

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2944

To amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Río Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Río Grande del Norte National Monument.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Río Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Río Grande del Norte National Monument.

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 “Cerro de la Olla Wil-
5 derness Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CERRO DE LA OLLA WILDERNESS.**

7 (a) DESIGNATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1202 of the John D.
2 Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recre-
3 ation Act (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 116–
4 9; 133 Stat. 651) is amended—

5 (A) in the section heading, by striking
6 **“CERRO DEL YUTA AND RÍO SAN ANTO-**
7 **NIO”** and inserting **“RÍO GRANDE DEL**
8 **NORTE NATIONAL MONUMENT”**;

9 (B) in subsection (a), by striking para-
10 graph (1) and inserting the following:

11 “(1) MAP.—The term ‘map’ means the map en-
12 titled ‘Proposed Cerro de la Olla Wilderness and Río
13 Grande del Norte National Monument Boundary’
14 and dated April 1, 2025.”; and

15 (C) in subsection (b)—

16 (i) in paragraph (1), by adding at the
17 end the following:

18 “(C) CERRO DE LA OLLA WILDERNESS.—
19 Certain Federal land administered by the Bu-
20 reau of Land Management in Taos County,
21 New Mexico, comprising approximately 12,295
22 acres as generally depicted on the map, which
23 shall be known as the ‘Cerro de la Olla Wilder-
24 ness’.”;

(ii) in paragraph (4), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “this Act” and inserting “this Act (including a reserve common grazing allotment)”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) WILDLIFE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN CERRO DE LA OLLA WILDERNESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B) and in accordance with section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(c)), the Secretary may authorize the maintenance of any structure or facility in existence on the date of enactment of this paragraph for wildlife water development projects (including guzzlers) in the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness if, as determined by the Secretary—

“(i) the structure or facility would enhance wilderness values by promoting healthy, viable, and more naturally distributed wildlife populations; and

“(ii) the visual impacts of the structure or facility on the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness can reasonably be minimized.

1 “(B) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—Not
 2 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of
 3 this paragraph, the Secretary shall enter into a
 4 cooperative agreement with the State of New
 5 Mexico that specifies, subject to section 4(c) of
 6 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(c)), the
 7 terms and conditions under which wildlife man-
 8 agement activities in the Cerro de la Olla Wil-
 9 derness may be carried out.”.

10 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
 11 tents for the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation,
 12 Management, and Recreation Act (Public Law 116–
 13 9; 133 Stat. 581) is amended by striking the item
 14 relating to section 1202 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 1202. Río Grande del Norte National Monument Wilderness Areas.”.

15 (b) RÍO GRANDE DEL NORTE NATIONAL MONUMENT
 16 BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.—The boundary of the Río
 17 Grande del Norte National Monument in the State of New
 18 Mexico is modified, as depicted on the map entitled “Pro-
 19 posed Cerro de la Olla Wilderness and Río Grande del
 20 Norte National Monument Boundary” and dated April 1,
 21 2025.

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