

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 539

AN ACT

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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To designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as a component 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
3 Forest 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 Pro-
8 posed 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 pur-
15 poses of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et
16 seq.), the approximately 10,000 acres of land in the
17 Caribbean National Forest/Luquillo Experimental
18 Forest in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as gen-
19 erally depicted on the map are designated as wilder-
20 ness and as a component of the National Wilderness
21 Preservation 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 de-
3 picted 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 Com-
13 mittee on Resources of the House of Represent-
14 atives.

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

18 (A) shall be on file and available for public
19 inspection in the office of the Chief of the For-
20 est Service; and

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

23 (3) ERRORS.—The Secretary may correct cler-
24 ical and typographical errors in the map and the

1 boundary description prepared under paragraph
2 (1)(A).

3 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing
5 rights, the Secretary shall administer the El Toro
6 Wilderness in accordance with the Wilderness Act
7 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and this Act.

8 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF WILDERNESS ACT.—

9 With respect to the El Toro Wilderness, any ref-
10 erence in the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et
11 seq.) to the effective date of that Act shall be
12 deemed to be a reference to the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act.

14 (d) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS.—Con-
15 sistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.),
16 nothing in this Act precludes the installation and mainte-
17 nance of hydrologic, meteorological, climatological, or at-
18 mospheric data collection and remote transmission facili-
19 ties, or any combination of those facilities, in any case in
20 which the Secretary determines that the facilities are es-

- 1 sential to the scientific research purposes of the Luquillo
- 2 Experimental Forest.

Passed the House of Representatives September 13,
2005.

Attest:

Clerk.