

December 14, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. J. Res. 444, Use of Lands in Sequoia National Park by a power project -- which authorizes the continued use of certain lands within the Sequoia National Park by portions of an existing hydroelectric project.

Under a 1921 law, the use of national park lands for power projects is prohibited without the specific approval of Congress. The hydroelectric power project which is the subject of H. J. Res. 444 was constructed in 1913, however, prior to the enactment of the current restriction.

H. J. Res. 444 will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a permit for the continued operation of those portions of the power project within the Sequoia National Park. The term of the permit will extend for the period of any existing or future licenses granted by the Federal Power Commission for those portions of the project not located within the Park, but in no event, will the term of the permit extend beyond 10 years from the date of its issuance unless specifically authorized by law.

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The President has signed S. 1561 - Rename Mansfield Like Project, Indiana -- which renames the lake created by the Mansfield Lake Project as the "Cecil M. Harden Lake."

Cecil M. Harden served as a Congresswoman from 1949 to 1959. During this period, she co-sponsored legislation authorizing the Mansfield Lake Project and has been in public service for 40 years.

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