

Read the Bill

The following Bill was drafted by staff members in the offices of Senator John McCain and Congressman Rick Renzi with input from the Sedona Red-Rock National Scenic Area task force from Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc. Don't let anyone tell you what the bill does or doesn't do. Please read it!

A BILL

To establish the Sedona-Red Rock National Scenic Area in the Coconino National Forest, Arizona, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress, assembled,

Section 1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the "Sedona-Red Rock National Scenic Area Act of 2006".

Section 2. DEFINITIONS

In this Act:

- (1) RESOURCE PLAN-The term "Resource Plan" means the Coconino National Forest Land and Resource Plan, dated June 1998
- (2) SCENIC AREA – The term "Scenic Area" means the Sedona-Red Rock National Scenic Area established by section 3 (a)
- (3) SECRETARY – The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

Section 3. SEDONA-RED ROCK NATIONAL SCENIC AREA, COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST, ARIZONA

- (a) ESTABLISHMENT – There is established in the Coconino National Forest, Arizona, the Sedona-Red Rock National Scenic Area for the purposes of-
 - (1) protecting and preserving the scenic quality and natural resources of the Scenic Area; and
 - (2) restoring and enhancing the natural and historic values of the Scenic Area.
- (b) BOUNDARIES- The Scenic Area shall consist of approximately 160,000 acres of land in the Coconino National Forest, Arizona, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Planning Area Overview" and dated June 1998.
- (c) MAP AND BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION-
 - (1) IN GENERAL- As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file with the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives a map and boundary description of the Scenic Area.
 - (2) FORCE AND EFFECT-The map and boundary description filed under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct any minor errors in the map and boundary description.
 - (3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP AND BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION – The map and boundary description filed under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service.

(d) ADMINISTRATION-

- (1) IN GENERAL- The Secretary shall administer the Scenic Area in accordance with—
 - (A) this Act; and
 - (B) the laws(including regulations) generally applicable to the National Forest System.
- (2) CONFLICT BETWEEN LAWS – In the event of conflict between this Act and the laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System, this Act shall take precedence.

(e) RESTRICTION ON EXCHANGES OF LAND IN THE SCENIC AREA- The Secretary may exchange National Forest System land in the Scenic Area only if-

- (1) The exchange results in the acquisition of National Forest System land in the Scenic Area from a willing seller; and
- (2) An environmental analysis (including an opportunity for public comment) is completed in accordance with the Resource Plan before the exchange.

(f) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION- A wildfire in the Scenic Area shall be suppressed

- (1) In a manner consistent with the purposes of the Scenic Area; and
- (2) Using such means as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to save lives and personal property.

(g) CONTROL OF INSECTS AND DISEASE- The Secretary may control insect and plant or animal disease outbreaks in the Scenic Area to-

- (1) Maintain scenic quality;
- (2) Prevent tree mortality;
- (3) Reduce hazards to visitors; or
- (4) Protect private property.

(h) NO EFFECT ON SURROUNDING LAND- The establishment of the Scenic Area does not affect the management of-

- (1) State, municipal, or private land located in the vicinity of the National Forest System land that is included in the Scenic area; or
- (2) National Forest System land that is not included in the Scenic Area.

(i) NO EFFECT ON FOREST SERVICE PLANNING POLICIES- Except as provided in subsection (e), the establishment of the Scenic Area does not affect the Resource Plan, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(j) NO EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISCRETION- The establishment of the Scenic Area does not affect the discretion of local governing bodies (including counties, municipalities, and fire and school districts) to seek assistance from the Secretary with respect to the resolution of local infrastructure and land use issues that involve National Forest System land within the Scenic Area.

