

Calendar No. 613

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 4209**

To provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters
National Monument in the State of Maine, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2024

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

NOVEMBER 21, 2024

Reported by Mr. MANCHIN, without amendment

A BILL

To provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods
and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine,
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 “Katahdin Woods and
5 Waters National Monument Access Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) AUTHORIZED ACQUISITION AREA.—The
2 term “authorized acquisition area” means the des-
3 ignated area outside the boundary of the National
4 Monument depicted as “Authorized Acquisition
5 Area” on the map entitled “Katahdin Woods and
6 Waters National Monument Proposed Boundary Ad-
7 justment”, numbered 686/193,181 and dated March
8 2024.

9 (2) NATIONAL MONUMENT.—The term “Na-
10 tional Monument” means the Katahdin Woods and
11 Waters National Monument in the State of Maine
12 established by the Proclamation.

13 (3) PROCLAMATION.—The term “Proclama-
14 tion” means Presidential Proclamation Number
15 9476, dated August 24, 2016 (54 U.S.C. 320301
16 note).

17 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of the Interior.

19 **SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR NATIONAL**
20 **MONUMENT.**

21 (a) BOUNDARY.—The boundaries of the National
22 Monument shall be the boundaries established by the
23 Proclamation.

24 (b) ACQUISITION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
2 the Secretary may acquire, by purchase from a will-
3 ing seller, donation, or exchange, land or interests in
4 land within the authorized acquisition area.

5 (2) PROHIBITION ON USE OF EMINENT DO-
6 MAIN.—Nothing in this Act authorizes the use of
7 eminent domain to acquire land or an interest in
8 land.

9 (c) TREATMENT OF ACQUIRED LAND; BOUNDARY
10 ADJUSTMENT.—On acquisition by the Secretary of any
11 land pursuant to subsection (b)—

12 (1) the land shall be included in the National
13 Monument; and

14 (2) the boundaries of the National Monument
15 shall be adjusted accordingly.

16 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENT.**

17 (a) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall admin-
18 ister the National Monument (including the land added
19 to the National Monument under this Act) in accordance
20 with—

21 (1) this Act;

22 (2) the Proclamation; and

23 (3) the laws generally applicable to units of the
24 National Park System.

1 (b) HUNTING, FISHING, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
2 ON ACQUIRED LAND.—The Secretary shall allow hunting,
3 fishing, or any other outdoor recreation activity on land
4 acquired pursuant to section 3(b)—

5 (1) if that activity was in existence on the day
6 before the date of acquisition of the land; and

7 (2) consistent with the management of that ac-
8 tivity under the Proclamation.

9 (c) COLLECTION OF FIDDLEHEAD FERNS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
11 the Secretary shall allow the gathering by hand of
12 fiddlehead ferns (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) in the
13 National Monument for noncommercial personal use
14 and consumption by the general public.

15 (2) LIMITATION.—If the Secretary determines
16 that the gathering of fiddlehead ferns (*Matteuccia*
17 *struthiopteris*) under paragraph (1) may adversely
18 affect resources of the National Monument, the Sec-
19 retary may limit the gathering of fiddlehead ferns
20 (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) under that paragraph in
21 accordance with applicable regulations.

22 (d) PUBLIC EDUCATION.—In accordance with the
23 mission of the National Park Service, the Secretary shall
24 collaborate with local communities and Tribal govern-
25 ments to educate the public regarding the natural environ-

1 ment and history of land management in the National
2 Monument, including the shaping of that landscape by Na-
3 tive communities and practices, successive generations of
4 timber management, and other activities.

5 (e) FORESTRY.—In accordance with the management
6 plan for the National Monument, the Secretary may con-
7 duct such noncommercial timber harvests as the Secretary
8 determines to be necessary.

9 (f) PROTECTION OF EXISTING ACCESS.—Nothing in
10 this Act affects valid existing rights, including existing
11 rights of access through the National Monument for the
12 removal of timber outside the boundaries of the National
13 Monument.

14 (g) PUBLIC SAFETY.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
16 to the public appropriate safety education and notifi-
17 cation materials to ensure safe interactions between
18 visitors and logging trucks, equipment, and oper-
19 ations on roads in or adjacent to the National
20 Monument.

21 (2) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall collabo-
22 rate with affected stakeholders to establish proce-
23 dures to meet the needs of visitors to the National
24 Monument, logging and trucking operations, and
25 other users of roads in or adjacent to the National

1 Monument to ensure safe interactions between active
2 logging operations and visitors.

3 **SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATIVE SITES AND VISITOR FACILITIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—To facilitate the administration of
5 the National Monument, the Secretary may acquire, by
6 purchase from a willing seller, donation, or exchange, not
7 more than 10 acres of land or interests in land, including
8 improvements, for the administration of the National
9 Monument and visitor services outside the boundaries, but
10 within the vicinity, of the National Monument.

11 (b) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into
12 agreements with State of Maine, units of Tribal or local
13 government, or private entities—

14 (1) to carry out this section; and

15 (2) to develop a cooperative information center
16 for the National Monument.

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