

116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 2918

To create dedicated funds to conserve butterflies in North America, plants in the Pacific Islands, freshwater mussels in the United States, and desert fish in the Southwest United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 22, 2019

Mr. Grijalva (for himself, Mr. Lowenthal, Mr. Soto, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Case, Mr. Van Drew, Mrs. Dingell, Mr. Sablan, Mr. Huffman, and Mr. Beyer) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To create dedicated funds to conserve butterflies in North America, plants in the Pacific Islands, freshwater mussels in the United States, and desert fish in the Southwest United States, and for other purposes.

- 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 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Extinction Prevention Act of 2019".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents for
- 7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

TITLE I—NORTH AMERICA BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION ACT OF 2019

- Sec. 101. Short title.
- Sec. 102. Purposes.
- Sec. 103. Definitions.
- Sec. 104. North America butterfly conservation assistance.
- Sec. 105. North America Butterfly Conservation Fund.
- Sec. 106. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 107. Report to Congress.

TITLE II—PACIFIC ISLANDS PLANT CONSERVATION FUND ACT OF 2019

- Sec. 201. Short title.
- Sec. 202. Purposes.
- Sec. 203. Definitions.
- Sec. 204. Pacific Islands plant conservation assistance.
- Sec. 205. Pacific Islands Plant Conservation Fund.
- Sec. 206. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 207. Report to Congress.

TITLE III—FRESHWATER MUSSEL CONSERVATION FUND ACT OF 2019

- Sec. 301. Short title.
- Sec. 302. Purposes.
- Sec. 303. Definitions.
- Sec. 304. Freshwater mussel conservation assistance.
- Sec. 305. Freshwater Mussels Conservation Fund.
- Sec. 306. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 307. Report to Congress.

TITLE IV—SOUTHWEST DESERT FISH CONSERVATION FUND ACT OF 2019

- Sec. 401. Short title.
- Sec. 402. Purposes.
- Sec. 403. Definitions.
- Sec. 404. Southwest desert fish conservation assistance.
- Sec. 405. Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund.
- Sec. 406. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 407. Report to Congress.

TITLE I—NORTH AMERICA BUT-TERFLY CONSERVATION ACT 2 **OF 2019** 3 SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE. 5 This title may be cited as the "North America Butterfly Conservation Fund Act of 2019". 7 SEC. 102. PURPOSES. 8 The purposes of this title are— 9 (1) to perpetuate healthy populations of butter-10 flies in North America; 11 (2) to assist in the conservation of threatened 12 and endangered butterflies by supporting conserva-13 tion initiatives in North America; and 14 (3) to provide financial resources and to foster 15 international cooperation for those initiatives. 16 SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS. 17 In this title: (1) Conservation.—The term "conservation" 18 19 means the use of all methods and procedures nec-20 essary to protect habitats of butterflies in North 21 America and of butterflies in those habitats, includ-22 ing—

(A) protection, restoration, and manage-

ment of habitats;

23

1	(B) onsite research and monitoring of pop-
2	ulations, habitats, annual reproduction, and
3	butterfly species population trends;
4	(C) assistance in the development, imple-
5	mentation, and improvement of national and re-
6	gional management plans;
7	(D) enforcement and implementation of
8	applicable conservation laws; and
9	(E) community outreach and education.
10	(2) Fund.—The term "Fund" means the
11	North America Butterfly Conservation Fund estab-
12	lished by section 105.
13	(3) Butterfly.—The terms "butterfly" and
14	"butterflies" mean any member of the order Lepi-
15	doptera.
16	(4) North America.—The term "North Amer-
17	ica" means the United States, Canada, Mexico, An-
18	tigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize,
19	Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic,
20	El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras,
21	Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts and
22	Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grena-
23	dines, and Trinidad and Tobago.
24	(5) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
25	the Secretary of the Interior.

5 SEC. 104. NORTH AMERICA BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION AS-2 SISTANCE. 3 (a) Assistance.— 4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of 5 funds and in consultation with other Federal offi-6 cials, the Secretary shall use amounts in the Fund 7 to provide financial assistance for projects for the 8 conservation of butterflies for which project pro-9 posals are approved by the Secretary in accordance 10 with this section. 11 (2) Use of existing authorities.—Assist-12 ance provided under this section shall be carried out 13 in a manner consistent with authorities available to 14 the Secretary under the Endangered Species Act of 15 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). 16 (b) Project Proposals.— 17 (1) Eligible applicants.—A proposal for a 18 project for the conservation of butterflies may be 19 submitted to the Secretary by— 20 (A) a relevant State or Tribal agency, re-21 search institution, nonprofit organization, or

24 (i) has within its boundaries butterfly 25 habitat; and

wildlife management authority in North Amer-

ica that—

22

1	(ii) directly or indirectly affects but-
2	terfly conservation; or
3	(B) any other individual or entity, as de-
4	termined appropriate by the Secretary, with the
5	demonstrated expertise required for the con-
6	servation of butterflies in North America.
7	(2) Federal partnership opportunities.—
8	A Federal agency may not be a lead entity or receive
9	funding for a project under this section, but may be
10	included as a partner or collaborator on a project
11	that receives such funding.
12	(3) Required elements.—A project proposal
13	shall include—
14	(A) a statement of the purposes of the
15	project;
16	(B) the name of the entity or individual
17	with overall responsibility for the project;
18	(C) a description of—
19	(i) the qualifications of the entity or
20	individuals that will conduct the project;
21	(ii) methods for project implementa-
22	tion and outcome assessment;
23	(iii) staffing and stakeholder engage-
24	ment for the project;

1	(iv) the logistics of the project, includ-
2	ing cost estimates and timelines;
3	(v) anticipated outcomes; and
4	(vi) mechanisms to encourage ade-
5	quate local public participation in project
6	development and implementation;
7	(D) assurances that the project will be im-
8	plemented in consultation with relevant wildlife
9	management authorities, Tribes, and other ap-
10	propriate government officials;
11	(E) evidence of free, informed, and prior
12	consent by indigenous communities in the areas
13	the project will be conducted, if the Secretary
14	determines that such consent is required for the
15	success of the project;
16	(F) demonstrated sensitivity to local his-
17	toric and cultural resources and compliance
18	with applicable laws;
19	(G) information that demonstrates the po-
20	tential of the project to contribute to the con-
21	servation of butterfly populations in North
22	America;
23	(H) evidence of support for the project by
24	appropriate governmental entities of the coun-
25	tries, Tribes, and indigenous communities in

1	which the project will be conducted, if the Sec-
2	retary determines that such support is required
3	for the success of the project;
4	(I) information regarding the source and
5	amount of matching funding available for the
6	project; and
7	(J) such other information as the Sec-
8	retary may require.
9	(c) Project Review and Approval.—
10	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—
11	(A) not later than 30 days after receiving
12	a project proposal, provide a copy of the pro-
13	posal to other Federal officials, as appropriate;
14	and
15	(B) review each project proposal in a time-
16	ly manner to determine whether the proposal
17	meets the criteria specified in subsection (d).
18	(2) Consultation; approval or dis-
19	APPROVAL.—Not later than 180 days after receiving
20	a project proposal, and subject to the availability of
21	funds, the Secretary, after consulting with other
22	Federal officials, as appropriate, shall—
23	(A) consult on the proposal with the gov-
24	ernment of each country in which the project is
25	to be conducted;

- 1 (B) after taking into consideration any 2 comments resulting from the consultation, ap-3 prove or disapprove the project proposal; and
 - (C) provide written notification of the approval or disapproval to the person that submitted the project proposal, such other Federal officials, and each country described in subparagraph (A).

(d) Criteria for Approval.—

- (1) In General.—The Secretary may approve a project proposal under this section if the project will help recover and sustain viable populations of butterflies in the wild by assisting efforts in North America to implement butterfly conservation programs.
- (2) PRIORITY.—In selecting projects for assistance, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that conserve threatened and endangered species protected by the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).
- (3) Project sustainability.—To the maximum extent practicable, in determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to conservation

- projects that are designed to ensure effective, longterm conservation of butterflies and their habitats.
 - (4) MATCHING FUNDS.—In determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects for which matching funds are available.
 - (5) Waiver.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) if the Secretary finds that such waiver is necessary to support a conservation project that the Secretary has identified as of high priority.

(e) Project Reporting.—

- (1) In general.—Each person that receives assistance under this section for a project shall submit to the Secretary periodic reports (at such intervals as the Secretary may require) that include all information that the Secretary, after consultation with other government officials, determines is necessary to evaluate the progress and success of such project for the purposes of ensuring positive results, assessing problems, and fostering improvements.
- (2) AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC.—Reports under paragraph (1), and any other documents relating to projects for which financial assistance is

1	provided under this title, shall be made available to
2	the public.
3	SEC. 105. NORTH AMERICA BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION
4	FUND.
5	(a) Establishment.—There is established in the
6	Treasury a separate account, to be known as the "North
7	America Butterfly Conservation Fund", consisting of—
8	(1) amounts transferred to the Secretary of the
9	Treasury for deposit into the Fund under subsection
10	(e);
11	(2) amounts appropriated to the Fund under
12	section 106; and
13	(3) any interest earned on investment of
14	amounts in the Fund under subsection (c).
15	(b) Expenditures From Fund.—
16	(1) In general.—Subject to paragraph (2), at
17	the request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the
18	Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Sec-
19	retary, without further appropriation, such amounts
20	as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry
21	out section 104.
22	(2) Administrative expenses.—Of the
23	amounts in the account available for each fiscal
24	year, the Secretary may expend not more than 3
25	percent, or up to \$80,000, whichever is greater, to

1	pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry
2	out this title.
3	(c) Investment of Amounts.—
4	(1) In General.—The Secretary of the Treas-
5	ury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not
6	in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury
7	required to meet current withdrawals. Investments
8	may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of
9	the United States.
10	(2) Acquisition of obligations.—For the
11	purpose of investments under paragraph (1), obliga-
12	tions may be acquired—
13	(A) on original issue at the issue price; or
14	(B) by purchase of outstanding obligations
15	at market price.
16	(3) Sale of obligations.—Any obligation ac-
17	quired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of
18	the Treasury at market price.
19	(4) Credits to fund.—The interest on, and
20	the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any ob-
21	ligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and
22	form a part of the Fund.
23	(d) Transfers of Amounts.—
24	(1) In general.—The amounts required to be
25	transferred to the Fund under this section shall be

1	transferred at least monthly from the general fund
2	of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of esti-
3	mates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.
4	(2) Adjustments.—Proper adjustment shall
5	be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the
6	extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than
7	the amounts required to be transferred.
8	(e) Acceptance and Use of Donations.—
9	(1) In General.—The Secretary may accept
10	for the Government a gift of any of the following to
11	provide assistance under section 104:
12	(A) money;
13	(B) an obligation of the Government in-
14	cluded in the public debt made only on the con-
15	dition that the obligation be canceled and re-
16	tired and not reissued; and
17	(C) other intangible personal property
18	made only on the condition that the property is
19	sold on the best terms available and the pro-
20	ceeds are deposited in the Fund.
21	(2) Discretion to reject a gift.—The Sec-
22	retary may reject a gift under this section when the
23	rejection is in the interest of the Government.
24	(3) Taxes.—If a gift received under this sub-
25	section is subject to a gift or inheritance tax, the

1	Secretary may pay the tax out of the proceeds of the
2	gift or the proceeds of the redemption or sale of the
3	gift.
4	SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
5	There are authorized to appropriated to the Secretary
6	\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025
7	to carry out this title.
8	SEC. 107. REPORT TO CONGRESS.
9	The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Con-
10	gress not later than January 31 of each year regarding
11	the Fund and the status of butterflies in North America.
12	Each such report shall include with respect to the year
13	for which such report is submitted a description of—
14	(1) the total amounts deposited into and ex-
15	pended from the Fund;
16	(2) the costs associated with the administration
17	of the Fund;
18	(3) a summary of the projects for which the
19	Secretary has provided assistance under section 104
20	and an evaluation of those projects; and
21	(4) an evaluation of the status of threatened
22	and endangered butterfly populations in North
23	America.

TITLE II—PACIFIC **ISLANDS** PLANT CONSERVATION FUND 2 **ACT OF 2019** 3 SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE. 4 5 This title may be cited as the "Pacific Islands Plant Conservation Fund Act of 2019". 6 7 SEC. 202. PURPOSES. 8 The purpose of this title is to assist in the conservation of threatened and endangered plant species in the Ha-10 waiian Islands and the Pacific Island Territories of the 11 United States by supporting and providing financial re-12 sources for projects to conserve plant species, their eco-13 systems, and address other threats to the survival of those 14 plant species. SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS. 16 In this title: 17 (1) Conservation.—The term "conservation" 18 means the use of all methods and procedures nec-19 essary to protect plants in the Pacific Islands includ-20 ing— 21 (A) protection, restoration, and manage-22 ment of ecosystems; 23 (B) onsite research and monitoring of pop-24 ulations, ecosystems, annual reproduction, and

plant population trends;

1	(C) assistance in the development, imple-
2	mentation, and improvement of management
3	plans;
4	(D) enforcement and implementation of
5	applicable conservation laws; and
6	(E) community outreach and education.
7	(2) Fund.—The term "Fund" means the Pa-
8	cific Islands Plant Conservation Fund established by
9	section 205.
10	(3) Pacific Islands.—The term "Pacific Is-
11	lands" means the Hawaiian islands and the United
12	States territories of Guam, American Samoa, and
13	the Northern Mariana Islands.
14	(4) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
15	the Secretary of the Interior.
16	SEC. 204. PACIFIC ISLANDS PLANT CONSERVATION ASSIST-
17	ANCE.
18	(a) Assistance.—
19	(1) In general.—Subject to the availability of
20	funds and in consultation with other Federal offi-
21	cials, the Secretary of Interior shall provide competi-
22	tive financial assistance, including multiyear grants,
23	for projects for the conservation of plant species on
24	the Pacific Islands for which project proposals are

1	approved by the Secretary in accordance with this
2	section.
3	(2) Use of existing authorities.—Assist-
4	ance provided under this section shall be carried out
5	in a manner consistent with authorities available to
6	the Secretary under the Endangered Species Act of
7	1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).
8	(b) Project Proposals.—
9	(1) Eligible applicants.—A project proposal
10	may be submitted to the Secretary under this section
11	by—
12	(A) a relevant State, territory, or Tribal
13	agency with the research expertise required for
14	the conservation of plant species on the Pacific
15	Islands; and
16	(B) any other individual or entity, as de-
17	termined appropriate by the Secretary, with the
18	expertise required for the conservation of plant
19	species on the Pacific Islands.
20	(2) Federal partnership opportunities.—
21	A Federal agency may not be a lead entity or received
22	funding for a project under this section, but may be
23	included as a partner or collaborator on a project

that receives such funding.

1	(3) Required elements.—A project proposal
2	shall include—
3	(A) a statement of the purposes of the
4	project;
5	(B) the name of the entity or individual
6	with overall responsibility for the project;
7	(C) a description of—
8	(i) the qualifications of the entity or
9	individuals that will conduct the project;
10	(ii) methods for project implementa-
11	tion and outcome assessment;
12	(iii) staffing and stakeholder engage-
13	ment for the project;
14	(iv) the logistics of the project, includ-
15	ing cost estimates and timelines;
16	(v) anticipated outcomes;
17	(vi) mechanisms to ensure adequate
18	local public participation in project devel-
19	opment and implementation; and
20	(vii) how the project will promote sus-
21	tainable, effective, long-term programs to
22	conserve plant populations on the Pacific
23	Islands;

1	(D) demonstrated sensitivity to local his-
2	toric and cultural resources and compliance
3	with applicable laws;
4	(E) assurances that the project will be im-
5	plemented in consultation with relevant wildlife
6	management authorities, Tribes, and other ap-
7	propriate government officials;
8	(F) information that demonstrates the
9	clear potential of the project to contribute to
10	the conservation of threatened and endangered
11	plant species on the Pacific Islands;
12	(G) information regarding the source and
13	amount of matching funding available for the
14	project; and
15	(H) such other information as the Sec-
16	retary may require.
17	(c) Project Review and Approval.—
18	(1) In General.—The Secretary shall annu-
19	ally—
20	(A) not later than 30 days after receiving
21	a project proposal, provide a copy of the pro-
22	posal to other Federal officials, as appropriate;
23	and

1	(B) review each project proposal in a time-
2	ly manner to determine whether the proposal
3	meets the criteria specified in subsection (d).
4	(2) Consultation; Approval or dis-
5	APPROVAL.—Subject to the availability of funds, the
6	Secretary shall, with respect to each project proposal
7	submitted under this section, and after consulting
8	with other Federal officials, as appropriate—
9	(A) consult with respect to the proposal
10	with the government of the State or territory in
11	which such project is to be conducted; and
12	(B) provide written notification of the ap-
13	proval or disapproval to the individual or entity
14	that submitted the proposal, such other Federal
15	officials, and each State described in subpara-
16	graph (A).
17	(d) Criteria for Approval.—
18	(1) In general.—The Secretary may approve
19	a project proposal under this section if the project
20	will help recover and sustain viable populations of
21	threatened and endangered plants by assisting ef-
22	forts on the Pacific Islands to implement plant con-
23	servation programs.
24	(2) Priority.—In selecting projects for assist-
25	ance, the Secretary shall give preference to projects

- that conserve threatened and endangered species protected by the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.).
 - (3) Project sustainability.—To the maximum extent practicable, in determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to conservation projects that are designed to ensure effective, long-term conservation of plants and their ecosystems.
 - (4) MATCHING FUNDS.—In determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects for which matching funds are available.
 - (5) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) if the Secretary finds that such waiver is necessary to support a conservation project that the Secretary has identified as of high priority.

(e) Project Reporting.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each individual or entity that receives assistance under this section for a project shall submit to the Secretary periodic reports (at such intervals as the Secretary may require) that include all information that the Secretary, after consultation with other government officials, determines

1 is necessary to evaluate the progress and success of 2 such project for the purposes of ensuring positive re-3 sults, assessing problems, and fostering improve-4 ments. (2) AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC.—Reports 6 under paragraph (1), and any other documents re-7 lating to projects for which financial assistance is 8 provided under this title, shall be made available to 9 the public in a timely manner. 10 SEC. 205. PACIFIC ISLANDS PLANT CONSERVATION FUND. 11 (a) Establishment.—There is established in the 12 Treasury a separate account, to be known as the "Pacific Islands Plant Conservation Fund", consisting of— 13 14 (1) amounts transferred to the Secretary of the 15 Treasury for deposit into the Fund under subsection 16 (e); 17 (2) amounts appropriated to the Fund under 18 section 206; and 19 (3) any interest earned on investment of 20 amounts in the Fund under subsection (c). 21 (b) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.— 22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), at 23 the request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the 24 Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Sec-

retary, without further appropriation, such amounts

- 1 as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry 2 out section 204.
 - (2) Administrative expenses.—Of the amounts in the account available for each fiscal year, the Secretary may expend not more than 3 percent, or up to \$80,000, whichever is greater, to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this title.

(c) Investment of Amounts.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, required to meet current withdrawals. Investments may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of the United States.
- (2) Acquisition of obligations.—For the purpose of investments under paragraph (1), obligations may be acquired—
 - (A) on original issue at the issue price; or
- (B) by purchase of outstanding obligations at market price.
- (3) Sale of obligations.—Any obligation acquired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury at market price.

1	(4) CREDITS TO FUND.—The interest on, and
2	the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any ob-
3	ligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and
4	form a part of the Fund.
5	(d) Transfers of Amounts.—
6	(1) In general.—The amounts required to be
7	transferred to the Fund under this section shall be
8	transferred at least monthly from the general fund
9	of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of esti-
10	mates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.
11	(2) Adjustments.—Proper adjustment shall
12	be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the
13	extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than
14	the amounts required to be transferred.
15	(e) ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.—
16	(1) In general.—The Secretary may accept
17	for the Government a gift of any of the following to
18	provide assistance under section 204:
19	(A) money;
20	(B) an obligation of the Government in-
21	cluded in the public debt made only on the con-
22	dition that the obligation be canceled and re-
23	tired and not reissued; and
24	(C) other intangible personal property
25	made only on the condition that the property is

1	sold on the best terms available and the pro-
2	ceeds are deposited in the Fund.
3	(2) DISCRETION TO REJECT A GIFT.—The Sec-
4	retary may reject a gift under this section when the
5	rejection is in the interest of the Government.
6	(3) Taxes.—If a gift received under this sub-
7	section is subject to a gift or inheritance tax, the
8	Secretary may pay the tax out of the proceeds of the
9	gift or the proceeds of the redemption or sale of the
10	gift.
11	SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
12	There are authorized to appropriated to the Secretary
13	\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025
14	to carry out this title.
15	SEC. 207. REPORT TO CONGRESS.
16	The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Con-
17	gress not later than January 31 of each year regarding
18	the Fund and the status of threatened and endangered
19	plant species on the Hawaiian Islands. Each such report
20	shall include with respect to the year for which the report
21	is submitted a description of—
22	(1) the total amounts deposited into and ex-
23	pended from the Fund;
24	(2) the costs associated with the administration
25	of the Fund;

1	(3) a summary of the projects for which the
2	Secretary has provided assistance under section 204
3	and an evaluation of those projects; and
4	(4) an evaluation of the status of threatened
5	and endangered plant populations on the Pacific Is-
6	lands.
7	TITLE III—FRESHWATER MUS-
8	SEL CONSERVATION FUND
9	ACT OF 2019
10	SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.
11	This title may be cited as the "Freshwater Mussel
12	Conservation Fund Act of 2019".
13	SEC. 302. PURPOSES.
14	The purpose of this title is to assist in the conserva-
15	tion of threatened and endangered freshwater mussels spe-
16	cies and their habitats in the United States by supporting
17	and providing financial resources for projects to conserve
18	freshwater mussel species, their habitats, and address
19	other threats to the survival of those species.
20	SEC. 303. DEFINITIONS.
21	In this title:
22	(1) Conservation.—The term "conservation"
23	means the use of all methods and procedures nec-
24	essary to protect habitats of freshwater mussel spe-

1	cies in the United State and of the freshwater mus-
2	sel species in those habitats including—
3	(A) protection, restoration, and manage-
4	ment of habitats;
5	(B) onsite research and monitoring of pop-
6	ulations, habitats, annual reproduction, and
7	mussel species population trends;
8	(C) assistance in the development, imple-
9	mentation, and improvement of national and re-
10	gional management plans;
11	(D) enforcement and implementation of
12	applicable conservation laws; and
13	(E) community outreach and education.
14	(2) Fund.—The term "Fund" means the
15	Freshwater Mussel Conservation Fund established
16	by section 305.
17	(3) Freshwater mussels.—The terms
18	"freshwater mussel" and "freshwater mussels"
19	mean any member of the order Unioinida.
20	(4) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
21	the Secretary of the Interior.
22	SEC. 304. FRESHWATER MUSSEL CONSERVATION ASSIST
23	ANCE.
24	(a) In General.—Subject to the availability of
2.5	funds and in consultation with other Federal officials, the

1	Secretary of Interior shall provide competitive financial as-
2	sistance, including multiyear grants, for projects for the
3	conservation of freshwater mussels in the United States
4	for which project proposals are approved by the Secretary
5	in accordance with this section.
6	(b) Use of Existing Authorities.—Assistance
7	provided under this section shall be carried out in a man-
8	ner consistent with authorities available to the Secretary
9	under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
10	1531 et seq.).
11	(c) Project Proposals.—
12	(1) Eligible applicants.—A project proposal
13	may be submitted to the Secretary under this section
14	by—
15	(A) a relevant State and Tribal agency, re-
16	search institution, or nonprofit organization
17	with the expertise required for the conservation
18	of freshwater mussels in the United States; and
19	(B) any other individual or entity, as de-
20	termined appropriate by the Secretary, with the
21	expertise required for the conservation of fresh-
22	water mussels in the United States.
23	(2) Federal partnership opportunities.—
24	A Federal agency may not be a lead entity or receive
25	funding for a project under this section, but may be

1	included as a partner or collaborator on a project
2	that receives such funding.
3	(3) Required elements.—A project proposal
4	shall include—
5	(A) a statement of the purposes of the
6	project;
7	(B) the name of the entity or individual
8	with overall responsibility for the project;
9	(C) a description of—
10	(i) the qualifications of the entity or
11	individuals that will conduct the project;
12	(ii) methods for project implementa-
13	tion and outcome assessment;
14	(iii) staffing and stakeholder engage-
15	ment for the project;
16	(iv) the logistics of the project, includ-
17	ing cost estimates and timelines;
18	(v) anticipated outcomes;
19	(vi) mechanisms to ensure adequate
20	local public participation in project devel-
21	opment and implementation; and
22	(vii) how the project will promote sus-
23	tainable, effective, long-term programs to
24	conserve plant populations on the Pacific
25	Islands;

1	(D) demonstrated sensitivity to local his-
2	toric and cultural resources and compliance
3	with applicable laws;
4	(E) assurances that the project will be im-
5	plemented in consultation with relevant wildlife
6	management authorities, Tribes, and other ap-
7	propriate government officials;
8	(F) information that demonstrates the
9	clear potential of the project to contribute to
10	the conservation of freshwater mussels in the
11	United States;
12	(G) information regarding the source and
13	amount of matching funding available for the
14	project; and
15	(H) such other information as the Sec-
16	retary may require.
17	(d) Project Review and Approval.—
18	(1) In General.—The Secretary shall annu-
19	ally—
20	(A) solicit project proposals for grants
21	under this section;
22	(B) provide to other Federal officials, as
23	appropriate, copies of each proposal submitted
24	in response to the solicitation; and

1	(C) review each such proposal on a
2	timeline that recognizes the urgency of the de-
3	clining number of freshwater mussel species in
4	the United States to determine whether the
5	proposal meets the criteria specified in sub-
6	section (d).
7	(2) Consultation; Approval or dis-
8	APPROVAL.—Subject to the availability of funds, the
9	Secretary shall, with respect to each project proposal
10	submitted under this section, and after consulting
11	with other Federal officials, as appropriate—
12	(A) consult with respect to the proposal
13	with the government of each State and foreign
14	country in which the project is to be conducted;
15	and
16	(B) provide written notification of the ap-
17	proval or disapproval to the individual or entity
18	that submitted the proposal, such other Federal
19	officials, and each State and foreign country de-
20	scribed in subparagraph (A).
21	(e) Criteria for Approval.—
22	(1) In general.—The Secretary may approve
23	a project proposal under this section if the project
24	shows promise for contributing to recovering and

- sustaining freshwater mussel populations in the
 United States in the wild.
- 3 (2) PRIORITY.—In selecting projects for assist-4 ance, the Secretary shall give preference to projects 5 that conserve threatened and endangered species 6 protected by the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 7 1531 et seq.).
 - (3) Project sustainability.—To the maximum extent practicable, in determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to conservation projects that are designed to ensure effective, long-term conservation of freshwater mussels and their habitats.
 - (4) MATCHING FUNDS.—In determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects for which matching funds are available.
 - (5) Waiver.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) with respect to a conservation project if the Secretary finds that such waiver is necessary to support a conservation project that the Secretary has identified as of high priority.
- 25 (f) Project Reporting.—

- (1) In General.—Each individual or entity 1 2 that receives assistance under this section for a 3 project shall submit to the Secretary periodic reports (at such intervals as the Secretary may require) that 5 include all information that the Secretary, after con-6 sultation with other government officials, determines 7 is necessary to evaluate the progress and success of 8 such project for the purposes of ensuring positive re-9 sults, assessing problems, and fostering improve-10 ments.
- 11 (2) AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC.—Reports
 12 under paragraph (1), and any other documents re13 lating to projects for which financial assistance is
 14 provided under this title, shall be made available to
 15 the public in a timely manner.

16 SEC. 305. FRESHWATER MUSSELS CONSERVATION FUND.

- 17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the 18 Treasury a separate account, to be known as the "Fresh-19 water Mussels Conservation Fund", consisting of—
- 20 (1) amounts transferred to the Secretary of the 21 Treasury for deposit into the Fund under subsection 22 (e);
- 23 (2) amounts appropriated to the Fund under 24 section 306; and

1 (3) any interest earned on investment of 2 amounts in the Fund under subsection (c).

(b) Expenditures From Fund.—

- (1) In General.—Subject to paragraph (2), at the request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Secretary, without further appropriation, such amounts as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry out section 304.
- (2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amounts in the account available for each fiscal year, the Secretary may expend not more than 3 percent, or up to \$80,000, whichever is greater, to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this title.

(c) Investment of Amounts.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, required to meet current withdrawals. Investments may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of the United States.
- (2) Acquisition of obligations.—For the purpose of investments under paragraph (1), obligations may be acquired—

1	(A) on original issue at the issue price; or
2	(B) by purchase of outstanding obligations
3	at market price.
4	(3) Sale of obligations.—Any obligation ac-
5	quired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of
6	the Treasury at market price.
7	(4) CREDITS TO FUND.—The interest on, and
8	the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any ob-
9	ligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and
10	form a part of the Fund.
11	(d) Transfers of Amounts.—
12	(1) In general.—The amounts required to be
13	transferred to the Fund under this section shall be
14	transferred at least monthly from the general fund
15	of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of esti-
16	mates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.
17	(2) Adjustments.—Proper adjustment shall
18	be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the
19	extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than
20	the amounts required to be transferred.
21	(e) ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF DONATIONS.—
22	(1) In General.—The Secretary may accept
23	for the Government a gift of any of the following to
24	provide assistance under section 304:
25	(A) money;

- 1 (B) an obligation of the Government in-2 cluded in the public debt made only on the con-3 dition that the obligation be canceled and re-4 tired and not reissued; and
- 6 (C) other intangible personal property
 6 made only on the condition that the property is
 7 sold on the best terms available and the pro8 ceeds are deposited in the Fund.
 - (2) DISCRETION TO REJECT A GIFT.—The Secretary may reject a gift under this section when the rejection is in the interest of the Government.
- 12 (3) Taxes.—If a gift received under this sub13 section is subject to a gift or inheritance tax, the
 14 Secretary may pay the tax out of the proceeds of the
 15 gift or the proceeds of the redemption or sale of the
 16 gift.

17 SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- There are authorized to appropriated to the Secretary \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025 to carry out this title.
- 21 SEC. 307. REPORT TO CONGRESS.
- The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Congress not later than January 31 of each year regarding the Fund and the status of freshwater mussels in the United States. Each such report shall include with respect

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1	to the year for which the report is submitted a description
2	of—
3	(1) the total amounts deposited into and ex-
4	pended from the Fund;
5	(2) the costs associated with the administration
6	of the Fund;
7	(3) a summary of the projects for which the
8	Secretary has provided assistance under section 304
9	and an evaluation of those projects; and
10	(4) an evaluation of the status of threatened
11	and endangered freshwater mussel populations in
12	the United States.
13	TITLE IV—SOUTHWEST DESERT
14	FISH CONSERVATION FUND
1.5	
15	ACT OF 2019
15 16	ACT OF 2019 SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.
16 17	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.
16 17	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish
16 17 18	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund Act of 2019".
16 17 18 19	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund Act of 2019". SEC. 402. PURPOSES.
16 17 18 19 20	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund Act of 2019". SEC. 402. PURPOSES. The purpose of this title is to assist in the conserva-
16 17 18 19 20 21	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund Act of 2019". SEC. 402. PURPOSES. The purpose of this title is to assist in the conservation of threatened and endangered desert fish species and
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the "Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund Act of 2019". SEC. 402. PURPOSES. The purpose of this title is to assist in the conservation of threatened and endangered desert fish species and their habitats in the Southwest United States by sup-

1 SEC. 403. DEFINITIONS.

2	In this title:
3	(1) Conservation.—The term "conservation"
4	means the use of all methods and procedures nec-
5	essary to protect habitats of desert fish species in
6	the Southwest and of the fish species in those habi-
7	tats including—
8	(A) protection, restoration, and manage-
9	ment of habitats;
10	(B) onsite research and monitoring of pop-
11	ulations, habitats, annual reproduction, and
12	desert fish species population trends;
13	(C) assistance in the development, imple-
14	mentation, and improvement of national and re-
15	gional management plans;
16	(D) enforcement and implementation of
17	applicable conservation laws; and
18	(E) community outreach and education.
19	(2) Fund.—The term "Fund" means the
20	Southwest Desert Fish Conservation Fund estab-
21	lished by section 405.
22	(3) Desert fish.—The term "desert fish"
23	means any member of the class Osteichthyes living
24	in a desert ecosystem.

1	(4) Southwest.—The term "Southwest"
2	means the States of Arizona, California, Colorado,
3	Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.
4	(5) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
5	the Secretary of the Interior.
6	SEC. 404. SOUTHWEST DESERT FISH CONSERVATION AS-
7	SISTANCE.
8	(a) Assistance.—
9	(1) In general.—Subject to the availability of
10	funds and in consultation with other Federal offi-
11	cials, the Secretary of Interior (in this title referred
12	to as the "Secretary") shall provide competitive fi-
13	nancial assistance, including multiyear grants, for
14	projects for the conservation of desert fish species in
15	Southwest for which project proposals are approved
16	by the Secretary in accordance with this section.
17	(2) Use of existing authorities.—Assist-
18	ance provided under this section shall be carried out
19	in a manner consistent with authorities available to
20	the Secretary under the Endangered Species Act of
21	1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).
22	(b) Project Proposals.—
23	(1) Eligible applicants.—A project proposal
24	may be submitted to the Secretary under this section
25	by—

1	(A) a relevant State or Tribal agency, re-
2	search institution, or nonprofit organization
3	with expertise required for the conservation of
4	desert fish species in the Southwest; and
5	(B) any other individual or entity, as de-
6	termined appropriate by the Secretary, with the
7	expertise required for the conservation of desert
8	fish species in the Southwest.
9	(2) Federal partnership opportunities.—
10	A Federal agency may not be a lead entity or receive
11	funding for a project under this section, but may be
12	included as a partner or collaborator on a project
13	that receives such funding.
14	(3) Required elements.—A project proposal
15	shall include—
16	(A) a statement of the purposes of the
17	project;
18	(B) the name of the entity or individual
19	with overall responsibility for the project;
20	(C) a description of—
21	(i) the qualifications of the entity or
22	individuals that will conduct the project;
23	(ii) methods for project implementa-
24	tion and outcome assessment;

1	(iii) staffing and stakeholder engage-
2	ment for the project;
3	(iv) the logistics of the project, includ-
4	ing cost estimates and timelines;
5	(v) anticipated outcomes;
6	(vi) mechanisms to ensure adequate
7	local public participation in project devel-
8	opment and implementation; and
9	(vii) how the project will promote sus-
10	tainable, effective, long-term programs to
11	conserve desert fish populations in the
12	Southwest;
13	(D) demonstrated sensitivity to local his-
14	toric and cultural resources and compliance
15	with applicable laws;
16	(E) assurances that the project will be im-
17	plemented in consultation with relevant wildlife
18	management authorities, Tribes, and other ap-
19	propriate government officials;
20	(F) information that demonstrates the
21	clear potential of the project to contribute to
22	the conservation of desert fish populations in
23	the Southwest:

1	(G) information regarding the source and
2	amount of matching funding available for the
3	project; and
4	(H) such other information as the Sec-
5	retary may require.
6	(c) Project Review and Approval.—
7	(1) In General.—The Secretary shall annu-
8	ally—
9	(A) solicit project proposals for grants
10	under this section;
11	(B) provide to other Federal officials, as
12	appropriate, copies of each proposal submitted
13	in response to the solicitation; and
14	(C) review each such proposal on a
15	timeline that recognizes the urgency of the de-
16	clining number of desert fish species in the
17	Southwest to determine whether the proposal
18	meets the criteria specified in subsection (d).
19	(2) Consultation; approval or dis-
20	APPROVAL.—Subject to the availability of funds, the
21	Secretary shall, with respect to each project proposal
22	submitted under this section, and after consulting
23	with other Federal officials, as appropriate—
24	(A) consult with respect to the proposal
25	with the government of each State and foreign

- 1 country in which the project is to be conducted; 2 and
- 3 (B) provide written notification of the ap-4 proval or disapproval to the individual or entity 5 that submitted the proposal, such other Federal 6 officials, and each State and foreign country de-7 scribed in subparagraph (A).
- 8 (d) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—The Secretary may
 9 approve a project proposal under this section if the project
 10 shows promise for contributing to recovering and sus11 taining desert fish populations in the Southwest in the
 12 wild.
- 13 (1) PRIORITY.—In selecting projects for assist14 ance, the Secretary shall give preference to projects
 15 that conserve threatened and endangered species
 16 protected by the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.
 17 1531 et. seq.).
 - (2) Project sustainability.—To the maximum extent practicable, in determining whether to approve project proposals under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to conservation projects that are designed to ensure effective, long-term conservation of desert fish and their habitats.
- 24 (3) MATCHING FUNDS.—In determining wheth-25 er to approve project proposals under this section,

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- the Secretary shall give preference to projects for which matching funds are available.
- 3 (4) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraph (2), (3), and (4) if the Secretary finds that such waiver is necessary to support a conservation project that the Secretary has identified as of high priority.

(e) Project Reporting.—

- (1) In General.—Each individual or entity that receives assistance under this section for a project shall submit to the Secretary periodic reports (at such intervals as the Secretary may require) that include all information that the Secretary, after consultation with other government officials, determines is necessary to evaluate the progress and success of such project for the purposes of ensuring positive results, assessing problems, and fostering improvements.
- (2) AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC.—Reports under paragraph (1), and any other documents relating to projects for which financial assistance is provided under this title, shall be made available to the public in a timely manner.

SEC. 405. SOUTHWEST DESERT FISH CONSERVATION FUND.

- 2 (a) Establishment.—There is established in the
- 3 Treasury a separate account, to be known as the "South-
- 4 west Desert Fish Conservation Fund", consisting of—
- 5 (1) amounts transferred to the Secretary of the
- 6 Treasury for deposit into the Fund under subsection
- $7 \qquad (e);$
- 8 (2) amounts appropriated to the Fund under
- 9 section 406; and
- 10 (3) any interest earned on investment of
- amounts in the Fund under subsection (c).
- 12 (b) Expenditures From Fund.—
- 13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), at
- the request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the
- 15 Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Sec-
- 16 retary, without further appropriation, such amounts
- as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry
- out section 404.
- 19 (2) Administrative expenses.—Of the
- amounts in the account available for each fiscal
- year, the Secretary may expend not more than 3
- percent, or up to \$80,000, whichever is greater, to
- pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry
- out this title.
- (c) Investment of Amounts.—

- 1 (1) In General.—The Secretary of the Treas-2 ury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not, 3 in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, 4 required to meet current withdrawals. Investments 5 may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of 6 the United States. 7 (2) Acquisition of obligations.—For the 8 purpose of investments under paragraph (1), obliga-9 tions may be acquired— 10 (A) on original issue at the issue price; or 11 (B) by purchase of outstanding obligations 12 at market price. 13 (3) Sale of obligations.—Any obligation ac-14 quired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of 15 the Treasury at market price. 16 (4) Credits to fund.—The interest on, and 17 the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any ob-18 ligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and 19 form a part of the Fund. 20 (d) Transfers of Amounts.— 21
 - (1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts required to be transferred to the Fund under this section shall be transferred at least monthly from the general fund of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of estimates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.

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1	(2) Adjustments.—Proper adjustment shall
2	be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the
3	extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than
4	the amounts required to be transferred.
5	(e) Acceptance and Use of Donations.—
6	(1) In General.—The Secretary may accept
7	for the Government a gift of any of the following to
8	provide assistance under section 404:
9	(A) money;
10	(B) an obligation of the Government in-
11	cluded in the public debt made only on the con-
12	dition that the obligation be canceled and re-
13	tired and not reissued; and
14	(C) other intangible personal property
15	made only on the condition that the property is
16	sold on the best terms available and the pro-
17	ceeds are deposited in the Fund.
18	(2) DISCRETION TO REJECT A GIFT.—The Sec-
19	retary may reject a gift under this section when the
20	rejection is in the interest of the Government.
21	(3) Taxes.—If a gift received under this sub-
22	section is subject to a gift or inheritance tax, the
23	Secretary may pay the tax out of the proceeds of the
24	gift or the proceeds of the redemption or sale of the

gift.

1 SEC. 406. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to appropriated to the Secretary
\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025
to carry out this title.
SEC. 407. REPORT TO CONGRESS.
The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Con-
gress not later than January 31 of each year regarding
the Fund and the status of desert fish in the Southwest.
Each such report shall include with respect to the year
for which the report is submitted a description of—
(1) the total amounts deposited into and ex-
pended from the Fund;
(2) the costs associated with the administration
of the Fund;
(3) a summary of the projects for which the
Secretary has provided assistance under section 404
and an evaluation of those projects; and
(4) an evaluation of the status of threatened

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and endangered desert fish populations in the South-

west.

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