

Statement of
U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
Before the
Subcommittee on Federal Lands
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Regarding
H.R. 8454, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over
certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Chairman Tiffany, Ranking Member Neguse, and Members of the Subcommittee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the views of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding H.R. 8454, *“to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.”* This bill would direct a jurisdictional transfer of designated Federal lands between the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service to improve administrative efficiency, ensure continuity in land management, and improve public access. Specifically, the bill proposes transferring a 170-acre parcel currently managed by the National Park Service to the Secretary of Agriculture, to be incorporated into the Stanislaus National Forest. In exchange, a separate 160-acre parcel managed by the Forest Service would be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for inclusion in Yosemite National Park. The bill also authorizes minor boundary adjustments to facilitate the exchange, maintains provisions for continued public access in accordance with applicable land management laws, and addresses administrative jurisdiction, surveys, and hazardous substance responsibilities related to the transferred lands.

The USDA supports H.R. 8454 because the jurisdictional land transfer would streamline administrative responsibilities and improve operational efficiency across adjacent Federal lands.