

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2218

To expand the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness and Sampson Mountain Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 2017

Mr. ROE of Tennessee 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

A BILL

To expand the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness and Sampson Mountain Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, 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 “Tennessee Wilderness
5 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS, CHER-**
2 **OKEE NATIONAL FOREST, TENNESSEE.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.—In accordance
4 with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the fol-
5 lowing parcels of Federal land in the Cherokee National
6 Forest in the State of Tennessee are designated as wilder-
7 ness and as additions to existing components of the Na-
8 tional Wilderness Preservation System:

9 (1) Certain land comprising approximately
10 4,446 acres, as generally depicted as the “Big Lau-
11 rel Branch Addition” on the map entitled “Proposed
12 Wilderness Areas and Additions-Cherokee National
13 Forest” and dated January 20, 2010, which shall be
14 incorporated in, and shall be considered to be a part
15 of, the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness.

16 (2) Certain land comprising approximately
17 2,922 acres, as generally depicted as the “Sampson
18 Mountain Addition” on the map referred to in para-
19 graph (1), which shall be incorporated in, and shall
20 be considered to be a part of, the Sampson Moun-
21 tain Wilderness.

22 (b) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
24 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
25 of Agriculture shall submit maps and legal descrip-

1 tions of the wilderness designated by subsection (a)
2 with the appropriate committees of Congress.

3 (2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The maps and
4 legal descriptions submitted under paragraph (1)
5 shall be on file and available for public inspection in
6 the office of the Chief of the Forest Service and the
7 office of the Supervisor of the Cherokee National
8 Forest.

9 (3) FORCE OF LAW.—The maps and legal de-
10 scriptions submitted under paragraph (1) shall have
11 the same force and effect as if included in this Act,
12 except that the Secretary may correct typographical
13 errors in the maps and descriptions.

14 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing
16 rights, the Secretary of Agriculture shall administer
17 the Federal land designated as wilderness by sub-
18 section (a) in accordance with the Wilderness Act
19 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), except that any reference
20 in that Act to the effective date of that Act shall be
21 deemed to be a reference to the date of the enact-
22 ment of this Act.

23 (2) FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT.—In ac-
24 cordance with section 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act
25 (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(7)), nothing in this Act affects

1 the jurisdiction of the State of Tennessee with re-
2 spect to fish and wildlife management (including the
3 regulation of hunting, fishing, and trapping) on the
4 Federal land designated as wilderness by subsection
5 (a).

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