

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 556

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2005

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

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona.

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 “Walnut Canyon Study
5 Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Coconino National Forest was estab-
2 lished in the State of Arizona on July 2, 1908;

3 (2) the Walnut Canyon National Monument in
4 the State of Arizona was originally designated as a
5 national monument by Presidential proclamation on
6 November 30, 1915, to protect Sinaguan cliff dwell-
7 ings;

8 (3) since the original designation, the Monu-
9 ment boundaries have been expanded to include
10 3,580 acres;

11 (4) National Forest System land and State
12 trust land in the study area contain significant cul-
13 tural and natural resources;

14 (5) the Coconino National Forest Land and Re-
15 sources Management Plan of 1987 identified Na-
16 tional Forest System land in the study area as land
17 for nondevelopment or disposal under the National
18 Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a et
19 seq.);

20 (6) State trust land in the study area has been
21 temporarily removed from consideration for develop-
22 ment by State agencies with jurisdiction over the
23 State trust land;

24 (7) the communities in the vicinity of the land
25 in the study area support maintaining public uses of

1 the land surrounding the Monument while protecting
2 the resources of the land;

3 (8) several interest groups have proposed ex-
4 panding the Monument and designating the ex-
5 panded area as a national park or national preserve;

6 (9) the city of Flagstaff and Coconino County,
7 Arizona, have passed resolutions supporting further
8 review and study of, and the development of man-
9 agement options for, the study area; and

10 (10) to determine the appropriate management
11 of the adjacent land, interested parties have re-
12 quested a study to help identify management op-
13 tions.

14 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

15 (1) to authorize a study of the study area to
16 evaluate public uses and resource values; and

17 (2) to obtain recommendations for management
18 options for maintenance of the public uses and pro-
19 tection of resources of the study area.

20 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
23 titled “Walnut Canyon Proposed Study Area” and
24 dated July 17, 2003.

1 (2) MONUMENT.—The term “Monument”
 2 means the Walnut Canyon National Monument in
 3 the State of Arizona.

4 (3) RESOLUTION.—The term “resolution”
 5 means the Coconino County Board of Supervisors
 6 resolution numbered 2002–65 and the Flagstaff City
 7 Council resolution numbered 2002–92 adopted on
 8 December 17, 2002.

9 (4) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
 10 means the Secretary of the Interior and the Sec-
 11 retary of Agriculture, acting jointly.

12 (5) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
 13 means the area identified on the map as “Walnut
 14 Canyon Proposed Study Area”, consisting of 30,818
 15 acres, of which—

16 (A) 24,987 acres is Federal land in
 17 Coconino National Forest;

18 (B) 2,037 acres is State land;

19 (C) 214 acres is private land; and

20 (D) 3,580 acres is the Monument.

21 **SEC. 4. STUDY.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall conduct a
 23 study of the study area.

24 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall evaluate—

1 (1) the significance of the public values (includ-
2 ing the public values identified in exhibit C of the
3 resolution) and resources of the study area as the
4 public values and resources pertain to—

5 (A) the management objectives of the For-
6 est Service; and

7 (B) the management objectives of the Na-
8 tional Park Service;

9 (2) the opportunities for maintaining existing
10 public uses (including the public uses identified in
11 exhibit D of the resolution); and

12 (3) a range of options for managing and con-
13 serving resources by the National Park Service or
14 the Forest Service, or by both agencies acting joint-
15 ly, including the suitability and feasibility of—

16 (A) a boundary adjustment to the Monu-
17 ment;

18 (B) designation of the study area as a na-
19 tional park or preserve;

20 (C) maintaining the study area as man-
21 aged by the Forest Service; and

22 (D) any other designation or management
23 option that will accomplish both the protection
24 of resources and the maintenance of public use
25 and access for the study area.

1 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the
2 Secretaries shall—

3 (1) contract with a third-party consultant with
4 experience in park and land use planning to prepare
5 a draft study; and

6 (2) collaborate with the persons identified in
7 subsection (d) in developing a scope of work for the
8 draft study under the guidance of the third-party
9 consultant.

10 (d) REVIEW; RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Secretaries,
11 the Forest Supervisor of the Coconino National Forest,
12 the Superintendent of the Flagstaff Area National Monu-
13 ments, the Flagstaff City Council, and the Coconino Coun-
14 ty Board of Supervisors shall—

15 (1) review the draft study prepared by the
16 third-party consultant; and

17 (2) provide to the third-party consultant com-
18 ments on and recommendations for the draft study.

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
20 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries shall submit
21 to Congress a report that—

22 (1) describes the findings and conclusions of the
23 study conducted under this section, including the
24 recommendations of the persons identified in sub-
25 section (d); and

1 (2) makes a recommendation for the future
2 management of the study area.

3 (f) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act affects the man-
4 agement of the land depicted on the map.

5 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
7 essary to carry out this Act.

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