

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2650

To modify certain water resources projects for the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To modify certain water resources projects for the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restore the Apalachi-
5 cola River Ecosystem Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. APALACHICOLA, CHATTAHOOCHEE, AND FLINT RIV-**
7 **ERS, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, AND ALABAMA.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The project for navigation, Apa-
9 lachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers, Georgia, Flor-
10 ida, and Alabama, authorized by section 2 of the Act of

1 March 2, 1945 (59 Stat. 17), and modified by the first
2 section of the Act of July 24, 1946 (60 Stat. 635), and
3 the project for the West Point Reservoir, Chattahoochee
4 River, Georgia, authorized by section 203 of the Flood
5 Control Act of 1962 (76 Stat. 1182), are modified—

6 (1) to deauthorize the 9-foot by 100-foot chan-
7 nel between the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway near
8 Apalachicola, Florida, to Jim Woodruff Dam near
9 Chattahoochee, Florida; and

10 (2) to authorize the Secretary of the Army, in
11 consultation with the State of Florida, to develop the
12 plan described in subsection (b).

13 (b) PLAN FOR RESTORATION OF APALACHICOLA
14 RIVER.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
16 the date of enactment of this Act and before com-
17 mencement of any restoration activity under sub-
18 section (a), the Secretary, in coordination with the
19 State of Florida, the United States Fish and Wild-
20 life Service, and the United States Geological Sur-
21 vey, shall—

22 (A) develop a comprehensive plan to re-
23 store the Apalachicola River basin; and

24 (B) submit to the Committee on Environ-
25 ment and Public Works of the Senate and the

1 Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
2 ture of the House of Representatives the plan
3 developed under subparagraph (A).

4 (2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—The plan under
5 paragraph (1) shall—

6 (A) have as its sole goal the reestablish-
7 ment of the ecological integrity of the Apalachi-
8 cola River basin ecosystem (including restora-
9 tion of bendways, interconnecting waterways,
10 sloughs, watersheds, associated land areas, and
11 fish and wildlife habitat);

12 (B) reestablish an ecosystem that supports
13 and sustains a balanced, integrated, adaptive
14 community of organisms having species com-
15 position, diversity, and functional organization
16 comparable to those of the natural habitat of
17 the Apalachicola River; and

18 (C) include a method of monitoring and
19 assessing the biota, habitats, and water quality
20 of the Apalachicola River basin for use in as-
21 sessing restoration activities and impacts of res-
22 toration activities.

23 (3) FUNDING.—The plan under paragraph (1)
24 shall be developed at a total cost of \$4,000,000.

1 (c) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—In carrying out this sec-
2 tion, the Secretary shall engage in significant public out-
3 reach.

4 (d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The
5 Secretary shall ensure that activities conducted under this
6 section do not interfere with water compact activities and
7 negotiations being carried out as of the date of enactment
8 of this Act with respect to the Apalachicola, Chattahoo-
9 chee, and Flint Rivers, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama.

10 (e) EFFECT ON OTHER LAW.—Nothing in this sec-
11 tion limits the authority of any agency under any other
12 provision of law to require compliance with any applicable
13 statutory or regulatory requirement.

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