

Calendar No. 814

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 1528****[Report No. 110-382]**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2008

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

JUNE 16, 2008

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, with an amendment

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

AN ACT

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the
New England National Scenic Trail, 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 “New England National
5 Scenic Trail Designation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.**

2 Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16
3 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(____) NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC
6 TRAIL.—The New England National Scenic Trail, a
7 continuous trail extending approximately 220 miles
8 from the border of New Hampshire in the town of
9 Royalston, Massachusetts to Long Island Sound in
10 the town of Guilford, Connecticut, as generally de-
11 picted on the map titled ‘New England National
12 Scenic Trail Proposed Route’, numbered T06-
13 80,000, and dated October 2007. The map shall be
14 on file and available for public inspection in the ap-
15 propriate offices of the National Park Service. The
16 Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with Fed-
17 eral, State, tribal, regional, and local agencies, the
18 Appalachian Mountain Club, the Connecticut Forest
19 and Park Association, and other organizations, shall
20 administer the trail consistent with the recommenda-
21 tions of the draft report titled the ‘Metacomet Mo-
22 nadnock Mattabesset Trail System National Scenic
23 Trail Feasibility Study and Environmental Assess-
24 ment’, prepared by the National Park Service, and
25 dated Spring 2006. The United States shall not ac-

1 quire for the trail any land or interest in land with-
2 out the consent of the owner.”.

3 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of the Interior
5 (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall
6 use the Trail Management Blueprint described in the draft
7 report titled the “Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesett
8 Trail System National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study and
9 Environmental Assessment”, prepared by the National
10 Park Service, and dated Spring 2006, as the framework
11 for management and administration of the New England
12 National Scenic Trail. Additional or more detailed plans
13 for administration, management, protection, access, main-
14 tenance, or development of the trail may be developed con-
15 sistent with the Trail Management Blueprint, and as ap-
16 proved by the Secretary.

17 (b) **APPLICATION OF CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL**
18 **LAWS.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), all designated
19 and future designated lands within the New England Na-
20 tional Scenic Trail, including all Federal lands, shall be
21 exclusively governed by relevant State and local laws re-
22 garding hunting, fishing, and the possession or use of a
23 weapon (including concealed weapons), trap, or net.

1 **SEC. 4. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

2 The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative
3 agreements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
4 (and its political subdivisions), the State of Connecticut
5 (and its political subdivisions), the Appalachian Mountain
6 Club, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, and
7 other regional, local, and private organizations deemed
8 necessary and desirable to accomplish cooperative trail ad-
9 ministrative, management, and protection objectives con-
10 sistent with the Trail Management Blueprint. An agree-
11 ment under this section may include provisions for limited
12 financial assistance to encourage participation in the plan-
13 ning, acquisition, protection, operation, development, or
14 maintenance of the trail.

15 **SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL TRAIL SEGMENTS.**

16 Pursuant to section 6 of the National Trails System
17 Act, the Secretary is encouraged to work with the State
18 of New Hampshire and appropriate local and private orga-
19 nizations to include that portion of the Metacomet-Monad-
20 nock Trail in New Hampshire (which lies between
21 Royalston, Massachusetts and Jaffrey, New Hampshire)
22 as a component of the New England National Scenic
23 Trail. Inclusion of this segment, as well as other potential
24 side or connecting trails, is contingent upon written appli-
25 cation to the Secretary by appropriate State and local ju-
26 risdictions and a finding by the Secretary that trail man-

1 agement and administration is consistent with the Trail
2 Management Blueprint.

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “New England National*
5 *Scenic Trail Designation Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.**

7 *Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16*
8 *U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-*
9 *lowing:*

10 *“(27) NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL.—*

11 *The New England National Scenic Trail, a contin-*
12 *uous trail extending approximately 220 miles from*
13 *the border of New Hampshire in the town of*
14 *Royalston, Massachusetts to Long Island Sound in*
15 *the town of Guilford, Connecticut, as generally de-*
16 *scribed on the map titled ‘New England National Sce-*
17 *nic Trail Proposed Route’, numbered T06/80,000, and*
18 *dated October 2007. The map shall be on file and*
19 *available for public inspection in the appropriate of-*
20 *fices of the National Park Service. The Secretary of*
21 *the Interior, in consultation with appropriate Fed-*
22 *eral, State, tribal, regional, and local agencies, and*
23 *other organizations, shall administer the trail after*
24 *considering the recommendations of the report titled*
25 *the ‘Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesset Trail System*

1 *National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study and Envi-*
2 *ronmental Assessment*’, prepared by the National
3 *Park Service, and dated Spring 2006. The United*
4 *States shall not acquire for the trail any land or in-*
5 *terest in land without the consent of the owner.”.*

6 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT.**

7 *The Secretary of the Interior (hereafter in this Act re-*
8 *ferred to as the “Secretary”) shall consider the actions out-*
9 *lined in the Trail Management Blueprint described in the*
10 *report titled the “Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesett Trail*
11 *System National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study and Envi-*
12 *ronmental Assessment”, prepared by the National Park*
13 *Service, and dated Spring 2006, as the framework for man-*
14 *agement and administration of the New England National*
15 *Scenic Trail. Additional or more detailed plans for admin-*
16 *istration, management, protection, access, maintenance, or*
17 *development of the trail may be developed consistent with*
18 *the Trail Management Blueprint, and as approved by the*
19 *Secretary.*

20 **SEC. 4. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

21 *The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative*
22 *agreements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (and*
23 *its political subdivisions), the State of Connecticut (and its*
24 *political subdivisions), and other regional, local, and pri-*
25 *vate organizations deemed necessary and desirable to ac-*

1 *comply with cooperative trail administrative, management,*
2 *and protection objectives consistent with the Trail Manage-*
3 *ment Blueprint. An agreement under this section may in-*
4 *clude provisions for limited financial assistance to encour-*
5 *age participation in the planning, acquisition, protection,*
6 *operation, development, or maintenance of the trail.*

7 **SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL TRAIL SEGMENTS.**

8 *Pursuant to section 6 of the National Trails System*
9 *Act, the Secretary is encouraged to work with the State of*
10 *New Hampshire and appropriate local and private organi-*
11 *zations to include that portion of the Metacomet-Monadnock*
12 *Trail in New Hampshire (which lies between Royalston,*
13 *Massachusetts and Jaffrey, New Hampshire) as a compo-*
14 *nent of the New England National Scenic Trail. Inclusion*
15 *of this segment, as well as other potential side or connecting*
16 *trails, is contingent upon written application to the Sec-*
17 *retary by appropriate State and local jurisdictions and a*
18 *finding by the Secretary that trail management and ad-*
19 *ministration is consistent with the Trail Management Blue-*
20 *print.*

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