

Chronological List of Actions

- Nov. 22, 1899 - Appalachian National Park Association organized at Asheville, North Carolina.
- Dec. 20, 1899 - Appalachian National Park Association prepared memorial to Congress requesting Federal acquisition of forest lands in Southern Appalachians.
- Jan. 2, 1900 - Senator Pritchard (N.C.) presented above memorial to U. S. (Senate Document 58, 56th Cong.).
- April 17, 1900 - Committee from Appalachian National Park Association appeared before Senate Committee in support of the memorial.
- April 21, 1900 - Senator Pritchard (N.C.) introduced bill (S.5518) authorizing Secretary of Agriculture to investigate need for national park in Appalachians.
- July 1, 1900 - Above bill, with \$5,000 appropriation for preliminary investigation, became law.
- Jan. 1, 1901 - Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson reported results of Department's investigation to Congress. (Senate Document 84, 56th Cong.)
- Jan. 10, 1901 - Senator Pritchard (N.C.) introduced bill authorizing \$5,000,000 for establishing Southern Appalachian forest reserve.
- Jan. 19, 1901 - President McKinley in special message to the Congress recommended favorable consideration of the forest reserve proposal.
- Jan. 28, 1901 - Forest reserve bill reported favorably by House Committee.
- Feb. 12, 1901 - Forest reserve bill reported favorably by Senate Committee.
- Dec. 4, 1901 - Senator Pritchard introduced a bill carrying \$5,000,000 appropriation for purchase of 2 million acres in Southern Appalachians.
- Dec. 6, 1901 - Congressman Brownlow (Tenn.) introduced somewhat similar bill but carrying appropriation of \$10,000,000 for acquisition of 4 million acres.
- Dec. 19, 1901 - President Theodore Roosevelt in special message urged Congress to pass forest reserve legislation.
- Jan. 25, 1902 - Pritchard bill passed Senate.
- June 24, 1902 - Forest Acquisition bill (S. 5228) introduced by Senator Burton (Kan.) passed Senate.
- Jan. 1903 - Senator Burton reintroduced his forest reserve bill in 1st session, 58th Congress.
- Nov. 11, 1903 - Representative Brownlow (Tenn.) reintroduced forest reserve bill 58th Congress (1903-04) Burton Forest Reserve bill passed by Senate but companion Brownlow bill in House failed to pass. Also a White Mountain bill introduced by Congressman Currier (N.H.) failed to pass.
- Jan. 2-6, 1905 - American Forest Congress meeting in Washington, D.C. endorses movement for forest reserves in Southern Appalachians and in White Mountains.
- Dec. 1905 - Representative Currier (N.H.) and Brownlow (Tenn.) introduced bills for forest reserves in White Mountains and Southern Appalachians respectively.
- Jan. 1906 - American Forestry Association devised a "Union" bill, providing for acquiring forest reserves in both Southern Appalachians and White Mountains.
- April 11, 1906 - Senate committee reported favorably on Union Bill (S. 4953).
- April 25 & 26, 1906 - House held hearings on "Union Bill" (H.R. 19573).

- May 22, 1906 - House committee reported "Union Bill" favorably (Report 4399), no further action by Congress.
- March 4, 1907 - Agriculture Appropriation Act directed Secretary of Agriculture to investigate watersheds of Southern Appalachians and White Mountains and make \$25,000 available.
- Dec. 3, 1907 - Pres. Roosevelt in special message to Congress recommended purchase of forest lands in Southern Appalachians and White Mountains.
- Dec. 11, 1907 - Secretary made report (Senate Document 91, 60th Cong. 1st. sess.).
- Dec. 1907 - Forest Reserve Bills H.R. 10456 and H.R. 10457 introduced.
- Jan. 30, 1908 - House held public hearings on H.R. 10456 and H.R. 10457.
- Feb. 27, 1908 - House Judiciary Committee held hearings and by Resolutions 208 and 365 referred above bills to Committee on Judiciary with request for advice as to their constitutionality.
- April 20, 1908 - House Judiciary Committee Report 1514 - declared bills H.R. 10456 and H.R. 10457 unconstitutional.
- May 16, 1908 - Senate passed S. 4825 (Brandeggee bill).
- May 18, 1908 - H.R. 21986 introduced by Scott (Kan.).
- May 19, 1908 - House Committee on Agriculture reported H.R. 21986 (Scott bill) favorably, (H. Report 1700, 60th Cong., 1st sess.).
- May 1908 - H.R. 21767 (also H.R. 21986) introduced by Representative Pollard (Nebr.).
- May 21, 1908 - "Scott Bill" H.R. 21986 passed by House - (vote 205 to 41, 124 not voting). In Senate this bill referred to Committee on Commerce.
- Dec. 9, 1908 - House Committee held hearings on S. 4825.
- Jan. 22, 1909 - H.R. 26923 introduced by Congressman Weeks (Mass.).
- Jan. 28, 1909 - House subcommittee agreed to substitute provisions of H.R. 26923 for S. 4825, except for enacting clause of senate bill.
- Feb. 3, 1909 - House majority reported on revised bill (S.4825) - Report 2027 (60th Cong., 2nd. sess.). (Majority 11 members, minority 7 members).
- March 1, 1909 - Revised bill, S. 4825, introduced in House by Congressman Weeks. Passed by vote of 157 to 147, with 82 members not voting.
- March 3, 1909 - Bill S. 4825, as revised and passed by House debated in Senate, but objected to and referred back to committee.
- July 23, 1909 - H.R. 11798 (similar to ultimate Weeks Law) introduced by Congressman Weeks.
- Feb. 23 and March 1&2, 1910 - House Committee held hearings on H.R. 11798 (Weeks bill).
- April 15, 1910 - House Committee reported H.R. 11798 favorably, with Report 1036 (61st.Cong., 2nd sess.).
- June 1908 - Senator Gallinger (N.H.) introduced S. 4501, companion bill to H.R. 11798. Some minor changes made by committee.
- June 24, 1910 - House debated and passed H.R. 11798.
- June 25, 1910 - Senate agreed to substitute H.R. 11798 for slightly revised S.4501. Debated but failed to vote on measures. Agreed to vote on H.R. 11798 on Feb. 15, 1911.
- Feb. 15, 1911 - H.R. 11798 passed by Senate.
- March 1, 1911 - H.R. 11798 signed by President and became P.L. 435 (36 Stat. 961) commonly known as the Weeks Law.