

Public Law 99-504
99th Congress

An Act

Oct. 20, 1986
[S. 816]

To establish the Pine Ridge National Recreation Area and Soldier Creek Wilderness in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 1. That this Act may be cited as the "Nebraska Wilderness Act of 1985".

TITLE I—WILDERNESS

SEC. 101. In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act of 1964, certain lands in the Nebraska National Forest, which comprise approximately eight thousand one hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Soldier Creek Wilderness—Proposed", dated February 1985, are hereby designated wilderness and, therefore, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and shall be known as the Soldier Creek Wilderness.

ADMINISTRATION OF WILDERNESS

SEC. 102. (a) Subject to valid existing rights and the provisions of subsection (b), the wilderness area designated under section 101 shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

(b) In the administration of the wilderness in the State of Nebraska—

(1) grazing of livestock in wilderness areas established by this Act, if established prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, shall be administered in accordance with section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness Act and section 108 of Public Law 96-560; and

(2) the Secretary is directed to review all policies, practices, and regulations of the Department of Agriculture regarding livestock grazing in national forest wilderness areas in Nebraska in order to insure that such policies, practices, and regulations fully conform with and implement the intent of Congress regarding grazing in such areas, as such intent is expressed in this Act.

MAPS AND DESCRIPTIONS

SEC. 103. As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a map and legal description of the wilderness area designated by section 101 to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of

Nebraska
Wilderness
Act of 1985.
National
Wilderness
Preservation
System.
National Forest
System.
Conservation.
16 USC 1132
note.
16 USC 1131
note.

Animals.

16 USC 1133 and
note.

the House of Representatives. Such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that any clerical or typographical error in such map or legal description may be corrected. The Secretary shall place such map and legal description on file, and make them available for public inspection, in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Public
information.

WILDERNESS REVIEW CONCERNS

SEC. 104. (a) The Congress finds that—

Environmental
protection.

(1) the Department of Agriculture has completed the second roadless area review and evaluation program (RARE II); and

(2) the Congress has made its own review and examination of National Forest System roadless areas in the State of Nebraska and of the environmental impacts associated with alternative allocations of such areas.

(b) On the basis of such review, the Congress hereby determines and directs that—

(1) without passing on the question of the legal and factual sufficiency of the RARE II final environmental statement (dated January 1979) with respect to National Forest System lands in States other than Nebraska, such statement shall not be subject to judicial review with respect to National Forest System lands in the State of Nebraska;

(2) with respect to the National Forest System lands in the State of Nebraska, which were reviewed by the Department of Agriculture in the second roadless area review and evaluation (RARE II), that review and evaluation shall be deemed for the purposes of the initial land management plans required for such lands by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, to be an adequate consideration of the suitability of such lands for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Department of Agriculture shall not be required to review the wilderness option prior to the revisions of the plans, but shall review the wilderness option when the plans are revised, which revisions will ordinarily occur on a ten-year cycle, or at least every fifteen years, unless, prior to such time the Secretary of Agriculture finds that conditions in a unit have significantly changed;

16 USC 1600
note.

(3) areas in the State of Nebraska reviewed in such final environmental statement and not designated wilderness upon enactment of this Act shall be managed for multiple use in accordance with land management plans pursuant to section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976: *Provided*, That such areas need not be managed for the purpose of protecting their suitability for wilderness designation prior to or during revision of the initial land management plans;

16 USC 1604.

(4) in the event that revised land management plans in the State of Nebraska are implemented pursuant to section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and other applicable law, areas not recommended for wilderness designation need not be managed for the purpose of

16 USC 1600
note.

protecting their suitability for wilderness designation prior to or during revision of such plans, and areas recommended for wilderness designation shall be managed for the purpose of protecting their suitability for wilderness designation as may be required by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and other applicable law; and

(5) unless expressly authorized by Congress, the Department of Agriculture shall not conduct any further statewide roadless area review and evaluation of National Forest System lands in the State of Nebraska for the purpose of determining their suitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

16 USC 1604.

(c) As used in this section, and as provided in section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, the term "revision" shall not include an "amendment" to a plan.

TITLE II—PINE RIDGE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

DESIGNATION OF PINE RIDGE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

16 USC 460rr.

SEC. 201. Certain lands in the Nebraska National Forest, Nebraska, which comprise approximately six thousand six hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Pine Ridge National Recreation Area—Proposed", dated September 1986, are hereby designated as the Pine Ridge National Recreation Area.

MAP AND DESCRIPTION

16 USC 460rr-1.

SEC. 202. As soon as practicable after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and legal description of the national recreation area designated by this title with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture of the United States House of Representatives and with the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate. Such map and description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this title, except that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such map and description may be made by the Secretary. Such map and description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Public
information.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

16 USC 460rr-2.

SEC. 203. (a) Subject to valid existing rights, the Pine Ridge National Recreation Area designated by this title shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the national forests in a manner compatible with the following objectives:

- (1) the continuation of existing primitive and semiprimitive recreational use in a natural environment;
- (2) preservation and protection of forest, aquatic and grassland habitat;
- (3) protection and conservation of special areas having uncommon or outstanding wilderness, biological, geological, recreational, cultural, historical or archeological, and scientific, or other values contributing to the public benefit;

- (4) the continuation of existing livestock grazing uses; Animals.
- (5) the control of noxious weeds and insects and prevention of their spreading onto the nearby private and Federal lands; and
- (6) the control of fires and prevention of their spreading onto nearby private and Federal lands.
- (b) The Secretary shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with local and State firefighting agencies and individuals to assure the best utilization of the firefighting resources available in the nearby communities for control of fire in the national recreation area. Contracts.
State and local governments.
- (c) The Secretary shall permit hunting, fishing, and trapping on lands and waters under the Secretary's jurisdiction within the boundaries of the national recreation area designated by this title in accordance with applicable laws of the United States and the State of Nebraska. Hunting.
Fish and fishing.
Trapping.
- (d) Subject to valid existing rights, all Federal lands within the national recreation area are hereby withdrawn from location, entry, and patent under the United States mining laws, and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing and all amendments thereto. Minerals and mining.
- (e) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the State of Nebraska with respect to wildlife and fish in the national recreation area. Fish and fishing.
- (f) Within eighteen months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and submit to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture of the United States House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate a comprehensive management plan for the national recreation area designated by this title.
- (g) In conducting the reviews and preparing the comprehensive management plan required by subsection (d), the Secretary shall provide for full public participation, and shall consider the views of all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.

Approved October 20, 1986.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 816:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 99-854, Pt. 1 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 99-122 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):

Aug. 1, considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 23, considered and passed House, amended.

Oct. 3, Senate concurred in House amendments.