



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Debra Haaland
Chair
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Haaland:

Enclosed are responses to follow-up questions from the April 2, 2019, legislative hearing before your Subcommittee on H.R. 306, H.R. 434, H.R. 823, and H.R. 1708. These responses were prepared by the National Park Service.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to you on these matters.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Don Young
Ranking Member

Questions for the Record
House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands
April 2, 2019 Legislative Hearing
Questions for the Record Submitted to Mr. Dan Smith

Questions from Chair Debra Haaland

Question 1: In your written testimony, when speaking to H.R. 823, you stated that “Due to the complexity of Title IV, and the need for coordination between the three Bureaus (BLM, BOR, and NPS) as well as inter-Departmental cooperation between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, due to U.S. Forest Service involvement, the Administration is continuing to review this Title.”

- a. When can the Committee expect to receive the Department’s position on Title IV of H.R. 823, The Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act?

Response: Title IV’s provisions, including proposed land transfers, affecting Curecanti National Recreation Area would impact lands currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service (under the Department of Agriculture), and the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the National Park Service (all under the Department of the Interior). We are currently working on getting the views of these four bureaus aligned, but we do not have a unified Administration position on Title IV at this time.

Question 2: The Committee is aware that in November 2018 the Woolsey Fire burned nearly 100,000 acres in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

- a. Does NPS know, or have an estimate of, the extent to which the fire damaged natural and cultural resources within the proposed expansion of the Santa Monica Mountains NRA?

Response:

We estimate that the Woolsey fire burned approximately 20,914 acres of Rim of the Valley lands that are proposed to be included in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area under H.R. 1708. However, we are not assessing fire damage to natural and cultural resources on these lands, as they are not within the existing Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area boundaries.