

Union Calendar No. 72

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 539

[Report No. 109-126]

To designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2005

Mr. FORTUÑO (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. GUTIERREZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

JUNE 14, 2005

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 2, 2005]

A BILL

To designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

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 “Caribbean National For-*
3 *est Act of 2005”.*

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 *In this Act:*

6 (1) *MAP.*—*The term “map” means the map*
7 *dated April 13, 2004, and entitled “El Toro Proposed*
8 *Wilderness Area”.*

9 (2) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
10 *the Secretary of Agriculture.*

11 **SEC. 3. WILDERNESS DESIGNATION, CARIBBEAN NATIONAL**
12 **FOREST, PUERTO RICO.**

13 (a) *EL TORO WILDERNESS.*—

14 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*In furtherance of the purposes*
15 *of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the ap-*
16 *proximately 10,000 acres of land in the Caribbean*
17 *National Forest/Luquillo Experimental Forest in the*
18 *Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as generally depicted*
19 *on the map are designated as wilderness and as a*
20 *component of the National Wilderness Preservation*
21 *System.*

22 (2) *DESIGNATION.*—*The land designated in*
23 *paragraph (1) shall be known as the El Toro Wilder-*
24 *ness.*

1 (3) *WILDERNESS BOUNDARIES.*—*The El Toro*
2 *Wilderness shall consist of the land generally depicted*
3 *on the map.*

4 (b) *MAP AND BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION.*—

5 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*As soon as practicable after*
6 *the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
7 *shall—*

8 (A) *prepare a boundary description of the*
9 *El Toro Wilderness; and*

10 (B) *submit the map and the boundary de-*
11 *scription to the Committee on Energy and Nat-*
12 *ural Resources of the Senate and the Committee*
13 *on Resources of the House of Representatives.*

14 (2) *PUBLIC INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.*—*The*
15 *map and the boundary description prepared under*
16 *paragraph (1)(A)—*

17 (A) *shall be on file and available for public*
18 *inspection in the office of the Chief of the Forest*
19 *Service; and*

20 (B) *shall have the same force and effect as*
21 *if included in this Act.*

22 (3) *ERRORS.*—*The Secretary may correct clerical*
23 *and typographical errors in the map and the bound-*
24 *ary description prepared under paragraph (1)(A).*

25 (c) *ADMINISTRATION.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Subject to valid existing*
2 *rights, the Secretary shall administer the El Toro*
3 *Wilderness in accordance with the Wilderness Act (16*
4 *U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and this Act.*

5 (2) *EFFECTIVE DATE OF WILDERNESS ACT.*—
6 *With respect to the El Toro Wilderness, any reference*
7 *in the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) to the*
8 *effective date of that Act shall be deemed to be a ref-*
9 *erence to the date of the enactment of this Act.*

10 (d) *SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS.*—*Con-*
11 *sistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.),*
12 *nothing in this Act precludes the installation and mainte-*
13 *nance of hydrologic, meteorological, climatological, or at-*
14 *mospheric data collection and remote transmission facili-*
15 *ties, or any combination of those facilities, in any case in*
16 *which the Secretary determines that the facilities are essen-*
17 *tial to the scientific research purposes of the Luquillo Ex-*
18 *perimental Forest.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.”.

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109TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 539

[Report No. 109-1261]

A BILL

To designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

JUNE 14, 2005

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed