

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6740

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of the  
Cascadia Marine Trail.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2008

Mr. INSLEE (for himself, Mr. DICKS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr.  
McDERMOTT, and Mr. SMITH of Washington) introduced the following  
bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for  
a study of the Cascadia Marine Trail.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds as follows:

5 (1) The Cascadia Marine Trail stretches from  
6 near the State capitol of Olympia north to the Cana-  
7 dian border.

8 (2) The Cascadia Marine Trail was designated  
9 a National Recreation Trail in 1994.

1           (3) The Cascadia Marine Trail's theme is "to  
2 honor and preserve 5,000 years of marine travel".

3           (4) The Cascadia Marine Trail was granted Na-  
4 tional Millennium Trail status by the White House  
5 in 1999.

6           (5) The Cascadia Marine Trail was designated  
7 by American Canoe Association as a ACA-Rec-  
8 ommended Water Trail in 2005.

9           (6) The Cascadia Marine Trail is specifically  
10 designed for use by nonmotorized, beachable boats  
11 and no reservations are required at 90 percent of  
12 sites.

13           (7) The goal of Cascadia Marine Trail is to  
14 have a site every 5 to 8 miles along Puget Sound for  
15 the comfort and safety of recreational kayakers, row-  
16 ers, canoeists, and small-boat sailors.

17           (8) The Cascadia Marine Trail hosts an entirely  
18 public network of waterways and shorelines includ-  
19 ing salt and freshwater areas in a vital estuarine en-  
20 vironment.

21           (9) The marine mammals protected by the Ma-  
22 rine Mammal Protection Act, including seals, otters,  
23 porpoises, and whales (including 3 pods of resident  
24 Orca whales) are residents throughout the range of  
25 the Cascadia Marine Trail.

1           (10) The area of Puget Sound estuary, where  
2           water that falls on the Cascade and Olympic Moun-  
3           tains flows to meet the marine waters of the Sound  
4           land and water, is 2,458 square miles, and has ap-  
5           proximately 2,500 miles of marine shorelines.

6           (11) Approximately 10,000 rivers and streams  
7           flow into Puget Sound.

8           (12) Puget Sound is home to a diverse popu-  
9           lation of fish and wildlife including 200 species of  
10          marine fish, 26 species of marine mammals, 625  
11          species of marine seaweeds and sea grasses, 200 spe-  
12          cies of marine birds, and at least 3,000 species of  
13          invertebrates.

14          (13) The Puget Sound area is home to approxi-  
15          mately 3,500,000 people.

16          (14) Fifteen Indian tribes in the region have  
17          historically relied upon marine travel in non-  
18          motorized vessels and continue to engage in cul-  
19          turally relevant canoe travel through the Puget  
20          Sound.

21          (15) Puget Sound is home to important com-  
22          mercial and economic activity and the annual num-  
23          ber of cargo vessels in the Sound in 2006 was 2,451  
24          and the number of boats registered to residents liv-  
25          ing on or near Puget Sound was 168,374 in 2003.

1           (16) There are many recreational activities on  
2       Puget Sound and 35 State parks are located on  
3       Puget Sound.

4 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF TRAIL FOR STUDY.**

5       Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16  
6 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing:

8       “(\_\_\_\_) Cascadia Marine Trail, a series of water trail  
9 routes encompassing approximately 2,300 miles of shore-  
10 line in the State of Washington, extending from Point  
11 Roberts near the Canadian border to the southern reach  
12 of Puget Sound near Olympia.”.

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