



Fact Sheet: Great Basin National Heritage Area and Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area Extension Act

Summary: The Great Basin National Heritage Area and Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area Extension Act is bipartisan, bicameral legislation that would reauthorize federal funding for the Great Basin and Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Areas (NHAs), ensuring their continued ability to promote conservation, expand recreation opportunities and preserve the unique heritage of the Western United States.

Background: In 2006, Congress designated Great Basin National Heritage Area (White Pine County, Nevada and Millard County, Utah) and Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (Kane, Garfield, Piute, Sevier, Wayne, and Sanpete counties in Utah) to conserve, interpret and promote the natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources within their boundaries. The designations authorized each National Heritage Area to receive federal funding for a period of 15 years; without reauthorization, the ability to receive and leverage these federal funds will expire on October 12, 2021.

National Heritage Areas utilize public-private partnerships to leverage small federal investments into substantial results, helping communities to preserve historic buildings, promote heritage tourism, deliver educational programming and preserve and celebrate rich cultural traditions. Since 2006, the two heritage areas received a combined total of \$6 million in federal funds which has been leveraged to complete hundreds of projects and programs valued at over \$50 million. These range from restoring steam locomotives, developing museum exhibit and promoting powwows to creating trails, restoring historic buildings, and funding school field trips. Reauthorization of the two heritage areas will enable this important work to continue for another 15 years.