

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5145

To authorize new grants for research into riparian forest genetics and climate adaptation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 31, 2021

Mr. O'HALLERAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize new grants for research into riparian forest genetics and climate adaptation.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) because most native plant species are ge-
6 netically adapted to their local environment, climate
7 change and invasive species result in plants no
8 longer being locally adapted;

9 (2) to promote restoration success, a network of
10 integrated field trials (also known as provenance

1 trials or common gardens) is crucial to determine
2 which populations of dominant plants can survive
3 current and projected future conditions, which in
4 turn will enable the development of precision models
5 to forecast climate change impacts on key native ri-
6 parian forest species and the species that depend
7 upon them for their survival; and

8 (3) riparian systems are integral to and essen-
9 tial to wetland health and preservation, research
10 into, and efforts to restore and protect the health of
11 riparian ecosystems is essential.

12 **SEC. 2. RESEARCH GRANTS FOR PROJECTS RELATED TO**
13 **RIPARIAN FOREST GENETICS AND CLIMATE**
14 **ADAPTATION.**

15 The Secretary of the Interior shall establish a grant
16 program for eligible entities to carry out projects that in-
17 volve long-term research into plant genetics and genomics
18 to make riparian forests and streams more resilient to cli-
19 mate change and invasive species and to provide critical
20 habitat for birds, native fish, endangered species and other
21 animals and plants that are suffering from lost, degraded,
22 or threatened habitat. The Secretary shall determine enti-
23 ties eligible to receive such grants, projects eligible for
24 such grants, application and approval procedures for such
25 grants, and any limitations on the amount and uses of

1 such grants, and any other terms and conditions the Sec-
2 retary determines appropriate.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF RIPARIAN FOREST.**

4 As used in this Act, the term “riparian forest” means
5 any riparian area and includes all plant, animal, insect,
6 and microbial communities in such areas.

7 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
9 retary of the Interior \$13,000,000 for each of fiscals years
10 2022 through 2031 to carry out the grant program estab-
11 lished under section 2.

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