

Public Law 106-357
106th Congress

An Act

To designate segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Oct. 24, 2000

[S. 1849]

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

White Clay Creek
Wild and Scenic
Rivers System
Act.
16 USC 1271
note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Public Law 102-215 (105 Stat. 1664) directed the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation and consultation with appropriate State and local governments and affected landowners, to conduct a study of the eligibility and suitability of White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, and the tributaries of the creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

(2) as a part of the study described in paragraph (1), the White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Study Task Force and the National Park Service prepared a watershed management plan for the study area entitled “White Clay Creek and Its Tributaries Watershed Management Plan”, dated May 1998, that establishes goals and actions to ensure the long-term protection of the outstanding values of, and compatible management of land and water resources associated with, the watershed; and

(3) after completion of the study described in paragraph (1), Chester County, Pennsylvania, New Castle County, Delaware, Newark, Delaware, and 12 Pennsylvania municipalities located within the watershed boundaries passed resolutions that—

(A) expressed support for the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Plan;

(B) expressed agreement to take action to implement the goals of the Plan; and

(C) endorsed the designation of the White Clay Creek and the tributaries of the creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF WHITE CLAY CREEK.

Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(162) WHITE CLAY CREEK, DELAWARE AND PENNSYLVANIA.— The 190 miles of river segments of White Clay Creek (including tributaries of White Clay Creek and all second order tributaries of the designated segments) in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as depicted on the recommended designation and classification maps (dated June 2000), to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior, as follows:

“(A) 30.8 miles of the east branch, including Trout Run, beginning at the headwaters within West Marlborough township downstream to a point that is 500 feet north of the Borough of Avondale wastewater treatment facility, as a recreational river.

“(B) 15.0 miles of the east branch beginning at the southern boundary line of the Borough of Avondale to a point where the East Branch enters New Garden Township at the Franklin Township boundary line, including Walnut Run and Broad Run outside the boundaries of the White Clay Creek Preserve, as a recreational river.

“(C) 4.0 miles of the east branch that flow through the boundaries of the White Clay Creek Preserve, Pennsylvania, beginning at the northern boundary line of London Britain township and downstream to the confluence of the middle and east branches, as a scenic river.

“(D) 6.8 miles of the middle branch, beginning at the headwaters within Londonderry township downstream to a point that is 500 feet north of the Borough of West Grove wastewater treatment facility, as a recreational river.

“(E) 14 miles of the middle branch, beginning at a point that is 500 feet south of the Borough of West Grove wastewater treatment facility downstream to the boundary of the White Clay Creek Preserve in London Britain township, as a recreational river.

“(F) 2.1 miles of the middle branch that flow within the boundaries of the White Clay Creek Preserve in London Britain township, as a scenic river.

“(G) 17.2 miles of the west branch, beginning at the headwaters within Penn township downstream to the confluence with the middle branch, as a recreational river.

“(H) 12.7 miles of the main stem, excluding Lamborn Run, that flow through the boundaries of the White Clay Creek Preserve, Pennsylvania and Delaware, and White Clay Creek State Park, Delaware, beginning at the confluence of the east and middle branches in London Britain township, Pennsylvania, downstream to the northern boundary line of the city of Newark, Delaware, as a scenic river.

“(I) 5.4 miles of the main stem (including all second order tributaries outside the boundaries of the White Clay Creek Preserve and White Clay Creek State Park), beginning at the confluence of the east and middle branches in London Britain township, Pennsylvania, downstream to the northern boundary of the city of Newark, Delaware, as a recreational river.

“(J) 16.8 miles of the main stem beginning at Paper Mill Road downstream to the Old Route 4 bridge, as a recreational river.

“(K) 4.4 miles of the main stem beginning at the southern boundary of the property of the corporation known as United

Water Delaware downstream to the confluence of White Clay Creek with the Christina River, as a recreational river.

“(L) 1.3 miles of Middle Run outside the boundaries of the Middle Run Natural Area, as a recreational river.

“(M) 5.2 miles of Middle Run that flow within the boundaries of the Middle Run Natural Area, as a scenic river.

“(N) 15.6 miles of Pike Creek, as a recreational river.

“(O) 38.7 miles of Mill Creek, as a recreational river.”.

SEC. 4. BOUNDARIES.

With respect to each of the segments of White Clay Creek and its tributaries designated by the amendment made by section 3, in lieu of the boundaries provided for in section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(b)), the boundaries of the segment shall be 250 feet as measured from the ordinary high water mark on both sides of the segment.

16 USC 1274
note.

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The segments designated by the amendment made by section 3 shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), in cooperation with the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Committee as provided for in the plan prepared by the White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Study Task Force and the National Park Service, entitled “White Clay Creek and Its Tributaries Watershed Management Plan” and dated May 1998 (referred to in this Act as the “Management Plan”).

16 USC 1274
note.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The Management Plan shall be considered to satisfy the requirements for a comprehensive management plan under section 3(d) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(d)).

(c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—In order to provide for the long-term protection, preservation, and enhancement of the segments designated by the amendment made by section 3, the Secretary shall offer to enter into a cooperative agreement pursuant to sections 10(c) and 11(b)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1281(e), 1282(b)(1)) with the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Committee as provided for in the Management Plan.

SEC. 6. FEDERAL ROLE IN MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Park Service (or a designee) shall represent the Secretary in the implementation of the Management Plan, this Act, and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with respect to each of the segments designated by the amendment made by section 3, including the review, required under section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1278(a)), of proposed federally-assisted water resources projects that could have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the segment is designated.

16 USC 1274
note.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—To assist in the implementation of the Management Plan, this Act, and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with respect to each of the segments designated by the amendment made by section 3, the Secretary may provide technical assistance, staff support, and funding at a cost to the Federal Government in an amount, in the aggregate, of not to exceed \$150,000 for each fiscal year.

(c) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—Any cooperative agreement entered into under section 10(e) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1281(e)) relating to any of the segments designated by the amendment made by section 3—

(1) shall be consistent with the Management Plan; and

(2) may include provisions for financial or other assistance from the United States to facilitate the long-term protection, conservation, and enhancement of the segments.

(d) **NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.**—Notwithstanding section 10(c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1281(c)), any portion of a segment designated by the amendment made by section 3 that is not in the National Park System as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall not, under this Act—

(1) be considered a part of the National Park System;

(2) be managed by the National Park Service; or

(3) be subject to laws (including regulations) that govern the National Park System.

16 USC 1274
note.

SEC. 7. STATE REQUIREMENTS.

State and local zoning laws and ordinances, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, shall be considered to satisfy the standards and requirements under section 6(c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1277(c)) with respect to the segment designated by the amendment made by section 3.

16 USC 1274
note.

SEC. 8. NO LAND ACQUISITION.

The Federal Government shall not acquire, by any means, any right or title in or to land, any easement, or any other interest along the segments designated by the amendment made by section 3 for the purpose of carrying out the amendment or this Act.

Approved October 24, 2000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1849 (H.R. 3520):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 106-813 accompanying H.R. 3520 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 106-266 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 146 (2000):

Apr. 13, considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 18, considered and passed House, amended.

Oct. 5, Senate concurred in House amendment.