

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 63

To establish the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area in Nevada,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

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

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## A BILL

To establish the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area  
in Nevada, 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 “Spring Mountains Na-  
5 tional Recreation Area Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 As used in this Act:

8 (1) NATIONAL FOREST LANDS.—The term “Na-  
9 tional Forest lands” means lands included in the  
10 National Forest System (as defined in section 11(a))

1 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources  
2 Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

3 (2) RECREATION AREA.—The term “Recreation  
4 Area” means the Spring Mountains National Recre-  
5 ation Area established by this Act.

6 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
7 the Secretary of Agriculture.

8 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

9 The purposes of this Act are to—

10 (1) preserve scenic, scientific, historic, cultural,  
11 natural, wilderness, watershed, riparian, wildlife,  
12 threatened and endangered species, and other values  
13 contributing to public enjoyment and biological di-  
14 versity in the Spring Mountains of Nevada;

15 (2) ensure appropriate conservation and man-  
16 agement of natural recreation resources in the  
17 Spring Mountains; and

18 (3) provide for the development of public recre-  
19 ation opportunities in the Spring Mountains for the  
20 enjoyment of present and future generations.

21 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION AREA.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,  
23 there is established the Spring Mountains National Recre-  
24 ation Area in Nevada.

1 (b) BOUNDARIES AND MAP.—The Recreation Area  
2 shall consist of approximately 316,000 acres of federally  
3 owned lands and waters in the Toiyabe National Forest,  
4 as generally depicted on a map entitled “Spring Mountain  
5 National Recreation Area—Proposed”, numbered NV-  
6 CH, and dated August 2, 1992.

7 (c) MAP FILING.—As soon as practicable after the  
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file a  
9 map of the Recreation Area with the Committee on En-  
10 ergy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Com-  
11 mittee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of  
12 Representatives.

13 (d) PUBLIC INSPECTION.—The map shall be on file  
14 and available for public inspection in the offices of the  
15 Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

16 (e) DISCREPANCIES.—In the case of any discrepancy  
17 between or among the acreage referred to in subsection  
18 (b) and the map described in subsection (b), the map de-  
19 scribed in subsection (b) shall control any question con-  
20 cerning the boundaries of the Recreation Area.

21 **SEC. 5. MANAGEMENT.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the  
23 Chief of the Forest Service, shall manage the Recreation  
24 Area in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations

1 pertaining to the National Forest System and this Act to  
2 provide for—

3 (1) the conservation of scenic, scientific, his-  
4 toric, cultural, and other values contributing to pub-  
5 lic enjoyment;

6 (2) the conservation of fish and wildlife popu-  
7 lations and habitat, including the use of prescribed  
8 fire to improve or maintain habitat;

9 (3) the protection of watersheds and the main-  
10 tenance of free flowing streams and the quality of  
11 ground and surface waters in accordance with appli-  
12 cable Federal and State law;

13 (4) public outdoor recreation benefits, includ-  
14 ing, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, trapping,  
15 hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, rock climb-  
16 ing, camping, and nature study;

17 (5) wilderness areas as designated by Congress;  
18 and

19 (6) the management, utilization, and disposal of  
20 natural resources in a manner compatible with the  
21 purposes for which the Recreation Area is estab-  
22 lished.

23 (b) HUNTING, TRAPPING, AND FISHING.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
25 the Secretary shall permit hunting, trapping, fishing,

1 and habitat management within the Recreation Area  
2 in accordance with the laws of the United States and  
3 the State of Nevada.

4 (2) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary, after con-  
5 sultation with the Nevada Department of Wildlife,  
6 may designate zones where and periods when hunt-  
7 ing, trapping, or fishing shall not be permitted for  
8 reasons of public safety, administration, or public  
9 use and enjoyment.

10 (c) GRAZING.—The grazing of livestock may be per-  
11 mitted to continue pursuant to Federal law and subject  
12 to such reasonable regulations, policies, and practices as  
13 the Secretary considers necessary.

14 (d) PREVENTIVE MEASURES.—Nothing in this Act  
15 shall preclude such reasonable measures as the Secretary  
16 considers necessary to protect the land and resources from  
17 fire or insect or disease infestation in the Recreation Area.

18 **SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—

20 (1) PROCEDURES.—Not later than 3 full fiscal  
21 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the  
22 Secretary shall develop a general management plan  
23 for the Recreation Area as an amendment to the  
24 Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Man-  
25 agement Plan. Such an amendment shall reflect the

1 establishment of the Recreation Area and conform to  
2 the provisions of this Act, except that nothing in this  
3 Act shall require the Secretary to revise the Toiyabe  
4 National Forest Land and Resource Management  
5 Plan pursuant to section 6 of the Forest and Range-  
6 land Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.  
7 The provisions of the national forest land and re-  
8 source management plan relating to the recreation  
9 area shall also be available to the public in a docu-  
10 ment separate from the rest of the forest plan.

11 (2) CONTENTS.—The management plan de-  
12 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be developed with full  
13 public participation and shall include—

14 (A) implementation plans for a continuing  
15 program of interpretation and public education  
16 about the resources and values of the Recre-  
17 ation Area;

18 (B) proposals for public facilities to be de-  
19 veloped, expanded, or improved for the Recre-  
20 ation Area, including one or more visitor cen-  
21 ters to accommodate both local and out-of-State  
22 visitors;

23 (C) plans for the management of natural  
24 and cultural resources in the Recreation Area,  
25 with emphasis on the preservation and long-

1 term scientific use of archaeological resources,  
2 with priority in development given to the en-  
3 forcement of the Archaeological Resources Pro-  
4 tection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470aa et seq.)  
5 and the National Historic Preservation Act (16  
6 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) within the Recreation Area;

7 (D) wildlife and fish resource management  
8 plans for the Recreation Area prepared in con-  
9 sultation with appropriate departments of the  
10 State of Nevada and using other available stud-  
11 ies of the Recreation Area;

12 (E) recreation management plans for the  
13 Recreation Area in consultation with appro-  
14 priate departments of the State of Nevada;

15 (F) wild horse and burro herd manage-  
16 ment plans for the Recreation Area prepared in  
17 consultation with appropriate departments and  
18 commissions of the State of Nevada; and

19 (G) an inventory of all lands within the  
20 Recreation Area not presently managed as Na-  
21 tional Forest lands that will permit the Sec-  
22 retary to evaluate possible future acquisitions.

23 (3) CONSULTATION.—The plans for the man-  
24 agement of natural and cultural resources described  
25 in paragraph (2)(C) shall be prepared in consulta-

1 tion with the Advisory Council on Historic Preserva-  
2 tion established by title II of the National Historic  
3 Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470i et seq.) and the  
4 Nevada State Department of Conservation and Nat-  
5 ural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation  
6 and Archaeology.

7 (b) WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—

8 (1) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The general manage-  
9 ment plan for the Recreation Area shall include the  
10 recommendations of the Bureau of Land Manage-  
11 ment as to the suitability or nonsuitability for pres-  
12 ervation as wilderness of the 89,270 acres identified  
13 as the Mt. Stirling, La Madre Mountains, and Pine  
14 Creek Wilderness Study Areas on the Bureau of  
15 Land Management Wilderness Status Map, dated  
16 March 1990.

17 (2) MANAGEMENT.—Pending submission of a  
18 recommendation and until otherwise directed by Act  
19 of Congress, the Secretary, acting through the Chief  
20 of the Forest Service, shall manage the lands and  
21 waters within the wilderness study areas referred to  
22 in paragraph (1) so as to maintain their potential  
23 for inclusion within the National Wilderness Preser-  
24 vation System.

1 **SEC. 7. ACQUISITION OF LANDS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to ac-  
3 quire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated  
4 funds, exchange, bequest, or otherwise any lands, or lesser  
5 interests therein, including mineral interests, water rights,  
6 and scenic easements, which the Secretary determines are  
7 needed for the purposes of this Act.

8 (b) EXCHANGES OUT OF FEDERAL OWNERSHIP.—  
9 Federally owned lands, waters, or interests in lands or wa-  
10 ters located within the Recreation Area may not be ex-  
11 changed except in connection with an exchange for lands,  
12 waters, or interests in lands or waters owned by the State  
13 of Nevada or a political subdivision of the State.

14 (c) INCORPORATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS.—Any  
15 lands, waters, or interests in lands or waters located with-  
16 in the Recreation Area that are acquired by the United  
17 States or administratively transferred to the Secretary  
18 after the date of enactment of this Act shall be incor-  
19 porated into the Recreation Area and managed in accord-  
20 ance with the laws, rules, and regulations applicable to  
21 the National Forest System and the provisions of this Act.

22 (d) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For  
23 purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation  
24 Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), where such bound-  
25 aries are established for units of the National Forest Sys-  
26 tem, such established boundaries shall be treated as if they

1 were the boundaries of the National Forests as of January  
2 1, 1965. Money appropriated from the Land and Water  
3 Conservation Fund shall be available for the acquisition  
4 of lands, waters, and interests therein in furtherance of  
5 the purposes of this Act.

6 **SEC. 8. WITHDRAWAL.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights  
8 and except for lands described in subsection (b), all Fed-  
9 eral lands within the Recreation Area and all lands, wa-  
10 ters, and interests in lands and waters within the Recre-  
11 ation Area that are acquired by the United States after  
12 the date of enactment of this Act are withdrawn from—

13 (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal  
14 under the public land laws;

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

17 (3) operation under the mineral leasing and  
18 geothermal leasing laws.

19 (b) EXCEPTION.—The lands referred to in subsection  
20 (a) are described as follows:

21 S<sup>1/2</sup> Sec. 22, W<sup>1/2</sup>E<sup>1/2</sup> and W<sup>1/2</sup> Sec. 27, E<sup>1/2</sup>E<sup>1/2</sup>

22 Sec. 28, T 23 S, R 58 E, Mt. Diablo Meridian.

23 **SEC. 9. COORDINATED MANAGEMENT.**

24 The Secretary shall coordinate the management of  
25 the Recreation Area with the management of all proximate

1 lands in a manner that best meets the present and future  
2 needs of the people of the United States.

3 **SEC. 10. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

4 In order to encourage unified and cost-effective man-  
5 agement and interpretation of natural and cultural re-  
6 sources in southern Nevada, the Secretary may enter into  
7 cooperative agreements with other Federal, State, and  
8 local agencies, and with nonprofit entities, that provide for  
9 the management and interpretation of natural and cul-  
10 tural resources in southern Nevada.

11 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
13 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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