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H. Rept. 115-238 - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2018

115th Congress (2017-2018)

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115th Congress	}		{	Report
		HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		
1st Session	}		{	115-238

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2018

July 21, 2017.--Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Calvert, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the
following

R E P O R T

together with

DISSENTING VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3354]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following
report in explanation of the accompanying bill making
appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the

collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management and the Agricultural Research Service on research involving the risk of disease transmission between domestic and bighorn sheep.

Forest Carbon Research.--The Committee encourages the Service to work with other U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies and offices to establish the methods and tools needed to quantify forest carbon as a resource.

Water, Air, and Soil Research.--The Committee notes that the Service's research program has the potential to improve air quality monitoring technologies and air quality data and encourages the Service to collaborate with other Federal agencies and research partners in this field.

Forest Health and Fire Research.--The Committee recognizes the valuable research contributions that other Federal agencies and State and private colleges and universities make on forest health and fire issues and encourages the Service to expand these partnerships where feasible.

Previously Requested Reports.--The Committee reminds the Service of the Post-fire Treatment Report and Technical Report Update required by House report 114-632 and encourages their expeditious completion.

Research Program Report.--The Committee appreciates the information provided on the Service's research program in the fiscal year 2018 budget request and directs the Service to continue to provide this information in the fiscal year 2019 request.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

Appropriation enacted, 2017.....	\$216,921,000
Budget estimate, 2018.....	118,010,000
Recommended, 2018.....	198,710,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 2017.....	-18,211,000
Budget estimate, 2018.....	+80,700,000

The Committee recommends \$198,710,000 for State and Private Forestry, \$18,211,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$80,700,000 above the budget request.

Landscape Scale Restoration.--The Committee recommends \$13,643,000 for Landscape Scale Restoration, \$357,000 below the fiscal year 2017 level and \$13,643,000 above the budget request.

Forest Health Management.--The Committee recommends \$92,084,000 for Forest Health Management, \$2,416,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$1,694,000 above the budget request.

Forest Stewardship Program.--The Committee recommends \$19,525,000 for the Forest Stewardship Program, \$511,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$975,000 below the budget request.

Forest Legacy.--The recommendation includes \$36,184,000 for Forest Legacy. Not later than the start of the fiscal year, the

Service is directed to submit to the Committee the list of fiscal year 2018 projects that have been prioritized in accordance with the existing, competitive national selection process.

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation.--The Committee recommends \$1,950,000 for Community Forest and Open Space Conservation, \$50,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$1,950,000 above the budget request.

Urban and Community Forestry.--The Committee recommends \$27,324,000 for Urban and Community, \$716,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$27,324,000 above the budget request.

International Forestry.--The Committee recommends \$8,000,000 for International Forestry, equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$880,000 above the budget request.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation enacted, 2017.....	\$1,513,318,000
Budget estimate, 2018.....	1,747,442,000
Recommended, 2018.....	1,885,827,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 2017.....	+372,509,000
Budget estimate, 2018.....	+138,385,000

The Committee recommends \$1,885,827,000 for the National Forest System, \$372,509,000 above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$138,385,000 above the budget request. The Committee accepts the proposal to transfer Hazardous Fuels from the Wildland Fire Management account to the National Forest System account.

Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring.--The Committee recommends \$178,263,000 for Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring, \$4,665,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$13,263,000 above the budget request.

The Committee is aware that the Service, Bureau of Reclamation and others worked together during fiscal years 2016 and 2017 to initiate a multi-year study to generate new knowledge to quantitatively establish the benefits of forest management practices in the Sierra Nevada that could potentially generate water supply and other benefits to the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project. The Committee supports the Service's continued participation, through the Western Watershed Enhancement Partnership program, in the analysis of science-based fuel reductions that are mutually beneficial to national forest health and water supply yield and, if merited, recommendations for further Congressional action.

Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness.--The Committee recommends \$257,848,000 for Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness, \$6,747,000 below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level