Public Law 95-249
95th Congress

An Act

Mar. 27, 1978
[S. 1671]

To designate the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, Custer and Gallatin National Forests, in the State of Montana.

Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, Mont. Designation. 16 USC 1132 note. 16 USC 1132.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 3(b) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), the area classified as the Beartooth and Absaroka Primitive Areas, with the proposed additions thereto and deletions therefrom, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness", dated February 1978, which is on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, is hereby designated as the "Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness", within and as part of the Custer and Gallatin National Forests, comprising an area of approximately nine hundred and four thousand five hundred acres.

Map and description, filing with congressional committees.

SEC. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and legal description of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the Senate and the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however*, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

Administration.

SEC. 3. The Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 4. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting in any manner or to any extent any claim by Park County, Montana, and Sweet Grass County, Montana, to a right-of-way from Cooke City, Montana, to Boulder, or to affect in any manner or to any extent the relative rights and liabilities between the parties in connection with Cause numbered 76-125-BLG, Park County, Montana, and Sweet Grass County, Montana, versus United States of America, et al., filed in the United States District Court for the District of Montana, Billings Division, on October 4, 1976. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as abating such cause or as amending or otherwise affecting or modifying the provision of law pursuant to which such cause was filed.

SEC. 5. The previous classification of the Beartooth and Absaroka Primitive Areas is hereby abolished.

Approved March 27, 1978.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 95-927 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORT No. 95-624 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 124 (1978):
Feb. 10, considered and passed Senate.
Mar. 14, considered and passed House.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 14, No. 13:
Mar. 27, Presidential statement.