

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3399

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

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2012

Mr. BINGAMAN (by request) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and 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 (referred  
8       to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall conduct special  
9       resource studies of—

10               (1) the Kau Coast, on the island of Hawaii;

1           (2) on request of the Government of the Com-  
2       monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the is-  
3       land of Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern  
4       Mariana Islands;

5           (3)(A) sites in the State of Alaska associated  
6       with the forced abandonment of the Aleut villages of  
7       Makushin, Kashega, and Biorka around Unalaska  
8       Island, and Attu on Attu Island during World War  
9       II; and

10          (B) the 5 relocation sites in the State of Alaska  
11       at Funter Bay, Burnett Inlet, Killisnoo, Ward Lake,  
12       and the Wrangell Institute;

13          (4) World War II Japanese American Reloca-  
14       tion Center sites, including—

15           (A) Gila River and Poston sites in the  
16       State of Arizona;

17           (B) Grenada in the State of Colorado;

18           (C) Heart Mountain in the State of Wyo-  
19       ming;

20           (D) Jerome and Rohwer sites in the State  
21       of Arkansas; and

22           (E) Topaz in the State of Utah;

23          (5) American Latino Sites in the San Luis Val-  
24       ley and Central Sangre de Cristo Mountains in the  
25       States of Colorado and New Mexico;

1           (6) the town of Goldfield and outlying mining  
2 sites in the State of Nevada;

3           (7) the Hudson River Valley in the State of  
4 New York;

5           (8) the Norman Studios in Jacksonville, Flor-  
6 ida, at which African-American casts and crews were  
7 used in the production of silent films;

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

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

11          (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the studies under  
12 subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

13           (1) evaluate the national significance of—

14                (A) the sites; and

15                (B) the areas surrounding the sites;

16          (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of  
17 designating 1 or more of the sites as units of the  
18 National Park System;

19          (3) consider other alternatives for preservation,  
20 protection, and interpretation of the sites by the  
21 Federal, State or local governmental entities or pri-  
22 vate and nonprofit organizations;

23          (4) consult with interested Federal, State, or  
24 local governmental entities, private and nonprofit or-  
25 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 consid-  
 4           ered under paragraph (3).

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

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

10          (a) STUDIES.—The Secretary shall update the fol-  
 11          lowing studies:

12               (1) The study authorized by section  
 13               326(b)(3)(N) of the National Park Service Studies  
 14               Act of 1999 (as enacted in title III of Appendix C  
 15               of Public Law 106–113; 113 Stat. 1501A–195) re-  
 16               lating to World War II Sites, Republic of Palau.

17               (2) The 1979 study entitled “Vermejo Ranch,  
 18               New Mexico/Colorado: Study of Management Op-  
 19               tions”.

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

22               (1) determine whether conditions have changed  
 23               to justify designation of the site as a unit of the Na-  
 24               tional Park System;

1           (2) consider other alternatives for preservation,  
2           protection, and interpretation of the site by Federal,  
3           State, or local governmental entities or private and  
4           nonprofit organizations;

5           (3) consult with other interested Federal, State,  
6           or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit  
7           organizations, or any other interested individuals;  
8           and

9           (4) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-  
10          quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and  
11          maintenance associated with the alternatives consid-  
12          ered under paragraph (2).

13 **SEC. 4. BUFFALO SOLDIERS IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**  
14 **STUDY.**

15          (a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of  
16          alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role  
17          of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National  
18          Parks.

19          (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-  
20          section (a), the Secretary shall—

21               (1) complete a historical assessment of the Buf-  
22               falo Soldiers that served in National Parks in the  
23               years before the establishment of the National Park  
24               Service;

1           (2) evaluate the suitability and feasibility of es-  
 2           tablishing a national historic trail commemorating  
 3           the route traveled by the Buffalo Soldiers from the  
 4           post of the Buffalo Soldiers in the Presidio of San  
 5           Francisco to Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks  
 6           and any other National Parks at which the Buffalo  
 7           Soldiers may have served;

8           (3) identify properties relating to the Buffalo  
 9           Soldiers that could satisfy—

10                   (A) the criteria for listing in the National  
 11                   Register of Historic Places; or

12                   (B) the criteria for designation as a Na-  
 13                   tional Historic Landmark; and

14           (4) evaluate appropriate ways to enhance his-  
 15           torical research, education, interpretation, and pub-  
 16           lic awareness of the story of the stewardship role of  
 17           the Buffalo Soldiers in the National Parks, including  
 18           ways to link the story to the development of Na-  
 19           tional Parks and the story of African-American mili-  
 20           tary service following the Civil War.

21 **SEC. 5. RECONSTRUCTION IN THE SOUTH STUDY THEME**  
 22 **STUDY.**

23           (a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a national  
 24           historic landmark theme study (referred to in this section  
 25           as the “theme study”) to identify sites and resources in

1 the southern United States that are significant to the Re-  
 2 construction era.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—The theme study shall include rec-  
 4 ommendations for commemorating and interpreting sites  
 5 and resources identified by the theme study, including rec-  
 6 ommendations for—

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

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

11 **SEC. 6. CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER BOUNDARY EXPANSION**  
 12 **STUDY.**

13 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to  
 14 determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the  
 15 boundary of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation  
 16 Area (referred to in this section as the “recreation area”)  
 17 approximately 45 miles of the Chattahoochee River and  
 18 land along the river corridor from the southern boundary  
 19 of the recreation area south to the junction of Coweta,  
 20 Heard, and Carroll Counties (referred to in this section  
 21 as the “study area”).

22 (b) CONTENTS.—The study authorized under this  
 23 section shall include an analysis of—

1           (1) significant resources or opportunities for  
2           public enjoyment within the study area relating to  
3           the purposes of the recreation area;

4           (2) operational and management issues that  
5           need to be considered if the study area is included  
6           within the recreation area;

7           (3) protection of resources within the study  
8           area critical to fulfilling the purposes of the recre-  
9           ation area;

10          (4) the feasibility of administering the study  
11          area as part of the recreation area, taking into ac-  
12          count—

13                (A) the size, configuration, and ownership  
14                of the study area;

15                (B) costs relating to the administration of  
16                the study area; and

17                (C) any other factors that the Secretary  
18                determines to be appropriate; and

19          (5) the adequacy of other alternatives for man-  
20          agement and protection of resources within the  
21          study area.

22 **SEC. 7. REPORT.**

23          Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds  
24          are first made available for each study authorized under  
25          this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on

1 Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and  
2 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the  
3 Senate a report that describes—

4           (1) the results of the applicable study; and

5           (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the  
6       Secretary with respect to the area studied.

7 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8       There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
9 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

○