

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4849

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2012

Mr. NUNES (for himself, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. DENHAM, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

4 (a) **ISSUANCE OF COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZA-**
5 **TIONS.**—Notwithstanding the decision or any other provi-
6 sion of law, the Secretary shall issue such packer permits
7 at the levels of commercial services authorized by the Sec-
8 retary in 2011 until the Secretary—

9 (1) makes an extent necessary determination
10 that addresses the violations of the Wilderness Act
11 found in the decision; and

12 (2) begins to issue packer permits for oper-
13 ations in designated wilderness within the Sequoia
14 and Kings Canyon National Parks in accordance
15 with that extent necessary determination.

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

18 (1) **DECISION.**—The term “decision” means the
19 January 24, 2012, ruling by the United States Dis-
20 trict Court for the Northern District of California in
21 High Sierra Hikers Association v. United States De-
22 partment of the Interior, et al., Case No. C09–4621
23 RS.

24 (2) **EXTENT NECESSARY DETERMINATION.**—
25 The term “extent necessary determination” means a
26 determination on the need for commercial services

1 within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park
2 wilderness under to section 4(2)(5) of the Wilder-
3 ness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(5)).

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

7 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
8 the Secretary of the Interior.

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