

Public Law 96-585  
96th Congress

An Act

To designate certain lands of the Fire Island National Seashore as the "Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness", and for other purposes.

Dec. 23, 1980

[H.R. 7814]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, in accordance with section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), certain lands in the Fire Island National Seashore, New York, comprising approximately one thousand three hundred and sixty-three acres, and potential wilderness additions comprising approximately eighteen acres, as depicted on the map entitled "Wilderness Plan—Fire Island National Seashore", dated December 1980, are hereby designated as the "Fire Island Wilderness". The southern boundary of the wilderness shall be the toe of the primary dunes.

Otis Pike Fire  
Island High  
Dune  
Wilderness, N.Y.  
Designation.  
16 USC 1132  
note.

(b) As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, a map and a description of the boundaries of the wilderness area shall be filed with 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, and such map and description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided*, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such map and description may be made. The map and description of boundaries shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Superintendent of the Fire Island National Seashore and the Director of the National Park Service.

Boundary  
description and  
map, filing with  
congressional  
committees.

(c) Lands which represent potential wilderness additions, upon publication in the Federal Register of a notice by the Secretary of the Interior that all uses prohibited thereon by the Wilderness Act have ceased, shall thereby be designated wilderness. Pending such designation, the Secretary shall administer such lands in such manner as to preserve, insofar as is possible, their wilderness or potential wilderness character.

Potential  
wilderness  
additions,  
administration.

(d) Wilderness designation shall not preclude the repair of breaches that occur in the wilderness area, in order to prevent loss of life, flooding, and other severe economic and physical damage to the Great South Bay and surrounding areas.

(e) Section 10 of the Act of September 11, 1964 (78 Stat. 928) is amended by changing the period to a comma, and by adding the following: "and, after the date of enactment of this provision, not more than \$500,000 for development."

Appropriation  
authorization.  
16 USC 459e-9.

(f) Authorizations of moneys to be appropriated under this Act shall be effective on October 1, 1981. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, authority to enter into contracts, to incur obligations, or to make payments under this Act shall be effective only to the extent, and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

Approved December 23, 1980.

---

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):  
Dec. 10, considered and passed House.  
Dec. 13, considered and passed Senate.