

## National Park System Wilderness Laws

### A. Laws establishing wilderness, in chronological order:

#### Statute #1

Craters of the Moon NM – Public Law 91-504 - 84 Stat. 1105 - 10/23/70

Petrified Forest NP - Public Law 91-504 - 84 Stat. 1106 - 10/23/70

#### Statute #2

Lava Beds NM - Public Law 92-493 - 86 Stat. 811 - 10/13/72

#### Statute #3

Lassen Volcanic NP - Public Law 92-510 - 86 Stat. 918 - 10/19/72

#### Statute #4<sup>1</sup>

Point Reyes NS - Public Law 94-544 - 90 Stat. 2515 - 10/18/76  
Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

#### Statute # 5

Bandelier NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76

Black Canyon of the

Gunnison NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76  
(1)

Chiricahua NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76  
(1)

Great Sand Dunes NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76

Haleakala NP - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76

Isle Royale NP - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76

Joshua Tree NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2692 - 10/20/76  
(1)

Mesa Verde NP - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

Pinnacles NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

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<sup>1</sup> The fact that Congress established wilderness at Point Reyes twice in three days appears to have been an oversight.

Saguaro NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

Badlands NM - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

Shenandoah NP - Public Law 94-567 - 90 Stat. 2693 - 10/20/76

Statute #6

Buffalo NR - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3489 - 11/10/78

Carlsbad Caverns NP - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3489 - 11/10/78

Everglades NP - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Guadalupe NP - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Gulf Islands NS - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Hawaii Volcanoes NP - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Organ Pipe Cactus NM - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Theodore Roosevelt NP - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3490 - 11/10/78

Statute #7

Denali NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Gates of the Arctic NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Glacier Bay NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Katmai NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Kobuk Valley NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Lake Clark NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Noatak NPres - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Wrangell-St.Elias NP - Public Law 96-487 - 94 Stat. 2417 - 12/02/80

Statute #8

Rocky Mountain NP - Public Law 96-560 - 94 Stat. 3271 - 12/22/80

Statute #9

Fire Island NS - Public Law 96-585 - 94 Stat. 3379 - 12/23/80

Statute #10

Cumberland Island NS- Public Law 97-250 - 96 Stat. 709 - 9/8/82

Statute #11

Chiricahua NM - Public Law 98-406 - 98 Stat. 1491 - 8/28/84  
(2)

Statute #12

Devils Postpile NM - Public Law 98-425 - 98 Stat. 1622 - 9/28/84

Yosemite NP - Public Law 98-425 - 98 Stat. 1627 - 9/28/84

Sequoia-Kings Canyon

NPs - Public Law 98-425- 98 Stat. 1627 - 9/28/84

Statute #13

Congaree Swamp NM- Public Law 100-524- 102 Stat. 2606 - 10/24/88

Statute #14

Olympic NP - Public Law 100-668- 102 Stat. 3961 - 11/16/88

North Cascades NP

Lake Chelan NRA

Ross Lake NRA - Public Law 100-668- 102 Stat. 3963 - 11/16/88

Mt. Rainier NP - Public Law 100-668- 102 Stat. 3965 - 11/16/88

Statute #15

Death Valley NP - Public Law 103-433- 108 Stat. 4496 - 10/31/94

Joshua Tree NP - Public Law 103-433- 108 Stat. 4496 - 10/31/94  
(2)

Mojave NPres - Public Law 103-433- 108 Stat. 4496 - 10/31/94

Statute #16

Black Canyon of the

Gunnison NP - Public Law 106-76- 113 Stat. 1129 - 10/21/99  
(2)

Statute #17

Great Sand Dunes

NP and Pres (2) - Public Law 106-530- 114 Stat. 2530 - 11/22/00

Statute #18

Lake Mead NRA - Public Law 107-282- 116 Stat. 1999 - 11/06/02

Statute #19

Pinnacles NM - Public Law 107-370- 116 Stat. 3072 - 12/19/02  
(2)

Statute #20

Apostle Island NL - Public Law 108-447- 118 Stat. 3069 - 12/08/04

Statute #21

Pictured Rocks NL - Public Law 111-11 - 123 Stat. 1042 - 3/30/09

Joshua Tree NP - Public Law 111-11 - 123 Stat. 1063 - 3/30/09  
(3)

Sequoia-Kings

Canyon NPs - Public Law 111-11 - 123 Stat. 1068 - 3/30/09  
(2)

Rocky Mountain NP - Public Law 111-11 - 123 Stat. 1070 - 3/30/09  
(2)

Zion NP - Public Law 111-11 - 123 Stat. 1080 - 3/30/09

Statute #22

Sleeping Bear Dunes

NL - Public Law 113-87 - 128 Stat. 1018 - 3/13/14

**B. Other laws modifying or affecting park wilderness, in chronological order:**

1. Great Sand Dunes NM - Public Law 95-625 - 92 Stat. 3474 - 11/10/78

See also Technical Amendments of 10/12/79

P.L. 96-87 - 93 Stat. 665

Required the NPS to manage lands added by 1978 act in accordance with adjacent lands within the monument. The adjacent lands are wilderness.

2. Sleeping Bear Dunes

NL - Public Law 97-361 - 96 Stat. 1724 - 10/22/82

Required the NPS to manage areas recommended as wilderness and potential wilderness in a January 1981 report "to maintain their presently existing wilderness character" until Congress determines otherwise. Congress determined the boundaries of wilderness in 2014 in P.L. 113-87.

3. Gates of the Arctic NP&Pres

Noatak NPRES - Public Law 104-333 - 110 Stat. 4118 - 11/12/96  
Revised boundaries of Gates of the Arctic wilderness as part of the Anaktuvuk Pass land exchange. Restated and adjusted number of wilderness acres in Noatak.

4. Katmai NP - Public Law 105-277 - 112 Stat. 2681-264 - 10/21/98  
Revised wilderness boundary in connection with a minor (10 acre) land exchange.

5. Everglades NP - Public Law 105-313 - 112 Stat. 2964 - 10/30/98  
Established a Miccosukee Reserved Area of several hundred acres in the park. The Senate Report accompanying the act (SR 105-361) states that the land designated as the Reserved Area should be construed as released from wilderness.

6. Glacier Bay NP - Public Law 105-317 - 112 Stat. 3002 - 10/30/98  
Revised wilderness boundaries in connection with a land exchange to enable a hydropower project for the town of Gustavus, Alaska.

7. Cumberland Is. NS - Public Law 108-447 - 118 Stat. 3072 - 12/08/04  
Adjusted wilderness boundaries to exclude certain dirt roads and historic sites to allow for motor vehicle tours on the excluded roads. In June 2004 the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that such tours by the NPS violated the Wilderness Act.

8. Denali NP - Public Law 110-229 - 122 Stat. 800 - 5/08/08  
Grants an easement on parkland, not to exceed 25 acres, to Alaska Railroad. In exchange, Alaska Railroad relinquishes same amount of acres in an existing easement on park land. If the land with the relinquished easement is adjacent to designated wilderness, the land will become wilderness.

9. Point Reyes NS - Public Law 111-88 - 123 Stat. 2932 - 10/30/09 Section 124 of the Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to renew a permit for a commercial oyster farm in Drakes Bay, an area designated as potential wilderness in 1976, for a ten year period, beginning on November 30, 2012. In December 2012 Secretary Salazar declined to renew the permit.

10. Olympic NP - Public Law 112-97 - 126 Stat. 257 - 2/27/12  
The Quileute Tsunami and Flood Protection Act transferred 785 acres of Federal lands in Olympic National Park to the Quileute Tribe around LaPush, Washington. Among the 785 acres, the law estimates that 222 acres were wilderness, designated in 1988. The law made no provision to offset the loss by designating any other Federal park lands in Olympic as wilderness.

11. Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPs - Public Law 112-128 - 126 Stat. 373 - 6/05/12

The Sequoia and Kings Canyon Backcountry Access Act directed the Secretary of the Interior to issue commercial use authorizations to commercial livestock operators in the wilderness portions of those parks. This law reacted to a decision of the Federal District Court for the Northern District of California on January 24, 2012 that the NPS, in allowing commercial stock use, failed to meet the tests of the Wilderness Act that such “commercial services may be performed...to the extent necessary for activities which are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the area(s)” 16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(5). After the court decision, the NPS suspended all such authorizations. The law directed the reissuance of such commercial use authorizations for which ever comes first – either a four year period (i.e. until June 2016) or until the Secretary completed a wilderness stewardship plan for the parks that analyzed and determined what level of commercial stock use was appropriate. The law mandated that such a plan be prepared within three years.