

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 277

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2007

Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

AN ACT

To modify the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park to include certain land within the GT Park Subdivision, and for other purposes.

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 “Grand Teton National
5 Park Extension Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Grand
4 Teton National Park.

5 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of the Interior.

7 (3) SUBDIVISION.—The term “Subdivision”
8 means the GT Park Subdivision, with an area of ap-
9 proximately 49.67 acres, as generally depicted on—

10 (A) the plat recorded in the Office of the
11 Teton County Clerk and Recorder on December
12 16, 1997, numbered 918, entitled “Final Plat
13 GT Park Subdivision”, and dated June 18,
14 1997; and

15 (B) the map entitled “2006 Proposed
16 Grand Teton Boundary Adjustment”, numbered
17 136/80,198, and dated March 21, 2006, which
18 shall be on file and available for inspection in
19 appropriate offices of the National Park Serv-
20 ice.

21 **SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF LAND.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may accept from
23 any willing donor the donation of any land or interest in
24 land of the Subdivision.

25 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—On acquisition of land or an
26 interest in land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

1 (1) include the land or interest in the bound-
2 aries of the Park; and

3 (2) administer the land or interest as part of
4 the Park, in accordance with all applicable laws (in-
5 cluding regulations).

6 (c) DEADLINE FOR ACQUISITION.—It is the intent of
7 Congress that the acquisition of land or an interest in land
8 under subsection (a) be completed not later than 1 year
9 after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 (d) RESTRICTION ON TRANSFER.—The Secretary
11 shall not donate, sell, exchange, or otherwise transfer any
12 land acquired under this section without express author-
13 ization from Congress.

14 **SEC. 4. CRAIG THOMAS DISCOVERY AND VISITOR CENTER.**

15 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

16 (1) Craig Thomas was raised on a ranch just
17 outside of Cody, Wyoming, near Yellowstone Na-
18 tional Park and Grand Teton National Park, where
19 he—

20 (A) began a lifelong association with those
21 parks; and

22 (B) developed a deep and abiding dedica-
23 tion to the values of the public land of the
24 United States;

1 (2) during his 18-year tenure in Congress, in-
2 cluding service in both the Senate and the House of
3 Representatives, Craig Thomas forged a distin-
4 guished legislative record on issues as diverse as
5 public land management, agriculture, fiscal responsi-
6 bility, and rural health care;

7 (3) as Chairman and Ranking Member of the
8 National Parks Subcommittee of the Committee on
9 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and a
10 frequent visitor to many units of the National Park
11 System, including Yellowstone National Park and
12 Grand Teton National Park, Craig Thomas was a
13 strong proponent for ensuring that people of all ages
14 and abilities had a wide range of opportunities to
15 learn more about the natural and cultural heritage
16 of the United States;

17 (4) Craig Thomas authored legislation to pro-
18 vide critical funding and management reforms to
19 protect units of the National Park System into the
20 21st century, ensuring quality visits to units of the
21 National Park System and the protection of natural
22 and cultural resources;

23 (5) Craig Thomas strongly supported public-
24 private partnerships and collaboration between the
25 National Park Service and other organizations that

1 foster new opportunities for providing visitor services
2 while encouraging greater citizen involvement in the
3 stewardship of units of the National Park System;

4 (6) Craig Thomas was instrumental in obtain-
5 ing the Federal share for a public-private partner-
6 ship with the Grand Teton National Park Founda-
7 tion and the Grand Teton Natural History Associa-
8 tion to construct a new discovery and visitor center
9 at Grand Teton National Park;

10 (7) on June 4, 2007, Craig Thomas passed
11 away after battling cancer for 7 months;

12 (8) Craig Thomas is survived by his wife,
13 Susan, and children, Patrick, Greg, Peter, and
14 Lexie; and

15 (9) in memory of the distinguished career of
16 service of Craig Thomas to the people of the United
17 States, the dedication of Craig Thomas to units of
18 the National Park System, generally, and to Grand
19 Teton National Park, specifically, and the critical
20 role of Craig Thomas in the new discovery and vis-
21 itor center at Grand Teton National Park, the
22 Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center should be
23 designated as the “Craig Thomas Discovery and Vis-
24 itor Center”.

1 (b) THE CRAIG THOMAS DISCOVERY AND VISITOR
2 CENTER.—

3 (1) DESIGNATION.—The Grand Teton Dis-
4 covery and Visitor Center located in Moose, Wyo-
5 ming, and scheduled for completion in August 2007
6 shall be known and designated as the “Craig Thom-
7 as Discovery and Visitor Center”.

8 (2) REFERENCE.—Any reference in a law, map,
9 regulation, document, paper, or other record of the
10 United States to the Grand Teton Discovery and
11 Visitor Center referred to in paragraph (1) shall be
12 deemed to be a reference to the “Craig Thomas Dis-
13 covery and Visitor Center”.

14 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
16 retary such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

Passed the Senate June 19, 2007.

Attest:

NANCY ERICKSON,

Secretary.