

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6493

To establish the boundary of the Curecanti National Recreation Area, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 2, 2010

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

A BILL

To establish the boundary of the Curecanti National
Recreation 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Curecanti National
5 Recreation Area Boundary Establishment Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Since 1965, the National Park Service has
9 been co-managing the Curecanti National Recreation

1 Area under agreements with the Bureau of Reclama-
2 tion.

3 (2) The Curecanti National Recreation Area
4 has never been legislatively established.

5 (3) Public Law 106–76 directed the National
6 Park Service to conduct a study to assess the nat-
7 ural, cultural, recreational, and scenic resources
8 within and surrounding Curecanti National Recre-
9 ation Area, and to identify and recommend a variety
10 of alternatives and tools to protect those resource
11 values and the character of the land.

12 (4) The Curecanti National Recreation Area in-
13 cludes an abundance of natural, historic, and ar-
14 cheological features in a setting of canyons, pin-
15 nacles, cliffs, and mesas, offering the public opportu-
16 nities for recreation and reflection within its scenic
17 landscape.

18 (5) The National Park Service, in cooperation
19 with the Bureau of Reclamation, completed the
20 Curecanti Resource Protection Study/EIS, and pre-
21 pared a Report to Congress, October 2009, which
22 recommends that Congress pass enabling legislation
23 for the National Recreation Area.

24 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

25 In this Act:

1 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
2 titled “Map to Establish Curecanti National Recre-
3 ation Area”, numbered 616/100485, and dated
4 March 5, 2010.

5 (2) NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.—The term
6 “national recreation area” means the Curecanti Na-
7 tional Recreation Area, established in section 4.

8 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

10 **SEC. 4. CURECANTI NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, COLO-**
11 **RADO.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
13 Curecanti National Recreation Area in the State of Colo-
14 rado, as a unit of the National Park System, consisting
15 of approximately 51,830 acres, as generally depicted on
16 the map.

17 (b) CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREA.—There is
18 established a conservation opportunity area, consisting of
19 approximately 24,300 acres, as generally depicted on the
20 map.

21 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file
22 and available for public inspection in the appropriate of-
23 fices of the National Park Service.

1 **SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL RECREATION**
2 **AREA.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer
4 the national recreation area in accordance with this Act,
5 the cooperative agreements described in this section, and
6 with laws and regulations generally applicable to units of
7 the National Park System, including the National Park
8 Service Organic Act (39 Stat. 535, 16 U.S.C. 1).

9 (b) DAM, POWER PLANT, AND RESERVOIR MANAGE-
10 MENT AND OPERATIONS.—Nothing in this Act shall affect
11 or interfere with the authority of the Secretary under—

12 (1) the National Reclamation Act (Public Law
13 57–161; Stat. 388), as amended and supplemented,
14 to operate the Uncompahgre Valley Reclamation
15 Project; or

16 (2) Public Law 84–485, as amended and sup-
17 plemented, to operate the Wayne N. Aspinall Unit of
18 the Colorado River Storage Project.

19 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter
21 into, or modify existing, management agreements in-
22 volving the National Park Service, the Bureau of
23 Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management, or
24 the Forest Service to manage Federal lands within
25 the boundary of the national recreation area.

1 (2) STATE LANDS.—The Secretary may enter
2 into cooperative management agreements for any
3 lands administered by the State of Colorado that are
4 within or adjacent to the national recreation area,
5 pursuant to the cooperative management authority
6 found in section 802(a) of the National Parks Omni-
7 bus Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–
8 391).

9 (d) RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary
10 shall allow boating, boating-related activities, hunting, and
11 fishing within the national recreation area in accordance
12 with applicable Federal and State laws. The Secretary
13 may designate zones where, and establish periods when,
14 no boating, hunting, or fishing shall be permitted for rea-
15 sons of public safety.

16 (e) CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREA.—Within
17 the boundaries of the conservation opportunity area estab-
18 lished under this Act, the Secretary is authorized to ac-
19 quire lands, or interests in lands, including conservation
20 easements from willing sellers, and to provide technical as-
21 sistance to landowners in order to conserve resources and
22 values identified as important to the national recreation
23 area on lands that are outside but adjacent to the national
24 recreation area.

1 (f) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,
2 all Federal lands within the national recreation area are
3 withdrawn from all forms of entry, appropriation, or dis-
4 posal under the public land laws; from location, entry, and
5 patent under the mining laws; and from disposition under
6 all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, and
7 all amendments thereto.

8 (g) GRAZING.—

9 (1) STATE OR PRIVATE LANDS.—On State or
10 private lands acquired for the national recreation
11 area on which authorized grazing is occurring on the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in con-
13 sultation with the lessee, may allow the continuation
14 of grazing on the land by the lessee at the time of
15 acquisition, subject to applicable law (including reg-
16 ulations).

17 (2) FEDERAL LAND.—Where grazing is allowed
18 on land that is Federal land on the date of the en-
19 actment of this section and is located within the
20 boundary of the national recreation area, the Sec-
21 retary is authorized to allow the continuation of
22 such grazing unless the Secretary determines that
23 grazing would harm the resources or values of the
24 national recreation area.

1 (3) TERMINATION OF LEASES.—Nothing in this
2 section shall prohibit the Secretary from accepting
3 the voluntary termination of leases or permits for
4 grazing within the national recreation area.

5 **SEC. 6. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY AND BOUNDARY MAN-**
6 **AGEMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to ac-
8 quire from willing sellers lands, or interests in lands, with-
9 in the boundary of the national recreation area or the con-
10 servation opportunity area necessary for effective manage-
11 ment of the national recreation area. Lands acquired with-
12 in the conservation opportunity area shall be added to the
13 national recreation area and the boundary of the national
14 recreation area shall be adjusted accordingly.

15 (b) ACQUISITION.—Lands identified in subsection (a)
16 may be acquired by donation, purchase with donated or
17 appropriated funds, transfer from another Federal agency,
18 or exchange. Lands or interests in lands owned by the
19 State of Colorado, or a political subdivision thereof, may
20 only be acquired by donation or exchange.

21 (c) EXCHANGES.—For purposes of management effi-
22 ciency and expanded recreational opportunities, the Sec-
23 retary is authorized to conduct land exchanges with the
24 Secretary of Agriculture and between the National Park
25 Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

1 (d) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDIC-
2 TION.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Bureau of
3 Land Management shall transfer, without consideration,
4 administrative jurisdiction for lands to be added to the
5 national recreation area, as shown on the map, to the Na-
6 tional Park Service. The boundary of the Gunnison Na-
7 tional Forest shall be modified to reflect the transfer of
8 administrative jurisdiction from the Secretary of Agri-
9 culture.

10 **SEC. 7. GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
12 date on which funds are made available to carry out this
13 Act, the National Park Service, in consultation with the
14 Bureau of Reclamation, shall prepare a general manage-
15 ment plan for the national recreation area.

16 (b) INCLUSIONS.—The general management plan
17 shall include, at a minimum—

18 (1) measures for the preservation of the re-
19 sources of the national recreation area;

20 (2) requirements for the type and extent of de-
21 velopment and use of the national recreation area;

22 (3) identification of visitor carrying capacities
23 for the national recreation area; and

24 (4) opportunities for involvement by the Bureau
25 of Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management,

1 the Forest Service, the State of Colorado, and other
2 local and national entities in the formulation of edu-
3 cational and recreational programs for the national
4 recreation area and for developing and supporting
5 the national recreation area.

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