CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

October 3, 1974

Mr. HASKELL. Mr. President, this amendment, although it effects a substantial change in the bill, is technical in nature.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended by the act of May 10, 1974, provides for a 5-year period after enactment of that act. The protection period was provided in the 1974 amendments to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. At the time these amendments were enacted we expected that the full 3 fiscal year protection period would be sufficient in that most legislative proposals would only designate one or two study rivers and thus would mandate only one or two studies at a time.

However, S. 3022 has combined all the individual study bills and provides for a total of 23 studies. Because of the large number of studies the committee agreed to a 5-plus year study period. However, with only a 3 fiscal year period protection provided under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, these rivers would be exposed to developmental pressures for perhaps as much as 2 years prior to the completion of the studies and submission of the President's recommendations to Congress.

My amendment simply limits the application of the full 3 fiscal year protection period by legislation proposing rivers for study which does not establish its own study period. Under my amendment, whenever legislation provides a study period different from the 3 fiscal year period then the protection would run for the period established in the legislation. This will insure that the rivers designated for study under S. 3022 will be then protected for the full 5-plus year protection period.

This is a technical amendment. I say to the distinguished Senator from Michigan that I have not discussed this amendment with the minority on the Interior Committee. I am informed that the staff has discussed it. In my view, it is a technical amendment, and I ask that it be adopted.

Mr. GRIFFIN. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield, I will say for the Record that I appreciate the very candid explanation of the Senator. I am informed, however, that the minority has no objection to the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. HASKELL. Mr. President, I am informed that the distinguished Senator from Oregon (Mr. Hatfield) has an amendment and that he is on his way to the floor. Before we proceed, I should like to mention what this bill does and why I think it is very important both for the Nation and for my State of Colorado.

Subsection (a) amends the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by designating 23 rivers in 10 States for study to determine whether they should be designated as components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

Subsection (b) provides a 5-year deadline for 23 of the studies and a 1-year deadline for the study of the Dolores River in Colorado.

In addition—and I believe this is extremely important—subsection (b) provides that rivers that have the most private lands on both sides should be studied first. I think it is important to the private landowners these rivers be studied first.

Additionally, subsection (c) raises the authorization in the Lower Saint Croix River Act of 1972 from $7,973 million to $19 million.

I am pleased to note that 12 of these 23 rivers designated for study, are in Colorado. We have hearings on the Colorado river both in Washington and in Colorado. As a result of the hearings in Durango, Colo., we both extended and contracted the segments of certain of these rivers designated. We also eliminated three rivers because of the testimony taken there. These were the North Platte, Laramie, and Michigan Rivers.

Mr. President, pending the arrival of the Senator from Oregon, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The Acting President pro tempore. The amendment will be stated.

The Acting President pro tempore. The Clerk will call the roll.

The second assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment to S. 3022 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Acting President pro tempore. The amendment will be stated.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

On page 3, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following new subparagraphs:

"(39) South Fork Owyhee, Oregon: The main stem from the Oregon Idaho border downstream to the Owyhee Reservoir.

"(40) John Day, Oregon: The main stem from Service Creek Bridge (at river mile 190) to the Owyhee Reservoir downstream one hundred and forty-seven miles at Tumwater Falls (at river mile 190)."

On pages 3 and 4, renumber subparagraphs (39) through (50) as subparagraphs (61) through (93).

On page 5, line 4, strike "49" and insert in lieu thereof "51".

On page 5, line 6, strike "50" and insert in lieu thereof "52".

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Colorado for yielding the floor.

I commend him on the fine hearings and the manner in which he has conducted development of this bill.

The amendment I am proposing today to S. 3022 would provide for the study of two Oregon rivers for possible inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system.

In November of 1970, Oregon voters approved an initiative measure providing for the designation of a State scenic waterways system to protect several of the outstanding streams in our State.