Public Law 97–411
97th Congress

An Act

To establish the Cheaha Wilderness in Talladega National Forest, Alabama.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the “Cheaha Wilderness Act”.

Sec. 2. (a) In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131–1136), certain lands in the Talladega National Forest, Alabama, which comprise approximately six thousand seven hundred and eighty acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled “Cheaha Wilderness Proposed”, dated May 1982, are hereby designated as wilderness and shall be known as the Cheaha Wilderness.

(b) Subject to valid existing rights, the wilderness area designated under subsection (a) shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131–1136) governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

(c) As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a map and legal description of the wilderness area designated by subsection (a) to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives. Such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that any clerical or typographical error in such map or legal description may be corrected. The Secretary shall place such map and legal description on file, and make them available for public inspection, in the Office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Approved January 3, 1983.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 2955 (H.R. 6011):

HOUSE REPORT No. 97–646 accompanying H.R. 6011. P.t. 1 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs) and P.t. 2 (Comm. on Agriculture).


Aug. 2, 4, H.R. 6011 considered and passed House.
Dec. 19, S. 2955 considered and passed Senate.
Dec. 20, considered and passed House.