

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 722

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2007

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. KYL) 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 and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona.

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 “Walnut Canyon Study
5 Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are—

1 (1) to authorize a study of the study area to
2 evaluate public uses and public values; and

3 (2) to obtain recommendations for options for
4 the management of the public uses and protection of
5 resources of the study area.

6 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
9 titled “Walnut Canyon Proposed Study Area” and
10 dated July 17, 2003.

11 (2) MONUMENT.—The term “Monument”
12 means the Walnut Canyon National Monument in
13 the State of Arizona.

14 (3) PUBLIC USE.—The term “public use”, with
15 respect to the study area, includes—

16 (A) livestock grazing;

17 (B) hunting;

18 (C) access to forested areas;

19 (D) bird watching;

20 (E) camping;

21 (F) driving for pleasure on roads and
22 trails;

23 (G) firewood gathering;

24 (H) general exercise;

25 (I) group uses;

- 1 (J) hiking;
- 2 (K) horseback riding;
- 3 (L) hunting;
- 4 (M) mountain biking;
- 5 (N) painting;
- 6 (O) rock climbing;
- 7 (P) sightseeing;
- 8 (Q) skiing;
- 9 (R) snowmobiling;
- 10 (S) target practice, as permitted;
- 11 (T) walking with pets; and
- 12 (U) wildlife viewing.

13 (4) PUBLIC VALUE.—The term “public value”,
 14 with respect to the study area, includes—

- 15 (A) geologic features;
- 16 (B) historic sites;
- 17 (C) potential urban development;
- 18 (D) prehistoric sites;
- 19 (E) riparian communities;
- 20 (F) scenery;
- 21 (G) scientific education;
- 22 (H) solitude and serenity;
- 23 (I) vegetation diversity;
- 24 (J) watershed health;

1 (K) wildfire hazard reduction for healthy
2 forests;

3 (L) wildlife and wildlife habitat;

4 (M) fee-free access; and

5 (N) recreational uses.

6 (5) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
7 means the Secretary of the Interior and the Sec-
8 retary of Agriculture, acting jointly.

9 (6) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
10 means the area identified on the map as “Walnut
11 Canyon Proposed Study Area”, consisting of 30,818
12 acres, of which—

13 (A) 24,987 acres is Federal land in
14 Coconino National Forest;

15 (B) 2,037 acres is State land;

16 (C) 214 acres is private land; and

17 (D) 3,580 acres is the Monument.

18 **SEC. 4. STUDY.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall conduct a
20 study of the study area.

21 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall evaluate—

22 (1) the significance of the resources and public
23 values of the study area as the resources and public
24 values pertain to—

1 (A) the management objectives of the For-
2 est Service; and

3 (B) the management objectives of the Na-
4 tional Park Service;

5 (2) the opportunities for maintaining existing
6 public uses; and

7 (3) a range of options for managing and con-
8 serving resources by the National Park Service or
9 the Forest Service, or by both agencies acting joint-
10 ly, including the suitability and feasibility of—

11 (A) a boundary adjustment to the Monu-
12 ment;

13 (B) designation of the study area as a Na-
14 tional Recreation Area;

15 (C) maintaining the study area as man-
16 aged by the Forest Service; and

17 (D) any other designation or management
18 option that will accomplish both the protection
19 of resources and the maintenance of public use
20 and access for the study area.

21 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the
22 Secretaries shall—

23 (1) designate a lead agency;

24 (2) consult with appropriate Federal, State,
25 county, and local government entities;

1 (3) contract with a third-party consultant with
2 experience in park and land use planning to prepare
3 a draft study; and

4 (4) collaborate with the persons identified in
5 subsection (d) in developing a scope of work for the
6 draft study under the guidance of the third-party
7 consultant.

8 (d) REVIEW.—The Secretaries, the Forest Supervisor
9 of the Coconino National Forest, the Superintendent of
10 the Flagstaff Area National Monuments, the Flagstaff
11 City Council, and the Coconino County Board of Super-
12 visors shall—

13 (1) review the draft study prepared by the
14 third-party consultant; and

15 (2) provide to the third-party consultant com-
16 ments on the draft study.

17 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
18 date on which funds are first made available to carry out
19 this Act, the Secretaries shall submit to Congress a report
20 that—

21 (1) describes the findings and conclusions of the
22 study conducted under this section; and

23 (2) makes a recommendation for the future
24 management of the study area.

1 (f) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act affects the man-
2 agement of the land depicted on the map.

3 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
5 \$350,000.

