

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6175

To authorize studies of certain areas for possible inclusion in the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 24, 2012

Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. EDWARDS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. KIND, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize studies of certain areas for possible inclusion in the National Park System, 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 “National Park Service
5 Study Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDIES.**

7 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall con-
8 duct special resource studies of—

1 (1) the Kau coast, on the island of Hawaii;

2 (2) upon request of the Government of the
3 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
4 the island of Rota in the Commonwealth of the
5 Northern Mariana Islands;

6 (3) sites in the State of Alaska associated with
7 the forced abandonment of the Aleut villages of
8 Makushin, Kashega, and Biorka around Unalaska
9 Island, and Attu on Attu Island during World War
10 II, and the 5 relocation sites at Funter Bay, Burnett
11 Inlet, Killisnoo, Ward Lake, and the Wrangell Insti-
12 tute;

13 (4) World War II Japanese American Reloca-
14 tion Center sites including Gila River and Poston
15 sites, State of Arizona; Grenada, State of Colorado;
16 Heart Mountain, State of Wyoming; Jerome and
17 Rohwer sites, State of Arkansas; and Topaz, State
18 of Utah;

19 (5) sites within the San Luis Valley and Cen-
20 tral Sangre de Cristo Mountains, States of Colorado
21 and New Mexico with cultural significance to
22 Latinos in the United States;

23 (6) the town of Goldfield and outlying mining
24 sites in the State of Nevada;

1 (7) the Hudson River Valley in the State of
2 New York;

3 (8) the Norman Studios, within Jacksonville,
4 Florida, where African-American casts and crews
5 were used in the production of silent films;

6 (9) the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta in the State
7 of Alabama; and

8 (10) the Galveston Bay in the State of Texas.

9 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the studies required
10 under subsection (a) of the sites identified under such sub-
11 section, the Secretary shall—

12 (1) evaluate the national significance of the
13 sites and the areas surrounding such sites;

14 (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of
15 designating one or more sites as units of the Na-
16 tional Park System;

17 (3) consider other alternatives for preservation,
18 protection, and interpretation of the sites by Fed-
19 eral, State, or local governmental entities or private
20 and nonprofit organizations;

21 (4) consult with interested Federal, State, or
22 local governmental entities, private and nonprofit or-
23 ganizations, or any other interested individuals; and

1 (5) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-
2 quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and
3 maintenance associated with the alternatives.

4 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The studies required under
5 subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-
6 tion 8 of the National Park System General Authorities
7 Act (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

8 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY UPDATES.**

9 (a) STUDIES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall up-
10 date the study, “World War II Sites, Republic of Palau
11 (upon the request of the Government of the Republic of
12 Palau)” as authorized by section 326(b)(3)(N) of the De-
13 partment of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropria-
14 tions Act, 2000, and the 1979 study “Vermejo Ranch,
15 New Mexico/Colorado: Study of Management Options”.

16 (b) CONTENTS.—In updating the studies under sub-
17 section (a), the Secretary shall—

18 (1) determine whether conditions have changed
19 to warrant that the site be designated as a unit of
20 the National Park System;

21 (2) consider other alternatives for the preserva-
22 tion, protection, and interpretation of the site by
23 Federal, State, or local governmental entities or pri-
24 vate and nonprofit organizations;

1 (3) consult with other interested Federal, State,
2 or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit
3 organizations, or any other interested individuals;
4 and

5 (4) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-
6 quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and
7 maintenance associated with the alternatives consid-
8 ered under paragraph (2).

9 **SEC. 4. BUFFALO SOLDIERS IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**
10 **STUDY.**

11 (a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall con-
12 duct a study of alternatives for commemorating and inter-
13 preting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years
14 of the national parks.

15 (b) **CONTENTS.**—In conducting the study under sub-
16 section (a), the Secretary shall—

17 (1) complete a historical assessment of the Buf-
18 falo Soldiers who served in national parks in the
19 years that preceded the establishment of the Na-
20 tional Park Service;

21 (2) evaluate the suitability and feasibility of es-
22 tablishing a national historic trail commemorating
23 the route traveled by the Buffalo Soldiers from their
24 post in the Presidio of San Francisco to Sequoia and

1 Yosemite National Parks and to any other national
2 parks where they may have served;

3 (3) identify properties that could meet criteria
4 for listing in the National Register of Historic
5 Places or criteria for designation as national historic
6 landmarks; and

7 (4) evaluate appropriate ways to enhance the
8 historical research, education, interpretation, and
9 public awareness of the story of the Buffalo Soldiers'
10 stewardship role in the national parks, including
11 ways to link the story to both the development of the
12 national parks and the story of African-American
13 military service following the Civil War.

14 **SEC. 5. RECONSTRUCTION IN THE SOUTH STUDY.**

15 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall con-
16 duct a national historic landmark study to identify sites
17 and resources in the Southern United States that are sig-
18 nificant to the Reconstruction era.

19 (b) CONTENTS.—The study conducted under sub-
20 section (a) shall include recommendations for commemo-
21 rating and interpreting sites and resources identified by
22 the study, including—

23 (1) sites for which new national historic land-
24 marks should be nominated; and

1 (2) sites for which further study for potential
2 inclusion in the National Park System is needed.

3 **SEC. 6. CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER BOUNDARY EXPANSION**
4 **STUDY.**

5 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall con-
6 duct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility
7 of including in the boundary of the Chattahoochee River
8 National Recreation Area approximately 45 miles of the
9 Chattahoochee River and lands along the river corridor
10 from the southern boundary of the Recreation Area south
11 to the junction of Coweta, Heard, and Carroll Counties.

12 (b) CONTENTS.—The study conducted under sub-
13 section (a) shall include an analysis of—

14 (1) significant resources or opportunities for
15 public enjoyment within the study area related to
16 purposes of the Chattahoochee River National
17 Recreation Area;

18 (2) operational and management issues that
19 need to be considered if the study area is included
20 within the Recreation Area;

21 (3) protection of resources within the study
22 area critical to fulfilling the Recreation Area's pur-
23 poses;

24 (4) the feasibility of administering the study
25 area as part of the Recreation Area considering the

1 study area's size, configuration, ownership, costs,
2 and other factors; and

3 (5) the adequacy of other alternatives for man-
4 agement and protection of resources within the
5 study area.

6 **SEC. 7. REPORT.**

7 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
8 are first made available to conduct each study under this
9 Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Com-
10 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Representa-
11 tives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
12 sources of the Senate a report containing—

13 (1) the results of each such study; and

14 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
15 Secretary based on such results.

16 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
18 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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