

WIND RIVER ADMINISTRATIVE SITE CONVEYANCE ACT

JULY 26, 2022.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 5093]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 5093) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Washington to Skamania County, Washington, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 5093 is to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Washington to Skamania County, Washington.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 5093 would authorize the United States Forest Service (USFS) to convey a 23.4-acre portion of the Wind River Nursery to Skamania County, Washington. The nursery is located in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and Congress previously authorized a land exchange that included a large portion of the nursery in 2001. The conveyance authorized by this bill will complete the transfer and place the entire Wind River property under the stewardship of the county.

The conveyance is directed to be made by a quitclaim deed, subject to a right-of-way and restrictive easement reservation for the protection of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and completed in accordance with USFS conveyance requirements. In addition, the county will not be required to pay for the land; however, the county must maintain the lands and related infrastructure pursu-

ant to federal standards regarding the preservation of historic property, or ownership will revert to the United States. This is a standard provision typically included in public purpose conveyances of this nature.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 5093 was introduced on August 24, 2021, by Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA). The bill was referred solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On March 1, 2022, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On April 6, 2022, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered. The bill was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on March 1, 2022.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 22, 2022.

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 5093, the Wind River Administrative Site Conveyance Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Janani Shankaran.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 5093, Wind River Administrative Site Conveyance Act			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 6, 2022			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2027	2022-2032
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2033?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 5093 would direct the Forest Service to convey 23 acres of federal land in Skamania County, Washington, without consideration and subject to valid existing rights, if the county requests to acquire the land. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the county, which currently leases the federal land from the Forest Service, would submit such a request.

Although the conveyance could occur under existing authorities, CBO expects that the county will continue to lease the property under current law, though in recent years, the agency has waived lease payments. Those payments are recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts, or reductions in direct spending, and are available for the Forest Service to spend without further appropriation. Using information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that any future lease payments will total less than \$50,000 annually and will be spent soon after their collection. Under H.R. 5093, the agency would forgo those payments and the associated spending; thus, the net effect on direct spending would be negligible.

Under the bill, the county would pay the closing costs of the conveyance. CBO estimates that any costs incurred by the Forest Service to conduct a land survey and other reviews would be insignificant; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Janani Shankaran. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Washington to Skamania County, Washington.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

According to CBO, this bill contains no unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes to existing law.

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.