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Federal lands bill includes money for Nevada projects

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Several Nevada projects got a boost with Senate passage of a sweeping federal lands bill, including a study of historical Cold War landmarks.

The measure passed Thursday on a 73-21 Senate vote would set aside 2 million acres of protected wilderness in nine states and add more than 1,000 miles to the system of wild and scenic rivers. House approval is expected.

Among Nevada projects that could receive funding is a study of Cold War-era sites for possible inclusion in the government's inventory of historically significant landmarks.

Proponents hope to gain landmark status for a crash site atop Mount Charleston where a C-54 transport plane crashed in 1955, killing 14 scientists and military personnel on a secret flight to Area 51 near the Nevada Test Site.

Also included in the Senate measure was an 80-acre land transfer in Summerlin, including 24.4 acres would be turned over from the federal Bureau of Land Management to the Nevada Cancer Institute for a campus and treatment center.

The bill would release property along the foothills of Sunrise Mountain for a Clark County flood control basin project, and transfer about 500 acres from the BLM to Henderson for development around the Henderson Executive Airport.
