

John Thune, Jon A. Husted, Roger F. Wicker, Joni Ernst, Susan M. Collins, Rick Scott of Florida, Mike Crapo, Tim Sheehy, Mike Rounds, James E. Risch, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tommy Tuberville, Marsha Blackburn, Tom Cotton, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman.

MORNING BUSINESS

H.J. RES. 104, H.J. RES. 105, AND H.J. RES. 106

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, last week, the Senate passed three resolutions of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, CRA, H.J. Res. 104, H.J. Res. 105, and H.J. Res. 106. Each resolution responds to actions by the Biden administration to eliminate multiple uses on Federal lands, defying the multiple-use and sustained-yield mandate of existing law. Following their enactment, the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, will have the opportunity to promulgate Resource Management Plans, RMPs, that properly reflect the multiple-use and sustained yield mandate while addressing the concerns raised by Congress and the impacted States. While Congress has long known that it can use the CRA to disapprove of a resource management plan, it has yet to. But the Biden BLM's attacks on American energy producers through these RMPs were so offensive, Congress needed to act.

On November 20, 2024, BLM issued a Record of Decision and Approved RMP Amendment for the Miles City Field Office in Montana. Within the planning area, this amendment prohibited coal leasing on an additional 1.2 million acres and curtailed multiple use by creating an additional 22,000 acres of special recreation management areas. It is these policies that Congress disapproves of through the Congressional Review Act. Governor Greg Gianforte, eastern Montana coal communities, and other impacted parties also opposed the ARMP. Governor Gianforte warned that the plan would result in a loss of \$4.32 billion in future revenue for the State and would have devastating impacts on Montana schools and rural communities. With the enactment of H.J. Res. 104, were BLM to promulgate a new RMP or an amendment to the current RMP, it must not limit coal leasing or limit multiple use in a way similar to the 2024 Miles City Plan. Instead, BLM, should issue a plan that emphasizes access and multiple use in coordination with the State and local governments, as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, FLPMA.

Prior to finalizing the North Dakota Field Office RMP in 2025, the North Dakota legislature and congressional delegation wrote letters to the Biden administration opposing the BLM's draft proposal due to the negative impact it would have on energy production in the State. Ignoring these objections, on January 8, 2025, BLM issued the Record

of Decision and RMP for the North Dakota Field Office. The RMP prohibited coal leasing on 4 million acres within the planning area and restricted energy production by restricting an additional 213,000 acres from future mineral development. Congress disapproves of these policies through the Congressional Review Act. H.J. Res. 105 would nullify the Record of Decision and Approved RMP for the North Dakota Field Office and revert land use plans to the 1988 RMP that North Dakota has relied on for decades. With the enactment of H.J. Res. 105, were BLM to promulgate a new RMP or an amendment to the 1988 RMP, it must not limit coal leasing or limit mineral development in a way similar to the 2025 North Dakota Plan. Instead, BLM should issue a plan that emphasizes access, multiple use, and coordination by the Secretary of the Interior with State and local governments, as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, FLPMA.

H.J. Res. 106 would nullify the Record of the Decision and Approved RMP for Alaska's Central Yukon planning area that was issued on November 12, 2024. H.J. Res. 106 requires BLM to revert to plans that the State has relied on to manage Federal lands since 1991, 1986, and 1981. The 2024 Central Yukon Resource Management Plan, RMP, significantly restricted future energy and mineral development in northern Alaska by designating approximately 3.6 million acres as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, ACECs, and by withdrawing large tracts of land adjacent to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, TAPS, corridor and Dalton Highway from new mineral entry and leasing. These withdrawals and designations directly contradict congressional intent under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, ANILCA, which recognized the need to maintain access for transportation and resource development in this region. Congress disapproves of these policies through the Congressional Review Act. With the enactment of H.J. Res. 106, were BLM to promulgate a new RMP or an amendment to the 1991, 1986, or 1981 plans, it must not withdraw land that is critical for energy development or limit access to natural resources in a way similar to the 2024 Central Yukon RMP. Instead, BLM should issue a plan that emphasizes access, multiple use, and coordination by the Secretary of the Interior with State and local governments, as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, FLPMA.

On September 3, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget issued a Statement of Administration Policy saying, in part, that the RMPs are "out of touch rules that collectively raise costs for Americans by artificially restricting energy and mineral production. These rules further undermine energy security by furthering our dependence on foreign countries and limiting America's preeminence in powering in-

novation across our great economy. These RMPs are rules of general applicability and prospective effect because they directly threaten our nation's energy security, increase American dependence on foreign nations for coal and mineral production, and damage the economy while devastating communities. This administration will continue to unleash America's affordable and reliable energy and always put the American people and their paycheck first." This statement and the administration's intention to promulgate new land management plans that emphasize the multiple-use and sustained yield mandate were key considerations in the Senate's deliberation on these resolutions. I ask unanimous consent that this statement, as well as a letter from Deputy Secretary MacGregor to Majority Leader Thune be printed in the RECORD.

Last week, the Senate took action to clear the way for the Department of the Interior to promulgate new RMPs properly based on the productive use of Federal lands. In my view, this will not require a wholly new environmental analysis, as we are not disapproving the underlying analyses. Rather, we are disapproving the administrative decisions: the final RMPs and RMP amendments issued by BLM. BLM will soon have the opportunity to address this disapproval, and I look forward to working with them and my colleagues as the Trump administration continues to expand access to and use of Federal lands.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, DC, October 6, 2025.

Hon. JOHN THUNE,
Senate Majority Leader,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR THUNE: On September 3, 2025, a majority of the members in the House of Representatives voted affirmatively on three resolutions of disapproval for three resource management plan (RMP) decisions finalized by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under the Biden administration (H.J. Res. 104, Roll no. 224; H.J. Res. 105, Roll no. 226; and H.J. Res. 106, Roll no. 225). By this action, the House of Representatives made a conclusive determination under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) that these RMP decisions approved pursuant to section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. § 1712, are considered "rules" under the CRA, 5 U.S.C. § 804(3).

As we await Senate consideration of the resolutions, I wanted to respond to several questions we have received regarding the Department of the Interior's prospective management of these public lands upon passage and final enactment. For ease, I have included tables of the defining or "key" management features of the RMP decisions currently subject to Congressional disapproval.

Should a joint resolution of disapproval be enacted, the RMP decision and associated Record of Decision (ROD) would be immediately invalidated and the immediately preceding RMP would go into effect. BLM would be prohibited from re-issuing a RMP that is "substantially the same" as the disapproved RMP decision; that is, it would be prohibited

from re-issuing the defining features and decisions contained in those documents which differentiate it from the immediately preceding RMP. As you will see, in all cases the preceding land use plans provide greater access for multiple-use and sustained yield than the Biden-era land use plans.

The management decisions finalized in the Biden-era plans significantly curtail multiple uses on many of the underlying parcels in question. Impacts range from eliminating access to much needed coal, oil and gas, and mineral resources, and in some cases, even reduced access to livestock grazing and off-highway vehicle use, to name a few of the key restrictions.

In reviewing the Congressional Record, it is clear that the House of Representatives has directly responded with specificity to these resource-limiting actions of the Biden-era RMPs. Passage of these corrective CRA resolutions would not limit BLM from continuing to manage public lands in accordance with all applicable laws, including FLPMA, the Mineral Leasing Act, and the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. Instead, it would only limit BLM from promulgating RMP decisions that are “substantially the same as” the Biden-era RMPs which significantly restricted the multiple use and sustained yield of the underlying parcels.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

KATHARINE SINCLAIR MACGREGOR.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2025, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 10, 2025, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 104. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY) announced that on today, October 14, 2025, he had signed the following enrolled joint resolution, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.J. Res. 104. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2053. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Of-

fice of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to nominations, vacancies, designations of service in acting roles, discontinuations of service in acting roles and actions on nominations for positions covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2054. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-151, “Robert F. Kennedy Campus Redevelopment Amendment Act of 2025”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2055. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Assessing Contractor Implementation of Cybersecurity Requirements (DFARS Case 2019-D041)” (RIN0750-AK81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2056. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s annual report for calendar year 2024; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2057. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin; Amendments to the Marketing Order” (Docket No. AMS-SC-22-0052) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2058. A communication from the Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Poultry Improvement Plan and Auxiliary Provisions” ((RIN0579-AE74) (Docket No. APHIS-2022-0056)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2059. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Administration, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to nominations, vacancies, designations of service in acting roles, discontinuations of service in acting roles and actions on nominations for positions covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2060. A communication from the Chief for Regulatory Development, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Restoring Integrity to the Issuance of Non-Domiciled Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL)” (RIN2126-AC98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2061. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, four (4) reports relative to nominations, vacancies, designations of service in acting roles, discontinuations of service in acting roles

and actions on nominations for positions covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2062. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to material violations or suspected material violations of regulations relating to Treasury auctions and other Treasury securities offerings for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2063. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits” (29 CFR Part 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2064. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 Report to Congress on the Administration of the Indian Health Service Tribal Self-Governance Program”; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 320. A bill to authorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-74).

S. 1442. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow for eligibility for projects for the installation of human trafficking awareness signs at rest stops, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-75).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 550. A bill to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-76).

S. 621. A bill to accept the request to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota at the request of that Community, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-77).

S. 622. A bill to amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-78).

S. 748. A bill to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-79).

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 190. A bill to enhance the operations of the North Pacific Research Board (Rept. No. 119-80).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first