

March 30, 2009, shall be permitted to continue—

(A) subject to—

(i) such reasonable regulations, policies, and practices as the Secretary considers necessary; and

(ii) applicable law (including regulations); and

(B) in a manner consistent with the purpose described in subsection (a).

**(5) Wildland fire operations**

Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary, in cooperation with other Federal, State, and local agencies, as appropriate, from conducting wildland fire operations in the National Conservation Area, consistent with the purposes of this section.

**(f) Incorporation of acquired land and interests**

Any land or interest in land that is located in the National Conservation Area that is acquired by the United States shall—

(1) become part of the National Conservation Area; and

(2) be managed in accordance with—

(A) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);

(B) this section; and

(C) any other applicable law (including regulations).

**(g) Withdrawal**

**(1) In general**

Subject to valid existing rights, all Federal land located in the National Conservation Area is withdrawn from—

(A) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(B) location, entry, and patenting under the mining laws; and

(C) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

**(2) Additional land**

If the Secretary acquires additional land that is located in the National Conservation Area after March 30, 2009, the land is withdrawn from operation of the laws referred to in paragraph (1) on the date of acquisition of the land.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title I, §1975, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1083.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, referred to in subsecs. (e)(1)(B)(i) and (f)(2)(A), is Pub. L. 94-579, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2743, which is classified principally to chapter 35 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 43 and Tables.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 1971 of Pub. L. 111-11, set out as a note under section 460www of this title.

SUBCHAPTER CXXXVI—FORT STANTON-SNOWY RIVER CAVE NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

**§ 460yyy. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Conservation Area**

The term “Conservation Area” means the Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area established by section 460yyy-1(a) of this title.

**(2) Management plan**

The term “management plan” means the management plan developed for the Conservation Area under section 460yyy-2(c) of this title.

**(3) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title II, §2201, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1099.)

**§ 460yyy-1. Establishment of the Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area**

**(a) Establishment; purposes**

There is established the Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area in Lincoln County, New Mexico, to protect, conserve, and enhance the unique and nationally important historic, cultural, scientific, archaeological, natural, and educational subterranean cave resources of the Fort Stanton-Snowy River cave system.

**(b) Area included**

The Conservation Area shall include the area within the boundaries depicted on the map entitled “Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area” and dated December 15, 2008.

**(c) Map and legal description**

**(1) In general**

As soon as practicable after March 30, 2009, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a map and legal description of the Conservation Area.

**(2) Effect**

The map and legal description of the Conservation Area shall have the same force and effect as if included in this subchapter, except that the Secretary may correct any minor errors in the map and legal description.

**(3) Public availability**

The map and legal description of the Conservation Area shall be available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title II, §2202, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1099.)

**§ 460yyy-2. Management of the Conservation Area**

**(a) Management**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall manage the Conservation Area—

(A) in a manner that conserves, protects, and enhances the resources and values of the Conservation Area, including the resources and values described in section 460yyy-1(a) of this title; and

(B) in accordance with—

- (i) this subchapter;
- (ii) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and
- (iii) any other applicable laws.

**(2) Uses**

The Secretary shall only allow uses of the Conservation Area that are consistent with the protection of the cave resources.

**(3) Requirements**

In administering the Conservation Area, the Secretary shall provide for—

(A) the conservation and protection of the natural and unique features and environs for scientific, educational, and other appropriate public uses of the Conservation Area;

(B) public access, as appropriate, while providing for the protection of the cave resources and for public safety;

(C) the continuation of other existing uses or other new uses of the Conservation Area that do not impair the purposes for which the Conservation Area is established;

(D) management of the surface area of the Conservation Area in accordance with the Fort Stanton Area of Critical Environmental Concern Final Activity Plan dated March, 2001, or any amendments to the plan, consistent with this subchapter; and

(E) scientific investigation and research opportunities within the Conservation Area, including through partnerships with colleges, universities, schools, scientific institutions, researchers, and scientists to conduct research and provide educational and interpretive services within the Conservation Area.

**(b) Withdrawals**

Subject to valid existing rights, all Federal surface and subsurface land within the Conservation Area and all land and interests in the land that are acquired by the United States after March 30, 2009, for inclusion in the Conservation Area, are withdrawn from—

- (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the general land laws;
- (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and
- (3) operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws.

**(c) Management plan**

**(1) In general**

Not later than 2 years after March 30, 2009, the Secretary shall develop a comprehensive plan for the long-term management of the Conservation Area.

**(2) Purposes**

The management plan shall—

- (A) describe the appropriate uses and management of the Conservation Area;
- (B) incorporate, as appropriate, decisions contained in any other management or ac-

tivity plan for the land within or adjacent to the Conservation Area;

(C) take into consideration any information developed in studies of the land and resources within or adjacent to the Conservation Area; and

(D) provide for a cooperative agreement with Lincoln County, New Mexico, to address the historical involvement of the local community in the interpretation and protection of the resources of the Conservation Area.

**(d) Research and interpretive facilities**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary may establish facilities for—

- (A) the conduct of scientific research; and
- (B) the interpretation of the historical, cultural, scientific, archaeological, natural, and educational resources of the Conservation Area.

**(2) Cooperative agreements**

The Secretary may, in a manner consistent with this subchapter, enter into cooperative agreements with the State of New Mexico and other institutions and organizations to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

**(e) Water rights**

Nothing in this subchapter constitutes an express or implied reservation of any water right. (Pub. L. 111-11, title II, §2203, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1100.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(B)(ii), is Pub. L. 94-579, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2743, which is classified principally to chapter 35 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 43 and Tables.

**§ 460yyy-3. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title II, §2204, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1101.)

SUBCHAPTER CXXXVII—DOMINGUEZ-ESCALANTE NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

**§ 460zzz. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Conservation Area**

The term “Conservation Area” means the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area established by section 460zzz-1(a)(1) of this title.

**(2) Council**

The term “Council” means the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council established under section 460zzz-6 of this title.