

Public Law 97-350
97th Congress

An Act

To authorize appropriations for the operations of the Office of Environmental Quality and the Council on Environmental Quality during fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984, and withdraw certain lands within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest from leasing under mineral and geothermal leasing laws.

Oct. 18, 1982
[S. 1210]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 205 of the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4374) is amended—

Environmental Quality, Office and Council appropriation authorization, fiscal years 1982-1984. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, leasing exemption of certain lands.

(1) by striking out “; and” at the end of paragraph (a) and inserting in lieu thereof a period; and

(2) by adding at the end thereof the following:

“(c) \$44,000 for the fiscal years ending September 30, 1982, 1983, and 1984.”

SEC. 2. (a) Subject to valid existing rights, all Federal lands within the area described in subsection (b) are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing and all amendments thereto.

(b) The area referred to in subsection (a) shall comprise those lands which are owned by the United States within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and which lie within the physiographic boundaries of the watersheds of the Cedar River, the Green River, and the North and South Forks of the Tolt River. The boundaries of such areas shall be as depicted on maps entitled “Boundary Map, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie Proposed Withdrawals”, dated May 12, 1982. Such maps shall be on file and available for inspection in the offices of the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Public inspection.

(c) The withdrawal described in subsection (a) shall not apply to any exchange carried out by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the Alpine Lakes Area Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-357, 90 Stat. 905) nor shall such withdrawal apply to any Federal land exchange in process. For purposes of this Act an exchange is in process if publication of notice of the contemplated exchange has commenced by the date of enactment of this Act.

16 USC 1132 note.

(d) Additionally, the Secretary may dispose of land or interests therein within the area described in subsection (b) by exchange if the Secretary determines that the public will be well-served by the exchange: *Provided*, That the Secretary determines that the values of the watersheds as sources of drinking water are protected: *And provided further*, That such exchanges shall not alter, diminish, or abridge rights and obligations contained in State law and watershed management agreements between local government and landowners inside the watershed existing as of the effective date of this Act.

Approved October 18, 1982.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1210 (H.R. 1953):

HOUSE REPORT No. 97-50 accompanying H.R. 1953 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).

SENATE REPORT No. 97-116 (Comm. on Environmental and Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

- Vol. 127 (1981): June 2, considered and passed Senate.
Sept. 21, 22, H.R. 1953 considered and passed House; proceedings vacated and S. 1210, amended, passed in lieu.
- Vol. 128 (1982): June 14, Senate concurred in House amendments with an amendment.
Sept. 30, House agreed to Senate amendment with an amendment.
Oct. 1, Senate concurred in House amendments.