

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1528

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2008

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

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## 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “New England National  
3 Scenic Trail Designation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.**

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

8 “(\_\_\_\_) NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC  
9 TRAIL.—The New England National Scenic Trail, a  
10 continuous trail extending approximately 220 miles  
11 from the border of New Hampshire in the town of  
12 Royalston, Massachusetts to Long Island Sound in  
13 the town of Guilford, Connecticut, as generally de-  
14 picted on the map titled ‘New England National  
15 Scenic Trail Proposed Route’, numbered T06–  
16 80,000, and dated October 2007. The map shall be  
17 on file and available for public inspection in the ap-  
18 propriate offices of the National Park Service. The  
19 Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with Fed-  
20 eral, State, tribal, regional, and local agencies, the  
21 Appalachian Mountain Club, the Connecticut Forest  
22 and Park Association, and other organizations, shall  
23 administer the trail consistent with the recommenda-  
24 tions of the draft report titled the ‘Metacomet Mo-  
25 nadnock Mattabeset Trail System National Scenic  
26 Trail Feasibility Study and Environmental Assess-

1 ment’, prepared by the National Park Service, and  
2 dated Spring 2006. The United States shall not ac-  
3 quire for the trail any land or interest in land with-  
4 out the consent of the owner.”.

5 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT.**

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

19 (b) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL  
20 LAWS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), all designated  
21 and future designated lands within the New England Na-  
22 tional Scenic Trail, including all Federal lands, shall be  
23 exclusively governed by relevant State and local laws re-  
24 garding hunting, fishing, and the possession or use of a  
25 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-  
20nock 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.

Passed the House of Representatives January 29,  
2008.

Attest:                   LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk.*