

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6156

To amend the Wilderness Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to require the management of a wilderness study area, not designated by statute, under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management for multiple use pending congressional consideration of the recommendation for designation of the area as wilderness, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

Mr. MEADOWS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Wilderness Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to require the management of a wilderness study area, not designated by statute, under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management for multiple use pending congressional consideration of the recommendation for designation of the area as wilderness, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Local Wilderness Man-
3 agement Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOR-**
5 **EST AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**
6 **WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS PENDING CON-**
7 **GRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF WILDER-**
8 **NESS RECOMMENDATION.**

9 (a) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—Section 3(b) of the
10 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1132(b)) is amended by strik-
11 ing the fifth sentence and inserting the following new sen-
12 tence: “In the case of an area classified as ‘primitive’ on
13 the effective date of this Act or designated, officially or
14 defacto, by Forest Service action after that date as a ‘wil-
15 derness study area’, the Secretary of Agriculture shall
16 manage the area for multiple use (as defined in section
17 4 of the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 (16
18 U.S.C. 531)), including mining, grazing, conservation,
19 recreation, and other uses, until such time as Congress
20 enacts a law designating the area as wilderness or speci-
21 fying an alternative management approach for the area.”.

22 (b) BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC
23 LANDS.—Section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and
24 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)) is amended
25 by striking the first sentence and inserting the following
26 new sentence: “In the case of an area described in sub-

1 section (a) or designated, officially or defacto, by Bureau
2 of Land Management action after the review period as a
3 ‘wilderness study area’, the Secretary of the Interior shall
4 manage the area according to the authority provided
5 under this Act and other applicable law in a manner to
6 promote multiple use (as defined in section 4 of the Mul-
7 tiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 (16 U.S.C. 531)),
8 including the continuation of existing mining and grazing
9 uses and mineral leasing, until such time as Congress en-
10 acts a law designating the area as wilderness or specifying
11 an alternative management approach for the area.”.

12 **SEC. 3. LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN DESIGNATION OF WIL-**
13 **DERNESS STUDY AREAS.**

14 The Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to Na-
15 tional Forest System land, and the Secretary of the Inte-
16 rior, with respect to public land managed by the Bureau
17 of Land Management, may not designate, officially or
18 defacto, land as a wilderness study area without the writ-
19 ten consent of the governing body of the county in which
20 the land is located.

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