

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7045

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 7, 2020

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study
on lands that could be included in a National Forest
in Hawai'i, 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. HAWAII NATIONAL FOREST STUDY.**

2 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to identify
3 lands within the study area that would—

4 (1) support the conservation of biodiversity not
5 found elsewhere in the National Forest System;

6 (2) support or expand the research mission of
7 the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry;

8 (3) promote shared stewardship with local com-
9 munities, including indigenous populations, the State
10 of Hawai'i, and non-profit groups; and

11 (4) support or expand the international pro-
12 grams of the Forest Service related to conservation
13 of forest ecosystems, sustainable forestry, protection
14 of threatened, endangered, and migratory species,
15 controlling the spread of invasive species, inter-
16 national reforestation, and other forest restoration
17 efforts.

18 (b) STUDY REQUIRED.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
20 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
21 shall conduct a study to identify available land with-
22 in the study area that could be included in a Na-
23 tional Forest in Hawai'i.

24 (2) COORDINATION REQUIREMENT.—The Sec-
25 retary shall conduct the study under paragraph (1)

1 in coordination the Hawai'i Department of Land
2 and Natural Resources.

3 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In car-
4 rying out the study under paragraph (1), the Sec-
5 retary—

6 (A) shall consult with—

7 (i) the Hawai'i Department of Land
8 and Natural Resources; and

9 (ii) the Hawai'i Department of Agri-
10 culture; and

11 (B) may consult with such other govern-
12 mental or nonprofit entities as the Secretary
13 determines appropriate.

14 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
16 submit a report to the Committee on Energy and
17 Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee
18 on Natural Resources of the House of Representa-
19 tives that identifies—

20 (A) available land within the study area
21 that could be included in a National Forest in
22 Hawai'i;

23 (B) the ownership of the land within the
24 study area;

1 (C) any undeveloped land in the study area
2 that may be at risk of development; and

3 (D) any actions that could be carried out
4 to preserve the open and undeveloped character
5 of the land within the study area.

6 (c) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section authorizes the
7 Secretary to take any action that would affect the use of
8 any land not owned by the United States.

9 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) AVAILABLE LAND.—The term “available
11 land” means any land within the study areas that
12 is—

13 (A) Federally owned;

14 (B) managed by a Federal land manage-
15 ment agency in partnership with a non-Federal
16 entity; or

17 (C) land not described in subparagraph
18 (A) or (B) that fulfills the purpose of this sec-
19 tion, as determined by the Secretary.

20 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the
22 Chief of the Forest Service.

23 (3) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
24 means the islands of Hawai’i, Maui, Moloka’i,
25 Lāna’i, O’ahu and Kaua’i in the State of Hawai’i.

Attest: **CHERYL L. JOHNSON,**
Clerk.