

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2833

To establish the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 1999

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

---

## A BILL

To establish the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

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; DEFINITIONS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Act of 1999”.

6 (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this Act:

7 (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage  
8 Area” means the Yuma Crossing National Heritage  
9 Area established in section 3.

10 (2) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The term “man-  
11 agement entity” shall mean the Yuma Crossing Na-  
12 tional Heritage Area Board of Directors.

1           (3) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “manage-  
2           ment plan” shall mean the management plan for the  
3           Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

4           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
5           the Secretary of the Interior.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7           (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

8           (1) Certain events that led to the establishment  
9           of the Yuma Crossing as a natural crossing place on  
10          the Colorado River and to its development as the  
11          epicenter of America’s westward expansion during  
12          the mid 19th century are of national historic and  
13          cultural significance in terms of their contribution to  
14          the development of the new United States of Amer-  
15          ica.

16          (2) It is in the national interest to promote,  
17          preserve, and protect physical remnants of a commu-  
18          nity with almost 500 years of recorded history which  
19          has outstanding cultural, historic, and architectural  
20          value for the education and benefit of present and  
21          future generations.

22          (3) The designation of the Yuma Crossing as a  
23          national heritage area would preserve Yuma’s his-  
24          tory and provide related educational opportunities,  
25          provide recreational opportunities, preserve natural

1 resources, optimize the use of riverfront property,  
2 streamline government services, and improve the city  
3 of Yuma's ability to serve visitors and enhance the  
4 local economy through the completion of the major  
5 projects identified within the Yuma Crossing Na-  
6 tional Heritage Area.

7 (4) The Department of the Interior is respon-  
8 sible for protecting the Nation's cultural and historic  
9 resources. There are significant examples of these  
10 resources within the Yuma region to merit the in-  
11 volvement of the Federal Government in developing  
12 programs and projects, in cooperation with the  
13 Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area and other  
14 local and governmental bodies, to adequately con-  
15 serve, protect, and interpret this heritage for future  
16 generations while providing opportunities for edu-  
17 cation, revitalization, and economic development.

18 (5) The city of Yuma, the Arizona State Parks  
19 Board, agencies of the Federal Government, cor-  
20 porate entities, and citizens have completed a study  
21 and master plan for the Yuma Crossing to deter-  
22 mine the extent of its historic resources, preserve  
23 and interpret these historic resources, and assess the  
24 opportunities available to enhance the cultural expe-  
25 rience for region's visitors and residents.

1           (6) The Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area  
2 Board of Directors would be an appropriate manage-  
3 ment entity for a heritage area established in the re-  
4 gion.

5           (b) PURPOSE.—The objectives of the Yuma Crossing  
6 National Heritage Area are as follows:

7           (1) To recognize the role of the Yuma Crossing  
8 in the development of the United States, in par-  
9 ticular its position as the epicenter of America’s  
10 westward expansion during the mid-19th century.

11           (2) To promote, interpret, and develop the  
12 physical and recreational resources of the commu-  
13 nities surrounding the Yuma Crossing, which has al-  
14 most 500 years of recorded history and outstanding  
15 cultural, historic, and architectural assets, for the  
16 education and benefit of present and future genera-  
17 tions.

18           (3) To foster a close working relationship with  
19 all levels of government, the private sector, and the  
20 local communities in the Yuma community and em-  
21 power the community to conserve its heritage while  
22 continuing to pursue economic opportunities.

23           (4) To provide recreational opportunities for  
24 visitors to the Yuma Crossing and preserve natural  
25 resources within the Heritage Area.

1           (5) To optimize the use of riverfront property  
2           and streamline government services.

3           (6) To improve the Yuma region's ability to  
4           serve visitors and enhance the local economy through  
5           the completion of the major projects identified with-  
6           in the Heritage Area.

7 **SEC. 3. YUMA CROSSING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.**

8           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established  
9           the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

10          (b) BOUNDARIES.—The Heritage Area shall be com-  
11          prised of those portions of the county and city of Yuma,  
12          Arizona, as determined in the compact entered into under  
13          section 4.

14          (c) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity  
15          for the Heritage Area shall be the Yuma Crossing Na-  
16          tional Heritage Area Board of Directors.

17 **SEC. 4. COMPACT.**

18          To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Secretary  
19          of the Interior shall enter into a compact with the manage-  
20          ment entity. The compact shall include information relat-  
21          ing to the objectives and management of the Heritage  
22          Area, including each of the following:

23                 (1) A delineation of the boundaries of the Her-  
24                 itage Area.

1           (2) A discussion of the goals and objectives of  
2           the Heritage Area, including an explanation of the  
3           proposed approach to conservation and interpreta-  
4           tion and a general outline of the protection measures  
5           committed to by the management entity.

6 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT**  
7           **ENTITY.**

8           (a) **AUTHORITIES OF THE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—**  
9           The management entity may, for purposes of preparing  
10          and implementing the management plan, use funds made  
11          available through this Act for the following:

12           (1) To make grants to, and enter into coopera-  
13          tive agreements with, States and their political sub-  
14          divisions, private organizations, or any person.

15           (2) To hire and compensate staff.

16           (3) To enter into contracts for goods and serv-  
17          ices.

18          (b) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.—**

19           (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Taking into consideration  
20          existing State, county, and local plans, the manage-  
21          ment entity shall develop a management plan for the  
22          Heritage Area.

23           (2) **CONTENTS.—**The management plan re-  
24          quired by this subsection shall include—

1 (A) comprehensive recommendations for  
2 conservation, funding, management, and devel-  
3 opment of the Heritage Area;

4 (B) actions to be undertaken by units of  
5 government and private organizations to protect  
6 the resources of the Heritage Area;

7 (C) a list of specific existing and potential  
8 sources of funding to protect, manage, and de-  
9 velop the Heritage Area;

10 (D) an inventory of the resources con-  
11 tained in the Heritage Area, including a list of  
12 any property in the Heritage Area that is re-  
13 lated to the themes of the Heritage Area and  
14 that should be preserved, restored, managed,  
15 developed, or maintained because of its natural,  
16 cultural, historic, recreational, or scenic signifi-  
17 cance;

18 (E) a recommendation of policies for re-  
19 source management which considers and details  
20 application of appropriate land and water man-  
21 agement techniques, including the development  
22 of intergovernmental cooperative agreements to  
23 protect the historical, cultural, recreational, and  
24 natural resources of the Heritage Area in a

1 manner consistent with supporting appropriate  
2 and compatible economic viability;

3 (F) a program for implementation of the  
4 management plan by the management entity,  
5 including plans for restoration and construc-  
6 tion, and specific commitments of the identified  
7 partners for the first 5 years of operation;

8 (G) an analysis of ways in which local,  
9 State, and Federal programs may best be co-  
10 ordinated to promote the purposes of this Act;  
11 and

12 (H) an interpretation plan for the Heritage  
13 Area.

14 (3) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—The manage-  
15 ment entity shall submit the management plan to  
16 the Secretary for approval not later than 3 years  
17 after the date of enactment of this Act. If a manage-  
18 ment plan is not submitted to the Secretary as re-  
19 quired within the specified time, the Heritage Area  
20 shall no longer qualify for Federal funding.

21 (c) DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—In addition  
22 to its duties under subsection (b), the management entity  
23 shall—

24 (1) give priority to implementing actions set  
25 forth in the compact and management plan, includ-

1 ing steps to assist units of government, regional  
2 planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations  
3 in preserving the Heritage Area;

4 (2) assist units of government, regional plan-  
5 ning organizations, and nonprofit organizations  
6 with—

7 (A) establishing and maintaining interpre-  
8 tive exhibits in the Heritage Area;

9 (B) developing recreational resources in  
10 the Heritage Area;

11 (C) increasing public awareness of and ap-  
12 preciation for the natural, historical, and archi-  
13 tectural resources and sites in the Heritage  
14 Area;

15 (D) restoring any historic building relating  
16 to the themes of the Heritage Area; and

17 (E) ensuring that clear, consistent, and en-  
18 vironmentally appropriate signs identifying ac-  
19 cess points and sites of interest are put in place  
20 throughout the Heritage Area;

21 (3) encourage, by appropriate means, economic  
22 viability in the Heritage Area consistent with the  
23 goals of the management plan;

24 (4) encourage local governments to adopt land  
25 use policies consistent with the management of the

1 Heritage Area and the goals of the management  
2 plan;

3 (5) consider the interests of diverse govern-  
4 mental, business, and nonprofit groups within the  
5 Heritage Area;

6 (6) conduct public meetings at least quarterly  
7 regarding the implementation of the management  
8 plan; and

9 (7) for any year in which Federal funds have  
10 been received under this Act, make available for  
11 audit all records pertaining to the expenditure of  
12 such funds and any matching funds, and require, for  
13 all agreements authorizing expenditure of Federal  
14 funds by other organizations, that the receiving or-  
15 ganizations make available for audit all records per-  
16 taining to the expenditure of such funds.

17 (d) PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF REAL  
18 PROPERTY.—The management entity may not use Fed-  
19 eral funds received under this Act to acquire real property  
20 or an interest in real property. Nothing in this Act shall  
21 preclude any management entity from using Federal funds  
22 from other sources for their permitted purposes.

23 (e) SPENDING FOR NON-FEDERALLY OWNED PROP-  
24 erty.—The management entity may spend Federal funds  
25 directly on non-federally owned property to further the

1 purposes of this Act, especially in assisting units of gov-  
2 ernment in appropriate treatment of districts, sites, build-  
3 ings, structures, and objects listed or eligible for listing  
4 on the National Register of Historic Places.

5 **SEC. 6. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

6 (a) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The  
7 Secretary may, upon request of the management entity,  
8 provide technical and financial assistance to the manage-  
9 ment entity to develop and implement the management  
10 plan. In assisting the management entity, the Secretary  
11 shall give priority to actions that in general assist in—

12 (1) conserving the significant natural, historic,  
13 and cultural resources which support the themes of  
14 the Heritage Area; and

15 (2) providing educational, interpretive, and rec-  
16 reational opportunities consistent with resources and  
17 associated values of the Heritage Area.

18 (b) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT  
19 PLANS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Yuma  
20 Crossing National Heritage Area Board of Directors, shall  
21 approve or disapprove a management plan submitted  
22 under this Act not later than 90 days after receiving such  
23 management plan.

24 (c) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If the Sec-  
25 retary disapproves a submitted compact or management

1 plan, the Secretary shall advise the management entity in  
2 writing of the reasons therefore and shall make rec-  
3 ommendations for revisions in the management plan. The  
4 Secretary shall approve or disapprove a proposed revision  
5 within 90 days after the date it is submitted.

6 (d) APPROVING AMENDMENTS.—The Secretary shall  
7 review substantial amendments to the management plan  
8 for the Heritage Area. Funds appropriated pursuant to  
9 this Act may not be expended to implement the changes  
10 made by such amendments until the Secretary approves  
11 the amendments.

12 (e) DOCUMENTATION.—The Historic American  
13 Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record  
14 shall conduct those studies necessary to document the cul-  
15 tural, historic, architectural, and natural resources of the  
16 Heritage Area.

17 **SEC. 7. SUNSET.**

18 The Secretary may not make any grant or provide  
19 any assistance under this Act after September 30, 2015.

20 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-  
22 priated under this Act not more than \$1,000,000 for any  
23 fiscal year. Not more than a total of \$10,000,000 may  
24 be appropriated for the Heritage Area under this Act.

1       (b) 50 PERCENT MATCH.—Federal funding provided  
2 under this Act, after the designation of the Heritage Area,  
3 may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of any assist-  
4 ance or grant provided or authorized under this Act.

○