

Subcommittee on Federal Lands
Tom McClintock, Chairman
Hearing Memorandum

May 9, 2016

To: All Subcommittee on Federal Lands Members

From: Majority Committee Staff – Spencer Kimball
Subcommittee on Federal Lands, x 6-7736

Hearing: Legislative hearing on H.R. 3565 (Rep. Lois Capps), To expand the boundary of the California Coastal National Monument, and for other purposes.
May 12, 2016 at 10:00 AM; 1324 Longworth HOB.

H.R. 3565 (Rep. Lois Capps), “California Coastal National Monument Expansion Act”

Bill Summary

H.R. 3565, introduced by Congresswoman Lois Capps (D-CA-24), expands the boundary of the California Coastal National Monument by 5,821 acres, and for other purposes.

Cosponsors

Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA-31), Rep. Bera, Ami (D-CA-7), Rep. Brownley, Julia (D-CA-26), Rep. Tony Cardenas (D-CA-29), Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA-27), Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA-16), Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA-53), Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA-11), Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA-18), Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA-20), Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA-3), Rep. Janice Hahn (D-CA-44), Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA-17), Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-2), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA-13), Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA-33), Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-19), Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA-47), Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA-6), Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA-9), Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA-32), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA-28), Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA-30), Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA-14), Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA-15), Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA-41), Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA-5), and Rep. Norma Torres (D-CA-35).

Invited Witnesses

Panel I

The Honorable Lois Capps (R-CA-24)

Panel II

Ms. Abbie Jossie

Acting Assistant Director, National Landscape Conservation System & Community Partnerships
Bureau of Land Management
Washington, D.C.

Background

In January 2000, President Clinton designated over 20,000 islands, rocks, pinnacles and reefs covering 1,100 miles along the shoreline of the State of California as the California Coastal National Monument (Monument).¹ In March 2014, President Obama expanded the boundary of the Monument to include 1,665 acres of federal land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) along the Northern California coastline in Mendocino County, commonly known as the 'Point Arena-Stornetta Unit'.²

H.R. 3565 would designate four areas of federal land encompassing over 5,800 acres as new units of the Monument. These areas include 13 acres in Humboldt County known as 'Trinidad Head'; 5,780 acres in Santa Cruz County known as 'Cotoni-Coast Dairies Public Land'; 20 acres in San Luis Obispo County known as 'Piedras Blancas Light Station Outstanding Natural Area'; and 8 acres in Humboldt County known as 'Lighthouse Ranch.' The bill also lifts Congressional withdrawals on the rocks and islands located within a mile off the coast of Orange County and incorporates them into the National Monument.

Adding these lands to the Monument would make them a part of the BLM National Conservation Lands Program. For all new areas added to the Monument, the BLM must revise the Monument management plan to provide for long-term protection and management. The Secretary of the Interior would be required to establish an advisory council, subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), for each unit of Federal land added to the Monument. These councils will advise the Secretary with respect to the revision and implementation of the Monument management plan.

The bill withdraws the lands added to the Monument, subject to valid existing rights, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under public land laws; location, entry, and patent under mining laws; and operation of mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire non-federal land or interests in land within or adjacent to the federal land to add to the Monument through exchange, donation, or purchase from a willing seller. Motorized and mechanized vehicle use would be restricted only on designated roads and trails in the Monument, except as needed for emergency or authorized administrative purposes. The bill allows for the continuation of grazing activities in the Piedras Blancas Light Station area.

Administration Position

The Administration position is unknown at this time; however, in October 2015, the BLM indicated it supports a similar bill, S. 1971, offered by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) during a legislative hearing hosted by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests.³

¹ [William J. Clinton, Proclamation 7264, Establishment of the California Coastal National Monument](#), January 11, 2000.

² [Barack H. Obama Proclamation 9089, Expansion of the California Coastal National Monument](#), March 11, 2014.

³ Statement of Steven A. Ellis Deputy Director, Operations Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, & Mining S. 1971, California Coastal National Monument Expansion Act. October 8, 2015.

Cost

A Congressional Budget Office cost estimate has not yet been completed for this bill.

Effect on Current Law (Ramseyer)

Showing Current Law as Amended by H.R. 3565

[text to be added highlighted in yellow; text to be deleted in brackets and highlighted in blue]

The Act of February 18, 1931 (Chapter 226, 46 Stat. 1172)

An Act To [sic] reserve for public use rocks, pinnacles, reefs, and small islands along the seacoast of Orange County, California.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all rocks, pinnacles, reefs, and islands having an area, at ordinary high tide, of less than two acres, and located in the Pacific Ocean within one mile of the coast of Orange County, California, [be, and the same are hereby, temporarily reserved, pending enactment of appropriate legislation by the Congress of the United States] are part of the California Coastal National Monument and shall be administered as part of the Monument, in the interest of preserving the same for park, scenic, or other public purposes, and no patent shall issue for any of said rocks, pinnacles, reefs, or islands under any law relating to the public lands after the passage of this Act.

The Act of May 28, 1935 (Chapter 155, 49 Stat. 305)

An Act To [sic] authorize the Secretary of Commerce to dispose of certain lighthouse reservations, and for other purposes

[Sec. 31. That the Act of February 18, 1931 (46 Stat. 1172), entitled 'An Act to reserve for public use rocks, pinnacles, reefs, and small islands along the sea coast of Orange County, California', is hereby amended to reserve for lighthouse purposes the San Juan and San Mateo Rocks and the two rocks in the vicinity of Laguna Beach, off the coast of Orange County, California.]

California Coastal National Monument Addition

DRAFT

Date Prepared: 7/24/2015

This map prepared at the request of Senator Barbara Boxer

