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Bill would place Sand Creek site in trust managed by park service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Colo., introduced the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Trust Act, a bill to place 1,465 acres of land surrounding the massacre site that is privately owned by the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes into a trust managed by the National Park Service.

“This legislation will bring the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes closer to setting apart this land as a memorial honoring the men, women and children that tragically lost their lives in the 1864 massacre,”

Musgrave said.

The bill furthers the creation of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site by establishing the National Park Service as the managers of the land known as “Dawson’s Creek” which will be given to the tribes in a trust by the federal government. The trust property is declared part of the Indian reservation of the tribe and can be used only for historic, religious or cultural uses that are compatible with the use of the land as a national historic site.