

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 277

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct an education and administrative center at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Box Elder County, Utah.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 4, 2003

Mr. BENNETT introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Committee discharged; referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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# A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct an education and administrative center at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Box Elder County, Utah.

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

**3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Bear River Migratory  
5 Bird Refuge Visitor Center Act”.

**6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Bear River marshes have been a histor-  
2 ical waterfowl oasis and an important inland water-  
3 fowl flyway for thousands of years.

4 (2) Congress created the Bear River Migratory  
5 Bird Refuge as one of the first National Wildlife  
6 Refuges, for the purpose of protecting waterfowl  
7 habitat and migratory birds, educating the public re-  
8 garding, and enhancing public appreciation of, wa-  
9 terfowl habitat and migratory birds.

10 (3) The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge was  
11 virtually destroyed by the devastating floods that oc-  
12 curred between 1983 and 1985.

19 (5) The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge  
20 lacks a functional education and administrative cen-  
21 ter.

22 (6) The creation of such a facility would signifi-  
23 cantly enhance public appreciation of waterfowl and  
24 the need to preserve waterfowl habitat.

#### 4 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

5 For the purpose of this Act, the following definitions  
6 apply:

18 SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE EDU-  
19 CATION CENTER.

20 (a) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary shall construct  
21 the Education and Administrative Center at the Refuge  
22 for the purposes of providing for the interpretation of re-  
23 sources of the Refuge for the education and benefit of the  
24 public, the advancement of research, protection, and

1 health of waterfowl habitat, and for the administration of  
2 the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.

3 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
4 authorized to be appropriated \$11,000,000 to carry out  
5 subsection (a).

6 **SEC. 5. MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIREMENTS.**

7 (a) DONATION OF FUNDS AND SERVICES.—The Sec-  
8 retary may accept donations of funds and services from  
9 nonprofit organizations, State and local governments, and  
10 private citizens for the construction of the Education and  
11 Administrative Center.

12 (b) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary may not re-  
13 quire matching funds or contributions in kind with a com-  
14 bined total value of more than \$1,500,000 for construction  
15 of the Education and Administrative Center.

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