

June 10, 2020

To: Interested parties

From: Ryan Henson, Senior Policy Director, CalWild, rhenson@calwild.org

Subject: Summary the PUBLIC Lands Act, S. 3288, with annotations



**S. 3288: Protecting Unique and Beautiful Landscapes
by Investing in California (PUBLIC) Lands,**

Introduced by Senator Kamala Harris, S. 3288 – the PUBLIC Lands Act, is a combination of three public lands bills recently passed by the House of Representatives. These bills include H.R. 2250 (Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act) by Rep. Jared Huffman, H.R. 2199 (Central Coast Heritage Protection Act) by Representative Salud Carbajal, and H.R. 2215 (San Gabriel Mountains, Foothills, and Rivers Protection Act) by Representative Judy Chu. All three bills were combined into a larger omnibus bill (H.R. 2446), which passed the House of Representatives on Feb. 12, 2020 on a bipartisan vote. The Northwest California bill is Title I, the Central Coast bill is Title II, and the San Gabriel Mountains bill is Title III.

Summary

S. 3288, Title I-III will:

- Establish the 729,000-acre South Fork Trinity-Mad River Restoration Area
- Encourage partnerships designed to restore Redwood National and State Parks
- Establish a partnership meant to help cleanup areas of public land impacted by trespass marijuana grows
- Authorize a visitors' center for public lands in Trinity County
- Authorize a visitors' center for public lands in Del Norte County
- Require land managers to develop comprehensive fire management plans for the wilderness areas and other lands protected by S. 3288
- Require a study of the possibilities for developing more overnight accommodations near Redwood National and State Parks
- Protect the 7,399-acre Horse Mountain Special Management Area
- Require the study of the feasibility of establishing a 360-mile long "Bigfoot National Recreation Trail" that would run from the Mendocino National Forest to Redwood National Park
- Establish the Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail in the Smith River National Recreation Area.
- Require the study of the feasibility and public interest in building a trail for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking around Trinity Lake in Trinity County

- Require federal officials to study options for improving access to trails in non-wilderness areas in northwestern California for hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts.
- Require a study of the feasibility of constructing several non-motorized trails in Del Norte County's Smith River National Recreation Area.
- Ensure that federal land managers can partner with qualified organizations to help maintain trails and campgrounds, staff visitor centers and to conduct public education and outreach.
- Protect 630,728 acres (over 985 square-miles) of public land as wilderness (including 96,051 acres of potential wilderness to be restored).
- Protect 684.5 miles of streams as wild and scenic rivers
- Protect the 14,000-acre Sanhedrin Conservation Management Area in the Mendocino National Forest
- Protect 34,882 acres in the Los Padres National Forest as scenic areas in the Condor Ridge and Black Mountain regions
- Require federal agencies to study the feasibility and public interest involved in the establishment of a 400-mile long trail that would run the length of the Los Padres National Forest to be known as the "Condor National Scenic Trail."
- Require the Forest Service to study the feasibility of building a new off-highway vehicle route in the Los Padres National Forest
- Require a study of the feasibility of establishing new non-motorized trails for hikers, equestrians, and bicyclists in the Los Padres National Forest outside of protected wilderness areas.
- Ensures that Native Americans retain the right to use areas protected by the bill for cultural purposes
- Establishes a 49,387 acre San Gabriel River National Recreation Area in Los Angeles County and details how the area will be managed
- Enlarges the existing San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in the Angeles National Forest by 109,167 acres.

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Detailed summary of each Title continues...

Detailed outline of S. 3288, Title I:
Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests
Subtitle A: Restoration and Economic Development

Section 111: South Fork Trinity-Mad River Restoration Area

This element of the bill promotes fuel reduction and forest and woodland restoration on 729,000 acres of public lands in southern Trinity and western Humboldt counties in the Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF) and Shasta-Trinity National Forest (STNF) and lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Redding Field Office. Within this area, the ecological health of previously logged forests will be improved and the danger of unnaturally severe fires will be reduced through a careful program of individual tree-cutting, especially along roads, near private land and in "plantations" (areas that were replanted following clearcut logging or fires). The purposes of the restoration area are to:

- Establish, restore, and maintain fire-resilient forest structures containing old-growth forests characterized by large trees and "multistoried canopies" (trees of different heights such as occurs in natural mature forests), where possible.
- Protect old-growth reserves known as "late successional reserves." These reserves are essential to the survival of species like the northern spotted owl and others that depend upon old-growth forest habitat.
- Enhance restoration of federal lands within the restoration area.
- Reduce the threat posed by wildfires within the restoration area.
- Protect and restore aquatic habitat and "anadromous fisheries" (primarily threatened salmon and steelhead trout).
- Allow visitors to enjoy the scenic, recreational, natural, cultural, and wildlife values of the restoration area.

The BLM and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) must manage the restoration area in a manner that is consistent with these purposes. The USFS must prioritize restoration in the restoration area over other non-emergency projects in the portions of the SRNF and STNF that are in Trinity and Humboldt Counties. Likewise, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) must streamline consultation on restoration activities in the restoration area. These provisions are necessary because the USFS and USFWS has often prioritized activities such as post-fire logging over restoration. The closure and restoration of roads (a process called "road decommissioning") is also encouraged in the restoration area. Road decommissioning has been shown to benefit water quality and anadromous fish habitat.

Logging is only allowed in the restoration area where necessary to:

- Maintain or restore natural forest ecosystems and structures.
- Promote fire-resilience and reduce the danger of fires to communities.
- Improve habitat for threatened species.
- Protect or improve water quality.

Two types of logging will be allowed. The first is the establishment of “shaded fuel breaks,” areas where the trees are carefully thinned to reduce the chance of a fire racing from the crown of one tree to another. They are called “shaded” fuel breaks because the thinning cannot be so aggressive that it reduces the shade provided by the forest canopy. The reason for this is that allowing sunlight to reach the forest floor will encourage the growth of shrubs that could increase fire severity. These shaded fuelbreaks will be located within 150 feet of:

- Private property.
- Both sides of the thousands of miles of roads that crisscross the restoration area.
- Plantations.

In addition to shaded fuelbreaks, the other type of logging allowed in the restoration area is the thinning of plantations. Decades of clearcut logging have resulted in the establishment of several hundred thousand acres of plantations in the proposed restoration area. Plantations tend to be excessively thick with young trees and shrubs that pose a severe hazard to both communities and adjacent natural forests. Plantations are also more prone to insect attack and disease because of their unnaturally crowded conditions. By thinning plantations, the remaining trees may reach maturity more quickly and fire danger to the plantations can be reduced. Forest habitat diversity can also be improved.

Logging near streams is only allowed where necessary to maintain the integrity of the fuel breaks and to enhance fire resilience. The USFS and BLM must use best available science to inform their management activities.

While portions of the restoration area that were being grazed by livestock can continue to be grazed, no un-grazed areas can be opened to grazing. At present, roughly half of the proposed restoration area is being grazed. New grazing permits can be issued for un-grazed areas if the grazing is necessary to control noxious weeds, aid in the control of wildfire near communities or to provide other ecological benefits. Best available science must be used to inform grazing practices. The restoration area is also closed to all mining by S. 3288.

Proceeds from the sale of the trees cut in shaded fuel breaks or plantation thinning projects will be returned to fund additional restoration in the restoration area.

The USFS and BLM are required to consult with the public, including groups like the Trinity County Collaborative, on the management of the restoration area. The Trinity County Collaborative is a group of conservationists, representatives of the timber industry, local elected officials, local landowners, and others who work to find common ground on the management of Trinity County's public lands. S. 3288 streamlines environmental reviews for collaboratively developed projects. The provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) remain fully in force within the restoration area.

S. 3288 encourages the use of branches and other materials resulting from the thinning process that might be burned as waste to instead be used for "biobased products" such as building materials that result in "net carbon sequestration." This is important because most of the branches, bark, and other materials not used for lumber are simply burned in the woods. The USFS and BLM are encouraged to work with universities and other partners to find uses for the material.

Section 112: Redwood National and State Parks Restoration

Encourages the establishment of partnerships to restore degraded redwood ecosystems in Redwood National and State Parks.

Section 113: California Public Lands Remediation Partnership

Marijuana cultivation on federal public lands is a profoundly serious problem. Hundreds of abandoned grow sites exist on our public lands. These sites are littered with garbage, toxic waste, and the corpses of poisoned animals. The California Public Lands Remediation Partnership is established to help clean up these illegal marijuana growing sites on northwest California's federal public lands. The Partnership will coordinate cleanup, prioritize specific areas for restoration, and secure resources from state, federal or other sources for restoration.

Section 114: Trinity Lake Visitor Center

A visitor center is authorized for construction in Weaverville. The purpose of the visitor center is to help the public discover and appreciate the public lands of the Shasta-Trinity region.

Section 115: Del Norte County Visitor Center

A visitor center is authorized in Del Norte County to help the public discover Redwood National and State Parks and the Smith River National Recreation Area (SRNRA).

Section 116: Management plans

Requires land managers to create comprehensive fire management plans for the wilderness areas and wilderness additions designated by S. 3288. This will require wilderness areas that are managed by multiple agencies to have a single, unified fire management approach. For example, the Trinity Alps Wilderness is managed by the Klamath National Forest, Redding Field Office of the BLM, SRNF, and STNF. Under S. 3288, these four agencies will have to prepare a single, unified fire management plan for the Trinity Alps.

Section 117: Study; Partnerships related to overnight accommodations

Requires the government to study the possibility of providing overnight accommodations near Redwood National and State Parks. There is currently a shortage of such accommodations in the region.

Subtitle B: Recreation

Section 121: Horse Mountain Special Management Area

The bill will allow this popular 7,399-acre area in the SRNF southwest of the community of Willow Creek and south of Highway 299 to be managed for a variety of purposes, including the protection of scenery (visitors can see as far east as Mount Shasta and the Trinity Alps on a clear day), the protection of rare plants, snow play, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, vehicle use on approved routes, and other activities. The area does not meet wilderness criteria, so it is protected as a special management area. Mining and energy development will be prohibited in the area. The SRNF is given three years to develop a management plan for Horse Mountain.

Section 122: Bigfoot National Recreation Trail

S. 3288 gives land managers three years to study the feasibility of establishing a “Bigfoot National Recreation Trail.” The proposed trail would run for 360 miles from the Mendocino National Forest (MNF) in the south to Redwood National Park (RNP) in the north.

While the name is supposed to be humorous, the purpose of the trail is serious: to provide for a long-distance hiking and horseback riding opportunity that also highlights the amazing ecological and social values of the Klamath-Siskiyou region.

Many of the places that would be accessed by the proposed trail, such as southern Trinity County, have an abundance of public lands but few trails. The Bigfoot Trail will help to meet this need for public access.

Section 123: Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail

Designates the Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail in the Smith River National Recreation Area. The trail would remain open to motorized and non-motorized recreation uses (including mountain bicycling).

Section 124: Trinity Lake Trail

S. 3288 gives land managers 18 months to study the feasibility and public interest in building a trail for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking around Trinity Lake in Trinity County's STNF. Construction is authorized if it is determined that building the trail is feasible and in the public interest. The trail could be a real draw for tourism in Trinity County. No construction can take place until required NEPA reviews are completed.

Section 125: Trails Study

Land managers have two years to study options for improving access to trails in non-wilderness areas in northwestern California for hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. The BLM and US Forest Service (USFS) must work together on the study. No trail construction will occur until required NEPA studies are completed.

Section 126: Construction of mountain bicycling routes

The Forest Service has 18 months to study the feasibility of constructing several non-motorized trails in Del Norte County's SRNRA. The agency is permitted to construct the routes if they are found to be feasible and in the public interest after appropriate environmental review.

Section 127: Partnerships

S. 3288 ensures that federal land managers can partner with qualified organizations to help maintain trails and campgrounds, staff visitor centers and to conduct public education and outreach.

Subtitle C: Conservation

Section 131: Designation of wilderness

Title I of S. 3288 designates 259,959 acres of land as "wilderness." Wilderness is the strongest protection available for federal land under federal conservation law. Once an area is designated as wilderness, all development such as logging, road construction, energy extraction, etc are prohibited while hiking, horseback riding, camping, and other non-motorized activities are allowed. Bicycling, however, is prohibited. Fire-suppression is also allowed in wilderness,

including the use of bulldozers and aircraft to fight fires if necessary. The proposed wilderness areas included in S. 3288 do not currently have any roads in them, so closing the areas to motorized vehicles is simply a recognition of the current reality, not a denial of public access.

The proposed wilderness areas are *currently* both wild and undeveloped and used exclusively for hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, and other wilderness-compatible activities. None of them are popular with bicyclists. Other activities, such as off-road vehicle use, are either illegal, rare, or both. The following have been excluded from the proposed wilderness boundaries:

- Roads and trails that are legally open to motorized vehicles.
- Communication sites.
- Campgrounds (at least those used for car-camping).
- Gas, mining, and oil leases.
- Authorized rights-of-way, especially for telephone lines, powerlines, gas lines, water diversions, sediment disposal sites or any other utilities or public works projects.
- Dams or water diversions.
- Fire lookouts.
- Trails that are *both* legally open to and popular with mountain bikers.
- Public lands that are adjacent to heavily developed areas of private property.
- Public lands that are near any legally-open roads to allow for aggressive roadside fuel reduction and fire-suppression efforts.
- Public lands that are within 300' of any utility, especially powerlines, to allow room for maintenance and vegetation-clearing for fire-safety; and
- Areas that have been heavily disturbed in the past by development, including logging.

The following is a list of the proposed wilderness areas included in Title I of S. 3288.

PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREA	ACRES
Black Butte River	11,117
Chancelulla Additions	6,212
Chinquapin	27,258
Elkhorn Ridge Additions	37
English Ridge	6,204
Headwaters Forest	4,360
Mad River Buttes	6,002
Mount Lassic Additions	1,292
North Fork Eel River Additions	16,274
Pattison	28,595
Sanhedrin Additions	112
Siskiyou Additions	27,747

PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREA	ACRES
South Fork Eel River Additions	603
South Fork Trinity River	26,446
Trinity Alps Additions	60,826
Underwood	15,069
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Additions	10,729
Yuki Additions	11,076
	259,959

Section 132: Administration of wilderness

S. 3288 states that:

- Land managers can suppress fire in wilderness using all the tools available to them outside of wilderness areas.
- Authority to use bulldozers and other heavy equipment for fire-suppression in wilderness can be delegated to local land managers.
- Livestock grazing can continue where it was being allowed at the time the wilderness areas were designated.
- Wilderness areas do not have buffer zones—the protections afforded by the Wilderness Act end at the boundary of a designated wilderness. The presence of wilderness next door should not impact the management of adjacent private, local, state, or federal lands.
- Native Americans have the right to use the wilderness areas for cultural purposes, including working with land managers to temporarily close the areas for ceremonies.
- Horses are allowed in wilderness. They already are allowed in wilderness, but this language reassures equestrians.
- Competitive horseback riding events can still be held in the Chinquapin Wilderness. This language is simply meant to reassure the organizers of an annual riding event that they can still use the trails in the area.
- Rock climbing, including the use of fixed anchors, is allowed in wilderness.

These provisions are standard wilderness management language common to most wilderness bills. Special language allows an annual horseback riding event to occur in the Chinquapin Proposed Wilderness. This is important because competitive events are sometimes prohibited in wilderness.

Section 133: Designation of potential wilderness

S. 3288 designates two kinds of wilderness areas: conventional wilderness (the areas listed in Section 131) and “potential wilderness.” Both kinds of wilderness are managed the same way

for the most part. The difference is that conventional wilderness areas are completely unlogged, unroaded and undeveloped—as close to “undisturbed” as is possible--while the “potential wilderness areas” included in Title I have experienced some limited degree of disturbance and thus require a period of recovery (or even active restoration) before they can become conventional wilderness. It may be helpful to think of potential wilderness as a “two-step wilderness”: Step one is restoration, while step two is graduation to conventional wilderness. The dividing line is old roads: If an area has old roads that are now closed to the public, it is proposed as potential wilderness under Title I. If an area has never had a road in it, then it is proposed as conventional wilderness in S. 3288.

The potential wilderness areas in S. 3288 have only experienced some small degree of past logging and road construction. They usually still contain substantial old-growth forest or other highly valuable habitat and features. Except for RNP, only about 20-30% of the potential wilderness acreage has been disturbed by logging and road construction. These disturbances usually occurred decades ago. The areas also do not contain any roads that are legally open to the public. However, they often contain old, abandoned roads that may need to be stabilized. For example, if the old roads have culverts, it may be wise to remove the culverts in a potential wilderness area before allowing the road to “go back to nature.” The reason for this is that a culvert could become clogged, cause the old road to fail, and then a landslide could occur that could harm important fish habitat. Except for RNP, land managers are given 10 years from the date of S. 3288 becoming law to conduct restoration activities. It is possible, after an assessment, that no active restoration will be necessary. The National Park Service is not given a time limit for restoring the RNP potential wilderness because the land was heavily logged and roaded before becoming a component of the National Park System. It will take decades to restore the area.

S. 3288 includes 52,610 acres of proposed potential wilderness. The following is a list of the potential wilderness areas designated by Title I of S. 3288.

PROPOSED POTENTIAL WILDERNESS	ACRES
Chinquapin Potential Wilderness	3,797
Redwood National Park Potential Wilderness	31,000
Siskiyou Potential Wilderness	8,961
South Fork Trinity River Potential Wilderness	405
Trinity Alps Potential Wilderness	1,256
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Potential Wilderness	4,282
Yuki Potential Wilderness	2,909
	52,610

Section 134: Designation of wild and scenic rivers

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is the nation's primary river conservation tool. Congress passed the Act in 1968 to specifically balance our existing policy of developing rivers for the water, power, and flood control resources by building large dams, with a new policy of protecting some free-flowing rivers with outstanding natural and cultural values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Federal public lands within a river corridor averaging 320 acres per mile (about 1/4 mile on each side of the river) are managed to protect the river's free flowing character and outstanding values. Federal agencies that administer public lands are responsible for the management of designated rivers and are required to develop a plan within three years of designation to guide future management of the protected stream. S. 3288 classifies each stream as wild, scenic, or recreational.

Wild: These segments are wild, unroaded and undeveloped. Logging, road building, new mining claims, developed campgrounds, and motorized access are generally prohibited on wild segments. All other activities associated with public lands such as grazing, mining of valid existing claims, hunting and other forms of non-motorized recreation are permitted provided that the river's free flowing character and outstanding values are protected.

Scenic: These segments are generally undeveloped but may have occasional road crossings and riverside structures that are visually screened from the river. Motorized use on trails may or may not be permitted based on existing use and resource protection needs. All other activities normally associated with public lands are permitted, if the river's visual quality, free flowing character, and outstanding values are protected.

Recreational: These segments are generally developed, with parallel roads, bridges, and structures. All activities normally associated with public lands may occur provided that the river's free flowing character and outstanding values are protected.

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act confers no federal authority over private land use or local zoning of private lands. There is no practical impact on private property, except that federal protection typically increases private property values and contributes to the local economy by attracting tourists and recreational visitors. When logging private property along a wild and scenic river, under the California Forest Practices Act a registered professional forester is required to give some limited degree of consideration to protecting a stream's values. This has not prevented landowners in the past from logging along the banks of wild and scenic rivers on private land.

The state's authority to regulate water rights remains unaffected by designation. There is a federal water right conferred by designation, but it begins at the date of designation and is junior to all other existing rights.

Most of the streams proposed for protection in Title I of S. 3288 provide critically important habitat for threatened fish species including steelhead trout and salmon. The following streams are designated as wild and scenic rivers by S. 3288 in Title I.

PROPOSED WSR	LENGTH (miles)
South Fork Trinity River	68.85
East Fork North Fork Trinity River	17.35
New River	15
East Fork South Fork Trinity River	11.8
Rattlesnake Creek	5.9
Butter Creek	7
Hayfork Creek	16.4
Olsen Creek	2.8
Rusch Creek	3.2
Eltapom Creek	3.4
Grouse Creek	11.3
Madden Creek	8.4
Canyon Creek	17.8
North Fork Trinity River	27.7
Middle Fork Eel River	62.7
North Fork Eel River	14.3
Red Mountain Creek	8.1
Redwood Creek	27.6
Lacks Creek	7.8
Lost Man Creek	8.7
Little Lost Man Creek	3.6
South Fork Elk River	9.4
Salmon Creek	4.6
South Fork Eel River	12.3
Elder Creek	7
Cedar Creek	9.6
East Branch South Fork Eel	23.1
Mattole River	1.5
Honeydew Creek	10.6
Bear Creek	11
Gitchell Creek	3
Big Flat Creek	7.5
Big Creek	4.6

PROPOSED WSR	LENGTH (miles)
Elk Creek	11.4
Eden Creek	2.7
Deep Hole Creek	4.3
Indian Creek	3.3
Fish Creek	4.2
	479.8

Of the 479.8 miles of proposed WSRs in Title 1, 32 miles are “Proposed WSRs”, to be administratively added to the system by the Interior Secretary once sufficient land in the river corridor has been acquired from willing sellers to feasibly manage the WSR. To facilitate the development of federal management plans for existing WSR segments flowing through federal lands, Title I proposes to legislatively re-designate 101.2 miles of existing WSRs that were administratively added to the federal system in 1982.

Section 135: Sanhedrin Conservation Management Area

Over 14,000 acres in Mendocino County in the MNNF will be designated as a “Conservation Management Area” where heavily-logged former private lands will be restored in the headwaters of Elk Creek, a tributary of the Middle Fork Eel River. The purposes of the conservation area are to conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit of present and future generations the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, roadless, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources of the area. The MNF must also protect and restore old-growth forest, the area’s wilderness character, oak woodlands and grasslands, streams and streamside habitats, and anadromous fisheries while allowing the public to enjoy the landscape. Existing road access will remain unaffected. Hiking, horseback riding, vehicle use on authorized routes, mountain biking, camping and other typical recreation activities will be allowed. No new road construction will be allowed. The only type of logging allowed will be thinning designed to restore plantations and other areas that have been damaged by past heavy logging. Livestock grazing may only continue on lands that are currently being grazed. The area is closed to all mining and energy development.

Subtitle D: Miscellaneous

Section 141: Maps and legal descriptions

Requires federal agencies to prepare maps and legal descriptions of the areas designated by the bill.

Section 142: Updates to land and resource management plans

Requires federal agencies to update land management plans to reflect the provisions of S. 3288.

Section 143: Pacific Gas and Electric Company utility facilities and rights-of-way

Ensures that existing utilities can still be maintained in the proposed Restoration Area and other areas that overlap with existing utilities. There are no existing utilities in proposed wilderness areas.

Detailed summary of each Title continues...

Title II: Central Coast Heritage Protection

Section 203: Designation of wilderness

Establishes the following wilderness areas in the Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) and Carrizo Plain National Monument.

PROPOSED WILDERNESS	ACRES
Caliente Mountain	35,116
Soda Lake	13,332
Temblor Range	12,585
Chumash Additions	23,670
Dick Smith Additions	54,036
Garcia Additions	7,289
Machesna Mountain Additions	8,774
Matilija Additions	30,184
San Rafael Additions	23,969
Santa Lucia Additions	2,921
Sespe Additions	14,313
Diablo Caliente	17,870
	244,059

Section 204: Designation of Machesna Mountain Potential Wilderness

Designates 2,359 acres as potential wilderness. The area will become conventional wilderness after 20 years or after an adjacent off-road vehicle route is realigned to a better location (it is now in a poor and unsafe location). Unlike the potential wilderness areas designated in Title I, none of the Machesna Mountain Potential Wilderness has been logged or roaded.

Section 205: Administration of wilderness

The wilderness areas designated by Title II will be managed in the same way as those designated by Title I.

Section 206: Designation of wild and scenic rivers

Title II of S. 3288 establishes the following wild and scenic rivers in the LPNF.

PROPOSED WSR	LENGTH (miles)
Indian Creek	14.4
Mono Creek	24.5

Matilija Creek	14.45
Piru Creek	48.6
Sespe Creek	20.9
Sisquoc River Tributaries:	
South Fork Sisquoc River	4.2
Manzana Creek	20.6
Davy Brown Creek	4.8
Munch Canyon	2.5
Fish Creek	4.1
	159.05

The wild and scenic rivers will be managed as described in Title I.

Section 207: Designation of the Fox Mountain Potential Wilderness

Designates 41,082 acres as potential wilderness. The area will become conventional wilderness either 20 years after S. 3288 becomes law or after two existing trails are realigned to better locations and a new trail is constructed. Motorized equipment can be used to construct or reconstruct the trails.

Section 208: Designation of scenic areas

Designates two scenic areas in the LPNF:

- Condor Ridge 18,666 acres
- Black Mountain 16,216 acres

These areas will be managed to maintain their scenic character. New roads and other developments are prohibited. Hiking, camping, horseback riding, mountain biking, and vehicle use of approved routes will be allowed.

Section 209: Condor National Scenic Trail

Requires federal agencies to study the feasibility and public interest involved in the establishment of a 400-mile long trail that would run the length of the LPNF to be known as the Condor National Scenic Trail. Agencies have 3 years to conduct the study. Much of the proposed trail already exists. The construction of new segments will only be allowed after required environmental studies are completed. Some of the existing portions of the trail overlap routes where vehicle use is allowed. The legislation makes it clear that the eventual goal is a trail that is only open to horses, hikers, and (outside wilderness) mountain bikes. This will eventually involve the construction of new trail segments to bypass those routes where vehicles are allowed.

Section 210: Forest Service study

The Forest Service is given 6 years to study the feasibility of building a trail between LPNF Road 95 and the Ballinger Canyon off-road vehicle recreation area. The trail cannot be constructed until required environmental studies are completed.

Section 211: Non-motorized recreation opportunities

The Forest Service is given 6 years to study the feasibility of establishing new non-motorized trails for hikers, equestrians, and bicyclists in the LPNF outside of protected wilderness areas. No trails can be constructed until required environmental reviews are completed.

Section 212: Use by tribes

S. 3288 makes it clear that Native Americans have the right to use the lands protected by the bill for cultural purposes, including working with land managers to temporarily close the areas for ceremonies.

Detailed summary of each Title continues...

Title III: San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection

Subtitle A: San Gabriel National Recreation Area

Section 313: San Gabriel National Recreation Area

Establishes a 49,387 acre San Gabriel National Recreation Area encompassing federal and local public lands along the San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo south of the Angeles National Forest (ANF). Non-federal lands will not be impacted, nor will existing utilities.

Section 314: Management of the NRA

S. 3288 states that purpose of the NRA is to protect the area's ecological, recreational, cultural, and other values while increasing public access to the area. This will be accomplished by encouraging partnerships between federal, state, local, and private entities. This collaboration will be established in part through the establishment of an advisory council that will consult on the management of the area and by the establishment of a partnership group charged with managing the NRA. Federal agencies are given three years to develop a management plan for the NRA. A visitor services plan must also be developed within three years.

Section 315: Acquisition of non-federal lands with the Recreation Area

S. 3288 allows government agencies to acquire land from willing sellers but makes it clear that non-federal lands cannot be acquired from unwilling landowners.

Section 316: Water rights; Water resource facilities; Public roads; Utility facilities.

S. 3288 makes it clear that existing water rights, roads, and utilities will not be impacted by the establishment of the NRA.

Section 317: San Gabriel NRA Public Advisory Council

Federal agencies are given six months after the establishment of the NRA to convene an advisory council that will advise the federal agencies on the management plan and visitor services plan that must be developed. The council will have 22 members appointed by the federal agencies from local stakeholders such as tribes, recreationists, and elected officials. The members of the council will serve 3-year terms. The bill stipulates that 10 members will constitute a quorum.

Section 318: San Gabriel NRA Partnership

A partnership of 19 members is established to facilitate the management of the NRA. Members will serve 3-year terms. The partnership will include representatives of the National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Army Corps of Engineers as well as representatives of state and local governments and non-governmental organizations. The partnership will advise on the management plan and visitor services plan while also overseeing the day-to-day management of the NRA. The partnership is the primary body that will fulfill the stated purposes of the NRA. The partnership will establish committees to advise on water management and public safety issues in the NRA.

Section 319: Visitor services and facilities

A visitor services plan will be developed within 3 years that will assess the current and anticipated future uses of the NRA, consider the demand for various types of recreation, evaluate the impacts of recreation on natural and social resources and values, assess existing interpretive needs, and plan for the enhancement and improvement of recreation opportunities in the NRA. Allows for the construction of new recreational facilities in the NRA and encourages the partnership to seek ways to connect the NRA to the adjacent ANF and state and local park lands.

Subtitle B: San Gabriel Mountains

Section 322: National Monument boundary modification

The existing San Gabriel Mountains National Monument is expanded by 109,167 acres. Existing management will not change. The existing San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Management Plan will have to be updated to include the new acreage.

The expansion will more closely mirror what conservationists and Rep. Chu originally proposed for the National Monument boundary.

Section 323: Designation of wilderness areas and additions

S. 3288 designates the following areas as wilderness in the ANF.

WILDERNESS AREA	ACRES
Condor Peak	8,207
San Gabriel Additions	2,032
Sheep Mountain Additions	13,726
Yerba Buena	6,694
	30,659

Section 324: Administration of wilderness areas and additions

The wilderness areas will be managed in a manner that is essentially the same as the management described in Title I, above. The bill will specifically allow an annual foot race to continue in one of the wilderness areas.

Section 325: Designation of wild and scenic rivers

The following streams are designated as wild and scenic rivers in the ANF. The streams will be managed as described in Title I.

WSR	LENGTH (miles)
East Fork San Gabriel River	12.7
North Fork San Gabriel River	4.3
West Fork San Gabriel River	8.3
Little Rock Creek	20.2
	45.5

Section 326: Water rights

S. 3288 will not impact existing water rights or existing water facilities.