



H.R. 2632 – Sabinoso Wilderness Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 2632 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Tom Udall (D-NM) on June 7, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported, as amended, by voice vote by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 14, 2008.

H.R. 2632 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 9, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 2632 designates 15,995 acres of land under the jurisdiction of the Taos Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in New Mexico as the "Sabinoso Wilderness". The land would become a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The bill requires any land inside the Sabinoso Wilderness that is acquired by the United States after enactment of the legislation to become part of the wilderness area. H.R. 2632 also withdraws the Sabinoso Wilderness from the operation of mineral leasing, subject to valid existing rights.

H.R. 2632 does not affect the jurisdiction of the State of New Mexico regarding wildlife trapping, hunting and fishing within the Sabinoso Wilderness.

BACKGROUND

The Sabinoso Wilderness lies approximately forty miles east of Las Vegas, New Mexico. The region is home to wildlife including mountain lion, mule deer, red-tailed hawk, coyote, and the savannah sparrow. The terrain is defined by rolling prairie, high mesas, the Canadian River and its system of feeder streams.

The National Wilderness Preservation System was established by the Wilderness Act (P.L. 88-577) in 1964. Under the Wilderness Act, Congress may designate federal lands as wilderness. The National Wilderness Preservation System administers federally managed lands encompassing 107 million acres in 702 wilderness areas, as of January 2008.

[National Wilderness Preservation System website](#)

COST

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementing H.R. 2632 "would have no significant effect on the federal budget."

[Full CBO Cost Estimate for H.R. 2632](#)

STAFF CONTACT

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