

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4589

To provide for expedited decisions on wilderness study areas, to provide that lands designated as wilderness study areas for more than 15 years shall be used in accordance with the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2002

Mr. DOOLITTLE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on 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 provide for expedited decisions on wilderness study areas, to provide that lands designated as wilderness study areas for more than 15 years shall be used in accordance with the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wilderness Study Area
5 Release Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AREAS DESIGNATED AS WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS**
2 **FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS.**

3 All wilderness study areas so designated more than
4 15 years before the date of the enactment of this Act
5 which are in wilderness study area status on the date of
6 the enactment of this Act are hereby released from wilder-
7 ness study area status and are available for use in accord-
8 ance with the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960
9 (16 U.S.C. 528–531).

10 **SEC. 3. SUBSEQUENT WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.**

11 (a) **TIME PERIOD FOR DESIGNATION AS WILDER-**
12 **NESS.**—Any wilderness study area so designated after the
13 date of enactment of this Act shall remain in wilderness
14 study area status until the earlier of the following:

15 (1) 5 years after the date of such designation;

16 (2) the area is determined not to meet the cri-
17 teria of a wilderness area pursuant to the Wilder-
18 ness Act;

19 (3) the area is determined to meet the criteria
20 of a wilderness area pursuant to the Wilderness Act;

21 or

22 (4) the area is designated as a wilderness area
23 by an Act of Congress.

24 (b) **RESULT OF NO WILDERNESS AREA DESIGNA-**
25 **TION.**—If a wilderness study area so designated after the
26 date of the enactment of this Act meets the criteria of

1 subsection (a)(2) or, after the 5-year period referred to
2 in subsection (a)(1), has not met the criteria of paragraph
3 (2), (3), or (4) of subsection (a), that wilderness study
4 area shall be immediately released from wilderness study
5 area status and shall be available for use in accordance
6 with the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 (16
7 U.S.C. 528–531).

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