

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4439

To take certain Federal land located in Siskiyou County, California, and Humboldt County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Karuk Tribe, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 22, 2022

Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To take certain Federal land located in Siskiyou County, California, and Humboldt County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Karuk Tribe, 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 “Katimiîn and
5 Aamekyáaraam Sacred Lands Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LAND HELD IN TRUST FOR THE KARUK TRIBE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam land is lo-
 2 cated in the ancestral territory of the Karuk Tribe;
 3 and

4 (2) the Karuk Tribe has historically used, and
 5 has an ongoing relationship with, the Katimiîn and
 6 Aamekyáaraam land.

7 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) KATIMIÎN AND AAMEKYÁARAAM LAND.—
 9 The term “Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam land”
 10 means the approximately 1,031 acres of Federal
 11 land, including improvements and appurtenances to
 12 the Federal land, located in Siskiyou County, Cali-
 13 fornia, and Humboldt County, California, and gen-
 14 erally depicted as “Proposed Area” on the map of
 15 the Forest Service entitled “Katimiîn Area Bound-
 16 ary Proposal” and dated August 9, 2021.

17 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 18 the Secretary of the Interior.

19 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER.—Administrative ju-
 20 risdiction of the Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam land is
 21 hereby transferred from the Secretary of Agriculture to
 22 the Secretary, subject to the condition that the Chief of
 23 the Forest Service shall continue to manage the compo-
 24 nent of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System that
 25 flows through the Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam land.

1 (d) LAND HELD IN TRUST.—The Katimiîn and
2 Aamekyáaraam land is hereby taken into trust by the Sec-
3 retary for the benefit of the Karuk Tribe, subject to—

4 (1) valid existing rights, contracts, and manage-
5 ment agreements relating to easements and rights-
6 of-way; and

7 (2) continued access by the Chief of the Forest
8 Service for the purpose of managing the component
9 of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System that
10 flows through the Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam
11 land.

12 (e) SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date
13 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall
14 provide to the Secretary a complete survey of the land
15 taken into trust under subsection (d).

16 (f) USE OF LAND.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Land taken into trust under
18 subsection (d) may be used for traditional and cus-
19 tomary uses for the benefit of the Karuk Tribe.

20 (2) GAMING.—Class II and class III gaming
21 under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C.
22 2701 et seq.) shall not be allowed on the land taken
23 into trust under subsection (d).

24 (g) WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS MANAGEMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section af-
2 fects the status or administration of any component
3 of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, in-
4 cluding any component that flows through the land
5 taken into trust under subsection (d).

6 (2) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The
7 Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into a memo-
8 randum of understanding with the Karuk Tribe,
9 consistent with the obligations of the Secretary of
10 Agriculture under subsection (c), to establish mutual
11 goals for the protection and enhancement of the
12 river values of any component of the National Wild
13 and Scenic Rivers System that flows through the
14 land taken into trust under subsection (d).

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