

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 153

AN ACT

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resource study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in the State of California to evaluate alternatives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, 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 “Rim of the Valley Cor-
5 ridor Study Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) CORRIDOR.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Corridor”
5 means the land, water, and interests of the area
6 in the State known as the “Rim of the Valley
7 Corridor”.

8 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “Corridor”
9 includes the mountains surrounding the San
10 Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi,
11 and Conejo valleys in the State.

12 (2) RECREATION AREA.—The term “Recreation
13 Area” means the Santa Monica Mountains National
14 Recreation Area in the State.

15 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
16 the Secretary of the Interior.

17 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
18 of California.

19 **SEC. 3. RESOURCE STUDY OF THE RIM OF THE VALLEY**
20 **CORRIDOR, CALIFORNIA.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a re-
22 source study of the Corridor to evaluate various alter-
23 natives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, in-
24 cluding designating all or a portion of the Corridor as a
25 unit of the Recreation Area.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the study under
2 subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

3 (1) seek to achieve the objectives of—

4 (A) protecting wildlife populations in the
5 Recreation Area by preserving habitat linkages
6 and wildlife movement corridors between large
7 blocks of habitat in adjoining regional open
8 space;

9 (B) establishing connections along the
10 State-designated Rim of the Valley Trail Sys-
11 tem for the purposes of—

12 (i) creating a single contiguous Rim of
13 the Valley Trail; and

14 (ii) encompassing major feeder trails
15 connecting adjoining communities and re-
16 gional transit to the Rim of the Valley
17 Trail System;

18 (C) preserving recreational opportunities;

19 (D) facilitating access to open space for a
20 variety of recreational users;

21 (E) protecting—

22 (i) rare, threatened, or endangered
23 plant and animal species; and

24 (ii) rare or unusual plant communities
25 and habitats;

1 (F) protecting historically significant land-
2 scapes, districts, sites, and structures; and

3 (G) respecting the needs of communities
4 in, or in the vicinity of, the Corridor;

5 (2) analyze the potential impact of each alter-
6 native on staffing and other potential costs to Fed-
7 eral, State, and local agencies and other organiza-
8 tions; and

9 (3) analyze the potential impact that desig-
10 nating all or a portion of the Corridor as a unit of
11 the Recreation Area would have on land in or bor-
12 dering the area that is privately owned as of the
13 date on which the study is conducted.

14 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the
15 Secretary shall consult with appropriate Federal, State,
16 county, and local government entities.

17 (d) APPLICABLE LAW.—Section 8(c) of Public Law
18 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)) shall apply to the conduct
19 and completion of the study required by subsection (a).

20 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
22 date on which funds are first made available for the study,
23 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy
24 and Natural Resources of the Senate and to the Com-
25 mittee on Resources of the House of Representatives a re-

1 port that describes the results of the study conducted
2 under section 3.

3 (b) INCLUSION.—The report submitted under sub-
4 section 4(a) shall include the concerns of private land-
5 owners within the boundaries of the Recreation Area.

Passed the Senate July 26, 2005.

Attest:

Secretary.

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