

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 501

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 2017

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. DAINES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “East Rosebud Wild
5 and Scenic Rivers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) East Rosebud Creek is cherished by the
2 people of Montana and visitors from across the
3 United States for its clean water, spectacular nat-
4 ural setting, and outstanding recreational opportuni-
5 ties;

6 (2) recreational activities, including fishing,
7 hunting, camping, paddling, hiking, rock climbing,
8 and wildlife watching, on East Rosebud Creek and
9 the surrounding land generate millions of dollars an-
10 nually for the local economy;

11 (3) East Rosebud Creek—

12 (A) is a national treasure;

13 (B) possesses outstandingly remarkable
14 values; and

15 (C) merits the high level of protection af-
16 forded by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16
17 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) in order to maintain the
18 benefits provided by the Creek, as described in
19 paragraphs (1) and (2), for future generations
20 to enjoy; and

21 (4) designation of select public land segments of
22 East Rosebud Creek under the Wild and Scenic Riv-
23 ers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) would recognize the
24 importance of maintaining the values of the Creek
25 while preserving public access, respecting private

1 property rights, allowing appropriate maintenance of
 2 existing infrastructure, and allowing historical uses
 3 of the Creek to continue.

4 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to des-
 5 ignate East Rosebud Creek in the State of Montana as
 6 a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Sys-
 7 tem to preserve and protect for present and future genera-
 8 tions the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational,
 9 and geologic values of the Creek.

10 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SEG-**
 11 **MENTS.**

12 (a) DESIGNATION.—Section 3(a) of the Wild and
 13 Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by add-
 14 ing at the end the following:

15 “(213) EAST ROSEBUD CREEK, MONTANA.—
 16 The portions of East Rosebud Creek in the State of
 17 Montana, consisting of—

18 “(A) the 13-mile segment exclusively on
 19 public land within the Custer National Forest
 20 from the source in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wil-
 21 derness downstream to the point at which the
 22 Creek enters East Rosebud Lake, including the
 23 stream reach between Twin Outlets Lake and
 24 Fossil Lake, to be administered by the Sec-
 25 retary of Agriculture as a wild river; and

“(B) the 7-mile segment exclusively on public land within the Custer National Forest from immediately below, but not including, the outlet of East Rosebud Lake downstream to the point at which the Creek enters private property for the first time, to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture as a recreational river.”.

(b) ADJACENT MANAGEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in paragraph (213) of section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) (as added by subsection (a)) creates a protective perimeter or buffer zone outside the designated boundary of the river segment designated by that paragraph.

(2) OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES.—The fact that an otherwise authorized activity or use can be seen or heard within the boundary of the river segment designated by paragraph (213) of section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) (as added by subsection (a)) shall not preclude the activity or use outside the boundary of the river segment.

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