

Legislation Authorizing the Special Resource Study

Congress requested completion of this special resource study under the Consolidated Natural Resources Projects Omnibus Authorization Act of 2008, which was signed into law (P.L. 110-229) by President Bush on May 8, 2008. Below is the relevant passage from the act.

SEC. 324. SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA STUDY.

(a) Definitions.--In this section:

(1) Memorial.--The term "memorial" means a memorial to the Space Shuttle Columbia that is subject to the study in subsection (b).

(2) Secretary.--The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

(b) Study of Suitability and Feasibility of Establishing Memorials to the Space Shuttle Columbia.--

(1) In general.--Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available, the Secretary shall conduct a special resource study to determine the feasibility and suitability of establishing a memorial as a unit or units of the National Park System to the Space Shuttle Columbia on land in the State of Texas described in paragraph (2) on which large debris from the Shuttle was recovered.

(2) Description of land.--The parcels of land referred to in paragraph (1) are--

(A) the parcel of land owned by the Fredonia Corporation, located at the southeast corner of the intersection of East Hospital Street and North Fredonia Street, **Nacogdoches, Texas**;

(B) the parcel of land owned by Temple Inland Inc., 10 acres of a 61-acre tract bounded by State Highway 83 and Bayou Bend Road, **Hemphill, Texas**;

(C) the parcel of land owned by the city of Lufkin, Texas, located at City Hall Park, 301 Charlton Street, **Lufkin, Texas**; and

(D) the parcel of land owned by San Augustine County, Texas, located at 1109 Oaklawn Street, **San Augustine, Texas**.

(3) Additional sites.--The Secretary may recommend to Congress additional sites in the State of Texas relating to the Space Shuttle Columbia for establishment as memorials to the Space Shuttle Columbia.