

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 432

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 22, 2017

Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

AN ACT

To designate the Cerro del Yuta and Río San Antonio Wilderness Areas in the State of New Mexico, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Cerros del Norte Con-
3 servation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
7 titled “Río Grande del Norte National Monument
8 Proposed Wilderness Areas” and dated July 28,
9 2015.

10 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
11 the Secretary of the Interior.

12 (3) WILDERNESS AREA.—The term “wilderness
13 area” means a wilderness area designated by section
14 3(a).

15 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF CERRO DEL YUTA AND RÍO SAN**
16 **ANTONIO WILDERNESS AREAS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with the Wilderness
18 Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the
19 Río Grande del Norte National Monument are designated
20 as wilderness and as components of the National Wilder-
21 ness Preservation System:

22 (1) CERRO DEL YUTA WILDERNESS.—Certain
23 land administered by the Bureau of Land Manage-
24 ment in Taos County, New Mexico, comprising ap-
25 proximately 13,420 acres as generally depicted on

1 the map, which shall be known as the “Cerro del
2 Yuta Wilderness”.

3 (2) RÍO SAN ANTONIO WILDERNESS.—Certain
4 land administered by the Bureau of Land Manage-
5 ment in Río Arriba County, New Mexico, comprising
6 approximately 8,120 acres, as generally depicted on
7 the map, which shall be known as the “Río San An-
8 tonio Wilderness”.

9 (b) MANAGEMENT OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—Subject
10 to valid existing rights, the wilderness areas shall be ad-
11 ministered in accordance with the Wilderness Act (16
12 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and this Act, except that with respect
13 to the wilderness areas designated by this Act—

14 (1) any reference to the effective date of the
15 Wilderness Act shall be considered to be a reference
16 to the date of enactment of this Act; and

17 (2) any reference in the Wilderness Act to the
18 Secretary of Agriculture shall be considered to be a
19 reference to the Secretary.

20 (c) INCORPORATION OF ACQUIRED LAND AND INTER-
21 ESTS IN LAND.—Any land or interest in land within the
22 boundary of the wilderness areas that is acquired by the
23 United States shall—

24 (1) become part of the wilderness area in which
25 the land is located; and

1 (2) be managed in accordance with—

2 (A) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et
3 seq.);

4 (B) this Act; and

5 (C) any other applicable laws.

6 (d) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the wilderness
7 areas, where established before the date of enactment of
8 this Act, shall be administered in accordance with—

9 (1) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness Act (16
10 U.S.C. 1133(d)(4)); and

11 (2) the guidelines set forth in appendix A of the
12 Report of the Committee on Interior and Insular Af-
13 fairs to accompany H.R. 2570 of the 101st Congress
14 (H. Rept. 101–405).

15 (e) BUFFER ZONES.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act creates
17 a protective perimeter or buffer zone around the wil-
18 derness areas.

19 (2) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WILDERNESS
20 AREAS.—The fact that an activity or use on land
21 outside a wilderness area can be seen or heard with-
22 in the wilderness area shall not preclude the activity
23 or use outside the boundary of the wilderness area.

24 (f) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—Con-
25 gress finds that, for purposes of section 603(c) of the Fed-

1 eral Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
2 1782(c)), the public land within the San Antonio Wilder-
3 ness Study Area not designated as wilderness by this sec-
4 tion—

5 (1) has been adequately studied for wilderness
6 designation;

7 (2) is no longer subject to section 603(c) of the
8 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
9 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)); and

10 (3) shall be managed in accordance with this
11 Act.

12 (g) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
14 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
15 shall file the map and legal descriptions of the wil-
16 derness areas with—

17 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural
18 Resources of the Senate; and

19 (B) the Committee on Natural Resources
20 of the House of Representatives.

21 (2) FORCE OF LAW.—The map and legal de-
22 scriptions filed under paragraph (1) shall have the
23 same force and effect as if included in this Act, ex-
24 cept that the Secretary may correct errors in the
25 legal description and map.

1 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal
2 descriptions filed under paragraph (1) shall be on
3 file and available for public inspection in the appro-
4 priate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

5 (h) NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYS-
6 TEM.—The wilderness areas shall be administered as com-
7 ponents of the National Landscape Conservation System.

8 (i) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—Nothing in this Act affects
9 the jurisdiction of the State of New Mexico with respect
10 to fish and wildlife located on public land in the State.

11 (j) WITHDRAWALS.—Subject to valid existing rights,
12 any Federal land within the wilderness areas designated
13 by subsection (a), including any land or interest in land
14 that is acquired by the United States after the date of
15 enactment of this Act, is withdrawn from—

16 (1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the
17 public land laws;

18 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining
19 laws; and

20 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral
21 materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

- 1 (k) TREATY RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act enlarges,
2 diminishes, or otherwise modifies any treaty rights.

Passed the Senate December 21, 2017.

Attest:

JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.