

Calendar No. 422

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 1348****[Report No. 118–185]**

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

JUNE 18, 2024

Reported by Mr. MANCHIN, with an amendment

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

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

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

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

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

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

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

13 (B) of harm to property.

14 (5) RANGE IMPROVEMENT.—The term “range
15 improvement” has the meaning given the term in
16 section 3 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act
17 of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1902).

18 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
19 of Wyoming.

20 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN CARBON COUNTY, WYO-**
21 **MING.**

22 (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

23 (1) ENCAMPMENT RIVER CANYON WILDER-
24 NESS.—

25 (A) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with
26 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.);

1 except as provided in subparagraph (B), the
 2 land within the boundaries of the Encampment
 3 River Canyon Wilderness Study Area is des-
 4 ignated as wilderness and as a component of
 5 the National Wilderness Preservation System,
 6 to be known as the “Encampment River Can-
 7 yon Wilderness” (referred to in this paragraph
 8 as the “Wilderness”).

9 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

10 (i) DEFINITION OF WATER VALLEY
 11 ROAD.—In this subparagraph, the term
 12 “Water Valley Road” means the road in
 13 Carbon County, Wyoming, that is 50 feet
 14 wide and 17,340 feet long, consisting of
 15 approximately 19.904 acres of land in T.
 16 14 N., R. 84 W., including—

17 (I) in sec. 22, land in—

18 (aa) the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; and

19 (bb) the S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

20 (II) in sec. 27, land in lots 4, 6,
 21 and 7 of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

22 (III) in sec. 28, land in lot 1 of
 23 the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

24 (IV) in sec. 34, land in—

25 (aa) the S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$; and

- 1 (bb) the E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$; and
 2 (V) in sec. 35, land in—
 3 (aa) the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 4 (bb) the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; and
 5 (cc) the S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

6 (ii) LAND EXCLUDED FROM THE WIL-
 7 DERNESS.—The following land is not in-
 8 cluded in the Wilderness:

9 (I) Any land in the
 10 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 24, T. 14 N.,
 11 R. 84 W.

12 (II) Any land within 50 feet of
 13 the centerline of—

14 (aa) County Road 353; or

15 (bb) Water Valley Road.

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

22 (D) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
 24 days after the date of enactment of this

1 Act, the Director shall establish a fire sup-
 2 pression plan for the protection of—

3 (I) any individual or structure
 4 adjacent to the Wilderness; and

5 (II) the population centers of—

6 (aa) Encampment, Wyo-
 7 ming; and

8 (bb) Riverside, Wyoming.

9 (ii) COORDINATION.—In carrying out
 10 clause (i), the Director shall coordinate
 11 with—

12 (I) the Wyoming State Forestry
 13 Division; and

14 (II) Carbon County, Wyoming.

15 (2) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS.—

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

1 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—Any land within
2 100 feet of the centerline of Prospect Road is
3 not included in the Wilderness.

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

9 (3) MANAGEMENT OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

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

16 (i) this paragraph; and

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

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

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

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

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

13 (C) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
14 REGULATIONS.—

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

1 (I) wildland fires, including the
 2 use of modern methods of fire sup-
 3 pression (including mechanical activ-
 4 ity, as necessary); or

5 (II) the outbreak of disease or in-
 6 sect populations.

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

12 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
 13 cient control of fires, diseases, and in-
 14 sects in the Wilderness Areas, in ae-
 15 cordance with section 4(d)(1) of the
 16 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
 17 1133(d)(1)); and

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

24 (b) DESIGNATION OF BENNETT MOUNTAINS SPE-
 25 CIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.—

1 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land within the Ben-
2 nett Mountains Wilderness Study Area is designated
3 as the “Bennett Mountains Special Management
4 Area” (referred to in this subsection as the “Special
5 Management Area”).

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

8 (3) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

9 (A) ROADS.—

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

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

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

1 vehicles by the travel management plan estab-
 2 lished under subparagraph (C).

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

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

10 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

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

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

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

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

24 (5) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
2 carry out fire management and suppression ac-
3 tivities in the Special Management Area in ac-
4 cordance with the laws generally applicable to
5 land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

6 (B) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
7 REGULATIONS.—

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

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

1 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
2 cient control of fires in the Special
3 Management Area; and

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

9 (6) ~~TIMBER HARVESTING.~~—Commercial timber
10 harvesting shall not be allowed in the Special Man-
11 agement Area.

12 (7) ~~WITHDRAWAL.~~—

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

18 (i) location, entry, and patent under
19 the mining laws; and

20 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
21 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

22 (B) ~~EXCEPTION.~~—The Secretary of the In-
23 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
24 the boundaries of the Special Management Area
25 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 (c) DESIGNATION OF BLACK CAT SPECIAL MANAGE-
 11 MENT AREA.—

12 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land described in
 13 paragraph (2) is designated as the “Black Cat Spe-
 14 cial Management Area” (referred to in this sub-
 15 section as the “Special Management Area”).

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

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

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

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

4 (4) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

5 (A) ROADS.—

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

10 (ii) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Sec-
11 retary of Agriculture may authorize the
12 construction of new temporary roads to re-
13 spond to an emergency.

14 (B) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—Except as
15 needed for administrative purposes, to respond
16 to an emergency, or to develop or maintain
17 range improvements, the Secretary of Agri-
18 culture shall prohibit the use of motorized and
19 mechanized vehicles in the Special Management
20 Area.

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

23 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

1 (B) in accordance with the laws generally
2 applicable to the National Forest System, in-
3 cluding—

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

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

10 (iii) the Public Rangelands Improve-
11 ment Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901 et
12 seq.).

13 (6) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agri-
15 culture shall carry out fire management and
16 suppression activities in the Special Manage-
17 ment Area—

18 (i) in accordance with the laws gen-
19 erally applicable to—

20 (I) the National Forest System;

21 and

22 (II) the land within the bound-
23 aries of the Special Management
24 Area; and

1 (ii)(I) if a land management plan has
2 been established for the Special Manage-
3 ment Area, in accordance with that land
4 management plan; or

5 (II) if a land management plan has
6 not been established for the Special Man-
7 agement Area, in a manner consistent with
8 land that is similarly situated to the land
9 within the boundaries of the Special Man-
10 agement Area, as determined by the Sec-
11 retary of Agriculture.

12 (B) REVIEW OF POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND
13 REGULATIONS.—

14 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
15 policies, practices, and regulations of the
16 Department of Agriculture conform to and
17 implement the intent of Congress regard-
18 ing forest fires, not later than 180 days
19 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
20 Secretary of Agriculture shall review all
21 policies, practices, and regulations of the
22 Department of Agriculture applicable to
23 the Special Management Area that pertain
24 to forest fires, including the use of modern
25 methods of fire suppression.

1 (ii) ~~REVISION.~~—On completion of the
2 review under clause (i), the Secretary of
3 Agriculture shall revise or develop policies,
4 practices, and regulations for the Special
5 Management Area—

6 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
7 cient control of fires in the Special
8 Management Area; and

9 (II) to provide, to the maximum
10 extent practicable, adequate protection
11 from forest fires to any Federal,
12 State, or private land adjacent to the
13 Special Management Area.

14 (7) ~~TIMBER HARVESTING.~~—Commercial timber
15 harvesting shall not be allowed in the Special Man-
16 agement Area.

17 (8) ~~WITHDRAWAL.~~—

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

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

1 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
2 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

3 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
4 terior may, with the approval of the Secretary
5 of Agriculture, lease oil and gas resources with-
6 in the boundaries of the Special Management
7 Area if—

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

11 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
12 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
13 face disturbance within the Special Man-
14 agement Area for any activities, including
15 activities related to exploration, develop-
16 ment, or production.

17 (d) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—

18 (1) FINDING.—Congress finds that, for the pur-
19 poses of section 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy
20 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)),
21 any portion of a wilderness study area described in
22 paragraph (2) that is not designated as wilderness
23 by this section has been adequately studied for wil-
24 derness designation.

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

4 (A) the Encampment River Canyon Wil-
5 derness Study Area;

6 (B) the Prospect Mountain Wilderness
7 Study Area; and

8 (C) the Bennett Mountains Wilderness
9 Study Area.

10 (3) RELEASE.—Any portion of a wilderness
11 study area described in paragraph (2) that is not
12 designated as wilderness by this section is no longer
13 subject to section 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy
14 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

15 (4) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

16 (A) ENCAMPMENT RIVER CANYON WILDER-
17 NESS STUDY AREA.—The Director shall manage
18 the portion of the Encampment River Canyon
19 Wilderness Study Area released under para-
20 graph (3) in a manner consistent with a re-
21 source management plan that is applicable to
22 any land that—

23 (i) is adjacent to that released por-
24 tion; and

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

4 (B) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS
5 STUDY AREA.—The portion of the Prospect
6 Mountain Wilderness Study Area released
7 under paragraph (3) shall be managed in ac-
8 cordance with—

9 (i) the Federal Land Policy and Man-
10 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et
11 seq.); and

12 (ii) any other applicable law.

13 (C) BENNETT MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS
14 STUDY AREA.—The Director shall manage the
15 portion of the Bennett Mountains Wilderness
16 Study Area released under paragraph (3) in ac-
17 cordance with subsection (b).

18 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN FREMONT AND NATRONA**
19 **COUNTIES, WYOMING.**

20 (a) DESIGNATION OF UPPER SWEETWATER CANYON
21 AND LOWER SWEETWATER CANYON WILDERNESS
22 AREAS.—

23 (1) DESIGNATION.—

24 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with the
25 Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the

1 land within the boundaries of the Sweetwater
 2 Canyon Wilderness Study Area is designated as
 3 wilderness and, as described in subparagraphs
 4 (B) and (C), as 2 components of the National
 5 Wilderness Preservation System, to be known
 6 as the “Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness”
 7 (referred to in this subsection as the “Upper
 8 Wilderness”) and the “Lower Sweetwater Can-
 9 yon Wilderness” (referred to in this subsection
 10 as the “Lower Wilderness”).

11 (B) UPPER SWEETWATER CANYON WIL-
 12 DERNESS.—

13 (i) BOUNDARY.—

14 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
 15 vided in subclause (II), the boundary
 16 of the Upper Wilderness shall conform
 17 to the boundary of the Sweetwater
 18 Canyon Wilderness Study Area.

19 (II) EASTERN BOUNDARY.—The
 20 eastern boundary of the Upper Wil-
 21 derness shall be 100 feet from the
 22 western edge of the north-south road
 23 bisecting the Upper Wilderness and
 24 the Lower Wilderness, known as
 25 “Strawberry Creek Road”.

1 (ii) EXCLUSION OF EXISTING
2 ROADS.—Any established legal route with
3 authorized motorized use in existence on
4 the date of enactment of this Act that en-
5 ters the Upper Wilderness in T. 28 N., R.
6 98 W., sec. 4, or the Lower Wilderness in
7 T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 33, is not in-
8 cluded in the Upper Wilderness.

9 (C) LOWER SWEETWATER CANYON WIL-
10 DERNESS.—

11 (i) BOUNDARY.—

12 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
13 vided in subclauses (II) and (III), the
14 boundary of the Lower Wilderness
15 shall conform to the boundary of the
16 Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study
17 Area.

18 (II) WESTERN BOUNDARY.—The
19 western boundary of the Lower Wil-
20 derness shall be 100 feet from the
21 eastern edge of the north-south road
22 bisecting the Upper Wilderness and
23 the Lower Wilderness, known as
24 “Strawberry Creek Road”.

1 (III) NORTHERN BOUNDARY.—
2 The northern boundary of the Lower
3 Wilderness shall begin where the bi-
4 secting road referred to in subclause
5 (II) enters the Sweetwater Canyon
6 Wilderness Study Area at the border
7 of T. 29 N., R. 98 W., sec. 36, and
8 T. 28 N., R. 98 W., sec. 2, and shall
9 run east along the boundary of T. 29
10 N., R. 97 W., sec. 31, to the center-
11 line of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 31,
12 then north along that centerline to the
13 midpoint of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec.
14 31, then east along that centerline to
15 the boundary of T. 29 N., R. 97 W.,
16 sec. 32, then following the existing
17 boundary of the Sweetwater Canyon
18 Wilderness Study Area to the mid-
19 point of T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 32,
20 then east along the centerline of T. 29
21 N., R. 97 W., secs. 32 and 33, to the
22 existing boundary of the Sweetwater
23 Canyon Wilderness Study Area.

24 (ii) EXCLUSION OF EXISTING
25 ROADS.—Any established legal route with

1 authorized motorized use in existence on
2 the date of enactment of this Act that en-
3 ters the Upper Wilderness in T. 29 N., R.
4 98 W., sec. 4; or the Lower Wilderness in
5 T. 29 N., R. 97 W., sec. 33, is not in-
6 cluded in the Lower Wilderness.

7 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

8 (A) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid
9 existing rights, the Upper Wilderness and the
10 Lower Wilderness shall be administered by the
11 Director in accordance with—

12 (i) this paragraph; and

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

18 (B) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
19 Upper Wilderness and the Lower Wilderness,
20 where established before the date of enactment
21 of this Act, shall be allowed to continue in ac-
22 cordance 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) MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING ROADS.—

12 Necessary maintenance or repairs to any road
13 described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of para-
14 graph (1) shall be permitted after the date of
15 enactment of this Act, consistent with the re-
16 quirements of this subsection.

17 (D) RANGE IMPROVEMENTS.—The con-
18 struction, reconstruction, and maintenance of
19 range improvements shall be allowed in the
20 Upper Wilderness and the Lower Wilderness.

21 (E) BUFFER ZONES.—

22 (i) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this
23 paragraph creates a protective perimeter or
24 buffer zone around the Upper Wilderness
25 or the Lower Wilderness.

1 (ii) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WILDERNESS
 2 AREAS.—The fact that an activity or use
 3 on land outside the Upper Wilderness or
 4 the Lower Wilderness can be seen or heard
 5 within the Upper Wilderness or the Lower
 6 Wilderness, respectively, shall not preclude
 7 the activity or use outside the boundary of
 8 the Upper Wilderness or the Lower Wil-
 9 derness.

10 (3) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—
 11 Congress finds that, for the purposes of section
 12 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
 13 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land within
 14 the Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study Area not
 15 designated as wilderness by this subsection has been
 16 adequately studied for wilderness designation and is
 17 no longer subject to section 603(e) of the Federal
 18 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
 19 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

20 (b) DESIGNATION OF SWEETWATER ROCKS SPECIAL
 21 MANAGEMENT AREA.—

22 (1) DESIGNATION.—The land within the
 23 Larkin Dome, Split Rock, Savage Peak, and Miller
 24 Springs Wilderness Study Areas is designated as the
 25 “Sweetwater Rocks Special Management Area” (re-

1 ferred to in this subsection as the “Special Manage-
2 ment Area”).

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

6 ~~(A) valid existing rights;~~

7 ~~(B) agricultural uses;~~

8 ~~(C) primitive recreational opportunities;~~

9 and

10 ~~(D) natural, historic, and scenic resources.~~

11 ~~(3) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.~~—

12 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.~~—Except as provided in
13 subparagraph ~~(B)~~, the use of motorized vehicles
14 in the Special Management Area shall be al-
15 lowed only on established legal routes with au-
16 thorized motorized use existing on the date of
17 enactment of this Act.

18 ~~(B) EXCEPTIONS.~~—Notwithstanding sub-
19 paragraph ~~(A)~~, the use of motorized vehicles
20 may be allowed in the Special Management
21 Area for the construction, reconstruction, or
22 maintenance of necessary infrastructure, as de-
23 termined by the Director.

24 ~~(4) GRAZING.~~—Grazing of livestock in the Spe-
25 cial Management Area shall be administered in ac-

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

3 ~~(5) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OVERHEAD TOW-~~
4 ~~ERS.—No new overhead transmission or communica-~~
5 ~~tions tower shall be constructed in the Special Man-~~
6 ~~agement Area.~~

7 ~~(6) UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Di-~~
8 ~~rector may expand any underground right-of-way in~~
9 ~~the Special Management Area that exists as of the~~
10 ~~date of enactment of this Act.~~

11 ~~(7) BUFFER ZONES.—~~

12 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this sub-~~
13 ~~section creates a protective perimeter or buffer~~
14 ~~zone around the Special Management Area.~~

15 ~~(B) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SPECIAL MAN-~~
16 ~~AGEMENT AREA.—The fact that an activity or~~
17 ~~use on land outside the Special Management~~
18 ~~Area can be seen or heard within the Special~~
19 ~~Management Area shall not preclude the activ-~~
20 ~~ity or use outside the boundary of the Special~~
21 ~~Management Area.~~

22 ~~(8) LAND EXCHANGES AND EASEMENTS.—~~

23 ~~(A) LAND EXCHANGES.—~~

24 ~~(i) IN GENERAL.—The Director may~~
25 ~~propose to, and carry out with, an indi-~~

1 individual or entity owning land in the vicinity
 2 of the Special Management Area any land
 3 exchange that—

4 (I) increases access to the Special
 5 Management Area; and

6 (II) does not result in a net loss
 7 of Federal land.

8 (ii) PROCESS.—The Director may
 9 carry out clause (i)—

10 (I) through the use of existing
 11 processes; or

12 (II) by establishing a process for
 13 proposing and carrying out land ex-
 14 changes under that clause.

15 (B) EASEMENTS.—Notwithstanding any
 16 other provision of law, the Director may acquire
 17 from an individual or entity owning land in the
 18 vicinity of the Special Management Area an
 19 easement for the purpose of increasing access
 20 to the Special Management Area.

21 (9) WITHDRAWALS.—

22 (A) MINING, MINERAL, AND GEOTHERMAL
 23 WITHDRAWAL.—

24 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
 25 in clause (ii), subject to valid rights in ex-

1 istence on the date of enactment of this
2 Act, the land within the boundaries of the
3 Special Management Area is withdrawn
4 from—

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

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

10 (ii) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of
11 the Interior may lease oil and gas re-
12 sources within the boundaries of the Spe-
13 cial Management Area if—

14 (I) the lease may only be
15 accessed by directional drilling from a
16 lease that is outside of the Special
17 Management Area; and

18 (II) the lease prohibits, without
19 exception or waiver, surface occupancy
20 and surface disturbance within the
21 Special Management Area for any ac-
22 tivities, including activities related to
23 exploration, development, or produc-
24 tion.

1 (B) WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY WITH-
2 DRAWAL.—Subject to valid rights in existence
3 on the date of enactment of this Act, the land
4 within the boundaries of the Special Manage-
5 ment Area is withdrawn from right-of-way leas-
6 ing and disposition under all laws relating to
7 wind or solar energy.

8 (10) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY
9 AREAS.—Congress finds that, for the purposes of
10 section 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
11 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land
12 within the Lankin Dome, Split Rock, Savage Peak,
13 and Miller Springs Wilderness Study Areas has been
14 adequately studied for wilderness designation and is
15 no longer subject to section 603(e) of the Federal
16 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
17 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

18 (c) RELEASE OF THE DUBOIS BADLANDS WILDER-
19 NESS STUDY AREA.—

20 (1) DIVISION.—The Director shall divide the
21 land within the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study
22 Area by installing a fence, or repairing or relocating
23 an existing fence, in T. 41 N., R. 106 W., sec. 5,
24 that—

1 (A) follows existing infrastructure and nat-
2 ural barriers;

3 (B) begins at an intersection with North
4 Mountain View Road in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5,
5 T. 41 N., R. 106 W.;

6 (C) from the point described in subpara-
7 graph (B); proceeds southeast to a point near
8 the midpoint of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T. 41 N., R.
9 106 W.; and

10 (D) from the point described in subpara-
11 graph (C); proceeds southwest to a point in the
12 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T. 41 N., R. 106 W., that
13 intersects with the boundary of the Dubois
14 Badlands Wilderness Study Area.

15 (2) DUBOIS MOTORIZED RECREATION AREA.—

16 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
17 lished the Dubois Motorized Recreation Area
18 (referred to in this paragraph as the “Recre-
19 ation Area”) in the State, to be managed by the
20 Director.

21 (B) AREA INCLUDED.—The Recreation
22 Area shall consist of—

23 (i) any land within the boundaries of
24 the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study

1 Area that is west of the fence described in
2 paragraph (1); and

3 (ii) any Federal land in T. 41 N., R.
4 106 W., secs. 5 and 6 that—

5 (I) is managed by the Bureau;

6 and

7 (II) is west of North Mountain
8 View Road.

9 (C) MANAGEMENT.—

10 (i) BOUNDARY FENCE.—

11 (I) IN GENERAL.—The Director
12 shall construct a fence along the west-
13 ern boundary of the Recreation Area
14 on any land that—

15 (aa) is managed by the Bu-

16 reau; and

17 (bb) is west of North Moun-
18 tain View Road.

19 (II) COORDINATION.—In design-
20 ing, locating, and constructing the
21 fence described in subclause (I), the
22 Director shall coordinate with the
23 owners of any land adjacent to the
24 land described in that subclause.

1 (ii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—As
 2 soon as practicable after the date of com-
 3 pletion of the fence described in clause (i),
 4 the Director shall establish a travel man-
 5 agement plan for the Recreation Area to
 6 maximize the use of motorized off-road ve-
 7 hicles in the Recreation Area.

8 (3) DUBOIS BADLANDS NATIONAL CONSERVA-
 9 TION AREA.—

10 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
 11 lished the Dubois Badlands National Conserva-
 12 tion Area (referred to in this paragraph as the
 13 “Conservation Area”) in the State, to be man-
 14 aged by the Director.

15 (B) AREA INCLUDED.—The Conservation
 16 Area shall consist of any land within the bound-
 17 aries of the Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study
 18 Area that is east of the fence described in para-
 19 graph (1).

20 (C) MANAGEMENT.—

21 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
 22 manage the Conservation Area in a man-
 23 ner that protects—

24 (I) valid existing rights;

25 (II) agricultural uses;

1 (III) primitive recreational oppor-
2 tunities; and

3 (IV) natural, historic, and scenic
4 resources.

5 (D) ~~MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—~~

6 (i) ~~IN GENERAL.—~~Except as provided
7 in clause (ii), the use of motorized vehicles
8 in the Conservation Area shall not be al-
9 lowed.

10 (ii) ~~EXCEPTIONS.—~~The Director may
11 allow the use of motorized vehicles in the
12 Conservation Area for—

13 (I) habitat improvement;

14 (II) the construction, reconstruc-
15 tion, or maintenance of range im-
16 provements; and

17 (III) to respond to an emergency.

18 (E) ~~GRAZING.—~~Grazing of livestock in the
19 Conservation Area shall be administered in ac-
20 cordance with the laws generally applicable to
21 land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

22 (F) ~~RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—~~No major right-of-
23 way shall be allowed within the boundaries of
24 the Conservation Area.

25 (G) ~~WITHDRAWAL.—~~

1 (i) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Subject to valid
 2 rights in existence on the date of enact-
 3 ment of this Act, the land within the
 4 boundaries of the Conservation Area is
 5 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 (4) ~~RELEASE.~~—Congress finds that, for the
 12 purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal Land Pol-
 13 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
 14 1782(e)), the land within the Dubois Badlands Wil-
 15 derness Study Area has been adequately studied for
 16 wilderness designation and is no longer subject to
 17 section 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
 18 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

19 (d) ~~RELEASE OF CERTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY~~
 20 ~~AREAS.~~—

21 (1) ~~COPPER MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY~~
 22 ~~AREA.~~—

23 (A) ~~RELEASE.~~—Congress finds that, for
 24 the purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal
 25 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43

1 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the land within the Copper
2 Mountain Wilderness Study Area—

3 (i) has been adequately studied for
4 wilderness designation;

5 (ii) is no longer subject to section
6 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and
7 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
8 1782(c)); and

9 (iii) shall be managed in accordance
10 with this paragraph.

11 ~~(B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—~~

12 ~~(i) IN GENERAL.—~~The land described
13 in subparagraph (A) shall be administered
14 by the Director in accordance with the
15 laws generally applicable to land under the
16 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

17 ~~(ii) MINERAL LEASING.—~~

18 ~~(I) IN GENERAL.—~~Subject to
19 surface occupancy requirements and
20 any other provision of law, the Direc-
21 tor may enter mineral leases for any
22 land described in subparagraph (A)
23 that has a slope of less than 25 per-
24 cent.

1 (II) UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-
2 WAY.—The Director may grant under-
3 ground rights-of-way for any mineral
4 lease entered into under subclause (I).

5 (iii) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN
6 LEASES.—Subject to valid rights in exist-
7 ence on the date of enactment of this Act,
8 the Director shall not issue a new lease for
9 a wind or solar project, an overhead trans-
10 mission line, or a communication tower on
11 the land described in subparagraph (A).

12 (C) AUTHORITY TO EXCHANGE LAND.—In
13 carrying out any land exchange involving any of
14 the land described in subparagraph (A), the Di-
15 rector shall ensure that the exchange does not
16 result in a net loss of Federal land.

17 (2) WHISKEY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY
18 AREA.—

19 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
20 the purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal
21 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
22 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land within the Whiskey
23 Mountain Wilderness Study Area—

24 (i) has been adequately studied for
25 wilderness designation;

1 (ii) is no longer subject to section
 2 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy and
 3 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
 4 1782(e)); and

5 (iii) shall be managed in accordance
 6 with this paragraph.

7 ~~(B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—~~

8 The land described in subparagraph (A) shall
 9 be administered by the Director in accordance
 10 with—

11 (i) a resource management plan that
 12 is applicable to any land adjacent to the
 13 land described in subparagraph (A); and

14 (ii) the Whiskey Mountain Coopera-
 15 tive Agreement between the Wyoming
 16 Game and Fish Commission, the Forest
 17 Service, and the Bureau, including any
 18 amendment to that agreement relating to
 19 the management of bighorn sheep.

20 ~~(e) MANAGEMENT OF LAND IN FREMONT COUNTY,~~
 21 ~~WYOMING.—~~

22 ~~(1) DEFINITION OF COUNTY.—~~In this sub-
 23 section, the term “County” means Fremont County,
 24 Wyoming.

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

3 (A) TRANSFERS.—The Director shall pur-
4 sue transfers in which land managed by the Bu-
5 reau in the County is exchanged for land owned
6 by the State that is within the boundaries of—

7 (i) the Lander Slope Area of Critical
8 Environmental Concern; or

9 (ii) the Red Canyon Area of Critical
10 Environmental Concern.

11 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—A transfer under
12 subparagraph (A) shall—

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

15 (ii) be subject to appropriation.

16 (3) STUDY.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
18 carry out a study to evaluate the potential for
19 the development of special motorized recreation
20 areas in the County.

21 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—The study under
22 subparagraph (A) shall evaluate—

23 (i) the potential for the development
24 of special motorized recreation areas on all

1 land managed by the Bureau in the Coun-
2 ty except—

3 (I) T. 40 N., R. 94 W., secs. 15,
4 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29,
5 and the N½ sec. 34; and

6 (II) any land that is subject to a
7 restriction on the use of off-road vehi-
8 cles under any Federal law, including
9 this Act;

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

12 (iii) the parking, staging, and camp-
13 ing necessary to accommodate special mo-
14 torized recreation.

15 (C) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after
16 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
17 shall submit to the Committee on Energy and
18 Natural Resources of the Senate and the Com-
19 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of
20 Representatives a report describing the findings
21 of the study under subparagraph (A).

22 (4) FREMONT COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION
23 TEAM.—

24 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90
25 days after the date of enactment of this Act,

1 the Secretary of the Interior shall establish a
 2 team, to be known as the “Fremont County Im-
 3 plementation Team” (referred to in this para-
 4 graph as the “Team”) to advise and assist the
 5 Director with respect to the implementation of
 6 the management requirements described in this
 7 section that are applicable to land in the Coun-
 8 ty.

9 (B) MEMBERSHIP.—The team shall consist
 10 of—

11 (i) the Secretary of the Interior (or a
 12 designee of the Secretary of the Interior);
 13 and

14 (ii) ~~1~~ or more individuals appointed by
 15 the Board of County Commissioners of the
 16 County.

17 (C) NONAPPLICABILITY OF THE FEDERAL
 18 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The team shall
 19 not be subject to the requirements of chapter
 20 10 of title 5, United States Code (commonly re-
 21 ferred to as the “Federal Advisory Committee
 22 Act”).

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

25 (a) DESIGNATIONS.—

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

5 (2) FRAKER MOUNTAIN MANAGEMENT AREA.—
6 The land within the Gardner Mountain Wilderness
7 Study Area is designated as the “Fraker Mountain
8 Management Area”.

9 (3) NORTH FORK MANAGEMENT AREA.—The
10 land within the North Fork Wilderness Study Area
11 is designated as the “North Fork Management
12 Area”.

13 (b) MANAGEMENT.—

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

18 (A) promotes nonmotorized backcountry
19 recreation, including hunting; and

20 (B) supports ongoing projects to maintain
21 and improve—

22 (i) wildlife habitat;

23 (ii) forest health;

24 (iii) watershed protection; and

25 (iv) ecological and cultural values.

1 (2) ROADS.—

2 (A) PROHIBITION ON NEW PERMANENT
3 ROADS.—The construction of new permanent
4 roads in the Management Areas shall not be al-
5 lowed.

6 (B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Secretary
7 of the Interior may authorize the construction
8 of new temporary roads in the Management
9 Areas—

10 (i) for—

11 (I) fire suppression;

12 (II) forest health and restoration;

13 (III) weed and pest control;

14 (IV) habitat management;

15 (V) livestock management; or

16 (VI) the construction, reconstruc-

17 tion, or maintenance of a range im-

18 provement; or

19 (ii) to respond to an emergency.

20 (3) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
22 subparagraph (B), the use of motorized or
23 mechanized vehicles in the Management Areas
24 shall not be allowed.

1 (B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Director may
2 allow the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-
3 cles in the Management Areas—

4 (i) for—

5 (I) fire suppression;

6 (II) forest health and restoration;

7 (III) weed and pest control;

8 (IV) habitat management;

9 (V) livestock management; or

10 (VI) the construction, reconstruc-

11 tion, or maintenance of a range im-

12 provement; or

13 (ii) to respond to an emergency.

14 (4) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the Man-
15 agement Areas shall be administered in accordance
16 with the laws generally applicable to land under the
17 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

18 (5) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN INFRASTRUC-
19 TURE.—The development, construction, or installa-
20 tion of infrastructure for recreational use shall not
21 be allowed in—

22 (A) the Fraker Mountain Management
23 Area; or

24 (B) the North Fork Management Area.

25 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
2 subparagraph (B), subject to valid rights in ex-
3 istence on the date of enactment of this Act,
4 the land within the boundaries of the Manage-
5 ment Areas is withdrawn from—

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

8 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
9 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

10 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the In-
11 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
12 the boundaries of a management area des-
13 ignated by paragraph (1) if—

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

17 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
18 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
19 face disturbance within the management
20 area for any activities, including activities
21 related to exploration, development, or pro-
22 duction.

23 (7) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—
24 Congress finds that, for the purposes of section
25 603(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Management

1 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land within
2 the Fortification Creek Wilderness Study Area, the
3 Gardner Mountain Wilderness Study Area, and the
4 North Fork Wilderness Study Area has been ade-
5 quately studied for wilderness designation and is no
6 longer subject to section 603(e) of the Federal Land
7 Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
8 1782(e)).

9 **SEC. 6. DESIGNATION OF LAND IN WASHAKIE AND HOT**
10 **SPRINGS COUNTIES, WYOMING.**

11 (a) DESIGNATION OF BOBCAT DRAW WILDER-
12 NESS.—

13 (1) DESIGNATION.—

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

23 (B) INCLUDED LAND.—The Wilderness
24 shall consist of—

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

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

8 (I) the $E\frac{1}{2}SE\frac{1}{4}$;

9 (II) lots 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14
 10 of the $NE\frac{1}{4}$;

11 (III) the east $\frac{1}{2}$ of lot 10 of the
 12 $NW\frac{1}{4}$; and

13 (IV) the northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of lot 15 of
 14 the $NW\frac{1}{4}$;

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

17 (I) the $E\frac{1}{2}NE\frac{1}{4}$;

18 (II) the $SW\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}$;

19 (III) the $E\frac{1}{2}NW\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}$;

20 (IV) the $SE\frac{1}{4}SE\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$;

21 (V) the $SE\frac{1}{4}$;

22 (VI) the $E\frac{1}{2}NE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$;

23 (VII) the $SW\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$;

24 (VIII) the $SE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$; and

25 (IX) the $E\frac{1}{2}SW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$;

1 (iv) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 14,

2 the land in—

3 (I) the $W\frac{1}{2}$;

4 (II) the $W\frac{1}{2}NE\frac{1}{4}$;

5 (III) the $W\frac{1}{2}SE\frac{1}{4}$; and

6 (IV) the $SE\frac{1}{4}SE\frac{1}{4}$;

7 (v) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 21, the

8 land in—

9 (I) the $NE\frac{1}{4}$;

10 (II) the $E\frac{1}{2}NE\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$;

11 (III) the $E\frac{1}{2}SE\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$;

12 (IV) the $E\frac{1}{2}NE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$;

13 (V) that part of the

14 $E\frac{1}{2}SE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$ within the boundary

15 of the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study

16 Area; and

17 (VI) that part of the $SE\frac{1}{4}$ within

18 the boundary of the Bobcat Draw

19 Wilderness Study Area; and

20 (vi) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 24,

21 the land in—

22 (I) the $W\frac{1}{2}NW\frac{1}{4}$; and

23 (II) that part of the $NW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$

24 within the boundary of the Bobcat

25 Draw Wilderness Study Area.

1 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

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

5 (i) this paragraph; and

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

11 (B) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the
12 Wilderness, where established before the date of
13 enactment of this Act, shall be allowed to con-
14 tinue in accordance with—

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

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

22 (iii) the guidelines set forth in appen-
23 dix A of the Report of the Committee on
24 Interior and Insular Affairs to accompany

1 H.R. 2570 of the 101st Congress (H.
2 Rept. 101-405).

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

5 (i) IN GENERAL.—To ensure that the
6 policies, practices, and regulations of the
7 Department conform to and implement the
8 intent of Congress regarding forest fires
9 and the outbreak of disease or insects, not
10 later than 180 days after the date of en-
11 actment of this Act, the Secretary of the
12 Interior shall review all policies, practices,
13 and regulations of the Department applica-
14 ble to the Wilderness that pertain to—

15 (I) forest fires, including the use
16 of modern methods of fire suppression
17 (including mechanical activity, as nec-
18 essary); or

19 (II) the outbreak of disease or in-
20 sect populations.

21 (ii) REVISIONS.—On completion of the
22 review under clause (i), the Secretary of
23 the Interior shall revise or develop policies,
24 practices, and regulations for the Wilder-
25 ness—

1 (I) to ensure the timely and effi-
 2 cient control of fires, diseases, and in-
 3 sects in the Wilderness; and

4 (II) to provide, to the maximum
 5 extent practicable, adequate protection
 6 from forest fires, disease outbreaks,
 7 and insect infestations to any Federal,
 8 State, or private land adjacent to the
 9 Wilderness.

10 ~~(3) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—~~

11 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
 12 the purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal
 13 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
 14 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land within the Bobcat
 15 Draw Wilderness Study Area not designated as
 16 wilderness by this subsection has been ade-
 17 quately studied for wilderness designation and
 18 is no longer subject to section 603(e) of the
 19 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of
 20 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

21 ~~(B) CLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT~~
 22 ~~OF RELEASED LAND.—~~

23 (i) CLASSIFICATION.—The Director
 24 shall designate the land described in sub-

1 paragraph (A) as visual resource manage-
2 ment class II.

3 (ii) ~~GRAZING.~~—Grazing of livestock
4 on the land described in subparagraph (A)
5 shall be administered—

6 (I) as a nondiscretionary use;

7 and

8 (II) in accordance with the laws
9 generally applicable to land under the
10 jurisdiction of the Bureau.

11 (C) ~~TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.~~—

12 (i) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 2
13 years after the date of enactment of this
14 Act, the Director shall develop a travel
15 management plan for the land described in
16 subparagraph (A).

17 (ii) ~~REQUIREMENTS.~~—The travel
18 management plan under clause (i) shall—

19 (I) identify all existing roads and
20 trails on the land described in sub-
21 paragraph (A);

22 (II) designate each road or trail
23 available for—

24 (aa) motorized or mecha-
25 nized recreation; or

1 (bb) agriculture practices;

2 (III) prohibit the construction of
3 any new road or trail for motorized or
4 mechanized recreation use; and

5 (IV) permit the continued use of
6 nonmotorized trails.

7 ~~(D) WITHDRAWAL.—~~

8 (i) ~~IN GENERAL.—~~Except as provided
9 in clause (ii), subject to valid rights in ex-
10 istence on the date of enactment of this
11 Act, the land described in subparagraph
12 ~~(A)~~ is withdrawn from—

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

15 ~~(II)~~ disposition under all laws re-
16 lating to mineral and geothermal leas-
17 ing.

18 (ii) ~~EXCEPTION.—~~The Secretary of
19 the Interior may lease oil and gas re-
20 sources within the land described in sub-
21 paragraph ~~(A)~~ if—

22 ~~(I)~~ the lease may only be
23 accessed by directional drilling from a
24 lease that is outside of the land de-
25 scribed in subparagraph ~~(A)~~; and

1 (H) the lease prohibits, without
2 exception or waiver, surface occupancy
3 and surface disturbance on the land
4 described in subparagraph (A) for any
5 activities, including activities related
6 to exploration, development, or pro-
7 duction.

8 (b) DESIGNATION OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN SPECIAL
9 MANAGEMENT AREA.—

10 (1) DESIGNATION.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
12 subparagraph (B), the land within the Cedar
13 Mountain Wilderness Study Area is designated
14 as the “Cedar Mountain Special Management
15 Area” (referred to in this subsection as the
16 “Special Management Area”).

17 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

18 (i) IN GENERAL.—The land described
19 in clause (ii) is not included in the Special
20 Management Area.

21 (ii) LAND DESCRIBED.—The land re-
22 ferred to in clause (i) is the land des-
23 ignated by the Bureau as not suitable for
24 wilderness in—

1 (I) the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T. 44
2 N., R. 94 W;

3 (II) the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T. 44
4 N., R. 94 W;

5 (III) the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T.
6 44 N., R. 94 W; and

7 (IV) the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 32, T.
8 45 N., R. 94 W.

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

12 (A) maintains the recreational, scenic, cul-
13 tural, ecological, wildlife, and livestock produc-
14 tion values of the Special Management Area;
15 and

16 (B) promotes continued use of the Special
17 Management Area for recreational activities, in-
18 cluding hunting and wildlife viewing.

19 (3) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

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

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

- 1 (i) identify all existing roads and
 2 trails in the Special Management Area;
 3 (ii) designate each road or trail avail-
 4 able for—
 5 (I) motorized or mechanized
 6 recreation; or
 7 (II) agriculture practices;
 8 (iii) prohibit the construction of any
 9 new road or trail for motorized or mecha-
 10 nized recreation use; and
 11 (iv) permit the continued use of non-
 12 motorized trails.

13 ~~(4) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—~~

14 ~~(A) USE OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES FOR~~
 15 ~~LIVESTOCK.—The use of motorized vehicles~~
 16 ~~shall be allowed on any road in the Special~~
 17 ~~Management Area for—~~

- 18 ~~(i) the construction, reconstruction, or~~
 19 ~~maintenance of range improvements; or~~
 20 ~~(ii) other livestock-management pur-~~
 21 ~~poses.~~

22 ~~(B) USE OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES FOR~~
 23 ~~EMERGENCIES.—The use of motorized vehicles~~
 24 ~~shall be allowed in the Special Management~~
 25 ~~Area—~~

- 1 (i) for fire suppression;
 2 (ii) for weed and pest management;
 3 and
 4 (iii) to respond to an emergency.

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

- 7 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and
 8 (B) in accordance with the laws generally
 9 applicable to land under the jurisdiction of the
 10 Bureau.

11 (6) ~~WITHDRAWAL.~~—

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

- 17 (i) location, entry, and patent under
 18 the mining laws; and
 19 (ii) disposition under all laws relating
 20 to mineral and geothermal leasing.

21 (B) ~~EXCEPTION.~~—The Secretary of the In-
 22 terior may lease oil and gas resources within
 23 the boundaries of the Special Management Area
 24 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 (7) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

11 (A) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for
12 the purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal
13 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
14 U.S.C. 1782(e)), the land within the Cedar
15 Mountain Wilderness Study Area has been ade-
16 quately studied for wilderness designation and
17 is no longer subject to section 603(e) of the
18 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of
19 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)).

20 (B) MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN RELEASED
21 LAND.—The Director shall manage any land
22 described in subparagraph (A) that is not in-
23 eluded in the Special Management Area in a
24 manner consistent with a resource management
25 plan that is applicable to any land that—

- 1 (i) is managed by the Bureau; and
2 (ii) is similarly situated to the land
3 described in subparagraph (A) that is not
4 included in the Special Management Area.

5 ~~(e) RELEASE OF HONEYCOMBS WILDERNESS STUDY~~
6 ~~AREA.—~~

7 ~~(1) RELEASE.—~~Congress finds that, for the
8 purposes of section 603(e) of the Federal Land Pol-
9 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.
10 1782(e)), the land within the Honeycombs Wilder-
11 ness Study Area—

12 ~~(A) has been adequately studied for wilder-~~
13 ~~ness designation;~~

14 ~~(B) is no longer subject to section 603(e)~~
15 ~~of the Federal Land Policy and Management~~
16 ~~Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(e)); and~~

17 ~~(C) shall be managed in accordance with~~
18 ~~this subsection.~~

19 ~~(2) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—~~The
20 land described in paragraph (1) shall be adminis-
21 tered by the Director in accordance with—

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

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

4 (d) STUDY OF LAND IN HOT SPRINGS AND
 5 WASHAKIE COUNTIES.—

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

9 (A) Hot Springs County.

10 (B) Washakie County.

11 (2) STUDY.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall
 13 carry out a study to evaluate the potential for
 14 the development of new special motorized recre-
 15 ation areas in the Counties.

16 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—

17 (i) LAND INCLUDED.—The study
 18 under subparagraph (A) shall evaluate the
 19 potential for the development of new spe-
 20 cial motorized recreation areas on all land
 21 managed by the Bureau in the Counties
 22 except any land that is subject to a restric-
 23 tion on the use of motorized or mechanized
 24 vehicles under any Federal law, including
 25 this Act.

1 (ii) PUBLIC INPUT; COLLABORA-
2 TION.—In carrying out the study under
3 subparagraph (A), the Director shall—

4 (I) offer opportunities for public
5 input; and

6 (II) collaborate with—

7 (aa) Wyoming Parks, His-
8 toric Sites, and Trails; and

9 (bb) the Counties.

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

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

18 The proposed rule of the Bureau entitled “Conserva-
19 tion and Landscape Health” (88 Fed. Reg. 19583 (April
20 3, 2023)) or any substantially similar rule shall not apply
21 to the land covered by this Act.

22 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

23 *This Act may be cited as the “Wyoming Public Lands*
24 *Initiative Act of 2023”.*

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 *In this Act:*

3 (1) *BUREAU.*—*The term “Bureau” means the*
4 *Bureau of Land Management.*

5 (2) *RANGE IMPROVEMENT.*—*The term “range*
6 *improvement” has the meaning given the term in sec-*
7 *tion 3 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of*
8 *1978 (43 U.S.C. 1902).*

9 (3) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
10 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

11 (4) *STATE.*—*The term “State” means the State*
12 *of Wyoming.*

13 (5) *WILDERNESS AREA.*—*The term “wilderness*
14 *area” means a wilderness area designated by section*
15 *3.*

16 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.**

17 *In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131*
18 *et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as*
19 *wilderness and as components of the National Wilderness*
20 *Preservation System:*

21 (1) *ENCAMPMENT RIVER CANYON WILDERNESS.*—

22 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Certain Federal land*
23 *administered by the Bureau in the State, com-*
24 *prising approximately 4,523.84 acres, as gen-*
25 *erally depicted on the map entitled “Proposed*
26 *Encampment River Wilderness” and dated De-*

1 *ember 5, 2023, which shall be known as the*
 2 *“Encampment River Canyon Wilderness”.*

3 *(B) EXCLUDED LAND.—The following land*
 4 *is not included in the Encampment River Can-*
 5 *yon Wilderness:*

6 *(i) Any land in the NW^{1/4}NW^{1/4}NW^{1/4}*
 7 *sec. 24, T. 14 N., R. 84 W.*

8 *(ii) Any land within 100 feet of the*
 9 *centerline of—*

10 *(I) County Road 353; or*

11 *(II) Water Valley Road.*

12 *(2) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS.—*

13 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Certain Federal land*
 14 *administered by the Bureau in the State, com-*
 15 *prising approximately 1,099.76 acres, as gen-*
 16 *erally depicted on the map entitled “Proposed*
 17 *Prospect Mountain Wilderness” and dated De-*
 18 *cember 8, 2023, which shall be known as the*
 19 *“Prospect Mountain Wilderness”.*

20 *(B) EXCLUDED LAND.—Any land within*
 21 *100 feet of the centerline of Prospect Road is not*
 22 *included in the Prospect Mountain Wilderness.*

23 *(3) UPPER SWEETWATER CANYON WILDER-*
 24 *NESS.—*

1 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Certain Federal land*
2 *administered by the Bureau in the State, com-*
3 *prising approximately 2,877.35 acres, as gen-*
4 *erally depicted on the map entitled “Proposed*
5 *Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness” and*
6 *dated December 6, 2023, which shall be known as*
7 *the “Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness”.*

8 (B) *BOUNDARY.*—

9 (i) *IN GENERAL.*—*Except as provided*
10 *in clause (ii), the boundary of the Upper*
11 *Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness shall con-*
12 *form to the boundary of the Sweetwater*
13 *Canyon Wilderness Study Area.*

14 (ii) *EASTERN BOUNDARY.*—*The eastern*
15 *boundary of the Upper Sweetwater Canyon*
16 *Wilderness shall be 100 feet from the west-*
17 *ern edge of the north-south road bisecting*
18 *the Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness*
19 *and the Lower Sweetwater Canyon Wilder-*
20 *ness, known as “Strawberry Creek Road”.*

21 (iii) *EXCLUSION OF EXISTING*
22 *ROADS.*—*Any established legal route with*
23 *authorized motorized use in existence on the*
24 *date of enactment of this Act that enters the*
25 *Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness in T.*

1 28 N., R. 98 W., sec. 4, or the Lower Sweet-
 2 water Canyon Wilderness in T. 29 N., R. 97
 3 W., sec. 33, is not included in the Upper
 4 Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness.

5 (4) LOWER SWEETWATER CANYON WILDER-
 6 NESS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Certain Federal land
 8 administered by the Bureau in the State, com-
 9 prising approximately 5,665.19 acres, as gen-
 10 erally depicted on the map entitled “Lower
 11 Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness” and dated De-
 12 cember 5, 2023, which shall be known as the
 13 “Lower Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness”.

14 (B) BOUNDARY.—

15 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
 16 in clause (ii), the boundary of the Lower
 17 Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness shall con-
 18 form to the boundary of the Sweetwater
 19 Canyon Wilderness Study Area.

20 (ii) WESTERN BOUNDARY.—The west-
 21 ern boundary of the Lower Sweetwater Can-
 22 yon Wilderness shall be 100 feet from the
 23 eastern edge of the north-south road bisect-
 24 ing the Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilder-
 25 ness and the Lower Sweetwater Canyon

1 *Wilderness, known as “Strawberry Creek*
2 *Road”.*

3 (iii) *EXCLUSION OF EXISTING*
4 *ROADS.—Any established legal route with*
5 *authorized motorized use in existence on the*
6 *date of enactment of this Act that enters the*
7 *Upper Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness in T.*
8 *29 N., R. 98 W., sec. 4, or the Lower Sweet-*
9 *water Canyon Wilderness in T. 29 N., R. 97*
10 *W., sec. 33, is not included in the Lower*
11 *Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness.*

12 (5) *BOBCAT DRAW WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-*
13 *eral land administered by the Bureau in the State,*
14 *comprising approximately 6,246.84 acres, as gen-*
15 *erally depicted on the map entitled “Proposed Bobcat*
16 *Draw Wilderness” and dated December 8, 2023,*
17 *which shall be known as the “Bobcat Draw Wilder-*
18 *ness”.*

19 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.**

20 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, the*
21 *Secretary shall administer the wilderness areas in accord-*
22 *ance with this section and the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.*
23 *1131 et seq.), except that—*

1 (1) *any reference in that Act to the effective date*
2 *of that Act shall be considered to be a reference to the*
3 *date of enactment of this Act; and*

4 (2) *any reference in that Act to the Secretary of*
5 *Agriculture shall be considered to be a reference to the*
6 *Secretary.*

7 (b) *FIRE MANAGEMENT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.—*

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out*
9 *any activities in a wilderness area as are necessary*
10 *for the control of fire, insects, or disease in accordance*
11 *with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.*
12 *1133(d)(1)).*

13 (2) *COORDINATION.—In carrying out paragraph*
14 *(1), the Secretary shall coordinate with—*

15 (A) *the Wyoming Forestry Division; and*

16 (B) *the applicable county in the State in*
17 *which the wilderness area is located.*

18 (3) *FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than*
19 *180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the*
20 *Secretary shall establish a fire management plan for*
21 *the wilderness areas—*

22 (A) *to ensure the timely and efficient con-*
23 *trol of fires, diseases, and insects in the wilder-*
24 *ness areas, in accordance with section 4(d)(1) of*
25 *the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(1)); and*

1 (B) to provide, to the maximum extent
2 practicable, adequate protection from forest fires,
3 disease outbreaks, and insect infestations to any
4 Federal, State, or private land adjacent to the
5 wilderness areas.

6 (c) *GRAZING.*—The grazing of livestock in a wilderness
7 area, if established before the date of enactment of this Act,
8 shall be administered in accordance with—

9 (1) section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness Act (16
10 U.S.C. 1133(d)(4)); and

11 (2) the guidelines set forth in Appendix A of
12 House Report 101–405, accompanying H.R. 2570 of
13 the 101st Congress, for land under the jurisdiction of
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15 (d) *BUFFER ZONES.*—

16 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Nothing in this section estab-
17 lishes a protective perimeter or buffer zone around a
18 wilderness area.

19 (2) *OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES OR USES.*—The fact
20 that a nonwilderness activity or use can be seen or
21 heard from within a wilderness area shall not pre-
22 clude the activity or use outside the boundary of the
23 wilderness area.

1 **SEC. 5. RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.**

2 (a) *FINDING.*—Congress finds that, for purposes of sec-
3 tion 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
4 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)), any portion of a wilder-
5 ness study area described in subsection (b) that is not des-
6 ignated as a wilderness area by section 3 has been ade-
7 quately studied for wilderness designation.

8 (b) *DESCRIPTION OF LAND.*—The wilderness study
9 areas referred to in subsections (a) and (c) are the following:

10 (1) *The Encampment River Canyon Wilderness*
11 *Study Area.*

12 (2) *The Prospect Mountain Wilderness Study*
13 *Area.*

14 (3) *The Bennett Mountains Wilderness Study*
15 *Area.*

16 (4) *The Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study*
17 *Area.*

18 (5) *The Lankin Dome Wilderness Study Area.*

19 (6) *The Split Rock Wilderness Study Area.*

20 (7) *The Savage Peak Wilderness Study Area.*

21 (8) *The Miller Springs Wilderness Study Area.*

22 (9) *The Dubois Badlands Wilderness Study*
23 *Area.*

24 (10) *The Copper Mountain Wilderness Study*
25 *Area.*

1 (11) *The Whiskey Mountain Wilderness Study*
2 *Area.*

3 (12) *The Fortification Creek Wilderness Study*
4 *Area.*

5 (13) *The Gardner Mountain Wilderness Study*
6 *Area.*

7 (14) *The North Fork Wilderness Study Area.*

8 (15) *The portion of the Bobcat Draw Wilderness*
9 *Study Area located in Washakie County, Wyoming.*

10 (16) *The Cedar Mountain Wilderness Study*
11 *Area.*

12 (17) *The Honeycombs Wilderness Study Area.*

13 (c) *RELEASE.—Any portion of a wilderness study area*
14 *described in subsection (b) that is not designated as a wil-*
15 *derness area by section 3 is no longer subject to section*
16 *603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of*
17 *1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)).*

18 (d) *MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—*

19 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage*
20 *the portions of the wilderness study areas released*
21 *under subsection (c) in accordance with—*

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

24 (B) *applicable land management plans;*

1 (C) applicable management provisions
2 under paragraph (2); and

3 (D) any other applicable law.

4 (2) SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS.—

5 (A) BENNETT MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS
6 STUDY AREA.—The Secretary shall manage the
7 portion of the Bennett Mountains Wilderness
8 Study Area released under subsection (c) in ac-
9 cordance with section 8(a).

10 (B) DUBOIS BADLANDS WILDERNESS STUDY
11 AREA.—

12 (i) DIVISION.—The Secretary shall di-
13 vide the land within the Dubois Badlands
14 Wilderness Study Area by authorizing the
15 installation of a fence or the repair or relo-
16 cation of an existing fence in T. 41 N., R.
17 106 W., sec. 5, that—

18 (I) follows existing infrastructure
19 and natural barriers;

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

24 (III) from the point described in
25 subclause (II), proceeds southeast to a

1 point near the midpoint of the NE^{1/4}
 2 sec. 5, T. 41 N., R. 106 W.; and

3 (IV) from the point described in
 4 subclause (III), proceeds southwest to a
 5 point in the SW^{1/4}NE^{1/4} sec. 5, T. 41
 6 N., R. 106 W., that intersects with the
 7 boundary of the Dubois Badlands Wil-
 8 derness Study Area.

9 (ii) MANAGEMENT.—The Secretary
 10 shall manage the portion of the Dubois
 11 Badlands Wilderness Study Area released
 12 under subsection (c) in accordance with—

13 (I) paragraph (1); and

14 (II) sections 6 and 7.

15 (C) COPPER MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY
 16 AREA.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
 18 manage the portion of the Copper Mountain
 19 Wilderness Study Area released under sub-
 20 section (c) in accordance with paragraph
 21 (1).

22 (ii) MINERAL LEASING.—

23 (I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
 24 may lease oil and gas resources within
 25 the land released from the Copper

1 *Mountain Wilderness Study Area*
2 *under subsection (c) if—*

3 *(aa) the lease may only be*
4 *accessed by directional drilling*
5 *from a lease that is outside of the*
6 *land released from the Copper*
7 *Mountain Wilderness Study Area;*
8 *and*

9 *(bb) the lease prohibits, with-*
10 *out exception or waiver, surface*
11 *occupancy and surface disturb-*
12 *ance on the land released from the*
13 *Copper Mountain Wilderness*
14 *Study Area for any activities, in-*
15 *cluding activities relating to ex-*
16 *ploration, development, or produc-*
17 *tion.*

18 *(II) UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-*
19 *WAY.—The Secretary may grant un-*
20 *derground rights-of-way for any min-*
21 *eral lease entered into under subclause*
22 *(I).*

23 *(III) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN*
24 *LEASES.—Subject to valid rights in ex-*
25 *istence on the date of enactment of this*

1 *Act, the Secretary shall not issue a new*
2 *lease for a wind or solar project, an*
3 *overhead transmission line, or a com-*
4 *munication tower on the land released*
5 *from the Copper Mountain Wilderness*
6 *Study Area under subsection (c).*

7 *(IV) AUTHORITY TO EXCHANGE*
8 *LAND.—In carrying out any land ex-*
9 *change involving any of the land re-*
10 *leased from the Copper Mountain Wil-*
11 *derness Study Area under subsection*
12 *(c), the Secretary shall ensure that the*
13 *exchange does not result in a net loss*
14 *of Federal land.*

15 *(D) WHISKEY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS*
16 *STUDY AREA.—The Secretary shall manage the*
17 *portion of the Whiskey Mountain Wilderness*
18 *Study Area released under subsection (c) in ac-*
19 *cordance with—*

20 *(i) paragraph (1); and*

21 *(ii) the Whiskey Mountain Cooperative*
22 *Agreement between the Wyoming Game and*
23 *Fish Commission, the Forest Service, and*
24 *the Bureau, including any amendment to*

1 that agreement relating to the management
2 of bighorn sheep.

3 (E) *BOBCAT DRAW WILDERNESS STUDY*
4 *AREA.*—

5 (i) *TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—

6 (I) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than
7 2 years after the date of enactment of
8 this Act, the Secretary shall develop a
9 travel management plan for the land
10 released from the Bobcat Draw Wilder-
11 ness Study Area under subsection (c).

12 (II) *REQUIREMENTS.*—The travel
13 management plan under subclause (I)
14 shall—

15 (aa) identify all existing
16 roads and trails on the land re-
17 leased from the Bobcat Draw Wil-
18 derness Study Area under sub-
19 section (c);

20 (bb) designate each road or
21 trail available for—

22 (AA) motorized or
23 mechanized recreation; or

24 (BB) agriculture prac-
25 tices;

1 (cc) prohibit the construction
2 of any new road or trail for mo-
3 torized or mechanized recreation
4 use; and

5 (dd) permit the continued
6 use of nonmotorized trails.

7 (ii) WITHDRAWAL.—

8 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
9 vided in subclause (II), subject to valid
10 rights in existence on the date of enact-
11 ment of this Act, the land released from
12 the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study
13 Area under subsection (c) is with-
14 drawn from—

15 (aa) all forms of appropria-
16 tion or disposal under the public
17 land laws;

18 (bb) location, entry, and pat-
19 ent under the mining laws; and

20 (cc) disposition under laws
21 relating to mineral and geo-
22 thermal leasing.

23 (II) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary
24 may lease oil and gas resources within
25 the land released from the Bobcat

1 *Draw Wilderness Study Area under*
2 *subsection (c) if—*

3 *(aa) the lease may only be*
4 *accessed by directional drilling*
5 *from a lease that is outside of the*
6 *land released from the Bobcat*
7 *Draw Wilderness Study Area; and*

8 *(bb) the lease prohibits, with-*
9 *out exception or waiver, surface*
10 *occupancy and surface disturb-*
11 *ance on the land released from the*
12 *Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study*
13 *Area for any activities, including*
14 *activities related to exploration,*
15 *development, or production.*

16 **SEC. 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF DUBOIS BADLANDS NATIONAL**
17 **CONSERVATION AREA.**

18 *(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to valid existing rights,*
19 *there is established the Dubois Badlands National Conserva-*
20 *tion Area (referred to in this section as the “Conservation*
21 *Area”), comprising approximately 4,446.46 acres of Fed-*
22 *eral land administered by the Bureau in the State, as gen-*
23 *erally depicted on the map entitled “Proposed Badlands*
24 *National Conservation Area” and dated November 15, 2023.*

1 (b) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of the Conservation Area*
2 *is to conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit and en-*
3 *joyment of present and future generations the ecological,*
4 *wildlife, recreational, scenic, cultural, historical, and nat-*
5 *ural resources of the Area.*

6 (c) *MANAGEMENT.*—*Subject to valid rights in existence*
7 *on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall*
8 *manage the Conservation Area—*

9 (1) *in a manner that only allows uses of the*
10 *Conservation Area that the Secretary determines*
11 *would further the purpose of the Conservation Area*
12 *described in subsection (b); and*

13 (2) *in accordance with—*

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

16 (B) *this section; and*

17 (C) *any other applicable law.*

18 (d) *MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—

19 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The use of motorized vehicles*
20 *in the Conservation Area shall be permitted only on*
21 *existing roads, trails, and areas designated by the*
22 *Secretary for use by such vehicles as of the date of en-*
23 *actment of this Act.*

24 (2) *EXCEPTIONS.*—*The Secretary may allow the*
25 *use of motorized vehicles in the Conservation Area as*

1 *needed for administrative purposes and emergency re-*
2 *sponse.*

3 (e) *GRAZING.*—*Grazing of livestock in the Conserva-*
4 *tion Area shall be administered in accordance with the laws*
5 *generally applicable to land under the jurisdiction of the*
6 *Bureau.*

7 (f) *WITHDRAWAL.*—*Subject to valid rights in existence*
8 *on the date of enactment of this Act, the land within the*
9 *boundaries of the Conservation Area is withdrawn from—*

10 (1) *all forms of appropriation or disposal under*
11 *the public land laws;*

12 (2) *location, entry, and patent under the mining*
13 *laws; and*

14 (3) *disposition under laws relating to mineral*
15 *and geothermal leasing.*

16 **SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF DUBOIS MOTORIZED RECRE-**
17 **ATION AREA.**

18 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*Subject to valid existing rights,*
19 *there is established the Dubois Motorized Recreation Area*
20 *(referred to in this section as the “Recreation Area”), com-*
21 *prising approximately 367.72 acres of Federal land admin-*
22 *istered by the Bureau in the State, as generally depicted*
23 *on the map entitled “Proposed Dubois Motorized Recreation*
24 *Area” and dated November 15, 2023.*

25 (b) *MANAGEMENT.*—

1 (1) *BOUNDARY FENCE.*—*The Secretary shall au-*
2 *thorize the construction of a fence along the western*
3 *boundary of the Recreation Area on any Federal land*
4 *that—*

5 *(A) is managed by the Bureau; and*

6 *(B) is west of North Mountain View Road.*

7 (2) *TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—*As soon as*
8 *practicable after the date of completion of the fence*
9 *described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall estab-*
10 *lish a travel management plan for the Recreation*
11 *Area that efficiently coordinates the use of motorized*
12 *off-road vehicles in the Recreation Area.*

13 **SEC. 8. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS.**

14 (a) *BENNET MOUNTAINS SPECIAL MANAGEMENT*
15 *AREA.*—

16 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*Subject to valid existing*
17 *rights, there is established the Bennett Mountains*
18 *Special Management Area (referred to in this sub-*
19 *section as the “Special Management Area”), com-*
20 *prising approximately 6,165.05 acres of Federal land*
21 *in the State administered by the Bureau, as generally*
22 *depicted on the map entitled “Proposed Bennet Moun-*
23 *tains Special Management Area” and dated Novem-*
24 *ber 15, 2023.*

1 (2) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Special Management*
2 *Area shall be administered by the Secretary.*

3 (3) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of the Special Man-*
4 *agement Area is to enhance the natural, historic, sce-*
5 *nic, and recreational, values of the area.*

6 (4) *MANAGEMENT.*—

7 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall*
8 *manage the Special Management Area—*

9 (i) *in furtherance of the purpose de-*
10 *scribed in paragraph (3); and*

11 (ii) *in accordance with—*

12 (I) *the laws (including regula-*
13 *tions) generally applicable to the Bu-*
14 *reau;*

15 (II) *this subsection; and*

16 (III) *any other applicable law*
17 *(including regulations).*

18 (B) *ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—

19 (i) *ROADS.*—*The construction of new*
20 *permanent roads in the Special Manage-*
21 *ment Area shall not be allowed.*

22 (ii) *MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—*Except as*
23 *needed for administrative purposes, emer-*
24 *gency response, fire management, forest*
25 *health and restoration, weed and pest con-*

1 *trol, habitat management, livestock manage-*
2 *ment, and range improvement, the use of*
3 *motorized and mechanized vehicles in the*
4 *Special Management Area shall be allowed*
5 *only on existing roads and trails designated*
6 *for the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-*
7 *cles.*

8 *(iii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not*
9 *later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
10 *ment of this Act, the Secretary shall estab-*
11 *lish a travel management plan for the Spe-*
12 *cial Management Area.*

13 *(C) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the*
14 *Special Management Area shall be administered*
15 *in accordance with the laws generally applicable*
16 *to land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.*

17 *(D) TIMBER HARVESTING.—Commercial*
18 *timber harvesting shall not be allowed in the*
19 *Special Management Area.*

20 *(5) WITHDRAWAL.—*

21 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing*
22 *rights and subparagraph (B), the Special Man-*
23 *agement Area is withdrawn from—*

24 *(i) all forms of appropriation or dis-*
25 *posal under the public land laws;*

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

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

5 (B) *EXCEPTION.*—The Secretary may lease
6 oil and gas resources within the boundaries of
7 the Special Management Area if—

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

11 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
12 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
13 face disturbance within the Special Man-
14 agement Area for any activities, including
15 activities related to exploration, develop-
16 ment, or production.

17 (b) *BLACK CAT SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.*—

18 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Subject to valid existing
19 rights, there is established the Black Cat Special Man-
20 agement Area (referred to in this subsection as the
21 “Special Management Area”), comprising approxi-
22 mately 1,178 acres of Federal land in Carbon County,
23 Wyoming, as generally depicted on the map entitled
24 “Black Cat Special Management Area” and dated
25 November 13, 2023.

1 (2) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Special Management*
2 *Area shall be administered by the Secretary of Agri-*
3 *culture.*

4 (3) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of the Special Man-*
5 *agement Area is to enhance the natural, historic, sce-*
6 *nic, and recreational values of the area.*

7 (4) *MANAGEMENT.*—

8 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Agri-*
9 *culture shall manage the Special Management*
10 *Area—*

11 (i) *in furtherance of the purpose de-*
12 *scribed in paragraph (3); and*

13 (ii) *in accordance with—*

14 (I) *the laws (including regula-*
15 *tions) generally applicable to National*
16 *Forest System land;*

17 (II) *this subsection; and*

18 (III) *any other applicable law*
19 *(including regulations).*

20 (B) *ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—

21 (i) *ROADS.*—*The construction of new*
22 *permanent roads in the Special Manage-*
23 *ment Area shall not be allowed.*

24 (ii) *MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—*Except as*
25 *needed for administrative purposes, emer-*

1 *gency response, fire management, forest*
2 *health and restoration, weed and pest con-*
3 *trol, habitat management, livestock manage-*
4 *ment, and range improvement, the use of*
5 *motorized and mechanized vehicles in the*
6 *Special Management Area shall be allowed*
7 *only on existing roads and trails designated*
8 *for the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-*
9 *cles.*

10 *(iii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not*
11 *later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
12 *ment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-*
13 *culture shall establish a travel management*
14 *plan for the Special Management Area.*

15 *(C) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in the*
16 *Special Management Area shall be administered*
17 *in accordance with the laws generally applicable*
18 *to grazing on National Forest System land.*

19 *(D) TIMBER HARVESTING.—Commercial*
20 *timber harvesting shall not be allowed in the*
21 *Special Management Area.*

22 *(5) WITHDRAWAL.—*

23 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing*
24 *rights and subparagraph (B), the Special Man-*
25 *agement Area is withdrawn from—*

1 (i) all forms of appropriation or dis-
2 posal under the public land laws;

3 (ii) location, entry, and patent under
4 the mining laws; and

5 (iii) disposition under laws relating to
6 mineral and geothermal leasing.

7 (B) *EXCEPTION.*—The Secretary may, with
8 the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture,
9 lease oil and gas resources within the boundaries
10 of the Special Management Area if—

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

14 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
15 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
16 face disturbance within the Special Man-
17 agement Area for any activities, including
18 activities related to exploration, develop-
19 ment, or production.

20 (c) *SWEETWATER ROCKS SPECIAL MANAGEMENT*
21 *AREA.*—

22 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Subject to valid existing
23 rights, there is established the Sweetwater Rocks Spe-
24 cial Management Area (referred to in this subsection
25 as the “Special Management Area”), comprising ap-

1 *proximately 34,347.79 acres of Federal land in Fre-*
2 *mont and Natrona Counties, Wyoming, as generally*
3 *depicted on the map entitled “Proposed Sweetwater*
4 *Rocks Special Management Area” and dated Novem-*
5 *ber 15, 2023.*

6 (2) *ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Management*
7 *Area shall be administered by the Secretary.*

8 (3) *PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Special Man-*
9 *agement Area is to enhance the natural, historic, sce-*
10 *nic, and recreational, values of the area.*

11 (4) *MANAGEMENT.—*

12 (A) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall*
13 *manage the Special Management Area—*

14 (i) *in furtherance of the purpose de-*
15 *scribed in paragraph (3); and*

16 (ii) *in accordance with—*

17 (I) *the laws (including regula-*
18 *tions) generally applicable to the Bu-*
19 *reau;*

20 (II) *this subsection; and*

21 (III) *any other applicable law*
22 *(including regulations).*

23 (B) *ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—*

1 (i) *ROADS.*—*The construction of new*
2 *permanent roads in the Special Manage-*
3 *ment Area shall not be allowed.*

4 (ii) *MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—*Except as*
5 *needed for administrative purposes, emer-*
6 *gency response, fire management, forest*
7 *health and restoration, weed and pest con-*
8 *trol, habitat management, livestock manage-*
9 *ment, and range improvement, the use of*
10 *motorized and mechanized vehicles in the*
11 *Special Management Area shall be allowed*
12 *only on existing roads and trails designated*
13 *for the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-*
14 *cles.*

15 (iii) *TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—*Not*
16 *later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
17 *ment of this Act, the Secretary shall estab-*
18 *lish a travel management plan for the Spe-*
19 *cial Management Area.*

20 (C) *GRAZING.*—*Grazing of livestock in the*
21 *Special Management Area shall be administered*
22 *in accordance with the laws generally applicable*
23 *to the Bureau.*

24 (D) *PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN OVERHEAD*
25 *TOWERS.*—*No new overhead transmission or*

1 *communications tower shall be constructed in the*
2 *Special Management Area.*

3 *(E) LAND EXCHANGES.—The Secretary may*
4 *propose to, and carry out with, an individual or*
5 *entity owning land in the vicinity of the Special*
6 *Management Area any land exchange that—*

7 *(i) increases access to the Special Man-*
8 *agement Area; and*

9 *(ii) does not result in a net loss of Fed-*
10 *eral land.*

11 *(F) UNDERGROUND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—Not-*
12 *withstanding paragraph (5), the Secretary may*
13 *expand any underground right-of-way in the*
14 *Special Management Area that exists as of the*
15 *date of enactment of this Act.*

16 *(5) WITHDRAWAL.—*

17 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing*
18 *rights and subparagraph (B), the Special Man-*
19 *agement Area is withdrawn from—*

20 *(i) all forms of appropriation or dis-*
21 *posal under the public land laws;*

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

24 *(iii) disposition under laws relating to*
25 *mineral and geothermal leasing.*

1 (B) *EXCEPTION.*—*The Secretary may lease*
 2 *oil and gas resources within the boundaries of*
 3 *the Special Management Area if—*

4 (i) *the lease may only be accessed by*
 5 *directional drilling from a lease that is out-*
 6 *side of the Special Management Area; and*

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

13 (C) *WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY WITH-*
 14 *DRAWAL.*—*Subject to valid rights in existence on*
 15 *the date of enactment of this Act, the land within*
 16 *the boundaries of the Special Management Area*
 17 *is withdrawn from right-of-way leasing and dis-*
 18 *position under laws relating to wind or solar en-*
 19 *ergy.*

20 (d) *FORTIFICATION CREEK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT*
 21 *AREA; FRAKER MOUNTAIN SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA;*
 22 *NORTH FORK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.*—

23 (1) *DEFINITION OF SPECIAL MANAGEMENT*
 24 *AREA.*—*In this subsection, the term “Special Manage-*

1 *ment Area” means a special management area estab-*
2 *lished by paragraph (2).*

3 (2) *ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL MANAGEMENT*
4 *AREAS.—Subject to valid existing rights there are es-*
5 *tablished the following:*

6 (A) *The Fortification Creek Special Man-*
7 *agement Area, comprising approximately*
8 *12,520.69 acres of Federal land administered in*
9 *the State by the Bureau, as generally depicted on*
10 *the map entitled “Proposed Fortification Creek*
11 *Management Area” and dated November 15,*
12 *2023.*

13 (B) *The Fraker Mountain Special Manage-*
14 *ment Area, comprising approximately 6,248.28*
15 *acres of Federal land administered in the State*
16 *by the Bureau, as generally depicted on the map*
17 *entitled “Proposed Fraker Mountain Manage-*
18 *ment Area” and dated November 15, 2023.*

19 (C) *The North Fork Special Management*
20 *Area, comprising approximately 10,026.15 acres*
21 *of Federal land administered in the State by the*
22 *Bureau, as generally depicted on the map enti-*
23 *tled “Proposed North Fork Management Area”*
24 *and dated November 15, 2023.*

1 (3) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Special Management*
2 *Areas shall be administered by the Secretary.*

3 (4) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of a Special Man-*
4 *agement Area is to enhance the natural, historic, sce-*
5 *nic, recreational, wildlife habitat, forest health, water-*
6 *shed protection, and ecological and cultural values of*
7 *the area.*

8 (5) *MANAGEMENT.*—

9 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall*
10 *manage each Special Management Area—*

11 (i) *in furtherance of the purpose de-*
12 *scribed in paragraph (4); and*

13 (ii) *in accordance with—*

14 (I) *the laws (including regula-*
15 *tions) generally applicable to the Bu-*
16 *reau;*

17 (II) *this subsection; and*

18 (III) *any other applicable law*
19 *(including regulations).*

20 (B) *ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—

21 (i) *ROADS.*—*The construction of new*
22 *permanent roads in a Special Management*
23 *Area shall not be allowed.*

24 (ii) *MOTORIZED VEHICLES.*—*Except as*
25 *needed for administrative purposes, emer-*

1 *gency response, fire management, forest*
2 *health and restoration, weed and pest con-*
3 *trol, habitat management, livestock manage-*
4 *ment, and range improvement, the use of*
5 *motorized and mechanized vehicles in a*
6 *Special Management Area shall be allowed*
7 *only on existing roads and trails designated*
8 *for the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-*
9 *cles.*

10 *(iii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not*
11 *later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
12 *ment of this Act, the Secretary shall estab-*
13 *lish a travel management plan for each*
14 *Special Management Area.*

15 *(C) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock in a*
16 *Special Management Area shall be administered*
17 *in accordance with the laws generally applicable*
18 *to land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.*

19 *(D) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN INFRASTRUC-*
20 *TURE.—The development, construction, or instal-*
21 *lation of infrastructure for recreational use shall*
22 *not be allowed in—*

23 *(i) the Fraker Mountain Special Man-*
24 *agement Area; or*

1 (ii) the North Fork Special Manage-
2 ment Area.

3 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing
5 rights and subparagraph (B), the Special Man-
6 agement Areas are withdrawn from—

7 (i) all forms of appropriation or dis-
8 posal under the public land laws;

9 (ii) location, entry, and patent under
10 the mining laws; and

11 (iii) disposition under laws relating to
12 mineral and geothermal leasing.

13 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may lease
14 oil and gas resources within the boundaries of a
15 Special Management Area if—

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

19 (ii) the lease prohibits, without excep-
20 tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-
21 face disturbance within the Special Man-
22 agement Area for any activities, including
23 activities related to exploration, develop-
24 ment, or production.

1 (e) CEDAR MOUNTAIN SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
2 AREA.—

3 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to valid existing
4 rights, there is established the Cedar Mountain Spe-
5 cial Management Area (referred to in this subsection
6 as the “Special Management Area”), comprising ap-
7 proximately 20,745.73 acres of Federal land in the
8 State administered by the Bureau, as generally de-
9 picted on the map entitled “Proposed Cedar Moun-
10 tain Special Management Area” and dated November
11 15, 2023.

12 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Special Management
13 Area shall be administered by the Secretary.

14 (3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Special Man-
15 agement Area is to enhance the natural, historic, sce-
16 nic, recreational, ecological, wildlife, and livestock
17 production values of the area.

18 (4) MANAGEMENT.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
20 manage the Special Management Area—

21 (i) in furtherance of the purpose de-
22 scribed in paragraph (3); and

23 (ii) in accordance with—

1 (I) the laws (including regula-
2 tions) generally applicable to the Bu-
3 reau;

4 (II) this subsection; and

5 (III) any other applicable law
6 (including regulations).

7 (B) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

8 (i) ROADS.—The construction of new
9 permanent roads in the Special Manage-
10 ment Area shall not be allowed.

11 (ii) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—Except as
12 needed for administrative purposes, emer-
13 gency response, fire management, forest
14 health and restoration, weed and pest con-
15 trol, habitat management, livestock manage-
16 ment, and range improvement, the use of
17 motorized and mechanized vehicles in the
18 Special Management Area shall be allowed
19 only on existing roads and trails designated
20 for the use of motorized or mechanized vehi-
21 cles.

22 (iii) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not
23 later than 2 years after the date of enact-
24 ment of this Act, the Secretary shall estab-

1 *lish a travel management plan for the Spe-*
2 *cial Management Area.*

3 (C) *GRAZING.*—*Grazing of livestock in the*
4 *Special Management Area shall be administered*
5 *in accordance with the laws generally applicable*
6 *to land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.*

7 (5) *WITHDRAWAL.*—

8 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Subject to valid existing*
9 *rights, the Special Management Area is with-*
10 *drawn from—*

11 (i) *all forms of appropriation or dis-*
12 *posal under the public land laws;*

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

15 (iii) *disposition under laws relating to*
16 *mineral and geothermal leasing.*

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

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

23 (ii) *the lease prohibits, without excep-*
24 *tion or waiver, surface occupancy and sur-*
25 *face disturbance within the Special Man-*

1 agement Area for any activities, including
2 activities related to exploration, develop-
3 ment, or production.

4 **SEC. 9. LANDER SLOPE AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRON-**
5 **MENTAL CONCERN AND RED CANYON AREA**
6 **OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN.**

7 (a) *DEFINITION OF COUNTY.*—*In this section, the term*
8 *“County” means Fremont County, Wyoming.*

9 (b) *LANDER SLOPE AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRON-*
10 *MENTAL CONCERN AND RED CANYON AREA OF CRITICAL*
11 *ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN.*—

12 (1) *TRANSFERS.*—*The Secretary shall pursue*
13 *transfers in which land managed by the Bureau in*
14 *the County is exchanged for land owned by the State*
15 *that is within the boundaries of—*

16 (A) *the Lander Slope Area of Critical Envi-*
17 *ronmental Concern; or*

18 (B) *the Red Canyon Area of Critical Envi-*
19 *ronmental Concern.*

20 (2) *REQUIREMENTS.*—*A transfer under para-*
21 *graph (1) shall—*

22 (A) *comply with all requirements of law,*
23 *including any required analysis; and*

24 (B) *be subject to appropriation.*

25 (c) *STUDY.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall carry out*
2 *a study to evaluate the potential for the development*
3 *of special motorized recreation areas in the County.*

4 (2) *REQUIREMENTS.*—*The study under para-*
5 *graph (1) shall evaluate—*

6 (A) *the potential for the development of spe-*
7 *cial motorized recreation areas on all land man-*
8 *aged by the Bureau in the County except—*

9 (i) *any land in T. 40 N., R. 94 W.,*
10 *secs. 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29,*
11 *and the N¹/₂ sec. 34; and*

12 (ii) *any land that is subject to a re-*
13 *striction on the use of off-road vehicles*
14 *under any Federal law, including this Act;*

15 (B) *the suitability of the land evaluated*
16 *under subparagraph (A) for off-road vehicles, in-*
17 *cluding rock crawlers; and*

18 (C) *the parking, staging, and camping nec-*
19 *essary to accommodate special motorized recre-*
20 *ation.*

21 (3) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 2 years after the*
22 *date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-*
23 *mit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-*
24 *sources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural*
25 *Resources of the House of Representatives a report de-*

1 *scribing the findings of the study under paragraph*
2 *(1).*

3 *(d) FREMONT COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION TEAM.—*

4 *(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days*
5 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
6 *shall establish a team, to be known as the “Fremont*
7 *County Implementation Team” (referred to in this*
8 *subsection as the “Team”) to advise and assist the*
9 *Secretary with respect to the implementation of the*
10 *management requirements described in this section*
11 *that are applicable to land in the County.*

12 *(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Team shall consist of—*

13 *(A) the Secretary (or a designee of the Sec-*
14 *retary); and*

15 *(B) 1 or more individuals appointed by the*
16 *Board of County Commissioners of the County.*

17 *(3) NONAPPLICABILITY OF THE FEDERAL ADVI-*
18 *SORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Team shall not be sub-*
19 *ject to the requirements of chapter 10 of title 5,*
20 *United States Code (commonly referred to as the*
21 *“Federal Advisory Committee Act”).*

1 **SEC. 10. STUDY OF LAND IN HOT SPRINGS AND WASHAKIE**
2 **COUNTIES.**

3 (a) *DEFINITION OF COUNTIES.*—*In this section, the*
4 *term “Counties” means each of the following counties in*
5 *the State:*

6 (1) *Hot Springs County.*

7 (2) *Washakie County.*

8 (b) *STUDY.*—

9 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall carry out*
10 *a study to evaluate the potential for the development*
11 *of new special motorized recreation areas in the*
12 *Counties.*

13 (2) *REQUIREMENTS.*—

14 (A) *LAND INCLUDED.*—*The study under*
15 *paragraph (1) shall evaluate the potential for the*
16 *development of new special motorized recreation*
17 *areas on Federal land managed by the Bureau*
18 *in the Counties except any land that is subject*
19 *to a restriction on the use of motorized or mecha-*
20 *nized vehicles under any Federal law, including*
21 *this Act.*

22 (B) *PUBLIC INPUT; COLLABORATION.*—*In*
23 *carrying out the study under paragraph (1), the*
24 *Secretary shall—*

25 (i) *offer opportunities for public input;*

26 *and*

1 (ii) collaborate with—

2 (I) State parks, historic sites, and
3 trails; and

4 (II) the Counties.

5 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-
7 mit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
8 sources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural
9 Resources of the House of Representatives a report de-
10 scribing the findings of the study under paragraph
11 (1).

Calendar No. 422

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1348

[Report No. 118-185]

A BILL

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

JUNE 18, 2024

Reported with an amendment