

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3102

To utilize the expertise of New Mexico State University, the University of Arizona, and Northern Arizona University in conducting studies under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in connection with the grazing allotments and range and continuing range analysis for National Forest System lands in New Mexico and Arizona, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2003

Mr. PEARCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To utilize the expertise of New Mexico State University, the University of Arizona, and Northern Arizona University in conducting studies under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in connection with the grazing allotments and range and continuing range analysis for National Forest System lands in New Mexico and Arizona, 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. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR STUDIES RE-**  
2 **LATED TO FOREST SERVICE GRAZING ALLOT-**  
3 **MENTS, NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA.**

4 (a) USE OF STATE COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS.—

5 (1) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Sec-  
6 retary of Agriculture shall enter into a cooperative  
7 agreement with the State cooperative institutions  
8 specified in paragraph (2) to use such institutions to  
9 conduct all studies required by the National Envi-  
10 ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4331 et  
11 seq.) and perform related activities in connection  
12 with the 10-year plan of the Forest Service grazing  
13 allotments for National Forest System lands in New  
14 Mexico and Arizona.

15 (2) COVERED INSTITUTIONS.—The State coop-  
16 erative institutions referred to in paragraph (1) are  
17 New Mexico State University, the University of Ari-  
18 zona, and Northern Arizona University.

19 (b) COVERED STUDIES.—The studies and related ac-  
20 tivities referred to in subsection (a) shall include at a min-  
21 imum the following:

22 (1) Range studies.

23 (2) Human dimension studies.

24 (3) Economic impact studies.

25 (4) Cumulative effects shown in all studies.

1           (5) Involvement in the planning and imple-  
2           menting of the 10-year plan.

3           (6) Water quality studies.

4           (c) RANGE ANALYSIS.—The Secretary shall also uti-  
5           lize the State cooperative institutions specified in sub-  
6           section (a)(2) to perform all range and continuing range  
7           analysis for National Forest System lands in New Mexico  
8           and Arizona, including the following activities:

9           (1) Monitoring, including the conduct of vegeta-  
10          tive monitoring to determine long-term conditions  
11          and trends, as consistent with the Public Range-  
12          lands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et  
13          seq.), Federal Land Policy and Management Act of  
14          1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and the Forest and  
15          Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of  
16          1974 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.).

17          (2) Involvement in consultation required by sec-  
18          tion 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16  
19          U.S.C. 1536).

20          (3) Involvement in the planning and implemen-  
21          tation of annual operating plans.

22          (d) RELATION TO ESA CONSULTATION REQUIRE-  
23          MENT.—The United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall  
24          assign an employee to serve as a member of the NEPA  
25          study team. Assignment of this employee shall be deemed

1 to satisfy the consultation requirements of section 7 of the  
2 Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536).

3 (e) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appro-  
4 priated to the Secretary \$10,000,000 to carry out this sec-  
5 tion. The Secretary may also utilize savings realized by  
6 reduction in Forest Service costs due to competitive  
7 outsourcing, as proposed by Office of Management and  
8 Budget Circular A-76.

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