

S 156

Ojito Wilderness Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 25, 2005

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 109-94.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 109-94. (Oct 26, 2005)

Law: 109-94 (Enacted Oct 26, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/156

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]

Party: Democratic • State: NM • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]	R · NM		Jan 25, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Feb 28, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HR 362	Identical bill	Jun 23, 2005: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 89.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the Senate on July 26, 2005. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Ojito Wilderness Act - (Sec. 3) Designates certain public land known as the Ojito Wilderness in New Mexico (wilderness area) as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Requires that the wilderness area be managed by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Wilderness Act. Provides for the addition of specified land in New Mexico and any land within the boundaries of the wilderness area to the wilderness area if such land is acquired by the federal government.

Permits grazing of livestock in the wilderness area where grazing rights were established before the enactment of this Act. Prohibits anything in this Act from: (1) affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of New Mexico with respect to fish and wildlife in the state; (2) constituting a reservation by the United States of any water or water rights with respect to the land designated as wilderness by this Act; (3) affecting any water rights in the state existing on the date of enactment of this Act, including any water rights held by the United States; (4) establishing a precedent with regard to any future wilderness designations; or (5) affecting the interpretation of, or any designation made pursuant to, any other Act.

Declares that the Secretary shall follow the procedural and substantive requirements of the laws of the state in order to obtain and hold any water rights not in existence on enactment of this Act respecting the wilderness area.

Prohibits the President, any other U.S. officer, employee, or agent from funding, assisting, authorizing, or issuing a license or permit for the development of any new water resource facility (as defined by this Act) within the wilderness area.

Directs the Secretary to seek an exchange for state land within the boundaries of the wilderness area within three years after enactment.

(Sec. 4) Requires the Secretary to hold in trust certain public lands for the Pueblo of Zia (Pueblo) and include such lands as part of the Pueblo's Reservation. Requires the Pueblo to pay the Secretary the fair market value (determined by an appraisal) of such public lands placed in trust. Authorizes the Secretary to use funds paid by the Pueblo to acquire non-federal lands in New Mexico.

Preserves public access to Pueblo trust lands for recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, paleontological, and conservation uses.

Authorizes a civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico to enforce right of public access.

Preserves existing rights-of-way in the trust lands. Requires the Pueblo to grant any reasonable request for rights-of-way for utilities and pipelines in such lands.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 26, 2005:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 26, 2005:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 26, 2005:** Became Public Law No: 109-94.
- **Oct 26, 2005:** Became Public Law No: 109-94.
- **Oct 19, 2005:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 19, 2005:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Mrs. Musgrave moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8871-8873)
- **Oct 18, 2005:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 156.
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H8871-8872)
- **Oct 18, 2005:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H8871-8872)
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Cleared for White House.
- **Jul 27, 2005:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 27, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 27, 2005:** Held at the desk.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S9018-9052; text as reported in Senate: CR S9012-9023; text: CR S9022-9023)
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S9018-9052; text as reported in Senate: CR S9012-9023; text: CR S9022-9023)
- **Feb 28, 2005:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici with amendments. With written report No. 109-13.
- **Feb 28, 2005:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici with amendments. With written report No. 109-13.
- **Feb 28, 2005:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 24.
- **Feb 9, 2005:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S483)
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as introduced: CR S483-484)