

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5151

AN ACT

To designate as wilderness additional National Forest System lands in the Monongahela National Forest in the State of West Virginia, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Wild Monongahela Act:
3 A National Legacy for West Virginia’s Special Places”.

4 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS, MONONGAHELA NA-**
5 **TIONAL FOREST, WEST VIRGINIA.**

6 (a) DESIGNATION.—In furtherance of the purposes of
7 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following
8 Federal lands within the Monongahela National Forest in
9 the State of West Virginia are designated as wilderness
10 and as either a new component of the National Wilderness
11 Preservation System or as an addition to an existing com-
12 ponent of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

13 (1) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
14 mately 5,144 acres, as generally depicted on the
15 map entitled “Big Draft Proposed Wilderness” and
16 dated March 11, 2008, which shall be known as the
17 “Big Draft Wilderness”.

18 (2) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
19 mately 11,951 acres, as generally depicted on the
20 map entitled “Cranberry Expansion Proposed Wil-
21 derness” and dated March 11, 2008, which shall be
22 added to and administered as part of the Cranberry
23 Wilderness designated by section 1(1) of Public Law
24 97–466 (96 Stat. 2538).

25 (3) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
26 mately 7,156 acres, as generally depicted on the

1 map entitled “Dolly Sods Expansion Proposed Wil-
2 derness” and dated March 11, 2008, which shall be
3 added to and administered as part of the Dolly Sods
4 Wilderness designated by section 3(a)(13) of Public
5 Law 93–622 (88 Stat. 2098).

6 (4) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
7 mately 698 acres, as generally depicted on the map
8 entitled “Otter Creek Expansion Proposed Wilder-
9 ness” and dated March 11, 2008, which shall be
10 added to and administered as part of the Otter
11 Creek Wilderness designated by section 3(a)(14) of
12 Public Law 93–622 (88 Stat. 2098).

13 (5) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
14 mately 6,792 acres, as generally depicted on the
15 map entitled “Roaring Plains Proposed Wilderness”
16 and dated March 11, 2008, which shall be known as
17 the “Roaring Plains West Wilderness”.

18 (6) Certain Federal land comprising approxi-
19 mately 6,030 acres, as generally depicted on the
20 map entitled “Spice Run Proposed Wilderness” and
21 dated March 11, 2008, which shall be known as the
22 “Spice Run Wilderness”.

23 (b) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

24 (1) FILING AND AVAILABILITY.—As soon as
25 practicable after the date of the enactment of this

1 Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the
2 Chief of the Forest Service, shall file with the Com-
3 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Nat-
5 ural Resources of the Senate a map and legal de-
6 scription of each wilderness area designated or ex-
7 panded by subsection (a). The maps and legal de-
8 scriptions shall be on file and available for public in-
9 spection in the office of the Chief of the Forest Serv-
10 ice and the office of the Supervisor of the
11 Monongahela National Forest.

12 (2) FORCE AND EFFECT.—The maps and legal
13 descriptions referred to in this subsection shall have
14 the same force and effect as if included in this Act,
15 except that the Secretary may correct errors in the
16 maps and descriptions.

17 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid existing
18 rights, the Federal lands designated as wilderness by sub-
19 section (a) shall be administered by the Secretary in ac-
20 cordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et
21 seq.). The Secretary may continue to authorize the com-
22 petitive running event permitted from 2003 through 2007
23 in the vicinity of the boundaries of the Dolly Sods Wilder-
24 ness addition designated by paragraph (3) of subsection
25 (a) and the Roaring Plains West Wilderness Area des-

1 ignited by paragraph (5) of such subsection, in a manner
2 compatible with the preservation of such areas as wilder-
3 ness.

4 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE OF WILDERNESS ACT.—With
5 respect to the Federal lands designated as wilderness by
6 subsection (a), any reference in the Wilderness Act (16
7 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) to the effective date of the Wilderness
8 Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of the
9 enactment of this Act.

10 (e) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—As provided in section
11 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(7)),
12 nothing in this section affects the jurisdiction or responsi-
13 bility of the State of West Virginia with respect to wildlife
14 and fish.

15 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT, LAUREL FORK SOUTH**
16 **WILDERNESS, MONONGAHELA NATIONAL**
17 **FOREST.**

18 (a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The boundary of the
19 Laurel Fork South Wilderness designated by section 1(3)
20 of Public Law 97–466 (96 Stat. 2538) is modified to ex-
21 clude two parcels of land, as generally depicted on the map
22 entitled “Monongahela National Forest Laurel Fork
23 South Wilderness Boundary Modification” and dated
24 March 11, 2008, and more particularly described accord-
25 ing to the site-specific maps and legal descriptions on file

1 in the office of the Forest Supervisor, Monongahela Na-
2 tional Forest. The general map shall be on file and avail-
3 able for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the
4 Forest Service.

5 (b) MANAGEMENT.—Federally owned land delineated
6 on the maps referred to in subsection (a) as the Laurel
7 Fork South Wilderness, as modified by such subsection,
8 shall continue to be administered by the Secretary of Agri-
9 culture in accordance with Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
10 1131 et seq.). Any reference in the Wilderness Act to the
11 effective date of that Act shall be deemed to be a reference
12 to the effective date of Public Law 97–466 and this Act.

13 **SEC. 4. MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY**
14 **CONFIRMATION.**

15 The boundary of the Monongahela National Forest
16 is confirmed to include the tracts of land as generally de-
17 picted on the map entitled “Monongahela National Forest
18 Boundary Confirmation” and dated March 13, 2008, and
19 all Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary
20 of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest
21 Service, encompassed within such boundary shall be man-
22 aged under the laws and regulations pertaining to the Na-
23 tional Forest System.

24 **SEC. 5. ENHANCED TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES.**

25 (a) PLAN.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agri-
2 culture, in consultation with interested parties, shall
3 develop a plan to provide for enhanced nonmotorized
4 recreation trail opportunities on lands not des-
5 ignated as wilderness within the Monongahela Na-
6 tional Forest.

7 (2) NONMOTORIZED RECREATION TRAIL DE-
8 FINED.—For the purposes of this subsection, the
9 term “nonmotorized recreation trail” means a trail
10 designed for hiking, bicycling, and equestrian use.

11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture
13 shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation
14 of the plan required under subsection (a), including the
15 identification of priority trails for development.

16 (c) CONSIDERATION OF CONVERSION OF FOREST
17 ROADS TO RECREATIONAL USES.—In considering possible
18 closure and decommissioning of a Forest Service road
19 within the Monongahela National Forest after the date of
20 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture,
21 in accordance with applicable law, may consider converting

- 1 the road to nonmotorized uses to enhance recreational op-
- 2 portunities within the Monongahela National Forest.

Passed the House of Representatives April 22, 2008.

Attest:

Clerk.

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