

# **Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests Protection Act**

## **Section-by-Section Analysis**

**Section 1.** Title

**Section 2.** Findings

**Section 3.** Administration of the Cucamonga, Sheep Mountain and San Gabriel Wilderness Areas.

**Section 4.** Specifies the lands that will be added to the Cucamonga and Sheep Wilderness Areas, which total 17,724 acres. This includes approximately 6,202 acres to the Cucamonga and 11,522 to the Sheep Mountain Wilderness Areas.

**Section 5.** Protection of certain rights and uses of forest land. This section reinforces the protection of private property and water rights in the wilderness areas and specifies that the wilderness designation will not impede access to private property, drug interdiction, military training, equestrian activities or access for persons with disabilities. It will also ensure that the state retains jurisdiction over hunting as well as fish and wildlife activities.

**Section 6.** Fire management. Focuses on the ability of forest managers to implement the necessary fire management techniques to reduce the threat from wildfires, including the use mechanized equipment to assist with wildfire prevention activities. In addition, this section eliminates bureaucratic delays in responding to wildfires that threaten communities by providing the Federal Incident Commander the authority to use any fire suppression method necessary to respond to the threat.

**Section 7.** Maintenance of the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests. Requires the Secretary of Agriculture to reduce the maintenance backlog that currently exists, focusing on the facilities that were damaged in the Station Fire.

**Section 8.** Completion of Wild and Scenic Rivers studies. Directs the Forest Service to complete its review in two years, a necessary step to enable the Forest Service to determine the suitability of the studied waterways for a Wild and Scenic designation.

**Section 9.** Authorization of Appropriations as necessary.