

C O N G R E S S W O M A N

Cathy McMorris
RODGERS

PROUDLY REPRESENTING EASTERN WASHINGTON

Lake Roosevelt Cabin Conveyance

H.R. 5861, sponsored by Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers, establishes a process by which the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Service, may convey property in the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (LRNRA) in Eastern Washington to allow cabin owners there to purchase the property on which their cabins are located. Under the current system, cabin owners must renegotiate their leases every five years, which is costly and creates uncertainty that the bill would address.

The bill would allow the current cabin owners on Sherman Creek and Ricky Point along the LRNRA to purchase the land beneath their cabins at fair market value. If the cabin owner declines to purchase the land, it will be auctioned in a competitive bidding process, the proceeds from which will be used to make improvements in the LRNRA. This legislation also enables current cabin owners to retain the value of the improvements they have made on the property over the years if they decide not to purchase that land. Specifically, the bill:

- Establishes the terms and conditions under which the Secretary shall convey, for fair market value, certain federal land in the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.
- Provides permittees of a property with the first option to purchase the property for fair market value.
- Requires the Secretary to offer the property for sale to the general public if the permittee declines to purchase the property.
- Requires revenues from the sale of federal land to be made available for deferred maintenance activities such as trail and river improvements in the LRNRA.
- Requires the property to remain in Federal ownership if it is not able to be sold at fair market value.
- Requires the Secretary to conduct the appraisal in conformance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.