

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3514

To adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 7, 2016

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

A BILL

To adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, 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 “Rim of the Valley Cor-
5 ridor Preservation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Santa Monica Mountains National
9 Recreation Area was authorized as a unit of the Na-
10 tional Park System on November 10, 1978;

1 (2) the Santa Monica Mountains and the Rim
2 of the Valley Corridor include a diverse range of na-
3 tionally significant natural and cultural resources;

4 (3) expanding the Santa Monica Mountains Na-
5 tional Recreation Area would provide new opportuni-
6 ties for the National Park Service to serve a broad
7 range of urban communities, including many com-
8 munities that are—

9 (A) underrepresented in units of the Na-
10 tional Park System; and

11 (B) underserved by State and local parks;

12 (4) the Santa Susana Field Laboratory is lo-
13 cated in the Simi Hills in southeastern Ventura
14 County, California, within the external boundaries of
15 the Rim of the Valley Corridor;

16 (5) activities at the Santa Susana Field Lab-
17 oratory have—

18 (A) included rocket engine testing and re-
19 search and development of fuels, propellants,
20 nuclear power, and lasers; and

21 (B) resulted in releases of radioactive and
22 hazardous substances into the environment that
23 require cleanup;

24 (6) in 2010, the California Department of Toxic
25 Substances Control, the Department of Energy, and

1 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
2 entered into administrative orders on consent for the
3 cleanup of contamination in soil to background levels
4 on the portions of the Santa Susana Field Labora-
5 tory covered by the orders, with certain limited spec-
6 ified exceptions; and

7 (7) Congress expects that a comparable cleanup
8 will occur on the remaining portion of the Santa
9 Susana Field Laboratory, such that the cleanup on
10 the remaining portion will be protective of all allow-
11 able uses under Ventura County, California, zoning
12 and general plan designations for the Santa Susana
13 Field Laboratory in effect as of December 7, 2016.

14 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT; LAND ACQUISITION; AD-**
15 **MINISTRATION.**

16 (a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—Section 507(c)(1) of
17 the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16
18 U.S.C. 460kk(c)(1)) is amended, in the first sentence, by
19 striking “‘Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation
20 Area and Santa Monica Mountains Zone, California,
21 Boundary Map’, numbered 80,047–C and dated August
22 2001” and inserting “‘Rim of the Valley Unit__Santa
23 Monica Mountains National Recreation Area’ and dated
24 June 2016”.

1 (b) RIM OF THE VALLEY UNIT.—Section 507 of the
 2 National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
 3 460kk) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(u) RIM OF THE VALLEY UNIT.—

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

6 “(A) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means the
 7 State of California.

8 “(B) UNIT.—The term ‘Unit’ means the
 9 Rim of the Valley Unit included within the
 10 boundaries of the recreation area, as depicted
 11 on the map described in subsection (c)(1).

12 “(C) UTILITY FACILITY.—The term ‘utility
 13 facility’ means—

14 “(i) electric substations, communica-
 15 tion facilities, towers, poles, and lines;

16 “(ii) ground wires;

17 “(iii) communications circuits;

18 “(iv) other utility structures; and

19 “(v) related infrastructure.

20 “(D) WATER RESOURCE FACILITY.—The
 21 term ‘water resource facility’ means—

22 “(i) irrigation and pumping facilities;

23 “(ii) dams and reservoirs;

24 “(iii) flood control facilities;

1 “(iv) water conservation works, in-
2 cluding debris protection facilities, sedi-
3 ment placement sites, rain gauges, and
4 stream gauges;

5 “(v) water quality, recycled water, and
6 pumping facilities;

7 “(vi) conveyance distribution systems;

8 “(vii) water treatment facilities;

9 “(viii) aqueducts;

10 “(ix) canals;

11 “(x) ditches;

12 “(xi) pipelines;

13 “(xii) wells;

14 “(xiii) hydropower projects;

15 “(xiv) transmission facilities; and

16 “(xv) other ancillary facilities, ground-
17 water recharge facilities, water conserva-
18 tion, water filtration plants, and other
19 water diversion, conservation, groundwater
20 recharge, storage, and carriage structures.

21 “(2) BOUNDARY REVISION.—Not later than 3
22 years after the date of enactment of this subsection,
23 the Secretary shall update the general management
24 plan for the recreation area to reflect the boundaries
25 designated on the map referred to in subsection

1 (c)(1) to include the area known as the ‘Rim of the
2 Valley Unit’.

3 “(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid exist-
4 ing rights, the Secretary shall administer the Unit
5 and any land or interest in land acquired by the
6 United States and located within the boundaries of
7 the Unit—

8 “(A) as part of the recreation area; and

9 “(B) in accordance with—

10 “(i) this section; and

11 “(ii) applicable laws (including regula-
12 tions).

13 “(4) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
15 acquire non-Federal land within the boundaries
16 of the Unit only through exchange, donation, or
17 purchase from a willing seller.

18 “(B) USE OF EMINENT DOMAIN.—Nothing
19 in this subsection authorizes the use of eminent
20 domain to acquire land or interests in land
21 within the boundaries of the Unit.

22 “(5) OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES.—The fact that cer-
23 tain activities or land uses can be seen or heard
24 from within the Unit shall not preclude the activities
25 or land uses outside the boundary of the Unit.

1 “(6) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN LAND.—Notwith-
2 standing any other provision of law, no portion of
3 the Santa Susana Field Laboratory shall be consid-
4 ered for inclusion in the Unit until the later of the
5 date on which—

6 “(A) cleanup of soil at the Santa Susana
7 Field Laboratory has been completed in full
8 compliance with the cleanup standards specified
9 in the administrative orders on consent entered
10 into by the California Department of Toxic
11 Substances Control, the Department of Energy,
12 and the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
13 ministration on December 6, 2010, as the
14 cleanup standards are defined in the orders on
15 that date, such that all contamination in soil is
16 cleaned up to background levels; and

17 “(B) cleanup of soil for any portion of the
18 Santa Susana Field Laboratory not covered by
19 the orders described in subparagraph (A) that
20 is comparable to the cleanup required for the
21 portions of the laboratory under the orders has
22 been completed in a manner that meets the
23 cleanup standards for all allowable uses in the
24 Ventura County, California, zoning and general
25 plan land use designations for the Santa

1 Susana Field Laboratory in effect as of Decem-
2 ber 7, 2016.

3 “(7) EFFECT OF SUBSECTION.—Nothing in this
4 subsection or the application of the applicable man-
5 agement plan to the Unit—

6 “(A) modifies any provision of Federal,
7 State, or local law with respect to public access
8 to, or use of, non-Federal land;

9 “(B) creates any liability, or affects any li-
10 ability under any other law, of any private
11 property owner or other owner of non-Federal
12 land with respect to any person injured on pri-
13 vate property or other non-Federal land;

14 “(C) allows for the creation of protective
15 perimeters or buffer zones outside of the Unit;

16 “(D) affects the ownership, management,
17 or other rights relating to any non-Federal land
18 (including any interest in any non-Federal
19 land);

20 “(E) requires any unit of local government
21 to participate in any program administered by
22 the Secretary;

23 “(F) alters, modifies, or diminishes any
24 right, responsibility, power, authority, jurisdic-
25 tion, or entitlement of the State, any political

1 subdivision of the State, or any State or local
2 agency under existing Federal, State, or local
3 law (including regulations);

4 “(G) requires or promotes the use of, or
5 encourages trespass on, land, facilities, and
6 rights-of-way owned by non-Federal entities, in-
7 cluding water resource facilities and public utili-
8 ties, without the written consent of the owner
9 of the land;

10 “(H) affects the operation, maintenance,
11 modification, construction, or expansion of any
12 water resource facility or utility facility located
13 within or adjacent to the Unit;

14 “(I) terminates the fee title to land, or the
15 customary operation, maintenance, repair, and
16 replacement activities on or under the land,
17 granted to public agencies that are authorized
18 under Federal or State law; or

19 “(J) interferes with, obstructs, hinders, or
20 delays the exercise of any right to or access to
21 any water resource facility or other facility or
22 property necessary or useful to access any
23 water right to operate any public water or util-
24 ity system.

1 “(8) UTILITY FACILITIES; WATER RESOURCE
2 FACILITIES.—A utility facility or water resource fa-
3 cility shall conduct activities in a manner that rea-
4 sonably avoids or reduces the impact of the activities
5 on the resources of the Unit.”.

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