

SENATE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

1           WHEREAS, in 1959, Senate Resolution No. 33 and House  
2 Resolution No. 19, recognizing the importance of the  
3 extraordinary manifestations of nature and recreational  
4 attributes of the Current and Jacks Fork Riverways, requested  
5 Congress to enact legislation to preserve the natural resources  
6 and provide recreational development and other improvements for  
7 the public use; and

8           WHEREAS, in 1964, Congress answered Missouri's request by  
9 enacting legislation to establish the Ozark National Scenic  
10 Riverways; and

11           WHEREAS, the riverways within the Ozark National Scenic  
12 Riverways are, and remain, public highways of the State of  
13 Missouri, subject to concurrent jurisdiction between the State of  
14 Missouri and the United States under Missouri Senate Bill No. 362  
15 enacted in 1971; and

16           WHEREAS, in 2005, the National Park Service began  
17 researching for the purpose of drafting a new general management  
18 plan for the Ozark National Scenic Riverways; and

19           WHEREAS, the National Park Service is advocating the  
20 "Preferred Alternative" option of the general management plan;  
21 and

22           WHEREAS, the goal of the "Preferred Alternative" option of  
23 the general management plan is to shut down public access points

1 to riverways, eliminate motorized boat traffic from certain  
2 areas, further restrict boat motor horsepower in other areas,  
3 close several gravel bars, and propose that additional areas be  
4 designated as federal wilderness; and

5 WHEREAS, the "No-Action Alternative" option of the general  
6 management plan is an appropriate balance between resource  
7 preservation and opportunities for recreational use; and

8 WHEREAS, the general management plan will guide decisions  
9 related to the Ozark National Scenic Riverways for the next 15 to  
10 20 years; and

11 WHEREAS, tourism is one of the most critical components of  
12 our rural economy; and

13 WHEREAS, thousands of hikers, campers, boaters, hunters,  
14 fishermen, and horseback riders visit these areas annually  
15 generating irreplaceable tax revenue; and

16 WHEREAS, any further limitations on the access to these  
17 riverways would severely impact this local economy;

18 WHEREAS, the Missouri Conservation Commission is charged  
19 with the control, management, restoration, conservation, and  
20 regulation of bird, fish, game, forestry, and all wildlife  
21 resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries,  
22 refuges, reservations, and all other property owned, acquired, or  
23 used for such purposes; and

24 WHEREAS, in September of 2009, the Missouri Department of  
25 Conservation recommended that "hunting, fishing, and trapping  
26 continue to be allowed through the Ozark National Scenic  
27 Riverways except in highly developed areas where a reasonable  
28 safety zone for public protection may be required":

1           NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the  
2 Missouri Senate, Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular  
3 Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby  
4 strongly urge the United States Department of the Interior  
5 National Park Service to pursue one of the following three  
6 options in regard to the Ozark National Scenic Riverways:

7           1. Choose the "No-Action Alternative" option of the general  
8 management plan;

9           2. Enter into negotiations with the State of Missouri,  
10 Department of Conservation for the return of the Ozark National  
11 Scenic Riverways to the State of Missouri so that the land will  
12 continued to be used for its original and intended purpose; or

13           3. Enter into a contract with the State of Missouri,  
14 Department of Conservation for the management, operation, and  
15 maintenance of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways; and

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be  
17 instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this  
18 resolution for the President Pro Tempore of the United States  
19 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of  
20 Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of  
21 the Interior, each member of the Missouri Congressional  
22 Delegation, the Director of the National Park Service, the  
23 Superintendent of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, the  
24 Director of the Missouri Department of Conservation, and Governor  
25 Jay Nixon.