

TO PROVIDE FOR THE INDEFINITE DURATION OF CERTAIN MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS, TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF LANDS CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO SUCH WITHDRAWALS AND TO MAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF SUCH LANDS MORE TRANSPARENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

FEBRUARY 2, 2018.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Natural Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 4299]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 4299) to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. INDEFINITE DURATION OF CERTAIN MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS AND RESERVATIONS AND IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF WITHDRAWN AND RESERVED LANDS.

(a) IMPROVING MANAGEMENT OF CURRENT STATUTORY LAND WITHDRAWALS AND RESERVATIONS AND MAKING MANAGEMENT MORE TRANSPARENT.—

(1) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—Section 101(a)(2) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(a)(2)) is amended by striking “, acting through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.”

(2) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Section 101(b) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

- (i) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” after the semicolon;
- (ii) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (K); and
- (iii) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph:

“(J) procedures to ensure that each periodic review of the plan is conducted jointly by the Secretary of the military department and the Secretary of the Interior, and that affected States and Indian tribes, and the public, are provided a meaningful opportunity to comment upon any substantial revisions to the plan that may be proposed; and”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) shall contain a determination by the Secretary of the military department regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for the lands covered by the integrated natural resources management plan during the period of the plan;”.

(b) EL CENTRO NAVAL AIR FACILITY RANGES.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges Withdrawal Act (subtitle B of title XXIX of Public Law 104–201; 110 Stat. 2813) is amended—

(A) in section 2921(b)(3), by striking “, before the termination date specified in section 2925,”;

(B) in section 2924(a), by striking the third sentence;

(C) by striking sections 2925 and 2927; and

(D) in section 2928(a), by striking “specified in section 2925”.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—The El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges Withdrawal Act (subtitle B of title XXIX of Public Law 104–201; 110 Stat. 2813) is further amended by inserting after section 2924 the following new section:

“SEC. 2925. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.

“(b) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.

“(2) REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—

“(A) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of California; and

“(B) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

“(c) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).

“(d) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

“(e) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the Navy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

“(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.”.

(3) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.—The El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges Withdrawal Act (subtitle B of title XXIX of Public Law 104–201; 110 Stat. 2813) is further amended by inserting after section 2926 the following new section:

“SEC. 2927. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

“(a) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved

under this subtitle is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the Navy shall include the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

“(b) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

“(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

“(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

“(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.

“(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.

“(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of El Centro, and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

“(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.”

(c) JUNIPER BUTTE RANGE.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (title XXIX of Public Law 105–261; 112 Stat. 2226) is amended—

(A) in section 2915—

(i) in the section heading, by striking “DURATION” and inserting “RELINQUISHMENT”;

(ii) in subsection (a), by striking “TERMINATION.—” and all that follows through “At the time of termination” and inserting “EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.—Upon relinquishment of Department of the Air Force jurisdiction over lands withdrawn and reserved by this title”;

(iii) in subsection (b)—

(I) in the subsection heading, by inserting “PROCESS” after “RELINQUISHMENT”;

(II) in paragraph (1), by striking “under subsection (c)”;

(III) in paragraph (3), by striking “before the date of termination, as provided for in subsection (a)(1)”;

(iv) by striking subsection (c); and

(B) in section 2916—

(i) in the section heading, by striking “OR UPON TERMINATION OF WITHDRAWAL”;

(ii) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “and in all cases not later than 2 years before the date of termination of withdrawal and reservation”;

(iii) in subsection (b), by striking “environmental remediation” and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting “environmental remediation before relinquishing, to the Secretary of the Interior, jurisdiction over any lands identified in a notice of intent to relinquish under section 2915(b).”;

(iv) in subsection (d)—

(I) in the subsection heading, by striking “TERMINATES” and inserting “RELINQUISHED”;

(II) by striking “termination date” both places it appears and inserting “relinquishment date”; and

(III) in paragraph (2), by striking “termination” and inserting “relinquishment”.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Section 2910 of the Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (title XXIX of Public Law 105–261; 112 Stat. 2231) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall be modified as provided in subsection (c) to establish an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(2) COMPOSITION.—(A) The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.

“(B) The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—

“(i) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of Idaho; and

“(ii) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

“(3) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding.

“(4) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

“(5) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding. The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

“(6) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.”.

(3) DETERMINATIONS OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.—Section 2909 of the Juniper Butte Range Withdrawal Act (title XXIX of Public Law 105–261; 112 Stat. 2230) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following new sentence:

“The review shall include the determination of the Secretary of the Air Force regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following 5 years.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

“(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan developed under this section. The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

“(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous 5 years.

“(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the Juniper Butte Range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

“(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.”.

(d) RANGES COVERED BY SUBTITLE A OF MILITARY LANDS WITHDRAWAL ACT OF 1999.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 885) is amended—

(A) by striking section 3015;

(B) by striking section 3016 and inserting the following new section:

“SEC. 3016. RELINQUISHMENT.

“(a) NOTICE OF INTENT REGARDING RELINQUISHMENT.—If the Secretary of the military department concerned decides to relinquish all or any of the lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, such Secretary shall transmit a notice of intent to relinquish such lands to the Secretary of the Interior.

“(b) OPENING DATE.—On the date of relinquishment of the withdrawal and reservation of lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, such lands shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mineral laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order stating the date upon which such lands shall be restored to the public domain and opened.”; and

(C) in section 3017—

(i) by striking “section 3016(d)” each place it appears and inserting “section 3016”; and

(ii) in subsection (e)—

(I) by striking “If because” and all that follows through “determines that” and inserting “If the Secretary of the Interior declines to accept jurisdiction over lands withdrawn by this subtitle which have been proposed for relinquishment because the Secretary determines that”; and

(II) in paragraph (2), by striking “the expiration of the withdrawal of such lands under this subtitle” and inserting “such determination”.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.—Section 3014 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 890) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—For the lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for each range for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the withdrawn and reserved lands.

“(2) COMPOSITION.—(A) The Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range.

“(B) The Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range—

“(i) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State in which the withdrawn and reserved lands are located; and

“(ii) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

“(3) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee for a range shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding.

“(4) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding for a range shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the withdrawn and reserved lands, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

“(5) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the military department concerned, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding. The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

“(6) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to an intergovernmental executive committee established under this subsection.”

(3) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.—The Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 885) is further amended by inserting after section 3014 the following new section:

“SEC. 3015. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

“(a) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under section 3011 is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall include the Secretary’s determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

“(b) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

“(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands covered by the plan since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

“(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands covered by the plan, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

“(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands covered by the integrated natural resources management plan.

“(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands addressed by the report.

“(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the affected military range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

“(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.”

(e) BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE.—

(1) **ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 3031 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 897) is amended—

- (A) in subsection (c)—
 - (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “, including the duration of any renewal or extension”;
 - (ii) in paragraph (2)—
 - (I) in the paragraph heading, by striking “OR TERMINATION”;
 - (II) in subparagraph (C), by striking the last sentence; and
 - (iii) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “or termination”;
- (B) in subsection (d), by striking “DURATION” and all that follows through “of the termination” and inserting “EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.—On the date of relinquishment”;
- (C) by striking subsection (e); and
- (D) in subsection (f)—
 - (i) in the subsection heading, by striking “TERMINATION AND”;
 - (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking “but not later than three years before the termination of the withdrawal and reservation.”;
 - (iii) in paragraph (3), by striking “before the termination date of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this section”;
 - (iv) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking “Notwithstanding the termination date, unless” and inserting “Unless”.

(2) **DETERMINATIONS OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.**—Section 3031 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 897) is further amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(e) **PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.**—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under this section is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall include the Secretary’s determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.”.

(3) **USE OF DEFINITIONS.**—Section 3031(c)(5) of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (title XXX of Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 907) is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

- “(A) The term ‘military munitions’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(e)(4) of title 10, United States Code.
- “(B) The term ‘unexploded ordnance’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(e)(5) of such title.”.

(f) **NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER.**—

(1) **ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—The Fort Irwin Military Land Withdrawal Act of 2001 (title XXIX of Public Law 107–107; 115 Stat. 1335) is amended—

- (A) in section 2910, by striking the section heading and all that follows through “At the time of termination” and inserting the following:

“**SEC. 2910. EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.**

“On the date of relinquishment”;

- (B) by striking section 2911; and
- (C) in section 2912—
 - (i) in the section heading, by striking “**TERMINATION AND**”;
 - (ii) in subsection (a), by striking “During the first 22 years of the withdrawal and reservation made by this title, if” and inserting “If”;
 - (iii) in subsection (c), by striking “before the termination date of the withdrawal and reservation”; and
 - (iv) in subsection (d), by striking “Notwithstanding the termination date specified in section 2910, unless” and inserting “Unless”.

(2) **DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.**—The Fort Irwin Military Land Withdrawal Act of 2001 (title XXIX of Public Law 107–107; 115 Stat. 1335) is further amended by inserting after section 2910 the following new section:

“**SEC. 2911. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.**

“(a) **PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING NEED.**—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under this title is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five

years, the Secretary of the Army shall include in the plan the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

“(b) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

“(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

“(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

“(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of National Training Range, and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

“(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.”.

(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—The Fort Irwin Military Land Withdrawal Act of 2001 (title XXIX of Public Law 107–107; 115 Stat. 1335) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 2914. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

“(b) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.

“(2) REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—

“(A) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of California; and

“(B) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

“(c) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).

“(d) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

“(e) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

“(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.”.

(g) RANGES COVERED BY MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS ACT OF 2013.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF TERMINATION DATE AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Military Land Withdrawals Act of 2013 (title XXIX of Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 1025) is amended—

(A) by striking sections 2919, 2920; 2936, 2946, and 2979;

(B) in section 2921, by striking “On the termination of” and inserting “On the relinquishment of”; and

(C) in section 2922(d)(3)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking “ON TERMINATION” and inserting “UPON RELINQUISHMENT”; and

(ii) by striking “or if at the expiration of the withdrawal and reservation,”.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—The Military Land Withdrawals Act of 2013 (title XXIX of Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 1025) is further amended by inserting after section 2918 the following new section:

“SEC. 2919. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—For the lands withdrawn and reserved by sections 2931, 2941, and 2971, the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for each location for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the withdrawn and reserved lands.

“(b) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a).

“(2) REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a)—

“(A) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State in which the withdrawn and reserved lands are located; and

“(B) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

“(c) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a) shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).

“(d) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the withdrawn and reserved lands, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

“(e) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary concerned, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a). The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

“(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to an intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a).”.

(3) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.—The Military Land Withdrawals Act of 2013 (title XXIX of Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 1025) is further amended by inserting after section 2919, as added by paragraph (2), the following new section:

“SEC. 2920. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

“(a) PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING NEED.—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under a subtitle of this title is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary concerned shall include in the plan the Secretary’s determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

“(b) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

“(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands covered by the plan since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

“(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands covered by the plan, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

“(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands addressed by the report.

“(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands addressed by the report.

“(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the affected military range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

“(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.”

(h) EFFECT ON NEW LAND WITHDRAWALS AND RESERVATIONS.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed as changing the requirements imposed on the Department of Defense to obtain a new or expanded land withdrawal and reservation.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 4299 is to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 4299 would extend existing military land withdrawals of public land for an indefinite period while putting in place a continuous environmental and resource review process coordinated between the Department of Defense and the Department of the Interior. In addition, the bill provides for public comment on individual resource management plans and continued military uses of such lands.

The U.S. military maintains numerous installations and training areas on public lands withdrawn from the public domain throughout the Western United States and Alaska. There are over 200 in-

dividual withdrawn parcels for military use for the Army, Navy and Air Force that range in size from 1 acre for such things as remote radar sites, to over a million acres at such large-scale facilities as the Joint Air Force-Navy Goldwater Training Range.

The majority of these lands are already permanent withdrawals under the full administrative control of the military, and were typically created through Department of the Interior Public Land Orders or by Presidential Executive Orders. However, following the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), new military land withdrawals or expansions of previously existing withdrawals for military use were statutory, and have been treated as temporary leases subject to 25-year reviews by the Interior Department. There are currently 23 such withdrawals subject to this renewal process which, under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), require full environmental reviews including the completion of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), costing the affected military department potentially millions of dollars per installation from defense Operations and Maintenance accounts.

There has never been an instance where the Interior Department failed to renew the military's land withdrawal for existing uses and training, nor is such a denial in the future likely given unique national security requirements. This formal environmental review requirement has come to be viewed as unnecessarily duplicative and costly, especially during a time of defense sequester cuts, because the military already maintains comprehensive environmental management programs for its installations. For example, under the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670 et seq.), the Department of Defense is required to develop and implement Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) for all installations across the United States. INRMPs for each installation are developed in cooperation with the Interior Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and impacted State wildlife management agencies, and specify how the military will manage the property within its control for the benefit of wildlife and habitat. INRMPs are required to be reviewed every five years.

The text of H.R. 4299 was included as section 2831 of the House-passed H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, which was passed on a 344 to 81 vote on July 14, 2017. There was no Senate counterpart and the section was not included in the final conference agreement on that bill.

H.R. 4299 would largely follow the model established by the Sikes Act by: (1) making all current statutory military withdrawals indefinite at the discretion of the affected military department for those installations which have an INRMP; (2) specifically removes lease renewal dates for El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges, Juniper Butte Range, Barry M. Goldwater Range, and the National Training Center; (3) requires the military, in cooperation with the Interior Department, to establish individual installation-specific committees comprised of federal, State and tribal representatives to make periodic 5-year reviews of the specific installation's land management practices; (4) provides for public notice, input and reports by the committee to be made public and to Congress; and (5) provides that this Act only applies to existing withdrawn lands and not to proposed expansion areas or new training areas in the fu-

ture. Future expansions of military use areas would still require a full NEPA analysis.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 4299 was introduced on November 8, 2017, by Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT). The bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Natural Resources and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services. On November 29, 2017, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. Congressman Rob Bishop offered an amendment designated #1; it was adopted by unanimous consent. No additional amendments were offered, and the bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent on November 30, 2017.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the enclosed cost estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, January 18, 2018.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 4299, a bill to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jeff LaFavre.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 4299—A bill to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes

H.R. 4299 would eliminate termination dates for the withdrawals of certain lands at four military installations in the western United

States that are administered by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and used by the Department of Defense (DoD). The bill would require DOI and DoD to establish intergovernmental advisory committees at the four installations and also would require the affected agencies to issue reports regarding the management of those lands. Using information provided by DOI and DoD, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would have no significant effect on federal spending.

Finally, under current law, DoD must complete environmental reviews before renewing existing land withdrawals. Under the bill, those reviews would no longer be necessary. Because only one withdrawal is set to expire before 2023 and because CBO expects that any amounts that would have been spent to complete the environmental review for that installation would be spent on other activities, CBO estimates that implementing that provision would have no significant effect on spending subject to appropriation over 2018–2022 period.

Those withdrawn lands are not currently generating income and are not expected to do so over the next 10 years. Enacting H.R. 4299 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4299 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 4299 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. This estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

2. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104–4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT STATEMENT

The functions of the proposed intergovernmental executive committees authorized in this bill are not currently being nor could they be performed by one or more agencies, an advisory group already in existence or by enlarging the mandate of an existing advisory group.

COMPLIANCE WITH H. RES. 5

Directed Rule Making. This bill does not contain any directed rule makings.

Duplication of Existing Programs. This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111-139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95-220, as amended by Public Law 98-169) as relating to other programs.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SIKES ACT

* * * * *

TITLE I—CONSERVATION PROGRAMS ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

* * * * *

SEC. 101. COOPERATIVE PLAN FOR CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION.

(a) **AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—**
 (1) **PROGRAM.—**

(A) **IN GENERAL.—**The Secretary of Defense shall carry out a program to provide for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on military installations.

(B) **INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN.—**(i) To facilitate the program, the Secretary of each military department shall prepare and implement an integrated natural resources management plan for each military installation in the United States under the jurisdiction of the Secretary, unless the Secretary determines that the absence of significant natural resources on a particular installation makes preparation of such a plan inappropriate.

(ii) The Secretary of a military department may, subject to the availability of appropriations, develop and implement an integrated natural resources management plan for a State-owned National Guard installation. Such a plan shall be developed and implemented in coordination with the chief executive officer of the State in which the State-owned National Guard installation is located. Such a plan is deemed, for pur-

poses of any other provision of law, to be for lands or other geographical areas owned or controlled by the Department of Defense, or designated for its use.

(2) COOPERATIVE PREPARATION.—The Secretary of a military department shall prepare each integrated natural resources management plan for which the Secretary is responsible in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior[, acting through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,] and the head of each appropriate State fish and wildlife agency for the State in which the military installation or State-owned National Guard installation concerned is located. Consistent with paragraph (4), the resulting plan for the military installation or State-owned National Guard installation shall reflect the mutual agreement of the parties concerning conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources.

(3) PURPOSES OF PROGRAM.—(A) Consistent with the use of military installations and State-owned National Guard installations to ensure the preparedness of the Armed Forces, the Secretaries of the military departments shall carry out the program required by this subsection to provide for—

(i) the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on such installations;

(ii) the sustainable multipurpose use of the resources on such installations, which shall include hunting, fishing, trapping, and nonconsumptive uses; and

(iii) subject to safety requirements and military security, public access to military installations to facilitate the use.

(B) In the case of a State-owned National Guard installation, such program shall be carried out in coordination with the chief executive officer of the State in which the installation is located.

(4) EFFECT ON OTHER LAW.—Nothing in this title—

(A)(i) affects any provision of a Federal law governing the conservation or protection of fish and wildlife resources; or

(ii) enlarges or diminishes the responsibility and authority of any State for the protection and management of fish and resident wildlife; or

(B) except as specifically provided in the other provisions of this section and in section 102, authorizes the Secretary of a military department to require a Federal license or permit to hunt, fish, or trap on a military installation.

(b) REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF PLANS.—Consistent with the use of military installations and State-owned National Guard installations to ensure the preparedness of the Armed Forces, each integrated natural resources management plan prepared under subsection (a)—

(1) shall, to the extent appropriate and applicable, provide for—

(A) fish and wildlife management, land management, forest management, and fish- and wildlife-oriented recreation;

(B) fish and wildlife habitat enhancement or modifications;

(C) wetland protection, enhancement, and restoration, where necessary for support of fish, wildlife, or plants;

(D) integration of, and consistency among, the various activities conducted under the plan;

(E) establishment of specific natural resource management goals and objectives and time frames for proposed action;

(F) sustainable use by the public of natural resources to the extent that the use is not inconsistent with the needs of fish and wildlife resources;

(G) public access to the installation that is necessary or appropriate for the use described in subparagraph (F), subject to requirements necessary to ensure safety and military security;

(H) enforcement of applicable natural resource laws (including regulations);

(I) no net loss in the capability of installation lands to support the military mission of the installation; **[and]**

(J) procedures to ensure that each periodic review of the plan is conducted jointly by the Secretary of the military department and the Secretary of the Interior, and that affected States and Indian tribes, and the public, are provided a meaningful opportunity to comment upon any substantial revisions to the plan that may be proposed; and

[(J)] *(K) such other activities as the Secretary of the military department determines appropriate;*

(2) shall contain a determination by the Secretary of the military department regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for the lands covered by the integrated natural resources management plan during the period of the plan;

[(2)] *(3) must be reviewed as to operation and effect by the parties thereto on a regular basis, but not less often than every 5 years; and*

[(3)] *(4) may, in the case of a military installation, stipulate the issuance of special State hunting and fishing permits to individuals and require payment of nominal fees therefor, which fees shall be utilized for the protection, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife, including habitat improvement and related activities in accordance with the integrated natural resources management plan; except that—*

(A) the Commanding Officer of the installation or persons designated by that Officer are authorized to enforce such special hunting and fishing permits and to collect, spend, administer, and account for fees for the permits, acting as agent or agents for the State if the integrated natural resources management plan so provides, and

(B) the fees collected under this paragraph may not be expended with respect to other than the military installation on which collected, unless the military installation is subsequently closed, in which case the fees may be transferred to another military installation to be used for the same purposes.

(c) PROHIBITIONS ON SALE AND LEASE OF LANDS UNLESS EFFECTS COMPATIBLE WITH PLAN.—After an integrated natural resources management plan is agreed to under subsection (a)—

(1) no sale of land, or forest products from land, that is within a military installation covered by that plan may be made under section 2665 (a) or (b) of title 10, United States Code; and

(2) no leasing of land that is within the installation may be made under section 2667 of such title 10; unless the effects of that sale or leasing are compatible with the purposes of the plan.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLANS.—With regard to the implementation and enforcement of integrated natural resources management plans agreed to under subsection (a)—

(1) neither Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 nor any successor circular thereto applies to the procurement of services that are necessary for that implementation and enforcement; and

(2) priority shall be given to the entering into of contracts for the procurement of such implementation and enforcement services with Federal and State agencies having responsibility for the conservation or management of fish or wildlife.

(e) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—Integrated natural resources management plans agreed to under the authority of this section and section 102 shall not be deemed to be, nor treated as, cooperative agreements to which chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, applies.

(f) REVIEWS AND REPORTS.—

(1) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary of Defense shall review the extent to which integrated natural resources management plans were prepared or were in effect and implemented in accordance with this title in the preceding year, and submit a report on the findings of the review to the committees. Each report shall include—

(A) the number of integrated natural resources management plans in effect in the year covered by the report, including the date on which each plan was issued in final form or most recently revised;

(B) the amounts expended on conservation activities conducted pursuant to the plans in the year covered by the report; and

(C) an assessment of the extent to which the plans comply with this title.

(2) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—Not later than March 1 of each year and in consultation with the heads of State fish and wildlife agencies, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit a report to the committees on the amounts expended by the Department of the Interior and the State fish and wildlife agencies in the year covered by the report on conservation activities conducted pursuant to integrated natural resources management plans.

(3) DEFINITION OF COMMITTEES.—In this subsection, the term “committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Resources and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

(g) PILOT PROGRAM FOR INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT FOR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN GUAM.—

(1) INCLUSION OF INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT.—During fiscal years 2009 through 2014, the Secretary of Defense shall, to the extent practicable and conducive to military readiness, incorporate in integrated natural resources management plans for military installations in Guam the management, control, and eradication of invasive species—

(A) that are not native to the ecosystem of the military installation; and

(B) the introduction of which cause or may cause harm to military readiness, the environment, or human health and safety.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out this subsection in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior.

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EL CENTRO NAVAL AIR FACILITY RANGES WITHDRAWAL ACT

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

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TITLE XXIX—MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS

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Subtitle B—El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges Withdrawal

SEC. 2921. SHORT TITLE AND DEFINITIONS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as the “El Centro Naval Air Facility Ranges Withdrawal Act”.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this subtitle:

(1) The term “El Centro” means the Naval Air Facility, El Centro, California.

(2) The term “cooperative agreement” means the cooperative agreement entered into between the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Department of the Navy, dated June 29, 1987, with regard to the defense-related uses of Federal lands to further the mission of El Centro.

(3) The term “relinquishment notice” means a notice of intention by the Secretary of the Navy under section 2928(a) to relinquish, before the termination date specified in section

2925,] the withdrawal and reservation of certain lands withdrawn under this subtitle.

* * * * *

SEC. 2924. MANAGEMENT OF WITHDRAWN LANDS.

(a) **MANAGEMENT CONSISTENT WITH COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.**—The lands and resources shall be managed in accordance with the cooperative agreement, revised as necessary to conform to the provisions of this subtitle. The parties to the cooperative agreement shall review the cooperative agreement for conformance with this subtitle and amend the cooperative agreement, if appropriate, within 120 days after the date of the enactment of this subtitle. [The term of the cooperative agreement shall be amended so that its duration is at least equal to the duration of the withdrawal made by section 2925.] The cooperative agreement may be reviewed and amended by the managing agencies as necessary.

(b) **MANAGEMENT BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.**—

(1) **GENERAL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.**—During the period of withdrawal, the Secretary of the Interior shall manage the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and other applicable laws, including this subtitle.

(2) **SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES.**—To the extent consistent with applicable laws, Executive orders, and the cooperative agreement, the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle may be managed in a manner permitting—

- (A) protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat;
- (B) control of predatory and other animals;
- (C) the prevention and appropriate suppression of brush and range fires resulting from nonmilitary activities; and
- (D) geothermal leasing and development and related power production, mineral leasing and development, and mineral material sales.

(3) **EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, in coordination with the Secretary of the Navy, such that all nonmilitary use of such lands, including the uses described in paragraph (2), shall be subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be necessary to permit the military use of such lands for the purposes specified in the cooperative agreement or authorized pursuant to this subtitle.

(c) **CERTAIN ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE OF NAVY.**—The Secretary of the Interior may issue a lease, easement, right-of-way, or other authorization with respect to the nonmilitary use of the withdrawn lands only with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Navy and under the terms of the cooperative agreement.

(d) **ACCESS RESTRICTIONS.**—If the Secretary of the Navy determines that military operations, public safety, or national security require the closure to public use of any road, trail, or other portion of the lands withdrawn under this subtitle, the Secretary may take such action as the Secretary determines necessary or desirable to effect and maintain such closure. Any such closure shall be limited to the minimum areas and periods which the Secretary of the Navy

determines are required to carry out this subsection. Before and during any closure under this subsection, the Secretary of the Navy shall keep appropriate warning notices posted and take appropriate steps to notify the public concerning such closures.

(e) **ADDITIONAL MILITARY USES.**—Lands withdrawn under this subtitle may be used for defense-related uses other than those specified in the cooperative agreement. The Secretary of the Navy shall promptly notify the Secretary of the Interior in the event that the lands withdrawn under this subtitle will be used for additional defense-related purposes. Such notification shall indicate the additional use or uses involved, the proposed duration of such uses, and the extent to which such additional military uses of the withdrawn lands will require that additional or more stringent conditions or restrictions be imposed on otherwise-permitted nonmilitary uses of all or any portion of the withdrawn lands.

【SEC. 2925. DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

【The withdrawal and reservation made under this subtitle shall terminate 25 years after the date of the enactment of this subtitle.】

SEC. 2925. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.**—*The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.*

(b) **COMPOSITION.**—

(1) **REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—*The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.*

(2) **REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.**—*The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—*

(A) *at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of California; and*

(B) *at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.*

(c) **OPERATION.**—*The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).*

(d) **PROCEDURES.**—*The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.*

(e) **COORDINATOR.**—*The Secretary of the Navy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to*

serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.

* * * * *

[SEC. 2927. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTENSION.

[(a) NOTICE OF CONTINUED MILITARY NEED.—Not later than five years before the termination date specified in section 2925, the Secretary of the Navy shall advise the Secretary of the Interior as to whether or not the Navy will have a continuing military need for any or all of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle after the termination date.

[(b) APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION.—If the Secretary of the Navy determines that there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn lands after the termination date specified in section 2925, the Secretary of the Navy shall file an application for extension of the withdrawal and reservation of the lands in accordance with the then existing regulations and procedures of the Department of the Interior applicable to extension of withdrawal of lands for military purposes and that are consistent with this subtitle. Such application shall be filed with the Department of the Interior not later than four years before the termination date.

[(c) EXTENSION PROCESS.—The withdrawal and reservation established by this subtitle may not be extended except by an Act or Joint Resolution of Congress.]

SEC. 2927. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

(a) DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the Navy shall include the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

(b) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

(2) *COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.*—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.

(3) *PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.*—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle.

(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of El Centro, and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

(4) *DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.*—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2928. EARLY RELINQUISHMENT OF WITHDRAWAL.

(a) *FILING OF RELINQUISHMENT NOTICE.*—If, during the period of withdrawal and reservation [specified in section 2925], the Secretary of the Navy decides to relinquish all or any portion of the lands withdrawn and reserved under this subtitle, the Secretary of the Navy shall file a notice of intention to relinquish with the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) *DETERMINATION OF PRESENCE OF CONTAMINATION.*—Before transmitting a relinquishment notice under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Navy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall prepare a written determination concerning whether and to what extent the lands to be relinquished are contaminated with explosive, toxic, or other hazardous wastes and substances. A copy of such determination shall be transmitted with the relinquishment notice.

(c) *DECONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION.*—In the case of contaminated lands which are the subject of a relinquishment notice, the Secretary of the Navy shall decontaminate or remediate the land to the extent that funds are appropriated for such purpose if the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of the Navy, determines that—

(1) decontamination or remediation of the lands is practicable and economically feasible, taking into consideration the potential future use and value of the land; and

(2) upon decontamination or remediation, the land could be opened to the operation of some or all of the public land laws, including the mining laws.

(d) *DECONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO OTHER LAWS.*—The activities of the Secretary of the Navy under subsection (c) are subject to applicable laws and regulations, in-

cluding the Defense Environmental Restoration Program established under section 2701 of title 10, United States Code, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), and the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.).

(e) **AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO REFUSE CONTAMINATED LANDS.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall not be required to accept lands specified in a relinquishment notice if the Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Secretary of the Navy, concludes that—

(1) decontamination or remediation of any land subject to the relinquishment notice is not practicable or economically feasible;

(2) the land cannot be decontaminated or remediated sufficiently to be opened to operation of some or all of the public land laws; or

(3) a sufficient amount of funds are not appropriated for the decontamination of the land.

(f) **STATUS OF CONTAMINATED LANDS.**—If, because of the condition of the lands, the Secretary of the Interior declines to accept jurisdiction of lands proposed for relinquishment or, if at the expiration of the withdrawal made under this subtitle, the Secretary of the Interior determines that some of the lands withdrawn under this subtitle are contaminated to an extent which prevents opening such contaminated lands to operation of the public land laws—

(1) the Secretary of the Navy shall take appropriate steps to warn the public of the contaminated state of such lands and any risks associated with entry onto such lands;

(2) after the expiration of the withdrawal, the Secretary of the Navy shall retain jurisdiction over the withdrawn lands, but shall undertake no activities on such lands except in connection with the decontamination or remediation of such lands; and

(3) the Secretary of the Navy shall report to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Congress concerning the status of such lands and all actions taken under paragraphs (1) and (2).

(g) **SUBSEQUENT DECONTAMINATION OR REMEDIATION.**—If lands covered by subsection (f) are subsequently decontaminated or remediated and the Secretary of the Navy certifies that the lands are safe for nonmilitary uses, the Secretary of the Interior shall reconsider accepting jurisdiction over the lands.

(h) **REVOCATION AUTHORITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon deciding that it is in the public interest to accept jurisdiction over lands specified in a relinquishment notice, the Secretary of the Interior may revoke the withdrawal and reservation made under this subtitle as it applies to such lands. If the decision be made to accept the relinquishment and to revoke the withdrawal and reservation, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order which shall—

(1) terminate the withdrawal and reservation;

(2) constitute official acceptance of full jurisdiction over the lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(3) state the date upon which the lands will be opened to the operation of the public land laws, including the mining laws, if appropriate.

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JUNIPER BUTTE RANGE WITHDRAWAL ACT

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

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TITLE XXIX—JUNIPER BUTTE RANGE WITHDRAWAL

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SEC. 2909. INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—(1)(A) Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force shall, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, the State of Idaho, and Owyhee County, Idaho, develop an integrated natural resources management plan to address the management of the resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title during their withdrawal and reservation under this title.

(B) Additionally, the integrated natural resource management plan shall address mitigation and monitoring activities by the Air Force for State and Federal lands affected by military training activities associated with the Juniper Butte Range.

(C) The foregoing will be done cooperatively between the Air Force, the Bureau of Land Management, the State of Idaho, and Owyhee County, Idaho.

(2) Except as otherwise provided under this title, the integrated natural resources management plan under this section shall be developed in accordance with, and meet the requirements of, section 101 of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a).

(3)(A) Site development plans shall be prepared before construction of facilities.

(B) Such plans shall be reviewed by the Bureau of Land Management, for Federal lands, and the State of Idaho, for State lands, for consistency with the proposal assessed in the Enhanced Training in Idaho Environmental Impact Statement.

(C) The portion of such development plans describing reconfigurable or replacement targets may be conceptual.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The integrated natural resources management plan under subsection (a) shall—

(1) include provisions for the proper management and protection of the natural, cultural, and other resources and values of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title and for the use of such resources in a manner consistent with the uses set forth in section 2902(b);

(2) permit livestock grazing at the discretion of the Secretary of the Air Force in accordance with section 2907 or any other authorities relating to livestock grazing that are available to that Secretary;

(3) permit fencing, water pipeline modifications and extensions, and the construction of aboveground water reservoirs, and the maintenance and repair of these items on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, and on other lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(4) otherwise provide for the management by the Secretary of the Air Force of any lands withdrawn and reserved by this title while retained under the jurisdiction of that Secretary under this title.

(c) PERIODIC REVIEW.—The Secretary of the Air Force shall, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior and the State of Idaho, review the adequacy of the provisions of the integrated natural resources management plan developed under this section at least once every 5 years after the effective date of the plan. *The review shall include the determination of the Secretary of the Air Force regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following 5 years.*

(d) PUBLIC REPORTS.—

(1) CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.—(A) *Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan developed under this section. The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.*

(B) *A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous 5 years.*

(2) COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.—*A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.*

(3) PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.—(A) *Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.*

(B) *Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the Juniper Butte*

Range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

(4) DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2910. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

(a) **REQUIREMENT.**—The Secretary of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Governor of the State of Idaho shall jointly enter into a memorandum of understanding to implement the integrated natural resources management plan required under section 2909.

(b) **TERM.**—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall apply to any lands withdrawn and reserved by this title until their relinquishment by the Secretary of the Air Force under this title.

(c) **MODIFICATION.**—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) may be modified by agreement of all the parties specified in that subsection.

(d) **INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall be modified as provided in subsection (c) to establish an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

(2) COMPOSITION.—(A) The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.

(B) The Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—

(i) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of Idaho; and

(ii) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

(3) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding.

(4) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

(5) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an in-

dividual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding. The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

(6) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.

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SEC. 2915. [DURATION] RELINQUISHMENT OF WITHDRAWAL.

(a) [TERMINATION— [(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 2916, the withdrawal and reservation made by this title shall terminate 25 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.]

[(2) At the time of termination] *EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.—Upon relinquishment of Department of the Air Force jurisdiction over lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, the previously withdrawn lands shall not be open to the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order which shall state the date upon which such lands shall be opened.*

(b) RELINQUISHMENT PROCESS.—(1) If the Secretary of the Air Force determines [under subsection (c)] that the Air Force has no continuing military need for any lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, the Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction over such lands to the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) The Secretary of the Interior may accept jurisdiction over any lands covered by a notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction under paragraph (1) if the Secretary of the Interior determines that the Secretary of the Air Force has completed the environmental review required under section 2916(a) and the conditions under section 2916(c) have been met.

(3) If the Secretary of the Interior decides to accept jurisdiction over lands under paragraph (2) [before the date of termination, as provided for in subsection (a)(1)], the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order which shall—

(A) revoke the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this title;

(B) constitute official acceptance of administrative jurisdiction over the lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(C) state the date upon which such lands shall be opened to the operation of the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, if appropriate.

(4) The Secretary of the Interior shall manage any lands relinquished under this subsection as multiple use status lands.

(5) If the Secretary of the Interior declines pursuant to subsection (b)(2) to accept jurisdiction of any parcel of land proposed for relinquishment, that parcel shall remain under the continued administration of the Secretary of the Air Force pursuant to section 2916(d).

[(c) EXTENSION.—(1) In the case of any lands withdrawn and reserved by this title that the Air Force proposes to include in a no-

tice of extension because of continued military need under paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Air Force shall, before issuing the notice under paragraph (2)—

[(A) evaluate the environmental effects of the extension of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations; and

[(B) hold at least one public meeting in the State of Idaho regarding that evaluation.

[(2)(A) Not later than 2 years before the termination of the withdrawal and reservation of lands by this title under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Air Force shall notify Congress and the Secretary of the Interior as to whether or not the Air Force has a continuing military need for any of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, and not previously relinquished under this section, after the termination date as specified in subsection (a).

[(B)(i) The Secretary of the Air force shall specify in the notice under subparagraph (A) the duration of any extension or further extension of withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this title.

[(ii) The duration of each extension or further extension under clause (i) shall not exceed 25 years.

[(C) The notice under subparagraph (A) shall be published in the Federal Register and a newspaper of local distribution with the opportunity for comments, within a 60-day period, which shall be provided to the Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Interior.

[(3)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), in the case of any lands withdrawn and reserved by this title that are covered by a notice of extension under subsection (c)(2), the withdrawal and reservation of such lands shall extend under the provisions of this title after the termination date otherwise provided for under subsection (a) for such period as is specified in the notice under subsection (c)(2).

[(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any lands covered by a notice referred to in that paragraph until 90 legislative days after the date on which the notice with respect to such lands is submitted to Congress under paragraph (2).]

SEC. 2916. ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF RELINQUISHED WITHDRAWN LANDS [OR UPON TERMINATION OF WITHDRAWAL].

(a) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—(1) Before submitting under section 2915 a notice of an intent to relinquish jurisdiction over lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, [and in all cases not later than 2 years before the date of termination of withdrawal and reservation,] the Secretary of the Air Force shall, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, complete a review that fully characterizes the environmental conditions of such lands (including any water and air associated with such lands) in order to identify any contamination on such lands.

(2) The Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a copy of the review prepared with respect to any lands under paragraph (1). The Secretary of the Air Force shall also submit at the same time any notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction over such lands under section 2915.

(3) The Secretary of the Air Force shall submit a copy of any such review to Congress.

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF LANDS.—The Secretary of the Air Force shall, in accordance with applicable State and Federal law, carry out and complete [environmental remediation—]

[(1) before relinquishing jurisdiction to the Secretary of the Interior over any lands identified in a notice of intent to relinquish under section 2915(b); or

[(2) before the date of termination of the withdrawal and reservation, except as provided under subsection (d).] *environmental remediation before relinquishing, to the Secretary of the Interior, jurisdiction over any lands identified in a notice of intent to relinquish under section 2915(b).*

(c) POSTPONEMENT OF RELINQUISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior shall not accept jurisdiction over any lands that are the subject of activities under subsection (b) until the Secretary of the Interior determines that environmental conditions on the lands are such that—

- (1) all necessary environmental remediation has been completed by the Secretary of the Air Force;
- (2) the lands are safe for nonmilitary uses; and
- (3) the lands could be opened consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s public land management responsibilities.

(d) JURISDICTION WHEN WITHDRAWAL [TERMINATES] *RELINQUISHED*.—If the determination required by section (c) cannot be achieved for any parcel of land subject to the withdrawal and reservation before the [termination date] *relinquishment date* of the withdrawal and reservation, the Secretary of the Air Force shall retain administrative jurisdiction over such parcels of land notwithstanding the [termination date] *relinquishment date* for the limited purposes of—

- (1) environmental remediation activities under subsection (b); and
- (2) any activities relating to the management of such lands after the [termination] *relinquishment* of the withdrawal reservation for military purposes that are provided for in the integrated natural resources management plan under section 2909.

(e) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this title shall affect, or be construed to affect, the obligations, if any, of the Secretary of the Air Force to decontaminate lands withdrawn by this title pursuant to applicable law, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.).

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MILITARY LANDS WITHDRAWAL ACT OF 1999

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TITLE XXX—MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS

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Subtitle A—Withdrawals Generally

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SEC. 3014. MANAGEMENT OF LANDS.

(a) MANAGEMENT BY SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.—

(1) APPLICABLE LAW.—During the period of the withdrawal of lands under this subtitle, the Secretary of the Interior shall manage the lands withdrawn by section 3011 pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), other applicable law, and this subtitle. The Secretary shall manage the lands within the Desert National Wildlife Refuge in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and other applicable law. No provision of this subtitle, except sections 3011(b)(5)(D), 3020, and 3021, shall apply to the management of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge.

(2) ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED.—To the extent consistent with applicable law and Executive orders, the lands withdrawn by section 3011 may be managed in a manner permitting—

(A) the continuation of grazing where permitted on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) the protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat;

(C) the control of predatory and other animals;

(D) recreation; and

(E) the prevention and appropriate suppression of brush and range fires resulting from nonmilitary activities.

(3) NONMILITARY USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—All nonmilitary use of the lands referred to in paragraph (2), other than the uses described in that paragraph, shall be subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be necessary to permit the military use of such lands for the purposes specified in or authorized pursuant to this subtitle.

(B) LEASES, EASEMENTS, AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Secretary of the Interior may issue a lease, easement, right-of-way, or other authorization with respect to the nonmilitary use of lands referred to in paragraph (2) only with the concurrence of the Secretary of the military department concerned.

(b) CLOSURE TO PUBLIC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of the military department concerned determines that military operations, public safety, or national security require the closure to public use of any road, trail, or other portion of lands withdrawn by this subtitle, that Secretary may take such action as that Secretary determines necessary or desirable to effect and maintain such closure.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—Any closure under paragraph (1) shall be limited to the minimum areas and periods which the Secretary

of the military department concerned determines are required to carry out this subsection.

(3) NOTICE.—Before and during any closure under this subsection, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall—

- (A) keep appropriate warning notices posted; and
- (B) take appropriate steps to notify the public concerning such closure.

(c) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Secretary of the military department concerned, shall develop a plan for the management of each area withdrawn by section 3011 during the period of withdrawal under this subtitle. Each plan shall—

- (1) be consistent with applicable law;
- (2) be subject to the conditions and restrictions specified in subsection (a)(3);
- (3) include such provisions as may be necessary for proper management and protection of the resources and values of such area; and
- (4) be developed not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) BRUSH AND RANGE FIRES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall take necessary precautions to prevent and suppress brush and range fires occurring within and outside lands withdrawn by section 3011 as a result of military activities and may seek assistance from the Bureau of Land Management in the suppression of such fires.

(2) ASSISTANCE.—Each memorandum of understanding required by subsection (e) shall—

- (A) require the Bureau of Land Management to provide assistance in the suppression of fires under paragraph (1) upon the request of the Secretary of the military department concerned; and
- (B) provide for a transfer of funds from the military department concerned to the Bureau of Land Management as compensation for any assistance so provided.

(e) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the military department concerned shall, with respect to each lands withdrawn by section 3011, enter into a memorandum of understanding to implement the management plan for such lands under subsection (c).

(2) DURATION.—The duration of any memorandum of understanding for lands withdrawn by section 3011 shall be the same as the period of the withdrawal of such lands under this subtitle.

(f) ADDITIONAL MILITARY USES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Lands withdrawn by section 3011 (except lands within the Desert National Wildlife Refuge) may be used for defense-related purposes other than those specified in the applicable provisions of such section.

(2) NOTICE.—The Secretary of Defense shall promptly notify the Secretary of the Interior in the event that lands withdrawn by this subtitle will be used for defense-related purposes other

than those specified in the applicable provisions of section 3011.

(3) CONTENTS OF NOTICE.—A notice under paragraph (2) shall indicate the additional use or uses involved, the proposed duration of such use or uses, and the extent to which such use or uses will require that additional or more stringent conditions or restrictions be imposed on otherwise permitted non-military uses of the lands concerned, or portions thereof.

(g) INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—*For the lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for each range for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the withdrawn and reserved lands.*

(2) COMPOSITION.—(A) *The Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range.*

(B) *The Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range—*

(i) *at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State in which the withdrawn and reserved lands are located; and*

(ii) *at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.*

(3) OPERATION.—*The intergovernmental executive committee for a range shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding.*

(4) PROCEDURES.—*The memorandum of understanding for a range shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the withdrawn and reserved lands, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.*

(5) COORDINATOR.—*The Secretary of the military department concerned, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee for a range. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding. The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.*

(6) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—*The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to an intergovernmental executive committee established under this subsection.*

[SEC. 3015. DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[(a) GENERAL TERMINATION DATE.—The withdrawal and reservation of lands by section 3011 shall terminate 25 years after November 6, 2001, except as otherwise provided in this subtitle and except for the withdrawals provided for under subsections (a) and (b) of section 3011 which shall terminate 20 years after November 6, 2001.

[(b) COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR CERTAIN LANDS.—As to the lands withdrawn for military purposes by section 3011, but not withdrawn for military purposes by section 1 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-606), the withdrawal of such lands shall become effective on the date of the enactment of this Act.

[(c) OPENING DATE.—On the date of the termination of the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this subtitle, such lands shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mineral laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order stating the date upon which such lands shall be restored to the public domain and opened.

[SEC. 3016. EXTENSION OF INITIAL WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years before the termination date of the initial withdrawal and reservation of lands under this subtitle, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall notify Congress and the Secretary of the Interior concerning whether the military department will have a continuing military need after such termination date for all or any portion of such lands.

[(b) DUTIES REGARDING CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.—

[(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of the military department concerned determines that there will be a continuing military need for any lands withdrawn by this subtitle, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall—

[(A) consult with the Secretary of the Interior concerning any adjustments to be made to the extent of, or to the allocation of management responsibility for, such lands; and

[(B) file with the Secretary of the Interior, within one year after the notice required by subsection (a), an application for extension of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands.

[(2) APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION.—Notwithstanding any general procedure of the Department of the Interior for processing Federal land withdrawals, an application for extension under paragraph (1) shall be considered complete if the application includes the following:

[(A) The information required by section 3 of the Engle Act (43 U.S.C. 157), except that no information shall be required concerning the use or development of mineral, timber, or grazing resources unless, and to the extent, the Secretary of the military department concerned proposes to use or develop such resources during the period of extension.

[(B) A copy of the most recent report prepared in accordance with the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670 et seq.).

[(c) LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the military department concerned shall ensure that any legislative proposal for the extension of the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this subtitle is submitted to Congress not later than May 1 of the year preceding the year in which the withdrawal and reservation of such lands would otherwise terminate under this subtitle.

[(d) NOTICE OF INTENT REGARDING RELINQUISHMENT.—If during the period of the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this subtitle, the Secretary of the military department concerned decides to relinquish all or any of the lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, such Secretary shall transmit a notice of intent to relinquish such lands to the Secretary of the Interior.]

SEC. 3015. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

(a) *DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.*—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under section 3011 is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall include the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

(b) *PUBLIC REPORTS.*—

(1) *CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.*—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands covered by the plan since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands covered by the plan, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

(2) *COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.*—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands covered by the integrated natural resources management plan.

(3) *PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.*—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands addressed by the report.

(B) *Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the affected military range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.*

(4) *DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.*

SEC. 3016. RELINQUISHMENT.

(a) *NOTICE OF INTENT REGARDING RELINQUISHMENT.—If the Secretary of the military department concerned decides to relinquish all or any of the lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, such Secretary shall transmit a notice of intent to relinquish such lands to the Secretary of the Interior.*

(b) *OPENING DATE.—On the date of relinquishment of the withdrawal and reservation of lands withdrawn and reserved by section 3011, such lands shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mineral laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order stating the date upon which such lands shall be restored to the public domain and opened.*

SEC. 3017. ONGOING DECONTAMINATION.

(a) *PROGRAM.—Throughout the duration of the withdrawal of lands under this subtitle, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall, to the extent funds are available for such purpose, maintain a program of decontamination of such lands consistent with applicable Federal and State law.*

(b) *REPORTS.—*

(1) *REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which the President transmits to Congress the President's proposed budget for any fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of each military department shall transmit to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Resources of the House of Representatives a description of the decontamination efforts undertaken on lands under this subtitle under the jurisdiction of such Secretary during the previous fiscal year and the decontamination activities proposed to be undertaken on such lands during the next fiscal year.*

(2) *REPORT ELEMENTS.—Each report shall specify the following:*

(A) *Amounts appropriated and obligated or expended for decontamination of such lands.*

(B) *The methods used to decontaminate such lands.*

(C) *The amounts and types of decontaminants removed from such lands.*

(D) The estimated types and amounts of residual contamination on such lands.

(E) An estimate of the costs for full decontamination of such lands and the estimate of the time to complete such decontamination.

(c) DECONTAMINATION BEFORE RELINQUISHMENT.—

(1) DUTIES BEFORE NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELINQUISH.—Before transmitting a notice of intent to relinquish lands under **[section 3016(d)] section 3016**, the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the military department concerned, shall prepare a written determination concerning whether and to what extent such lands are contaminated with explosive, toxic, or other hazardous materials.

(2) DETERMINATION ACCOMPANIES NOTICE.—A copy of any determination prepared with respect to lands under paragraph (1) shall be transmitted together with the notice of intent to relinquish such lands under **[section 3016(d)] section 3016**.

(3) PUBLICATION OF NOTICE AND DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register a copy of any notice of intent to relinquish and determination concerning the contaminated state of the lands that is transmitted under this subsection.

(d) ALTERNATIVES TO DECONTAMINATION BEFORE RELINQUISHMENT.—If the Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Secretary of the military department concerned, determines that decontamination of any land which is the subject of a notice of intent to relinquish under **[section 3016(d)] section 3016** is not practicable or economically feasible, or that such land cannot be decontaminated sufficiently to be opened to the operation of some or all of the public land laws, or if Congress does not appropriate sufficient funds for the decontamination of such land, the Secretary of the Interior shall not be required to accept such land for relinquishment.

(e) STATUS OF CONTAMINATED LANDS.—**[If because of their contaminated state the Secretary of the Interior declines to accept jurisdiction over lands withdrawn by this subtitle which have been proposed for relinquishment, or if at the expiration of the withdrawal of such lands by this subtitle the Secretary of the Interior determines that]** *If the Secretary of the Interior declines to accept jurisdiction over lands withdrawn by this subtitle which have been proposed for relinquishment because the Secretary determines that some of such lands are contaminated to an extent which prevents opening such lands to operation of the public land laws—*

(1) the Secretary of the military department concerned shall take appropriate steps to warn the public of the contaminated state of such lands and any risks associated with entry onto such lands;

(2) after **[the expiration of the withdrawal of such lands under this subtitle]** *such determination*, the Secretary of the military department concerned shall undertake no activities on such lands except in connection with decontamination of such lands; and

(3) the Secretary of the military department concerned shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior and Congress a report

on the status of such lands and all actions taken under this subsection.

(f) REVOCATION AUTHORITY.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior, upon deciding that it is in the public interest to accept jurisdiction over lands proposed for relinquishment under [section 3016(d)] *section 3016*, may revoke the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this subtitle as it applies to such lands.

(2) ORDER.—Should a decision be made to revoke the withdrawal and reservation of lands under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order which shall—

(A) terminate the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this subtitle;

(B) constitute official acceptance of full jurisdiction over such lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(C) state the date on which such lands will be opened to the operation of some or all of the public lands laws, including the mining laws.

* * * * *

Subtitle B—Withdrawals in Arizona

SEC. 3031. BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE, ARIZONA.

(a) WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—

(1) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights and except as otherwise provided in this title, all lands and interests in lands within the boundaries established at the Barry M. Goldwater Range, referred to in paragraph (3), are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, and jurisdiction over such lands and interests in lands is hereby transferred to the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force.

(2) RESERVATION.—The lands withdrawn by paragraph (1) for the Barry M. Goldwater Range—East are reserved for use by the Secretary of the Air Force, and for the Barry M. Goldwater Range—West are reserved for use by the Secretary of the Navy, for—

(A) an armament and high-hazard testing area;

(B) training for aerial gunnery, rocketry, electronic warfare, and tactical maneuvering and air support;

(C) equipment and tactics development and testing; and

(D) other defense-related purposes consistent with the purposes specified in this paragraph.

(3) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The public lands and interests in lands withdrawn and reserved by this subsection comprise approximately 1,650,200 acres of land in Maricopa, Pima, and Yuma Counties, Arizona, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Barry M. Goldwater Range Land Withdrawal”, dated June 17, 1999, and filed in accordance with section 3033.

(4) TERMINATION OF CURRENT WITHDRAWAL.—Except as otherwise provided in section 3032, as to the lands withdrawn by

section 1(c) of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-606), but not withdrawn for military purposes by this section, the withdrawal of such lands under that Act shall not terminate until after November 6, 2001, or until the relinquishment by the Secretary of the Air Force of such lands is accepted by the Secretary of the Interior. The withdrawal under that Act with respect to the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge shall terminate on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(5) CHANGES IN USE.—The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior before using the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section for any purpose other than the purposes specified in paragraph (2).

(6) INDIAN TRIBES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as altering any rights reserved for Indians by treaty or Federal law.

(7) STUDY.—(A) The Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall conduct a study of the lands referred to in subparagraph (C) that have important aboriginal, cultural, environmental, or archaeological significance in order to determine the appropriate method to manage and protect such lands following relinquishment of such lands by the Secretary of the Air Force. The study shall consider whether such lands can be better managed by the Federal Government or through conveyance of such lands to another appropriate entity.

(B) In carrying out the study required by subparagraph (A), the Secretary of the Interior shall work with the affected tribes and other Federal and State agencies having experience and knowledge of the matters covered by the study, including all applicable laws relating to the management of the resources referred to in subparagraph (A) on the lands referred to in that subparagraph.

(C) The lands referred to in subparagraph (A) are four tracts of land currently included within the military land withdrawal for the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range in the State of Arizona, but that have been identified by the Air Force as unnecessary for military purposes in the Air Force's Draft Legislative Environmental Impact Statement, dated September 1998, and are depicted in figure 2-1 at page 2-7 of such statement, as amended by figure A at page 177 of volume 2 of the Air Force's Final Legislative Environmental Impact Statement, dated March 1999, as the following:

(i) Area 1 (the Sand Tank Mountains) containing approximately 83,554 acres.

(ii) Area 9 (the Sentinel Plain) containing approximately 24,756 acres.

(iii) Area 13 (lands surrounding the Ajo Airport) containing approximately 2,779 acres.

(iv) Interstate 8 Vicinity Non-renewal Area containing approximately 1,090 acres.

(D) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit

to Congress a report containing the results of the study required by subparagraph (A).

(b) MANAGEMENT OF WITHDRAWN AND RESERVED LANDS.—

(1) GENERAL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.—(A) During the period of the withdrawal and reservation of lands by this section, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall manage the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section for the military purposes specified in this section, and in accordance with the integrated natural resource management plan prepared pursuant to paragraph (3).

(B) Responsibility for the natural and cultural resources management of the lands referred to in subparagraph (A), and the enforcement of Federal laws related thereto, shall not transfer under that subparagraph before the earlier of—

(i) the date on which the integrated natural resources management plan required by paragraph (3) is completed; or

(ii) November 6, 2001.

(C) The Secretary of the Interior may, if appropriate, transfer responsibility for the natural and cultural resources of the lands referred to in subparagraph (A) to the Department of the Interior pursuant to paragraph (7).

(2) ACCESS RESTRICTIONS.—(A) If the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force determines that military operations, public safety, or national security require the closure to the public of any road, trail, or other portion of lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force may take such action as the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force determines necessary or desirable to effect and maintain such closure.

(B) Any closure under this paragraph shall be limited to the minimum areas and periods that the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force determines are required for the purposes specified in subparagraph (A).

(C) Before any nonemergency closure under this paragraph not specified in the integrated natural resources management plan required by paragraph (3), the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior and, where such closure may affect tribal lands, treaty rights, or sacred sites, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force shall consult, at the earliest practicable time, with affected Indian tribes.

(D) Immediately before and during any closure under this paragraph, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force shall post appropriate warning notices and take other steps, as necessary, to notify the public of such closure.

(3) INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare an

integrated natural resources management plan for the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section.

(B) The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior may jointly prepare a separate plan pursuant to this paragraph.

(C) Any disagreement concerning the contents of a plan under this paragraph, or any subsequent amendments to the plan, shall be resolved by the Secretary of the Navy for the West Range and the Secretary of the Air Force for the East Range, after consultation with the Secretary of the Interior through the State Director, Bureau of Land Management and, as appropriate, the Regional Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service. This authority may be delegated to the installation commanders.

(D) Any plan under this paragraph shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) and the requirements of this section.

(E) A plan under this paragraph for lands withdrawn and reserved by this section shall—

(i) include provisions for proper management and protection of the natural and cultural resources of such lands, and for sustainable use by the public of such resources to the extent consistent with the military purposes for which such lands are withdrawn and reserved by this section;

(ii) be developed in consultation with affected Indian tribes and include provisions that address how the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force intend to—

(I) meet the trust responsibilities of the United States with respect to Indian tribes, lands, and rights reserved by treaty or Federal law affected by the withdrawal and reservation;

(II) allow access to and ceremonial use of sacred sites to the extent consistent with the military purposes for which such lands are withdrawn and reserved; and

(III) provide for timely consultation with affected Indian tribes;

(iii) provide that any hunting, fishing, and trapping on such lands be conducted in accordance with the provisions of section 2671 of title 10, United States Code;

(iv) provide for continued livestock grazing and agricultural out-leasing where it currently exists in accordance with the provisions of section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, and at the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be;

(v) identify current test and target impact areas and related buffer or safety zones;

(vi) provide that the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force—

(I) shall take necessary actions to prevent, suppress, and manage brush and range fires occur-

ring within the boundaries of the Barry M. Goldwater Range, as well as brush and range fires occurring outside the boundaries of the Barry M. Goldwater Range resulting from military activities; and

(II) may obligate funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Secretaries to enter into memoranda of understanding, and cooperative agreements that shall reimburse the Secretary of the Interior for costs incurred under this clause;

(vii) provide that all gates, fences, and barriers constructed on such lands after the date of the enactment of this Act be designed and erected to allow wildlife access, to the extent practicable and consistent with military security, safety, and sound wildlife management use;

(viii) incorporate any existing management plans pertaining to such lands, to the extent that the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior, upon reviewing such plans, mutually determine that incorporation of such plans into a plan under this paragraph is appropriate;

(ix) include procedures to ensure that the periodic reviews of the plan under the Sikes Act are conducted jointly by the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior, and that affected States and Indian tribes, and the public, are provided a meaningful opportunity to comment upon any substantial revisions to the plan that may be proposed; and

(x) provide procedures to amend the plan as necessary.

(4) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—(A) The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force may enter into memoranda of understanding or cooperative agreements with the Secretary of the Interior or other appropriate Federal, State, or local agencies, Indian tribes, or other public or private organizations or institutions for purposes of implementing an integrated natural resources management plan prepared under paragraph (3).

(B) Any memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement under subparagraph (A) affecting integrated natural resources management may be combined, where appropriate, with any other memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement entered into under this subtitle, and shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code.

(5) PUBLIC REPORTS.—(A)(i) Concurrent with each review of the integrated natural resources management plan under paragraph (3) pursuant to subparagraph (E)(ix) of that paragraph, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section from the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the

environmental impact statement prepared to support this section.

(ii) Any report under clause (i) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands referred to in that clause, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

(iii) Any report under this subparagraph may be combined with any report required by the Sikes Act.

(iv) Any disagreements concerning the contents of a report under this subparagraph shall be resolved by the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force. This authority may be delegated to the installation commanders.

(B)(i) Before the finalization of any report under this paragraph, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands addressed by the report.

(ii) Each public meeting under clause (i) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, publication of an announcement in the Federal Register, and any other means considered necessary.

(C) The final version of any report under this paragraph shall be made available to the public and submitted to appropriate committees of Congress.

(6) INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—(A) Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior shall, by memorandum of understanding, establish an intergovernmental executive committee comprised of selected representatives from interested Federal agencies, as well as at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from State government and at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local and tribal government as may be designated at the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior.

(B) The intergovernmental executive committee shall be established solely for the purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section.

(C) The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subparagraph (A), which shall specify the Federal agencies and elected officers or representatives of State, local, and tribal governments to be invited to participate.

(D) The memorandum of understanding under subparagraph (A) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchange-

ing views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands concerned, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings.

(E) The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subparagraph (A). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

(7) TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY.—(A)(i) If the Secretary of the Interior determines that the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force has failed to manage lands withdrawn and reserved by this section for military purposes in accordance with the integrated natural resource management plan for such lands under paragraph (3), and that failure to do so is resulting in significant and verifiable degradation of the natural or cultural resources of such lands, the Secretary of the Interior shall give the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, written notice of such determination, a description of the deficiencies in management practices by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, and an explanation of the methodology employed in reaching the determination.

(ii) Not later than 60 days after the date a notification under clause (i) is received, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, shall submit a response to the Secretary of the Interior, which response may include a plan of action for addressing any deficiencies identified in the notice in the conduct of management responsibility and for preventing further significant degradation of the natural or cultural resources of the lands concerned.

(iii) If, not earlier than three months after the date a notification under clause (i) is received, the Secretary of the Interior determines that deficiencies identified in the notice are not being corrected, and that significant and verifiable degradation of the natural or cultural resources of the lands concerned is continuing, the Secretary of the Interior may, not earlier than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary of the Interior submits to the committees referred to in section 3032(d)(3) notice and a report on the determination, transfer management responsibility for the natural and cultural resources of such lands from the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, to the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with a schedule for such transfer established by the Secretary of the Interior.

(B) After a transfer of management responsibility pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Secretary of the Interior may transfer management responsibility back to the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force if the Secretary of the Interior determines that adequate procedures and plans have been established to ensure that the lands concerned will be adequately

managed by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, in accordance with the integrated natural resources management plan for such lands under paragraph (3).

(C) For any period during which the Secretary of the Interior has management responsibility under this paragraph for lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, the integrated natural resources management plan for such lands under paragraph (3), including any amendments to the plan, shall remain in effect, pending the development of a management plan prepared pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), in cooperation with the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force.

(D) Assumption by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to this paragraph of management responsibility for the natural and cultural resources of lands shall not affect the use of such lands for military purposes, and the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, shall continue to direct military activities on such lands.

(8) PAYMENT FOR SERVICES.—The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall assume all costs for implementation of an integrated natural resources management plan under paragraph (3), including payment to the Secretary of the Interior under section 1535 of title 31, United States Code, for any costs the Secretary of the Interior incurs in providing goods or services to assist the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, in the implementation of the integrated natural resources management plan.

(9) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) The term “Indian tribe” means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479 et seq.).

(B) The term “sacred site” means any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on Federal land that is identified by an Indian tribe, or its designee, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion, but only to the extent that the tribe or its designee, has informed the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force of the existence of such site. Neither the Secretary of the Department of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, nor the Secretary of the Interior shall be required under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, to make available to the public any information concerning the location, character, or use of any traditional Indian religious or sacred site located on lands withdrawn and reserved by this subsection.

(c) ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) DURING WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—Throughout the duration of the withdrawal and reservation of lands by this section[, including the duration of any renewal or extension], and with respect both to the activities undertaken by the Sec-

retary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force on such lands and to all activities occurring on such lands during such times as the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force may exercise management jurisdiction over such lands, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall—

(A) be responsible for and pay all costs related to the compliance of the Department of the Navy or the Department of the Air Force, as the case may be, with applicable Federal, State, and local environmental laws, regulations, rules, and standards;

(B) carry out and maintain in accordance with the requirements of all regulations, rules, and standards issued by the Department of Defense pursuant to chapter 160 of title 10, United States Code, relating to the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, the joint board on ammunition storage established under section 172 of that title, and Executive Order No. 12580, a program to address—

(i) any release or substantial threat of release attributable to military munitions (including unexploded ordnance) and other constituents; and

(ii) any release or substantial threat of release, regardless of its source, occurring on or emanating from such lands during the period of withdrawal and reservation; and

(C) provide to the Secretary of the Interior a copy of any report prepared by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, pursuant to any Federal, State, or local environmental law, regulation, rule, or standard.

(2) BEFORE RELINQUISHMENT [OR TERMINATION].—

(A) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—(i) Upon notifying the Secretary of the Interior that the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force intends, pursuant to subsection (f), to relinquish jurisdiction over lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force shall provide to the Secretary of the Interior an environmental baseline survey, military range assessment, or other environmental review characterizing the environmental condition of the land, air, and water resources affected by the activities undertaken by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, on and over such lands.

(ii) If hazardous substances were stored for one year or more, known to have been released or disposed of, or if a substantial threat of release exists, on lands referred to in clause (i), any environmental review under that clause shall include notice of the type and quantity of such hazardous substances and notice of the time during which such storage, release, substantial threat of release, or disposal took place.

(B) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—(i) In addition to any other requirements under this section, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Interior may enter into a memorandum of

understanding to implement the environmental remediation requirements of this section.

(ii) The memorandum of understanding under clause (i) may include appropriate, technically feasible, and mutually acceptable cleanup standards that the concerned Secretaries believe environmental remediation activities shall achieve and a schedule for completing cleanup activities to meet such standards.

(iii) Cleanup standards under clause (ii) shall be consistent with any legally applicable or relevant and appropriate standard, requirement, criteria, or limitation otherwise required by law.

(C) ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION.—With respect to lands to be relinquished pursuant to subsection (f), the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force shall take all actions necessary to address any release or substantial threat of release, regardless of its source, occurring on or emanating from such lands during the period of withdrawal and reservation under this section. [To the extent practicable, all such response actions shall be taken before the termination of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this section.]

(D) CONSULTATION.—If the Secretary of the Interior accepts the relinquishment of jurisdiction over any lands withdrawn and reserved by this section before all necessary response actions under this section have been completed, the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, before undertaking or authorizing any activities on such lands that may affect existing releases, interfere with the installation, maintenance, or operation of any response action, or expose any person to a safety or health risk associated with either the releases or the response action being undertaken.

(3) RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY.—(A) The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force, and not the Secretary of the Interior, shall be responsible for and conduct the necessary remediation of all releases or substantial threats of release, whether located on or emanating from lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, and whether known at the time of relinquishment [or termination] or subsequently discovered, attributable to management of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this section by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, or the use, management, storage, release, treatment, or disposal of hazardous materials, hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, pollutants, contaminants, petroleum products and their derivatives, military munitions, or other constituents on such lands by the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be.

(B) Responsibility under subparagraph (A) shall include liability for any costs or claims asserted against the United States for activities referred to in that subparagraph.

(C) Nothing in this paragraph is intended to prevent the United States from bringing a cost recovery, contribution, or

other action against third persons or parties the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force reasonably believes may have contributed to a release or substantial threat of release.

(4) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—If the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force delegates responsibility or jurisdiction to another Federal agency over, or permits another Federal agency to operate on, lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, the agency shall assume all responsibility and liability described in paragraph (3) for their activities with respect to such lands.

(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

[(A)(i) The term “military munitions”—

[(I) means all ammunition products and components produced or used by or for the Department of Defense or the Armed Services for national defense and security, including military munitions under the control of the Department of Defense, the Coast Guard, the Department of Energy, and National Guard personnel;

[(II) includes confined gaseous, liquid, and solid propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical and riot control agents, smokes, and incendiaries used by and for Department of Defense components, including bulk explosives and chemical warfare agents, chemical munitions, rockets, guided and ballistic missiles, bombs, warheads, mortar rounds, artillery ammunition, small arms ammunition, grenades, mines, torpedoes, depth charges, cluster munitions and dispensers, demolition charges, and devices and components thereof; and

[(III) includes nonnuclear components of nuclear devices managed under the nuclear weapons program of the Department of Energy after all required sanitization operations under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) have been completed.

[(ii) The term does not include wholly inert items, improvised explosive devices, and nuclear weapons, nuclear devices, and nuclear components thereof.

[(B) The term “unexploded ordnance” means military munitions that have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action, and have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard or potential hazard, to operations, installation, personnel, or material, and remain unexploded either by malfunction, design, or other cause.]

(A) *The term “military munitions” has the meaning given that term in section 101(e)(4) of title 10, United States Code.*

(B) *The term “unexploded ordnance” has the meaning given that term in section 101(e)(5) of such title.*

(C) The term “other constituents” means potentially hazardous compounds, mixtures, or elements that are released from military munitions or unexploded ordnance or result from other activities on military ranges.

(d) [DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATIONS.—

[(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless extended pursuant to subsection (e), the withdrawal and reservation of lands by this section shall terminate 25 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, except as otherwise provided in subsection (f)(4).

[(2) OPENING.—On the date of the termination] *EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.*—*On the date of relinquishment* of the withdrawal and reservation of lands by this section, such lands shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order stating the date upon which such lands shall be restored to the public domain and opened.

[(e) EXTENSION OF INITIAL WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—

[(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years before the termination date of the initial withdrawal and reservation of lands by this section, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall notify Congress and the Secretary of the Interior concerning whether the Navy or Air Force, as the case may be, will have a continuing military need, after such termination date, for all or any portion of such lands.

[(2) DUTIES REGARDING CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.—(A) If the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force determines that there will be a continuing military need for any lands withdrawn by this section, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, shall—

[(i) consult with the Secretary of the Interior concerning any adjustments to be made to the extent of, or to the allocation of management responsibility for, such lands; and

[(ii) file with the Secretary of the Interior, not later than one year after the notice required by paragraph (1), an application for extension of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands.

[(B) The general procedures of the Department of the Interior for processing Federal Land withdrawals notwithstanding, any application for extension under this paragraph shall be considered complete if it includes the following:

[(i) The information required by section 3 of the Engle Act (43 U.S.C. 157), except that no information shall be required concerning the use or development of mineral, timber, or grazing resources unless, and to the extent, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force proposes to use or develop such resources during the period of extension.

[(ii) A copy of the most recent public report prepared in accordance with subsection (b)(5).

[(3) LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS.—The Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force shall ensure that any legislative proposal for the extension of the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this section is submitted to Congress not later than May 1 of the year preceding the year in which the existing withdrawal and reservation would otherwise terminate under this section.]

(e) *PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED.*—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under this section is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall include the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

(f) **【TERMINATION AND】 RELINQUISHMENT.**—

(1) **NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELINQUISH.**—At any time during the withdrawal and reservation of lands under this section, **【but not later than three years before the termination of the withdrawal and reservation,】** if the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force determines that there is no continuing military need for lands withdrawn and reserved by this section, or any portion of such lands, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, shall notify the Secretary of the Interior of an intent to relinquish jurisdiction over such lands, which notice shall specify the proposed date of relinquishment.

(2) **AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT RELINQUISHMENT.**—The Secretary of the Interior may accept jurisdiction over any lands covered by a notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction under this subsection if the Secretary of the Interior determines that the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force has taken the environmental response actions required under this section.

(3) **ORDER.**—If the Secretary of the Interior accepts jurisdiction over lands covered by a notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction under this subsection **【before the termination date of the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this section】**, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order that shall—

(A) terminate the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this section;

(B) constitute official acceptance of administrative jurisdiction over such lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(C) state the date upon which such lands shall be opened to the operation of the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, if appropriate.

(4) **JURISDICTION PENDING RELINQUISHMENT.**—(A) **【Notwithstanding the termination date, unless】** *Unless* and until the Secretary of the Interior accepts jurisdiction of land proposed for relinquishment under this subsection, or until the Administrator of General Services accepts jurisdiction of such lands under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 251 et seq.), such lands shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, for the limited purposes of—

(i) environmental response actions under this section; and

(ii) continued land management responsibilities pursuant to the integrated natural resources management plan for such lands under subsection (b)(3).

(B) For any land that the Secretary of the Interior determines to be suitable for return to the public domain, but does not agree with the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force that all necessary environmental response actions under this section have been taken, the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Air Force, as the case may be, and the Secretary of the Interior shall resolve the dispute in accordance with any applicable dispute resolution process.

(C) For any land that the Secretary of the Interior determines to be unsuitable for return to the public domain, the Secretary of the Interior shall immediately notify the Administrator of General Services.

(5) SCOPE OF FUNCTIONS.—All functions described under this subsection, including transfers, relinquishes, extensions, and other determinations, may be made on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

(g) DELEGATIONS OF FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Secretary of the Interior under this section may be delegated, except that the following determinations and decisions may be approved and signed only by the Secretary of the Interior, the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, or the Director, Bureau of Land Management:

(1) Decisions to accept transfer, relinquishment, or jurisdiction of lands under this section and to open such lands to operation of the public land laws.

(2) Decisions to transfer management responsibility from or to a military department pursuant to subsection (b)(7).

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FORT IRWIN MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWAL ACT OF 2001

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DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS

* * * * *

TITLE XXIX—FORT IRWIN MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWAL

* * * * *

SEC. 2910. [DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—] EFFECT OF RELINQUISHMENT ON OPERATION OF GENERAL LAND LAWS.

[(a) TERMINATION DATE.—Unless extended pursuant to section 2911, unless relinquishment is postponed by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to section 2912(b), and except as provided in section 2912(d), the withdrawal and reservation made by this title

shall terminate 25 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

[(b) LIMITATION ON SUBSEQUENT AVAILABILITY FOR APPROPRIATION.—At the time of termination] *On the date of relinquishment* of the withdrawal and reservation made by this title, the previously withdrawn lands shall not be open to any forms of appropriation under the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, until the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order specifying the date upon which such lands shall be restored to the public domain and opened.

[SEC. 2911. EXTENSION OF INITIAL WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[(a) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than three years before the termination date specified in section 2910(a), the Secretary of the Army shall notify Congress and the Secretary of the Interior whether the Army will have a continuing military need, beyond the termination date, for all or any portion of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

[(b) PROCESS FOR EXTENSION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—

[(1) CONSULTATION AND APPLICATION.—If the Secretary of the Army determines that there will be a continuing military need after the termination date for any of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, the Secretary of the Army shall—

[(A) consult with the Secretary of the Interior concerning any adjustments to be made to the extent of, or to the allocation of management responsibility for, such needed lands; and

[(B) file with the Secretary of the Interior, within one year after the notice required by subsection (a), an application for extension of the withdrawal and reservation of such needed lands.

[(2) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any general procedure of the Department of the Interior for processing Federal land withdrawals, an application for extension of the land withdrawal and reservation made by this title shall be considered to be complete if the application includes the information required by section 3 of Public Law 85-337 (commonly known as the Engle Act; 43 U.S.C. 157), except that no information shall be required concerning the use or development of mineral, timber, or grazing resources unless, and only to the extent, the Secretary of the Army proposes to use or develop such resources during the period of extension.

[(c) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED EXTENSION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army may submit to Congress a legislative proposal for the extension of the withdrawal and reservation made by this title. The legislative proposal shall be accompanied by an appropriate analysis of environmental impacts associated with the proposal, as required by section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).]

SEC. 2911. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

(a) *PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING NEED.*—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under this title is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary of the Army shall include in the plan the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

(b) *PUBLIC REPORTS.*—

(1) *CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.*—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

(2) *COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.*—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

(3) *PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.*—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.

(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of National Training Range, and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

(4) *DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.*—The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2912. [TERMINATION AND] RELINQUISHMENT.

(a) *NOTICE OF TERMINATION.*—[During the first 22 years of the withdrawal and reservation made by this title, if] *If* the Secretary of the Army determines that there is no continuing military need

for the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, or any portion of such lands, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a notice of intent to relinquish jurisdiction over such lands. The notice shall specify the proposed date of relinquishment.

(b) ACCEPTANCE OF JURISDICTION.—The Secretary of the Interior may accept jurisdiction over any lands covered by a notice under subsection (a) if the Secretary of the Interior determines that the Secretary of the Army has taken or will take all environmental response and restoration activities required under applicable laws and regulations with respect to such lands.

(c) NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE.—If the Secretary of the Interior decides to accept jurisdiction over lands covered by a notice under subsection (a) [before the termination date of the withdrawal and reservation], the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register an appropriate order that shall—

(1) terminate the withdrawal and reservation of such lands under this title;

(2) constitute official acceptance of administrative jurisdiction over the lands by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(3) state the date upon which such lands shall be opened to the operation of the general land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral and geothermal leasing laws, if appropriate.

(d) RETAINED ARMY JURISDICTION.—[Notwithstanding the termination date specified in section 2910, unless] *Unless* and until the Secretary of the Interior accepts jurisdiction of land proposed for relinquishment pursuant to this section, such land shall remain withdrawn and reserved for the Secretary of the Army for the limited purposes of environmental response and restoration actions under section 2906 and continued land management responsibilities pursuant to the integrated natural resources management plan required under section 2904, until such environmental response and restoration activities on those lands are completed.

(e) SEVERABILITY OF FUNCTIONS.—All functions described under this section, including transfers, relinquishments, extensions, and other determinations, may be made on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

* * * * *

SEC. 2914. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—*The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title.*

(b) COMPOSITION.—

(1) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—*The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee.*

(2) REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—*The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee—*

(A) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State of California; and

(B) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

(c) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).

(d) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the lands withdrawn and reserved by this title, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

(e) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee. The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the intergovernmental executive committee.

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MILITARY LAND WITHDRAWALS ACT OF 2013

* * * * *

DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS

* * * * *

TITLE XXIX—WITHDRAWAL, RESERVATION, AND TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS TO SUPPORT MILITARY READINESS AND SECURITY

* * * * *

Subtitle A—General Provisions

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[SEC. 2919. LIMITATION ON EXTENSIONS AND RENEWALS.

[The withdrawals and reservations established under this title may not be extended or renewed except by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

[SEC. 2920. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[To the extent practicable, not later than five years before the date of termination of a withdrawal and reservation made by a subtitle of this title, the Secretary concerned shall—

[(1) notify the Secretary of the Interior as to whether the Secretary concerned will have a continuing defense-related need for any of the land withdrawn and reserved by that subtitle after the termination date of the withdrawal and reservation; and

[(2) transmit a copy of the notice submitted under paragraph (1) to—

[(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

[(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.]

SEC. 2919. INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—For the lands withdrawn and reserved by sections 2931, 2941, and 2971, the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall establish, by memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental executive committee for each location for the sole purpose of exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of the natural and cultural resources of the withdrawn and reserved lands.

(b) COMPOSITION.—

(1) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall include representatives from interested Federal agencies as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a).

(2) REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite to serve as members of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a)—

(A) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from the government of the State in which the withdrawn and reserved lands are located; and

(B) at least one elected officer (or other authorized representative) from each local government and Indian tribal government in the vicinity of the withdrawn and reserved lands, as determined by the Secretaries.

(c) OPERATION.—The intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a) shall operate in accordance with the terms set forth in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a).

(d) PROCEDURES.—The memorandum of understanding under subsection (a) shall establish procedures for creating a forum for exchanging views, information, and advice relating to the management of natural and cultural resources on the withdrawn and re-

served lands, procedures for rotating the chair of the intergovernmental executive committee, and procedures for scheduling regular meetings, which shall occur no less frequently than twice a year.

(e) *COORDINATOR.*—The Secretary concerned, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint an individual to serve as coordinator of the intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a). The duties of the coordinator shall be included in the memorandum of understanding under subsection (a). The coordinator shall not be a member of the committee.

(f) *FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.*—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to an intergovernmental executive committee for a location covered by subsection (a).

SEC. 2920. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING MILITARY NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION AND PUBLIC REPORTS.

(a) *PERIODIC DETERMINATION OF CONTINUING NEED.*—Whenever an integrated natural resources management plan covering the lands withdrawn and reserved under a subtitle of this title is reviewed as to operation and effect as required by section 101(b)(3) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a(b)(2)), but not less often than every five years, the Secretary concerned shall include in the plan the Secretary's determination regarding whether there will be a continuing military need for any or all of the withdrawn and reserved lands for the following five years.

(b) *PUBLIC REPORTS.*—

(1) *CHANGES IN LAND CONDITIONS.*—(A) Concurrent with each review of an integrated natural resources management plan described in subsection (a), the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall jointly prepare and issue a report describing any changes in the condition of the lands covered by the plan since the later of the date of any previous report under this paragraph or the date of the environmental analysis prepared to support the actions that changed the condition of the lands.

(B) A report under subparagraph (A) shall include a summary of current military use of the lands covered by the plan, any changes in military use of the lands since the previous report, and efforts related to the management of natural and cultural resources and environmental remediation of the lands during the previous five years.

(2) *COMBINATION WITH OTHER REPORTS.*—A report under this subsection may be combined with, or incorporate by reference, any contemporary report required by any other provision of law regarding the lands addressed by the report.

(3) *PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT.*—(A) Before the finalization of a report under this subsection, the Secretary concerned and the Secretary of the Interior shall invite interested members of the public to review and comment on the report, and shall hold at least one public meeting concerning the report in a location or locations reasonably accessible to persons who may be affected by management of the lands addressed by the report.

(B) Each public meeting under subparagraph (A) shall be announced not less than 15 days before the date of the meeting by advertisements in local newspapers of general circulation, notices on the internet, including the website of the affected mili-

tary range (if one exists), and any other means considered necessary or desirable by the Secretaries.

(4) *DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT.*—*The final version of a report under this subsection shall be made available to the public and submitted to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.*

SEC. 2921. LIMITATION ON SUBSEQUENT AVAILABILITY OF LAND FOR APPROPRIATION.

[On the termination of] *On the relinquishment of a withdrawal and reservation made by this title, the previously withdrawn land shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing laws, unless the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register an appropriate order specifying the date on which the land shall be—*

- (1) restored to the public domain; and
- (2) opened for appropriation under the public land laws.

SEC. 2922. RELINQUISHMENT.

(a) **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO RELINQUISH.**—If, during the period of withdrawal and reservation made by a subtitle of this title, the Secretary concerned decides to relinquish any or all of the land withdrawn and reserved by that subtitle, the Secretary concerned shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior notice of the intention to relinquish the land.

(b) **DETERMINATION OF CONTAMINATION.**—The Secretary concerned shall include in the notice submitted under subsection (a) a written determination concerning whether and to what extent the land that is to be relinquished is contaminated with explosive materials or toxic or hazardous substances.

(c) **PUBLIC NOTICE.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register the notice of intention to relinquish the land under this section, including the determination concerning the contaminated state of the land.

(d) **DECONTAMINATION OF LAND TO BE RELINQUISHED.**—

(1) **DECONTAMINATION REQUIRED.**—The Secretary concerned shall decontaminate land subject to a notice of intention under subsection (a) to the extent that funds are appropriated for that purpose, if—

(A) the land subject to the notice of intention is contaminated, as determined by the Secretary concerned; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary concerned, determines that—

(i) decontamination is practicable and economically feasible, after taking into consideration the potential future use and value of the contaminated land; and

(ii) on decontamination of the land, the land could be opened to operation of some or all of the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing laws.

(2) **ALTERNATIVES TO RELINQUISHMENT.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall not be required to accept the land proposed for relinquishment under subsection (a), if—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Secretary concerned, determines that—

(i) decontamination of the land is not practicable or economically feasible; or

(ii) the land cannot be decontaminated sufficiently to be opened to operation of some or all of the public land laws; or

(B) sufficient funds are not appropriated for the decontamination of the land.

(3) STATUS OF CONTAMINATED LAND **【ON TERMINATION】** *UPON RELINQUISHMENT*.—If, because of the contaminated state of the land, the Secretary of the Interior declines to accept land withdrawn and reserved by this title that has been proposed for relinquishment, **【or if at the expiration of the withdrawal and reservation,】** the Secretary of the Interior determines that a portion of the land withdrawn and reserved is contaminated to an extent that prevents opening the contaminated land to operation of the public land laws—

(A) the Secretary concerned shall take appropriate steps to warn the public of—

(i) the contaminated state of the land; and

(ii) any risks associated with entry onto the land;

(B) after the expiration of the withdrawal and reservation, the Secretary concerned shall undertake no activities on the contaminated land, except for activities relating to the decontamination of the land; and

(C) the Secretary concerned shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior and Congress a report describing—

(i) the status of the land; and

(ii) any actions taken under this paragraph.

(e) REVOCATION AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of the Interior determines that it is in the public interest to accept the land proposed for relinquishment under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior may order the revocation of a withdrawal and reservation made by this title.

(2) REVOCATION ORDER.—To carry out a revocation under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register a revocation order that—

(A) terminates the withdrawal and reservation;

(B) constitutes official acceptance of the land by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(C) specifies the date on which the land will be opened to the operation of some or all of the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing laws.

(f) ACCEPTANCE BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section requires the Secretary of the Interior to accept the land proposed for relinquishment if the Secretary determines that the land is not suitable for return to the public domain.

(2) NOTICE.—If the Secretary makes a determination that the land is not suitable for return to the public domain, the

Secretary shall provide notice of the determination to Congress.

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[SEC. 2936. DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[The withdrawal and reservation of public land made by section 2931 shall terminate on March 31, 2039.]

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**Subtitle C—Marine Corps Air Ground
Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California**

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[SEC. 2946. DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[The withdrawal and reservation of public land made by section 2941 shall terminate on March 31, 2039.]

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**Subtitle F—Naval Air Weapons Station
China Lake, California**

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[SEC. 2979. DURATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.

[The withdrawal and reservation of public land made by section 2971 shall terminate on March 31, 2064.]

* * * * *

ROB BISHOP OF UTAH
CHAIRMAN

CODY STEWART
STAFF DIRECTOR

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

RAUL GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA
RANKING MEMBER

DAVID WATKINS
DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

December 1, 2017

The Honorable Mac Thornberry
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On November 30, 2017, the Committee on Natural Resources ordered favorably reported H.R. 4299, to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes. This bill was additionally referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

I ask that the Committee on Armed Services not insist on its referral of the bill so that H.R. 4299 may be scheduled for consideration by the Majority Leader. This concession in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Armed Services represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include this letter and your response in the bill report and in the Congressional Record.

Thank you for your consideration of my request and for the extraordinary cooperation shown by you and your staff on matters of shared jurisdiction. I look forward to further opportunities to work with you over the remainder of the Congress.

Sincerely,



Rob Bishop
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources

cc: The Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Majority Leader
The Honorable Raul Grijalva, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources
The Honorable Thomas J. Wickham, Jr., Parliamentarian

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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515-6035
 ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

December 4, 2017

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JENNIFER M. STEWART, STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable Rob Bishop
 Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources
 U.S. House of Representatives
 1324 Longworth House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to you concerning H.R. 4299, an Act "To provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes." There are certain provisions in the legislation, which fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services.

Because the Committee on Armed Services has already considered the substance of this legislation as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 2810), and in the interest of permitting your committee to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this important bill, I am willing to waive this committee's further consideration of H.R. 4299. I understand that you will urge the Speaker to name members of this committee to any conference committee, which is named to consider this legislation.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,


 William M. "Mac" Thornberry
 Chairman

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ADDITIONAL VIEWS

H.R. 4299 authorizes the indefinite withdrawal of certain public lands used for military purposes. Throughout the territorial United States, the Department of Defense (DOD) uses millions of acres of public land administered by the Department of Interior (DOI) for training, readiness and other military purposes. Congress typically authorizes temporary withdrawals—usually around 20 to 30 years—that provide the access required by the military and ensure adequate oversight by the DOI and the relevant resource management agency. At the termination of the initial withdrawal period, a renewal or extension requires approval from Congress and an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. While this process can take several years and cost between \$2–5 million per installation, the review provides a critical opportunity for public comment and environmental review. Military use of the land can have significant impacts on wildlife, water and other natural resources, which is why it is important to evaluate resources conditions and identify opportunities to improve ongoing management of public resources. Hitting the pause button every twenty to twenty-five years to ensure adequate stewardship of public lands presents a reasonable opportunity cost.

However, Chairman Bishop views the review and approval process as an unnecessary waste of time and taxpayer resources. For years, he has fought to include language in several versions of the NDAA to permanently transfer jurisdiction of certain public lands from the DOI to DOD.

We appreciate his commitment to military readiness and fiscal accountability, which is why we agreed to pass H.R. 4299 by unanimous consent. The bill is a compromise version of the Chairman's previous efforts to change how DOD accesses public land, but it has not received a hearing in the 115th Congress or the opportunity for DOI to officially comment on the proposal. We encourage the Senate to hold hearings and give this proposal the serious consideration and scrutiny that it deserves.

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
Ranking Member.

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