

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Steve King today made the following statement regarding \$16.1 million in the Democrats' "stimulus" bill that went to wetlands restoration projects in San Francisco. The taxpayer money went to protect the salt marsh harvest mouse, even after Speaker Nancy Pelosi - who represents San Francisco - publicly stated there would be no earmarks in the stimulus bill.

“Months ago, over the objections of House Republicans, Nancy Pelosi muscled a non-stimulating bill full of liberal pet projects through Congress at a price of over a trillion dollars. We are starting to see what our hard-earned money went towards.

“We are learning about numerous states failing to meet the goals and requirements of the ‘stimulus’ package. Our national unemployment rate is rising, and few, if any, new jobs have been created. Now we learn that Nancy Pelosi’s famous pet project - the salt marsh harvest mouse – got a piece of taxpayer funded cheese after all.

“How many jobs could we have saved if we left these mice alone? This is just the latest example of how Nancy Pelosi’s failed economic philosophy has led to wasteful spending and job losses.”

Note: Two San Francisco wetlands restoration projects received \$16.1 million as part of the stimulus passed by Congress: http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/stories/2009/20090630_restoration.html