



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
CHAIRMAN BRUCE WESTERMAN

**To:** House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Members  
**From:** House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Staff  
**Date:** Monday, July 21, 2025  
**Subject:** Markup of 14 bills

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The House Committee on Natural Resources will hold a markup on **Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**, in room 1324 Longworth House Office Building. The bills to be considered include: H.R. 178 (Rep. McClintock); H.R. 179 (Rep. McClintock); H.R. 345 (Rep. Harder); H.R. 528 (Rep. Pettersen); H.R. 839 (Rep. Arrington); H.R. 1045 (Rep. Kennedy of UT); H.R. 1276 (Rep. Comer); H.R. 2290 (Rep. Dingell); H.R. 2294 (Rep. Ezell); H.R. 2302 (Rep. McClintock); H.R. 2400 (Rep. LaMalfa); H.R. 3620 (Rep. Begich); H.R. 3857 (Rep. Hurd); H.R. 4285 (Rep. Maloy).

Member offices are requested to notify Madeline Kelley ([Madeline.Kelley@mail.house.gov](mailto:Madeline.Kelley@mail.house.gov)) by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, to confirm their Member's attendance at the markup.

## **I. KEY MESSAGES & TOPLINE ACTIONS**

- Bills expected to move by regular order: H.R. 178 (Rep. McClintock), To require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfires, and for other purposes.; H.R. 179 (Rep. McClintock), *"Proven Forest Management Act of 2025"*; and H.R. 839 (Rep. Arrington), To prohibit the implementation of a Land Protection Plan for Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge.
- Please note that H.R. 178, H.R. 179, and H.R. 839 will each have an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). Members should ensure that amendments are drafted to the ANS.
- Bills expected to move by unanimous consent: H.R. 345 (Rep. Harder), *"Fire Department Repayment Act of 2025"*; H.R. 528 (Rep. Pettersen), *"Post-Disaster Reforestation and Restoration Act of 2025"*; H.R. 1045 (Rep. Kennedy of UT), *"Utah Wildfire Research Institute Act of 2025"*; H.R. 1276 (Rep. Comer), To remove restrictions from a parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky.; H.R. 2290 (Rep. Dingell), *"World War II Women's Memorial Location Act"*; H.R. 2294 (Rep. Ezell), To reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009.; H.R. 2302 (Rep. McClintock), *"Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025"*; H.R. 2400 (Rep. LaMalfa), *"Pit River Land Transfer Act of 2025"*; H.R. 3620 (Rep. Begich), *"Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act of 2025"*; H.R. 3857

(Rep. Hurd), “*Snow Water Supply Forecasting Reauthorization Act of 2025*”; and H.R. 4285 (Rep. Maloy), “*Semiquincentennial Tourism and Access to Recreation Sites Act*” or the “*STARS Act*”.

## II. EXPECTED LEGISLATION

### **H.R. 178 (Rep. McClintock), To require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfires, and for other purposes.**

Although fire can be a valuable tool to manage forests and reduce the buildup of hazardous fuels (i.e., prescribed fire), catastrophic wildfires devastate landscapes and degrade air, water, and soil quality. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) carries out wildfire response and management across 193 million acres.<sup>1</sup> USFS often faces tough decisions on how to manage, suppress, and monitor wildfires. When a wildfire occurs on National Forest System (NFS) lands, USFS can choose from a range of activities, from immediate and aggressive measures to suppress a wildfire to less intense measures such as monitoring (this is commonly referred to as “managing a fire for resource benefits”). The determination is often subjectively based on available resources, direction of the fire, weather conditions, and proximity to populated areas, among other factors.<sup>2</sup>

During the monitoring phase of fires, the USFS is often criticized for delayed responses. In 2020, a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report documented concern from USFS officials and stakeholders about the USFS’s response to the Chetco Bar Fire.<sup>3</sup> The 2017 Chetco Bar Fire in Oregon spread rapidly from 8,500 acres to over 90,000 acres due to strong, hot winds. Some USFS officials and stakeholders lamented that if USFS had responded more aggressively, it might have kept the fire from growing.<sup>4</sup> Similarly, the 2021 Caldor Fire quickly spread, covering approximately 781 acres within roughly 29 hours after it started.<sup>5</sup> After another 44 hours, it had grown to over 55,000 acres.<sup>6</sup> Many criticized USFS’s initial response when the agency pulled all crews off the fire seven hours after ignition and later dismissed some of the CAL FIRE (California’s state wildfire fighting agency) firefighters.<sup>7</sup>

USFS’s prescribed fire policy also faced significant criticism after several high-profile prescribed fires escaped containment. Notably, the Hermits Peak Fire in New Mexico in 2022, which began as a prescribed fire ignited by the USFS, became the largest and most destructive wildfire in the state’s history.<sup>8</sup> The fire burned over 340,000 acres, destroyed more than 900 structures, and racked up over \$278 million in suppression costs.<sup>9</sup> The federal government spent

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<sup>1</sup> Congressional Research Service, Federal Assistance for Wildfire Response and Recovery, December 2, 2022, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF10732>.

<sup>2</sup> Congressional Research Service, Federal Interagency Wildfire Response Framework, April 21, 2023, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF12384>.

<sup>3</sup> Government Accountability Office, Information on Forest Service Response, Key Concerns, and Effects of the Chetco Bar Fire, April 2020, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-20-424.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> 60 Minutes Investigates the Initial Attack on Caldor Fire, Wildfire Today, October 23, 2022, <https://wildfiretoday.com/2022/10/03/60-minutes-investigates-the-initial-attack-on-caldor-fire/>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> USFS, “Gallinas-Las Dispensas Prescribed Fire Declared Wildfire Review Santa Fe National Forest, Southwestern Region,” April 2022, <https://wildfiretoday.com/documents/Las%20Dispensas%20Review.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> InciWeb – Incident Information System, “Hermits Peak Fire,” <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8049/>.

an additional \$3.95 billion compensating the victims of the fire.<sup>10</sup> While many factors contributed to the Hermits Peak Fire, a lack of effective management was decisive. This is evidenced by the fact that the fire escaped containment once it reached a wilderness area, which had not been actively managed.<sup>11</sup>

H.R. 178, sponsored by Congressman Tom McClintock (R-CA-05), responds to these concerns regarding the USFS's fire suppression policies. This bill directs the USFS to immediately suppress wildfires on lands identified as being under certain drought conditions or otherwise at high risk of wildfire. It also mandates suppression when the wildfire response is at its highest level (Preparedness Level 5) and resources are strained. Within 24 hours of detecting wildfire on NFS lands, the agency must use all available resources to extinguish the wildfire. Additionally, USFS may not inhibit the firefighting activities of state and local agencies authorized to respond to wildfires on NFS lands. The bill also limits USFS's use of prescribed fires and clarifies when fire may be used as a fire suppression strategy, such as with backfire or burnout.

H.R. 178 is similar to legislation from the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress that passed the House Committee on Natural Resources by voice vote.<sup>12</sup> At markup, an ANS will be offered, making technical changes and conforming the legislation to the version passed in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. This ANS also expands the bill to cover lands under the Department of the Interior's (DOI) jurisdiction. This expansion is a direct response to the Dragon Bravo Fire near the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, which, as of July 17, 2025, has burned 11,000 acres and destroyed 80 structures, including the historic Grand Canyon Lodge.<sup>13</sup> National Park Service (NPS) officials initially let this fire burn for days under a "monitoring" phase, until it rapidly escalated a week after ignition.<sup>14</sup> Expanding H.R. 178 to include NPS and other DOI agencies would prevent similar tragedies like this from occurring in the future.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 179 (Rep. McClintock), "*Proven Forest Management Act of 2025*"**

In 2016, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act established a 10,000-acre categorical exclusion (CE) for the USFS to expedite forest management projects in the Lake

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<sup>10</sup> FEMA, "Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire," <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/current/hermits-peak#:~:text=On%20Sept.,%2C%202023%2C%20that%20passed%20Dec.>

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> H.R. 934, 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/934>.

<sup>13</sup> McGlade, Caitlin, "See how the fire along the Grand Canyon's North Rim grew," AZ Central, July 17, 2025, <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-wildfires/2025/07/17/how-the-dragon-bravo-fire-grew-along-the-grand-canyon-north-rim/85250434007/>. NPS, "Grand Canyon National Park Update on Dragon Bravo Fire," <https://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/news/dragon-bravo-fire-update-july-13-2025.htm>.

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

Tahoe Basin Management Unit.<sup>15</sup> The CE was originally proposed in the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, which was led by Congressmen McClintock of California and Amodei of Nevada (whose districts surround Lake Tahoe, on the California/Nevada border).<sup>16</sup> The expedited forest treatments made possible by this CE have been literal lifesavers. In 2021, the Caldor Fire was bearing down on South Lake Tahoe when it reached fuel treatment areas that had been treated under that special CE.<sup>17</sup> The megafire, which had been moving rapidly as a crown fire, finally began to slow, and the 150-foot flame lengths dropped to a more manageable 15 feet when the fire entered the treatment area.<sup>18</sup> According to Incident Commander Rocky Oplinger, this change allowed hand crews and engines to take an “active and aggressive approach to suppress the fire and prevent any structural loss.”<sup>19</sup> The prior fuels reduction treatments that gave wildland firefighters an opportunity to fight against an out-of-control wildfire likely saved roughly 600 homes from destruction.

Regrettably, the South Lake Tahoe success story was something of an anomaly, as the Caldor Fire went on to burn 221,835 acres and destroy 1,005 structures.<sup>20</sup> The Town of Grizzly Flats, which was completely decimated, offers a sobering contrast. That community, which is surrounded by the Eldorado National Forest, had been warned in the early 2000’s that a wildfire could destroy their town.<sup>21</sup> Unfortunately, despite its proximity to the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, the Eldorado Forest was not permitted to use the same 10,000-acre CE. Without the same streamlining tools as had been provided to the neighboring Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, the planned hazardous fuels treatments to mitigate this threat were delayed for decades.<sup>22</sup> The fates of Grizzly Flats and South Lake Tahoe—communities that are less than 100 miles apart—offer a sobering illustration of the need to expand streamlining authorities.

H.R. 179, the “Proven Forest Management Act,” offered by Congressman McClintock, seeks to rectify this imbalance by expanding the use of the Tahoe Basin CE to landscapes outside of the Lake Tahoe Basin. This legislation would make the Tahoe Basin CE available throughout the entire NFS, as well as all public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This would empower land managers with the same critical tool that helped save South Lake Tahoe from devastation during the Caldor Fire. Under this CE, land managers, in coordination with local governments and in consultation with interested stakeholders, can develop projects of up to 10,000 acres to reduce hazardous fuels.

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<sup>15</sup> Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, S. 612, 114<sup>th</sup>, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/612/text>.

<sup>16</sup> Lake Tahoe Restoration Act of 2015, H.R. 3382, 114<sup>th</sup>, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3382/text>.

<sup>17</sup> Wildfire Today, “Examining how fuel treatments affected suppression of the Caldor Fire in California”, Bill Gabbert, October 8, 2021, <https://wildfiretoday.com/2021/10/08/examining-how-fuel-treatments-affected-suppression-of-the-caldor-fire-in-california/>.

<sup>18</sup> Wildfire Today, “Firefighters work to secure the Caldor Fire near South Lake Tahoe”, Bill Gabbert, September 2, 2021, <https://wildfiretoday.com/tag/caldor-fire/>.

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> Cal Fire, “Caldor Fire Incident Report”, <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2021/8/14/caldor-fire/>.

<sup>21</sup> Rodd, Scott, “Stalled U.S. Forest Service project could have protected California town from Caldor Fire destruction,” CapRadio, August 16, 2022, <https://www.capradio.org/articles/2022/08/16/stalled-us-forest-service-project-could-have-protected-california-town-from-caldor-fire-destruction/>.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

H.R. 179 is similar to legislation from the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress that passed the House Committee on Natural Resources by a vote of 23-17.<sup>23</sup> A related proposal is included in the “Fix Our Forests Act,” which passed the House earlier this year in a strong, bipartisan vote.<sup>24</sup> At markup, an ANS will be offered, making technical changes and conforming the legislation to the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress version.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 345 (Rep. Harder), “*Fire Department Repayment Act of 2025*”**

The federal government is responsible for wildfires that ignite on federal lands, while states are responsible for suppressing wildfires on non-federal lands.<sup>25</sup> Since wildfires do not heed administrative boundaries, the response is often managed jointly as the fire spreads across multiple jurisdictions. The National Multi-Agency Coordination Group, located at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, coordinates and allocates federal, state, and private suppression resources.<sup>26</sup> The cost of these resources is then reimbursed under preexisting agreements.<sup>27</sup> These agreements are designed to help ensure that resources are used efficiently and firefighting efforts are coordinated effectively across multiple jurisdictions.

Reciprocal Fire Suppression Cost-Share Agreements are agreements between federal, state, and local governments to share the costs of suppressing wildfires that cross multiple jurisdictions. These agreements allow fire departments to access resources and assistance from neighboring jurisdictions during large fires, such as personnel, equipment, and supplies, while ensuring that the costs associated with these resources are shared fairly.<sup>28</sup> Under these agreements, each entity agrees to share the costs of providing firefighting resources. Unfortunately, the current reimbursement process for local fire departments by the federal government can be significantly delayed, causing financial burdens for departments and hindering their ability to respond to emergencies.<sup>29</sup>

The “Fire Department Repayment Act of 2025,” introduced by Representative Josh Harder, aims to standardize reciprocal fire suppression cost-share agreements and align them with cooperative

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<sup>23</sup> H.R. 188, 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/188>.

<sup>24</sup> H.R. 471, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/471>.

<sup>25</sup> Federal Assistance for Wildfire Response and Recovery, Congressional Research Service, December 2, 2020, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF10732>.

<sup>26</sup> *Id.*

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*

<sup>28</sup> *Id.*

<sup>29</sup> Federation of American Scientists, Funding the Fight Against Wildland Fire, February 17, 2023, <https://fas.org/publication/funding-the-fight-against-wildland-fire/>.



fire protection agreements.<sup>30</sup> The bill requires the Secretaries of Agriculture, the Interior, Homeland Security, and Defense to establish standard operating procedures for fire suppression cost-share agreements within one year of the enactment. Additionally, this legislation encourages the Secretaries to complete reviews of fire suppression cost-share agreements, including second-level reviews, as soon as practicable after a wildfire. The agencies must consult with state and local fire suppression organizations when completing these reviews. H.R. 345 is similar to legislation from the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress that passed the House Committee on Natural Resources by unanimous consent.<sup>31</sup> This language was also included in the “Fix Our Forests Act.”<sup>32</sup>

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 528 (Rep. Pettersen), “*Post-Disaster Reforestation and Restoration Act of 2025*”**

There is an urgent need to restore landscapes damaged by wildfire and other natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, and windstorms. Since 2000, the United States has lost an average of 7 million acres per year to catastrophic wildfires, which is more than double the annual average lost during the 1990s.<sup>33</sup> Worse still, many of these catastrophic wildfires burn so severely that natural regeneration of the forest becomes impossible.<sup>34</sup> If these lands are not artificially regenerated (i.e., by planting trees), they will eventually transition from forests to shrublands.<sup>35</sup>

In 2022, USFS identified a 4-million-acre federal reforestation backlog, 80 percent of which is attributable to catastrophic wildfires.<sup>36</sup> Yet, over the preceding decade, USFS addressed less than 6 percent of its post-wildfire planting needs annually.<sup>37</sup> Clearly, more needs to be done to tackle the reforestation backlog.<sup>38</sup>

H.R. 528 would require the Secretary of the Interior to carry out priority reforestation projects using cooperative agreements and contracts with non-federal partners. Specifically, the legislation would require DOI, in coordination with states, tribes, and local governments, to

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<sup>30</sup> Representative Josh Harder, Harder Leads Wildfire Emergency Bill, Wildfire Emergency Act would reduce fire risk, protect critical infrastructure & train new fire professionals, May 26, 2021, <https://harder.house.gov/media/press-releases/harder-leadswildfire-emergency-bill>.

<sup>31</sup> H.R. 3396, 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3396>.

<sup>32</sup> *Id.*

<sup>33</sup> Anne A. Riddle, “Wildfire Statistics”, Congressional Research Service, June 1, 2023, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF10244?source=search&guid=b82a4d954677449b918a65ece823396f&index=0>.

<sup>34</sup> Associated Press, “Wildfires have decimated forests. Here’s why replanting trees is a challenge,” October 2, 2024, <https://www.fastcompany.com/91200307/wildfires-forests-replanting-trees-restoration-challenges>.

<sup>35</sup> *Id.*

<sup>36</sup> U.S. Forest Service, “National Forest System: Reforestation Strategy: Growing and Nurturing Resilient Forests,” July 2022, <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/reforestation-strategy.pdf>.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.*

<sup>38</sup> U.S. Forest Service, “American Forests Partners with USDA Forest Service to Expand Reforestation across National Forests”, December 6, 2023, <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2023/12/06/american-forests-partners-usda-forest-service-expand-reforestation>.

identify lands in critical need of rehabilitation post-natural disaster. The bill allows federal land managers to support projects through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements. A similar proposal is included in the “Fix Our Forests Act.”<sup>39</sup>

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 839 (Rep. Arrington), To prohibit the implementation of a Land Protection Plan for Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge.**

H.R. 839 would prohibit the implementation, administration, and enforcement of the finalized land management plan for the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). On April 16, 2024, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced the expansion of four refuges to “conserve habitat, protect species and support recreation,” as part of the Biden administration’s 30 by 30 Initiative,<sup>40</sup> a radical environmental agenda that sought to lock up American lands and waters. Among the refuges included in the expansions was Muleshoe NWR, which currently comprises 6,440 acres of land along the West Texas and Eastern New Mexico border. The refuge was established in 1935 and, according to FWS, “is best known for hosting one of the largest concentrations of sandhill cranes in North America.”<sup>41</sup> The proposed expansion would enable the refuge to acquire up to 700,000 acres of additional private land from willing sellers, thereby increasing the refuge's size to more than 100 times its current extent.<sup>42</sup>

The potential addition of 700,000 acres of federal land will have direct impacts on the areas surrounding Muleshoe. As with any federal land acquisition, local tax revenues will be impacted, as lands under the ownership of the federal government are not taxable. It is also unclear how the Service plans to manage lands acquired to expand Muleshoe, given the existing maintenance backlog currently facing the System. Several counties within the expansion area have passed resolutions opposing the Service’s decision; these include Lamb and Parmer Counties in Texas, and Roosevelt, Lea, and Chaves Counties in New Mexico.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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<sup>39</sup> *Id.*

<sup>40</sup> “Interior Department Announces Expansion of Four National Wildlife Refuges to Conserve Habitat, Protect Species and Support Recreation.” Marilyn Kitchell. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. April 16, 2024. <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2024-04/expansion-4-national-wildlife-refuges-protect-species>.

<sup>41</sup> “Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge.” U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/muleshoe/about-us>

<sup>42</sup> “Final Land Protection Plan & Environmental Assessment.” *Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. February 2023. <https://iris.fws.gov/APPS/ServCat/DownloadFile/232579>.

### **H.R. 1045 (Rep. Kennedy of UT), “Utah Wildfire Research Institute Act of 2025”**

The “Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004” established wildfire research centers in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico “to promote the use of adaptive ecosystem management to reduce the risk of wildfires, and restore the health of forest and woodland ecosystems, in the interior West.”<sup>43</sup> These centers, collectively known as the Southwest Ecological Restoration Institutes (SWERI), now operate at Colorado State University, New Mexico Highlands University, and Northern Arizona University.<sup>44</sup> Today, these centers conduct cutting-edge research on wildfires and forest management and collaborate with land managers to ensure the implementation of science-based forest management decisions.<sup>45</sup> Despite a long track record of leading responsible resource management and forestry research, Utah is currently the only Four Corners State without a SWERI center. To address this disparity, H.R. 1045 would amend the “Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004” to create one additional SWERI center in the State of Utah.<sup>46</sup> This legislation would provide Utah with additional resources to conduct research and collaborate on wildfire mitigation, forest management, and watershed restoration projects.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 1276 (Rep. Comer), To remove restrictions from a parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky.**

For more than 60 years, the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah (Club) has offered McCracken County youth a safe, affordable space for recreation and mentorship.<sup>47</sup> The Club’s current site was transferred to the City of Paducah through the NPS’s Federal Lands to Parks Program, and NPS retains a deed restriction on the land.<sup>48</sup> This restriction, however, now hinders a major renovation effort to expand classrooms and refurbish the Club’s gym.<sup>49</sup> H.R. 1276, introduced by Representative Comer, would remove this restriction, allowing the City to transfer full ownership to the Club. The bill would eliminate an outdated federal barrier, enabling long-overdue improvements and expanding access to educational and recreational opportunities for local youth. An amendment will be offered at markup addressing the long-term use of the building for education purposes.

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<sup>43</sup> 16 U.S.C. 6704.

<sup>44</sup> SWERI, “Southwest Ecological Restoration Institutes (SWERI),” <https://sweri.org/>.

<sup>45</sup> *Id.*

<sup>46</sup> *Id.*

<sup>47</sup> Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah, “About Us”, accessed April 21, 2025, <https://www.ocbg.club/about-us/>.

<sup>48</sup> The Office of Congressman James Comer, “Comer Introduces Legislation to Remove Federal Government Restrictions on Paducah, Kentucky, Property,” February 13, 2025, <https://comer.house.gov/2025/2/comer-introduces-legislation-to-remove-federal-government-restrictions-on-paducah-kentucky-property>. National Park Service, Federal Lands to Parks Program.

<sup>49</sup> Jeremiah Hatcher, “Comer talks Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club land transfer Bill”, The Paducah Sun, February 25, 2025, [https://www.paducahsun.com/news/comer-talks-oscar-cross-boys-girls-club-land-transfer-bill/article\\_99479980-5501-58bd86bc-a4053c84c38e.html](https://www.paducahsun.com/news/comer-talks-oscar-cross-boys-girls-club-land-transfer-bill/article_99479980-5501-58bd86bc-a4053c84c38e.html).



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### **H.R. 2290 (Rep. Dingell), “*World War II Women’s Memorial Location Act*”**

During World War II, more than 18 million women, from every sector of American society, contributed to their country’s war effort.<sup>50</sup> In 2023, Congress authorized the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation (Foundation) to establish a commemorative work (Memorial) on federal land in Washington, D.C., or its environs, honoring “the commitment and service represented by women who worked on the home front during World War II.”<sup>51</sup> Under the Commemorative Works Act (CWA), placing a new commemorative work on or near the National Mall (in what is known as the Reserve or Area I), requires an additional Act of Congress.<sup>52</sup> H.R. 2290, the “World War II Women’s Memorial Location Act,” authorizes the placement of the Memorial in either the Reserve or Area I. By authorizing the placement of this Memorial in a prominent location, H.R. 2290 affirms the national significance of women who worked on the home front and ensures that they are recognized alongside existing monuments to wartime service.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 2294 (Rep. Ezell), To reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009.**

The Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS),<sup>53</sup> is a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Ocean Service. IOOS exists as a public-private partnership of coastal observation systems that seeks to collect data to provide up-to-date and accurate science. IOOS is made up of radar, gliders, buoys, vessels, and different models and forecasts<sup>54</sup> that collect data to inform decision-making along our nation’s coasts and in marine waters. This information improves operations for the businesses and industries that operate in our marine waters, supports military operations, and assists in responding to natural disasters like floods and hurricanes.

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<sup>50</sup> “Women in World War II,” National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/women-in-world-war-ii.htm>.

<sup>51</sup> Section 702 of Division DD of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; Public Law 117–328).

<sup>52</sup> 40 U.S.C. 8901-8909.

<sup>53</sup> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Integrated Ocean Observing System. About Us. <https://ioos.noaa.gov/about/about-us/>.

<sup>54</sup> IOOS Association. Technologies and Tools. <https://ioosassociation.org/technologies-tools/>.

H.R. 2294 reauthorizes this program at its current authorization level of \$56 million per fiscal year (FY) through FY 2030.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 2302 (Rep. McClintock), “*Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025*”**

H.R. 2302 would place approximately 85 acres of BLM land and 118 acres of fee simple land owned by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians into trust for the tribe.

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians is located in North Central California in El Dorado County.<sup>55</sup> The tribe seeks to place the land known as the “Indian Creek Subdivision” into trust and is keen to achieve this goal legislatively, as their previous attempts to obtain a fee-to-trust approval through the DOI’s administrative process have been unsuccessful.<sup>56</sup> Once the BLM parcels are transferred from the agency to the tribe, they will be placed in trust. The tribe intends to use the trust land for tribal housing. Gaming on these lands, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, would be prohibited.<sup>57</sup> Notably, the tribe currently manages the land to mitigate wildfire risk, despite lacking ownership rights.<sup>58</sup>

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 2400 (Rep. LaMalfa), “*Pit River Land Transfer Act of 2025*”**

H.R. 2400 would place approximately 584 acres of USFS land, commonly referred to as the “Four Corners,” and 40 acres of fee land owned by the tribe, located between Burney and Fall River Mills, California, into trust for the Pit River Tribe.

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<sup>55</sup> Tiller, Veronica E. Velarde. Tiller’s Guide to Indian Country: Economic Profiles of American Indian Reservations. 3rd ed. Pg. 344.

<sup>56</sup> Conversation between IIA Staff and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians. 04.09.25. The tribe completed fee to trust applications in 2015 for different parcels, but they remain in pending status.

<sup>57</sup> 25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

<sup>58</sup> Conversation between IIA Staff and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians. 04.09.25.

The Pit River Tribe comprises eleven distinct California tribal bands.<sup>59</sup> They currently reside on a 100-square-mile reservation near the Pit River in Northeastern California.<sup>60</sup> The tribe has historically attempted to regain the Four Corners land, given its ancestral value to the tribe.<sup>61</sup> Despite formal requests, resolutions, and a draft imperative plan, the land remains in USFS ownership.<sup>62</sup> Gaming on these lands, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, would be prohibited.<sup>63</sup>

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 3620 (Rep. Begich), “*Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act of 2025*”**

H.R. 3620 would transfer ownership of approximately 3.4 acres of federal land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Southcentral Foundation (SCF) for the provision of health and social services programs.<sup>64</sup> SCF is the Alaska Native tribal health organization designated by Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and eleven federally recognized tribes<sup>65</sup> to provide healthcare services to beneficiaries of the Indian Health Service (IHS), pursuant to a self-governance compact.<sup>66</sup>

SCF has operated behavioral health services on the parcel, previously occupied by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), since 1994, but a lack of title has limited upgrades of the facility. This transfer would enable SCF to replace and modernize the facility.<sup>67</sup> SCF has worked with HHS and the Municipality of Anchorage to rezone the land and could commence construction immediately should H.R. 3620 be signed into law.<sup>68</sup>

H.R. 3620 also includes environmental liability protection for SCF and HHS and nullifies any prior permits or quitclaim deeds.<sup>69</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Tiller, Veronica E. Velarde. Tiller’s Guide to Indian Country: Economic Profiles of American Indian Reservations. 3rd ed. Pg. 324.

<sup>60</sup> Official Home of the Pit River Tribe. *Home*. <https://pitrivertribe.gov/>.

<sup>61</sup> Sabalow, Ryan. A long history of loss for Pit River Tribe. Record Searchlight. Sept 2011. <https://archive.redding.com/news/a-long-history-of-loss-for-pit-river-tribe-ep-375503037-354670171.html/#:~:text=In%201970%2C%20about%20100%20Indians,legal%20ownership%20of%20the%20site.>

<sup>62</sup> Pit River Tribe Resolution No: 13-07. July 16, 2013. On file. And Follow-Up Letter from Mickey Gemmill, Pit River Tribal Chairman. June 11, 2015. On file.

<sup>63</sup> 25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

<sup>64</sup> H.R. 3620, 119th Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3620?s=4&r=1>.

<sup>65</sup> Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, Igiugig, Iliamna, Kokhanok, McGrath, Newhalen, Nikolai, Nondalton, Pedro Bay, Telida, and Takotna.

<sup>66</sup> Testimony of Dr. Donna Galbreath, Senior Medical Director, Southcentral Foundation, Before the H. Appropriations Subcomm. on Interior, Env’t & Related Agencies, 118th Cong. (Mar. 9, 2023) (statement of Dr. Donna Galbreath), <https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/115465/documents/HHRG-118-AP06-Wstate-GalbreathD-20230309.pdf>.

<sup>67</sup> Discussion between SCF Staff and IIA Staff. June 3, 2025.

<sup>68</sup> Municipality of Anchorage, *Planning Application Status: 2024-0088*, <https://www.muni.org/CityViewPortal/planning/Status?planningId=18045>.

<sup>69</sup> H.R. 3620, 119th Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3620?s=4&r=1>.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 3857 (Rep. Hurd), “*Snow Water Supply Forecasting Reauthorization Act of 2025*”**

H.R. 2857 would reauthorize and modernize the existing Snow Water Supply Forecasting program. Established in 2020 by the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program Authorization Act,<sup>70</sup> the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program encourages the use of technologies to enhance snow monitoring and subsequent water supply forecasts. The program, administered by the Bureau of Reclamation, provides cost-sharing on a competitive basis for a broad range of participants to conduct snow monitoring and water supply forecasting projects. Technologies such as LiDAR and the Snow Data Assimilation System (SNODAS) provide up-to-date, accurate information for conducting snow monitoring and water supply forecasting. This enables water managers to make better-informed decisions and provides greater certainty to end-users.

An amendment will be offered providing technical changes following discussions with the Bureau of Reclamation and keeping the authorization of appropriations at the current funding level of \$6.5 million per year through FY 2031.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **H.R. 4285 (Rep. Maloy), “*Semiquincentennial Tourism and Access to Recreation Sites Act*” or “*STARS Act*”**

H.R. 4285, the “Semiquincentennial Tourism and Access to Recreation Sites Act,” designates September 17, 2026, as a fee-free day at National Park System units in celebration of the 250th anniversary of America’s independence. The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act already allows the Secretary of the Interior to provide discounted or free admission days to federal recreational lands and water. Congress can also grant the authority to waive entrance fees on specific days.<sup>71</sup> Sponsored by Representative Maloy, H.R. 4285, the “STARS Act,” builds on NPS’s longstanding practice of hosting fee-free days to increase accessibility and commemorate significant national events.<sup>72</sup> By waiving entrance fees on September 17, 2026, NPS would offer a unifying, nationwide opportunity for Americans to visit public lands, celebrate the nation’s founding, and reflect on the principles that continue to shape its future.

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<sup>70</sup> H.R. 8041, 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8041>.

<sup>71</sup> 16 U.S.C. 6804(e).

<sup>72</sup> Office of Communications, “Start Planning Your 2025 National Park Trip,” U.S. National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/start-planning-your-2025-national-park-trip.htm>.

This legislation advances the goals of President Trump’s Executive Order on “Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday” by promoting broad public participation in the Semiquincentennial celebrations and expanding public access to sites that conserve and interpret our nation’s heritage.<sup>73</sup> An amendment will be offered at markup waiving additional fees on September 17, 2026, at BLM and USFS locations.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

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### **III. CBO SCORES**

None available.

### **IV. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW (RAMSEYER)**

[H.R. 1045](#)

[H.R. 2294](#)

[H.R. 3857](#)

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<sup>73</sup> “Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday,” Executive Order 14189, January 29, 2025, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/03/2025-02231/celebrating-americas-250th-birthday>.