

to those public use areas under the direct management of the Army Corps of Engineers and not to the area leased by the Corps to non-Federal entities for recreation purposes.

In addition, the bill prohibits the collection of a fee for the issuance of a permit or license for a boat mooring or docking facility, duck blind, ski-jump float, swimming or diving platform or raft, or any similar floating facility on any of the waters of a project administered by the Corps of Engineers. This latter prohibition pertains exclusively to the province of the Department of the Army and is unrelated to the entrance, admission, and user fees (or "Golden Eagle" program) authorized by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. We defer to the views of the Department of the Army on the advisability of prohibiting fees for boat mooring and various other floating facilities.

The effect of the bill would be to prohibit the charging of Federal recreation fees at virtually all water resource development projects constructed by the Corps of Engineers, since it is rare that facilities in excess of "minimum recreation facilities" would be provided at Federal expense.

The bill would substantially alter the established policies and principles set forth below:

1. The pay-as-you-go concept adopted by Congress for carrying out the Land and Water Conservation Fund program which is aimed at meeting the increasing needs of our growing population for more and improved outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

2. The Congress intended the Corps of Engineers to be a full participant in the Land and Water Conservation Fund program along with other land managing agencies that administer Federal recreation areas.

3. User charges should be instituted by Federal agencies where the users reap special benefits that do not accrue to the general taxpayers who carry the burden of a Federal program.

4. The pending bill would put in doubt the propriety of other Federal agencies collecting fees at Federal recreation areas they manage which are located on Corps of Engineers and other Federal water development projects.

5. All Fund revenues are needed to help pay for new recreation areas authorized by Congress which have not yet been funded.

6. The pending bill would establish a precedent which could endanger successful recreation charge programs in State park systems, which have State parks located on or in the vicinity of Corps of Engineers reservoirs, by placing such State parks in an adverse competitive economic situation.

We believe that the bill would erode the fee provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, constitute a major reversal of policy, and would result in hindering the progress made in recent years in public outdoor recreation.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY R. ANDERSON,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[S. 531, 90th Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That essential outdoor recreation needs of the American people must be met and that this can be done most effectively by increasing revenues to the Land and Water Conservation Fund in order to assist Federal, State, and local governments in acquiring and developing public outdoor recreation facilities.

SEC. 2. To carry out the policy of section 1 of this Act, all revenues from July 1, 1967, received under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (except revenues received from lands within naval petroleum reserves), all revenues received from the Potash Leasing Acts of 1927 and 1948, as amended, and all revenues received under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953, as amended, to the extent such revenues would otherwise be deposited in miscellaneous receipts, shall be deposited in the land and water conservation fund created by the Act of September 3, 1964.