

Calendar No. 223

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 126

[Report No. 110-93]

To modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

JUNE 26, 2007

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, with an amendment
[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italie*]

A BILL

To modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, 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 “Mesa Verde National
5 Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

3 (1) on June 29, 1906, Mesa Verde National
4 Park was established as the first national park in
5 the United States to preserve the works of human-
6 ity;

7 (2) on September 6, 1978, Mesa Verde Na-
8 tional Park became the first World Heritage Site
9 designated in the United States; and

10 (3) Mesa Verde National Park protects some of
11 the best preserved and notable archeological sites of
12 the ancient Puebloan culture that flourished in the
13 southwestern United States from approximately
14 600–1300, including the elaborate stone villages in
15 the sheltered alcoves of the canyon walls referred to
16 as “cliff dwellings”.

17 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

18 (1) to modify the boundary of Mesa Verde Na-
19 tional Park—

20 (A) to protect the archeological sites lo-
21 cated on property adjacent to the Park bound-
22 ary;

23 (B) to extend and expand the knowledge
24 and understanding of the ancient Puebloan cul-
25 ture, a major influence in the development of
26 the southwestern United States;

1 (C) to protect from potential development
 2 the scenic and biological value of the pinyon-ju-
 3 niper covered hills that—

4 (i) border the Park; and

5 (ii) are in full view of the Park en-
 6 trance road; and

7 (D) to protect the largest recorded colony
 8 of the globally imperiled Gray's Townsend
 9 Daisy, to ensure continuation of a major wild-
 10 life corridor, and to protect important habitat
 11 for wildlife; and

12 (2) to provide greater opportunities to visitors,
 13 researchers, and surrounding communities to under-
 14 stand and appreciate the natural environment of
 15 Mesa Verde and the contributions of the ancient
 16 Puebloan culture to the region by providing the land
 17 required to construct a contemporary museum collec-
 18 tions storage facility and visitor orientation center.

19 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

20 In this Act:

21 ~~(1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-~~
 22 ~~titled “2006 Proposed Mesa Verde National Park~~
 23 ~~Boundary Adjustment”.~~

24 (1) *MAP.*—*The term “map” means the map enti-*
 25 *tled “Mesa Verde National Park Proposed Boundary*

1 *Adjustment*”, numbered 307/80,180, and dated March
2 1, 2007.

3 (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Mesa
4 Verde National Park in the State of Colorado.

5 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of the Interior.

7 **SEC. 4. MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK.**

8 (a) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire
10 the land or an interest in the land described in sub-
11 section (b) for addition to the Park.

12 (2) MEANS.—An acquisition of land under
13 paragraph (1) may be made by donation, purchase
14 from a willing seller with donated or appropriated
15 funds, or exchange.

16 (b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in
17 subsection (a)(1) is the approximately 360 acres of land
18 adjacent to the Park, as generally depicted on the map.

19 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file
20 and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of
21 the National Park Service.

22 (d) BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.—The boundary of
23 the Park shall be revised to reflect the acquisition of the
24 land under subsection (a).

1 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall admin-
2 ister any land or interest in land acquired under sub-
3 section (a)(1) as part of the Park in accordance with the
4 laws (including regulations) applicable to the Park.

5 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
7 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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