

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 153

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25, 2005

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

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”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) CORRIDOR.—

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

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

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

13 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
16 of California.

17 **SEC. 3. RESOURCE STUDY OF THE RIM OF THE VALLEY**
18 **CORRIDOR, CALIFORNIA.**

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

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

1 (1) seek to achieve the objectives of—

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

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

10 (i) creating a single contiguous Rim of
11 the Valley Trail; and

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

16 (C) preserving recreational opportunities;

17 (D) facilitating access to open space for a
18 variety of recreational users;

19 (E) protecting—

20 (i) rare, threatened, or endangered
21 plant and animal species; and

22 (ii) rare or unusual plant communities
23 and habitats;

24 (F) protecting historically significant land-
25 scapes, districts, sites, and structures; and

1 (G) respecting the needs of communities
2 in, or in the vicinity of, the Corridor;

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

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

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

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

18 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

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

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

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