018 (83 Fed. Reg. 18768);
8 or

9 (2) the supplemental notice of proposed rule-
10 making entitled “Strengthening Transparency in
11 Regulatory Science” published by the Environmental
12 Protection Agency in the Federal Register on March
13 18, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 15396).

