

Public Law 102-328  
102d Congress

An Act

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the California National Historic Trail and Pony Express National Historic Trail as components of the National Trails System.

Aug. 3, 1992  
[H.R. 479]

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

**SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF TRAILS.**

Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended by adding the following new paragraphs at the end thereof:

“( ) The California National Historic Trail, a route of approximately five thousand seven hundred miles, including all routes and cutoffs, extending from Independence and Saint Joseph, Missouri, and Council Bluffs, Iowa, to various points in California and Oregon, as generally described in the report of the Department of the Interior prepared pursuant to subsection (b) of this section entitled ‘California and Pony Express Trails, Eligibility/Feasibility Study/Environmental Assessment’ and dated September 1987. A map generally depicting the route shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The trail shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior. No lands or interests therein outside the exterior boundaries of any federally administered area may be acquired by the United States for the California National Historic Trail except with the consent of the owner thereof.

“( ) The Pony Express National Historic Trail, a route of approximately one thousand nine hundred miles, including the original route and subsequent route changes, extending from Saint Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, as generally described in the report of the Department of the Interior prepared pursuant to subsection (b) of this section entitled ‘California and Pony Express Trails, Eligibility/Feasibility Study/Environmental Assessment’, and dated September 1987. A map generally depicting the route shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The trail shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior. No lands or interests therein outside the exterior boundaries of any federally administered area may be acquired by the United States for the Pony Express National Historic Trail except with the consent of the owner thereof.”

**SEC. 2. STUDY PROVISIONS.**

The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) shall undertake a study of the land and water route used to carry mail from Sacramento to San Francisco, California, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of such route as a component of the Pony Express National Historic Trail designated by section 1 of this Act. Upon completion of the study,

16 USC 1244  
note.

if the Secretary determines such route is a feasible and suitable addition to the Pony Express National Historic Trail, the Secretary shall designate the route as a component of the Pony Express National Historic Trail. The Secretary shall publish notice of such designation in the Federal Register and shall submit the study along with his findings to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate.

Approved August 3, 1992.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 479:**

**HOUSE REPORTS:** No. 102-48 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).  
**SENATE REPORTS:** No. 102-319 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).  
**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:**

Vol. 137 (1991): May 7, 8, considered and passed House.  
Vol. 138 (1992): July 21, considered and passed Senate.