

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 923

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the New England National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 20, 2007

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

A BILL

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”.

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:

1 “(_____) NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC
2 TRAIL.—The New England National Scenic Trail, a
3 continuous trail extending approximately 220 miles
4 from the border of New Hampshire in the town of
5 Royalston, Massachusetts to Long Island Sound in
6 the town of Guilford, Connecticut, as generally de-
7 picted on the maps associated with the preferred al-
8 ternative contained in the draft report titled the
9 ‘Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesett Trail System
10 National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study and Envi-
11 ronmental Assessment’, prepared by the National
12 Park Service, and dated Spring 2006. The report
13 shall be on file and available for public inspection in
14 the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.
15 The Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with
16 Federal, State, tribal, regional, and local agencies,
17 the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Connecticut
18 Forest and Park Association, and other organiza-
19 tions, shall administer the trail consistent with the
20 recommendations of the draft report. The United
21 States shall not acquire for the trail any land or in-
22 terest in land without the consent of the owner.”

23 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT.**

24 The Secretary of the Interior (hereafter in this Act
25 referred to as the “Secretary”) shall use the Trail Man-

1 agement Blueprint described in the draft report titled the
2 “Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesett Trail System Na-
3 tional Scenic Trail Feasibility Study and Environmental
4 Assessment”, prepared by the National Park Service, and
5 dated Spring 2006, as the framework for management and
6 administration of the New England National Scenic Trail.
7 Additional or more detailed plans for administration, man-
8 agement, protection, access, maintenance, or development
9 of the trail may be developed consistent with the Trail
10 Management Blueprint, and as approved by the Secretary.

11 **SEC. 4. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

12 The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative
13 agreements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
14 (and its political subdivisions), the State of Connecticut
15 (and its political subdivisions), the Appalachian Mountain
16 Club, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, and
17 other regional, local, and private organizations deemed
18 necessary and desirable to accomplish cooperative trail ad-
19 ministrative, management, and protection objectives con-
20 sistent with the Trail Management Blueprint. An agree-
21 ment under this section may include provisions for limited
22 financial assistance to encourage participation in the plan-
23 ning, acquisition, protection, operation, development, or
24 maintenance of the trail.

1 **SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL TRAIL SEGMENTS.**

2 Pursuant to section 6 of the National Trails System
3 Act, the Secretary is encouraged to work with the State
4 of New Hampshire and appropriate local and private orga-
5 nizations to include that portion of the Metacomet-Monad-
6nock Trail in New Hampshire (which lies between
7 Royalston, Massachusetts and Jaffrey, New Hampshire)
8 as a component of the New England National Scenic
9 Trail. Inclusion of this segment, as well as other potential
10 side or connecting trails, is contingent upon written appli-
11 cation to the Secretary by appropriate State and local ju-
12 risdictions and a finding by the Secretary that trail man-
13 agement and administration is consistent with the Trail
14 Management Blueprint.

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