

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3152

To provide for a comprehensive study by the National Research Council of the National Academies to assess the water management, needs, and conservation of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 18, 2008

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To provide for a comprehensive study by the National Research Council of the National Academies to assess the water management, needs, and conservation of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System.

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. STUDY ON THE APALACHICOLA-CHATTAHOO-**
4 **CHEE-FLINT RIVER SYSTEM.**

5 (a) NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL STUDY.—Not
6 later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
7 the Secretary of the Army shall enter into an agreement
8 with the National Research Council of the National Acad-

1 emies under which the Council shall conduct a comprehen-
2 sive study of the water management, needs, and conserva-
3 tion of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Sys-
4 tem (in this Act referred to as the “ACF River System”).

5 (b) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—The study under
6 subsection (a) shall include the following:

7 (1) A summary of the existing body of scientific
8 knowledge on—

9 (A) the ecology, hydrology, geomorphology,
10 and biogeochemistry of the Apalachicola River
11 and the greater ACF River System;

12 (B) the ecosystem services provided by the
13 Apalachicola River;

14 (C) the impact of variation in freshwater
15 flow on the ecology of the river and downstream
16 coastal ecosystems, including the Apalachicola
17 Bay ecosystem; and

18 (D) how to restore the natural hydraulic
19 function of the ACF River System, including
20 restoration of floodplains and wetlands.

21 (2) An assessment of models that serve as the
22 basis for the master manuals of the ACF River Sys-
23 tem.

24 (3) An assessment of water availability, supply
25 options, demand-management alternatives, and so-

1 cioeconomic factors that influence uses in the ACF
2 River System, including water quality, navigation,
3 hydropower, recreation, in-stream ecology, and flood
4 control.

5 (4) An assessment of policies, regulations, and
6 other factors that affect Federal water project oper-
7 ations.

8 (5) Recommendations for an approach to deter-
9 mine water limits that recognize the needs of all
10 water users along the ACF River System, including
11 adequate in-stream flow requirements.

12 (6) Recommendations for any additional meas-
13 ures to address the long-term watershed manage-
14 ment needs of the ACF River System as the Na-
15 tional Research Council considers appropriate.

16 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after entering
17 into an agreement under subsection (a), the National Re-
18 search Council shall submit to the Secretary of the Army
19 and Congress a report containing the findings of the study
20 under subsection (a) and such other recommendations as
21 the Council considers appropriate.

22 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
23 purpose of carrying out this Act, there is authorized to
24 be appropriated \$1,200,000.

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