

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1910

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out an inventory and management program for forests derived from public domain land.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2003

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out an inventory and management program for forests derived from public domain land.

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. FOREST INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT.**

4 Section 17 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance
5 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 note; Public Law 95–313)
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 17. FOREST INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a
9 program using geospatial and information management
10 technologies (including remote sensing imaging and deci-

1 sion support systems) to inventory, monitor, characterize,
 2 assess, and identify forest stands and potential forest
 3 stands on—

4 “(1) units of the National Forest System de-
 5 rived from public domain land; and

6 “(2) private forest land, with the consent of the
 7 owner of the land.

8 “(b) MEANS.—The Secretary shall carry out the pro-
 9 gram through the use of—

10 “(1) remote sensing technology of the National
 11 Aeronautics and Space Administration and the
 12 United States Geological Survey;

13 “(2) emerging geospatial capabilities in re-
 14 search activities;

15 “(3) validating techniques, including coordina-
 16 tion and reconciliation with existing data through
 17 field verification, using application demonstrations;
 18 and

19 “(4) integration of results into pilot operational
 20 systems.

21 “(c) ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED.—In carrying out
 22 the program, the Secretary shall address issues includ-
 23 ing—

24 “(1) early detection, identification, and assess-
 25 ment of environmental threats (including insect, dis-

1 ease, invasive species, fire, acid deposition, and
 2 weather-related risks and other episodic events);

3 “(2) loss or degradation of forests;

4 “(3) degradation of the quality forest stands
 5 caused by inadequate forest regeneration practices;

6 “(4) quantification of carbon uptake rates;

7 “(5) management practices that focus on pre-
 8 venting further forest degradation; and

9 “(6) characterization of vegetation types, den-
 10 sity, fire regimes, post-fire effects, and condition
 11 class.

12 “(d) EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.—In carrying out the
 13 program, the Secretary shall develop a comprehensive
 14 early warning system for potential catastrophic environ-
 15 mental threats to forests to increase the likelihood that
 16 forest managers will be able to—

17 “(1) isolate and treat a threat before the threat
 18 gets out of control; and

19 “(2) prevent epidemics, such as the American
 20 chestnut blight in the first half of the twentieth cen-
 21 tury, that could be environmentally and economically
 22 devastating to forests.

23 “(e) ADMINISTRATION.—To carry out this section,
 24 the Secretary shall designate and maintain a facility in
 25 the Ochoco National Forest headquarters in Prineville,

1 Oregon, that will address the issues described in sub-
2 section (c), with a particular emphasis on coniferous forest
3 stands in the Western United States.

4 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
6 essary to carry out this section.”.

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