

Protected Public Lands and Rivers Benefit the Outdoor Industry

Historic Opportunity to Save 3 Million Acres of Land and 1,000 Miles of Rivers in the US

Protected public lands and waterways are essential to the health of the outdoor industry. Outdoor recreationists look to our Wilderness and roadless areas, and Wild and Scenic Rivers, to participate in many forms of human-powered outdoor recreation. As our customer base grows, so grows the need for an increasing “supply” of places where enthusiasts may go backpacking, climbing, skiing, paddling, fishing, birding, and other forms of recreation. Congress is considering a large legislative package that would: 1) designate more than 2 million acres of public lands as Wilderness; 2) protect more than 1000 miles of rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; and 3) prohibit new oil and gas leases on the 1.2-million-acre Wyoming Range. This package - the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2008 (S.3213) - contains many separate bills, and represents a nationwide conservation agenda that would benefit outdoor enthusiasts for many generations. Each provision in this package enjoys broad, bipartisan support. [Click here to voice your support for this historic conservation initiative.](#)

Wilderness Provisions

Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness Act (S. 647)

Sponsored by Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Gordon Smith (R-OR), the Mt. Hood Wilderness Act would permanently protect 128,600 acres of national forest on Mt. Hood. The plan would also add nearly 80 miles of river to the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.



Oregon Desert Wilderness (S.3088 and S.3089)

Introduced by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR), these bills would protect the Oregon Badlands and Spring Basin, two key wildlands in Oregon’s high desert. Together the two bills would protect nearly 40,000 acres of public land.



Copper Salmon Wilderness Act (S. 2034/H.R. 3513)

Introduced by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-OR), the Copper Salmon Wilderness Act will protect 13,700 acres of pristine old-growth forest surrounding the headwaters of the Elk River in the Siskiyou National Forest.



Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Voluntary and Equitable Grazing Conflict Resolution Act (S.2379)

Introduced on November 16, 2007, by Senators Gordon Smith (R-OR) and Ron Wyden (D-OR), this bill will permanently protect 23,000 acres in Southern Oregon as the Soda Mountain Wilderness.



Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act (S.3069/H.R.6156)

This bi-partisan legislation would designate more than 465,000 acres of Wilderness and 52 miles of Rivers as Wild and Scenic in California’s spectacular Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. The bill was introduced in the House by Rep. Buck McKeon (R) and in the Senate by Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA).



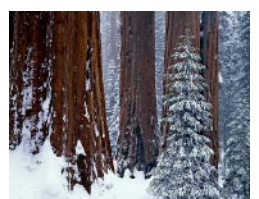
California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act of 2007 (H.R. 3682/S.2109)

Introduced by Representative Mary Bono Mack (R-CA) and Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), H.R. 3682/S.2109 will permanently protect more than 190,000 acres in Riverside County as wilderness, add 31 miles of four rivers to the Wild and Scenic River System, and expand by 5,000 acres the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument.



The Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness Act of 2007 (H.R. 3022/ S. 1774)

The bipartisan Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness Act will permanently protect 77,000 acres of wilderness in the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park. The bill will protect Redwood Mountain Grove, the largest stand of Giant Sequoia within the park, and California’s largest cave and the Old Hockett Trail.



The Owyhee Public Land Management Act of 2008 (S. 2833)

Introduced by Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID), this legislation includes a provision to permanently protect as wilderness more than 500,000 acres in Idaho’s Owyhee-Bruneau Canyonlands . It will also add 315 miles of river to the Wild and Scenic River System.



Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness & Indian Peaks Wilderness Expansion Act (S. 1380/H.R. 2334)

This bipartisan legislation, introduced by Colorado Representatives Mark Udall (D) and Marilyn Musgrave (R), and Senators Ken Salazar (D) and Wayne Allard (R), will protect 250,000 acres of the park as wilderness (almost 94 percent of the park).



Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area and Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area Act (H.R. 6162/S.3065)

This legislation would create the approximately 200,000-acre Dominguez-Escalante Canyons National Conservation Area, including more than 66,000 acres designated as wilderness. This wildland in Colorado's Western Slope is known for its redrock sandstone canyons, cliffs, streams and waterfalls.



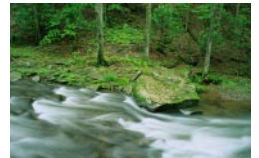
Sabinoso Wilderness Act (H.R. 2632)

The Sabinoso Wilderness Act will designate more than 15,000 acres in New Mexico's San Miguel County as wilderness. The area is a remarkable landscape of pinyon-juniper forest and sandstone mesas.



The Wild Monongahela Act (H.R. 5151/S. 2581)

Introduced by Congressman Nick Rahall (D-WV), The Wild Monongahela Act will designate 37,000 acres of wilderness in the Monongahela National Forest, expanding three existing wilderness areas, and creating three new wilderness areas.



Virginia Ridge and Valley Wilderness and National Scenic Area Act (S. 570/H.R. 1011)

Representative Rick Boucher's (D-VA) bill would protect 55,000 acres in the Jefferson National Forest as wilderness, wilderness study or national scenic areas. Virginia Senators John Warner (R) and Jim Webb (D) have introduced a companion bill.



Wild and Scenic River Provisions

Snake Headwaters Legacy Act (S. 1281)

Originally introduced by the late Senator Craig Thomas (R-WY) and now championed by Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), this initiative will add more than 440 river and stream miles of the headwaters of the Snake River System to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.



Oregon Treasures Act of 2008 (H.R.6291)

Introduced by Rep. Peter DeFazio (D), this bill would protect 143 miles of rivers in the Rogue River watershed, and expand by 4,000 acres the boundaries of Oregon Caves National Monument.



Other Public Land Provisions

The Wyoming Range Legacy Act (S. 2229)

Introduced by Senator Barrasso (R-WY) and cosponsored by Senator Enzi (R-WY), this proposal will withdraw certain federal land in the Wyoming Range from oil, gas, or mineral leasing, and provide an opportunity to retire certain leases in the Wyoming Range.

