

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 217

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2009

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, 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. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY**
4 **STUDIES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC**
5 **TRAILS.**

6 Section 5 of the National Trails System Act (16
7 U.S.C. 1244) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

1 “(g) REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY
2 STUDIES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS.—

3 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4 “(A) ROUTE.—The term ‘route’ includes a
5 trail segment commonly known as a cutoff.

6 “(B) SHARED ROUTE.—The term ‘shared
7 route’ means a route that was a segment of
8 more than one historic trail, including a route
9 shared with an existing national historic trail.

10 “(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR REVISION.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the
12 Interior shall revise the feasibility and suit-
13 ability studies for certain national trails for
14 consideration of possible additions to the trails.

15 “(B) STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND OBJEC-
16 TIVES.—The study requirements and objectives
17 specified in subsection (b) shall apply to a study
18 required by this subsection.

19 “(C) COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF
20 STUDY.—A study listed in this subsection shall
21 be completed and submitted to Congress not
22 later than 3 complete fiscal years from the date
23 funds are made available for the study.

24 “(3) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

1 “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
2 the Interior shall undertake a study of the
3 routes of the Oregon Trail listed in subpara-
4 graph (B) and generally depicted on the map
5 entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’
6 and dated 1991/1993, and of such other routes
7 of the Oregon Trail that the Secretary con-
8 siders appropriate, to determine the feasibility
9 and suitability of designation of one or more of
10 the routes as components of the Oregon Na-
11 tional Historic Trail.

12 “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be
13 studied under subparagraph (A) shall include
14 the following:

- 15 “(i) Whitman Mission route.
16 “(ii) Upper Columbia River.
17 “(iii) Cowlitz River route.
18 “(iv) Meek cutoff.
19 “(v) Free Emigrant Road.
20 “(vi) North Alternate Oregon Trail.
21 “(vii) Goodale’s cutoff.
22 “(viii) North Side alternate route.
23 “(ix) Cutoff to Barlow road.
24 “(x) Naches Pass Trail.

1 “(4) PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC
2 TRAIL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall under-
3 take a study of the approximately 20-mile southern
4 alternative route of the Pony Express Trail from
5 Wathena, Kansas, to Troy, Kansas, and such other
6 routes of the Pony Express Trail that the Secretary
7 considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility
8 and suitability of designation of one or more of the
9 routes as components of the Pony Express National
10 Historic Trail.

11 “(5) CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

12 “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
13 the Interior shall undertake a study of the Mis-
14 souri Valley, central, and western routes of the
15 California Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and
16 generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Western
17 Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/
18 1993, and of such other and shared Missouri
19 Valley, central, and western routes that the
20 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine
21 the feasibility and suitability of designation of
22 one or more of the routes as components of the
23 California National Historic Trail.

1 “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be
2 studied under subparagraph (A) shall include
3 the following:

4 “(i) MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES.—

5 “(I) Blue Mills—Independence
6 Road.

7 “(II) Westport Landing Road.

8 “(III) Westport—Lawrence
9 Road.

10 “(IV) Fort Leavenworth—Blue
11 River route.

12 “(V) Road to Amazonia.

13 “(VI) Union Ferry Route.

14 “(VII) Old Wyoming—Nebraska
15 City cutoff.

16 “(VIII) Lower Plattsmouth
17 Route.

18 “(IX) Lower Bellevue Route.

19 “(X) Woodbury cutoff.

20 “(XI) Blue Ridge cutoff.

21 “(XII) Westport Road.

22 “(XIII) Gum Springs—Fort
23 Leavenworth route.

24 “(XIV) Atchison/Independence
25 Creek routes.

1 “(XV) Fort Leavenworth—Kan-
2 sas River route.

3 “(XVI) Nebraska City cutoff
4 routes.

5 “(XVII) Minersville—Nebraska
6 City Road.

7 “(XVIII) Upper Plattsmouth
8 route.

9 “(XIX) Upper Bellevue route.

10 “(ii) CENTRAL ROUTES.—

11 “(I) Cherokee Trail, including
12 splits.

13 “(II) Weber Canyon route of
14 Hastings cutoff.

15 “(III) Bishop Creek cutoff.

16 “(IV) McAuley cutoff.

17 “(V) Diamond Springs cutoff.

18 “(VI) Secret Pass.

19 “(VII) Greenhorn cutoff.

20 “(VIII) Central Overland Trail.

21 “(iii) WESTERN ROUTES.—

22 “(I) Bidwell—Bartleson route.

23 “(II) Georgetown/Dagget Pass
24 Trail.

25 “(III) Big Trees Road.

1 “(IV) Grizzly Flat cutoff.

2 “(V) Nevada City Road.

3 “(VI) Yreka Trail.

4 “(VII) Henness Pass route.

5 “(VIII) Johnson cutoff.

6 “(IX) Luther Pass Trail.

7 “(X) Volcano Road.

8 “(XI) Sacramento—Coloma
9 Wagon Road.

10 “(XII) Burnett cutoff.

11 “(XIII) Placer County Road to
12 Auburn.

13 “(6) MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC
14 TRAIL.—

15 “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
16 the Interior shall undertake a study of the
17 routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail listed in
18 subparagraph (B) and generally depicted in the
19 map entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/
20 1870’ and dated 1991/1993, and of such other
21 routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail that the
22 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine
23 the feasibility and suitability of designation of
24 one or more of the routes as components of the
25 Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail.

1 “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be
2 studied under subparagraph (A) shall include
3 the following:

4 “(i) 1846 Subsequent routes A and B
5 (Lucas and Clarke Counties, Iowa).

6 “(ii) 1856–57 Handcart route (Iowa
7 City to Council Bluffs).

8 “(iii) Keokuk route (Iowa).

9 “(iv) 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and
10 Loup River Crossings in Nebraska.

11 “(v) Fort Leavenworth Road; Ox Bow
12 route and alternates in Kansas and Mis-
13 souri (Oregon and California Trail routes
14 used by Mormon emigrants).

15 “(vi) 1850 Golden Pass Road in
16 Utah.

17 “(7) SHARED CALIFORNIA AND OREGON TRAIL
18 ROUTES.—

19 “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
20 the Interior shall undertake a study of the
21 shared routes of the California Trail and Or-
22 egon Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and gen-
23 erally depicted on the map entitled ‘Western
24 Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/
25 1993, and of such other shared routes that the

1 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine
2 the feasibility and suitability of designation of
3 one or more of the routes as shared components
4 of the California National Historic Trail and
5 the Oregon National Historic Trail.

6 “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be
7 studied under subparagraph (A) shall include
8 the following:

9 “(i) St. Joe Road.

10 “(ii) Council Bluffs Road.

11 “(iii) Sublette cutoff.

12 “(iv) Applegate route.

13 “(v) Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow
14 Trail).

15 “(vi) Childs cutoff.

16 “(vii) Raft River to Applegate.”.

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