

Union Calendar No. 100

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1214

[Report No. 114–140, Part I]

To amend the Small Tracts Act to expand the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange small parcels of National Forest System land to enhance the management of the National Forest System, to resolve minor encroachments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2015

Mr. AMODEI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural 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

JUNE 8, 2015

Additional sponsors: Mr. JONES, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. SHIMKUS

JUNE 8, 2015

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

JUNE 8, 2015

The Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 3, 2015]

A BILL

To amend the Small Tracts Act to expand the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange small parcels of National Forest System land to enhance the management of the National Forest System, to resolve minor encroachments, 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 “National Forest Small*
5 *Tracts Act Amendments Act of 2015”.*

6 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE**
7 **OF SMALL PARCELS OF NATIONAL FOREST**
8 **SYSTEM LAND.**

9 (a) *INCREASE IN MAXIMUM VALUE OF SMALL PAR-*
10 *CELS.—Section 3 of Public Law 97–465 (commonly known*
11 *as the Small Tracts Act; 16 U.S.C. 521e) is amended in*
12 *the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking “\$150,000”*
13 *and inserting “\$500,000”.*

14 (b) *ADDITIONAL CONVEYANCE PURPOSES.—Section 3*
15 *of Public Law 97–465 (16 U.S.C. 521e) is further amend-*
16 *ed—*

17 (1) *by striking “; or” at the end of paragraph*

18 (2) *and inserting a semicolon;*

19 (2) *by striking the period at the end of para-*
20 *graph (3) and inserting a semicolon; and*

21 (3) *by adding at the end the following new para-*
22 *graphs:*

23 “(4) *parcels of 40 acres or less which are deter-*
24 *mined by the Secretary to be physically isolated, to*

1 *be inaccessible, or to have lost their National Forest*
2 *character;*

3 *“(5) parcels of 10 acres or less which are not eli-*
4 *gible for conveyance under paragraph (2), but which*
5 *are encroached upon by permanent habitable im-*
6 *provements for which there is no evidence that the en-*
7 *croachment was intentional or negligent; or*

8 *“(6) parcels used as a cemetery, a landfill, or a*
9 *sewage treatment plant under a special use authoriza-*
10 *tion issued by the Secretary.”.*

11 *(c) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—Section 2 of Public*
12 *Law 97–465 (16 U.S.C. 521d) is amended—*

13 *(1) by striking “The Secretary is authorized”*
14 *and inserting the following:*

15 *“(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORITY; CONSIDERATION.—The*
16 *Secretary is authorized”;*

17 *(2) by striking “The Secretary shall insert” and*
18 *inserting the following:*

19 *“(b) INCLUSION OF TERMS, COVENANTS, CONDITIONS,*
20 *AND RESERVATIONS.—The Secretary shall insert”;*

21 *(3) by striking “covenants” and inserting “cov-*
22 *enants”;* and

23 *(4) by adding at the end the following new sub-*
24 *section:*

25 *“(c) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—*

1 “(1) *DEPOSIT IN SISK FUND.*—*The net proceeds*
2 *derived from any sale or exchange conducted under*
3 *the authority of paragraph (4), (5), or (6) of section*
4 *3 shall be deposited in the fund established by Public*
5 *Law 90–171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16*
6 *U.S.C. 484a).*

7 “(2) *USE.*—*Amounts deposited under paragraph*
8 *(1) shall be available to the Secretary until expended,*
9 *for—*

10 “(A) *the acquisition of land or interests in*
11 *land for administrative sites for the National*
12 *Forest System in the State from which the*
13 *amounts were derived;*

14 “(B) *the acquisition of land or interests in*
15 *land for inclusion in the National Forest System*
16 *in that State, including land or interests in land*
17 *which enhance opportunities for recreational ac-*
18 *cess;*

19 “(C) *the performance of deferred mainte-*
20 *nance on administrative sites for the National*
21 *Forest System in that State or other deferred*
22 *maintenance activities in that State which en-*
23 *hance opportunities for recreational access; or*

24 “(D) *the reimbursement of the Secretary for*
25 *costs incurred in preparing a sale conducted*

1 *under the authority of section 3 if the sale is a*
2 *competitive sale.”.*

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