

Committee on Natural Resources

Rob Bishop Chairman
Mark-Up Memorandum

February 9, 2018

To: All Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff – Chris Marklund and Brandon Miller
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Mark-Up: **H.R. 4134 (Rep. Michael K. Simpson)**, To redesignate the White Clouds Wilderness in the Sawtooth and Challis National Forests in the State of Idaho as the Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness in honor of former Idaho Governor and Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus.
February 14, 2018, at 10:15 AM; 1324 Longworth House Office Building

H.R. 4134, “Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness Redesignation Act”

Summary of the Bill

H.R. 4134, introduced by Representative Michael K. Simpson (R-ID-02), would redesignate the White Clouds Wilderness in Idaho’s Sawtooth and Challis National Forests as the Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness in memory of the former Idaho Governor and Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus.

Background

Cecil Dale Andrus, born August 25, 1931, started his political career in the Idaho State Senate in 1960, when he was 29 years of age. He served four terms before running for higher office, and in 1970 he was elected Governor of Idaho. After one term as governor, Andrus was appointed Secretary of the Interior by President Jimmy Carter and served in the position from 1977 until 1981. Following his service in the Carter Administration, Andrus returned to Idaho and was re-elected governor in 1974, 1986, and again in 1990.¹

After leaving office, in 1995 Andrus founded the Andrus Center for Public Policy at Boise State University, in Boise, Idaho.²

As Governor of Idaho, Andrus played a key role supporting the designation of Idaho’s Sawtooth Wilderness Area. As a result of his work in support for conservation, Andrus was awarded the Ansel Adams Award from the Wilderness Society in 1985.³

¹ “The College and Idaho’s Governors” The College of Idaho. <https://old.collegeofidaho.edu/about/archives-college-history/college-and-idahos-governors>.

² “Governor Cecil Dale Andrus” National Governors Association. https://www.nga.org/cms/home/governors/past-governors-bios/page_idaho/col2-content/main-content-list/title_andrus_cecil.html.

³ “Cecil D. Andrus and the Andrus Center” Boise State University. <https://sps.boisestate.edu/andruscenter/history-andrus-center/>.

Designated by Congress as a wilderness area in August 2015, the White Clouds Wilderness consists of approximately 276,000 acres stretching along the Salmon River in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho. Much of the area is managed by the United States Forest Service, with a small portion managed by the Bureau of Land Management.⁴ The area features mountains, lakes, creeks, and an abundance of wildlife. The White Clouds Wilderness offers places to fish, camp, and hike and is renowned for its fields of wildflowers in the summer.⁵

Andrus died August 24, 2017, from complications related to lung cancer.⁶ H.R. 4134 would redesignate the White Clouds Wilderness in the Sawtooth and Challis National Forests in the State of Idaho as the Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness to honor the life and legacy of Cecil D. Andrus.

Cost

A Congressional Budget Office cost estimate has not yet been completed for this bill.

Administration Position

The Administration's position is currently unknown.

Effect on Current Law (Ramseyer)

None.

⁴ "White Clouds Wilderness Area" Bureau of Land Management. <https://www.blm.gov/visit/white-clouds-wilderness-area>.

⁵ "White Clouds Wilderness" United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/sawtooth/recarea/?recid=82349>.

⁶ "Andrus' legacy: Idaho's wild spaces, schools, nuclear cleanup" Idaho Statesman. <http://www.idahostatesman.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article169280227.html>.