

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

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**A BILL**

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

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wyoming Public Lands  
5 Initiative Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

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

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

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

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

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

9                   (B) of harm to property.

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

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

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

18          (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

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

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

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

6                   (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

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

14                                   (I) in sec. 22, land in—

15   (aa) the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; and

16   (bb) the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

17                                   (II) in sec. 27, land in lots 4, 6,  
18                   and 7 of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

19                                   (III) in sec. 28, land in lot 1 of  
20                   the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

21                                   (IV) in sec. 34, land in—

22   (aa) the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; and

23   (bb) the E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; and

24                                   (V) in sec. 35, land in—

25   (aa) the N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

1 (bb) the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; and

2 (cc) the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

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

6 (I) Any land in the  
7 NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 24, T. 14 N.,  
8 R. 84 W.

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

11 (aa) County Road 353; or

12 (bb) Water Valley Road.

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

19 (D) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—

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

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

1 (II) the population centers of—

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

4 (bb) Riverside, Wyoming.

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

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

10 (II) Carbon County, Wyoming.

11 (2) PROSPECT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS.—

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

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

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

6 (3) MANAGEMENT OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—

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

13 (i) this paragraph; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

6 (3) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

7 (A) ROADS.—

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

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

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

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

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

8 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

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

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

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

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

22 (5) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (7) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (4) ROADS; MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

23 (A) ROADS.—

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

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

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

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

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

16                         (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

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

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

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

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

4 (6) FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION.—

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

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

11 (I) the National Forest System;  
12 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

9 (8) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (d) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 (4) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

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

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

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

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

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

4 (ii) any other applicable law.

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

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

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

15 (1) DESIGNATION.—

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



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

3 (i) BOUNDARY.—

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

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

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

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

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

23 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

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

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

3 (i) this paragraph; and

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

11 (E) BUFFER ZONES.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

22                   (A) valid existing rights;

23                   (B) agricultural uses;

24                   (C) primitive recreational opportunities;

25                   and

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

2 (3) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (7) BUFFER ZONES.—

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

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

14 (8) LAND EXCHANGES AND EASEMENTS.—

15 (A) LAND EXCHANGES.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 (9) WITHDRAWALS.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20                   (B) begins at an intersection with North  
21 Mountain View Road in the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5,  
22 T. 41 N., R. 106 W.;

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

1 the midpoint of the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5, T. 41 N., R.  
2 106 W.; and

3 (D) from the point described in subpara-  
4 graph (C), proceeds southwest to a point in the  
5 SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5, T. 41 N., R. 106 W., that  
6 intersects with the boundary of the Dubois  
7 Badlands Wilderness Study Area.

8 (2) DUBOIS MOTORIZED RECREATION AREA.—

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

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

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

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

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

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



1 (C) MANAGEMENT.—

2 (i) BOUNDARY FENCE.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11          (C) MANAGEMENT.—

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

- 15                   (I) valid existing rights;  
16                   (II) agricultural uses;  
17                   (III) primitive recreational oppor-  
18                   tunities; and  
19                   (IV) natural, historic, and scenic  
20                   resources.

21          (D) MOTORIZED VEHICLES.—

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

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

4 (I) habitat improvement;

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

8 (III) to respond to an emergency.

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

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

16 (G) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5 (B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

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

11 (ii) MINERAL LEASING.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (B) MANAGEMENT OF RELEASED LAND.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 (ii) be subject to appropriation.

10 (3) STUDY.—

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

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

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

21 (I) T. 40 N., R. 94 W., secs. 15,  
22 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29,  
23 and the N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> sec. 34; and

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



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

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

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

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

15                  (4)   FREMONT   COUNTY   IMPLEMENTATION  
16                  TEAM.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (a) DESIGNATIONS.—

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

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

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

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

7 (b) MANAGEMENT.—

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

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

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

16 (i) wildlife habitat;

17 (ii) forest health;

18 (iii) watershed protection; and

19 (iv) ecological and cultural values.

20 (2) ROADS.—

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



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

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

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

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

18 (B) the North Fork Management Area.

19 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 (1) DESIGNATION.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

4 (I) the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
5 (II) the E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
6 (III) the E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
7 (IV) the E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
8 (V) that part of the  
9 E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> within the boundary  
10 of the Bobcat Draw Wilderness Study  
11 Area; and

12 (VI) that part of the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> within  
13 the boundary of the Bobcat Draw  
14 Wilderness Study Area; and  
15 (vi) in T. 48 N., R. 97 W., sec. 24,  
16 the land in—

17 (I) the W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; and  
18 (II) that part of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
19 within the boundary of the Bobcat  
20 Draw Wilderness Study Area.

21 (2) MANAGEMENT.—

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

25 (i) this paragraph; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1                   and insect infestations to any Federal,  
2                   State, or private land adjacent to the  
3                   Wilderness.

4                   (3) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

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

15                  (B) CLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT  
16                  OF RELEASED LAND.—

17                  (i) CLASSIFICATION.—The Director  
18                  shall designate the land described in sub-  
19                  paragraph (A) as visual resource manage-  
20                  ment class II.

21                  (ii) GRAZING.—Grazing of livestock  
22                  on the land described in subparagraph (A)  
23                  shall be administered—

24                                 (I) as a nondiscretionary use;  
25                                 and

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

4 (C) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

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

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

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

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

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

19 (bb) agriculture practices;

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

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

25 (D) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (1) DESIGNATION.—

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

10 (B) EXCLUDED LAND.—

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

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

18 (I) the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5, T. 44  
19 N., R. 94 W;

20 (II) the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5, T. 44  
21 N., R. 94 W;

22 (III) the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 5, T.  
23 44 N., R. 94 W; and

24 (IV) the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sec. 32, T.  
25 45 N., R. 94 W.





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

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

6 (4) **MOTORIZED VEHICLES.**—

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

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

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

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

19 (i) for fire suppression;

20 (ii) for weed and pest management;

21 and

22 (iii) to respond to an emergency.

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

25 (A) as a nondiscretionary use; and

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

4 (6) WITHDRAWAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (7) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

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

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

19 (i) is managed by the Bureau; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (A) Hot Springs County.

2 (B) Washakie County.

3 (2) STUDY.—

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

8 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—

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

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

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

23 (II) collaborate with—

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

1 (bb) the Counties.

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

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

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