

Public Law 101-184
101st Congress

An Act

Nov. 28, 1989
[S. 818]

To commemorate the contributions of Senator Clinton P. Anderson to the establishment of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

National parks,
monuments, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico was the leader of the conservation movement in the 88th Congress, which earned the name the "Conservation Congress" for its passage of several landmark conservation measures. Senator Anderson was the guiding sponsor of the Wilderness Act and shepherded it through the 88th Congress, helping secure its passage and enactment on September 3, 1964.

(2) Senator Anderson was influenced by New Mexico conservationist Aldo Leopold, who as a United States Forest Service officer helped establish the Nation's first administratively-designated wilderness in 1924, the Gila Wilderness in the Gila National Forest in New Mexico.

(3) Senator Anderson wrote and spoke eloquently about wilderness and his words continue to inspire his colleagues and the public about conservation. In 1963 he wrote:

"There is a spiritual value to conservation, and wilderness typifies this. Wilderness is a demonstration by our people that we can put aside a portion of this which we have as a tribute to the Maker and say—this we will leave as we found it.

"Wilderness is an anchor to windward. Knowing it is there, we can also know that we are still a rich Nation, tending our resources as we should—not a people in despair searching every last nook and cranny of our land for a board of lumber, a barrel of oil, a blade of grass, or a tank of water."

(4) On the 25th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, Senator Anderson's living legacy is the 474 units in the National Wilderness Preservation System, totaling nearly 91 million acres.

New Mexico.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF OVERLOOK.

In recognition of the significant role Senator Anderson played in the enactment of the Wilderness Act, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to rename the existing Copperas Vista,

located on the Gila National Forest in New Mexico, as the "Senator Clinton P. Anderson Wilderness Overlook" and to erect appropriate signs, interpretive facilities, monuments, or plaques commemorating Senator Anderson's contribution to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Approved November 28, 1989.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 818:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 101-88 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):

Aug. 2, considered and passed Senate.

Nov. 17, considered and passed House.