

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3616

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 28, 2021

Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, 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 “Bear River National
5 Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage
2 Area” means the Bear River National Heritage
3 Area.

4 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
5 the Secretary of the Interior.

6 (3) STATES.—The term “States” means the
7 States of Utah and Idaho.

8 (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
9 means—

10 (A) areas in the States that are within the
11 main drainage area of the Bear River;

12 (B) all of Cache, Box Elder, and Rich
13 Counties in the State of Utah, and Bear Lake,
14 Caribou, Franklin, and Oneida Counties in the
15 State of Idaho;

16 (C) the following communities in Utah:
17 Bear River, Brigham City, Corinne, Deweyville,
18 Elwood, Fielding, Garland, Honeyville, Howell,
19 Mantua, Perry, Plymouth, Portage, Snowville,
20 Tremonton, Willard, Amalga, Clarkston, Cor-
21 nish, Hyde Park, Hyrum, Lewiston, Logan,
22 Mendon, Millville, Newton, Nibley, North
23 Logan, Paradise, Providence, Richmond, River
24 Heights, Smithfield, Trenton, Wellsville, Garden
25 City, Laketown, Randolph, and Woodruff;

1 (D) the following communities in Idaho:
2 Malad, Clifton, Dayton, Franklin, Preston, Ox-
3 ford, Weston, Bancroft, Soda Springs, Grace,
4 Bloomington, Paris, Georgetown, Montpelier,
5 and St. Charles; and

6 (E) any other areas in the States that—

7 (i) have heritage aspects that are
8 similar to the areas described in subpara-
9 graphs (A), (B), (C), or (D); and

10 (ii) are adjacent to, or in the vicinity
11 of, those areas.

12 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
14 with State and local organizations and governmental agen-
15 cies, Tribal governments, non-profit organizations, and
16 other appropriate entities, shall conduct a study to assess
17 the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area
18 as a National Heritage Area, to be known as the “Bear
19 River National Heritage Area”.

20 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-
21 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the
22 study area—

23 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
24 cultural resources that—

1 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the
2 people and cultures of the United States;

3 (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-
4 tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

5 (C) would be best managed—

6 (i) through partnerships among public
7 and private entities; and

8 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes
9 noncontiguous resources and active com-
10 munities;

11 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
12 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the
13 United States;

14 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

15 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,
16 or scenic features; and

17 (B) for recreation and education;

18 (4) contains resources that—

19 (A) are important to any identified themes
20 of the study area; and

21 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of
22 supporting interpretation;

23 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-
24 profit organizations, and State, local, and Tribal
25 governments, and other appropriate entities that—

1 (A) are involved in the planning of the
2 Heritage Area;

3 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
4 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in
5 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-
6 ernment; and

7 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-
8 ignment of the Heritage Area;

9 (6) has a potential management entity to work
10 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-
11 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage
12 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-
13 tivity;

14 (7) could impact the rights of private property
15 owners with respect to their private property; and

16 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
17 ported by the public.

18 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

19 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
20 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-
21 retary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-
22 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
23 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
24 a report that describes—

- 1 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;
- 2 and
- 3 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
- 4 Secretary.

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