

Calendar No. 990110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 2943**

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2008

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]**A BILL**

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail.

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 “Pacific Northwest Na-
5 tional Scenic Trail Act of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) in accordance with section 5(c)(22) of the
4 National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C.
5 1244(c)(22)); a feasibility study of the proposed Pa-
6 cific Northwest Trail was—

7 (A) conducted by the Director of the Na-
8 tional Park Service and the Chief of the Forest
9 Service; and

10 (B) completed in June 1980;

11 (2) the feasibility study contained—

12 (A) a conclusion that the Pacific North-
13 west Trail “would have the scenic and rec-
14 reational qualities needed for designation as a
15 National Scenic Trail”; but

16 (B) a recommendation against the designa-
17 tion of the Pacific Northwest Trail, citing as
18 obstacles factors that are present in every other
19 national scenic trail that has been designated
20 under the National Trails System Act (16
21 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.);

22 (3) undaunted, the founder of the Pacific
23 Northwest Trail and many supporters—

24 (A) moved forward with the creation of the
25 Pacific Northwest Trail; and

1 (B) established a private volunteer organi-
2 zation to build, maintain, and promote the Pa-
3 cific Northwest Trail;

4 (4) similar to each other national scenic trail
5 designated under the National Trails System Act
6 (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.); the Pacific Northwest
7 Trail stands as an outstanding example of the rec-
8 reational opportunities that can be provided through
9 a partnership among the Federal Government, State
10 and local governments, private nonprofit trail orga-
11 nizations, individual volunteers, and landowners;

12 (5) today, approximately 950 miles of the Pa-
13 cific Northwest Trail are completed and provide sig-
14 nificant outdoor recreational experiences to citizens
15 and visitors of the United States, thus providing on-
16 the-ground proof of the feasibility and desirability of
17 designating the Pacific Northwest Trail as national
18 scenic trail, as required under section 5(b) of the
19 National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(b));

20 (6) 3 segments of the Pacific Northwest Trail
21 have already been designated by Congress as na-
22 tional recreation trails; and

23 (7) because the entire route of the Pacific
24 Northwest Trail was found to qualify for designation
25 as a national scenic trail, Congress should—

1 (A) designate the entire Pacific Northwest
2 Trail as a national scenic trail; and

3 (B) provide administrative, technical, and
4 financial assistance in accordance with the Na-
5 tional Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 et
6 seq.).

7 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL**
8 **SCENIC TRAIL.**

9 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL**
10 **SCENIC TRAIL.**

11 Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16
12 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(26) PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL SCENIC
15 TRAIL.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Pacific Northwest
17 National Scenic Trail, a trail of approximately
18 1,200 miles, extending from the Continental Di-
19 vide in Glacier National Park, Montana, to the
20 Pacific Ocean Coast in Olympic National Park,
21 Washington, following the route depicted on the
22 map entitled ‘Pacific Northwest National Scenic
23 Trail: Proposed Trail’, numbered T12/80,000,
24 and dated February 2008 (referred to in this
25 paragraph as the ‘map’).

1 “(B) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map
2 shall be on file and available for public inspec-
3 tion in the appropriate offices of the ~~National~~
4 ~~Park Service~~ *Forest Service*.

5 “(C) ADMINISTRATION.—The Pacific
6 Northwest National Scenic Trail shall be ad-
7 ministered by the ~~Secretary of the Interior~~ *Sec-*
8 *retary of Agriculture*.

9 “(D) LAND ACQUISITION.—The United
10 States shall not acquire for the Pacific North-
11 west National Scenic Trail any land or interest
12 in land outside the exterior boundary of any
13 federally-managed area without the consent of
14 the owner of the land or interest in land.”.

Calendar No. 990

110TH CONGRESS
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