

Schiff_09

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To authorize seasonally flooded working lands habitat conservation agreements.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. _____

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2031, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by Mr. SCHIFF

Viz:

1 In section 2102, in the matter preceding paragraph

2 (1), strike “Section” and insert the following:

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section

4 In section 2102, add at the end the following:

5 (b) SEASONALLY FLOODED WORKINGS LANDS HABI-

6 TAT CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS.—Section 1231A of

7 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831a) is

8 amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-

10 section (g); and

1 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(f) SEASONALLY FLOODED WORKING LANDS HABITAT CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS.—In the case of an
4 agreement entered into under subsection (b)(1) that ad-
5 dresses diminished quantity and quality of wetland wildlife
6 habitats, the Secretary, in consultation with the applicable
7 State technical committee established under section
8 1261(a), may—

10 “(1) enroll other agricultural land on which the
11 conservation concerns identified in the agreement
12 can be addressed if the enrollment of such other ag-
13 ricultural land is critical to the accomplishment of
14 the purposes of the agreement;

15 “(2) if the agreement involves the maintenance
16 of habitat for 1 or more wetland-dependent species
17 on working cropland, permit seasonally flooded agri-
18 cultural uses on such working cropland with the
19 adoption of seasonal flooding and at least 1 best
20 management practice; and

21 “(3) calculate annual rental payments in a
22 manner that—

23 “(A) is comparable with annual costs to
24 maintain other seasonally-flooded wetland wild-
25 life habitats in the region; and

1 “(B) ensures regional consistency in rental
2 payment rates.”.