

112TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4849

AN ACT

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue commercial use authorizations to commercial stock operators for operations in designated wilderness within the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Sequoia and Kings
3 Canyon National Parks Backcountry Access Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATIONS IN DES-**
5 **IGNATED WILDERNESS WITHIN THE SEQUOIA**
6 **AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS.**

7 (a) **ISSUANCE OF COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZA-**
8 **TIONS.**—Notwithstanding the decision, for the 2012 and
9 2013 seasons, the Secretary shall issue packer permits at
10 no more than the levels of commercial services authorized
11 by the Secretary in 2011 until the Secretary—

12 (1) makes an extent necessary determination
13 that addresses the violations of the Wilderness Act
14 found in the decision; and

15 (2) begins to issue packer permits for oper-
16 ations in designated wilderness within the Sequoia
17 and Kings Canyon National Parks in accordance
18 with that extent necessary determination reflected in
19 a Record of Decision for the Wilderness Stewardship
20 Plan.

21 (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—For the purposes of this Act, the
22 following definitions apply:

23 (1) **DECISION.**—The term “decision” means the
24 January 24, 2012, ruling by the United States Dis-
25 trict Court for the Northern District of California in
26 High Sierra Hikers Association v. United States De-

1 partment of the Interior, et al., Case No. C 09–4621
2 RS.

3 (2) EXTENT NECESSARY DETERMINATION.—
4 The term “extent necessary determination” means a
5 determination on the need for commercial services
6 within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park
7 wilderness under section 4(d)(5) of the Wilderness
8 Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(5)).

9 (3) PACKER PERMIT.—The term “packer per-
10 mit” means a commercial use authorization granted
11 to a commercial stock operator.

12 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
13 the Secretary of the Interior.

Passed the House of Representatives April 27, 2012.

Attest:

Clerk.

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