

116TH CONGRESS }
1st Session } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
116-100

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND
RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2020

JUNE 3, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Ms. MCCOLLUM, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3052]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. The bill provides regular annual appropriations for the Department of the Interior (except the Bureau of Reclamation and the Central Utah Project), the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other related agencies, including the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

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	FY 2019 Enacted	Budget Request	This Bill
	(Excluding Rescission)	(Excluding Rescission)	
Land and Water Conservation Fund Total	438,301,000	32,882,000	523,950,000

MITIGATION FROM BORDER BARRIER CONSTRUCTION

Construction of a border barrier can adversely impact sensitive lands along the southwest border, including national wildlife refuges, national forests, national monuments, and wilderness areas. It can also jeopardize wildlife and the survival of imperiled species. The current Administration has instituted waivers of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act, circumventing the normal process that would provide safeguards for species and habitats. The Committee directs the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to work with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense to provide a report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act that: (1) describes the impacts of border barrier construction on sensitive lands, habitat, and wildlife; (2) describes any measures that might contribute to mitigation of these impacts, including land acquisitions for national wildlife refuges and other federal public land units; and (3) estimates the costs of these mitigation measures.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY POPULATIONS

The Committee is aware the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is gathering information to determine whether the monarch butterfly should be listed as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. Monarch butterflies are a fixture in crop fields across the Nation and listing them could have significant impacts on agriculture. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Interior to work with the Secretary of Agriculture in coordination with the states, and private and nonprofit organizations to develop and implement strategies, such as setting up milkweed reserves, to help protect monarch butterfly populations and preserve the natural habitats critical to their survival. The Secretaries are directed to report back within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the status of this plan and any other actions the Departments are taking to encourage support of monarch conservation.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

The Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program provides compensation to local governments for the loss of tax revenue resulting from the presence of Federal land in their county or State. In 2019, 49 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands will receive PILT payments. The recommendation includes full funding for PILT for fiscal year 2020 in Section 114 of Title I General Provisions.

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 per-