

Public Law 94-545
94th Congress

An Act

To authorize the establishment of the Congaree Swamp National Monument in the State of South Carolina, and for other purposes.

Oct. 18, 1976
[H.R. 11891]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to preserve and protect for the education, inspiration, and enjoyment of present and future generations an outstanding example of a near-virgin southern hardwood forest situated in the Congaree River floodplain in Richland County, South Carolina, there is hereby established the Congaree Swamp National Monument (hereinafter referred to as the "monument"). The monument shall consist of the area within the boundary as generally depicted on the map entitled "Congaree Swamp National Monument", numbered CS-80, 001-B, and dated August 1976 (generally known as the Beidler Tract), which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Following reasonable notice in writing to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives of his intention to do so, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") may make minor revisions of the boundary of the monument by publication of a revised map or other boundary description in the Federal Register, but the total area may not exceed fifteen thousand, two hundred acres.

Congaree Swamp
National
Monument, S.C.
Establishment.
16 USC 431 note.

Notice to
congressional
committees.
Publication in
Federal Register.

SEC. 2. (a) Within the monument the Secretary is authorized to acquire lands, waters, and interests therein by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Any lands or interests therein owned by the State of South Carolina or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired only by donation.

Land
acquisition.
16 USC 431 note.

(b) With respect to any lands acquired under the provisions of this Act which at the time of acquisition are leased for hunting purposes, such acquisition shall permit the continued exercise of such lease in accordance with its provisions for its unexpired term, or for a period of five years, whichever is less: *Provided*, That no provision of such lease may be exercised which, in the opinion of the Secretary, is incompatible with the preservation objectives of this Act, or which is inconsistent with applicable Federal and State game laws, whichever is more restrictive.

SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary shall administer property acquired for the monument in accordance with the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and the provisions of this Act.

Administration.
16 USC 431 note.

(b) The Secretary shall permit sport fishing on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the monument in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, except that he may designate zones where and establish periods when no fishing shall be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, fish or wildlife management, or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any regulations promulgated under this subsection shall be placed in effect only after consultation with the appropriate fish and game agency of the State of South Carolina.

Sport fishing.

Report to
President.
16 USC 431 note.

SEC. 4. Within three years from the effective date of this Act, the Secretary shall review the area within the monument and shall report to the President, in accordance with subsections 3(c) and 3(d) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132 (c) and (d)), his recommendation as to the suitability or unsuitability of any area within the monument for preservation as wilderness, and any designation of any such area as wilderness shall be accomplished in accordance with said subsections of the Wilderness Act.

16 USC 431 note.

SEC. 5. (a) The Secretary may not expend more than \$35,500,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for land acquisition nor more than \$500,000 for the development of essential facilities.

General
management
plan, report to
congressional
committees.

(b) Within three years from the effective date of this Act the Secretary shall, after consulting with the Governor of the State of South Carolina, develop and transmit to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress a general management plan for the use and development of the monument consistent with the purposes of this Act, indicating:

(1) the lands and interests in lands adjacent or related to the monument which are deemed necessary or desirable for the purposes of resource protection, scenic integrity, or management and administration of the area in furtherance of the purposes of this Act, and the estimated cost thereof;

(2) the number of visitors and types of public use within the monument which can be accommodated in accordance with the protection of its resources;

(3) the location and estimated cost of facilities deemed necessary to accommodate such visitors and uses.

Approved October 18, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 94-1570 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-1311 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Sept. 21, considered and passed House.

Sept. 28, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Sept. 29, House agreed to Senate amendment.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 12, No. 43:

Oct. 19, Presidential statement.