

KEY LEGISLATION IN OMNIBUS PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009

California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act

The legislation proposes to designate over 190,000 acres of Wilderness including spectacular desert landscapes in Joshua Tree National Park and the rugged slopes of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. The bill would also designate 31 miles of Wild and Scenic River, providing new recreation opportunities for southern California residents. Background on the bill, including a description of areas and maps, is located at: http://www.desertmountainwild.org/lands_rivers.html.

Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act – California

This legislation would permanently protect more than 470,000 acres of Wilderness from the glacial valleys and alpine lakes of the High Sierra to the breathtaking White Mountains, home to the world's oldest trees, the bristlecone pine. The bill would also protect 52 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, including the stunning desert oasis of the Amargosa River. A factsheet on the legislation is located at: <http://easternsierrawild.org/>.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Wilderness Act –California

This bill would designate 90,000 acres of Wilderness within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, and would protect the redwood Mountain Grove, which is the largest stand of Giant Sequoia trees in the park. A copy of the legislation is located at: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h3022rs.txt.pdf.

Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area and Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area Act – Colorado

This legislation would create a 210,000-acre National Conservation Area and 66,000-acre wilderness in the beautiful red rock cliffs of western Colorado. The bill would preserve ancient petroglyphs and dwellings, flower-strewn meadows, outstanding habitat for desert bighorn sheep, and scenic streams replete with waterfalls and plunge pools. For background, see: <http://www.ourcolorado.org/what-we-do/wilderness/wilderness-area-proposals/ccwcp/greater-dominguez.html>.

Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness and Indian Peaks Wilderness Expansion Act - Colorado

Rocky Mountain National Park provides world-class hiking and climbing, and breathtaking views of the Rocky Mountains, while also supporting the economies of several gateway communities. This legislation would protect nearly 250,000 acres of Wilderness within the park, finally implementing a recommendation by the National Park Service made in the early 1970s. For more information, see: <http://wilderness.org/files/RockyMtnNationalParkWildernessAct.pdf>.

Owyhee Public Lands Management Act of 2007 – Idaho

The result of years of discussion, this home-grown consensus-driven legislation would protect over a half-million acres of Wilderness and protect nearly 315 miles of rivers in scenic southwest Idaho. Supported by a broad range of interests, this bill would protect some of Idaho's most ecologically significant high desert country, along with the spectacular Owyhee River. Background, factsheets, and other materials located at: http://www.crapo.senate.gov/issues/owyhee_initiative.cfm.

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Voluntary and Equitable Grazing Conflict Resolution Act – Oregon

This legislation would protect over 23,000 acres of ancient forests and lush wildflower-strewn meadows as Wilderness within the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument in southern Oregon. The bill would protect the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and provide for the voluntary relinquishment of grazing permits in this ecologically valuable wildlife sanctuary. For more information, see: http://www.oregonwild.org/wilderness/soda_mountain_wilderness.

Copper Salmon Wilderness Act – Oregon

This legislation would protect over 13,000 acres of old growth and cedar forests in central Oregon. The proposed Wilderness would care for the headwaters of the Elk River, which is one of the most productive salmon fisheries on the west coast. For more information, see: http://www.oregonwild.org/wilderness/copper_salmon_wilderness or <http://www.foer.org/htmls/cswcampaign1.htm>.

Lewis and Clark Mt. Hood Wilderness Act of 2007 – Oregon

This legislation would designate over 130,000 acres of wilderness and nearly 80 miles of Oregon rivers as Wild and Scenic. The bill would protect one of Oregon's most scenic natural landmarks, towering Mt. Hood, along with its lush ancient forests and free flowing rivers. Background, fact sheets, and maps are located at: http://www.oregonwild.org/wilderness/mount_hood_wilderness_campaign.

Oregon Badlands Wilderness Act

This legislation would designate 30,000 acres of high desert Wilderness in central Oregon, containing numerous Native American pictographs, ancient juniper pines, and stunning lava flows. Background information, photos, maps, and more is located at: <http://www.onda.org/defending-desert-wilderness/badlands-proposed-wilderness>.

Spring Basin Wilderness Act – Oregon

This legislation would designate 8,600 acres of Wilderness in the watershed of the Wild and Scenic John Day River in central Oregon. With verdant wildflower displays each spring, and excellent hiking trails, Spring Basin is a unique ecological and recreational treasure. Background materials are located at: <http://www.onda.org/defending-desert-wilderness/spring-basin-proposed-wilderness>.

Sabinoso Wilderness Act – New Mexico

This legislation would designate 16,000 acres of rugged canyon country in northern New Mexico as Wilderness. Colorful sandstone cliffs, pinyon-juniper forests, and steep canyons replete with groves of cottonwood and willow trees characterize this iconic southwest landscape. For more information, see: <http://www.nmwild.org/campaigns/sabinoso>.

Wild Monongahela Act – West Virginia

This legislation would add over 37,000 acres of Wilderness in West Virginia's Monongahela National Forest. These protections would extend to some of West Virginia's best trout streams, lush forests of mountain ash, red spruce, and eastern hemlock, and popular whitewater rafting runs. For background information, see: <http://www.wvwild.org/> or <http://www.wilderness.org/Library/Documents/WVwildmountaintreasure.cfm>.

Virginia Ridge and Valley Act

This legislation would designate nearly 40,000 acres of Wilderness and establish new National Scenic Areas in the Jefferson National Forest of Virginia. The bill will protect the diverse forests of tulip, sugar maple, scarlet oak, and white ash trees, as well as free-flowing rivers and a segment of the Appalachian Trail. More information, including testimonials from supporters and a description of areas, is located at: <http://www.viriniawilderness.org/index.shtml>.

Beaver Basin Wilderness- Michigan

This legislation would designate over 11,000 acres of Wilderness within the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore along Lake Superior. Pictured Rocks features sandstone cliffs, lovely beaches, waterfalls, and sand dunes all with the spectacular backdrop of Lake Superior. Information on Pictured Rocks is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/piro/>. A copy of the legislation can be found at: <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

National Landscape Conservation System Act

This simple legislation would codify the National Landscape Conservation System, comprised of 26 million acres of the crown jewels administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The Conservation System is focused on preserving intact Western landscapes with historical antiquities in their original settings. For background information, see: www.conservationssystem.org.

Wyoming Range Legacy Act

This legislation would withdraw from oil and gas leasing over 1.2 million acres of breathtaking, wild landscapes in the Wyoming Range of western Wyoming's Bridger-Teton National Forest. The iconic Wyoming Range features world-class hunting, strongholds for cutthroat trout, and half of Wyoming's moose populations, all of which would be threatened by extensive oil and gas drilling. For more information, see: <http://wyomingrange.org/issues/legacy.php>.

Washington County Growth and Conservation Act – Utah

This legislation would designate over 235,000 acres of wilderness in and around Zion National Park in southern Utah. The legislation would also establish two new national conservation areas and would create several new wild and scenic rivers. Utah's scenic red rock country is a land of stark beauty renowned worldwide. This bill would preserve important elements of this iconic landscape. The 2008 version of the legislation can be found through: <http://thomas.loc.gov/>.

Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuge and Wilderness Enhancement Act

This legislation would allow for an unnecessary and ecologically harmful road to be built through fragile, internationally important wetlands Wilderness habitat in the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge is of critical importance to hundreds of thousands of the world's migratory birds. This provision has no place in a lands bill focused on protecting America's natural resources. For more information, see: http://wilderness.org/files/izembek_road_quantity.pdf.