

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8583

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain public lands in Chippewa National Forest, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2022

Mr. STAUBER (for himself and Mr. HUFFMAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain public lands in Chippewa National Forest, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Lake Winnibigoshish
5 Land Exchange Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) BWLT.—The term “BWLT” means Big
9 Winnie Land and Timber, LLC, a Minnesota Lim-
10 ited Liability Corporation.

1 (2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land”
2 means the approximately 7.6 acres of Federal land
3 generally depicted as the “Federal Parcel for Ex-
4 change” on the Map.

5 (3) MAP.—The term “Map” means sheets 2
6 and 3 of the map entitled “Proposed Land Ex-
7 change - Bowen Lodge Inc. and Chippewa National
8 Forest” and dated March 30, 2022.

9 (4) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term “non-Fed-
10 eral land” means the approximately 37.5 acres gen-
11 erally depicted as the “non-Federal Parcel for Ex-
12 change” on the Map.

13 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of Agriculture.

15 **SEC. 3. EXCHANGE OF LAND.**

16 (a) EXCHANGE AUTHORIZED.—Subject to the provi-
17 sions of this Act, not later than 30 days after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, if BWLT offers to convey
19 the non-Federal land to the United States, the Secretary
20 shall—

21 (1) accept the offer and convey to BWLT all
22 right, title, and interest of the United States in and
23 to the Federal land; and

24 (2) accept from BWLT all right, title, and in-
25 terest of BWLT in and to the non-Federal land.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The exchange under sub-
2 section (a) shall be—

3 (1) subject to valid existing rights; and

4 (2) if, under the appraisals conducted in ac-
5 cordance with this Act, it is determined that the
6 value of the Federal land exceeds the value of the
7 non-Federal land, conditioned on a cash equalization
8 payment made by BWLT to the United States in ac-
9 cordance with subsection (c).

10 (c) EQUAL VALUE AND CASH EQUALIZATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
12 graph (2), the exchange under subsection (a) shall
13 be for equal value or the values shall be equalized
14 by a cash payment.

15 (2) EXCEPTION.—If the appraised value of the
16 non-Federal land conveyed to the Secretary exceeds
17 the appraised value of the Federal land, a cash
18 equalization payment by the United States to
19 BWLT is waived and the amount of such waived
20 payment shall be considered a donation by BWLT to
21 the United States for all purposes of law.

22 (d) APPRAISALS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The value of the land to be
24 exchanged under this Act shall be determined by ap-
25 praisals conducted by one or more independent and

1 qualified appraisers mutually agreed to by the Sec-
2 retary and BWLT.

3 (2) APPRAISAL STANDARDS.—The Secretary
4 shall complete an appraisal of the land to be ex-
5 changed under this Act in accordance with—

6 (A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for
7 Federal Land Acquisitions; and

8 (B) the Uniform Standards of Professional
9 Appraisal Practice.

10 (e) FORMAT.—Title to the non-Federal land to be
11 conveyed to the Secretary under this Act shall be in a for-
12 mat acceptable to the Secretary.

13 (f) MANAGEMENT OF ACQUIRED LAND.—The land
14 acquired by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall be—

15 (1) added to, and managed as part of, the
16 Chippewa National Forest; and

17 (2) managed in accordance with the laws, rules,
18 and regulations pertaining to National Forest Sys-
19 tem lands.

20 (g) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
22 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
23 shall finalize a Map and legal descriptions of all land
24 to be conveyed under this Act.

1 (2) CONTROLLING DOCUMENT.—In the case of
2 a discrepancy between the Map and a legal descrip-
3 tion, the Map shall control.

4 (3) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary and BWLT,
5 by mutual agreement, may correct any minor errors
6 in the Map or in the legal descriptions.

7 (4) MAP ON FILE.—The Map and legal descrip-
8 tions shall be on file and available for public inspec-
9 tion in appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

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