

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 1414

To provide for the conduct of a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Trail of the Ancients National Heritage Area in the Four Corners region of the States of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 15, 2005

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To provide for the conduct of a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Trail of the Ancients National Heritage Area in the Four Corners region of the States of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Trail of the Ancients  
5       National Heritage Area Study Act of 2005”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

1           (1) the Four Corners region, 1 of the areas of  
2           greatest archaeological interest in the United States,  
3           provides access to numerous examples of the Ancestral Puebloan culture;  
4

5           (2) the Four Corners region highlights areas  
6           and sites at which—

7                   (A) the earliest inhabitants were Paleo-  
8                   Americans, nomadic people who traveled  
9                   through and lived in the area as early as  
10                  10,000 B.C.; and

11                   (B) the Ancestral Puebloan Indians lived  
12                  from approximately 1 to 1300 A.D.;

13           (3) the region features sites that chronicle the  
14           Ute and Navajo Indian cultures;

15           (4) the archaeological sites of the region have  
16           been well-preserved by the semi-arid climate of the  
17           region;

18           (5) national and international recognition of  
19           sites in the region has contributed to the wealth of  
20           information about the people who have inhabited the  
21           area;

22           (6) the region features the Trail of the Ancients  
23           Scenic Byway in the States of Arizona, Colorado,  
24           New Mexico, and Utah, and other designated byways  
25           and highways, including San Juan Skyway in the

1 State of Colorado and the Utah Bicentennial High-  
2 way; and

3 (7) designating the Trail of the Ancients Na-  
4 tional Heritage Area as a unit of the National Park  
5 System—

6 (A) would link many of the cultural and  
7 recreation sites in the region for the benefit of  
8 the traveling public and communities in the re-  
9 gion; and

10 (B) would not—

11 (i) impose restrictions on private  
12 property; or

13 (ii) require acquisition of additional  
14 land.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage  
18 Area” means the Trail of the Ancients National  
19 Heritage Area.

20 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
21 the Secretary of the Interior.

22 (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
23 the States of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and  
24 Utah.

1           (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”  
2 means the Four Corner region, consisting of—

3           (A) portions of—

4                 (i) San Juan County, Utah;

5                 (ii) Montezuma and Dolores Counties,  
6 Colorado;

7                 (iii) Apache and Navajo Counties, Ari-  
8 zona; and

9                 (iv) San Juan and McKinley Counties,  
10 New Mexico; and

11           (B) portions of the reservations of the Ute  
12 Mountain Ute, Navajo, and Hopi Tribes, in the  
13 States.

14 **SEC. 4. TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS NATIONAL HERITAGE**  
15 **AREA STUDY.**

16           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation  
17 with the Four Corners Heritage Council, shall conduct a  
18 study to assess the feasibility and suitability of desig-  
19 nating the study area as the Trail of the Ancients National  
20 Heritage Area.

21           (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-  
22 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether—

23                 (1) the study area—

1 (A) has an assemblage of natural, historic,  
2 cultural, educational, scenic, or recreational re-  
3 sources that—

4 (i) represent distinctive aspects of the  
5 heritage of the United States worthy of  
6 recognition, conservation, interpretation,  
7 and continuing use; and

8 (ii) are best managed—

9 (I) through partnerships among  
10 public and private entities; and

11 (II) by combining diverse and  
12 sometimes noncontiguous resources  
13 and active communities;

14 (B) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs,  
15 and folklife that are a valuable part of the her-  
16 itage of the United States;

17 (C) provides outstanding opportunities to  
18 conserve natural, historical, cultural, or scenic  
19 features;

20 (D) provides outstanding recreational and  
21 educational opportunities; and

22 (E) has resources important to any identi-  
23 fied theme of the study area that retain a de-  
24 gree of integrity capable of supporting interpre-  
25 tation;

1           (2) residents, business interests, nonprofit orga-  
2           nizations, the Federal Government, and State, local,  
3           and tribal governments within the study area—

4                   (A) are involved in the planning of the  
5           Heritage Area;

6                   (B) have demonstrated support for the  
7           Heritage Area; and

8                   (C) have developed a conceptual financial  
9           plan that outlines the roles of all participants  
10          (including the Federal Government) in the  
11          management of the Heritage Area;

12          (3) there is a potential management entity to  
13          work in partnership with residents, business inter-  
14          ests, nonprofit organizations, and Federal, State,  
15          local, and tribal governments within the study area  
16          to develop the Heritage Area consistent with contin-  
17          ued, State, local, and tribal economic activity; and

18          (4) a conceptual boundary map has been devel-  
19          oped that is supported by the public.

20          (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the  
21          Secretary and the Four Corners Heritage Council shall  
22          consult with appropriate Federal, State, local, and tribal  
23          governments, interested organizations, and affected com-  
24          munities within the study area.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

2 Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which  
3 funds are made available to carry out the study, the Sec-  
4 retary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
5 ural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Re-  
6 sources of the House of Representatives a report that de-  
7 scribes the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of  
8 the study.

9 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
11 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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