

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 635

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2003

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, 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 “Pioneer National His-  
5 toric Trails Studies Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY STUD-**  
2 **IES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC**  
3 **TRAILS.**

4 The National Trails System Act is amended by in-  
5 serting after section 5 (16 U.S.C. 1244) the following new  
6 section:

7 **“SEC. 5A. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY**  
8 **STUDIES OF EXISTING TRAILS FOR POSSIBLE**  
9 **TRAIL EXPANSION.**

10 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 “(1) ROUTE.—The term ‘route’ includes a trail  
12 segment commonly known as a cutoff.

13 “(2) SHARED ROUTE.—The term ‘shared route’  
14 means a route that was a segment of more than one  
15 historic trail, including a route shared with an exist-  
16 ing national historic trail.

17 “(b) GENERAL RULES.—

18 “(1) STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND OBJEC-  
19 TIVES.—The study requirements and objectives spec-  
20 ified in section 5(b) shall apply to a study required  
21 by this section.

22 “(2) COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF  
23 STUDY.—Not later than three complete fiscal years  
24 after the date of the enactment of this section, the  
25 Secretary shall complete and submit to Congress the  
26 studies required by subsections (c) through (g). In

1 the case of a study added to this section after that  
2 date, the study shall be completed and submitted to  
3 Congress not later than three complete fiscal years  
4 after the date of the enactment of the law adding  
5 the study to this section.

6 “(c) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—The  
7 Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the  
8 routes of the Oregon Trail, as generally depicted on the  
9 map entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and  
10 dated 1991/1993, and such other routes of the Oregon  
11 Trail that the Secretary considers appropriate, to deter-  
12 mine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one  
13 or more of the routes as components of the Oregon Na-  
14 tional Historic Trail. The routes to be studied under this  
15 subsection include the following:

16 “(1) Whitman Mission route.

17 “(2) Upper Columbia River.

18 “(3) Cowlitz River route.

19 “(4) Meek cutoff.

20 “(5) Free Emigrant Road.

21 “(6) North Alternate Oregon Trail.

22 “(7) Goodale’s cutoff.

23 “(8) North Side alternate route.

24 “(9) Cutoff to Barlow Road.

25 “(10) Naches Pass Trail.

1           “(d) PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—  
2 The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of  
3 the approximately 20-mile southern alternative route of  
4 the Pony Express Trail from Wathena, Kansas, to Troy,  
5 Kansas, and such other routes of the Pony Express Trail  
6 that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the  
7 feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more  
8 of the routes as components of the Pony Express National  
9 Historic Trail.

10           “(e) CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—The  
11 Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of certain  
12 Missouri Valley, central, and western routes of the Cali-  
13 fornia Trail, as generally depicted on the map entitled  
14 ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/  
15 1993, and such other and shared Missouri Valley, central,  
16 and western routes that the Secretary considers appro-  
17 priate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of des-  
18 ignation of one or more of the routes as components of  
19 the California National Historic Trail. The routes to be  
20 studied under this subsection include the following:

21                   “(1) MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES.—

22                           “(A) Blue Mills-Independence Road.

23                           “(B) Westport Landing Road.

24                           “(C) Westport-Lawrence Road.

25                           “(D) Fort Leavenworth-Blue River route.

- 1 “(E) Road to Amazonia.
- 2 “(F) Union Ferry Route.
- 3 “(G) Old Wyoming-Nebraska City cutoff.
- 4 “(H) Lower Plattsmouth Route.
- 5 “(I) Lower Bellevue Route.
- 6 “(J) Woodbury cutoff.
- 7 “(K) Blue Ridge cutoff.
- 8 “(L) Westport Road.
- 9 “(M) Gum Springs-Fort Leavenworth
- 10 route.
- 11 “(N) Atchison/Independence Creek routes.
- 12 “(O) Fort Leavenworth-Kansas River
- 13 route.
- 14 “(P) Nebraska City cutoff routes.
- 15 “(Q) Minersville-Nebraska City Road.
- 16 “(R) Upper Plattsmouth route.
- 17 “(S) Upper Bellevue route.
- 18 “(2) CENTRAL ROUTES.—
- 19 “(A) Cherokee Trail, including splits.
- 20 “(B) Weber Canyon route of Hastings cut-
- 21 off.
- 22 “(C) Bishop Creek cutoff.
- 23 “(D) McAuley cutoff.
- 24 “(E) Diamond Springs cutoff.
- 25 “(F) Secret Pass.

1                   “(G) Greenhorn cutoff.

2                   “(H) Central Overland Trail.

3                   “(3) WESTERN ROUTES.—

4                   “(A) Bidwell-Bartleson route.

5                   “(B) Georgetown/Dagget Pass Trail.

6                   “(C) Big Trees Road.

7                   “(D) Grizzly Flat cutoff.

8                   “(E) Nevada City Road.

9                   “(F) Yreka Trail.

10                  “(G) Henness Pass route.

11                  “(H) Johnson cutoff.

12                  “(I) Luther Pass Trail.

13                  “(J) Volcano Road.

14                  “(K) Sacramento-Coloma Wagon Road.

15                  “(L) Burnett cutoff.

16                  “(M) Placer County Road to Auburn.

17                  “(f) MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC

18 TRAIL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a

19 study of certain routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail, as

20 generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Western Emigrant

21 Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/1993, and such other

22 routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail that the Secretary

23 considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and

24 suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as

25 components of the Mormon Pioneer National Historic

1 Trail. The routes to be studied under this subsection in-  
2 clude the following:

3           “(1) 1846 Subsequent routes A and B (Lucas  
4           and Clarke Counties, Iowa).

5           “(2) 1856–57 Handcart route (Iowa City to  
6           Council Bluffs).

7           “(3) Keokuk route (Iowa).

8           “(4) 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and Loup River  
9           Crossings in Nebraska.

10           “(5) Fort Leavenworth Road, including the Ox  
11           Bow route and alternates in Kansas and Missouri  
12           (Oregon and California Trail routes used by Mor-  
13           mon emigrants).

14           “(6) 1850 Golden Pass Road in Utah.

15           “(g) SHARED CALIFORNIA AND OREGON TRAIL  
16 ROUTES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake  
17 a study of certain shared routes of the California Trail  
18 and Oregon Trail, as generally depicted on the map enti-  
19 tled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated  
20 1991/1993, and such other shared routes that the Sec-  
21 retary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility  
22 and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes  
23 as shared components of the California National Historic  
24 Trail and the Oregon National Historic Trail. The routes  
25 to be studied under this subsection include the following:

- 1           “(1) St. Joe Road.
- 2           “(2) Council Bluffs Road.
- 3           “(3) Sublette cutoff.
- 4           “(4) Applegate route.
- 5           “(5) Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow Trail).
- 6           “(6) Childs cutoff.
- 7           “(7) Raft River to Applegate.”.

