NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM ACT
LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS

September, 1999

This index of documents include the hearings, committee reports, bills, and other related documents related to the National Trails System Act of 1968 (P. L. 90-543) and its subsequent amendments up through P. L. 105-333 (Nov., 1996). The documents are listed in order by public law number. Sources in [ ]s have not yet been explored. (There may be additional sources as yet not found.) Documents are grouped to show the evolution from bill introduction to passage into law.

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Abbreviations

BOR = Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (existed 1965-1978)
CBO = Congressional Budget Office
Cong. Rec. = Congressional Record
DOI = U.S. Department of the Interior
H.R. = United States House of Representatives (used for bill numbers)
NHT = National historic trail
NRT = National recreation trail
NST = National scenic trail
NSTA = National Trails System Act
OMB = Office of Management and Budget
P.L. = Public Law
S. = United States Senate (used for bill numbers)
USDA = United States Department of Agriculture

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LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS

[1966 -- Sen Gaylord Nelson introduced first Appalachian Trail Bill, S 3171, followed by HR 14222.]


2/3/67: S. 827 To establish a nationwide system of trails, and for other purposes. This bill called for the Pacific Crest Trail, the Potomac Heritage Trail, and the northern sector of the Continental Divide Trail to be designated as a NST. It also proposed the study of 11 trails.


3/15-16/67: Hearings on S. 827 Before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs: 22 statements and 45 other communications (185 pp.). Includes eloquent support by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-WI) and strong testimony by Interior Secretary Udall. Interesting discussions on trail uses and eminent domain.

6/13/68: Senate Rpt. No. 1233, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1968), 16 p.. Refines S. 827 -- specific Senate amendments that prohibit condemnation where more than 60% trail on Federal lands, encourages easements, establishes only north 1/2 of Continental Divide NST, also establishes Appalachian NST, Pacific Crest NST, and Potomac Heritage NST, studies 11 additional trails. Land acquisition funds limited to $10m over 5 years. Interior letter estimates land acquisition for 4 trails at $10 million, combined annual operations $1.2 million.


7/15/68: 114 Cong. Rec. 21426-39, House consideration on HR 4865 introduced by Roy Taylor (D-NC), supported by Wayne Aspinall (D-CO), Chair, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. Questions and comments from floor on landowner liability, types of trail uses, funding, eminent domain, historic routes, a statement by Rep. Mathias (D-MD) on the Potomac Heritage Trail concept. Led to immediate roll call vote 378 Y, 18 N.

9/12/68: H. R. Rep. No. 1891 urged Senate to pull back from proposed amendments. Carefully crafted rationale given on pp. 10-12. Both the House and the Senate versions of the bill prohibited the use of motorized vehicles by the general public on NST. The conference committee proposed regulations to govern the use of motorized vehicles on or across the NST under specified conditions. Horseback riding is not prohibited, as a general rule.

9/18/68: 114 Cong. Rec. 27316-21, Presentation of Conference Report to House. House asked Senate to conform to House language -- emphasis on urban trails, establishes Appalachian Trail and Pacific Crest Trail as NSTs, curbs on condemnation, and regulations on trail use to be issued by secretaries.

9/19/68: 114 Cong. Rec. 27575-6, Conference report presentation to Senate by Sen. Henry Jackson (D-WA) who supported conference committee changes.

10/2/68: P.L. 90-543 establishes Appalachian and Pacific Crest as the first national scenic trails, also requests feasibility studies for 14 additional trails. Outlines basic Federal administrative functions.
P.L. 94-527: An Act to Amend the National Trails System Act ...

5/19/75: Senate Rpt. No. 144, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. (1975), recommends passage of S. 1123, to provide for addition of an Indian Nations Trail in Oklahoma to the trails to be studied for possible inclusion in the national scenic trails system.

6/19/75: Hearings before the Subcom on Parks and Recreation on S.324 (the Potomac Heritage Trail Act of 1975), S. 805 (Domínguez-Escalante Trail), S. 1390 (The Pacific Northwest Trail), S. 1486 (similar to S. 324, but adding a requirement for immediate campsite construction funding availability), and S. 327 (In title I amending the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, and in title II creating a National Historic Preservation Fund).

7/11/75: S. 2112 To authorize the Secretary of Interior to conduct a study with respect to the feasibility of establishing the Bartram Trail as a national scenic trail. Introduced by Sens. Chiles (D-FL) and Allen (D-AL).

10/16/75: Senate Rpt. No. 429, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. (1975), recommends passage of S. 805, to provide for the study of the Domínguez-Escalante Trail in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona for possible designation as a National Trail under the NTSA. S. 805 is related to S. 1390 and S. 1486.


8/2/76: Hearings before the Subcom on Parks and Recreation, to consider the following bills authorizing Interior Dept. feasibility studies to designate certain trails as national scenic trails: S. 2112 for the Bartram Trail; S. 2486 for the Florida Trail; S. 2783 for the Daniel Boone Trail; S. 3273 for the Nee-Me-Poo Trail; S. 3528 for the Desert Trail. Also considers: S. 3287 to amend the NTSA to establish national historic trails as a new category within the national trails system and to designate the Iditarod Trail, in Alaska, as a national historic trail; and H.Con. Res. 225, to establish the Washington-Rochambeau Historic Route through nine states. The administration of the two existing NSTs was a subject of much interest. Several witnesses pointed out that although the NPS is designated as the administering agency for the trail, the only staff support given this project for several years was the assignment of a coordinator on collateral duty. The Committee was pleased to learn that a full-time project manager was to be assigned to the Trail.

8/10/76: Senate Rpt. No. 1142, 94th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1976), 4 p. recommends passage of S. 2486, to provide for a joint USDA-Interior Dept. feasibility study for the Florida Trail for possible designation as a NST.


8/24/76: 122 Cong. Rec. 27437, S2112 considered and passed in Senate.
9/24/76: House Rpt. No. 1683, 94th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1976), 20 p. combined 8 prior bills into HR 94-15122 to study 8 new trail routes to be studied as potential scenic trails. Reports on earlier oversight hearings on Appalachian NST and Pacific Crest NST and the slow completion of earlier requested feasibility studies. Committee Chair James A. Haley (D-FL), adds Florida Trail to list of trails to be studied. He noted “The mild climate along the trail route would afford its users with excellent winter hiking opportunities”. The committee anticipated that the cost of each study would amount to approximately $100,000. No specific amounts are authorized by H.R. 15122. It includes USDOI and USDA reports on the various separate measures which were the basis for this omnibus measure (p. 6-16).

9/27/76: 122 Cong. Rec. 32637-8. Rep. Roy Taylor (D-NC) moved to consider H.R. 15122, an omnibus bill to provide that 8 additional trail routes be studied by Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. Rep. Sebelius (R-KS) spoke in support of the bill, S. 2112 was folded into H.R. 15122, the bill passed the House.

10/1/76: 122 Cong. Rec. 34424, Senate concurred in House amendments.


P.L. 95-248: An Act to Amend the National Trails System Act ...

3/11-3/12/76: Oversight Hearings Before the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, House Serial 94-50, 441 pp., includes: agency briefings on 8 years’ experience with established trails (Appalachian NST and Pacific Crest NST) and feasibility studies to designate certain trails as NST, NRT, and NSBT (bicycles); the need for discontinuous historic trail routes; Appalachian Trail Conference criticism of National Park Service failure to buy any land outside park boundaries; suggestion to move railbanking as a concept into the NTS recommendations for additional sources of Federal revenues to fund new State management programs for implementation of trails systems by Paul C. Pritchard, Exec. Dir., AT Conf (pp. 63-108); extent of snowmobile trail development by Derrick A. Crandall, trails coordinator, Snowmobile Safety and Certification Committee (pp. 108-116); endorsement for Continental Divide Trail by James R. Wolf, former pres. Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania (pp. 116-136); lack of need for bicycle trails studies by John W. Crutcher, Dir. BOR, and Thomas C. Nelson, Dep. Chief, Natl. Forest System, Forest Service (p. 357-379); scope of bicycling activity and need for bike trails studies by Philip Burke, on behalf of James J. Hayes, exec. dir., Bicycle Mfrs. Assn. of Amer. (pp. 393-400), etc.

8/4/77: H.R. 8803 Amends the NTSA to re-establish the advisory council for the Appalachian NST. Changes the acreage limitations on lands acquired for rights of way and by condemnation proceedings along the Appalachian NST. Introduced by Rep. Byron.

9/7/77: S. 2066 Amends the NTSA to re-establish the advisory council for the Appalachian NST. Changes the acreage limitations on lands acquired for rights of way and by condemnation proceedings along the Appalachian NST. Introduced by Sen. Mathias.


10/25/77: 123 Cong. Rec. 35024, H.R. 8803; considered and passed House with 409 yeas, 12 nays and 13 no votes.
11/1/77: Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, House Serial 95-81, 78pp., includes: Interior Dept. support for extended AT land acquisition program, and need to consider AT area landowner rights.


2/22/78: 124 Cong. Rec. 4216, considered and passed Senate, amended.


3/21/78: P.L. 95-248 re-establishes advisory councils and comprehensive management plan for Appalachian and Pacific Crest NSTs. Also stated 125 acres/mile average maximum for condemnation and land acquisition ceilings.

**P.L. 95-625: National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978**

Note, as an omnibus act of which national trails system amendments were a minor part, passage of this bill was preceded by many hearings and reports which do not mention the trails.


9/75: S. Committee Print for Subcom. on Parks and Recreation on possibilities of new green-line park approach to urban park acquisition and management. (No mention of national trails.)

10/23/75: Hearings Before the Subcom.on Dept. of Interior Appropriations on FY 76 and transition quarter budget requests for Interior Dept. and related agencies. (No mention of trails.)

12/18/75: Senate Rpt. No. 581, 94th Congress 1st Sess., 33p., recommends passage with amendments of S. 1640, to establish the Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore Urban Recreation Area in Los Angeles, Calif. (No mention of national trails.)

6/20/75: Hearing Before the Subcom. on Parks and Recreation on S. 759, S. 1516 and S. 1640, Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore, and Arkansas Post National Memorial. (No mention of national trails.)

9/16/76: Hearing Before the Subcom. on National Parks and Recreation to consider the following bills: H.R. 3201, H.R. 14665, and S. 1640 to establish the Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore Urban National Park, California. (No mention of trails.)

12/6/76: Hearing Before the Subcom. on National Parks and Recreation to consider S. 3546 to establish the Jean Lafitte National Park. (No mention of trails.)
2/24/77: S. 791 Title V Amends the NTSA to allow the inclusion of historic trails within the National Trails System. Sets forth criteria for inclusion in the National Historic Trail System. Requires the Secretary charged with the administration of each trail to establish an advisory council and to submit their plans to the House and senate's committees.


10/26, 11/28/77, and 2/7, 2/14/2/21, 2/27/78: Hearings Before the Subcom. on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, (no mention of national trails.)


3/15-3/16/78, Hearings on S. 827 Before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, include testimony by Peter Dominick (R-CO) on importance of the Continental Divide Trail (p. 19).


3/30/78: House Rpt. No. 1022, 95th Congress 2nd Sess., 30p., to amend the NTSA to designate the Oregon National Historic Trail and travelway the first National Historic Trail.

4/24/78: Hearing on S. 2876 before the Senate Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Comm. Publication No. 95-111, 37 p., to make changes in appropriations ceilings and boundaries affecting 56 national park units. (Little specifically on trails.)

4/25/78: Senate Rpt. No. 761, 95th Congress 2nd Sess. (Little specifically on trails.)


5/12/78: Senate Rpt. No. 811, 95th Congress 2nd Sess., 42 p. an omnibus bill to increase development and land acquisition appropriations ceilings, and to revise boundaries of certain national park systems units.


10/4/78: Considered and passed House, amended.

10/12/78: Senate concurred in House amendment with amendments.

10/13/78: House concurred in Senate amendments.

11/10/78: P.L. 95-625, Sec. 551 amends NTSA to broaden advisory councils and comprehensive management plans for all trails, establishes category of national historic trails, establishes 4 NHTs (Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, Lewis and Clark, and Iditarod) plus Continental Divide NST. Recommends Overmountain Victory Trail for study, and prohibits funds for Federal land acquisition for 5 trails. For Continental Divide NST, allows for use of motorized vehicles on designated road segments.

P.L. 96-87: An Act ... for the commemoration of the efforts of Goodloe Byron to protect the Appalachian Trail, and for other purposes.

5/1/79: Hearing Before the Subcom on Parks, Recreation, and Renewable Resources, No. 96-26, to consider S. 490, and S. 495; the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site. (No mention of national trails.)


9/27/79: 125 Cong. Rec. 26519 Chairman Philip Burton (D-CA) requests passage of HR 5419, a bill to authorize the commemoration of a Goodloe Byron Memorial along the trail in Maryland in recognition for this recently deceased Congressman’s efforts towards protecting the Appalachian Trail.

10/1/79: 125 Cong. Rec. 26971-26973 Robert C. Byrd (D-WV) led action to bring HR 5419 before House for consideration. He asked his colleagues to support the trail bill so that it would “forever remain a national asset, to be enjoyed each year by millions of Americans”.

10/9/79: 125 Cong. Rec. 27514-16, Rep. Burton (D-CA) proposes that the amendments to HR 5419 (Secretary of the Interior to provide for Goodloe Byron Memorial along the Appalachian Trail) be passed in the House.

10/12/79: **P.L. 96-87**, based on HR 5419, authority for Goodloe Byron memorial and minor re-numbering of trails to be studied. *(Cong. Rec. 26519)*

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**P.L. 96-199: An Act to Establish the Channel Islands National Park, and for other purposes**


3/15/79: *125 Cong. Rec.* 5224, S.683 introduced by William Cohen (R-ME) to establish NCNST.


5/15/79: House Rpt. No.182, 96th Cong. 1st Sess., 2 parts, M. Udall (D-AZ), chair. (Text limited to proposed Channel Islands provisions.)

7/19/79: Hearing Before the *Subcom on Parks, Recreation, and Renewable Resources*, No. 96-63, to consider S. 1104 and identical H.R. 3757 Title II.

11/15/79: Hearing Before the *Subcom on Parks, Recreation, and Renewable Resources*, No. 96-85, to consider S. 1567 to establish the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, Oregon.

2/18/80: 126 Cong. Rec. 2869-2894, The presiding officer moved to consider H.R. 3757. The committee insisted that the Secretary’s land acquisition authority for the North Country NST be limited to lands within Federal areas. Hatfield (R-OR) and Jackson (D-WA) spoke in support. By roll call the bill passed with 67 yeas, 6 nays and 27 not voting.

2/20/80: 126 Cong. Rec. 3338-3345, Mr. Burton (D-CA) asked concurrence with the Senate amendments. Reps. Sebelius (R-KS) and Lagomarsino(R-CA) supported the motion. Bill passed with amendments.


[See Presidential Documents vol. 16 (1980, Mar. 5]


P.L. 96-344: An Act: To improve the administration of Historic Sites, Buildings and Antiquities Act of 1935

5/8/80: S. 2680 Amends the NTSA to designate the Overmountain Victory Trail in Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina as a NHT and a component of the NTS. Introduced by Sen. Bumpers.


7/31/80: Considered and passed by House.


P.L. 96-370: An Act to Establish the Ice Age National Scenic Trail

7/24/80: H.R. 7825 A bill to establish the Ice Age National Scenic Trail in the state of Wisconsin, and for other purposes introduced.

9/10/80: House Report No. 1314, 96th Cong. 2nd Sess., 6 p. proposed designation of Ice Age National Scenic Trail, administration by Interior. Reports cooperation with Ice Age Council and Ice Age Trail Foundation as administrators of the trail segments outside of federally administered lands, allows for snowmobiles on sections of trail where appropriate. Chairman Udall (D-AZ): “The Ice Age Trail offers a rare variety of highly scenic, natural and geologic features on both public and private lands. Further, it provides an outdoor recreational experience close to population centers such as Milwaukee and the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul” ... “The Department of the Interior believes that the proposed Ice Age Trail qualifies for the national scenic trail designation and, therefore supports the enactments of H.R. 7825.”
9/16/80: 126 Cong. Rec. 25569-25571, House: Rep. Burton (D-CA) proposes to pass HR 7825 to establish the Ice Age NST. Supported by Reuss (D-WI), Sebelius (R-KS), and Roth (R-DE). The bill is passed with 397 yeas, 3 nays, and 32 not voting.

9/18/80: 126 Cong. Rec. 26067 Senate: Sen. Byrd (D-WV) proposes HR 7825 to establish the Ice Age National Scenic Trail be considered, and it is passed.

10/3/80: P.L. 96-370 Ice Age NST establishment act, administration by Department of Interior.

P.L. 98-11: An Act to amend the National Trails System Act...

4/4/79: 96 Cong. Rec. 7175-7176, S. 877 by Mr. Cranston (D-CA) authorizes feasibility study for Juan Bautista de Anzato be completed 18 months following enactment of this Act.


9/22/80: 96 Cong. Rec. 26460-6, Measure passed House, amended. Supported by Reps. Sebelius (R-KS), Clausen (R-CA), and Whitten (D-MS), with a plea by Rep. Corcoran (R-IL) for the Illinois Trail.

1980: Draft Report to accompany H.R. 8087, 96th Cong. 2nd Sess., 43 p. to amend the NTSA to designate seven additional national scenic and historic trails and authorize feasibility studies for six prospective trails, recognizes volunteers, defines "extended trails."

10/7/81: House Rpt. No. 267, 97 Cong. 1st Sess., 37 p. proposes various changes to NTSA, including adding the Potomac Heritage, Natchez Trace, and Florida Trails. Also prohibits entrance fees for national recreation areas and units of national wild and scenic rivers system or national trails system.

9/23/82: Senate Rpt. No. 577, 97 Cong. 1st Sess., 30 p. Chairman Sen. McClure (R-ID), Committee on Energy and Natural Resources released report which recommended passage with amendments of H.R. 861, to designate 3 additional scenic trails (Natchez Trace, Florida Trail, and Potomac Heritage), authorize feasibility studies for 6 prospective trails (General Crook, Beale Wagon Road, Juan Bautista de Anza, Trail of Tears, Illinois, and Jedediah Smith), and provides for volunteer group and citizen involvement in national trails development programs.


1/27/83: S. 271, Designates additional national scenic and historic trails, and for other purposes. Introduced by Sen. McClure (R-ID), and Sen. Wallop (R-WY).

1/31/83: Senate Rpt. No. 1, 98 Cong. 1st Sess., 35 p. compares S. 271 and H.R. 861: commemorates Bartram Trail, encourages volunteers and extends volunteer liability coverage to them (even landowners), requests
biennial trails system plan, establishes 3 trails (Potomac Heritage, Natchez Trace, and Florida), asks for 6 studies, land protection tools for Appalachian NST, tax benefits for conveyance of lands and easements, expands cooperative agreement authority, and encourages interim use of about-to-be abandoned railroad rights-of-way for trail use.

2/3/83: 129 Cong. Rec. 1602-7 Senate passes amendment to add Florida NST to the National Trail System (S. 271). Supported by Senators McClure (R-ID), Wallop (R-WY), Domenici (R-NM), Johnston (D-LA), Sasser (D-TN), and Goldwater (R-AZ).

3/9/83: House Report No. 28, 98 Cong. 1st Sess., 29 p., gives background and rationale for what became P.L. 98-11, includes OMB estimate for land acquisition along Natchez Trace NST. Endorses establishment of Florida National Scenic Trail, discusses general information such as development, implementation, acquiring lands and right-of-ways. Of special interest is a 5-year grants program to foster volunteerism.

3/15/83: 129 Cong. Rec. 5216 Mr. Seiberling (D-OH) requests an amendment (S. 271) to the NTSA to establish 3 new trails: The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, Florida National Scenic Trail, and the Natchez Trace Trail.

3/28/83: P.L. 98-11, requests 6 additional trails for study (Juan Bautista de Anza, Trail of Tears, Illinois, Jedediah Smith, General Crook and Beale Wagon), authorizes 3 new trails (Potomac Heritage, Natchez Trace, Florida), requests biennial national trails plan, strengthens support for volunteers and landowners, defines "extended trail," written consent for NRTs on private lands, better definition of feasibility, refined process for side-connecting trails, protections for existing onground jurisdictions, transfer authority, interpretive sites, purchase from local governments, whole tracts, authority to use NPS unit authorities, trail uses defined, donated easements qualify as conservation tax exemptions, authorizes acceptance of donated markers, abandoned railroads to be preserved as trails (where possible), and definitions.

P.L. 98-405: An Act ...adding the California Trail, etc.


4/26/84: House Rpt. No. 719, 98th Cong. 2nd Sess., 15 p. Chairman Udall (D-AZ) combines several bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct one feasibility study of the trails corridor, while still requiring two reports and two recommendations, one for each trail (Pony Express and California Trails). Also designated Daniel Boone Heritage Trail independent of National Trails System.

5/1/84 H.R. 3787 Considered and passed house, amended.

5/1/84 130 Cong. Rec. 10301. Rep. Brown (R-CO): “The California trail was heavily used for westward migration from 1849 -- the year of the Gold Rush -- to 1869 and much of their traces remain. The iron-tire wagons left very deep grooves, many of which can still be seen today.” Mr. Seiberling (D-OH): “The California Trail was one of a number of trails used by settlers and prospectors in their emigration West during the mid-1800's .... There were many branches and side trails which were highly used, especially by prospectors.” Included NTSA amendment to recognize the regional significance of the contributions of Daniel Boone in the exploration and settlement of the Nation through establishment of markings of a Daniel Boone Heritage Trail.

5/22/84, Senate Hearing Miscellaneous Resolution, Conveyances, Trail Study Designations ... etc. Before the Subcom on Public Lands and Reserved Water, (LC No.
KF26 .E5578 1984F), 278 p. Trails a minor aspect of much larger issues being considered. Includes statements supporting the Pony Express to become NHT, by Sen. Alan Cranston (pp. 68-73) (D-CA), Rep. Norman Shumway (R-CA) (pp. 82-84), Interior (Mary Lou Grier, pp. 90-103, 167-8), and National Pony Express Association (pp. 270-4).

7/17/84: Senate Report No. 557, 98 Cong. 2nd Sess., 19 p. released by Sen. McClure (R-ID) of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, based on H.R. 3787, directs the Secretary of Interior to conduct studies of the Pony Express and the California Trails for possible inclusion in the NTS as national historic trails. Interior statement seeks three years, not two, to do study. Also authorizes Interior Dept. to accept donations for placement of markers on Federal lands to designate significant sites and route segments along the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail.

8/9/84: H.R. 3787 considered and passed Senate.

130 Cong. Rec. 23429, Senate bill open to amendment, third reading and passed Mr. Stevens (R-AK) moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

8/28/84: P.L. 98-405 passed for feasibility study request for California and Pony Express Trails, authorizes acceptance of donated markers for placement at appropriate locations on lands administered by him, and with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture and other appropriate heads of Federal Agencies, on lands under their jurisdiction.

P.L. 99-445 An Act... designating the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) Trail

7/31/85: Amends the NTS to include within the National Trails System the Nez Perce NHT from Wallowa Lake, Oregon, to Bear Pow Mountain, Montana. To be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.


8/7/86: Senate Rpt. No. 382, 99 Cong. 2nd Sess., submitted by Chairman McClure (R-ID)

9/24/86: House Rpt. No. 873, 99 Cong. 2nd Sess., submitted by Chairman Udall (D-AZ), to accompany S. 1542, gives extent of trail, states no lands outside of those federally administered may be obtained by the federal government, states or local governments may apply for lands to be entered as part of national trails once they have been donated to the states or local governments or purchased from private owners.


10/6/86: P.L. 99-445 The Nez Perce NHT is to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture. No lands outside federally administered lands are to be obtained by the Federal Government, States and local governments may apply to have lands donated or purchased from private sources added to the trail, routes may be marked by suitable markers.

P.L. 100-35 An Act ...To designate the Santa Fe Trail as a National Historic Trail

7/31/86: Hearings on H.R. 4794 and H.R. 5188 before the Subcom. on National Parks and Recreation, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.
9/12/86: House Rpt. No. 817, 99 Cong. 2nd Sess., recommends an amendment in the nature of a substitute, of H.R. 4794, to amend the NTSA to designate the Santa Fe Trail as a NHT, and to authorize DOI to accept donations of suitable trail markers. Also authorizes a study of the Kosciuszko Trail, extending from Vermont to South Carolina in connection with military sites fortified by Gen. Thaddeus Kosciusko during the War of Independence, for possible designation as a NHT.

9/16/86: House consideration and passage of H.R. 4794.

1/6/87: H.R. 240 amends the NTSA to designate the Santa Fe Trail, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and New Mexico, as the Santa Fe NHT.

3/5/87: House Rpt. No. 16, 100 Cong. 1st Sess., amends the NTSA to designate the Santa Fe Trail National Historic Trail, lands or interests in lands outside Federally administered areas can only be acquired with the consent of the land owner, must warn owner of potential liability, allows Secretary to accept donations of markers, authorizes establishment of advisory council.


3/27/87: Santa Fe Trail and New Jersey Wild and Scenic Rivers, hearings before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

4/10/87: Senate Rpt. No. 39, 100 Cong. 2nd Sess. Background and need stated by Chairman J. Bennett Johnston (D-LA): “The study found that the Santa Fe Trail is nationally significant. The Santa Fe Trail, during the period from about 1820 to 1880 was one of the most significant commercial trade routes in the history of the Southwest”.

4/21/87: 133 Cong. Rec. 9115-8, Senate: Sen. Byrd (D-WV) proposes passage of HR 240 by the Senate. Supported by Mr. Dole (R-KS), Mr. Domenici (R-NM), and Mr. Armstrong (R-CO).

5/6/87: P.L. 100-35 Establishment act, designates the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, gives extent of trail, lands may not be acquired outside exterior boundaries except with the consent of the owner, requires the Secretary of the Interior to notify owner of their potential liability before acquiring any easement with respect to the Trail, accepting of donated markers is authorized.

5/29/87: S. 1297 a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of the De Soto Trail and for other purposes. This trail extends through Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana. Introduced by Senator Graham (D-FL). Related Bill H.R. 2565. 133 Cong. Rec. 14146.

7/30/87: “Miscellaneous Parks and Public Lands Measures”, hearings before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.
10/1/87: 133 Cong Rec. 26140-26141, The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1297) to provide for a study of the De Soto Trail, passed.

10/25/87: Senate Rpt. No. 117, 100 Cong. 1st Sess. (p. 15615), Mr. Johnston (D-LA) from Committee on Energy and Natural Resources submitted S.1297 to study the De Soto Trail. At a business meeting on September 16, 1987, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered S. 1297, as amended, favorably reported.


12/1/87: 133 Cong. Rec. 33333, House. Mr. Udall: Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. S. 1297 is an Act to amend the NTSA to provide for a study of the De Soto Trail, and for other purposes (Rept. 100-462). Referred to the committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

12/1/87: House Rpt. No. 462, 100 Cong. 1st Sess., amends the NTSA to direct the DOI to study the De Soto Trail extending through ten States for potential Designation as a NHT. S. 1297 is identical to H.R. 2565.


**P.L. 100-192 An Act ...to designate the Trail of Tears as a National Historic Trail**

2/23/87: Amends the National Trails System Act to include the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, the routes traveled by the Cherokee Nation through Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, as a part of the System. Requires the Secretary of the Interior to consider establishing interpretive sites near Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Trail of Tears State Park, Missouri, and Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Authorizes appropriations. Introduced by Sen. Ford, W. H.

7/30/87: “Miscellaneous Parks and Public Lands Measures”, hearings before the Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

9/25/87: Senate Rpt. No. 175, 100 Cong. 1st Sess., recommends passage of S. 578 to amend the NTSA to authorize a study of the Trail of Tears. Sen. Johnston (D-LA) said, “CBO estimates that initial cost of about $150,000 would be incurred during fiscal years 1988 and 1989 for activities related to the establishment of the trail”; later recommends two routes.”


12/1/87: House Rpt. No. 461, 100 Cong. 1st Sess., designates the Trail of Tears as a national historic trail, consisting of water routes and overland routes. Chair Morris K. Udall (D-AZ), said “The National Park System Advisory Board had determined that the Cherokee Trail of Tears is of national historic significance.”

10/1/87: 133 Cong. Rec. 26140 S. 578 would amend the NTSA to designate the Trail of Tears as a national historical trail. Supported by Mr. Ford (R-KY) who provided a brief history of the Trail in his testimony.

12/1/87 133 Cong Rec. 33299-33301 House. Mr. Vento (D-MN) requests the bill S. 578 be passed. Mr. Lagomarsino (R-CA), Mr. Synar (D-OK), and Mr. Emerson (R-MO) supported the bill. It passed with 2/3 vote.
12/3/87 133 Cong Rec., p_____, Senate. Sen. Byrd (D-WV) brings up amendments from the House on S. 578. Mr. Bumpers (D-AR) strongly supports it. It is passed.

12/16/87 P.L. 100-192 establishment act for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail consisting of water routes and overland routes the Cherokee Nation traveled during removal for the East in 1838 to 1839. To be administered by the Secretary of the Interior, no lands or interests therein outside exterior boundaries of federally administered area may be acquired by Federal Government except with the consent of the owner. Secretary to give consideration to establishment of appropriate interpretive sites for the Trail.

P.L. 100-470: National Trails System Improvement Act of 1988
7/24/87: S. 1544 amends the NTSA to retain to the United States interests in abandoned railroad rights of way. In addition, it extends the life of the Iditarod Historic Trail Advisory Council to 20 (currently 10) years from the date of its establishment. Introduced by Sen. Metzenbaum. Related bills H. R. 2641.

3/3/88: Hearings on S. 1544 before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: “National Trails System Improvement Act of 1987 and Revising the Boundaries of the Salem Maritime National Historic Site” Opposition to S. 1544 by William P. Mott Jr., Director, NPS: analysis of legal issues involved in availability of abandoned or forfeited railroad ROW’s; and, support for H.R. 2652. Other witnesses included Susan A. Henley, Executive Director, American Hiking Society.


4/18/88: House Rpt. No. 572, 100th Cong. 2nd Sess., for H.R. 2641, 9 p. recommends that abandoned railroad rights-of-way on Federal lands be converted to recreational trails, and that DOI transfer to State or local governments management of ROWs located outside national conservation areas or National Forests.

4/19/88: House consideration and passage of H.R. 2641.

6/29/88: Senate Rpt. No. 408, 100th Cong. 2nd Sess., on S. 1544, 19 pp. provides for cooperation with State and local governments for the improved management of certain Federal lands, acquiring and developing trails for recreation and conservation purposes to further the use of abandoned railroad ROWs.

7/6/88: Senate consideration and passage of S. 1544.

8/2/88: House consideration and passage of S. 1544 with amendments.

9/19/88: Senate concurrence in the House amendments to S. 1544.

10/4/88: P.L. 100-470 Provides for Federal retention of interest in abandoned railroad rights-of-way on Federal Lands for use as trails in national conservation areas or national forests... expands secretarial control of rights-of-ways, especially abandoned railroads, plus reversion of Federal 43 USC 912 ROWs back to Federal Government unless used for highways. Extends Iditarod NHT advisory council to 20 years.

P.L. 100-552 An Act...to Authorize the Establishment of the Lewis & Clark National ...etc.


10/28/88: P.L. 100-552 authority for Dept. of Agriculture to develop and operate trail center in Great Falls, MT.

P.L. 100-559 An Act... to redesignate Salinas National Monument, etc.
9/17/87: S. 1693 Amends the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of the Coronado Trail, the route taken by the Spanish explorer Coronado through Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, for inclusion in such System. Introduction by Sen. Bingaman.

3/24/88: Miscellaneous New Mexico Park Related Measures: Hearing on S. 1693 before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests (S. Hrg.100-699, texts p. 6-8). The Coronado National Trail Study Act of 1987, to amend the NTSA to direct the Interior Department to study the Coronado Trail extending through five states for potential designation as a NHT.


6/21/88: S. 2545 Similar to S. 1693. Introduced by Sen Bingaman.


10/7/88: Debate: Senate consideration and passage of S. 2545. 100th Cong., 2d Sess.


10/28/88: **P.L. 100-559** Title II Sec. 201. Short Title includes Coronado National Trail Study Act of 1988.

**P.L. 101-321 An Act...to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery for study, etc**

11/21/89: H.R. 3834 Selma to Montgomery National Trail Study Act of 1989 amends the NTSA to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama (traveled by the march dramatizing the need for voting rights legislation), for study for potential addition to the national trails system. Introduced by Rep. Lewis, John.

3/6/90: *Hearings on H.R. 3834 Before the Subcom. on National Parks and Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.*


3/20/90: House Rpt. No. 425, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., on H.R. 3834 to amend the NTSA to require the NPS to study for potential designation as a NHT, the route taken in March 1965 by black voting rights activists form Selma, Ala., to Montgomery, Ala. Chairman Udall (D-AZ) proposes study section to NTSA.

3/20/90: 136 Cong. Rec. 4540-3 Introduced by Rep. John Lewis (D-GA). Chairman Vento (D-MN) requests passage of HR 3834 to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery for study as a possible addition to the NTSA.


6/7/90: Senate Rpt. No. 313, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., on H.R. 3834 (companion to S. 2067), background on Selma-Montgomery protest marches, James W. Stewart, Assistant Director, National Park Service, “Mr. Chairman, the events of March 1965 in Selma clearly marked a turning point in the social history of this Nation. The fact that citizens shed their blood to demonstrate their support for the right to vote should never be forgotten”.

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7/3/90: **P.L. 101-321** Selma to Montgomery National Trail study Act of 1989, march by black voting rights activists led to passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, events associated with the march raised the Nation’s consciousness, the designation of the route of the march will serve as a reminder that the right to vote is a precious one worth exercising.

**P.L. 101-365: An Act...Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Act, etc.**
2/28/89: H.R. 1159 Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Act - Amends the National Trails System Act to include the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, extending from Sonora, Mexico, to San Francisco, California, as a part of the System. Prohibits lands from outside Federal boundaries from being acquired for inclusion into such Trail without the consent of the owners. Authorizes appropriations. Introduced by Rep. Miller, (D-CA).

11/7/89: Hearings on H.R. 1159 Before the Subcom.. on National Parks, and Public Lands, House Interior and Insular AffairsCommittee.

3/5/90: House Rpt. No. 412, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., on H.R. 1159, to amend the NTSA to authorize the designation of the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT in Arizona and California as a component of the NTS. Submitted by Chairman Udall (D-AZ).


5/15/90: Senate Rpt. No. 290, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., proposes establishment of Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior, including that the Secretary shall encourage volunteer trail groups to participate in the development and maintenance of the trail, authorizing appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act. Approximately $150,000 budget estimated for fiscal years 1992 and 1993.


8/15/90: **P.L. 101-365** establishment act for Juan Bautista de Anza NHT. Land may not be acquired outside the exterior boundaries of federally administered area except with consent of owner.

**P.L. 102-328: An Act ... to Designate the California National Historic Trail, etc.**
2/23/89: H.R. 1109 Amends the National Trails System Act to designate as components of the National Trails System: (1) the California National Historic Trail, extending from Independence and Saint Joseph, Missouri, and Council Bluffs, Iowa, to various points in California and Oregon; and (2) the Pony Express National Historic Trail, extending from Saint Joseph, Missouri, through Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada to Sacramento, California. Introduced by Rep. Shumway.


11/7/89: House Hearings on H.R. 1109 before the Subcom.. on National Parks and Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

3/5/90: House Rpt.. No. 411, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., on H.R. 1109, 6 p.. Chaired by M. Udall (D-AZ), recommends passage for establishing both trails. Includes CBO estimate of $2.4 million for land acquisition, $400,000 for development, and $140,000 annual operations.


5/22/90: Senate Rpt.. No. 301, 101th Cong. 2nd Sess., 9 p.. Chaired by Sen. Bennett Johnston (D-LA), recommends passage for both trails with amendments limiting willing seller authority in Utah and Wyoming. Same CBO estimates as in House Rpt., 101-411. In support statement by NPS Director James Ridenour: “We intend all land acquisition outside federally administered areas to be accomplished by State and local governments for both trails ...”


5/6/91: House Report No. 48, 102st Cong., 1st Sess. (1990), 8 p.. Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands includes CBO estimate of $300,000 for management plan, $3-30 million capital costs, actual operating costs dependent on management alternative chosen. Includes Interior letter of support with cost estimates.


2/19/92: Miscellaneous National Parks and National Trails Measures: Hearings on S. 801 and similar H.R. 479 before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National Parks, and Forests, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, (S. HRG. 102-667, texts p. 39-45) 206 p., Wallop (R-WY) testimony deeply suspicious of Federal land acquisition (pp. 2-3). Sen. Henry Reid (D-NV) offers compromise language (pp. 6-7). Statements of support from National Park Service (p. 119, 123-4), Oregon-California Trails Association (157-8), Rep. Tom Coleman (R-MO, p. 158), and Pony Express Commemoration Committee (p. 158-9).


8/3/92: P.L. 102-328 establishment act for California and Pony Express NHTs.

P.L. 102-461: An Act... to designate the American Discovery Trail for study, etc.

7/24/91: S. 1537 Amends the National Trails System Act to designate the American Discovery Trail extending from Pt. Reyes, California, to Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware, for study for potential addition to the National Trails System. 137 Cong. Rec. 19430 - 19431, Sen. Brown. (R-CO) introduced the bill. Senator Hank Brown (R-CO) said “We believe that the American Discovery Trail has the potential to provide the missing element in the National Trail System.”... (p. 19575) “The American Discovery Trail would be our Nation’s first coast to coast hiking trail. It would link together shorter segments of existing scenic and historic trails on public lands ...” “It is my hope that this trail will foster increased appreciation of and responsibility for our public lands, as well as heightened awareness of our cultural heritage.”

2/6/92: Hearings on H.R. 3011 before the Subcom. on National Parks and Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.


4/1/92: Cache la Poudre National Water Heritage Area; American Discovery Trail; and Employee Housing: Hearing on S. 1537 Before the Subcom. on Public Lands, National...


10/6/92: H.R. 6184 Amends the National Trails System Act to study the American Discovery Trail extending from Pt. Reyes, California, to Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware, and the Ala Kahakai Trail in Hawaii for potential addition to the National Trails System. Introduced by Rep. Byron (D-MD).


Senate Rpt. 102-463 on H.R. 3011, Designation of the American Discovery Trail As a Study Trail. H.R. 3011 is similar to S. 1537.

10/23/92: P.L. 102-461, feasibility studies requested for the Ala Kahakai and American Discovery Trails.

P.L. 103-144, An Act ... to provide for a study of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, etc.
4/28/93: S. 836 - A bill to study the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The Royal Road of the Interior Lands), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. By Mr. Bingaman (D-NM) and Mr. Domenici (R-NM). " El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was the primary route of travel for nearly 300 years that was used by clergy, colonists, soldiers, Indians, officials, and trade caravans between Mexico and New Mexico". 139 Cong. Rec 8464-8465.


7/16/93: Senate Rpt. No. 93, 103st Cong. 1st Sess., on S. 836, 7 p..


10/7/93: Hearing on H.R. 1838 and S. 836 Before the Subcom. on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, House Natural Resources Committee.


**P.L. 103-145 An Act ... to provide for a study of El Camino para los Tejas, etc.**
5/19/93: El Camino Real Para Los Texas Study Act of 1993 - Amends the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the El Camino Real Para Los Texas for designation as a national scenic trail. It also, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to work in cooperation with the Mexican government (including, but not limited to providing technical assistance) to determine the feasibility of establishing an international historic trail along the El Camino Real Para Los Texas. Authorizes appropriations. Introduced by Sens. Johnston (D-LA) and Kreuger (D-TX).


7/16/93: Senate Rpt. No. 95, 103st Cong. 1st Sess. on S. 983, 7 p., Chairman Johnston (D-LA) presents bill with support testimony by Deny Galvin, National Park Service.

7/21/93: Debate: Senate consideration and passage of S. 983. 103rd Cong., 1st Sess. (1993). 139 Cong. Rec. 59182 Mr. Vento (D-MN) requests bill S. 983 to be passed to study the El Camino Real as a possible addition to the NTSA.

10/7/93: Hearing on H.R. 2160 and S. 983 before the Subcom.. on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, House Natural Resources Committee.


11/8/93: Debate: House consideration and passage of S. 983. 103rd Cong., 1st Sess. (1993). 139 Cong. Rec. 27756 - 27757 El Camino Real Para Los Texas was the Spanish road established to connect a series of missions and posts extending from Monclova, Mexico to the mission and later Presidio Nuestra de Pilar de los Adaes which served as the Spanish capital of the Provinces of Texas from 1722 to 1772. - Mr. Vento (D-MN) requests the passage of S. 983 (p. 8897-8898).


**P.L. 103-437. Correction of Congressional Committee Names in U.S. Code**


P.L. 104-88, ICC Termination Act of 1995
12/29/95: Title III Subtitle B Sec. 317 - The NTSA is amended: (1) in section 8 (d) by striking “Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission” and inserting in lieu thereof “Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board”; and by striking “Commission” the second place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “Board”; and (2) in section 9 (b) by striking “Interstate Commerce Commission” and inserting in lieu thereof “Surface Transportation Board”.

P.L. 104-333, An Act ...to provide for the administration of certain Presidio properties, etc.


5/8/96: House Rpt. No. 567, 104th Cong. _ Sess., on H.R. 1129 Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail, revised bill language, with purpose, analysis, and operating budget estimate of $100,000 to $500,000 per year.


9/30/96: S. Rpt. No. 374, 104th Cong. _ Sess., on H.R. 531 To amend the NTSA to direct USDA, in consultation with the DOI, to designate the Great Western Scenic Trail as a study trail for potential inclusion in the NTS.

11/12/96: P.L. 104-333, Sec. 501 establishment act for Selma to Montgomery NHT, gives extent of trail, Section 5 (a) of the NTSA is amended by adding at the end thereof one paragraph that includes that the Secretary of the Interior, acting through National Park Services, which shall be the lead Federal agency, shall cooperate with other Federal, State, and local authorities to preserve historic sites along the route, including (but not limited to) the Edmund Pettus Bridge and the Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church. Also requests feasibility studies for Old Spanish and Great Western Trails.
## INDEX BY TRAIL

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