

Calendar No. 684

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 3954**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2002

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

OCTOBER 8, 2002

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, without amendment

AN ACT

To designate certain waterways in the Caribbean National Forest in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 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 “Caribbean National
5 Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATIONS, CARIB-**
7 **BEAN NATIONAL FOREST, PUERTO RICO.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) In the revised land and resource manage-
2 ment plan for the Caribbean National Forest/
3 Luquillo Experimental Forest, approved April 17,
4 1997, and the environmental impact statement pre-
5 pared as part of the plan, the Secretary of Agri-
6 culture examined the suitability of rivers within the
7 Caribbean National Forest/Luquillo Experimental
8 Forest for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic
9 Rivers System.

10 (2) Based on such examination, the Rio Icacos,
11 Rio Mameyes, and Rio de La Mina were found to be
12 free flowing waterways and to possess outstandingly
13 remarkable scenic, recreational, geological,
14 hydrological, biological, historical, and cultural val-
15 ues, and, therefore, to qualify for addition to the
16 National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

17 (b) DESIGNATIONS.—Section 3(a) of the Wild and
18 Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by add-
19 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

20 “(____) RIVERS OF CARIBBEAN NATIONAL FOREST,
21 PUERTO RICO.—

22 “(A) RIO MAMEYES.—The segment of approxi-
23 mately 4.5 miles from its headwaters in the Baño de
24 Oro Research Natural Area to the boundary of the

1 Caribbean National Forest, to be administered by
2 the Secretary of Agriculture as follows:

3 “(i) As a wild river from its headwaters in
4 the Baño de Oro Research Natural Area to the
5 crossing point of Trail No. 24/11 (approx-
6 imately 500 feet upstream from the confluence
7 with the Rio de La Mina), a total of approxi-
8 mately 2.1 miles.

9 “(ii) As a scenic river from the crossing
10 point of Trail No. 24/11 to the access point of
11 Trail No. 7, a total of approximately 1.4 miles.

12 “(iii) As a recreational river from the ac-
13 cess point of Trail No. 7 to the national forest
14 boundary, a total of approximately 1.0 miles.

15 “(B) RIO DE LA MINA.—The segment of ap-
16 proximately 2.1 miles from its headwaters to its con-
17 fluence with the Rio Mameyes, to be administered by
18 the Secretary of Agriculture as follows:

19 “(i) As a recreational river from its head-
20 waters in the El Yunque Recreation Area down-
21 stream to La Mina Falls, a total of approxi-
22 mately 0.9 miles.

23 “(ii) As a scenic river from La Mina falls
24 downstream to its confluence with the Rio
25 Mameyes, a total of approximately 1.2 miles.

1 “(C) RIO ICACOS.—The segment of approxi-
2 mately 2.3 miles from its headwaters to the bound-
3 ary of the Caribbean National Forest, to be adminis-
4 tered by the Secretary of Agriculture as a scenic
5 river.”.

6 (c) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS.—

7 (1) CERTAIN PERMITTED ACTIVITIES.—Subject
8 to paragraph (2), the amendment made by the sub-
9 section (b) and the applicability of the Wild and Sce-
10 nic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) to the river
11 segments added to the National Wild and Scenic
12 Rivers System by the amendment shall not be con-
13 strued to prevent any of the following activities with-
14 in the boundaries of the river segments:

15 (A) Installation and maintenance of hydro-
16 logic, meteorological, climatological, or atmos-
17 pheric data collection and transmission facili-
18 ties, or any combination of such facilities, when
19 the Secretary of Agriculture determines that
20 such facilities are essential to the scientific re-
21 search purposes of the Luquillo Experimental
22 Forest.

23 (B) Construction and maintenance of nest-
24 ing structures, observation blinds, and popu-

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