

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3616

[Report No. 117-]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 28, 2021

Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

AUGUST --, 2021

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, 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 “Bear River National
5 Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage
9 Area” means the Bear River National Heritage
10 Area.

11 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of the Interior.

13 (3) STATES.—The term “States” means the
14 States of Utah and Idaho.

15 (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
16 means—

17 (A) areas in the States that are within the
18 main drainage area of the Bear River;

19 (B) all of Cache, Box Elder, and Rich
20 Counties in the State of Utah, and Bear Lake,
21 Caribou, Franklin, and Oneida Counties in the
22 State of Idaho;

23 (C) the following communities in Utah:
24 Bear River, Brigham City, Corinne, Deweyville,
25 Elwood, Fielding, Garland, Honeyville, Howell,

1 Mantua, Perry, Plymouth, Portage, Snowville,
2 Tremonton, Willard, Amalga, Clarkston, Cor-
3 nish, Hyde Park, Hyrum, Lewiston, Logan,
4 Mendon, Millville, Newton, Nibley, North
5 Logan, Paradise, Providence, Richmond, River
6 Heights, Smithfield, Trenton, Wellsville, Garden
7 City, Laketown, Randolph, and Woodruff;

8 (D) the following communities in Idaho:
9 Malad, Clifton, Dayton, Franklin, Preston, Ox-
10 ford, Weston, Bancroft, Soda Springs, Grace,
11 Bloomington, Paris, Georgetown, Montpelier,
12 and St. Charles; and

13 (E) any other areas in the States that—

14 (i) have heritage aspects that are
15 similar to the areas described in subpara-
16 graphs (A), (B), (C), or (D); and

17 (ii) are adjacent to, or in the vicinity
18 of, those areas.

19 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
21 with State and local organizations and governmental agen-
22 cies, Tribal governments, non-profit organizations, and
23 other appropriate entities, shall conduct a study to assess
24 the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area

1 as a National Heritage Area, to be known as the “Bear
2 River National Heritage Area”.

3 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-
4 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the
5 study area—

6 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
7 cultural resources that—

8 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the
9 people and cultures of the United States;

10 (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-
11 tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

12 (C) would be best managed—

13 (i) through partnerships among public
14 and private entities; and

15 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes
16 noncontiguous resources and active com-
17 munities;

18 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
19 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the
20 United States;

21 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

22 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,
23 or scenic features; and

24 (B) for recreation and education;

25 (4) contains resources that—

1 (A) are important to any identified themes
2 of the study area; and

3 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of
4 supporting interpretation;

5 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-
6 profit organizations, and State, local, and Tribal
7 governments, and other appropriate entities that—

8 (A) are involved in the planning of the
9 Heritage Area;

10 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
11 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in
12 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-
13 ernment; and

14 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-
15 ignation of the Heritage Area;

16 (6) has a potential management entity to work
17 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-
18 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage
19 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-
20 tivity;

21 (7) could impact the rights of private property
22 owners with respect to their private property; and

23 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
24 ported by the public.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

2 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
3 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-
4 retary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-
5 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
6 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
7 a report that describes—

- 8 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;
9 and
10 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
11 Secretary.