

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 853

Entitled the “Badger-Two Medicine Protection Act”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 29 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. BAUCUS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

Entitled the “Badger-Two Medicine Protection Act”.

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. BADGER-TWO MEDICINE AREA.**

4 (a)(1) Subject to valid existing rights, all federally
5 owned lands as depicted on a map entitled “Badger-Two
6 Medicine Area”, dated September 1991, comprising ap-
7 proximately one hundred sixteen thousand six hundred
8 acres, are withdrawn from all forms of entry, appropria-
9 tion, and disposal under the mining and public land laws
10 and from disposition under the geothermal and mineral
11 leasing laws. Until otherwise directed by Congress, the

1 Secretary shall manage this area so as to protect its cur-
2 rently existing wilderness qualities.

3 (2) Nothing in this section shall preclude the gath-
4 ering of timber by the Blackfeet Tribe in exercise of valid
5 treaty rights within the Badger-Two Medicine Area.

6 (3)(A) With respect to oil and gas leases on Federal
7 lands within the Badger-Two Medicine Area, no surface
8 disturbance shall be permitted pursuant to such leases
9 until Congress determines otherwise.

10 (B) Notwithstanding any other law, the term of any
11 oil and gas lease subject to the limitations imposed by this
12 section shall be extended for a period of time equal to the
13 term that such limitation remains in effect.

14 (b) The Secretary shall conduct a review of this area
15 in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the
16 following provisions. Within five years of the date of enact-
17 ment of this Act, the Secretary shall report his findings
18 to Congress. In conducting this review:

19 (1) The Secretary shall establish a committee
20 composed of representatives of the Blackfeet Tribal
21 Business Council, the Pikuni Traditionalist Associa-
22 tion, the National Park Service, and representatives
23 of the user public including environmental groups
24 and representatives of user industry groups. The
25 committee shall regularly advise the Secretary of the

1 development of the report and submit its findings to
2 Congress along with those of the Secretary.

3 (2) Special consideration shall be given to the
4 religious, wilderness, and wildlife uses of the area,
5 taking into account any treaties the United States
6 has entered into with the Blackfeet Nation.

7 (3) In consultation with the Committee, the
8 Secretary shall establish a process to provide infor-
9 mation to the Tribe and interested public about op-
10 tions for future designation of the Badger-Two-Med-
11 icine Area.

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