

WILDERNESS LEGISLATION IN 116TH CONGRESS

Compiled by Wilderness Watch

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**Bolded Titles or bolded Comments indicate bad bills or provisions.
“Clean” means bill is free of any special provisions or management exceptions.**

Bill No./Sponsor	Title (not exact)	Latest Action	Comments
HR 21 Lowey (D-NY)	Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019	Passed House on 3 Jan. 2019. Placed on Senate General Orders, Calendar No. 5	Sec. 434 directs Forest Service to conduct inventory of possible additions to Flatside Wilderness in Arkansas.
HR 183 Keating (D-MA)	Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge Submerged Lands	Referred to NR Committee	Declares that the US did not acquire submerged lands or waters above submerged lands in a 1944 condemnation case affecting Monomoy NWR and Monomoy Wilderness.
HR 244 Stewart (R-UT)	Advancing Conservation and Education Act	Referred to NR Committee	Allows Western States to exchange state land grant parcels inside conservation areas, including Wilderness, for federal lands outside conservation areas.
HR 252 Amodeo (R-NV)	Pershing County Economic Development and Conservation Act	Referred to NR Committee	Among other things, bill would designate 7 new BLM Wildernesses in Pershing Co., NV, totaling 136,072 acres. Has customary bad special provisions buffer zones and military overflights. Allows hydrologic, meteorologic, or climatological data collection devices in Wilderness. Has bad water rights language. Allows installation of “temporary” telecommunications device in Selenite Peak Wilderness. Has terrible wildlife language (allows helicopters, guzzlers, structures and facilities in Wilderness). Releases 48,600 acres of WSAs.
HR 253 Amodei (R-NV)	Nevada lands bill	Referred to NR Committee	Among other things, the bill adjusts the boundaries of the Mt. Moriah, High Schells, and Arc Dome Wildernesses in NV.
HR 266 McCullum (D-MN)	Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019	Passed House on 11 Jan. 2019. Placed on Senate General Orders, Calendar No. 12	Sec. 434 directs Forest Service to conduct inventory of possible additions to Flatside Wilderness in Arkansas.

HR 403 Panetta (D-CA)	Joaquin Rocks Wilderness	Referred to NR Committee	Among other things, bill would designate the Joaquin Wilderness in CA. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.
HR 474 Neguse (D-CO)	Bolt's Ditch Access and Use Act	Referred to NR Committee	Would allow nonmotorized access and use of Bolts Ditch headgate and ditch segment by Town of Minturn within the Holy Cross Wilderness in CO. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. <i>S. 37 is companion.</i>
HR 482 Simpson (R-ID)	Smith Gulch Bill	Referred to NR Committee	Allows permanent maintenance and replacement of commercial recreation facilities at Smith Gulch on the wild Salmon River in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in ID. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. <i>S. 79 is companion.</i>
HR 483 Simpson (R-ID)	Henry's Lake WSA Deletion	Referred to NR Committee	Would use land from Henry's Lake WSA to resolve an unauthorized use and occupancy encroachment dating back to 1983. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.
HR 524 Walden (R-OR)	Deschutes Canyon-Steelhead Falls WSA Boundary Reduction	Referred to NR Committee	TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. <i>S. 81 is companion.</i>
HR 527 Stauber (R-MN)	PolyMet Land Exchange Bill	Referred to NR Committee	Would force through a land exchange needed by PolyMet Mining Co. to develop a copper-nickel mine south of the BWCAW in northeastern MN, and avoid multiple litigation cases in federal district court challenging that exchange. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.
HR 572 LaMalfa (R-CA)	CA WSA Release Bill	Referred to NR Committee	If same as last year's bill, would remove Wilderness Study Area protection for 13 WSAs on BLM land in CA totaling 170,284 acres. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.
HR 612 Johnson (R-LA)	Secure Our Borders and Wilderness Act	Referred to NR Committee and Homeland Security Committee	If same as last year's bill, would directly amend the 1964 Wilderness Act to access structures, installations and roads; use motor vehicles; use and land aircraft; deploy "temporary" infrastructure, including forward operating bases; construct and maintain roads. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.

S. 37 Gardner (R-CO)	Bolt's Ditch Access and Use Act	Referred to ENR Committee	Would allow nonmotorized access and use of Bolts Ditch headgate and ditch segment by Town of Minturn within the Holy Cross Wilderness in CO. <i>HR 474 is companion.</i>
S. 47 Murkowski (R-AK)	Public Lands Omnibus Bill	Placed on Senate General Orders, Calendar No. 7	This 662-pp bill was originally developed during lame duck session of Dec. 2018. Contains unprecedented bad special provisions on fixed climbing anchors in Wilderness, the Smith Gulch development bill in ID's FC-RNRW, unprecedented bad paragliding language, bad CA Desert fire language, and bad Owyhee Wilderness boundary reductions.
S. 67 Feinstein (D-CA)	California Desert Conservation Area	Referred to ENR Committee	Designates 5 BLM Wildernesses totaling 206,490 acres. Expands 4 BLM Wildernesses by 73,870 acres. Adds 6 additions to Death Valley Wilderness totaling 91,596 acres. Adds 7,141 acres to San Geronio Wilderness. Has bad fire language. Allows utility rights-of-way by So. CA Edison Co. in Wilderness. Releases parts of 6 WSAs not designated as Wilderness.
S. 79 Risch (R-ID)	Smith Gulch Bill	Referred to ENR Committee	Allows permanent maintenance and replacement of commercial recreation facilities at Smith Gulch on the wild Salmon River in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in ID. TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. <i>HR 482 is companion.</i>
S. 81 Wyden (D-OR)	Deschutes Canyon-Steelhead Falls WSA Boundary Reduction	Referred to ENR Committee	TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. <i>HR 524 is companion.</i>
S. 86 Wyden (D-OR)	Oregon Wildlands Act	Referred to ENR Committee	TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.