

Public Law 106-318  
106th Congress

An Act

Oct. 19, 2000  
[H.R. 2778]

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

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

Taunton River  
Wild and Scenic  
River Study Act  
of 2000.  
16 USC 1271  
note.

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Taunton River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2000”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds that—

(1) the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts possesses important resource values (including wildlife, ecological, and scenic values), historic sites, and a cultural past important to the heritage of the United States;

(2) there is strong support among State and local officials, area residents, and river users for a cooperative wild and scenic river study of the area; and

(3) there is a longstanding interest among State and local officials, area residents, and river users in undertaking a concerted cooperative effort to manage the river in a productive and meaningful way.

**SEC. 3. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY.**

Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended—

(1) by designating the undesignated paragraph following (135) as paragraph (136); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(137) TAUNTON RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.—The segment downstream from the headwaters, from the confluence of the Town River and the Matfield River in Bridgewater to the confluence with the Forge River in Raynham, Massachusetts.”.

**SEC. 4. STUDY AND REPORT.**

Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second paragraph (8) as paragraph (10);

(2) by redesignating the second paragraph (11) as paragraph (12);

(3) by redesignating the third paragraph (11) as paragraph (13);

(4) by redesignating the fourth paragraph (11) as paragraph (14);

(5) by redesignating the first undesignated paragraph as paragraph (15);

(6) by redesignating the second undesignated paragraph as paragraph (16);

(7) in paragraph (16), as so redesignated by paragraph (6) of this subsection, by striking “paragraph ( )” and inserting “paragraph (136)”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

“(17) TAUNTON RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior— Deadline.

“(A) shall complete the study of the Taunton River, Massachusetts; and

“(B) shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study.”.

#### SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

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

Approved October 19, 2000.

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#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2778 (S. 1569):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 106-678 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 106-209 accompanying S. 1569 (Energy and Natural Resources).

#### CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 145 (1999): Nov. 19, S. 1569 considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 146 (2000): June 19, considered and passed House.

Oct. 5, considered and passed Senate.