

Union Calendar No. 250

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 783

[Report No. 110-396]

To modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2007

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

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. UDALL of Colorado and Mr. LAMBORN

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Reported with an amendment, 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 italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 31, 2007]

A BILL

To modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Mesa Verde National*
3 *Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2007”.*

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

5 *(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—*

6 *(1) on June 29, 1906, Mesa Verde National Park*
7 *was established as the first national park in the*
8 *United States to preserve the works of humanity;*

9 *(2) on September 6, 1978, Mesa Verde National*
10 *Park became the first World Heritage Site designated*
11 *in the United States; and*

12 *(3) Mesa Verde National Park protects some of*
13 *the best preserved and notable archeological sites of*
14 *the ancient Puebloan culture that flourished in the*
15 *southwestern United States from approximately 600–*
16 *1300, including the elaborate stone villages in the*
17 *sheltered alcoves of the canyon walls referred to as*
18 *“cliff dwellings”.*

19 *(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—*

20 *(1) to modify the boundary of Mesa Verde Na-*
21 *tional Park—*

22 *(A) to protect the archeological sites located*
23 *on property adjacent to the Park boundary;*

24 *(B) to extend and expand the knowledge*
25 *and understanding of the ancient Puebloan cul-*

1 *ture, a major influence in the development of the*
2 *southwestern United States;*

3 *(C) to protect from potential development*
4 *the scenic and biological value of the pinyon-ju-*
5 *niper covered hills that—*

6 *(i) border the Park; and*

7 *(ii) are in full view of the Park en-*
8 *trance road; and*

9 *(D) to protect the largest recorded colony of*
10 *the globally imperiled Gray's Townsend Daisy,*
11 *to ensure continuation of a major wildlife cor-*
12 *ridor, and to protect important habitat for wild-*
13 *life; and*

14 *(2) to provide greater opportunities to visitors,*
15 *researchers, and surrounding communities to under-*
16 *stand and appreciate the natural environment of*
17 *Mesa Verde and the contributions of the ancient*
18 *Puebloan culture to the region by providing the land*
19 *required to construct a contemporary museum collec-*
20 *tions storage facility and visitor orientation center.*

21 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

22 *In this Act:*

23 *(1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map enti-*
24 *tled “Mesa Verde National Park Proposed Boundary*

1 *Adjustment*”, numbered 307/80,180, and dated March
2 1, 2007.

3 (2) *PARK*.—*The term “Park” means the Mesa*
4 *Verde National Park in the State of Colorado.*

5 (3) *SECRETARY*.—*The term “Secretary” means*
6 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

7 **SEC. 4. MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK.**

8 (a) *ACQUISITION OF LAND*.—

9 (1) *IN GENERAL*.—*The Secretary may acquire*
10 *the land or an interest in the land described in sub-*
11 *section (b) for addition to the Park.*

12 (2) *MEANS*.—*An acquisition of land under para-*
13 *graph (1) may be made by donation, purchase from*
14 *a willing seller with donated or appropriated funds,*
15 *or exchange.*

16 (b) *DESCRIPTION OF LAND*.—*The land referred to in*
17 *subsection (a)(1) is the approximately 360 acres of land ad-*
18 *acent to the Park, as generally depicted on the map.*

19 (c) *AVAILABILITY OF MAP*.—*The map shall be on file*
20 *and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of*
21 *the National Park Service.*

22 (d) *BOUNDARY MODIFICATION*.—*The boundary of the*
23 *Park shall be revised to reflect the acquisition of the land*
24 *under subsection (a).*

1 (e) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Secretary shall administer*
2 *any land or interest in land acquired under subsection*
3 *(a)(1) as part of the Park in accordance with the laws (in-*
4 *cluding regulations) applicable to the Park.*

5 ***SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.***

6 *There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as*
7 *are necessary to carry out this Act.*

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