

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1008

To conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Nation's biological resources.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

A BILL

To conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Nation's
biological resources.

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 "Biological Survey Act
5 of 1993".

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.**

7 Section 3 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16
8 U.S.C. 742b) is amended by adding the following new sub-
9 section:

10 "(e) BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.—

1 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the
2 Interior shall undertake a survey of the Nation’s bio-
3 logical resources.

4 “(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the survey
5 established under paragraph (1) shall be to—

6 “(A) conduct a comprehensive baseline as-
7 sessment and document the status and trends
8 of the biological resources of the United States;

9 “(B) provide information to be used in
10 protecting and managing ecosystems, including
11 their plant, fish, and wildlife components;

12 “(C) provide information to be used in the
13 sustainable development of the Nation’s natural
14 resources; and

15 “(D) assist the Secretary in anticipating,
16 avoiding, or resolving conflicts arising in the
17 implementation of the Endangered Species Act
18 of 1973 and other fisheries and wildlife con-
19 servation laws.

20 “(3) FUNCTIONS.—In carrying out the survey
21 established under paragraph (1), the Secretary
22 shall—

23 “(A) assess and study biological resources,
24 including plants, fish, wildlife, and ecosystems
25 and their components;

1 “(B) develop, test, and monitor methods of
2 ecosystem management in order to improve the
3 capability of the Secretary to conserve biological
4 resources and diversity;

5 “(C) collect and analyze data and informa-
6 tion to determine, inventory, and monitor the
7 distribution, abundance, health, status, and
8 trends of biological resources and ecosystems;

9 “(D) in consultation with State agencies
10 responsible for the management and conserva-
11 tion of fish, wildlife, or plant resources within
12 a State, including State natural heritage pro-
13 grams, and other appropriate parties, devise
14 and implement methodologies to access existing
15 sources of information on biological resources;

16 “(E) develop methods for the consistent
17 and systematic collection and analysis of data
18 on ecosystems and their components;

19 “(F) disseminate information to resource
20 managers, State agencies, scientists, and the
21 public;

22 “(G) provide technical assistance in sup-
23 port of legislative, regulatory, and resource
24 management decisions; and

1 “(H) perform international activities relat-
2 ed to the management of biological resources.

3 “(4) OFFICE AND DIRECTOR.—

4 “(A) The Secretary of the Interior shall es-
5 tablish within the Department of the Interior
6 an office to assist in conducting the biological
7 survey established under paragraph (1). Such
8 office shall be headed by a Director who shall—

9 “(i) be appointed by the President, by
10 and with the advice and consent of the
11 Senate, from among individuals who, by
12 reason of scientific education and experi-
13 ence, have demonstrated expertise in the
14 biological sciences; and

15 “(ii) be compensated at the rate pro-
16 vided for level V of the Executive Schedule.

17 “(B) The Director shall be subject to the
18 supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Fish
19 and Wildlife.”.

20 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

21 Section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, is
22 amended by inserting after the item relating to the Direc-
23 tor, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department
24 of the Interior, the following:

1 “Director of the Biological Survey, Department
2 of the Interior”.

○