

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1348

To redesignate land within certain wilderness study areas in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2023

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To redesignate land within certain wilderness study areas in the State of Wyoming, 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 “Wyoming Public Lands
5 Initiative Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) BUREAU.—The term “Bureau” means the
9 Bureau of Land Management.

1 (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
2 means the Department of the Interior.

3 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

5 (4) EMERGENCY.—The term “emergency”
6 means a situation that requires immediate action be-
7 cause of an imminent danger—

8 (A) to the health or safety of people; or

9 (B) of harm to property.

10 (5) RANGE IMPROVEMENT.—The term “range
11 improvement” has the meaning given the term in
12 section 3 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act
13 of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1902).

14 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
15 of Wyoming.

16 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN CARBON COUNTY, WYO-**
17 **MING.**

18 (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

19 (1) ENCAMPMENT RIVER CANYON WILDER-
20 NESS.—

21 (A) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with
22 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.),
23 except as provided in subparagraph (B), the
24 land within the boundaries of the Encampment
25 River Canyon Wilderness Study Area is des-

1 ignated as wilderness and as a component of
 2 the National Wilderness Preservation System,
 3 to be known as the “Encampment River Can-
 4 yon Wilderness” (referred to in this paragraph
 5 as the “Wilderness”).

6 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

7 (i) DEFINITION OF WATER VALLEY
 8 ROAD.—In this subparagraph, the term
 9 “Water Valley Road” means the road in
 10 Carbon County, Wyoming, that is 50 feet
 11 wide and 17,340 feet long, consisting of
 12 approximately 19.904 acres of land in T.
 13 14 N., R. 84 W., including—

14 (I) in sec. 22, land in—

15 (aa) the NE¹/₄SW¹/₄; and

16 (bb) the S¹/₂SW¹/₄;

17 (II) in sec. 27, land in lots 4, 6,
 18 and 7 of the NW¹/₄SW¹/₄;

19 (III) in sec. 28, land in lot 1 of
 20 the NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;

21 (IV) in sec. 34, land in—

22 (aa) the S¹/₂NE¹/₄; and

23 (bb) the E¹/₂NW¹/₄; and

24 (V) in sec. 35, land in—

25 (aa) the N¹/₂SW¹/₄;

1 (bb) the NW¹/₄SE¹/₄; and

2 (cc) the S¹/₂SE¹/₄.

3 (ii) LAND EXCLUDED FROM THE WIL-
4 DERNESS.—The following land is not in-
5 cluded in the Wilderness:

6 (I) Any land in the
7 NW¹/₄NW¹/₄NW¹/₄ sec. 24, T. 14 N.,
8 R. 84 W.

9 (II) Any land within 50 feet of
10 the centerline of—

11 (aa) County Road 353; or

12 (bb) Water Valley Road.

13 (C) MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.—Necessary
14 maintenance or repairs to County Road 353 or
15 Water Valley Road (as defined in subparagraph
16 (B)) shall be permitted after the date of enact-
17 ment of this Act, consistent with the require-
18 ments of this subsection.

19 (D) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—

20 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
21 days after the date of enactment of this
22 Act, the Director shall establish a fire sup-
23 pression plan for the protection of—

24 (I) any individual or structure
25 adjacent to the Wilderness; and

1 (II) the population centers of—

2 (aa) Encampment, Wyo-
3 ming; and

4 (bb) Riverside, Wyoming.

5 (ii) COORDINATION.—In carrying out
6 clause (i), the Director shall coordinate
7 with—

8 (I) the Wyoming State Forestry
9 Division; and

10 (II) Carbon County, Wyoming.

11 (2) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS.—

12 (A) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with
13 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.),
14 except as provided in subparagraph (B), the
15 land within the boundaries of the Prospect
16 Mountain Wilderness Study Area is designated
17 as wilderness and as a component of the Na-
18 tional Wilderness Preservation System, to be
19 known as the “Prospect Mountain Wilderness”
20 (referred to in this paragraph as the “Wilder-
21 ness”).

22 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—Any land within
23 100 feet of the centerline of Prospect Road is
24 not included in the Wilderness.

1 (C) MAINTENANCE OF PROSPECT ROAD.—
2 Necessary maintenance or repairs to Prospect
3 Road shall be permitted after the date of enact-
4 ment of this Act, consistent with the require-
5 ments of this subsection.

6 (3) MANAGEMENT OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

7 (A) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid
8 existing rights, the wilderness areas designated
9 in paragraphs (1) and (2) (referred to in this
10 paragraph as the “Wilderness Areas”) shall be
11 administered by the Director in accordance
12 with—

13 (i) this paragraph; and

14 (ii) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
15 1131 et seq.), except that any reference in
16 that Act to the effective date of that Act
17 shall be considered to be a reference to the
18 date of enactment of this Act.

19 (B) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
20 Wilderness Areas, where established before the
21 date of enactment of this Act, shall be allowed
22 to continue in accordance with—

23 (i) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness
24 Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(4));

1 (ii) the guidelines set forth in the re-
2 port of the Committee on Interior and In-
3 sular Affairs of the House of Representa-
4 tives accompanying H.R. 5487 of the 96th
5 Congress (H. Rept. 96-617); and

6 (iii) the guidelines set forth in appen-
7 dix A of the Report of the Committee on
8 Interior and Insular Affairs to accompany
9 H.R. 2570 of the 101st Congress (H.
10 Rept. 101-405).

11 (C) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
12 REGULATIONS.—

13 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
14 policies, practices, and regulations of the
15 Department conform to and implement the
16 intent of Congress regarding forest fires
17 and the outbreak of disease or insects, not
18 later than 180 days after the date of en-
19 actment of this Act, the Secretary of the
20 Interior shall review all policies, practices,
21 and regulations of the Department applica-
22 ble to the Wilderness Areas that pertain
23 to—

24 (I) wildland fires, including the
25 use of modern methods of fire sup-

1 pression (including mechanical activ-
2 ity, as necessary); or

3 (II) the outbreak of disease or in-
4 sect populations.

5 (ii) REVISIONS.—On completion of the
6 review under clause (i), the Secretary of
7 the Interior shall revise or develop policies,
8 practices, and regulations for the Wilder-
9 ness Areas—

10 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
11 cient control of fires, diseases, and in-
12 sects in the Wilderness Areas, in ac-
13 cordance with section 4(d)(1) of the
14 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
15 1133(d)(1)); and

16 (II) to provide, to the maximum
17 extent practicable, adequate protection
18 from forest fires, disease outbreaks,
19 and insect infestations to any Federal,
20 State, or private land adjacent to the
21 Wilderness Areas.

22 (b) DESIGNATION OF BENNETT MOUNTAINS SPE-
23 CIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.—

24 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land within the Ben-
25 nett Mountains Wilderness Study Area is designated

1 as the “Bennett Mountains Special Management
2 Area” (referred to in this subsection as the “Special
3 Management Area”).

4 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Manage-
5 ment Area shall be administered by the Director.

6 (3) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

7 (A) ROADS.—

8 (i) PROHIBITION ON NEW PERMANENT
9 ROADS.—The construction of new perma-
10 nent roads in the Special Management
11 Area shall not be allowed.

12 (ii) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Direc-
13 tor may authorize the construction of new
14 temporary roads to respond to an emer-
15 gency.

16 (B) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—Except as
17 needed for administrative purposes, to respond
18 to an emergency, or to develop range improve-
19 ments, the use of motorized and mechanized ve-
20 hicles in the Special Management Area shall be
21 allowed only on existing roads and trails des-
22 ignated for the use of motorized or mechanized
23 vehicles by the travel management plan estab-
24 lished under subparagraph (C).

1 (C) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not
2 later than 2 years after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Director shall establish a travel
4 management plan for the Special Management
5 Area.

6 (4) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the Spe-
7 cial Management Area shall be administered—

8 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

9 (B) in accordance with the laws generally
10 applicable to land under the jurisdiction of the
11 Bureau, including—

12 (i) the Act of June 28, 1934 (com-
13 monly known as the “Taylor Grazing
14 Act”) (48 Stat. 1269, chapter 865; 43
15 U.S.C. 315 et seq.);

16 (ii) the Federal Land Policy and Man-
17 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et
18 seq.); and

19 (iii) the Public Rangelands Improve-
20 ment Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et
21 seq.).

22 (5) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
24 carry out fire management and suppression ac-
25 tivities in the Special Management Area in ac-

1 cordance with the laws generally applicable to
2 land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

3 (B) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
4 REGULATIONS.—

5 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
6 policies, practices, and regulations of the
7 Bureau conform to and implement the in-
8 tent of Congress regarding forest fires, not
9 later than 180 days after the date of en-
10 actment of this Act, the Director shall re-
11 view all policies, practices, and regulations
12 of the Bureau applicable to the Special
13 Management Area that pertain to wildland
14 fires, including the use of modern methods
15 of fire suppression.

16 (ii) REVISION.—On completion of the
17 review under clause (i), the Director shall
18 revise or develop policies, practices, and
19 regulations for the Special Management
20 Area—

21 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
22 cient control of fires in the Special
23 Management Area; and

24 (II) to provide, to the maximum
25 extent practicable, adequate protection

1 from forest fires to any Federal,
2 State, or private land adjacent to the
3 Special Management Area.

4 (6) TIMBER HARVESTING.—Commercial timber
5 harvesting shall not be allowed in the Special Man-
6 agement Area.

7 (7) WITHDRAWAL.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
9 subparagraph (B), subject to valid rights in ex-
10 istence on the date of enactment of this Act,
11 the land within the boundaries of the Special
12 Management Area is withdrawn from—

13 (i) location, entry, and patent under
14 the mining laws; and

15 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
16 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

17 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
18 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
19 the boundaries of the Special Management Area
20 if—

21 (i) the lease may only be accessed by
22 directional drilling from a lease that is out-
23 side of the Special Management Area; and

24 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
25 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-

1 face disturbance within the Special Man-
2 agement Area for any activities, including
3 activities related to exploration, develop-
4 ment, or production.

5 (c) DESIGNATION OF BLACK CAT SPECIAL MANAGE-
6 MENT AREA.—

7 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land described in
8 paragraph (2) is designated as the “Black Cat Spe-
9 cial Management Area” (referred to in this sub-
10 section as the “Special Management Area”).

11 (2) INCLUDED LAND.—The Special Manage-
12 ment Area shall consist of—

13 (A) the Federal land in T. 14 N., R. 81
14 W., sec. 35, that is managed by the Forest
15 Service; and

16 (B) the portions of T. 14 N., R. 81 W.,
17 secs. 26, 35, and 36, that are south and west
18 of the North Platte River.

19 (3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Manage-
20 ment Area shall be administered by the Secretary of
21 Agriculture.

22 (4) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

23 (A) ROADS.—

24 (i) PROHIBITION ON NEW PERMANENT
25 ROADS.—The construction of new perma-

1 nent roads in the Special Management
2 Area shall not be allowed.

3 (ii) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Sec-
4 retary of Agriculture may authorize the
5 construction of new temporary roads to re-
6 spond to an emergency.

7 (B) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—Except as
8 needed for administrative purposes, to respond
9 to an emergency, or to develop or maintain
10 range improvements, the Secretary of Agri-
11 culture shall prohibit the use of motorized and
12 mechanized vehicles in the Special Management
13 Area.

14 (5) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the Spe-
15 cial Management Areas shall be administered—

16 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

17 (B) in accordance with the laws generally
18 applicable to the National Forest System, in-
19 cluding—

20 (i) the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield
21 Act of 1960 (16 U.S.C. 528 et seq.);

22 (ii) the Act of June 28, 1934 (com-
23 monly known as the “Taylor Grazing
24 Act”) (48 Stat. 1269, chapter 865; 43
25 U.S.C. 315 et seq.); and

1 (iii) the Public Rangelands Improve-
2 ment Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et
3 seq.).

4 (6) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agri-
6 culture shall carry out fire management and
7 suppression activities in the Special Manage-
8 ment Area—

9 (i) in accordance with the laws gen-
10 erally applicable to—

11 (I) the National Forest System;
12 and

13 (II) the land within the bound-
14 aries of the Special Management
15 Area; and

16 (ii)(I) if a land management plan has
17 been established for the Special Manage-
18 ment Area, in accordance with that land
19 management plan; or

20 (II) if a land management plan has
21 not been established for the Special Man-
22 agement Area, in a manner consistent with
23 land that is similarly situated to the land
24 within the boundaries of the Special Man-

1 agement Area, as determined by the Sec-
2 retary of Agriculture.

3 (B) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
4 REGULATIONS.—

5 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
6 policies, practices, and regulations of the
7 Department of Agriculture conform to and
8 implement the intent of Congress regard-
9 ing forest fires, not later than 180 days
10 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
11 Secretary of Agriculture shall review all
12 policies, practices, and regulations of the
13 Department of Agriculture applicable to
14 the Special Management Area that pertain
15 to forest fires, including the use of modern
16 methods of fire suppression.

17 (ii) REVISION.—On completion of the
18 review under clause (i), the Secretary of
19 Agriculture shall revise or develop policies,
20 practices, and regulations for the Special
21 Management Area—

22 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
23 cient control of fires in the Special
24 Management Area; and

1 (II) to provide, to the maximum
2 extent practicable, adequate protection
3 from forest fires to any Federal,
4 State, or private land adjacent to the
5 Special Management Area.

6 (7) TIMBER HARVESTING.—Commercial timber
7 harvesting shall not be allowed in the Special Man-
8 agement Area.

9 (8) WITHDRAWAL.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
11 subparagraph (B), subject to valid rights in ex-
12 istence on the date of enactment of this Act,
13 the land within the boundaries of the Special
14 Management Area is withdrawn from—

15 (i) location, entry, and patent under
16 the mining laws; and

17 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
18 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

19 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
20 terior may, with the approval of the Secretary
21 of Agriculture, lease oil and gas resources with-
22 in the boundaries of the Special Management
23 Area if—

1 (i) the lease may only be accessed by
2 directional drilling from a lease that is out-
3 side of the Special Management Area; and

4 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
5 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
6 face disturbance within the Special Man-
7 agement Area for any activities, including
8 activities related to exploration, develop-
9 ment, or production.

10 (d) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—

11 (1) FINDING.—Congress finds that, for the pur-
12 poses of section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy
13 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)),
14 any portion of a wilderness study area described in
15 paragraph (2) that is not designated as wilderness
16 by this section has been adequately studied for wil-
17 derness designation.

18 (2) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The wilderness
19 study areas referred to in paragraphs (1) and (3)
20 are—

21 (A) the Encampment River Canyon Wil-
22 derness Study Area;

23 (B) the Prospect Mountain Wilderness
24 Study Area; and

1 (C) the Bennett Mountains Wilderness
2 Study Area.

3 (3) RELEASE.—Any portion of a wilderness
4 study area described in paragraph (2) that is not
5 designated as wilderness by this section is no longer
6 subject to section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy
7 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

8 (4) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

9 (A) ENCAMPMENT RIVER CANYON WILDER-
10 NESS STUDY AREA.—The Director shall manage
11 the portion of the Encampment River Canyon
12 Wilderness Study Area released under para-
13 graph (3) in a manner consistent with a re-
14 source management plan that is applicable to
15 any land that—

16 (i) is adjacent to that released por-
17 tion; and

18 (ii) is not included in the Encamp-
19 ment River Canyon Wilderness designated
20 under subsection (a)(1).

21 (B) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS
22 STUDY AREA.—The portion of the Prospect
23 Mountain Wilderness Study Area released
24 under paragraph (3) shall be managed in ac-
25 cordance with—

1 (i) the Federal Land Policy and Man-
 2 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et
 3 seq.); and

4 (ii) any other applicable law.

5 (C) BENNETT MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS
 6 STUDY AREA.—The Director shall manage the
 7 portion of the Bennett Mountains Wilderness
 8 Study Area released under paragraph (3) in ac-
 9 cordance with subsection (b).

10 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN FREMONT AND NATRONA**
 11 **COUNTIES, WYOMING.**

12 (a) DESIGNATION OF UPPER SWEETWATER CANYON
 13 AND LOWER SWEETWATER CANYON WILDERNESS
 14 AREAS.—

15 (1) DESIGNATION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with the
 17 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the
 18 land within the boundaries of the Sweetwater
 19 Canyon Wilderness Study Area is designated as
 20 wilderness and, as described in subparagraphs
 21 (B) and (C), as 2 components of the National
 22 Wilderness Preservation System, to be known
 23 as the “Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness”
 24 (referred to in this subsection as the “Upper
 25 Wilderness”) and the “Lower Sweetwater Can-

1 yon Wilderness” (referred to in this subsection
2 as the “Lower Wilderness”).

3 (B) UPPER SWEETWATER CANYON WIL-
4 DERNESS.—

5 (i) BOUNDARY.—

6 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
7 vided in subclause (II), the boundary
8 of the Upper Wilderness shall conform
9 to the boundary of the Sweetwater
10 Canyon Wilderness Study Area.

11 (II) EASTERN BOUNDARY.—The
12 eastern boundary of the Upper Wil-
13 derness shall be 100 feet from the
14 western edge of the north-south road
15 bisecting the Upper Wilderness and
16 the Lower Wilderness, known as
17 “Strawberry Creek Road”.

18 (ii) EXCLUSION OF EXISTING
19 ROADS.—Any established legal route with
20 authorized motorized use in existence on
21 the date of enactment of this Act that en-
22 ters the Upper Wilderness in T. 28 N., R.
23 98 W., sec. 4, or the Lower Wilderness in
24 T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 33, is not in-
25 cluded in the Upper Wilderness.

1 (C) LOWER SWEETWATER CANYON WIL-
2 DERNESS.—

3 (i) BOUNDARY.—

4 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
5 vided in subclauses (II) and (III), the
6 boundary of the Lower Wilderness
7 shall conform to the boundary of the
8 Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study
9 Area.

10 (II) WESTERN BOUNDARY.—The
11 western boundary of the Lower Wil-
12 derness shall be 100 feet from the
13 eastern edge of the north-south road
14 bisecting the Upper Wilderness and
15 the Lower Wilderness, known as
16 “Strawberry Creek Road”.

17 (III) NORTHERN BOUNDARY.—
18 The northern boundary of the Lower
19 Wilderness shall begin where the bi-
20 secting road referred to in subclause
21 (II) enters the Sweetwater Canyon
22 Wilderness Study Area at the border
23 of T. 29 N., R. 98 W., sec. 36, and
24 T. 28 N., R. 98 W., sec. 2, and shall
25 run east along the boundary of T. 29

1 N., R. 97 W., sec. 31, to the center-
2 line of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 31,
3 then north along that centerline to the
4 midpoint of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec.
5 31, then east along that centerline to
6 the boundary of T. 29 N., R. 97 W.,
7 sec. 32, then following the existing
8 boundary of the Sweetwater Canyon
9 Wilderness Study Area to the mid-
10 point of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 32,
11 then east along the centerline of T. 29
12 N., R. 97 W., secs. 32 and 33, to the
13 existing boundary of the Sweetwater
14 Canyon Wilderness Study Area.

15 (ii) EXCLUSION OF EXISTING
16 ROADS.—Any established legal route with
17 authorized motorized use in existence on
18 the date of enactment of this Act that en-
19 ters the Upper Wilderness in T. 29 N., R.
20 98 W., sec. 4, or the Lower Wilderness in
21 T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 33, is not in-
22 cluded in the Lower Wilderness.

23 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

24 (A) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid
25 existing rights, the Upper Wilderness and the

1 Lower Wilderness shall be administered by the
2 Director in accordance with—

3 (i) this paragraph; and

4 (ii) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
5 1131 et seq.), except that any reference in
6 that Act to the effective date of that Act
7 shall be considered to be a reference to the
8 date of enactment of this Act.

9 (B) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
10 Upper Wilderness and the Lower Wilderness,
11 where established before the date of enactment
12 of this Act, shall be allowed to continue in ac-
13 cordance with—

14 (i) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness
15 Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(4));

16 (ii) the guidelines set forth in the re-
17 port of the Committee on Interior and In-
18 sular Affairs of the House of Representa-
19 tives accompanying H.R. 5487 of the 96th
20 Congress (H. Rept. 96–617); and

21 (iii) the guidelines set forth in appen-
22 dix A of the Report of the Committee on
23 Interior and Insular Affairs to accompany
24 H.R. 2570 of the 101st Congress (H.
25 Rept. 101–405).

1 (C) MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING ROADS.—
2 Necessary maintenance or repairs to any road
3 described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of para-
4 graph (1) shall be permitted after the date of
5 enactment of this Act, consistent with the re-
6 quirements of this subsection.

7 (D) RANGE IMPROVEMENTS.—The con-
8 struction, reconstruction, and maintenance of
9 range improvements shall be allowed in the
10 Upper Wilderness and the Lower Wilderness.

11 (E) BUFFER ZONES.—

12 (i) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this
13 paragraph creates a protective perimeter or
14 buffer zone around the Upper Wilderness
15 or the Lower Wilderness.

16 (ii) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WILDERNESS
17 AREAS.—The fact that an activity or use
18 on land outside the Upper Wilderness or
19 the Lower Wilderness can be seen or heard
20 within the Upper Wilderness or the Lower
21 Wilderness, respectively, shall not preclude
22 the activity or use outside the boundary of
23 the Upper Wilderness or the Lower Wil-
24 derness.

1 (3) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—
2 Congress finds that, for the purposes of section
3 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
4 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within
5 the Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study Area not
6 designated as wilderness by this subsection has been
7 adequately studied for wilderness designation and is
8 no longer subject to section 603(c) of the Federal
9 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
10 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

11 (b) DESIGNATION OF SWEETWATER ROCKS SPECIAL
12 MANAGEMENT AREA.—

13 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land within the
14 Lankin Dome, Split Rock, Savage Peak, and Miller
15 Springs Wilderness Study Areas is designated as the
16 “Sweetwater Rocks Special Management Area” (re-
17 ferred to in this subsection as the “Special Manage-
18 ment Area”).

19 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Manage-
20 ment Area shall be administered by the Director in
21 a manner that protects—

22 (A) valid existing rights;

23 (B) agricultural uses;

24 (C) primitive recreational opportunities;

25 and

1 (D) natural, historic, and scenic resources.

2 (3) **MOTORIZED VEHICLES.**—

3 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in
4 subparagraph (B), the use of motorized vehicles
5 in the Special Management Area shall be al-
6 lowed only on established legal routes with au-
7 thorized motorized use existing on the date of
8 enactment of this Act.

9 (B) **EXCEPTIONS.**—Notwithstanding sub-
10 paragraph (A), the use of motorized vehicles
11 may be allowed in the Special Management
12 Area for the construction, reconstruction, or
13 maintenance of necessary infrastructure, as de-
14 termined by the Director.

15 (4) **GRAZING.**—Grazing of livestock in the Spe-
16 cial Management Area shall be administered in ac-
17 cordance with the laws generally applicable to land
18 under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

19 (5) **PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OVERHEAD TOW-**
20 **ERS.**—No new overhead transmission or communica-
21 tions tower shall be constructed in the Special Man-
22 agement Area.

23 (6) **UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**—The Di-
24 rector may expand any underground right-of-way in

1 the Special Management Area that exists as of the
2 date of enactment of this Act.

3 (7) BUFFER ZONES.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this sub-
5 section creates a protective perimeter or buffer
6 zone around the Special Management Area.

7 (B) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SPECIAL MAN-
8 AGEMENT AREA.—The fact that an activity or
9 use on land outside the Special Management
10 Area can be seen or heard within the Special
11 Management Area shall not preclude the activ-
12 ity or use outside the boundary of the Special
13 Management Area.

14 (8) LAND EXCHANGES AND EASEMENTS.—

15 (A) LAND EXCHANGES.—

16 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Director may
17 propose to, and carry out with, an indi-
18 vidual or entity owning land in the vicinity
19 of the Special Management Area any land
20 exchange that—

21 (I) increases access to the Special
22 Management Area; and

23 (II) does not result in a net loss
24 of Federal land.

1 (ii) PROCESS.—The Director may
2 carry out clause (i)—

3 (I) through the use of existing
4 processes; or

5 (II) by establishing a process for
6 proposing and carrying out land ex-
7 changes under that clause.

8 (B) EASEMENTS.—Notwithstanding any
9 other provision of law, the Director may acquire
10 from an individual or entity owning land in the
11 vicinity of the Special Management Area an
12 easement for the purpose of increasing access
13 to the Special Management Area.

14 (9) WITHDRAWALS.—

15 (A) MINING, MINERAL, AND GEOTHERMAL
16 WITHDRAWAL.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
18 in clause (ii), subject to valid rights in ex-
19 istence on the date of enactment of this
20 Act, the land within the boundaries of the
21 Special Management Area is withdrawn
22 from—

23 (I) location, entry, and patent
24 under the mining laws; and

1 (II) disposition under all laws re-
2 lating to mineral and geothermal leas-
3 ing.

4 (ii) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of
5 the Interior may lease oil and gas re-
6 sources within the boundaries of the Spe-
7 cial Management Area if—

8 (I) the lease may only be
9 accessed by directional drilling from a
10 lease that is outside of the Special
11 Management Area; and

12 (II) the lease prohibits, without
13 exception or waiver, surface occupancy
14 and surface disturbance within the
15 Special Management Area for any ac-
16 tivities, including activities related to
17 exploration, development, or produc-
18 tion.

19 (B) WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY WITH-
20 DRAWAL.—Subject to valid rights in existence
21 on the date of enactment of this Act, the land
22 within the boundaries of the Special Manage-
23 ment Area is withdrawn from right-of-way leas-
24 ing and disposition under all laws relating to
25 wind or solar energy.

1 (10) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY
2 AREAS.—Congress finds that, for the purposes of
3 section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
4 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land
5 within the Lankin Dome, Split Rock, Savage Peak,
6 and Miller Springs Wilderness Study Areas has been
7 adequately studied for wilderness designation and is
8 no longer subject to section 603(c) of the Federal
9 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
10 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

11 (c) RELEASE OF THE DUBOIS BADLANDS WILDER-
12 NESS STUDY AREA.—

13 (1) DIVISION.—The Director shall divide the
14 land within the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study
15 Area by installing a fence, or repairing or relocating
16 an existing fence, in T. 41 N., R. 106 W., sec. 5,
17 that—

18 (A) follows existing infrastructure and nat-
19 ural barriers;

20 (B) begins at an intersection with North
21 Mountain View Road in the NE¹/₄NW¹/₄ sec. 5,
22 T. 41 N., R. 106 W.;

23 (C) from the point described in subpara-
24 graph (B), proceeds southeast to a point near

1 the midpoint of the NE¹/₄ sec. 5, T. 41 N., R.
2 106 W.; and

3 (D) from the point described in subpara-
4 graph (C), proceeds southwest to a point in the
5 SW¹/₄NE¹/₄ sec. 5, T. 41 N., R. 106 W., that
6 intersects with the boundary of the Dubois
7 Badlands Wilderness Study Area.

8 (2) DUBOIS MOTORIZED RECREATION AREA.—

9 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
10 lished the Dubois Motorized Recreation Area
11 (referred to in this paragraph as the “Recre-
12 ation Area”) in the State, to be managed by the
13 Director.

14 (B) AREA INCLUDED.—The Recreation
15 Area shall consist of—

16 (i) any land within the boundaries of
17 the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study
18 Area that is west of the fence described in
19 paragraph (1); and

20 (ii) any Federal land in T. 41 N., R.
21 106 W., secs. 5 and 6 that—

22 (I) is managed by the Bureau;
23 and

24 (II) is west of North Mountain
25 View Road.

1 (C) MANAGEMENT.—

2 (i) BOUNDARY FENCE.—

3 (I) IN GENERAL.—The Director
4 shall construct a fence along the west-
5 ern boundary of the Recreation Area
6 on any land that—

7 (aa) is managed by the Bu-
8 reau; and

9 (bb) is west of North Moun-
10 tain View Road.

11 (II) COORDINATION.—In design-
12 ing, locating, and constructing the
13 fence described in subclause (I), the
14 Director shall coordinate with the
15 owners of any land adjacent to the
16 land described in that subclause.

17 (ii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—As
18 soon as practicable after the date of com-
19 pletion of the fence described in clause (i),
20 the Director shall establish a travel man-
21 agement plan for the Recreation Area to
22 maximize the use of motorized off-road ve-
23 hicles in the Recreation Area.

24 (3) DUBOIS BADLANDS NATIONAL CONSERVA-
25 TION AREA.—

1 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
2 lished the Dubois Badlands National Conserva-
3 tion Area (referred to in this paragraph as the
4 “Conservation Area”) in the State, to be man-
5 aged by the Director.

6 (B) AREA INCLUDED.—The Conservation
7 Area shall consist of any land within the bound-
8 aries of the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study
9 Area that is east of the fence described in para-
10 graph (1).

11 (C) MANAGEMENT.—

12 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
13 manage the Conservation Area in a man-
14 ner that protects—

15 (I) valid existing rights;

16 (II) agricultural uses;

17 (III) primitive recreational oppor-
18 tunities; and

19 (IV) natural, historic, and scenic
20 resources.

21 (D) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

22 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
23 in clause (ii), the use of motorized vehicles
24 in the Conservation Area shall not be al-
25 lowed.

1 (ii) EXCEPTIONS.—The Director may
2 allow the use of motorized vehicles in the
3 Conservation Area for—

4 (I) habitat improvement;

5 (II) the construction, reconstruc-
6 tion, or maintenance of range im-
7 provements; and

8 (III) to respond to an emergency.

9 (E) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
10 Conservation Area shall be administered in ac-
11 cordance with the laws generally applicable to
12 land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

13 (F) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—No major right-of-
14 way shall be allowed within the boundaries of
15 the Conservation Area.

16 (G) WITHDRAWAL.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid
18 rights in existence on the date of enact-
19 ment of this Act, the land within the
20 boundaries of the Conservation Area is
21 withdrawn from—

22 (I) location, entry, and patent
23 under the mining laws; and

1 (II) disposition under all laws re-
2 lating to mineral and geothermal leas-
3 ing.

4 (4) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for the
5 purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal Land Pol-
6 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
7 1782(c)), the land within the Dubois Badlands Wil-
8 derness Study Area has been adequately studied for
9 wilderness designation and is no longer subject to
10 section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
11 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

12 (d) RELEASE OF CERTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY
13 AREAS.—

14 (1) COPPER MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY
15 AREA.—

16 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
17 the purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal
18 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
19 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within the Copper
20 Mountain Wilderness Study Area—

21 (i) has been adequately studied for
22 wilderness designation;

23 (ii) is no longer subject to section
24 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and

1 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
2 1782(c)); and

3 (iii) shall be managed in accordance
4 with this paragraph.

5 (B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

6 (i) IN GENERAL.—The land described
7 in subparagraph (A) shall be administered
8 by the Director in accordance with the
9 laws generally applicable to land under the
10 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

11 (ii) MINERAL LEASING.—

12 (I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to
13 surface occupancy requirements and
14 any other provision of law, the Direc-
15 tor may enter mineral leases for any
16 land described in subparagraph (A)
17 that has a slope of less than 25 per-
18 cent.

19 (II) UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-
20 WAY.—The Director may grant under-
21 ground rights-of-way for any mineral
22 lease entered into under subclause (I).

23 (iii) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN
24 LEASES.—Subject to valid rights in exist-
25 ence on the date of enactment of this Act,

1 the Director shall not issue a new lease for
2 a wind or solar project, an overhead trans-
3 mission line, or a communication tower on
4 the land described in subparagraph (A).

5 (C) AUTHORITY TO EXCHANGE LAND.—In
6 carrying out any land exchange involving any of
7 the land described in subparagraph (A), the Di-
8 rector shall ensure that the exchange does not
9 result in a net loss of Federal land.

10 (2) WHISKEY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY
11 AREA.—

12 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
13 the purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal
14 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
15 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within the Whiskey
16 Mountain Wilderness Study Area—

17 (i) has been adequately studied for
18 wilderness designation;

19 (ii) is no longer subject to section
20 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and
21 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
22 1782(c)); and

23 (iii) shall be managed in accordance
24 with this paragraph.

1 (B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

2 The land described in subparagraph (A) shall
3 be administered by the Director in accordance
4 with—

5 (i) a resource management plan that
6 is applicable to any land adjacent to the
7 land described in subparagraph (A); and

8 (ii) the Whiskey Mountain Coopera-
9 tive Agreement between the Wyoming
10 Game and Fish Commission, the Forest
11 Service, and the Bureau, including any
12 amendment to that agreement relating to
13 the management of bighorn sheep.

14 (e) MANAGEMENT OF LAND IN FREMONT COUNTY,
15 WYOMING.—

16 (1) DEFINITION OF COUNTY.—In this sub-
17 section, the term “County” means Fremont County,
18 Wyoming.

19 (2) LANDER SLOPE AND RED CANYON AREAS
20 OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN.—

21 (A) TRANSFERS.—The Director shall pur-
22 sue transfers in which land managed by the Bu-
23 reau in the County is exchanged for land owned
24 by the State that is within the boundaries of—

1 (i) the Lander Slope Area of Critical
2 Environmental Concern; or

3 (ii) the Red Canyon Area of Critical
4 Environmental Concern.

5 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—A transfer under
6 subparagraph (A) shall—

7 (i) comply with all requirements of
8 law, including any required analysis; and

9 (ii) be subject to appropriation.

10 (3) STUDY.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
12 carry out a study to evaluate the potential for
13 the development of special motorized recreation
14 areas in the County.

15 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—The study under
16 subparagraph (A) shall evaluate—

17 (i) the potential for the development
18 of special motorized recreation areas on all
19 land managed by the Bureau in the Coun-
20 ty except—

21 (I) T. 40 N., R. 94 W., secs. 15,
22 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29,
23 and the N¹/₂ sec. 34; and

24 (II) any land that is subject to a
25 restriction on the use of off-road vehi-

1 cles under any Federal law, including
2 this Act;

3 (ii) the suitability of the land for off-
4 road vehicles, including rock crawlers; and

5 (iii) the parking, staging, and camp-
6 ing necessary to accommodate special mo-
7 torized recreation.

8 (C) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
10 shall submit to the Committee on Energy and
11 Natural Resources of the Senate and the Com-
12 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of
13 Representatives a report describing the findings
14 of the study under subparagraph (A).

15 (4) FREMONT COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION
16 TEAM.—

17 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90
18 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
19 the Secretary of the Interior shall establish a
20 team, to be known as the “Fremont County Im-
21 plementation Team” (referred to in this para-
22 graph as the “Team”) to advise and assist the
23 Director with respect to the implementation of
24 the management requirements described in this

1 section that are applicable to land in the Coun-
 2 ty.

3 (B) MEMBERSHIP.—The team shall consist
 4 of—

5 (i) the Secretary of the Interior (or a
 6 designee of the Secretary of the Interior);
 7 and

8 (ii) 1 or more individuals appointed by
 9 the Board of County Commissioners of the
 10 County.

11 (C) NONAPPLICABILITY OF THE FEDERAL
 12 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The team shall
 13 not be subject to the requirements of chapter
 14 10 of title 5, United States Code (commonly re-
 15 ferred to as the “Federal Advisory Committee
 16 Act”).

17 **SEC. 5. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN JOHNSON AND CAMP-**
 18 **BELL COUNTIES, WYOMING.**

19 (a) DESIGNATIONS.—

20 (1) FORTIFICATION CREEK MANAGEMENT
 21 AREA.—The land within the Fortification Creek Wil-
 22 derness Study Area is designated as the “Fortifica-
 23 tion Creek Management Area”.

24 (2) FRAKER MOUNTAIN MANAGEMENT AREA.—
 25 The land within the Gardner Mountain Wilderness

1 Study Area is designated as the “Fraker Mountain
2 Management Area”.

3 (3) NORTH FORK MANAGEMENT AREA.—The
4 land within the North Fork Wilderness Study Area
5 is designated as the “North Fork Management
6 Area”.

7 (b) MANAGEMENT.—

8 (1) ADMINISTRATION.—The management areas
9 designated by subsection (a) (referred to in this sub-
10 section as the “Management Areas”) shall be admin-
11 istered by the Director in a manner that—

12 (A) promotes nonmotorized backcountry
13 recreation, including hunting; and

14 (B) supports ongoing projects to maintain
15 and improve—

16 (i) wildlife habitat;

17 (ii) forest health;

18 (iii) watershed protection; and

19 (iv) ecological and cultural values.

20 (2) ROADS.—

21 (A) PROHIBITION ON NEW PERMANENT
22 ROADS.—The construction of new permanent
23 roads in the Management Areas shall not be al-
24 lowed.

1 (B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Secretary
2 of the Interior may authorize the construction
3 of new temporary roads in the Management
4 Areas—

5 (i) for—

6 (I) fire suppression;

7 (II) forest health and restoration;

8 (III) weed and pest control;

9 (IV) habitat management;

10 (V) livestock management; or

11 (VI) the construction, reconstruc-
12 tion, or maintenance of a range im-
13 provement; or

14 (ii) to respond to an emergency.

15 (3) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
17 subparagraph (B), the use of motorized or
18 mechanized vehicles in the Management Areas
19 shall not be allowed.

20 (B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Director may
21 allow the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-
22 cles in the Management Areas—

23 (i) for—

24 (I) fire suppression;

25 (II) forest health and restoration;

- 1 (III) weed and pest control;
 2 (IV) habitat management;
 3 (V) livestock management; or
 4 (VI) the construction, reconstruc-
 5 tion, or maintenance of a range im-
 6 provement; or
 7 (ii) to respond to an emergency.

8 (4) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the Man-
 9 agement Areas shall be administered in accordance
 10 with the laws generally applicable to land under the
 11 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

12 (5) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN INFRASTRUC-
 13 TURE.—The development, construction, or installa-
 14 tion of infrastructure for recreational use shall not
 15 be allowed in—

16 (A) the Fraker Mountain Management
 17 Area; or

18 (B) the North Fork Management Area.

19 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
 21 subparagraph (B), subject to valid rights in ex-
 22 istence on the date of enactment of this Act,
 23 the land within the boundaries of the Manage-
 24 ment Areas is withdrawn from—

1 (i) location, entry, and patent under
2 the mining laws; and

3 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
4 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

5 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
6 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
7 the boundaries of a management area des-
8 ignated by paragraph (1) if—

9 (i) the lease may only be accessed by
10 directional drilling from a lease that is out-
11 side of the management area; and

12 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
13 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
14 face disturbance within the management
15 area for any activities, including activities
16 related to exploration, development, or pro-
17 duction.

18 (7) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—
19 Congress finds that, for the purposes of section
20 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
21 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within
22 the Fortification Creek Wilderness Study Area, the
23 Gardner Mountain Wilderness Study Area, and the
24 North Fork Wilderness Study Area has been ade-
25 quately studied for wilderness designation and is no

1 longer subject to section 603(c) of the Federal Land
2 Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
3 1782(c)).

4 **SEC. 6. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN WASHAKIE AND HOT**
5 **SPRINGS COUNTIES, WYOMING.**

6 (a) DESIGNATION OF BOBCAT DRAW WILDER-
7 NESS.—

8 (1) DESIGNATION.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with the
10 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the
11 approximately 6,200 acres of land within the
12 Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study Area described
13 in subparagraph (B) is designated as wilderness
14 and as a component of the National Wilderness
15 Preservation System, to be known as the “Bob-
16 cat Draw Wilderness” (referred to in this sub-
17 section as the “Wilderness”).

18 (B) INCLUDED LAND.—The Wilderness
19 shall consist of—

20 (i) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., secs. 2, 3,
21 10, 11, 15, 22, 23, 26, and 27, any land
22 in the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study
23 Area that is in Washakie County, Wyo-
24 ming;

1 (ii) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 4, the
2 land in—

3 (I) the $E^{1/2}SE^{1/4}$;

4 (II) lots 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14
5 of the $NE^{1/4}$;

6 (III) the east $1/2$ of lot 10 of the
7 $NW^{1/4}$; and

8 (IV) the northeast $1/4$ of lot 15 of
9 the $NW^{1/4}$;

10 (iii) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 9, the
11 land in—

12 (I) the $E^{1/2}NE^{1/4}$;

13 (II) the $SW^{1/4}NE^{1/4}$;

14 (III) the $E^{1/2}NW^{1/4}NE^{1/4}$;

15 (IV) the $SE^{1/4}SE^{1/4}NW^{1/4}$;

16 (V) the $SE^{1/4}$;

17 (VI) the $E^{1/2}NE^{1/4}SW^{1/4}$;

18 (VII) the $SW^{1/4}NE^{1/4}SW^{1/4}$;

19 (VIII) the $SE^{1/4}SW^{1/4}$; and

20 (IX) the $E^{1/2}SW^{1/4}SW^{1/4}$;

21 (iv) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 14,
22 the land in—

23 (I) the $W^{1/2}$;

24 (II) the $W^{1/2}NE^{1/4}$;

25 (III) the $W^{1/2}SE^{1/4}$; and

1 (IV) the SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 2 (v) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 21, the
 3 land in—

4 (I) the NE¹/₄;
 5 (II) the E¹/₂NE¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 6 (III) the E¹/₂SE¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 7 (IV) the E¹/₂NE¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 8 (V) that part of the
 9 E¹/₂SE¹/₄SW¹/₄ within the boundary
 10 of the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study
 11 Area; and

12 (VI) that part of the SE¹/₄ within
 13 the boundary of the Bobcat Draw
 14 Wilderness Study Area; and

15 (vi) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 24,
 16 the land in—

17 (I) the W¹/₂NW¹/₄; and
 18 (II) that part of the NW¹/₄SW¹/₄
 19 within the boundary of the Bobcat
 20 Draw Wilderness Study Area.

21 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

22 (A) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid
 23 existing rights, the Wilderness shall be adminis-
 24 tered by the Director in accordance with—

25 (i) this paragraph; and

1 (ii) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
2 1131 et seq.), except that any reference in
3 that Act to the effective date of that Act
4 shall be considered to be a reference to the
5 date of enactment of this Act.

6 (B) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
7 Wilderness, where established before the date of
8 enactment of this Act, shall be allowed to con-
9 tinue in accordance with—

10 (i) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness
11 Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(4));

12 (ii) the guidelines set forth in the re-
13 port of the Committee on Interior and In-
14 sular Affairs of the House of Representa-
15 tives accompanying H.R. 5487 of the 96th
16 Congress (H. Rept. 96–617); and

17 (iii) the guidelines set forth in appen-
18 dix A of the Report of the Committee on
19 Interior and Insular Affairs to accompany
20 H.R. 2570 of the 101st Congress (H.
21 Rept. 101–405).

22 (C) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
23 REGULATIONS.—

24 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
25 policies, practices, and regulations of the

1 Department conform to and implement the
2 intent of Congress regarding forest fires
3 and the outbreak of disease or insects, not
4 later than 180 days after the date of en-
5 actment of this Act, the Secretary of the
6 Interior shall review all policies, practices,
7 and regulations of the Department applica-
8 ble to the Wilderness that pertain to—

9 (I) forest fires, including the use
10 of modern methods of fire suppression
11 (including mechanical activity, as nec-
12 essary); or

13 (II) the outbreak of disease or in-
14 sect populations.

15 (ii) REVISIONS.—On completion of the
16 review under clause (i), the Secretary of
17 the Interior shall revise or develop policies,
18 practices, and regulations for the Wilder-
19 ness—

20 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
21 cient control of fires, diseases, and in-
22 sects in the Wilderness; and

23 (II) to provide, to the maximum
24 extent practicable, adequate protection
25 from forest fires, disease outbreaks,

1 (II) in accordance with the laws
2 generally applicable to land under the
3 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

4 (C) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

5 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2
6 years after the date of enactment of this
7 Act, the Director shall develop a travel
8 management plan for the land described in
9 subparagraph (A).

10 (ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The travel
11 management plan under clause (i) shall—

12 (I) identify all existing roads and
13 trails on the land described in sub-
14 paragraph (A);

15 (II) designate each road or trail
16 available for—

17 (aa) motorized or mecha-
18 nized recreation; or

19 (bb) agriculture practices;

20 (III) prohibit the construction of
21 any new road or trail for motorized or
22 mechanized recreation use; and

23 (IV) permit the continued use of
24 nonmotorized trails.

25 (D) WITHDRAWAL.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
2 in clause (ii), subject to valid rights in ex-
3 istence on the date of enactment of this
4 Act, the land described in subparagraph
5 (A) is withdrawn from—

6 (I) location, entry, and patent
7 under the mining laws; and

8 (II) disposition under all laws re-
9 lating to mineral and geothermal leas-
10 ing.

11 (ii) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of
12 the Interior may lease oil and gas re-
13 sources within the land described in sub-
14 paragraph (A) if—

15 (I) the lease may only be
16 accessed by directional drilling from a
17 lease that is outside of the land de-
18 scribed in subparagraph (A); and

19 (II) the lease prohibits, without
20 exception or waiver, surface occupancy
21 and surface disturbance on the land
22 described in subparagraph (A) for any
23 activities, including activities related
24 to exploration, development, or pro-
25 duction.

1 (b) DESIGNATION OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN SPECIAL
2 MANAGEMENT AREA.—

3 (1) DESIGNATION.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
5 subparagraph (B), the land within the Cedar
6 Mountain Wilderness Study Area is designated
7 as the “Cedar Mountain Special Management
8 Area” (referred to in this subsection as the
9 “Special Management Area”).

10 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

11 (i) IN GENERAL.—The land described
12 in clause (ii) is not included in the Special
13 Management Area.

14 (ii) LAND DESCRIBED.—The land re-
15 ferred to in clause (i) is the land des-
16 ignated by the Bureau as not suitable for
17 wilderness in—

18 (I) the NE¹/₄NW¹/₄ sec. 5, T. 44
19 N., R. 94 W;

20 (II) the NE¹/₄SE¹/₄ sec. 5, T. 44
21 N., R. 94 W;

22 (III) the SW¹/₄NE¹/₄ sec. 5, T.
23 44 N., R. 94 W; and

24 (IV) the SW¹/₄SW¹/₄ sec. 32, T.
25 45 N., R. 94 W.

1 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Manage-
2 ment Area shall be administered by the Director in
3 a manner that—

4 (A) maintains the recreational, scenic, cul-
5 tural, ecological, wildlife, and livestock produc-
6 tion values of the Special Management Area;
7 and

8 (B) promotes continued use of the Special
9 Management Area for recreational activities, in-
10 cluding hunting and wildlife viewing.

11 (3) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
13 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Di-
14 rector shall develop a travel management plan
15 for the Special Management Area.

16 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—The travel manage-
17 ment plan under subparagraph (A) shall—

18 (i) identify all existing roads and
19 trails in the Special Management Area;

20 (ii) designate each road or trail avail-
21 able for—

22 (I) motorized or mechanized
23 recreation; or

24 (II) agriculture practices;

1 (iii) prohibit the construction of any
2 new road or trail for motorized or mecha-
3 nized recreation use; and

4 (iv) permit the continued use of non-
5 motorized trails.

6 (4) **MOTORIZED VEHICLES.**—

7 (A) **USE OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES FOR**
8 **LIVESTOCK.**—The use of motorized vehicles
9 shall be allowed on any road in the Special
10 Management Area for—

11 (i) the construction, reconstruction, or
12 maintenance of range improvements; or

13 (ii) other livestock-management pur-
14 poses.

15 (B) **USE OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES FOR**
16 **EMERGENCIES.**—The use of motorized vehicles
17 shall be allowed in the Special Management
18 Area—

19 (i) for fire suppression;

20 (ii) for weed and pest management;

21 and

22 (iii) to respond to an emergency.

23 (5) **GRAZING.**—Grazing of livestock in the Spe-
24 cial Management Area shall be administered—

25 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

1 (B) in accordance with the laws generally
2 applicable to land under the jurisdiction of the
3 Bureau.

4 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
6 subparagraph (B), subject to valid rights in ex-
7 istence on the date of enactment of this Act,
8 the land within the boundaries of the Special
9 Management Area is withdrawn from—

10 (i) location, entry, and patent under
11 the mining laws; and

12 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
13 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

14 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
15 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
16 the boundaries of the Special Management Area
17 if—

18 (i) the lease may only be accessed by
19 directional drilling from a lease that is out-
20 side of the Special Management Area; and

21 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
22 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
23 face disturbance within the Special Man-
24 agement Area for any activities, including

1 activities related to exploration, develop-
2 ment, or production.

3 (7) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

4 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
5 the purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal
6 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
7 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within the Cedar
8 Mountain Wilderness Study Area has been ade-
9 quately studied for wilderness designation and
10 is no longer subject to section 603(c) of the
11 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of
12 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

13 (B) MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN RELEASED
14 LAND.—The Director shall manage any land
15 described in subparagraph (A) that is not in-
16 cluded in the Special Management Area in a
17 manner consistent with a resource management
18 plan that is applicable to any land that—

19 (i) is managed by the Bureau; and

20 (ii) is similarly situated to the land
21 described in subparagraph (A) that is not
22 included in the Special Management Area.

23 (c) RELEASE OF HONEYCOMBS WILDERNESS STUDY
24 AREA.—

1 (1) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for the
2 purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal Land Pol-
3 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
4 1782(e)), the land within the Honeycombs Wilder-
5 ness Study Area—

6 (A) has been adequately studied for wilder-
7 ness designation;

8 (B) is no longer subject to section 603(c)
9 of the Federal Land Policy and Management
10 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)); and

11 (C) shall be managed in accordance with
12 this subsection.

13 (2) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—The
14 land described in paragraph (1) shall be adminis-
15 tered by the Director in accordance with—

16 (A) the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
17 ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

18 (B) a resource management plan that is
19 applicable to any land adjacent to the land de-
20 scribed in paragraph (1).

21 (d) STUDY OF LAND IN HOT SPRINGS AND
22 WASHAKIE COUNTIES.—

23 (1) DEFINITION OF COUNTIES.—In this sub-
24 section, the term “Counties” means each of the fol-
25 lowing counties in the State:

1 (A) Hot Springs County.

2 (B) Washakie County.

3 (2) STUDY.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
5 carry out a study to evaluate the potential for
6 the development of new special motorized recre-
7 ation areas in the Counties.

8 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—

9 (i) LAND INCLUDED.—The study
10 under subparagraph (A) shall evaluate the
11 potential for the development of new spe-
12 cial motorized recreation areas on all land
13 managed by the Bureau in the Counties
14 except any land that is subject to a restric-
15 tion on the use of motorized or mechanized
16 vehicles under any Federal law, including
17 this Act.

18 (ii) PUBLIC INPUT; COLLABORA-
19 TION.—In carrying out the study under
20 subparagraph (A), the Director shall—

21 (I) offer opportunities for public
22 input; and

23 (II) collaborate with—

24 (aa) Wyoming Parks, His-
25 toric Sites, and Trails; and

1 (bb) the Counties.

2 (C) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
4 shall submit to the Committee on Energy and
5 Natural Resources of the Senate and the Com-
6 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of
7 Representatives a report describing the findings
8 of the study under subparagraph (A).

9 **SEC. 7. APPLICATION OF BLM RULE.**

10 The proposed rule of the Bureau entitled “Conserva-
11 tion and Landscape Health” (88 Fed. Reg. 19583 (April
12 3, 2023)) or any substantially similar rule shall not apply
13 to the land covered by this Act.

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