

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7132

To establish the Gold Butte National Conservation Area in Clark County, Nevada, to conserve, protect, and enhance the cultural, archaeological, natural, wilderness, scientific, geological, historical, biological, wildlife, educational, and scenic resources of the area, to designate wilderness areas in the county, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

Ms. BERKLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Gold Butte National Conservation Area in Clark County, Nevada, to conserve, protect, and enhance the cultural, archaeological, natural, wilderness, scientific, geological, historical, biological, wildlife, educational, and scenic resources of the area, to designate wilderness areas in the county, 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 AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area and Wilderness
6 Designation Act”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

TITLE I—GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

Sec. 101. Establishment of Gold Butte National Conservation Area.

Sec. 102. Management of conservation area.

Sec. 103. General provisions.

Sec. 104. Gold Butte National Conservation Area Advisory Council.

TITLE II—DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS IN CLARK
 COUNTY, NEVADA

Sec. 201. Findings.

Sec. 202. Additions to National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sec. 203. Administration.

Sec. 204. Adjacent management.

Sec. 205. Native American cultural and religious uses.

Sec. 206. Wildlife management.

Sec. 207. Wildfire management.

Sec. 208. Climatological data collection.

Sec. 209. National Park System lands.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Relationship to Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation
 Plan.

3 **TITLE I—GOLD BUTTE NA-**
 4 **TIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**

5 **SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL**
 6 **CONSERVATION AREA.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Gold
 8 Butte National Conservation Area in the State of Nevada
 9 (in this title referred to as the “conservation area”).

10 (b) AREA INCLUDED.—The conservation area shall
 11 consist of approximately 362,177 acres of public land ad-
 12 ministered by the Bureau of Land Management in Clark
 13 County, Nevada, as generally depicted on the map entitled

1 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area” and dated Sep-
2 tember 26, 2008.

3 (c) NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYS-
4 TEM.—The conservation area shall be administered as a
5 component of the National Landscape Conservation Sys-
6 tem.

7 (d) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
10 the Interior shall file a map and legal description of
11 the conservation area with the Committee on Nat-
12 ural Resources of the House of Representatives and
13 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
14 the Senate..

15 (2) EFFECT.—The map and legal description
16 prepared under paragraph (1) shall have the same
17 force and effect as if included in this title, except
18 that the Secretary may correct minor errors in the
19 map or legal description.

20 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—A copy of the map
21 and legal description shall be on file and available
22 for public inspection in the appropriate office of the
23 Bureau of Land Management.

1 **SEC. 102. MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION AREA.**

2 (a) **GENERAL MANAGEMENT PURPOSES.**—In accord-
3 ance with this title, the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
4 ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and other
5 applicable laws, the Secretary of the Interior shall manage
6 the conservation area in a manner that conserves, pro-
7 tects, and enhances the resources of the conservation area.

8 (b) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

9 (1) **PLAN REQUIRED.**—Not later than three
10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
11 Secretary of the Interior shall develop a manage-
12 ment plan for the long-term protection and manage-
13 ment of the conservation area.

14 (2) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary shall pre-
15 pare the management plan in consultation with the
16 State of Nevada, local and tribal government enti-
17 ties, and the public.

18 (3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The management plan
19 shall describe the appropriate uses and management
20 of the conservation area and include a recommenda-
21 tion on interpretive and educational materials re-
22 garding the cultural and biological resources of the
23 region within which the conservation area is located.

24 (c) **USES.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall allow
25 only such uses of the conservation area that the Secretary

1 determines will further the purpose of the conservation
2 area described in subsection (a).

3 (d) INCORPORATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS AND IN-
4 TERESTS.—Any land or interests in land located within
5 the boundary of the conservation area that is acquired by
6 the United States after the date of the enactment of this
7 Act shall become part of the conservation area and be
8 managed as provided in subsection (a).

9 (e) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

10 (1) USE PENDING MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Before
11 the effective date of the management plan required
12 by subsection (b), the use of motorized vehicles in
13 the conservation area shall be consistent with the
14 Route Designations for Selected Areas of Critical
15 Environmental Concern Located in the Northeast
16 Portion of the Las Vegas BLM District Environ-
17 mental Assessment, NV-052-2006-433.

18 (2) USE UNDER MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

19 (A) AUTHORIZED USES.—On and after the
20 effective date of the management plan under
21 subsection (b), the use of motorized vehicles in
22 the conservation area shall be allowed only—

23 (i) on roads and trails designated for
24 use of motor vehicles in the management
25 plan; and

1 (ii) for installing, repairing, maintain-
2 ing, and reconstructing water development
3 projects, including guzzlers, that would en-
4 hance the conservation area by promoting
5 healthy, viable, and more naturally distrib-
6 uted wildlife populations, subject to limita-
7 tions specified in the management plan
8 that are not more restrictive than the limi-
9 tations on such uses authorized in wilder-
10 ness areas designated under title II.

11 (B) MINIMIZING VISUAL IMPACTS.—The
12 management plan shall include or provide rec-
13 ommendations on ways of minimizing the visual
14 impacts of activities authorized pursuant to
15 subparagraph (A)(ii) on the conservation area.

16 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraphs
17 (1) and (2), the Secretary may authorize the use of
18 motorized vehicles in the conservation area for ad-
19 ministrative purposes or to respond to an emer-
20 gency.

21 (f) ROADS.—New roads shall not be built within the
22 conservation area unless the roads are needed for public
23 safety or natural resource protection.

24 (g) HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING.—

1 (1) STATE JURISDICTION.—Nothing in this title
2 affects the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada with
3 respect to fish and wildlife, including hunting, fish-
4 ing, and trapping in the conservation area.

5 (2) LIMITATIONS.—

6 (A) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the
7 Interior may designate, by regulation, areas in
8 which, and establish periods during which, for
9 reasons of public safety, administration, or
10 compliance with applicable laws, no hunting,
11 fishing, or trapping will be permitted in the
12 conservation area.

13 (B) CONSULTATION.—Except in emer-
14 gencies, the Secretary shall consult with the ap-
15 propriate State agency before promulgating reg-
16 ulations under subparagraph (A) that close a
17 portion of the conservation area to hunting,
18 fishing, or trapping.

19 **SEC. 103. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

20 (a) NO BUFFER ZONES.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The establishment of the
22 conservation area shall not create an express or im-
23 plied protective perimeter or buffer zone around the
24 conservation area.

1 (2) PRIVATE LAND.—If the use of, or conduct
2 of an activity on, private land that shares a bound-
3 ary with the conservation area is consistent with ap-
4 plicable law, nothing in this title concerning the es-
5 tablishment of the conservation area prohibits or
6 limits the use or conduct of the activity.

7 (b) WITHDRAWALS.—Subject to valid existing rights,
8 all public land within the conservation area, including any
9 land or interest in land that is acquired by the United
10 States within the conservation area after the date of the
11 enactment of this Act, are withdrawn from—

12 (1) entry, appropriation or disposal under the
13 public land laws;

14 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining
15 laws; and

16 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral
17 materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

18 (c) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The establishment of the
20 conservation area shall not change the management
21 status of any area within the boundary of the con-
22 servation area that is protected under the Clark
23 County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

24 (2) EFFECT OF CONFLICT.—If there is a con-
25 flict between the laws applicable to the areas de-

1 scribed in paragraph (1) and this title, the more re-
2 strictive provision shall control.

3 **SEC. 104. GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**
4 **ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
6 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
7 Interior shall establish an advisory council, to be known
8 as the “Gold Butte National Conservation Area Advisory
9 Council”.

10 (b) DUTIES.—The Council shall advise the Secretary
11 with respect to the preparation and implementation of the
12 management plan for the long-term protection and man-
13 agement of the conservation area required by section
14 102(b).

15 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The Council shall be subject
16 to—

17 (1) the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5
18 U.S.C. App.); and

19 (2) the Federal Land Policy and Management
20 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

21 (d) MEMBERS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall include 10
23 members to be appointed by the Secretary, of whom,
24 to the extent practicable—

1 (A) one member shall be appointed after
2 considering the recommendations of the Mes-
3 quite, Nevada, City Council;

4 (B) one member shall be appointed after
5 considering the recommendations of the
6 Bunkerville, Nevada, Town Advisory Board;

7 (C) one member shall be appointed after
8 considering the recommendations of the Moapa,
9 Nevada, Town Advisory Board;

10 (D) one member shall be appointed after
11 considering the recommendations of the
12 Logandale, Nevada, Town Advisory Board;

13 (E) one member shall be appointed after
14 considering the recommendations of the
15 Overton, Nevada, Town Advisory Board;

16 (F) one member shall be appointed after
17 considering the recommendations of the Moapa
18 Band of Paiutes Tribal Council; and

19 (G) four at-large members from Clark
20 County, Nevada, shall be appointed after con-
21 sidering the recommendations of the County
22 Commission for Clark County.

23 (2) SPECIAL APPOINTMENT CONSIDER-
24 ATIONS.—The at-large members appointed under

1 paragraph (1)(G) must have backgrounds that re-
2 flect—

3 (A) the purposes for which the conserva-
4 tion area was established; and

5 (B) the interests of persons affected by the
6 planning and management of the conservation
7 area.

8 (3) REPRESENTATION.—The Secretary shall en-
9 sure that the membership of the Council is fairly
10 balanced in terms of the points of view represented
11 and the functions to be performed by the Council.

12 (e) TERMINATION.—The Council shall terminate not
13 later than one year after the date on which the manage-
14 ment plan for the conservation area is adopted by the Sec-
15 retary of the Interior.

16 **TITLE II—DESIGNATION OF WIL-**
17 **DERNESS AREAS IN CLARK**
18 **COUNTY, NEVADA**

19 **SEC. 201. FINDINGS.**

20 Congress finds that certain public land administered
21 by the Bureau of Land Management in Clark County, Ne-
22 vada, contains unique and spectacular natural, cultural,
23 and archeological resources, including—

24 (1) priceless habitat for numerous species of
25 plants and wildlife;

1 (2) thousands of acres of pristine land that re-
2 main in a natural state; and

3 (3) numerous sites containing significant ar-
4 cheological artifacts.

5 **SEC. 202. ADDITIONS TO NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESER-**
6 **VATION SYSTEM.**

7 (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.—In furtherance
8 of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131
9 et seq.), the following public lands administered by the
10 National Park Service or the Bureau of Land Manage-
11 ment in Clark County, Nevada, are designated as wilder-
12 ness and as either a new component of the National Wil-
13 derness Preservation System or, in the case of the designa-
14 tion made by paragraph (13), an addition to an existing
15 component of the National Wilderness Preservation Sys-
16 tem:

17 (1) VIRGIN PEAK WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-
18 eral land managed by the Bureau of Land Manage-
19 ment, comprising approximately 21,681 acres, as
20 generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte
21 National Conservation Area” and dated September
22 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “Virgin Peak
23 Wilderness”.

24 (2) BLACK RIDGE WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-
25 eral land managed by the Bureau of Land Manage-

1 ment, comprising approximately 17,303 acres, as
2 generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte
3 National Conservation Area” and dated September
4 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “Black Ridge
5 Wilderness”.

6 (3) BITTER RIDGE NORTH WILDERNESS.—Cer-
7 tain Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land
8 Management comprising approximately 15,016
9 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled
10 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area” and dated
11 September 26, 2008, which shall be known as the
12 “Bitter Ridge North Wilderness”.

13 (4) BITTER RIDGE SOUTH WILDERNESS.—Cer-
14 tain Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land
15 Management, comprising approximately 10,202
16 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled
17 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area” and dated
18 September 26, 2008, which shall be known as the
19 “Bitter Ridge Wilderness”.

20 (5) BILLY GOAT PEAK WILDERNESS.—Certain
21 Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Man-
22 agement, comprising approximately 29,949 acres, as
23 generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte
24 National Conservation Area” and dated September

1 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “Billy Goat
2 Peak Wilderness”.

3 (6) MILLION HILLS WILDERNESS.—Certain
4 Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Man-
5 agement, comprising approximately 24,840 acres, as
6 generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte
7 National Conservation Area” and dated September
8 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “Million Hills
9 Wilderness”.

10 (7) OVERTON WILDERNESS.—Certain Federal
11 land within the Lake Mead National Recreation
12 Area, comprising approximately 23,227 acres, as
13 generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte
14 National Conservation Area” and dated September
15 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “Overton
16 Wilderness”.

17 (8) TWIN SPRINGS WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-
18 eral land within the Lake Mead National Recreation
19 Area, comprising approximately 9,684 acres, as gen-
20 erally depicted on the map entitled “Gold Butte Na-
21 tional Conservation Area” and dated September 26,
22 2008, which shall be known as the “Twin Springs
23 Wilderness”.

24 (9) SCANLON WASH WILDERNESS.—Certain
25 Federal land within the Lake Mead National Recre-

1 ation Area, comprising approximately 22,826 acres,
2 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold
3 Butte National Conservation Area” and dated Sep-
4 tember 26, 2008, and which shall be known as the
5 “Scanlon Wash Wilderness”.

6 (10) HILLER MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS.—Cer-
7 tain Federal land within the Lake Mead National
8 Recreation Area, comprising approximately 14,832
9 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled
10 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area” and dated
11 September 26, 2008, which shall be known as the
12 “Hiller Mountains Wilderness”.

13 (11) HELL’S KITCHEN WILDERNESS.—Certain
14 Federal land within the Lake Mead National Recre-
15 ation Area, comprising approximately 12,439 acres,
16 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold
17 Butte National Conservation Area” and dated Sep-
18 tember 26, 2008, which shall be known as the
19 “Hell’s Kitchen Wilderness”.

20 (12) INDIAN HILLS WILDERNESS.—Certain
21 Federal land within the Lake Mead National Recre-
22 ation Area, comprising approximately 8,955 acres,
23 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Gold
24 Butte National Conservation Area” and dated Sep-

1 tember 26, 2008, which shall be known as the “In-
2 dian Hills Wilderness”.

3 (13) LIME CANYON WILDERNESS ADDITIONS.—

4 Certain Federal land managed by the Bureau of
5 Land Management, comprising approximately 9,382
6 acres, as generally depicted on the map entitled
7 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area” and dated
8 September 26, 2008, is incorporated in, and shall be
9 managed as part of the “Lime Canyon Wilderness”.

10 (b) NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYS-
11 TEM.—The wilderness areas administered by the Bureau
12 of Land Management and designated or expanded by sub-
13 section (a) shall be administered as components of the Na-
14 tional Landscape Conservation System.

15 (c) ROAD OFFSET.—The boundary of any portion of
16 a wilderness area designated by subsection (a) that is bor-
17 dered by a road shall be at least 100 feet away from the
18 edge of the road so as not to interfere with public access.

19 (d) LAKE OFFSET.—The boundary of any portion of
20 a wilderness area designated by subsection (a) that is bor-
21 dered by Lake Mead or the Colorado River shall be 300
22 feet inland from the high water line.

23 (e) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
25 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 of the Interior shall file a map and legal description
2 of each wilderness area designated or expanded by
3 subsection (a) with the Committee on Natural Re-
4 sources of the House of Representatives and the
5 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
6 Senate.

7 (2) EFFECT.—Each map and legal description
8 shall have the same force and effect as if included
9 in this title, except that the Secretary may correct
10 clerical and typographical errors in the map or legal
11 description.

12 (3) AVAILABILITY.—Each map and legal de-
13 scription shall be on file and available for public in-
14 spection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of
15 Land Management and the National Park Service.

16 **SEC. 203. ADMINISTRATION.**

17 (a) MANAGEMENT.—Subject to valid existing rights,
18 the land designated as wilderness by this title shall be ad-
19 ministered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance
20 with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), except
21 that—

22 (1) any reference in that Act to the effective
23 date of that Act shall be considered to be a reference
24 to the date of the enactment of this Act; and

1 (2) any reference in that Act to the Secretary
2 of Agriculture shall be considered to be a reference
3 to the Secretary of the Interior.

4 (b) INCORPORATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS AND IN-
5 TERESTS.—Any land or interest in land within the bound-
6 aries of the land designated as wilderness by this title that
7 is acquired by the United States after the date of the en-
8 actment of this Act shall be added to and administered
9 as part of the wilderness area within which the acquired
10 land or interest is located.

11 (c) WATER RIGHTS.—

12 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

13 (A) The lands designated as wilderness by
14 this title are within the Mojave Desert, are arid
15 in nature, and include ephemeral streams.

16 (B) The hydrology of the lands designated
17 as wilderness by this title is locally character-
18 ized by complex flow patterns and alluvial fans
19 with impermanent channels.

20 (C) The subsurface hydrogeology of the re-
21 gion within which the lands designated as wil-
22 derness by this title are located is characterized
23 by ground water subject to local and regional
24 flow gradients and artesian aquifers.

1 (D) The lands designated as wilderness by
2 this title are generally not suitable for use or
3 development of new water resource facilities,
4 and there are no actual or proposed water re-
5 source facilities and no opportunities for diver-
6 sion, storage, or other uses of water occurring
7 outside such lands that would adversely affect
8 the wilderness or other values of such lands.

9 (E) Because of the unique nature and hy-
10 drology of these desert lands designated as wil-
11 derness by this title and the existence of the
12 Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Conserva-
13 tion Plan, it is possible to provide for proper
14 management and protection of the wilderness,
15 perennial springs, and other values of such
16 lands in ways different from the methods used
17 in other laws.

18 (2) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—

19 (A) NO RESERVATION.—Nothing in this
20 title shall constitute or be construed to con-
21 stitute either an express or implied reservation
22 by the United States of any water or water
23 rights with respect to the lands designated as
24 wilderness by this title.

1 (B) STATE RIGHTS.—Nothing in this title
2 shall affect any water rights in the State of Ne-
3 vada existing on the date of the enactment of
4 this Act, including any water rights held by the
5 United States.

6 (C) NO PRECEDENT.—Nothing in this sub-
7 section shall be construed as establishing a
8 precedent with regard to any future wilderness
9 designations.

10 (D) NO EFFECT ON COMPACTS.—Nothing
11 in this title shall be construed as limiting, alter-
12 ing, modifying, or amending any of the inter-
13 state compacts or equitable apportionment de-
14 crees that apportion water among and between
15 the State of Nevada and other States.

16 (3) NEVADA WATER LAW.—The Secretary of
17 the Interior shall follow the procedural and sub-
18 stantive requirements of the law of the State of Ne-
19 vada in order to obtain and hold any water rights
20 not in existence on the date of enactment of this Act
21 with respect to the lands designated as wilderness by
22 this title.

23 (4) NEW PROJECTS.—

24 (A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the
25 term “water resource facility” means irrigation

1 and pumping facilities, reservoirs, water con-
2 servation works, aqueducts, canals, ditches,
3 pipelines, wells, hydropower projects, and trans-
4 mission and other ancillary facilities, and other
5 water diversion, storage, and carriage struc-
6 tures. The term does not include wildlife guz-
7 zlers.

8 (B) NO LICENSES OR PERMITS.—Except
9 as otherwise provided in this title, on and after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, neither
11 the President nor any other officer, employee,
12 or agent of the United States shall fund, assist,
13 authorize, or issue a license or permit for the
14 development of any new water resource facility
15 within the lands designated as wilderness by
16 this title.

17 (d) WITHDRAWALS.—Subject to valid existing rights,
18 all Federal lands within the wilderness areas designated
19 or expanded by this title, including any land or interest
20 in land within the areas that is acquired by the United
21 States after the date of enactment of this Act, are with-
22 drawn from—

23 (1) entry, appropriation or disposal under the
24 public land laws;

1 nothing in this title affects or diminishes the jurisdiction
2 of the State of Nevada with respect to fish and wildlife
3 management, including the regulation of hunting, fishing,
4 and trapping, in the wilderness areas designated or ex-
5 panded by this title.

6 (b) MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.—In furtherance of
7 the purposes and principles of the Wilderness Act, man-
8 agement activities to maintain or restore fish and wildlife
9 populations and the habitats to support such populations
10 may be carried out within wilderness areas designated or
11 expanded by this title where consistent with relevant wil-
12 derness management plans, in accordance with appro-
13 priate policies such as those set forth in Appendix B of
14 House Report 101–405, including the occasional and tem-
15 porary use of motorized vehicles, if such use, as deter-
16 mined by the Secretary of the Interior, would promote
17 healthy, viable, and more naturally distributed wildlife
18 populations that would enhance wilderness values and ac-
19 complish those purposes with the minimum impact nec-
20 essary to reasonably accomplish the task.

21 (c) EXISTING ACTIVITIES.—Consistent with section
22 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)) and
23 in accordance with appropriate policies such as those set
24 forth in Appendix B of House Report 101–405, the State
25 of Nevada may continue to use aircraft, including heli-

1 copters, to survey, capture, transplant, monitor, and pro-
2 vide water for wildlife populations, including bighorn
3 sheep, and feral stock, horses, and burros.

4 (d) WILDLIFE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.—

5 Subject to subsection (f), the Secretary of the Interior
6 shall authorize structures and facilities, including existing
7 structures and facilities, for wildlife water development
8 projects, including guzzlers, in the wilderness areas des-
9 ignated or expanded by this title if—

10 (1) the structures and facilities will, as deter-
11 mined by the Secretary, enhance wilderness values
12 by promoting healthy, viable and more naturally dis-
13 tributed wildlife populations; and

14 (2) the visual impacts of the structures and fa-
15 cilities on the wilderness areas can reasonably be
16 minimized.

17 (e) HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING.—The Sec-

18 retary of the Interior may designate, by regulation, areas
19 in which, and establish periods during which, for reasons
20 of public safety, administration, or compliance with appli-
21 cable laws, no hunting, fishing, or trapping will be per-
22 mitted in the wilderness areas designated or expanded by
23 this title. Except in the case of an emergency, the Sec-
24 retary shall make such designations in consultation with
25 the appropriate agency of the State of Nevada.

1 (f) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The State of Ne-
2 vada, including a designee of the State, may conduct wild-
3 life management activities in the wilderness areas des-
4 ignated or expanded by this title—

5 (1) in accordance with the terms and conditions
6 specified in the cooperative agreement between the
7 Secretary of the Interior and the State entitled
8 “Memorandum of Understanding between the Bu-
9 reau of Land Management and the Nevada Depart-
10 ment of Wildlife Supplement No. 9” and signed No-
11 vember and December 2003, including any amend-
12 ments to the cooperative agreement agreed to by the
13 Secretary and the State; and

14 (2) subject to all applicable laws and regula-
15 tions.

16 **SEC. 207. WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT.**

17 Consistent with section 4 of the Wilderness Act (16
18 U.S.C. 1133), nothing in this title precludes a Federal,
19 State, or local agency from conducting wildfire manage-
20 ment operations (including operations using aircraft or
21 mechanized equipment) to manage wildfires in the wilder-
22 ness areas designated or expanded by this title.

23 **SEC. 208. CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA COLLECTION.**

24 Subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary
25 of the Interior may prescribe, nothing in this title pre-

1 cludes the installation and maintenance of hydrologic,
2 meteorologic, or climatological collection devices in the wil-
3 derness areas designated or expanded by this title if the
4 facilities and access to the facilities are essential to flood
5 warning, flood control, and water reservoir operation ac-
6 tivities.

7 **SEC. 209. NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM LANDS.**

8 To the extent any of the provisions of this title are
9 in conflict with laws, regulations, or management policies
10 applicable to Federal land within the Lake Mead National
11 Recreation Area designated as wilderness by this title,
12 those laws, regulations, or policies shall control.

13 **TITLE III—GENERAL**
14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 301. RELATIONSHIP TO CLARK COUNTY MULTI-SPE-**
16 **CIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN.**

17 Nothing in this Act shall be construed as limiting,
18 altering, modifying, or amending the Clark County Multi-
19 Species Habitat Conservation Plan with respect to the
20 Gold Butte National Conservation Area established by
21 title I and the lands designated as wilderness by title II,
22 including the specific management actions contained in
23 the Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation
24 Plan for the conservation of perennial springs. However,
25 with respect to the Gold Butte National Conservation Area

1 and the lands designated as wilderness, the Secretary of
2 the Interior shall credit the conservation area and the
3 lands as Conservation Management Areas, as may be re-
4 quired by the Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Con-
5 servation Plan or future amendments thereto.

○