



157TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H.R. ____

To preserve America's environmental and historical land and provide for the addition of new National Parks.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER, 2022

Mr. MEELO TV (for the Eaton Administration) introduced the
following bill;

A BILL

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Preservation Act".

SEC. 2. ADDITION OF NATIONAL PARKS AND EXPANSION.

(a) The National Park service shall be granted necessary power and responsibilities to establish new National parks. Said new national parks shall be:

- I. **Tongass National Park:** The land of Alaska's Tongass National Forest will be redesignated as a 16.8 million acre national park that will permanently end destructive logging and ensure habitat protection and wilderness recreation is a top priority.
- II. **Ancient Forest National Park:** The 5 million acre Ancient Forest National Park shall span 230 miles from the Rouge River in the region of Oregon to the Eel river in California. The park would [safeguard](#) much of the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion, a global [biodiversity](#) hotspot and the highest concentration of wilderness and roadless areas on the Pacific coast. As habitats shift with the changing climate, a national park connecting these many separate wildlands will be increasingly important.
- III. **Craters of the Moon National Park:** Recognizing that Idaho is the only region in the West without a National Park, a 2.7 million-acre Craters of the Moon National Park shall be established to correct this deficiency. An [expanded and new national park](#) would incorporate the existing monument and preserve, with its [spectacular volcanic features and high desert ecosystems](#). It would also include adjacent public lands with vast sagebrush steppe habitats needed by the imperiled [sage grouse](#) and rich soils that store carbon.
- IV. **Gila National Park:** A 6.5-million-acre Gila National Park in Arizona and New Mexico offers a rare chance to restore an ecologically complete landscape in the Southwest. The area includes the largest complex of roadless forest lands in the region—including the Gila Wilderness, the world's first legally designated wilderness. The area has habitat for the endangered Mexican gray wolf, potential

for the reintroduction of the extirpated jaguar, and expansive wildlands providing solitude and adventure.

- V. **Frontier Prairie National Park:** The grasslands at the convergence of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico were ground zero for the 1930s Dust Bowl. The federal government acquired devastated farmlands, but now they are threatened by climate change and unsustainable resource extraction. A 1-million-acre Shortgrass Prairie National Park would preserve endangered wildlife habitats, ancient Native American sites, Santa Fe Trail sections, and fossilized dinosaur tracks.
- VI. **North Woods National Park:** A 3-million-acre North Woods National Park, in Michigan and Wisconsin, would be the largest in the midwest. The park would incorporate three of the most carbon-dense national forests east of the Rockies. Remote forest, lake, river, and wetland ecosystems are home to threatened wildlife such as wolves, lynx, martens, and ospreys. Park designation would shift the management priority from logging to preservation and recreation for millions of people in the region.
- VII. **Lake Erie National Park:** The closest national park to Detroit, Michigan, and Toledo, Ohio, is in Canada. Some important natural areas in this industrialized region are in public or land trust ownership, but they are scattered and sometimes inadequately protected. A 200,000-acre Lake Erie Watershed National Park would knit together existing public lands and acquire key private lands, protecting critically endangered ecosystems and offering healthy green spaces within reach of 6 million people.
- VIII. **High Allegheny National Park:** The Monongahela in the West Virginia region is one of the most ecologically diverse and carbon-dense national forests in the eastern United States. Yet logging threatens species such as the northern flying squirrel, hellbender salamander, and wild brook trout. The redesignation of

the national forest as a 950,000-acre High Allegheny National Park would preserve intact habitats and rare wilderness recreation in the densely populated mid-Atlantic region.

- IX. **Green Mountain National Park:** In the 1930s, the National Park Service concluded that the recreation value of Vermont's Green Mountains "outweighs the values that might be obtained by the commercial utilization of their resources." Yet today logging is the top priority under US Forest Service management. A 410,000-acre Green Mountain National Park would not only preserve recreational values but also diverse habitats and massive forest carbon storage.
- X. **Maine Woods National Park:** A Main Woods National Park would cover 3.2 million acres of the largest undeveloped forest east of the Rockies. Although it was a national monument designated in 2016 which saved a key tract, sadly most of the region is increasingly vulnerable to development. An expanded national park could double carbon storage in vast forests recovering from past logging while safeguarding wild rivers, habitat for diverse wildlife, and Alaska-scale wilderness recreation accessible to 50 million people.
- XI. **Florida Big Bend National Park:** A 1.9-million-acre Florida Big Bend National Park would encompass the largest remaining stretch of undeveloped coastline in the lower states and the second-largest area of seagrass in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. The park would preserve forests, wetlands, rivers, springs, estuaries, and marine ecosystems that are home to imperiled wildlife, storehouses of "blue" carbon, and open green space accessible to 12 million people.
- XII. **Vieques National Park:** An 19,000-acre Vieques National Park will lie off the coast of Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Basin, a global biodiversity hotspot. The park would encompass the renowned Puerto Mosquito bioluminescent bay, tropical dry forests, mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds that provide habitat for imperiled species

and “blue” carbon storage. World-class beaches and important cultural sites offer outstanding recreation.

(b) To fund the cost of the establishment of the aforementioned new National Parks, and to repair, expand, or upgrade any existing ones, the National Park Service is appropriated a sum of \$650 million.

(c) REFERENCE – The image below, courtesy of the New National Parks Campaign shall represent the new National Parks established under this Act.



SEC. 4. ENACTMENT.

(a) Any law in conflict with this Act shall hereby be declared null and void.

(b) This Act shall go into law immediately after presidential signing.