

ARAPAHO NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT
ACT OF 2015

APRIL 15, 2015.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1324]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1324) to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 1324 is to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 1324, introduced by Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO), would adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in the State of Colorado to incorporate 92.95 additional acres. Federal land to be included in the new boundary will become part of the Bowen Gulch Protection Area established under section 6 of the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993.

Owners of non-Federal lands within the expanded boundary who historically have accessed their lands through lands included in the Arapaho expansion would have continued right of motorized access to their lands across an existing roadway. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire non-Federal lands within the expanded boundary.

However, written permission of the landowner will be required before a parcel of private land can be included within the expanded

boundary. Acquisition of land in the added area can be achieved “only by donation or exchange,” and the motorized use provision is clarified to ensure that the bill does not open privately owned land to motorized trespass.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 1324 was introduced on March 4, 2015, by Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. On March 24, 2015, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Federal Lands was discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent on March 25, 2015.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources’ oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(2)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 1324—Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015

H.R. 1324 would modify the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Colorado to include an additional 93 acres of land. Based on information provided by the Forest Service, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget. We expect that any additional costs to revise brochures, maps, and signs to reflect the new boundary would not be significant because such revisions would take place in conjunction with scheduled reprinting and routine maintenance. Because enacting H.R. 1324 would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 1324 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

2. Section 308(a) of Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures. According to the Congressional Budget Office, implementation of the bill would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Colorado.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

COMPLIANCE WITH H. RES. 5

Directed Rule Making. The Chairman does not believe that this bill directs any executive branch official to conduct any specific rule-making proceedings.

Duplication of Existing Programs. This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111-139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95-220, as amended by Public Law 98-169) as relating to other programs.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.