

Union Calendar No. 457

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2794

[Report No. 117-634]

To provide for the protection of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and interconnected Federal lands and waters, including Voyageurs National Park, within the Rainy River Watershed in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2021

Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. OMAR, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CHU, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BUSH, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CASE, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 14, 2022

Additional sponsors: Mr. WELCH, Ms. NEWMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. DEAN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. ROSS

DECEMBER 14, 2022

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 22, 2021]

A BILL

To provide for the protection of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and interconnected Federal lands and waters, including Voyageurs National Park, within the Rainy River Watershed in the State of Minnesota, 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 “Boundary Waters Wil-*
 5 *derness Protection and Pollution Prevention Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS AND**
 7 **WATERS IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.**

8 (a) *DEFINITION OF MAP.*—*In this Act, the term*
 9 *“Map” means the map prepared by the Forest Service enti-*
 10 *tled “Superior National Forest Mineral Withdrawal Appli-*
 11 *cation Map” and dated December 5, 2016.*

12 (b) *WITHDRAWAL.*—*Except as provided in subsection*
 13 *(d) and subject to valid existing rights, the approximately*
 14 *234,328 acres of Federal land and waters in the Rainy*
 15 *River Watershed of the Superior National Forest in the*
 16 *State of Minnesota, as located on the Map and described*
 17 *in the Federal Register Notice of Application for With-*
 18 *drawal, dated January 19, 2017 (82 Fed. Reg. 6639), are*
 19 *hereby withdrawn from—*

20 (1) *all forms of entry, appropriation, and dis-*
 21 *posal under the public land laws;*

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

24 (3) *operation of the mineral leasing, mineral*
 25 *materials, and geothermal leasing laws.*

1 (c) *ACQUIRED LAND*.—Any land or interest in land
2 within the area depicted on the Map that is acquired by
3 the United States after the date of enactment of this Act
4 shall, on acquisition, be immediately withdrawn in accord-
5 ance with this section.

6 (d) *REMOVAL OF SAND, GRAVEL, GRANITE, IRON ORE,*
7 *AND TACONITE*.—The Chief of the Forest Service is author-
8 ized to permit the removal of sand, gravel, granite, iron
9 ore, and taconite from national forest system lands within
10 the area depicted on the Map if the Chief determines that
11 the removal is not detrimental to the water quality, air
12 quality, and health of the forest habitat within the Rainy
13 River Watershed.

14 (e) *AVAILABILITY OF MAP*.—The Map shall be kept on
15 file and made available for public inspection in the appro-
16 priate offices of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land
17 Management.

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