

DOWNLOAD PDF THE NORTHERN ROCKIES ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION ACT OF 1993

Chapter 1 : NREPA: Ecology Meets Politics in the Northern Rockies - Alliance For The Wild Rockies

July 14, - H.R, Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of [rd Congress] Carolyn B. Maloney, representative from the 14th district of New York most recently introduced the bill on November 3, , and it had 34 cosponsors as of December 4, [3].

The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act is the only comprehensive solution for protecting our national heritage which lies in the mountains, meadows, and rivers of the Rocky Mountains of the great American West. Protection Though one may rarely stray from the hum of civilization, there is great satisfaction in knowing that wilderness still exists, largely untouched by the hand of man. Wilderness provides abundant clean water and air and gives us a place of refuge. Yet without protection from Congress or the President, this original American landscape is subject to deforestation, pollution, and development. Our public lands belong to all of us, and it is our duty to protect the immeasurable value of old-growth forests, snow-capped mountains, and freshwater rivers and lakes for many generations to come. These iconic species have disappeared from other states due to habitat fragmentation, pollution, and direct conflict with humans. These core ecosystems range from old-growth forests and glaciers to cactus desert and alpine tundra. LEARN MORE Combat Climate Change Communities across the world are experiencing more extreme temperatures, the upset of both terrestrial and marine ecosystems, reduced snowpack, and a rise in the intensity and frequency of natural disasters. While places like the Wild Rockies still exist, we can stabilize the climate and preserve our planet for future generations. This sustainable industry creates jobs, provides additional tax revenue to local communities, and preserves a way of life. NREPA will protect the invaluable ecosystems of the Rocky Mountains bio-region by creating biological corridors that connect existing wilderness and roadless areas, This bioregion is currently threatened by continued fragmentation and destruction. A bioregion is a territory that can support healthy ecosystems and provide adequate habitat for keystone species, and may also consist of multiple ecosystems connected by wildlife corridors. Properly designated and managed bioregions allow for human interaction with the landscape. Bioregions extend beyond political boundaries and therefore require cooperation to protect. Within the Wild Rockies bioregion there are five main interconnecting ecosystems: Within this bioregion lie five diverse ecosystems, important both culturally and ecologically, that people come to experience from around the world. Wild, Scenic and Recreational River designations will protect these rivers and safeguard ancient migration routes for numerous species of salmon, steelhead, and native trout including bull trout. World-class rafting and boating opportunities will also be preserved while assuring steady flows of high quality water for downstream users. These designations 20,, acres complete the visionary work enacted by previous Congresses and fill important ecological gaps overlooked when our understanding of conservation biology was less advanced. These areas would be protected as wilderness and as special management zones 3,, acres where development is limited, but not prohibited. Efforts will focus on removal of excess and unneeded roads, reduction of soil erosion, and restoration of native vegetation and water quality. Native fisheries and wildlife populations will be rejuvenated while boosting the economy in rural communities formerly dependent on resource extraction. Preserve status prohibits developments which impair natural and scenic values, while traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, and firewood gathering and some motorized uses, would continue. Learn about our track record in fighting to protect the Northern Rockies, what we use donations for, and other actions you can take.

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Chapter 2 : Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act Introduced | Friends of the Clearwater Moscow, Id

Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of - Designates the following lands in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness and components of.

Norton A BILL To designate certain public lands in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, national park and preserve study areas, wild land recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors, and for other purposes. The headwaters for nearly two-thirds of North America originate in the Northern Rockies, sending waters to three oceans and providing critical supplies of clean water for wildlife and other users. Continued fragmentation and development of the remaining roadless and essentially roadless ecosystems and biological connectors of the Northern Rockies would cause a loss to the Nation of an entire wild land region, and the only remaining areas south of Canada still pristine enough to support populations of caribou, gray wolves, grizzly bears, anadromous fish, and numerous other rare and endangered plant and animal life all in one intact bioregion. Extensive fragmentation of wild lands and wildlife habitat has resulted in the listing of several species as threatened or endangered and reduced the numbers and range of many others, including anadromous fish. If current Federal land management in the Northern Rockies continues to result in the development of roadless areas, the American public will pay with tax dollars for permanent reductions in wilderness, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, as well as species and biological diversity. This review has identified other areas which may contain outstanding values as national park and preserves and wild and scenic rivers. This review has also identified areas which may not possess outstanding wilderness attributes and should not now be designated as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, but which should be studied to determine their role in maintaining biological diversity in the Northern Rockies. The Island Park area adjacent to Yellowstone National Park contains large clear-cut areas right up to the park boundary. Efforts should be made to return these areas to their former ecological health and native diversity by designating them as National Wildland Restoration and Recovery areas. These efforts seek to ensure that vital ecosystem components are restored, especially in areas where wildlife travel corridors and native fish and wildlife populations have been damaged or eliminated, and restoration efforts will seek to ensure and maintain genetic interchange, biological diversity, and restoration of native species diversity throughout the Northern Rockies Bioregion. The Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf is making a comeback here, and the ecosystem is home to the largest grizzly population in the lower B i In order to protect this unique ecosystem, the areas named in the table in clause ii , which together comprise approximately 1,, acres as generally depicted on the maps with titles corresponding to each such area and dated July 1, , are hereby designated as wilderness. Each such wilderness area shall either be incorporated into the wilderness area indicated or shall be known by the name given to it in such table, as specified in such table. Each such map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Small glaciers and permanent snowfields cloak the rugged Teton and Beartooth mountains, with several peaks greater than 12, feet. Diverse habitat ranges from cactus desert lowlands to arctic tundra. B i In order to protect this unique ecosystem, the areas named in the table in clause ii , which comprise approximately 3,, acres as generally depicted on the maps with titles corresponding to each such area and dated July 1, , are hereby designated as wilderness. Swimming the Salmon and Clearwater river systems, several species of salmon and sea-going trout still make the mile spawning journey from the Pacific Ocean to small tributaries in the high mountain country. Biological and landscape diversity is great, ranging from rocky, dry canyon country to wet forests of ancient cedars many feet in diameter in the Mallard-Larkins and other areas. A wide array of forest dwelling species reside here, and the gray wolf is making a comeback. B i In order to protect this unique ecosystem, the areas named in the table in clause ii , which comprise approximately 5,, acres as generally depicted on the maps with titles corresponding to each such area and dated July 1, , are hereby designated as wilderness. The only caribou herd in the lower 48 roams

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these mountains joined by the grizzly and the gray wolf. Towering mountains include the Cabinet, Selkirk, and Purcell ranges. B i In order to protect this unique, heavily fragmented, and endangered ecosystem, the areas named in the table in clause ii , which comprise approximately , acres as generally depicted on the maps with titles corresponding to each such area and dated July 1, , are hereby designated as wilderness. These wild and beautiful mountains are home to an abundant array of native wildlife and birds and are representative of a unique ecological complex. B i In order to protect this unique and increasingly isolated ecological treasure, the areas named in the table in clause ii , which comprise approximately 1,, acres as generally depicted on the maps with titles corresponding to each such area and dated July 1, , are hereby designated as wilderness. Each such wilderness area shall be known by the name given to it in such table. Additions to Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness: Each such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such map and legal description may be made. Each such map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. They are some of the most beautiful and wild mountain ranges in the Nation, including the Bitterroot, Sapphire, Lost River, Lemhi, and Bridger mountain ranges. In addition, the areas described as wilderness on such maps are hereby designated as wilderness and shall be known by the name given in such table. Each such biological connecting corridor shall be known by the name given to it in such table. B The table referred to in subparagraph A is as follows:

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Chapter 3 : PEAK PUTTERS - Information

The ecosystems in the Northern Rockies are also defined in terms of the habitat of wildlife indicator species protected under the Endangered Species Act of , including grizzly bear, gray wolf, bald eagle, and caribou, and have been depicted on maps published by Federal agencies.

Winter Wilderness Revivalâ€™ Campaigns The Northern Rockies region of the US â€™ a land of great beauty and diversity â€™ contains virtually the entire native biota that existed at the time of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Free-roaming populations of grizzly bear, wolf, caribou, lynx, wolverine, and the last wild bison enrich the landscape. Native salmon, bull trout, cutthroat and steelhead grace the waters. Yet many of these natives, and the wild landscapes on which they depend, continue to dwindle under the onslaught of modern civilization. The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act NREPA is the first legislation to frame wilderness protection in a bioregional context and contains an array of designations that would work in concert to effect ecosystem protection in the US Northern Rockies. In the th Congress, NREPA reached a new high in congressional sponsorship with 72 sponsors [in the th Congress the number has exceeded this high, current cosponsors]. This parochial approach usually relegated formally protected Wilderness Areas to the highest, most rugged landscapes, largely exclusive of the prime forest habitat at the mid and lower elevations. NREPA changes the focus: NREPA de-emphasizes arbitrary political lines to encompass ecological systems. Extensive new designated Wilderness would protect roadless areas, the foundation of effective ecosystem protection. The Wilderness Act remains the only law that specifically protects roadless areas. Wild and Scenic Rivers designation would protect more than 1, miles of free-flowing streams- prohibiting dam-building and thus maintaining the ability of these waters to support migratory native fish. A system of habitat linkage corridors are designated to connect increasingly isolated areas. A pilot system of Wildland Recovery Areas are designated to recover damaged areas and restore their role in supporting ecosystem health. Two areas are proposed for study as possible additions to the National Park System. As such, there are limits to what it can do. Congressional legislation must be limited to the area over which Congress has jurisdiction. We are blessed with a wealth of public lands in the Northern Rockies. NREPA will allow us to build a foundation for ecosystem protection while we gain additional information and develop strategies for enhancing protection of habitat on private lands. Biodiversity conservation at the landscape level encompasses thousands of species, many of which we know little or nothing about. For practical reasons, we focus our conservation plans on a few species that serve as indicators of ecosystem health and integrity. Within the wild Rockies, the grizzly bear and the bull trout, indicators of healthy terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, respectively, are target species. Protecting habitat for these umbrella species, which are both wide-ranging, slow-breeding species highly sensitive to habitat degradation, should lead to protection for hundreds of other less-sensitive species. John Craighead and Dr. For example, the management language pertaining to the biological corridors is informed by the work of numerous scientists who have studied the impacts of roads on grizzly bears and other wildlife Mattson , Craighead, Sumner, and Mitchell Work by regional NREPA supporters has shown that the minimum area requirements for a regional metapopulation of grizzly bears is 50, square miles or more Metzgar and Bader Since none of the core areas are large enough to provide this habitat area, linkage corridors are proposed in order to support a regional metapopulation. Research on bull trout, our aquatic umbrella species, has documented the importance of roadless watersheds, high quality water, and connectivity between populations to the survival of the species. While NREPA is continually refined to add more areas and incorporate new findings prior to each reintroduction in Congress, supporting scientific research is ongoing. Fine-tuning of the bill is necessary to adequately represent all ecosystem types; to this end, Title VI of NREPA establishes an interagency scientific team, including private sector scientists, who will create a Geographic Information System to define further protection needs, conduct research to monitor implementation of the act, and detect landscape changes â€™ both positive and negative. Based on their

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findings, a report will be made available including recommendations for additional protection measures. Region-wide, fine-detail studies are beyond the scope of most non-profit organizations. Our job is not to assume government duties but rather to guide the government in appropriate management. NREPA has also gained support due to its strong economic foundation. An earlier report by Dr. Thomas Power, chair of the University of Montana economics department, shows that enactment of NREPA would have a minimal effect on regional timber industry employment. NREPA works in unison with other conservation strategies. The Alliance for the Wild Rockies conservation network actively works all three branches of the public process and the fourth estate to gain support for a broad range of wildlife protection. Working through the judicial branch, we were recently successful in obtaining an Endangered Species Act listing for the bull trout, covering parts of five states from the Pacific Ocean to the Continental Divide. We are also pursuing litigation on behalf of grizzly bear habitat and to challenge the exploitation of thermal features in Yellowstone National Park. This plan has been included as Alternative 4 in the US Fish and Wildlife Service draft Environmental Impact Statement and received more public support at seven public hearings than any other alternative. Another effort through the administrative process includes petitioning for species listing under the ESA. We have also been actively involved in encouraging the proposed road-building moratorium on National Forest roadless areas. NREPA, of course, works through the legislative branch. The fourth branch, the general public and media, addressed through public outreach, educational publications, the news media, and advertisements. It is crucial to have a broad strategy to achieve conservation goals. Expecting on bill to carry the water for all issues is unrealistic and strategically counterproductive. As important as having a broad strategy is de-politicizing the process to whatever extent as possible. The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act embodies the major goal of the conservation movement- healthy landscapes for humans and wildlife. Grassroots advocates in the wild Rockies bioregion are gearing up for a major push for NREPA in the th Congress, focusing on gaining hearings for the bill and obtaining more than official sponsors. Abstract, from presentation at annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology A Northern Rockies reserve system for grizzly bears and other wildlife. Abstract from presentation at Montana Academy of Sciences symposium. Intermountain Journal of Sciences 2 2: A citizen plan for wildlands management. Western Wildlands 17 2: The Grizzly Bears of Yellowstone: Their Ecology in the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Island Press, pp. University of Utah, Department of Economics. Beyond the boundary line: Constructing a law of ecosystem management. University of Colorado Law Review 65 2: Large mammal predators in the Northern Rockies: Grizzly bears and their habitat. Northwest Environmental Journal 8 1:

Chapter 4 : NREPA - Alliance For The Wild Rockies

H.R. (rd): Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of React to this bill with an emoji Save your opinion on this bill on a six-point scale from strongly oppose to strongly support.

Chapter 5 : petition: Protect 24 million acres of Northern Rockies Wildlands

Excerpt from Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of Joint Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Specialty Crops and Natural Resources of the Committee on Agriculture and the Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, May 4,

Chapter 6 : Maloney Testimony on the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act | Congresswoman Carolyn

Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act Save The Northern Rocky Mountains ecosystem in the United States is known by ecologists, biologists, and naturalists as one of the last areas of the contiguous United States that is relatively undeveloped enough and large enough to support a functioning ecosystem.

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Chapter 7 : Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act | Revolvy

Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of joint hearing before the Subcommittee on Specialty Crops and Natural Resources of the Committee on Agriculture and the Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, House of Representatives, One Hundred Third Congress, second session, on H.R. , May 4,

Chapter 8 : Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act - Wikipedia

The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act of hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands of the Committee on Natural Resources, House of Representatives, One Hundred Third Congress, second session, on H.R. , a bill to designate certain public lands in the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic.