H. R. 4645

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 14, 2017

Mr. GIANFORTE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “East Rosebud Wild and Scenic Rivers Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—
(1) East Rosebud Creek is cherished by the people of Montana and visitors from across the United States for its clean water, spectacular natural setting, and outstanding recreational opportunities;

(2) recreational activities, including fishing, hunting, camping, paddling, hiking, rock climbing, and wildlife watching, on East Rosebud Creek and the surrounding land generate millions of dollars annually for the local economy;

(3) East Rosebud Creek—

(A) is a national treasure;

(B) possesses outstandingly remarkable values; and

(C) merits the high level of protection afforded by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) in order to maintain the benefits provided by the Creek, as described in paragraphs (1) and (2), for future generations to enjoy; and

(4) designation of select public land segments of East Rosebud Creek under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) would recognize the importance of maintaining the values of the Creek while preserving public access, respecting private
property rights, allowing appropriate maintenance of
existing infrastructure, and allowing historical uses
of the Creek to continue.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to des-
ignate East Rosebud Creek in the State of Montana as
a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Sys-
tem to preserve and protect for present and future genera-
tions the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational,
and geologic values of the Creek.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SEG-
MENTS.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Section 3(a) of the Wild and
Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by add-
ing at the end the following:

“(213) EAST ROSEBUD CREEK, MONTANA.—
The portions of East Rosebud Creek in the State of
Montana, consisting of—

“(A) the 13-mile segment exclusively on
public land within the Custer National Forest
from the source in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wil-
derness downstream to the point at which the
Creek enters East Rosebud Lake, including the
stream reach between Twin Outlets Lake and
Fossil Lake, to be administered by the Sec-
retary of Agriculture as a wild river; and
“(B) the 7-mile segment exclusively on public land within the Custer National Forest from immediately below, but not including, the outlet of East Rosebud Lake downstream to the point at which the Creek enters private property for the first time, to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture as a recreational river.”

(b) Adjacent Management.—

(1) In General.—Nothing in paragraph (213) of section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) (as added by subsection (a)) creates a protective perimeter or buffer zone outside the designated boundary of the river segment designated by that paragraph.

(2) Outside Activities.—The fact that an otherwise authorized activity or use can be seen or heard within the boundary of the river segment designated by paragraph (213) of section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) (as added by subsection (a)) shall not preclude the activity or use outside the boundary of the river segment.