

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7509

To expand certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and a national recreation area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 14, 2022

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

A BILL

To expand certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and a national recreation area, 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 “Wild Rogue Conserva-
5 tion and Recreation Enhancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
2 means—

3 (A) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-
4 spect to public land administered by the Sec-
5 retary of the Interior; or

6 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture, with re-
7 spect to National Forest System land.

8 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
9 of Oregon.

10 **SEC. 3. ROGUE CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, OR-**
11 **EGON.**

12 (a) DESIGNATION OF ROGUE CANYON NATIONAL
13 RECREATION AREA.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of pro-
15 tecting, conserving, and enhancing the unique and
16 nationally important recreational, ecological, scenic,
17 cultural, watershed, and fish and wildlife values of
18 the areas, the area in the State described in para-
19 graph (2) is designated as a national recreation area
20 for management by the Secretary in accordance with
21 subsection (c).

22 (2) ROGUE CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION
23 AREA.—The area described in this paragraph is the
24 approximately 98,150 acres of Bureau of Land Man-
25 agement land within the boundary generally depicted

1 as the “Rogue Canyon National Recreation Area”
2 on the map entitled “Rogue Canyon National Recreation
3 Area Wild Rogue Wilderness Additions” and
4 dated November 19, 2019, which is designated as
5 the “Rogue Canyon National Recreation Area”.

6 (b) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
8 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
9 shall prepare a map and legal description of the national
10 recreation area designated by subsection (a).

11 (2) EFFECT.—The map and legal description
12 prepared under paragraph (1) shall have the same
13 force and effect as if included in this Act, except
14 that the Secretary may correct any minor errors in
15 the map and legal description.

16 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal
17 description prepared under paragraph (1) shall be
18 available for public inspection in the appropriate offices
19 of the Bureau of Land Management.

20 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

21 (1) APPLICABLE LAW.—The Secretary shall administer
22 the national recreation area designated by
23 subsection (a)—

(A) in a manner that conserves, protects, and enhances the purposes for which the national recreation area is established; and

(B) in accordance with—

(i) this section;

(ii) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

(iii) other applicable laws.

(2) USES.—The Secretary shall only allow those uses of the national recreation area designated by subsection (a) that are consistent with the purposes for which the national recreation area is established.

(3) WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 280 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct a wildfire risk assessment that covers—

(A) the national recreation area designated by subsection (a);

(B) the Wild Rogue Wilderness; and

(C) any Federal land adjacent to an area described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(4) WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the wildfire risk assess-

1 ment is conducted under paragraph (3), the
2 Secretary shall develop a wildfire mitigation
3 plan, based on the wildfire risk assessment, that
4 identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes treatments
5 and other management activities that can be
6 implemented on the Federal land covered by the
7 wildfire risk assessment (other than Federal
8 land designated as a unit of the National Wil-
9 derness Preservation System) to mitigate wild-
10 fire risk to communities located near the appli-
11 cable Federal land.

12 (B) PLAN COMPONENTS.—The wildfire
13 mitigation plan developed under subparagraph
14 (A) shall include—

15 (i) vegetation management projects
16 (including mechanical treatments to reduce
17 hazardous fuels and improve forest health
18 and resiliency);

19 (ii) evacuation routes for communities
20 located near the applicable Federal land,
21 which shall be developed in consultation
22 with State and local fire agencies; and

23 (iii) strategies for public dissemination
24 of emergency evacuation plans and routes.

1 (C) APPLICABLE LAW.—The wildfire miti-
2 gation plan under subparagraph (A) shall be
3 developed in accordance with—

4 (i) this section; and

5 (ii) any other applicable law.

6 (5) ROAD CONSTRUCTION.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
8 subparagraph (B) or as the Secretary deter-
9 mines necessary for public safety, no new per-
10 manent or temporary roads shall be constructed
11 (other than the repair and maintenance of ex-
12 isting roads) within the national recreation area
13 designated by subsection (a).

14 (B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—Consistent with
15 the purposes of this Act, the Secretary may
16 construct temporary roads within the national
17 recreation area designated by subsection (a) to
18 implement the wildfire mitigation plan devel-
19 oped under paragraph (4), unless the temporary
20 road would be within an area designated as a
21 unit of the National Wilderness Preservation
22 System.

23 (6) EFFECT ON WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT.—

24 Nothing in this section alters the authority of the
25 Secretary (in cooperation with other Federal, State,

1 and local agencies, as appropriate) to conduct
2 wildland fire operations within the national recre-
3 ation area designated by subsection (a), consistent
4 with the purposes of this Act.

5 (7) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing
6 rights, all Federal surface and subsurface land with-
7 in the national recreation area designated by sub-
8 section (a) is withdrawn from all forms of—

9 (A) entry, appropriation, or disposal under
10 the public land laws;

11 (B) location, entry, and patent under the
12 mining laws; and

13 (C) disposition under all laws pertaining to
14 mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, or mineral
15 materials.

16 (8) NO EFFECT ON WILDERNESS AREAS.—Any
17 wilderness area located within the national recre-
18 ation area designated by subsection (a) shall be ad-
19 ministered in accordance with the Wilderness Act
20 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.).

21 (d) ADJACENT MANAGEMENT.—Nothing in this sec-
22 tion creates any protective perimeter or buffer zone
23 around the national recreation area designated by sub-
24 section (a).

1 **SEC. 4. EXPANSION OF WILD ROGUE WILDERNESS AREA.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
4 titled “Rogue Canyon National Recreation Area
5 Wild Rogue Wilderness Additions” and dated No-
6 vember 19, 2019.

7 (2) WILDERNESS ADDITIONS.—The term “Wil-
8 derness additions” means the land added to the Wild
9 Rogue Wilderness under subsection (b)(1).

10 (b) EXPANSION OF WILD ROGUE WILDERNESS
11 AREA.—

12 (1) EXPANSION.—The approximately 59,512
13 acres of Federal land in the State generally depicted
14 on the map as “Proposed Wilderness” shall be
15 added to and administered as part of the Wild
16 Rogue Wilderness in accordance with the Endan-
17 gered American Wilderness Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
18 1132 note; Public Law 95–237), except that—

19 (A) the Secretary of the Interior and the
20 Secretary of Agriculture shall administer the
21 Federal land under their respective jurisdiction;
22 and

23 (B) any reference in that Act to the Sec-
24 retary of Agriculture shall be considered to be
25 a reference to the Secretary of Agriculture or
26 the Secretary of the Interior, as applicable.

1 (2) MAP; LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable
3 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
4 retary shall prepare a map and legal description
5 of the wilderness area designated by paragraph
6 (1).

7 (B) FORCE OF LAW.—The map and legal
8 description filed under subparagraph (A) shall
9 have the same force and effect as if included in
10 this section, except that the Secretary may cor-
11 rect typographical errors in the map and legal
12 description.

13 (C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and
14 legal description filed under subparagraph (A)
15 shall be on file and available for public inspec-
16 tion in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of
17 Land Management and Forest Service.

18 (3) FIRE, INSECTS, AND DISEASE.—The Sec-
19 retary may take such measures within the Wilder-
20 ness additions as the Secretary determines to be
21 necessary for the control of fire, insects, and disease,
22 in accordance with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness
23 Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(1)).

1 (4) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing
2 rights, the Wilderness additions are withdrawn from
3 all forms of—

4 (A) entry, appropriation, or disposal under
5 the public land laws;

6 (B) location, entry, and patent under the
7 mining laws; and

8 (C) disposition under all laws pertaining to
9 mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, or mineral
10 materials.

11 (5) TRIBAL RIGHTS.—Nothing in this sub-
12 section alters, modifies, enlarges, diminishes, or ab-
13 rogates the treaty rights of any Indian Tribe.

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