

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3427

To require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 10, 2020

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, 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 “Modernizing Access
5 to Our Public Land Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) recreational fishing and hunting and other
4 forms of outdoor recreation are important and tradi-
5 tional activities in which millions of people in the
6 United States participate;

7 (2) a lack of information about publicly avail-
8 able outdoor recreation opportunities depresses par-
9 ticipation in those traditional activities;

10 (3) it is in the public interest to provide en-
11 hanced and expanded information about access to
12 Federal land for recreational opportunities;

13 (4) modern Global Positioning System tech-
14 nologies can provide detailed and real-time informa-
15 tion to the public about access to, and recreation op-
16 portunities on, Federal land;

17 (5) many of the access easement records held
18 by Federal land management agencies are held on
19 paper files and cannot be easily integrated into dig-
20 ital mapping systems; and

21 (6) Federal land management agencies
22 should—

23 (A) accelerate efforts to digitize rec-
24 reational access information into geospatial
25 files; and

1 (B) make that recreational access informa-
2 tion available to the public.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land”
6 means any land or water managed by a Federal land
7 management agency.

8 (2) FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—
9 The term “Federal land management agency”
10 means—

11 (A) the Bureau of Reclamation;

12 (B) the National Park Service;

13 (C) the Bureau of Land Management;

14 (D) the United States Fish and Wildlife
15 Service;

16 (E) the Forest Service; and

17 (F) the Corps of Engineers.

18 (3) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
19 means—

20 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture;

21 (B) the Secretary of the Interior; and

22 (C) the Secretary of the Army, acting
23 through the Assistant Secretary of the Army
24 for Civil Works.

1 **SEC. 4. INTERAGENCY DATA STANDARDIZATION.**

2 Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Secretaries shall jointly develop and adopt
4 interagency standards to ensure compatibility and inter-
5 operability among applicable Federal databases with re-
6 spect to the collection and dissemination of outdoor recre-
7 ation data relating to Federal land.

8 **SEC. 5. DATA CONSOLIDATION, DIGITIZATION, AND PUBLI-**
9 **CATION.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
11 date of enactment of this Act, each of the Secretaries, to
12 the maximum extent practicable, shall digitize and make
13 publicly available on the website of the Department of the
14 Interior, the Forest Service, and the Corps of Engineers,
15 as applicable, geographic information system mapping
16 data that includes, with respect to the Federal land ad-
17 ministered by the relevant Secretary—

18 (1) all Federal interests, including easements
19 and rights-of-way, in private land—

20 (A) to which the Federal Government does
21 not have a fee title interest; and

22 (B) that is used to provide recreational ac-
23 cess to the Federal land;

24 (2) status information with respect to whether
25 roads and trails on the Federal land are open or
26 closed;

1 (3) the dates on which roads and trails on the
2 Federal land are seasonally opened and closed;

3 (4) the types of vehicles that are allowed on
4 each segment of the roads and trails on the Federal
5 land, including the permissibility of—

6 (A) off-highway vehicles;

7 (B) motorcycles;

8 (C) bicycles; and

9 (D) passenger vehicles;

10 (5) the boundaries of areas where hunting or
11 recreational shooting is regulated or closed on the
12 Federal land; and

13 (6) the boundaries of any portion of a body of
14 water on the Federal land that—

15 (A) is closed to entry;

16 (B) is closed to watercraft; or

17 (C) has horsepower limitations for water-
18 craft.

19 (b) UPDATES.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall bienni-
21 ally update the data described in subsection (a).

22 (2) PUBLIC EVALUATION OF ACCURACY.—The
23 Secretaries shall include on each website referred to
24 in subsection (a), as applicable, a point of contact to
25 allow members of the public to confirm or dispute

1 the accuracy of the information described in that
2 subsection.

3 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

4 Not later than October 1 of each year—

5 (1) each of the Secretary of the Interior and
6 the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the
7 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
8 Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of
9 the House of Representatives a report on the
10 progress made by the Secretary of the Interior and
11 the Secretary of Agriculture, respectively, toward
12 meeting the requirements of section 5; and

13 (2) the Secretary of the Army, acting through
14 the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works,
15 shall submit to the Committee on Environment and
16 Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on
17 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
18 Representatives a report on the progress made by
19 the Secretary of the Army, acting through the As-
20 sistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, to-
21 ward meeting the requirements of section 5.

22 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 There are authorized to be appropriated—

24 (1) to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out
25 this Act—

1 (A) \$2,500,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

2 (B) \$5,500,000 for each of fiscal years
3 2022 and 2023;

4 (2) to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out
5 this Act—

6 (A) \$2,500,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

7 (B) \$5,500,000 for each of fiscal years
8 2022 and 2023; and

9 (3) to the Secretary of the Army to carry out
10 this Act—

11 (A) \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

12 (B) \$2,500,000 for each of fiscal years
13 2022 and 2023.

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