

Public Law 103-242
103d Congress

An Act

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by designating a segment of the Rio Grande in New Mexico as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

May 4, 1994

[S. 375]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Rio Grande Designation Act of 1994”.

Rio Grande
Designation
Act of 1994.
16 USC 1271
note.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF SCENIC RIVER.

Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“() RIO GRANDE, NEW MEXICO.—The main stem from the southern boundary of the segment of the Rio Grande designated pursuant to paragraph (4), downstream approximately 12 miles to the west section line of Section 15, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior as a scenic river.”

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF STUDY RIVER.

(a) **STUDY.**—Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“() RIO GRANDE, NEW MEXICO.—The segment from the west section line of Section 15, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, downstream approximately 8 miles to the southern line of the northwest quarter of Section 34, Township 23 North, Range 9 East.”

(b) **STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 5(b) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“() The study of the Rio Grande in New Mexico shall be completed and the report submitted not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph.”

SEC. 4. RIO GRANDE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD.

As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, shall take appropriate steps to obtain the views of the residents of the village of Pilar and of those persons who are the owners of property adjoining the river segments described in sections 2 and 3 concerning implementa-

16 USC 1274
note.

tion of this Act, and to assure that those views will be considered in connection with preparation of a comprehensive management plan for the segment designated by section 2 and the study required by section 3.

SEC. 5. WITHDRAWAL OF ORILLA VERDE RECREATION AREA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to valid existing rights, the lands described in subsection (b) are withdrawn from—

- (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;
- (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and
- (3) disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing.

(b) **LANDS.**—

(1) **DESCRIPTION.**—The lands referred to in subsection (a) comprise an area known as the “Orilla Verde Recreation Area”, including—

(A) approximately 1,349 acres which were conveyed to the United States by the State of New Mexico on July 23, 1980, April 20, 1990, and July 17, 1990; and

(B) an additional 4,339 acres of public lands, all as generally depicted on the map entitled “Orilla Verde Recreation Area, New Mexico”, and dated February, 1994.

(2) **PUBLIC ACCESS.**—The map referred to in paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

SEC. 6. COMPLETION OF PREHISTORIC TRACKWAYS STUDY.

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to contract with the Smithsonian Institution for the completion of the prehistoric trackways study required under section 303 of the Act entitled “An Act to conduct certain studies in the State of New Mexico”, approved November 15, 1990 (Public Law 101-578).

Approved May 4, 1994.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 375:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 103-431 (Comm. on Natural Resources)

SENATE REPORTS: No. 103-17 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 139 (1993): Mar. 17, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 140 (1994): Mar. 15, considered and passed House, amended.

Apr. 19, Senate concurred in House amendment.