

**DMG Questions  
California Wild Heritage Act  
June 2003**

1. Please provide the latest text of the California Wild Heritage Act
2. Besides wilderness designation, are there any other elements Bill that affect federal lands in the southern California deserts? [e.g., W&S River, Air Quality designations].
3. What were the experiences/lessons learned with the last bill and what are plans for introduction of a new bill?
4. What are the reasons for timing of the Bill's introduction?
5. Please provide clear maps showing the locations and boundaries (including boundary adjustments) of proposed wilderness areas and other areas affected by the legislation in the southern California deserts. Please provide hard copies for distribution to the DMG. Death Valley National Park specifically requested hard copies of the maps referred to in Section 201.5 of the old Bill ("...a map entitled, "Death Valley National Park Wilderness Area Additions - Proposed," dated May 2002...") and in Section 203(a) ("...the map entitled Boundary Adjustment Map," numbered 143-80, 172 and dated October 2001...")
6. What habitat quality criteria are being used in the designation process? In other words, why are the areas in the Heritage Act worthy of being designated as Wilderness? What competent authority has deemed the proposed areas as worthy of Wilderness designation? Who has been involved or consulted in developing the proposals? What process was used to identify areas/language to include in the Bill?
7. What kinds of information do the Bill's sponsors expect to request of the agencies as the legislation evolves? How will these requests be made of the agencies?
8. How are nonconforming uses and features addressed?
9. What is the prognosis for funding boundary management for additional wilderness areas?
10. How has/will the vehicle access controversy (RS 2477, recent lawsuits, etc.) affect the legislation?
11. How will the Bill address wilderness corridors for roads?
12. Will the Crater Mine "Cherry Stem" in Death Valley National Park be extinguished due to change in the status of the former mining claims?
13. Will the legislation be used for boundary adjustments? If so, where and why?

14. Will the Porter Mine, China Garden Springs, and Sourdough Springs be incorporated into Death Valley National Park.
15. Please explain the meaning of the last sentence in Section 202(c) of the old Bill "...the Secretary deems necessary..." Does this mean if the Secretary or another does not deem this or that regulation as "necessary", then the regulation does not apply?