

H. R. 1625

One Hundred Fifteenth Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday,
the third day of January, two thousand and eighteen*

An Act

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018".

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TITLE II—FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term “National Forest System” has the meaning given the term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

(2) PUBLIC LAND.—The term “public land” has the meaning given the term “public lands” in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702).

(3) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Secretary concerned” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System land; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to public land.

SEC. 202. WILDFIRE RESILIENCE PROJECTS.

Insert at the end of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511) the following new section:

“SEC. 605. WILDFIRE RESILIENCE PROJECTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Hazardous fuels reduction projects, as defined in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511(2)) may be—

“(1) carried out in accordance with subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 102 and sections 104 and 105;

“(2) considered an action categorically excluded from the requirements of Public Law 91–190 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

“(3) exempt from the special administrative review process under section 105.

“(b) COLLABORATIVE RESTORATION PROJECT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A project referred to in subsection (a) is a project to carry out forest restoration treatments that—

“(A) maximizes the retention of old-growth and large trees, as appropriate for the forest type, to the extent that the trees promote stands that are resilient to insects and disease, and reduce the risk or extent of, or increase the resilience to, wildfires;

“(B) considers the best available scientific information to maintain or restore the ecological integrity, including maintaining or restoring structure, function, composition, and connectivity; and

“(C) is developed and implemented through a collaborative process that—

“(i) includes multiple interested persons representing diverse interests; and

“(ii)(I) is transparent and nonexclusive; or

“(II) meets the requirements for a resource advisory committee under subsections (c) through (f) of section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125).

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“(2) INCLUSION.—A project under this subsection may carry out part of a proposal that complies with the eligibility requirements of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program under section 4003(b) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303(b)).

“(c) LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) PROJECT SIZE.—A project under this section may not exceed 3000 acres.

“(2) LOCATION.—A project under this section shall be—

“(A) Prioritized within the wildland-urban interface;

“(B) If located outside the wildland-urban interface, limited to areas within Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regime Groups I, II, or III that contain very high wildfire hazard potential; and

“(C) Limited to areas designated under section 602(b) as of the date of enactment of this Act.

“(3) ROADS.—

“(A) PERMANENT ROADS.—

“(i) PROHIBITION ON ESTABLISHMENT.—A project under this section shall not include the establishment of permanent roads.

“(ii) EXISTING ROADS.—The Secretary may carry out necessary maintenance and repairs on existing permanent roads for the purposes of this section.

“(B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Secretary shall decommission any temporary road constructed under a project under this section not later than 3 years after the date on which the project is completed.

“(4) EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary shall apply the extraordinary circumstances procedures under section 220.6 of title 36, code of Federal regulations (or successor regulations), when using the categorical exclusion under this section.

“(d) EXCLUSIONS.—This section does not apply to—

“(1) a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System;

“(2) any Federal land on which, by Act of Congress or Presidential proclamation, the removal of vegetation is restricted or prohibited;

“(3) a congressionally designated wilderness study area;

or

“(4) an area in which activities under subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the applicable land and resource management plan.

“(e) FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS.—All projects and activities carried out under this section shall be consistent with the land and resource management plan established under section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604) for the unit of the National Forest System containing the projects and activities.

“(f) PUBLIC NOTICE AND SCOPING.—The Secretary shall conduct public notice and scoping for any project or action proposed in accordance with this section.

“(g) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prepare an annual report on the use of categorical exclusions under this section

that includes a description of all acres (or other appropriate unit) treated through projects carried out under this section.

“(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, and each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit the reports required under paragraph (1) to—

“(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

“(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

“(C) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

“(D) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

“(E) the Government Accountability Office.”.

SEC. 203. INSTALLATION OF FUEL BREAKS AND FIREBREAKS FOR HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION ON FEDERAL LAND.

Section 101(2) of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The term” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) INCLUSION.—The term ‘authorized hazardous fuel reduction project’ includes, using the measures and methods described in subparagraph (A), the installation of—

“(i) a natural or manmade change in fuel characteristics that affects fire behavior such that a fire can be more readily controlled (commonly known as a ‘fuel break’); and

“(ii) a natural or constructed barrier used to stop or check a fire or to provide a control line from which to work to stop or check a fire (commonly known as a ‘firebreak’).”.

SEC. 204. CANCELLATION CEILINGS FOR STEWARDSHIP END RESULT CONTRACTING PROJECTS.

Section 604 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591c) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as subsections (i) and (j), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) CANCELLATION CEILINGS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 3903(b)(1) of title 41, United States Code, the Chief and the Director may obligate funds in stages that are economically or programmatically viable to cover any potential cancellation or termination costs for an agreement or contract under subsection (b).

“(2) ADVANCE NOTICE TO CONGRESS OF CANCELLATION CEILING IN EXCESS OF \$25,000,000.—Not later than 30 days before entering into a multiyear agreement or contract under subsection (b) that includes a cancellation ceiling in excess of \$25,000,000, but does not include proposed funding for the costs of cancelling the agreement or contract up to that cancellation ceiling, the Chief or the Director, as applicable, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources