

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1435

To amend the National Trails System Act to clarify Federal authority relating to land acquisition from willing sellers for the majority of the trails in the System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to clarify Federal authority relating to land acquisition from willing sellers for the majority of the trails in the System, 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 “National Trails System
5 Willing Seller Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE LAND FROM WILLING**
2 **SELLERS FOR CERTAIN TRAILS.**

3 (a) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—Section
4 5(a)(3) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C.
5 1244(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing: “No land or interest in land outside the exterior
7 boundaries of any federally administered area may be ac-
8 quired by the Federal Government for the trail except with
9 the consent of the owner of the land or interest in land.
10 The authority of the Federal Government to acquire fee
11 title under this paragraph shall be limited to an average
12 of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on either side of the trail.”.

13 (b) MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC
14 TRAIL.—Section 5(a)(4) of the National Trails System
15 Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(4)) is amended by adding at the
16 end the following: “No land or interest in land outside the
17 exterior boundaries of any federally administered area
18 may be acquired by the Federal Government for the trail
19 except with the consent of the owner of the land or interest
20 in land. The authority of the Federal Government to ac-
21 quire fee title under this paragraph shall be limited to an
22 average of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on either side of the
23 trail.”.

24 (c) CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC
25 TRAIL.—Section 5(a)(5) of the National Trails System
26 Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(5)) is amended by adding at the

1 end the following: “No land or interest in land outside the
2 exterior boundaries of any federally administered area
3 may be acquired by the Federal Government for the trail
4 except with the consent of the owner of the land or interest
5 in land. The authority of the Federal Government to ac-
6 quire fee title under this paragraph shall be limited to an
7 average of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on either side of the
8 trail.”.

9 (d) LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC
10 TRAIL.—Section 5(a)(6) of the National Trails System
11 Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(6)) is amended by adding at the
12 end the following: “No land or interest in land outside the
13 exterior boundaries of any federally administered area
14 may be acquired by the Federal Government for the trail
15 except with the consent of the owner of the land or interest
16 in land. The authority of the Federal Government to ac-
17 quire fee title under this paragraph shall be limited to an
18 average of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on either side of the
19 trail.”.

20 (e) IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—Section
21 5(a)(7) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C.
22 1244(a)(7)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing: “No land or interest in land outside the exterior
24 boundaries of any federally administered area may be ac-
25 quired by the Federal Government for the trail except with

1 the consent of the owner of the land or interest in land.
2 The authority of the Federal Government to acquire fee
3 title under this paragraph shall be limited to an average
4 of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on either side of the trail.”.

5 (f) NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL.—
6 Section 5(a)(8) of the National Trails System Act (16
7 U.S.C. 1244(a)(8)) is amended by adding at the end the
8 following: “No land or interest in land outside the exterior
9 boundaries of any federally administered area may be ac-
10 quired by the Federal Government for the trail except with
11 the consent of the owner of the land or interest in land.”.

12 (g) ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL.—Section
13 5(a)(10) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C.
14 1244(a)(10)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing: “No land or interest in land outside the exterior
16 boundaries of any federally administered area may be ac-
17 quired by the Federal Government for the trail except with
18 the consent of the owner of the land or interest in land.”.

19 (h) POTOMAC HERITAGE NATIONAL SCENIC
20 TRAIL.—Section 5(a)(11) of the National Trails System
21 Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(11)) is amended—

22 (1) by striking the fourth and fifth sentences;

23 and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following: “No
25 land or interest in land outside the exterior bound-

1 aries of any federally administered area may be ac-
2 quired by the Federal Government for the trail ex-
3 cept with the consent of the owner of the land or in-
4 terest in land.”.

5 (i) NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—Sec-
6 tion 5(a)(14) of the National Trails System Act (16
7 U.S.C. 1244(a)(14)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking the fourth and fifth sentences;
9 and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following: “No
11 land or interest in land outside the exterior bound-
12 aries of any federally administered area may be ac-
13 quired by the Federal Government for the trail ex-
14 cept with the consent of the owner of the land or in-
15 terest in land. The authority of the Federal Govern-
16 ment to acquire fee title under this paragraph shall
17 be limited to an average of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
18 on either side of the trail.”.

19 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

20 Section 10 of the National Trails System Act (16
21 U.S.C. 1249) is amended by striking subsection (c) and
22 inserting the following:

23 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
25 vided in this Act, there are authorized to be appro-

1 appropriated such sums as are necessary to implement the
2 provisions of this Act relating to the trails des-
3 igned by section 5(a).

4 “(2) NATCHEZ TRACE NATIONAL SCENIC
5 TRAIL.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the
7 Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail (referred
8 to in this paragraph as the ‘trail’) designated
9 by section 5(a)(12)—

10 “(i) not more than \$500,000 shall be
11 appropriated for the acquisition of land or
12 interests in land for the trail; and

13 “(ii) not more than \$2,000,000 shall
14 be appropriated for the development of the
15 trail.

16 “(B) PARTICIPATION BY VOLUNTEER
17 TRAIL GROUPS.—The administering agency for
18 the trail shall encourage volunteer trail groups
19 to participate in the development of the trail.”.

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