

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3616

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bear River National
3 Heritage Area Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage
7 Area” means the Bear River National Heritage
8 Area.

9 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11 (3) STATES.—The term “States” means the
12 States of Utah and Idaho.

13 (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
14 means—

15 (A) areas in the States that are within the
16 main drainage area of the Bear River;

17 (B) all of Cache, Box Elder, and Rich
18 Counties in the State of Utah, and Bear Lake,
19 Caribou, Franklin, and Oneida Counties in the
20 State of Idaho;

21 (C) the following communities in Utah:
22 Bear River, Brigham City, Corinne, Deweyville,
23 Elwood, Fielding, Garland, Honeyville, Howell,
24 Mantua, Perry, Plymouth, Portage, Snowville,
25 Tremonton, Willard, Amalga, Clarkston, Cor-
26 nish, Hyde Park, Hyrum, Lewiston, Logan,

1 Mendon, Millville, Newton, Nibley, North
2 Logan, Paradise, Providence, Richmond, River
3 Heights, Smithfield, Trenton, Wellsville, Garden
4 City, Laketown, Randolph, and Woodruff;

5 (D) the following communities in Idaho:
6 Malad, Clifton, Dayton, Franklin, Preston, Ox-
7 ford, Weston, Bancroft, Soda Springs, Grace,
8 Bloomington, Paris, Georgetown, Montpelier,
9 and St. Charles; and

10 (E) any other areas in the States that—

11 (i) have heritage aspects that are
12 similar to the areas described in subpara-
13 graphs (A), (B), (C), or (D); and

14 (ii) are adjacent to, or in the vicinity
15 of, those areas.

16 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
18 with State and local organizations and governmental agen-
19 cies, Tribal governments, non-profit organizations, and
20 other appropriate entities, shall conduct a study to assess
21 the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area
22 as a National Heritage Area, to be known as the “Bear
23 River National Heritage Area”.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-
2 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the
3 study area—

4 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
5 cultural resources that—

6 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the
7 people and cultures of the United States;

8 (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-
9 tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

10 (C) would be best managed—

11 (i) through partnerships among public
12 and private entities; and

13 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes
14 noncontiguous resources and active com-
15 munities;

16 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
17 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the
18 United States;

19 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

20 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,
21 or scenic features; and

22 (B) for recreation and education;

23 (4) contains resources that—

24 (A) are important to any identified themes
25 of the study area; and

1 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of
2 supporting interpretation;

3 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-
4 profit organizations, and State, local, and Tribal
5 governments, and other appropriate entities that—

6 (A) are involved in the planning of the
7 Heritage Area;

8 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
9 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in
10 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-
11 ernment; and

12 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-
13 ignation of the Heritage Area;

14 (6) has a potential management entity to work
15 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-
16 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage
17 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-
18 tivity;

19 (7) could impact the rights of private property
20 owners with respect to their private property; and

21 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
22 ported by the public.

23 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

24 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
25 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-

1 retary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-
2 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
3 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
4 a report that describes—

5 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;

6 and

7 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
8 Secretary.

 Passed the House of Representatives November 2,
2021.

Attest:

Clerk.

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